

July 2020

Lifestyle brand TOAST host annual Creative Residency in collaboration with Crafts Council, Thursday 21st to Saturday 23rd October.



Over the last couple of years, TOAST has gathered a group of its inspiring friends and collaborators to host a series of talks, workshops, and live demonstrations. This year's three-day Residency, inspired by the Autumn Winter collection 'Rewilding', will continue to foster thought, and give time for pause.

Offering a programme of events with friends such as Alice Vincent, Julie Gurr, Frida Kim and Maria Sigma, the weekend will include creative workshops, panel discussions, studio tours with makers and more. All events will take place at the new Crafts Council Gallery in Islington London and will also be live streamed for those who are not able to attend in person. TOAST is inviting all to come and be inspired and try their hands at something new either physically or virtually.

As part of the Residency, TOAST has partnered with Crafts Council, to invite an artist in residence to showcase their work. TOAST will be hosting an open call seeking artists from a variety of backgrounds and creative disciplines to submit artwork that explores the seasonal theme of 'Rewilding'. The finished work will be presented at the Creative Residency, profiled within *Crafts* magazine, and later donated to the Crafts Council collection. Applications open on Thursday 8th July.

We look forward to sharing more details on the programme with you in the coming months.

# Highlights include:

- A wild floral installation by renowned florist, Frida Kim.
- A platter weaving workshop using harvested willow cuttings and traditional techniques with TOAST New Maker Julie Gurr.
- A discussion between author and gardening writer Alice Vincent and herbalist and chef
  Maya Thomas will explore the notion of rewilding oneself, and how their kinship with plants
  has deepened their connection to both their inner and outer worlds.
- A wool tufting workshop using remnant yarns from TOAST production with award-winning 'zero waste' weaver, Maria Sigma

TOAST is committed to creative communities and bringing people together. Open to all, globally, TOAST hopes the three-day Creative Residency will give its community the opportunity to not only attend inspiring talks and to discover a variety of crafts and techniques but to meet other likeminded people from around the world.

The TOAST Creative Residency is open 21 - 23 October.

Talks, workshops, and events will take place at The Crafts Council Gallery 44A Pentonville Rd, London N1 9BY, also accessible via live stream.

Tickets for individual events can be booked from 16th September via <a href="www.toa.st/residency">www.toa.st/residency</a>. Prices for the individual events will vary. Attendees will also have the opportunity to donate to the Crafts Council UK, to support Young Craft Citizens, a programme of workshops, paid opportunities and creative and professional advice for young people from all backgrounds interested in shaping the future of craft, design and making in the UK. Limited spaces available.

For further details, please visit <u>www.toa.st/uk.</u>

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### Notes to Editors

# **About TOAST**

TOAST is a unique lifestyle brand, creating and curating simple, functional, beautiful clothing and homeware. TOAST began with loungewear and nightwear, designed in a farmhouse in Wales. Originally founded by James and Jessica Seaton in 1997, the collections reflected a sense of ease and a slower, more thoughtful way of life. Today, led by Suzie de Rohan Willner, TOAST creates and curates simple, functional, beautiful clothing, homeware and editorial.

TOAST has shops throughout the UK and can be found in concept stores across the US and Europe. With studios in both London and Swansea, TOAST continues to design and develop all collections in-house and is proud to be one of the few fashion brands with its own full pattern room – lined with calico toiles and full of pins, papers, chalks, and spools of thread, it is a true place of making. They are known for their thoughtful, contemporary design and commitment to traditional textiles and craftsmanship. They believe strongly in nurturing relationships with established mills, knitters, weavers, ceramicists, and artists around the world.

#### **About the Crafts Council**

The Crafts Council is the national charity for craft. We believe craft skills and knowledge enrich and uplift us as individuals and can change our world for the better. Through our activities we inspire making, empower learning and nurture craft businesses.

## We do this by:

- championing craft and its positive impact on society by showing diverse examples of craft
- and making, and by reaching new communities who have previously felt excluded from our
- activity increasing levels of craft education and participation by equipping and connecting craft
- educators, and by campaigning for craft on the curriculum
- growing the market for craft by supporting craft businesses and providing leadership to the
- craft sector
- building a sustainable and inclusive craft sector by providing support, and by listening to
- new and existing stakeholders in order to co-create relevant and impactful activity

We want to share our power, work with others, and increase the agency of our communities in order to create an inclusive and thriving craft sector.

For more information on the Crafts Council visit <a href="www.craftscouncil.org.uk">www.craftscouncil.org.uk</a> and follow @CraftsCouncilUK on Twitter and Facebook