



Press release

Aarhus School of Architecture to exhibit at Milan Design Week 2016

How can architecture help improve people's everyday lives in a society that is constantly changing? This is the question Aarhus School of Architecture will address in the exhibition *History as Catalyst* at Milan Design Week from 12 to 17 April.

"Using history as a catalyst for a series of experiments, the exhibition presents unique works that combine traditional craftsmanship and familiar materials with digital manufacturing processes", explains Karen Kjærgaard, the exhibition's curator.

It is the second time Aarhus School of Architecture presents a solo exhibition at Milan Design Week, which is considered one of the world's most trendsetting design exhibitions. In 2015, the school's exhibition received a great deal of attention and was seen by 30.000 visitors. Again this year, the school will be exhibiting in Ventura Lambrate, an area of Milan where particularly innovative and experimental exhibitions are presented.

Traditional materials and new technologies

Aarhus School of Architecture will be exhibiting seven curated projects made by students in close collaboration with teachers and partners from the construction industry. Three projects of particular interest are:

- **The Spine.** A floating roof and wall structure made from synthetic straw with the aid of advanced robotics.
- **LeCool.** Using 3D modelling, robotic hotwire cutting and CNC milling, complex forms are cast in the well-known lightweight aggregate LECA.
- **Hypocaustum.** An architectural wall structure based on an ancient Roman principle: hot air circulates in the wall cavity, using the thermal mass of the bricks to store energy and release it gradually.

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All the works are examples of new, sustainable solutions made using advanced digital technology - but with history as a catalyst.

International attention

"We want to make an impression internationally and show that we are among the world's most renowned schools of architecture and design.

Last year we learnt that being present at Milan Design Week provides valuable contacts and generates increased international interest in our school, which, incidentally, has just been validated by one of the world's most recognized architectural institutions, Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)", says Rector Torben Nielsen.

In 2015, Italian newspaper La Repubblica singled out Aarhus School of Architecture's exhibition, calling it a "must see". The 2015 exhibition was also discussed in international media, in daily newspapers as well as the trade press.

Sponsors

The exhibition is supported by Augustinus Fonden and Dreyers Fond.

The Spine is sponsored by Dutch company Novariet, **LeCool** by LECA® Saint Gobain Weber and Aalborg Portland, **Hypocaustum** by Randers Tegl and **The Milan Pavilion** by Grønagergård Savværk.

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