

The City and the Forest @Greenhouse
Stockholm Furniture Fair
7-11.02.2017

Stockholm, 26.01.2017

The City and the Forest is a series of exhibitions and workshops promoting environmental protection and an eco-friendly attitude. The next edition of the project, organized in collaboration with Culture.pl and Polish Institute in Stockholm, will be presented from 7th till 11th February at Greenhouse as part of the **Stockholm Furniture & Light Fair**.

The project brings the new generation of Polish designers together and employs a wide scope of skills ranging from product design, architecture and city planning to find creative solutions for nature and urbanity to coexist better.

The aim is to draw attention to animals living in cities, such as birds, insects and mammals. The invited designers from Poland have created nesting boxes for animals. Their selection was based on their own experiences and express their concerns related to changes in the environment.

The booths presented in the exhibition are dedicated to various species of birds such as swifts, that reside on the walls next to the designers' studios or the hedgehogs living in their neighborhoods. The projects demonstrate a very conscientious approach, using a natural protection system against harmful insects, They also express a fascination with bats, and an interest in insects. Through all of them speaks a desire to reconcile life in the city with a closeness to nature.

The project will present both new projects as well as existing ones - such as *Dziupla* (The Hollow) designed by **Menthol Architects** for passerine birds: *"The subject of environmental protection is very important to us. We created the first breeding tower for swifts in Poland, which brought our attention to the issue of their protection. The project for passerines was inspired by observations in a nearby park. We wanted to refresh the image of typical nesting boxes and draw attention to the problem of the declining population of the birds in the city"*.

Curator of the exhibition **Ewa Solarz** says, *"The world's population is over 7 billion people. Urban clusters keep growing, taking more space and consuming the natural habitat of animals. People occupy more than 91 percent of the land area of the Earth. It is not the animals that came to us, we took over the territories inhabited by them. We can help wild animals living in the city by providing them with nesting boxes, as well as through education. These are the goals of "The City and The Forest" project"*.

Designers in this exhibition: **Agnieszka Bar, Anna Szuflicka, Anna Łoskiewicz-Zakrzewska, Zofia Strumiłło-Sukiennik, Krzysztof Benke, Tomasz Korzewski / Beza Project, Asia Piaścik / Dingflux, Marta Niemywska-Grynasz, Dawid Grynasz, Małgorzata Ćwiek / Grynasz Studio, Monika Brauntsch / Kafti, Ewa Bochen, Maciej Jelski / Kosmos Project, Agata Kulik-Pomorska, Paweł Pomorski / Malafor, Marcin Pogorzelski / Mapog, Liliana Krzycka i Rafał Pieszko / Menthol Architects.**

ORGANISERS

Culture.pl is the flagship brand of the Adam Mickiewicz Institute – a national cultural institution promoting Poland and Polish culture worldwide. So far, it has showcased the best of Polish theater, design, visual arts,



music and film in 70 countries, reaching over 52 million people. Visit our **Culture.pl** website for fresh information on the most exciting Polish cultural events worldwide, along with a wealth of artist bios, reviews, essays and profiles of key Polish cultural institutions.

Polska instytutet Stockholm increases public awareness about Poland and its culture, encourages cultural exchange between countries, organises study trips to Poland, supports residency programmes for Polish artist in Sweden, informs about current and on-going initiatives in Poland.

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WILK Open Cluster of Design

Ewa Solarz, Curator

Monika Brauntsch, Project Manager

Ewa Bochen i Maciej Jelski, Kosmos Project, Exhibition Designers

Małgorzata Gurowska, Graphic Designer

More information at: <https://www.facebook.com/thecityandtheforest/> and www.wilk-klaster.pl

Press materials: <http://bitly.pl/GAuff>

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MEDIA:



DESIGNERS IN THIS EDITION:

/ AGNIESZKA BAR

www.agnieszkabar.pl

GREAT TIT

"I chose a nesting box for the great tit, governed by a strict principle of species protection. The great tit often nests in urban areas. Since I work in glass, I was looking for points of contact between the needs and specifications of the nesting boxes and the properties of glass that can be functionally justified. The project is experimental and is supposed to aid in the observation of the birds".

/ ANNA SZUFLICKA

www.annaszuflicka.com

BUMBLEBEES

"Bumblebees are very busy and useful insects, in recent years dying on a large scale. By creating for them a simple and aesthetic booth I would like to invite them back into our gardens, orchards and parks."

/ BEZA PROJEKT / ANNA ŁOSKIEWICZ-ZAKRZEWSKA, ZOFIA STRUMIĘŁO-SUKIENNIK

COOPERATION: KRZYSZTOF BENKE, TOMASZ KORZEWSKI

www.bezaprojekt.pl

COMMON SWIFT

"We will make a booth for swifts, which have their nests on the wall of a building next to our workshop. We can see the wall from our windows and we really hope that the swifts will be returning here!"

/ DINGFLUX / ASIA PIAŚCIK

www.dingflux.com

/ KAFTI / MONIKA BRAUNTSCH

www.kafti.com

WILD POLLINATORS

"Concrete cities and sleek urban parks do not offer many places of refuge for wild pollinators, although, paradoxically, the lack of pesticides works to their advantage. Creating a place for them does not require specific efforts and supports their important function, which is the pollination of plants. The project of the hotel for insects also allows quite a lot flexibility".

/ GRYNASZ STUDIO / MARTA NIEMYWSKA-GRYNASZ, DAWID GRYNASZ, MAŁGORZATA ĆWIEK

www.grynaszstudio.com

HEDGEHOGS FROM ŻOLIBORZ

"We live in Warsaw's Żoliborz district and often during summer evening walks we meet these cute and industrious animals. A large number of gardens and green areas provide space for the hedgehogs. The box that we designed can be placed in the garden to serve as a breeding house and a shelter for the winter".

/ KOSMOS PROJECT / EWA BOCHEN, MACIEJ JELSKI

www.kosmosproject.com

BATS

"There are certainly many superstitions and legends surrounding bats. Those mysterious, nocturnal creatures, hanging upside down and hibernating in strange places, were traditionally associated with magic, witches and vampires. Even today they are believed to drink blood and to become entangled in human hair. In fact, bats are very beneficial to humans – having a bat colony near your house makes troublesome insects disappear".

/ MALAFOR / AGATA KULIK-POMORSKA I PAWEŁ POMORSKI

www.malafor.co

SPARROWS

"We will do the sparrows - the booth for an entire colony of sparrows, we are going for quantity! And why sparrows? Because this bird is closely associated with mankind and colonized human settlements thousands of years ago! Sparrows live in flocks, so they need a real housing estate!"

/ MAPOG / MARCIN POGORZELSKI

www.mapog.com

TITS

"The bird house is part of a natural defense system against harmful insects. The motivation behind the nesting house for the tits was that a large number of local chestnut trees were damaged by pests, which the tit feeds on. This is a

continuation of my previous project, which aims to reduce the use of chemicals in backyard gardens and strengthen natural protection based on a cooperation with the natural predators that feed on pests.”

/ MENTHOL ARCHITECTS / LILIANA KRZYCKA, RAFAŁ PIESZKO

www.menthol.pl

PASSERINES

“The subject of environmental protection is very important to us. We created the first breeding tower for swifts in Poland, which brought our attention to the issue of their protection. The project for passerines was inspired by observations in a nearby park. We wanted to refresh the image of typical nesting boxes and draw attention to the problem of the decreasing population of the birds in the city”.

OUR EXPERTS:

/ USSURI

<http://www.ussuri.pl/>

The company's mission is an active protection of wild animals by providing them with professional nesting sites, such as nesting boxes, sockets and other shelters and conducting activities related to the behavior of breeding stations.

/ TOWARZYSTWO PRZYRODNICZE „BOCIAN”

www.bocian.org.pl biuro@bocian.org.pl

A non-governmental organization that protects endangered species and habitats. In doing so, they use different types of nesting boxes and platforms. For years they have been helping storks, owls, urban birds, bats and many other birds.