



Above: *Twist Lamps*, Simon Hasan, boiled leather, brass, electrical flex, 2012 (with Gallery Libby Sellers)
 Opposite page above: *Warp/Fade 003*, Liam Reeves, hand-blown glass, 2012 (with Vessel Gallery)
 Opposite page below: *Gomie Gone Gone*, David Clarke, silver, silver-plated nickel, 2012 (with Gallery SO)

The Crafts Council at Design Days Dubai

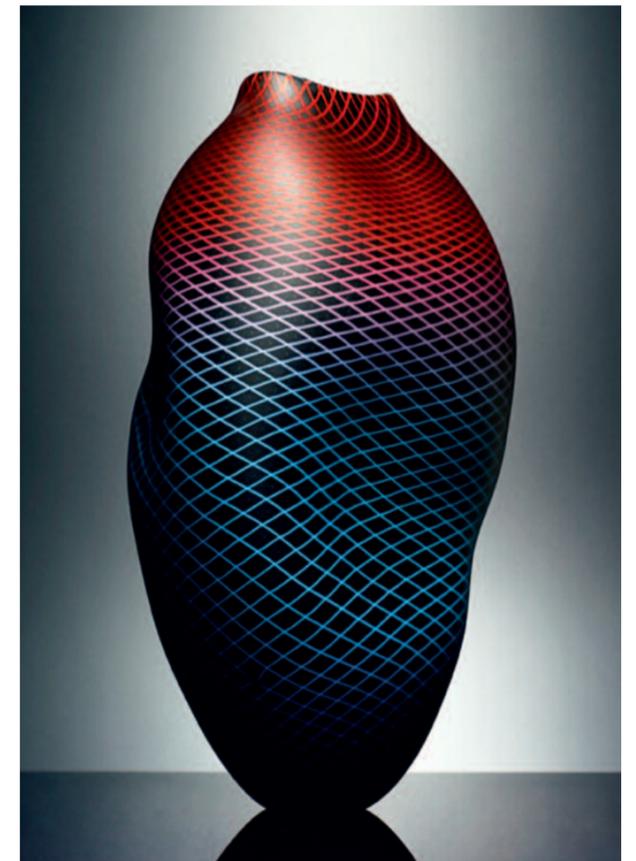
Why a new show is full of eastern promise

The Crafts Council has announced plans to take four cutting-edge UK-based galleries to *Design Days Dubai*. With support from UK Trade & Investment, the organisation will help showcase work from 15 makers, represented by Gallery Libby Sellers, Gallery SO, Vessel Gallery and Marsden Woo Gallery. They will range from such up-and-coming names as Fabien Cappello and Peter Marigold through to more established artists, including silversmith David Clarke and ceramist Martin Smith. According to the CC's director of programmes Claire West, the galleries 'represent a range of disciplines and delivery models in order to present to audiences in the United Arab Emirates a good overview of the UK contemporary craft sector. Galleries were chosen to represent high-profile and emerging makers, and those with a complementary fit with the *Design Days Dubai* selection.'

The Crafts Council will also be providing intellectual gristle for the exhibition's programme of events, with Brent Dzekciorius and *Crafts* regular Glenn Adamson slated to speak.

The idea behind the trip is to introduce the best of British making to a new market, explains CC executive director Rosy Greenlees. 'We are looking forward to taking a mission to *Design Days Dubai* in order to help realise the full export and investment potential of British craft,' she says. The ambition is also to encourage a new UAE-based audience to London's *COLLECT* in May.

The show, which runs from 18-21 March in Downtown Dubai, launched in 2012, and claims to be the first fair in the Middle East and South Asia dedicated to collectible and limited-edition furniture and design objects. Last year it featured 22 galleries from 14 different countries – including Sarah Myerscough Fine Art and the Carpenters Workshop Gallery – attracting 8,500 visitors. www.designdaysdubai.ae



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