

DEDON x ECAL

DEDON is delighted to announce the launch of its upcoming exhibition. DEDON by Nature: Lighting the Future in collaboration with ECAL.

An initiative of DEDON Studio, Lighting the Future presents a striking array of nature-inspired light concepts by master students from the prestigious ECAL/University of Art and Design Lausanne. This innovative digital exhibition opens in January 2023 exclusively on DEDON channels, including a dedicated microsite enhanced by AR tools.

DEDON Studio initiated the ECAL collaboration with a challenge to students in the Design for Luxury and Craftsmanship Masters program: Explore our relation to nature through lighting design, drawing inspiration from DEDON's groundbreaking fiber.

Under the supervision of the acclaimed designer Sabine Marcelis and Nicolas Le Moigne, head of the program, students designed, developed and digitally elaborated their concepts over a ninemonth period. The results — beautiful, beguiling, thoughtful and engaging — attest to the creative powers of an emerging generation and the enduring attraction of nature to us all.

- 1. Designer Sabine Marcelis and Nicolas Le Moigne
- 2. Weaving sample. Finding the right pattern



Concept:

Falling Leaves

Gala Espel (France) Yuoning Chien (Taïwan) Alexis Perron-Corriveau (Canada)

Blowing, curling, folding: nature's unique method for producing spontaneous sculptures with wind is the conceptual premise for this project. The result is a collection of woven outdoor lamps that bring a subtle yet distinct presence to any outdoor living space, one that is as easily portable as fallen leaves on grass. Flowing edges and tapered, cylindrical shapes evince nature's influence, providing a source of calm and delight during the day. After sunset, soft light filters through each interstice, creating a fascinating chiaroscuro reminiscent of a leaf.

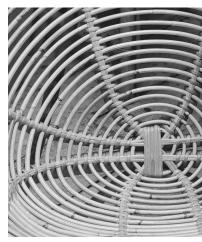


Falling Leaves

DEDON x ECAL 6/31



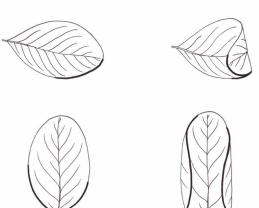
Blowing, curling, folding: nature's unique method for producing spontaneous sculptures with wind helped inspire 'Falling Leaves'.



The designers also studied existing, organic furniture for patterns and structures.



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The first sketches for the 'Falling Leaves' depict the organic process that inspired the design.







Flowing edges and tapered, cylindrical shapes evince nature's influence.

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Gala Espel France

Graduated from the Camondo School in Paris (2021), and from the ECAL (2022), Gala Espel is a young interior architect and designer. Through numerous travels and professional experiences abroad, she reflects on a life project, that of combining anthropological research and wandering production dealing with the notions of culture and globalisation.

@galaespel



Yuoning Chien Korea

Trained as a graphic designer, Yuoning studied and worked in various creative agencies in Taiwan before joining the Master in Luxury programme at ECAL. This choice allowed her to acquire new knowledge in the world of products and materials, with the idea of translating the visualization of graphic design into three-dimensional objects. @yoyo.com.tw

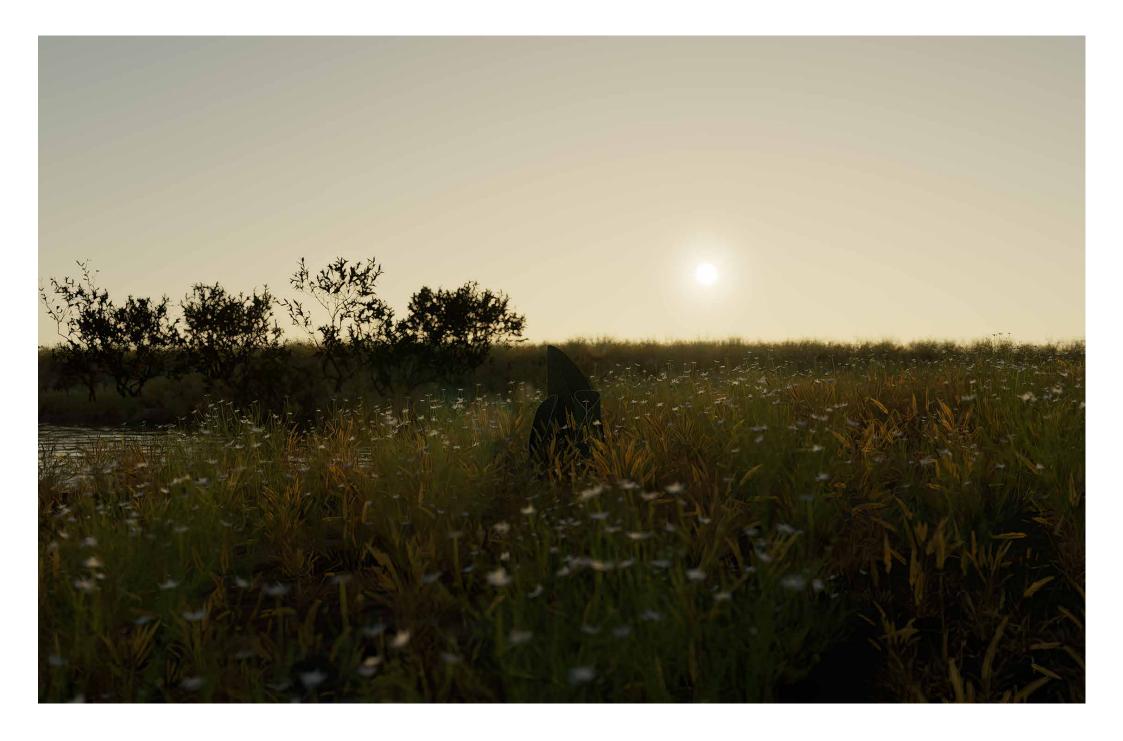


Alexis Perron-Corriveau Canada

With a background in design and fine woodworking and having collaborated with international brands, Alexis seeks to explore a world where new technologies establish a rapport with manual work to create unique, timeless objects. A way to highlight the inherent value of craftsmanship in a world where digital and machine work dominates.

@perroncorriveau







Concept:

Bud

Kévin Goury (France) Clémentine Le Guerec (France)

Inspired by orchid petals and the gentle, bulbous shape of tulips, this project combines two outdoor lamps in one elegant form. The first, a standing lamp, features a curved, semi-open weave that serves as both a reflector and a partial shade. The second, smaller in size, is imagined as a detachable, portable lantern—allowing the user to establish an intimate space anywhere in the home. Together, these 'buds of light' create an organic sculpture with a captivating contrast, offering freedom and comfort in equal measure.



Bud

DEDON x ECAL 11/31



The 'Bud' project takes inspiration from the forms of petals, stamens, stems and leaves.









The designers encountered several challenges before finding the right weaving pattern for their design, namely bringing 2D weaving techniques into 3D and working with organic shapes in textile design and production.





Kévin Goury France

As a multidisciplinary product designer, Kevin has worked for furniture companies, creative agencies and interior design studios. Thanks to his technical background and experience, his work is oriented towards methods centered on the user, the user experience and emotion. @kevingoury



Clémentine Le Guerec France

Through her training in the world of design and objects, Clémentine is particularly inspired by the world of fashion. Her degree at ECAL allowed her to deepen her research on materials and finishes specific to the world of luxury.







Concept:

Reflection of Origin

Ömer Akkas (Turkey) Charlotte Angéloz (Switzerland) Mika Matikainen (Finland)

As the title suggests, this project encourages people to (re-) discover their connection to the outdoors. Nature, in its sheer abundance of form, structure, color and texture, provided the primary source of inspiration for this lamp, and everywhere one finds references to the natural world. The outer structure recalls the wings of a cocoon, and behind the intricate weave, six globes of light seem to peer back at the viewer. The result is a luminous object that becomes a reassuring presence — perfectly balanced and thus perfectly integrated into the surrounding scene.



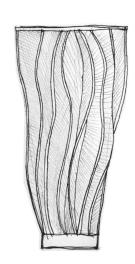
Reflection of Origin

DEDON x ECAL 16/31

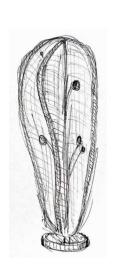




'Nature of Origin' celebrates the diverse patterns of growth found in nature. Through its forms, structures, colors and textures, nature provided a rich source of inspiration for the project.



Later sketches point towards a definite organic shape, reminiscent of a silky cocoon.



An early iteration of the 'Nature of Origin'.



DEDON x ECAL 17/31



Ömer Akkas Turkey

After graduating at Izmir University, in Turkey, Ömer built up professional experiences in the field of furniture and interior design. Wishing to enrich his education, he joined ECAL to deepen his knowledge in the world of luxury and craftsmanship.

@omerakkas.works



Charlotte Angéloz Switzerland

Graduated in the Design and Luxury program at the ECAL, as well as in the Jewelry and Accessories department at the HEAD, in Geneva, Charlotte is particularly interested in different materials and their properties, in new technologies but also in craftsmanship and the idea of tradition and transmission.

@charlotteangeloz



Mika Matikainen Finland

Active for many years in the business and IT world, Mika founded a first start-up and then joined a Finnish agency specialised in digital. After these various experiences, he finally chose to reorient himself towards the creative world and thus discovered the values of craftsmanship and object design.

@mikam







Concept:

Natura Morta

Briac Laforge (France) Milagros Rodriguez (Peru) Caterina Valletta (Italy)

A partially unfurled cocoon, a delicately folded leaf, a mother shielding her young; this hanging outdoor lamp is definitively organic yet charmingly abstract. The structure—a light source ensconced in a woven layer, surrounded by a larger woven layer—establishes a sense of intimacy and comfort. A joint acts as a central axis, allowing the two layers to rotate freely in the breeze. Biomorphic shadows arise from the complex interplay between the varying shapes, the density of the weaving and the considered use of light. Additional elements can be conjoined to the lamp according to space and the desire for growth.

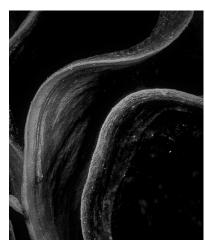


Natura Morta

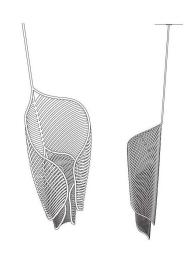
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The textures and patterns found on leaves, such as the network of veins, served as inspiration for creating 'Natura Morta'.



Early sketches for 'Natura Morta'. In nature, lines are a structural feature.



The challenge: transforming the sketches into a 3D model



A partially unfurled cocoon, a delicately folded leaf, by focusing on one form, the designers created an object that is definitively organic yet charmingly abstract.



Later in the design process, the designers experimented with surface structures and colors.

DEDON x ECAL 22/31



Briac Laforge France

Passionate about the aquatic world and travel, Briac takes advantage of his studies and professional experiences to travel the world. Both poetic and technical, his design reflects his nomadic but highly applied character.

@briaclaforge



Milagros Rodriguez
Peru

Trained as an architect, Milagros gained experience through various large-scale projects in Peru. Wishing to broaden her knowledge in the world of objects and more precisely of craftsmanship, she joined the ECAL's specialized luxury program, which allowed her to build a professional network in Europe.

@mrodc



Caterina Valletta Italy

Born and raised in Liguria, Italy, Caterina is still connected to the traditions and beliefs of her origins. Thanks to her father she literally grew up in a marble factory, surrounded by passionate craftsmen and a wide variety of noble natural materials.

@ca.valletta





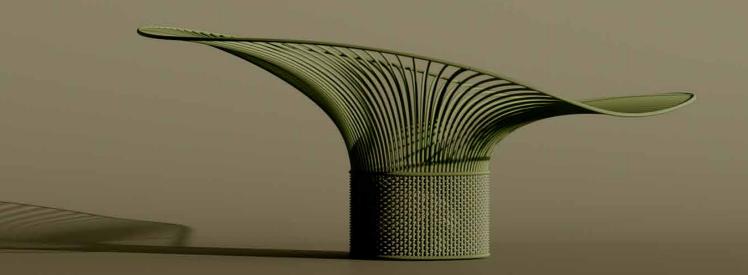


Glowing Nature

Jiyeong Kim (South Korea) Seungmok Lee (South Korea)

A jellyfish gliding through the sea, a lotus flower drifting along a lake's surface, a mushroom growing in the deep forest: such meditative encounters with nature created the basis for this handwoven project. A balance of strength and serenity, this floor-standing lamp features a woven base with a rectilinear appearance, from which flowing lines extend to the sky and bloom outwards. At the top, an undulating circumference evokes a feeling of weightlessness in the observer, thus demonstrating the breathtaking possibilities of woven fiber—an essential element in the DEDON universe.

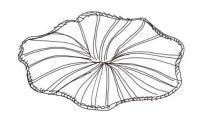
Glowing Nature



DEDON x ECAL 26/31











For 'Glowing Nature', the designers drew on several sources, namely the sense of meditative calm we experience when observing nature. As an example they offer a lotus leaf, floating on a pond within the grounds of a Buddhist temple.

The finished object balances strength with serenity. 'Glowing Nature' is a combination of a rectilinear base and flowing lines, which extend to the sky and bloom outwards. An undulating circumference evokes a feeling of calm in the observer.





Jiyeong Kim South Korea

Despite her professional background rooted in industrial design — and more specifically in the world of sports and beauty — Jiyeong is passionate about craftsmanship and all the values linked to the métiers d'Art. Her sensitivity and experience allow her to navigate between the two worlds and bring a touch of humanity to all her projects. @jiyeongandkim



Seungmok Lee South Korea

With six years of work in a design agency and for the Korean brand SAMSUNG, Seungmok has developed a wide range of skills, both in terms of creativity and understanding of technical issues. His time at ECAL allowed him to complete his curriculum with unique experiences in the world of Luxury and craftsmanship.

@seungmok2







About DEDON Studio

Lighting the Future is the first exhibition in the DEDON by NATURE program, an ongoing series of collaborations between DEDON Studio and forward-facing design practitioners across disciplines and levels.

DEDON's in-house innovation lab and consultancy, DEDON Studio explores emerging trends, materials and processes; guides DEDON product and fiber development; fosters cooperations with schools and independent designers; and coordinates DEDON's worldwide network of artisans.

- 1. DEDON Fiber granules, the heart of our collections
- 2. Sketching ideas
- 3. Unique materials

DEDON x ECAL 30/31

DEDON studio

Collaboration is at the heart of what we do

For over thirty years, DEDON has been working with a diverse range of creatives. Together we've combined the highest quality with a passion for craftmanship and innovation — resulting in truly unique and inspiring collections.

DEDON Studio is another milestone in this journey. It is a space where creativity has no limits, a forum for like-minded individuals, and a stage for these creators to present their work. DEDON Studio connects with contemporary culture and speaks to our collective need for shared endeavor.

Join our community: @dedon_studio @dedon_official





DEDON x ECAL 31/31

DEDON

DEDON transforms outdoor spaces into places of Spirit of Place with unique energy. Each piece of our handcrafted furniture is an invitation to experience the joy of life under open skies. Pioneering since 1990, DEDON innovates continuously to offer products of unrivaled quality, responsibility and desirability to customers in more than 100 countries on six continents.

ECAL/University of Art and Design Lausanne

ECAL is regularly ranked among the top 10 art and design schools in the world. The school's influence is attested to by the success of its graduates, countless press articles and awards, important collaborations with institutions and brands and a large number of exhibitions in prestigious venues.

Relying on seasoned professionals and world-renowned artists and designers, and via numerous collaborations with and commissions from companies and cultural institutions, the students acquire a solid know-how through an enriching, practice-oriented experience. Through its involvement in various shows, exhibitions and events, ECAL also contributes to highlight its students' works and enhance their visibility.

For more information about Lighting the Future or the DEDON by NATURE series, please get in touch with us. pr@dedon.de