

THE FUTURE OF Fixing

Curator: Daniel Charny and
From Now On team

iNviTation: Brief for CoMics



What if fixing became the norm? What if it became a legal imperative or a sweeping social movement? What if it was banned?

In *Brave New World*, Aldous Huxley's Hypnopaedic slogans whisper that 'Ending is better than mending', but what if he was wrong and the more stitches the more riches is the way to go?

We invite you to accelerate and speculate on the future of fixing. Fixing things, fixing materials, fixing systems, fixing attitudes.

The Exhibition Concept:

We are heading for a messy, post-industrial era that needs making to become a part of people's lives again. A forward-thinking, backward-looking, sideways-stepping kind of making. A making born of the imaginative use of skills. Something like fixing.

The Fixhub will exhibit projects with practical, philosophical and aesthetic approaches to fixing. The role of the comics is to excite and propel the debate and the role of fixing in shaping our world.





thE PrOducTiON:

The comic book will be a 24-page portrait format in full colour, slightly smaller than an A4 (dimensions TBC). 1000 copies will be made available during the exhibition and online, and discussed at the seminar day. Each contributor is invited to submit a double spread. It will also include a curatorial introduction and a selection of repair manifestos from some of our exhibitors.

The narratives could take the form of imagining an era, a day, an event, a moment in the life of a Brave Fixed World. These accelerated scenarios we hope will investigate both utopian and dystopian futures. In fact, maybe even show how either could evolve from the same starting point.



ThE prOcEss:

If you are interested, please let us know by 29th August. Artwork is to be handed in by 19th of September. As there is no fee involved, we would like to tell you a bit more about the exhibition and the festival. Lodz Design Festival is currently East-Central Europe's most significant and internationally recognised design event, now in its 8th edition and visited by 45 000 people in 2013. The Fixhub exhibition will present 23 objects from emerging and established designers from Poland, the UK, Germany and New Zealand among others. A number of workshops will run in the Fixhub, and special guests will be invited to participate in a full day seminar dedicated to fixing and repair.



NotEs ON thE EXhibiTION dESigN:

Illustrators will be invited to use the font developed for the exhibition

The space will be designed using the Open Design Kit created by Alon Meron for the Maker Library Network.

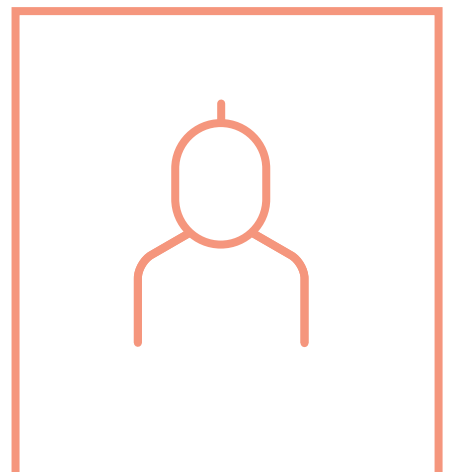
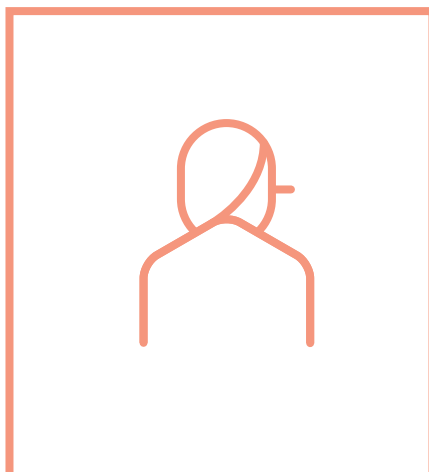


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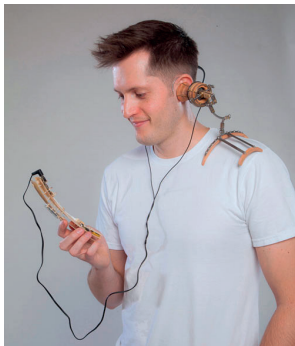
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As a departure point, here are some examples of exhibits, each suggests an attitude, philosophy or strategy. If you would like to know more about any specific exhibit, please let us know.

“Life After life: Patched up World”

Martino Gamper's 100 Chairs in a 100 Days / Hans Stofer's Fragile Objects / Paulo Goldstein's Repaired iPod Shuffle

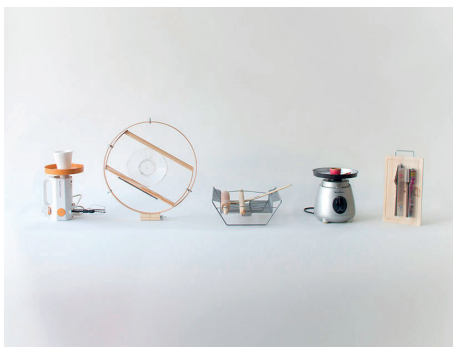
What would our world look like if fixing was the new aesthetic? If all new objects had to be made from old ones?



“The Revolution Will Be Home Made”

David Steiner's 'In House' / Hal Watts' Esource Bicycle

Imagine making has become a sweeping underground movement - all objects are produced by a centralised government and tools have become forbidden. David Steiner's project hacks domestic appliances to bring back making into the domestic environment, while Hal Watts hacks a bicycle to retrieve copper from electrical cables safely - what would you do?



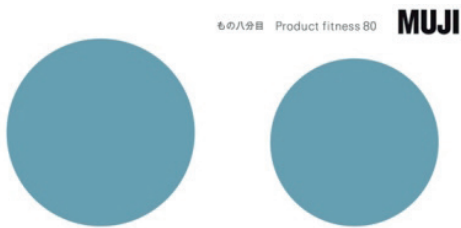
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'Paradigms Lost'

Muji - Product Fitness 80% / Studio Swine's Sea Chair Project

Inspired by the Hara Hachi Bu principle that advises to eat until you're 80% full, Muji has committed to producing objects that are 80% smaller but serve their function as well. Inspired by this approach, movements are growing around the world, people are hacking through their possessions to make them fit this principle. What would the world look like? What would be a clever way to resist and bypass these laws?

Or if as an even more extreme solution to overproduction, what if producing new raw materials became forbidden? Studio Swine gets theirs from the Sea - where would you go?



'Fixing is dead'

Luiza Prado's Big Bang Theory

Just like in classic science fiction *The Machine Stops* by EM Foster, the world is now regulated by machines, building tiles are cleaning the air, repair boards answer your every need. Paradise? But what if the machine stops? Luiza Prado's work explores our relationship to technology when it is broken. Are we fixing it? or is it fixing us?

