

HOME | WHAT'S ON |

Craftica by Formafantasma

Wed, 2 Jan 2013 | By [Emily Gosling](#)

Print | Email | Share | Comment | Save

Leather. Initial connotations withstanding (BDSM, mutton-dressed-as-lamb trousers, yuppy furniture, horses et al), the material is having something of a resurgence lately, and is now to be celebrated in a new exhibition at London's Gallery Libby Sellers, Craftica by Formafantasma.



Source: *Works courtesy Gallery Libby Sellers. Image by Luisa Zanzani.*

DESIGN WEEK
TOP 100 2013
DOWNLOAD YOUR
ENTRY FORM
HERE

BRANDING

EDITORIAL

EXHIBITION

FURNITURE

GRAPHICS

INTERACTIVE

INTERIORS

PACKAGING

PRINT

PRODUCT

RETAIL

Design Week on
Twitter

dw

Design_Week
News in brief
round-up:
bit.ly/VQ2EVi
20 hours ago -
reply · retweet ·
favorite



London

LATEST JOBS

CREATIVE SERVICES ARTWORK MANAGER PHILIPS

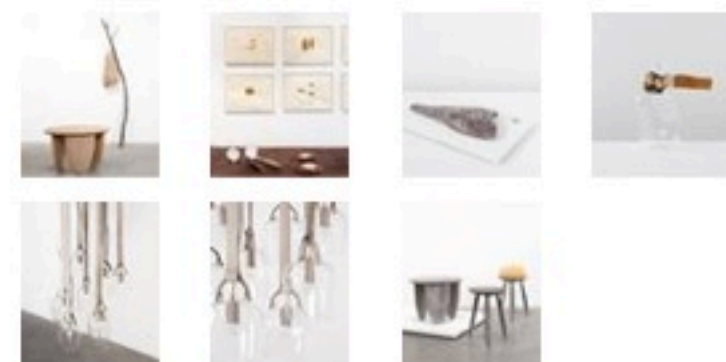
JUNIOR DESIGNER / MOTION GRAPHICS DESIGNER
STRAY CAT

MIDDLEWEIGHT DESIGNER WESTSIDE LONDON

EXHIBITION DESIGNER ROYAL MUSEUMS
GREENWICH

IN HOUSE JUNIOR DESIGNER – PRINT AND DIGITAL
SPECIALIST MARY HARE SCHOOL

Related images



MOST
POPULAR

MOST
COMMENTED

MOST
EMAILED

NO LOGO

Join the conversation

dw Design Week on Facebook

Like 4,507

FOLLOW ME ON *Pinterest*

RSS FEEDS 

SUPPLEMENTS

AWARDS

TOP 100 2011

SALARY SURVEY

CREATIVE SURVEY SUPPLEMENT

Perch stool: Vegetal tanned perch skin, lime wood, brass label. Perch fish hot water bottle: Vegetal tanned perch skin, glass, brass

The show will present the European debut of Italian design duo Formafantasma's Craftica series, conceived in collaboration with luxury goods house Fendi for Design Miami/Basel 2012, which the gallery describes as 'a visual and tactile investigation into the diversity and origins of leather.'



Source: [@](#)

Wolffish hot water bag: Vegetal tanned wolffish skin, glass, brass.

Among the pieces on display at the exhibition, which opens next month, will be handmade stools, lights, vessels and tools.

PARKER WILLIAMS CREATES NEW SACLA PACKAGING

BARNBROOK DESIGNS FOR BOWIE

NUMBER OF DESIGN EMPLOYEES LOOKING TO CHANGE JOBS AT HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE START OF RECESSION

DESIGN INDUSTRY PREDICTIONS FOR 2013 - PART ONE



Source: *Works courtesy Gallery Libby Sellers. Image by Luisa Zanzani.*

Bone Jar: Mouth blown glass on a cow bone, cow leather.

Rather than using leather simply as a material, all the pieces are inspired by its tactile qualities, history and symbolic connotations.



Source: *Works courtesy Gallery Libby Sellers. Image by Luisa Zanzani.*

Bells-lights: Discarded Fendi leather, glass, leather-covered hooks, leather-covered electric wire.

Simone Farresin and Andrea Trimarchi, Formafantasma co-founders, say, '[Leather] represents the complex relationship between humans and nature. Leather has the ability to evoke almost ancestral memories of when nature was hunted to produce food, tools and protection for the body.'

'Searching underneath and above the sea, from the vegetal to the animal world, the installation offers a holistic view on leather as a material.'



Source: Works courtesy Gallery Libby Sellers. Image by Luisa Zanzani.

Bells-lights: Discarded Fendi leather, glass, leather-covered hooks, leather-covered electric wire.

Indeed, as a sum of its parts, the series sounds perhaps less than attractive. As well as traditional leather, the pieces are created from some rather primitive components including vegetal dried fish skins (sourced from a food factory in Iceland), oxidized metal, glass, wood and other natural materials such as bones, shells and cow bladders.



Source: *Works courtesy Gallery Libby Sellers. Image by Luisa Zanzani.*

From left to right: Wolffish-pig stool, Studs stool, Salmon stool

Alongside these rather experimental pieces, the exhibition will also include a series of illustrations on parchment by Studio Formafantasma designer Francesco Zorzi, showing a visual history of leather's usages.



Source: *Works courtesy Gallery Libby Sellers. Image by Luisa Zanzani.*

Drawings on parchment (hairless goat skin) in collaboration with Francesco Zorzi.

Craftica by Formafantasma runs from 1 – 28 February at Gallery Libby Sellers, 41-42 Berners Street, London W1