

Swarovski x Central Saint Martins Conscious Design Programme

Jewellery, Textiles and Materials Programme Manifesto

The Jewellery, Textiles and Materials (JTM) programme at Central Saint Martins is delighted to expand its long-standing partnership with Swarovski to launch the inaugural Conscious Design programme. The programme intends to create a public platform of investigation with the aim of holistically discussing and disseminating responsible design approaches.

The JTM programme has an outstanding research profile in contemporary jewellery, textile futures research and speculative material design and is at the forefront of the emerging biodesign field through the Designing with Living Systems Lab.

Our curriculum is based on reflective research, investigating contemporary culture, developing diverse design approaches and mastering specialist skills. Our studios and workshops are an intricate part of our curriculum where we enable physical material experimentations stretching from intricate hand-crafting to digital fabrication. At postgraduate level the emphasis is on the inventing future design solutions through radically questioning existing systems to inform speculative and process-led design approaches.

We believe in our responsibility as designers and makers and share a strong sense for accountability for issues related to creativity, sustainability, economy and society. We see material knowledge as transformational in developing future design solutions and sustainability as elemental to our actions. As part of the programme we seek to question existing boundaries of resources and processes to shape non-material design scenarios, new material propositions and bio-informed design as a driver for sustainable innovation. Taking materiality as the foundation of society and how we consciously sense and interact with matter – we intend to evoke wonders and provoke positive change.