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## The New Designers exhibition 2013

29th July 2013 | Post by: [Amy Farn](http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/author/amy-f/) (<http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/author/amy-f/>) in [Design](http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/category/design/) (<http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/category/design/>), [Events](http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/category/events/) (<http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/category/events/>), [Events & Exhibitions](http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/category/events-exhibitions/) (<http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/category/events-exhibitions/>)

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The **New Designers** (<http://www.newdesigners.com/>) exhibition allows you to sample the best of graduate designers from across the UK. The exhibition, at the Business Design Centre, is right on our doorstep in Islington. I love to be inspired by the fresh ideas which the students develop in their final year, as well as catching up with the lectures from the University of Huddersfield which I graduated from. **Laura Greenwood** (<http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/2013/07/03/laura-greenwood/>) a former placement student at Interface was also at the show. Well done Laura, great work!



<http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/5.jpg>

Amongst the vast range of textiles, fashion, jewellery, craft & surface design there were plenty of fresh and inspiring designs. Here are just some of my favourites...

The Lamps by **Charlotte Nash** (<http://www.charlotte-nash.co.uk/>) combine lazer cut acrylic with braiding & croche in vivid shades of raspberry, electric blue and neon yellow. I loved this funky detailing – they're perfect for the bohemian bar scene.



<http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Charlotte-Nash1.jpg>

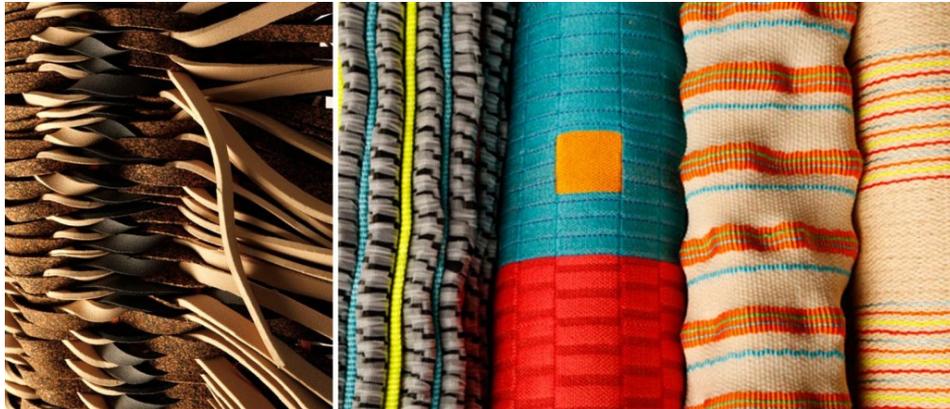
The stunning pieces from **Penny Coldrick** (<http://pennycoldrick.tumblr.com/>) had me puzzled for a while, I tried to figure out how the ikat effect was made. I studied print at university and I could only imagine that this was a digital print effect. Penny had in fact experimented with her own space dyed yarns and the pattern is formed organically when knitted. Fascinating!



([http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/wp-](http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/1.jpg)

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In the past few years there has been a rise in designers choosing to work with unconventional materials like cable ties or elastic bands. This theme seemed to take on a new development this year, becoming more refined in their use. The textile collection by **Rebecca Gay** (<http://www.artstthread.com/p/rgay/gallery/my-galleries/the-golden-mile-780858659>) intrigued me. The cheerful colours inspired by British Seaside resorts has caught my eye at first. After a closer look neoprene & cork had been interwoven with fabric which added to the playful seaside theme.



(<http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/2.jpg>)

Many students were drawn to work with wood. **Abigail Louise Crowther** (<http://abigailcrowther.wix.com/abiloudesigns>) had combined reclaimed wood with her delicate designs. The decorative three-dimensional surface utilises the natural patina and grain of the wood to make each design beautifully unique.



(<http://www.designwithpurposeblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/3.jpg>)

I had to admire the work of **Judith Watson** (<http://judeworks.com/judeworks/Home.html>) which showed great attention to detail. The rug which playfully references 19th century ceiling design is made with a combination of hand machine tufting, needle punch, swiss darning and Aran knit. I have done a little hand tufting in the past myself and remember it involving determination & stamina to achieve even a small rug with a hand tufting gun.



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