

“Lies & Falsehoods”

The 2023 Jerusalem Design Week



Jerusalem Design Week returns for its 12th edition at the historic Hansen House Center for Design, Media and Technology. Taking place from 22–29 June 2023, and building on its previous successful editions, JDW will showcase dozens of special exhibitions, installations, events, and projects, featuring a roster of Israeli and international designers.

JDW 2023 theme is “Lies and Falsehoods”

Even if lies and falsehoods have accompanied human civilization since time immemorial, it seems today they are proliferating at unprecedented levels. The digital age brought with it a comprehensive challenge to the concepts of trust, authenticity, and truth. Fake news, deep fake videos, false images, and disinformation have become commonplace phenomena. And while a significant part of this world of lies and illusion exists in the digital realm, it is projected from the screen outwards. The post-truth era has conquered both digital and analog reality. Not only has the search for truth been abandoned, it feels that even if we find it, we are no longer sure of its worth. Illusions, on the other hand, prove their financial, social, and political efficiency each day anew.

The designer’s work oscillates between reality and fiction. On the one hand, there is the constant expectation to produce a dazzling spectacle, the longing for beauty, and the impetus to generate desire in order to maximise profits. On the other hand, current design practices have been focusing more and more on establishing transparency, building trust, and taking responsibility. The 2023 Jerusalem Design Week sets out to examine and celebrate the role of the designer in these contexts. It seeks to do so through works that explore the importance of illusion—that conceal and deceive, creating parallel realities—alongside works that deal with disclosure and honesty, examining the possibility of truth and authenticity despite the abundance of lies and falsehoods.

For one week, the interior and exterior spaces of Hansen House will be filled with dozens of installations, performances and shows, exhibitions and projects, from all design disciplines—most will be displayed for the first time. Among them, international and local design and architecture groups will create captivating

immersive spaces: HQ Architects will cast an imposing and deceptive shadow on the façade of Hansen House; Barcelona-based MEATS ELISAVA research group will take over the new hospice courtyard, with light projections and thick fog creating a space that wavers between tangibility and immateriality; Istanbul-based group Nohlab will use animation and sound to transform the attic into a parallel world; textile designer Tamar Nix will fill another space with the softness of clouds using textile; and Studio Ma will invite visitors to linger in a synthetic garden of disrupted urban nature in the patio. The fashion label HOLYLAND CIVILIANS will lead an edgy production installation using a performative print workshop, where they will offer t-shirts for their devotees to purchase; photographer Ella Barak and illustrator Nadav Machete's automatic photography set, Photo Barak, will offer visitors the opportunity to have their photo taken as a souvenir of the impending end of the world; and an avenue of prophets and prophecy generator booths will be set up in the courtyard, offering visitors truths and lies about their past and divined future.



'Matchmaker' projet Jerusalem Design Week 2022

Once again, JDW features unique exhibitions and collaborations between creatives, cultural institutions, and bodies of knowledge. Designer Shahar Kedem leads a collaboration with the Museum of Natural History in Jerusalem, curating an exhibition where local creatives respond to the practice of taxidermy, domesticated nature, and the complex human-nature relationship. Dr Johnathan Ventura and Galit Shvo curate an exhibition that focuses on conscripted design, exposing how objects and consumer goods serve as mechanisms for propagating social messages. The graphic design group TYPOMANIA will bring together designers from all over the world in an exhibition of posters that respond to the question of truths and lies by using the colours black and white. The academies and research spaces of Hansen House will operate in the format of seductive window displays, and more exhibitions and events throughout the premises will address manipulations and magic tricks in design, propaganda, human-machine, and more.



Agency For Unseen Sights, Esmee Willemen

This year, the “Matchmaker” project will focus on Jerusalemite urban myths, under the direction of the new matchmakers Noa Rich and Yohai Alush. The project will connect Jerusalem-based designers, tour guides, and storytellers, who will respond together to iconic buildings throughout the city, creating new and surprising souvenirs for sites, people, and the stories they hold.



Jerusalem Design Week 2022

Each year, JDW focuses on commissioning and supporting new works and acquiring the public resources needed to support non-commercial design projects. The projects detailed here are just a few of a wide

range of projects, installations, exhibitions, and performances that comprise the mega-exhibition that is Jerusalem Design Week.



Top the bottom, left to right:

Idan Sidi and Gal Shari, Fountain of Youth

Nohlab, in-line v.2, Intervals Fest - image by Nohlab

Eden Ohana

WoodenWood, Arch. Avraham Cohen, Yuval Berger, Yoav Dabas, Alon Nisan, Arch. Shany Barath

Notes to Editors

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About Jerusalem Design Week

Launched in 2011, Jerusalem Design Week is the largest and most influential public event dedicated to design in Israel, with a variety of events, shows, and international and local exhibitions. JDW is the flagship project of Hansen House, which initiates and hosts extensive and diverse activities to promote design in Jerusalem and Israeli designers in general. Every year, JDW focuses on one theme, exploring unique Jerusalemite and Israeli situations that carry an international relevance. We believe that the singular cultural landscape in Israel makes it a live lab of urgent global issues, and that it is the duty of

design to respond and react to these issues. Every year designers and design teams working in a range of disciplines are invited to participate, develop new projects and ideas, and respond to the annual theme in their own way. The Jerusalem Design Week is an initiative of the Jerusalem Ministry and the Jerusalem Development Authority, and is held under the direction of Hansen House and Ran Wolf company.

www.jdw.co.il | [@ilmdesignweek](https://www.instagram.com/ilmdesignweek) | #JDW23

2023 Jerusalem Design Week Team

General and content directors: Smadar Tsook and Ran Wolf, Ran Wolf Company

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Jerusalem Design Week

22nd–29th June 2023

Hansen House, 14 Gedalyahu Alon St, Jerusalem, Israel

Opening Times:

Thursday 22nd June: 7:30PM - 11PM

Friday 23rd June: 10AM - 4PM

Saturday 24th June: 10AM - 11PM

Sunday - Thursday 25-29th June: 4PM - 11PM

Free Entry

