

Press Release

Innovative Cornish designer-makers sixixis win the inaugural Laurent-Perrier Design Talent award

David Hesketh, Managing Director of Laurent-Perrier, awarded the first Laurent-Perrier Design Talent Award to **sixixis** at a press breakfast held at the International Designer Rooms area of Olympia on 29 June 2006. **sixixis**, members of Hidden Art Cornwall, were selected from a bank of talented and creative Hidden Art designer-makers exhibiting at the 2006 Daily Telegraph House & Garden Fair.

The Cornish trio impressed judges including author and curator Max Fraser, director of the Geffrye Museum David Dewing, MD of Laurent-Perrier, David Hesketh, Interiors editor at the Telegraph Magazine Annabel Freyberg, and Editor of House and Garden Sue Crewe. The award was judged on the following criteria: innovation, quality, visual impact and commercial viability. As the winners, **sixixis** receive £1,000 prize money and a trip to Champagne, France along with a case of Champagne.

Tom Raffield of **sixixis** says: "*We are so pleased to win this award as we are a new business and to have our work recognised for quality and innovation, against such impressive competition is a marvellous endorsement for our products*"

Jessie Higginson, Project Manager of Hidden Art Cornwall says: "*Hidden Art offers valuable showcasing opportunities for designer-makers and it is wonderful that Cornish designer-makers can now access these opportunities through the Hidden Art Network. I am delighted for **sixixis**, this award is a great achievement for them*"

sixixis' three members, Tom Raffield, Charlie Whinney and Chris Jarratt, studied BA(hons) 3D Design for Sustainability at University College Falmouth, setting up their company **sixixis** after graduation in June 2005. From their Redruth-based studio, the design group create striking pieces, which are all made from locally sourced Cornish wood. **sixixis'** Chaise-longue has already been featured on The Apprentice and they showcased some of their products at Salone Satellite in Milan last April. An approach which has included developing unique steam bending techniques has resulted in original and innovative furniture and lighting products by this enterprising trio, more than deserving of this prestigious award.

Work by **sixixis** can be found at www.hiddenartcornwall.co.uk/sixixis and at the Hidden Art Cornwall Design Fair, 26-28 August at Godolphin House, nr Helston, Cornwall.

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For additional details please contact:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Hidden Art Cornwall

Hidden Art Cornwall is a not-for-profit membership organisation that supports and promotes designer-makers who live or work in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, offering companies and members of the public access to original design.

Our aim at Hidden Art Cornwall is to improve access to information, enable the exchange of ideas and expertise and offer a platform for designer-makers to exhibit and sell work, products and designs to key markets and the public.

Hidden Art Cornwall is the pilot franchise of Hidden Art in association with University College Falmouth.

About Hidden Art

Hidden Art is the trading name of Mazorca Projects, a not-for-profit organisation. Over the past 10 years, Hidden Art has driven the growth of the design sector in east London. The partners and funders of Mazorca Projects have recognised the benefit to designer-makers and the Department for Trade and Industry has awarded funding to help replicate the Hidden Art success story with its first franchise, Hidden Art Cornwall.

Hidden Art began in 1994 as a small open studios event showing the work of 43 Hackney-based designer-makers. A decade on, it has developed into a unique network, supporting over 1,800 designer-makers and building links between the creative and manufacturing industries and their clients. **Contact:** Saul Sherry, tel: +44 (0)20 7729 3800, email: saul@hiddenart.co.uk, www.hiddenart.com

About Hidden Art at the Daily Telegraph House and Garden Fair, 29 June- 2nd July 2006

Hidden Art will be meeting its public for the first time at this prestigious fair, selling selected ceramics, furniture, glassware, lighting and interior products by 17 Hidden Art designer-makers. The House and Garden Fair is the UK's most prestigious interior and garden design event, held annually at the end of June at Olympia, west London. A well established event in the summer, the fair brings to an audience of 35,000 visitors an eclectic mix of specially selected companies and iconic designers.

Hidden Art members appearing at The Daily Telegraph House and Garden Fair are: Alexandra Mitchell – ceramics, Aline Johnson – glassware, Black+Blum – interior products, Charles Trevelyan – furniture, Dominic Crinson – ceramic tiles, Duffy London – interior products, Eleanor Pritchard – textiles, Emma D'Arcey – silk lampshades, Fleur Winter – ceramics, Jenny Wilkinson – wallpaper, Louie Gibb – ceramics, Michelle Mason – interior products, Moluche – soft furnishings, Scabetti – ceramics, Sixixis – furniture, Spinifex – interior products, WAWA – furniture.

About Laurent-Perrier

For information on Laurent-Perrier, please visit: www.laurent-perrier.co.uk. For press information on Laurent-Perrier and their design initiatives, please contact Jen Eveleigh, Nina Plowman or Ruth Allchurch at Wild Card, tel: 020 7355 0655; email: deck@wildcard.co.uk

About University College Falmouth

University College Falmouth is internationally known for its undergraduate and postgraduate courses in art, design and media. In 2003 the College opened the Design Centre, part of a £130million development funded under the Combined Universities in Cornwall initiative, in which University College Falmouth is a founding partner. The CUC is funded mainly by the European Union (Objective One), the South West Regional Development Agency, and the Higher Education Funding Council for England, with support from Cornwall County Council.

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