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Future Fabrics Expo 2017



Doppelhaus

London's sixth annual [Future Fabrics Expo](#) (January 25-26) focused on showcasing and promoting world-leading sustainable materials and research for fashion. The event hosted a diverse selection of textiles, fibres and products that embody a range of eco-friendly principles and new technologies.

Curated by not-for-profit organisation [The Sustainable Angle](#), individual fabrics are sourced from suppliers and mills that demonstrate a commitment to lowering environmental impact across the textile supply chain. Each fabric meets criteria based on water, waste or energy consumption and biodiversity. A labelling system of symbols helps visitors to navigate the samples.



Future Fabrics Expo 2017

Two key material innovations centred on repurposing waste. Italian start-ups [Orange Fiber](#) and [Frumat](#) produce sustainable textiles made of byproducts from the food industry. Orange Fiber transforms post-industrial waste citrus peel into a textile made of orange cellulose fibre and silk, while Frumat transforms leftover apple into a tactile, leather-like material for use in accessories.



Orange Fiber



Frumat

Working with local communities, Brazilian designer [Flavia Andreu](#) has produced Folha Semi-Artefato (Semi-Artefact Rubber Sheet). The durable, rubber-lined textile is made of latex collected from trees in the Amazon rainforest, and finished with Amazonian beeswax and natural essences. See our blog post [Studio Swine: Fordlandia Exhibition](#) for more material investigations into natural rubber.



Flavia Andreu

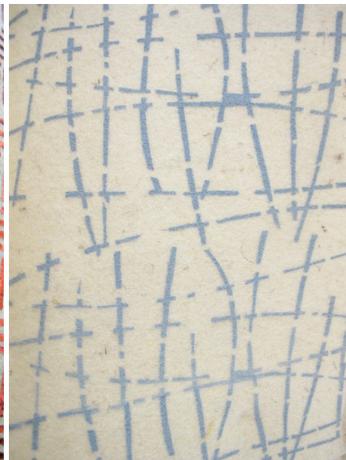


Flavia Andreu

Another Stylus favourite is London/Berlin-based start-up [Doppelhaus](#), which felts ethically sourced British wool using non-woven technology. The entire process requires fewer steps, no additives and less water. By presenting natural-coloured felts printed with pastel colours and metallic foil patterns, the company has carved out a space for non-wovens with fashion-focused aesthetics.



Doppelhaus



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Doppelhaus

Amid growing concerns around diminishing resources, increasing global demand and unsteady prices, the event presents a future where resources can be managed wisely and cost effectively, and sustainability can be seen as a positive game changer.

For more innovative material developments, see [Materials Focus 2018/19](#).



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