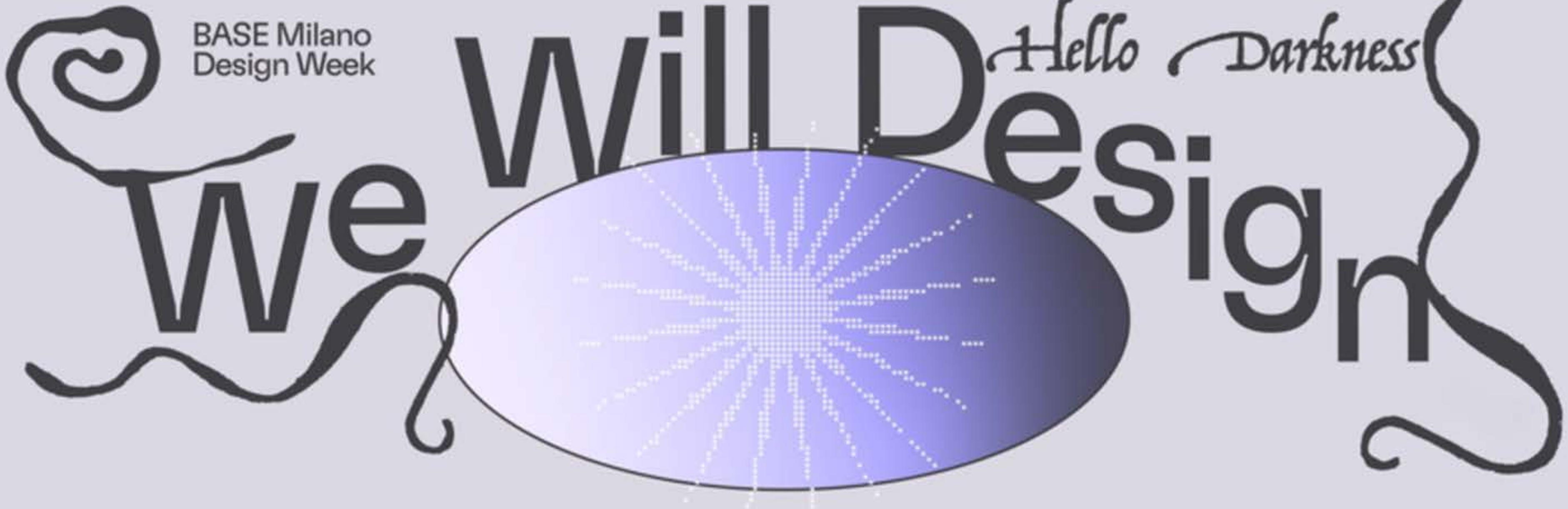


BASE Milano
Design Week

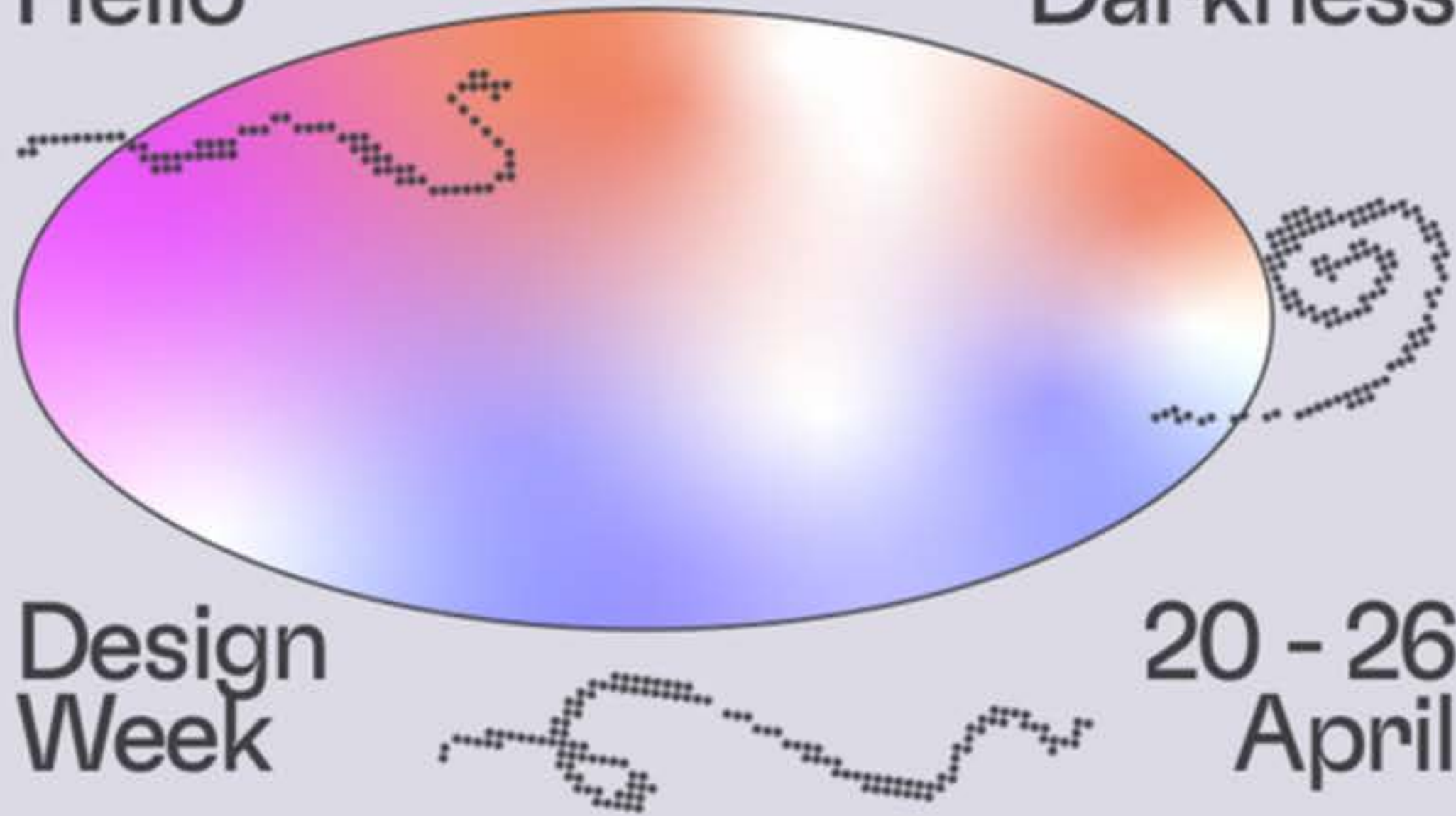


BASE

HIGHLIGHTS REPORT 2026

Hello

Darkness



Design
Week

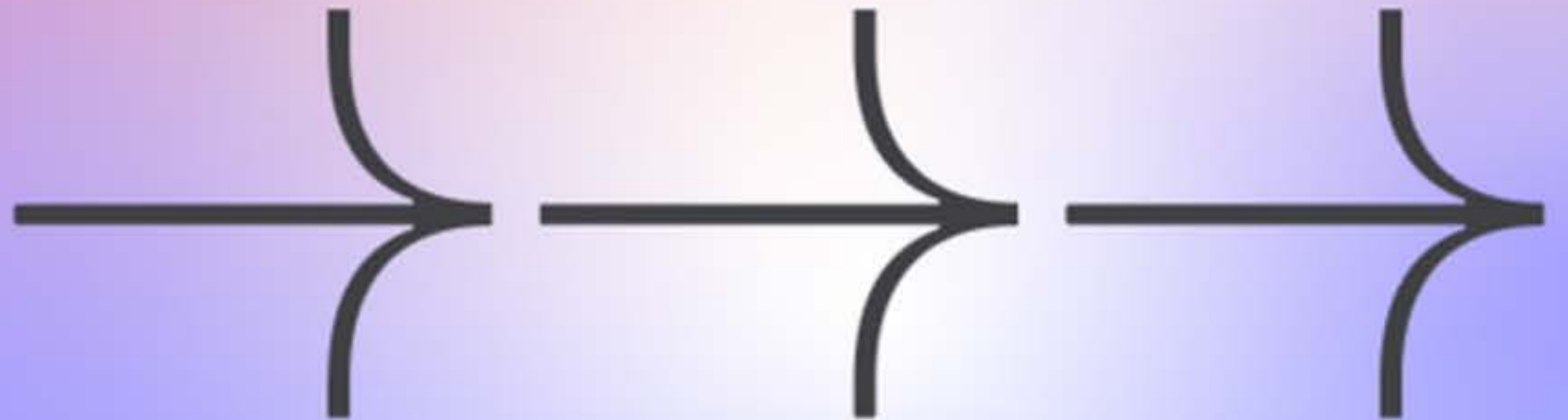
20 - 26
April

*A*t its core, We Will Design 2026 unfolds through the curatorial framework "Hello Darkness", which approaches darkness not as absence, but as a condition of possibility. In a time shaped by ecological, social, and perceptual crises, the project invites us to remain with what is uncertain, opaque, and unresolved — to consider how design can operate within complexity rather than simplify it.

We Will Design is not only an exhibition, but an evolving ecosystem: a space to inhabit the present differently, to build unexpected alliances, and to imagine, together, new ways of being in the dark.

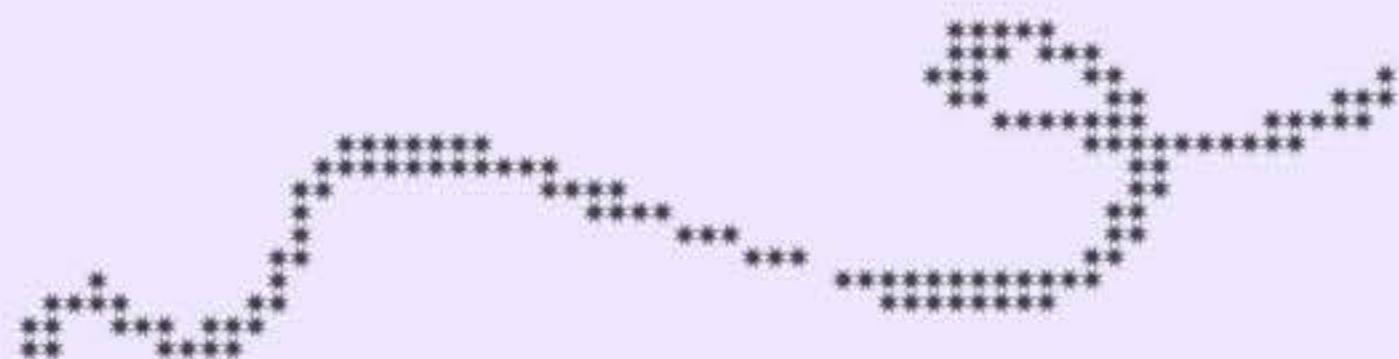
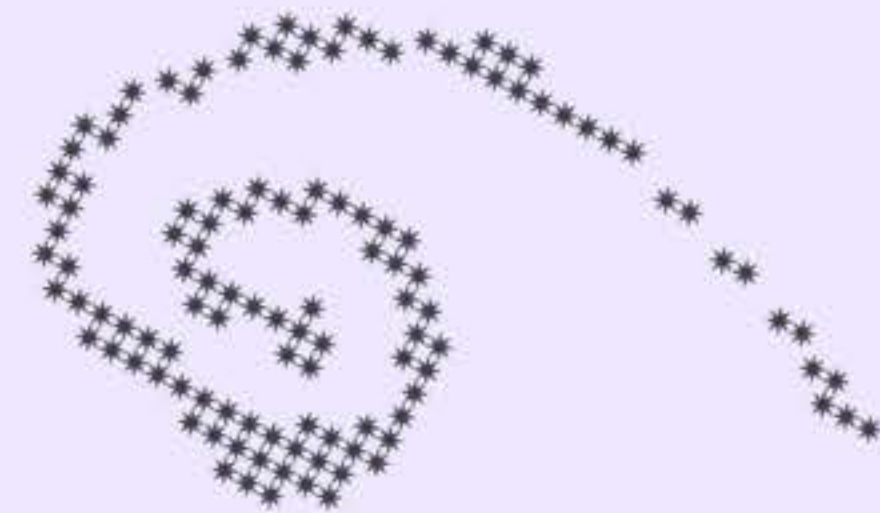
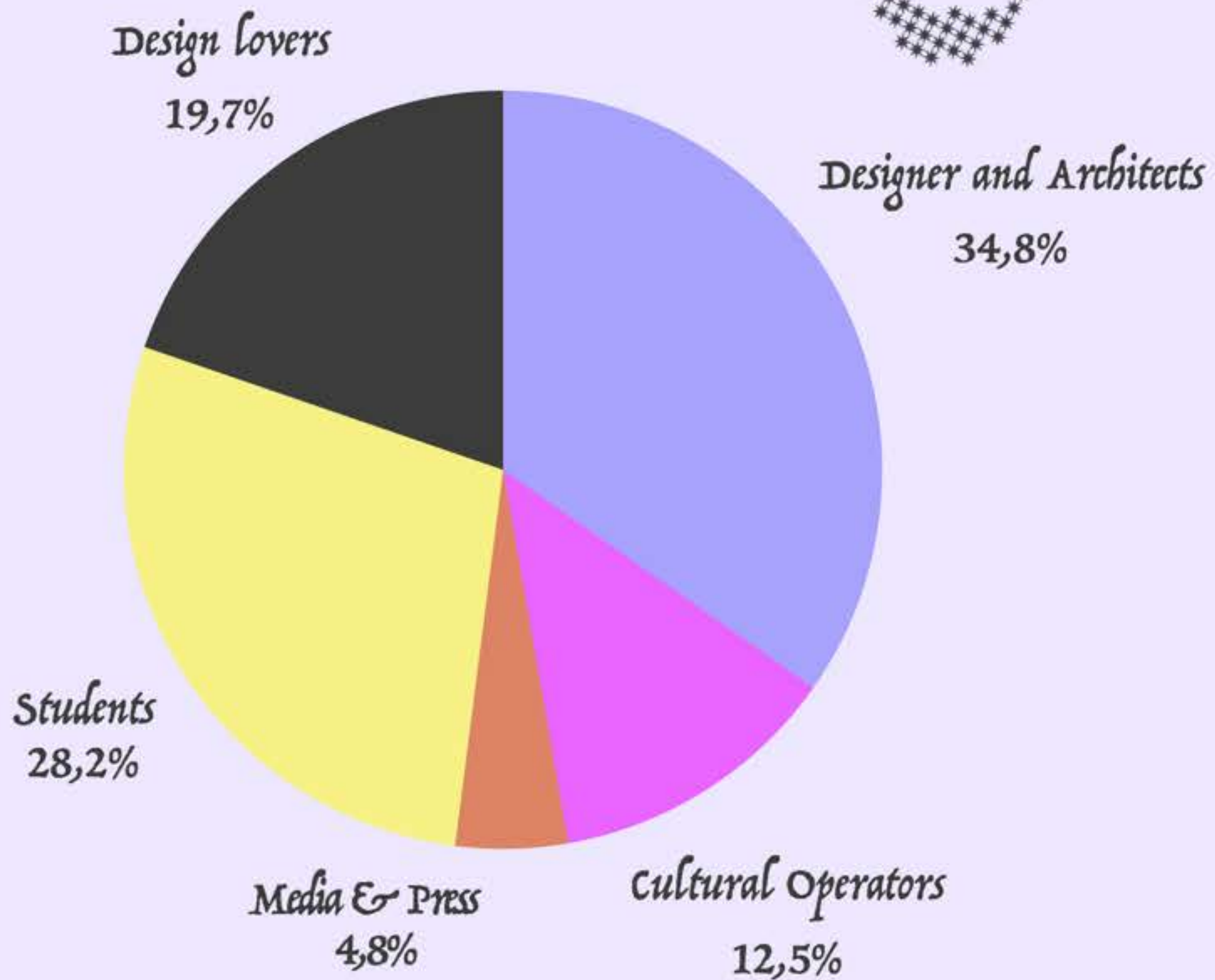
facts and figures

For this Design Week edition,
we welcomed over 80,000 visitors across the week.
A diverse and curious audience moving through exhibitions,
installations, the temporary home, and even the rooftop camp,
as well as workshops, talks, and the public program.



Public composition

We saw a remarkable +40% increase in professional visits in the first days, especially around the opening, confirming BASE's growing role as an international platform for emerging design.

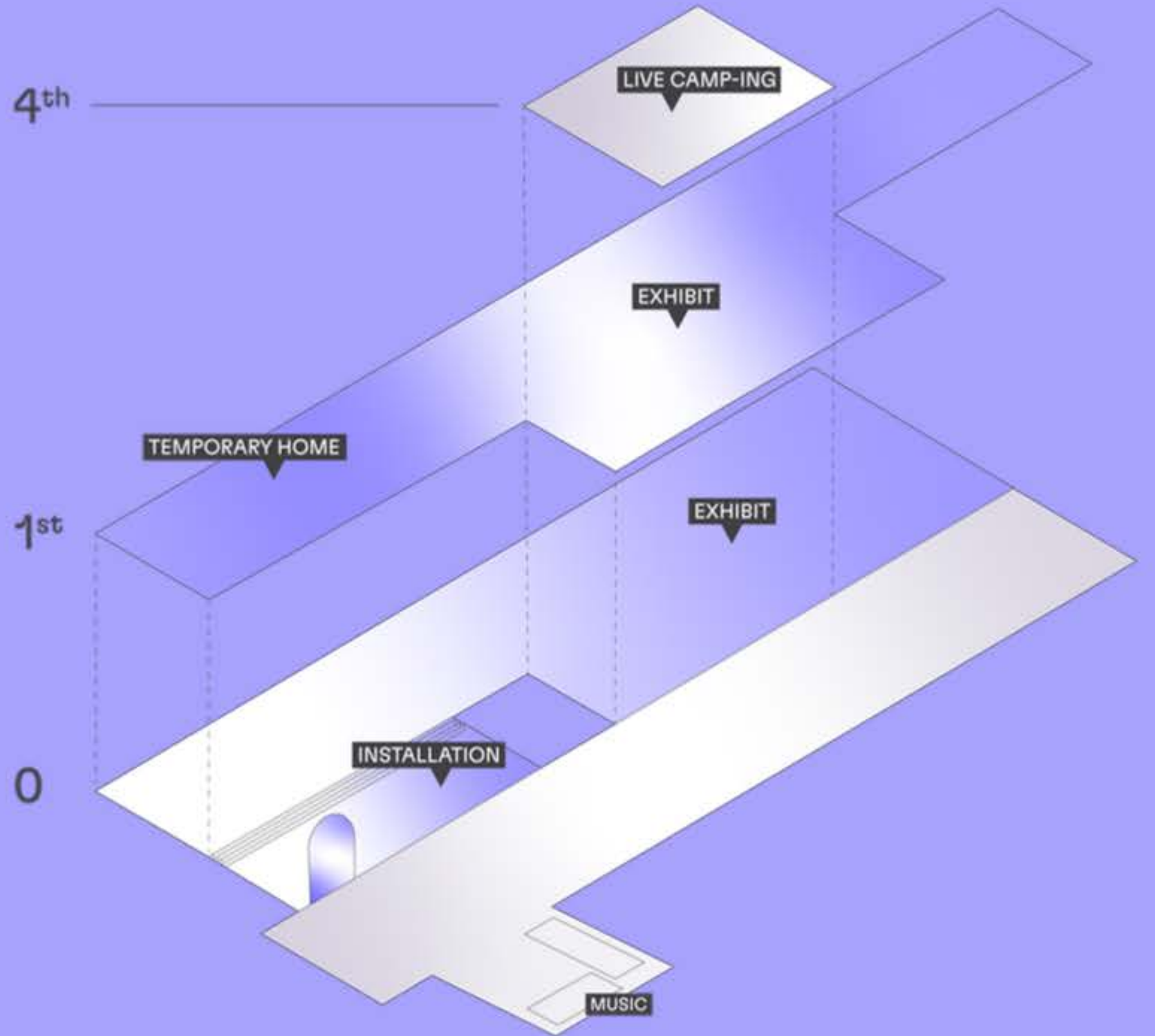


Projects

We Will Design is a multi-layered program combining exhibitions, living formats, and public activations.

Main installation
Exhibit
Temporary Home

Live Camp-ing
Public Program & Party
Food Court



main installation

IDIORYTHMIA

by studio smarin

A reversible, polymorphic furnishing system (Re-U System) that continuously reconfigures space: from agora to screening room, workspace, or convivial and performative area, including rest capsules. It acts as a bio-social system, adapting rhythms and functions to its users.

It balances autonomy and coexistence, reflecting BASE Milano's model of shared spaces and cultural exchange.

**To exist together,
at one's own rhythm.**



IDIORYTHMIA is a multi-venue project organized by the Institut français Milano for Palazzo delle Stelline and BASE Milano, featuring Emanuele Quinz, and produced by studio smarin in collaboration with BASE Milano, the School of Design at the Politecnico di Milano, and the University of Corsica Foundation — as part of the MARLAINE interregional maritime project.

INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS



IDYORHYTHMIA was shaped collectively by the city through a workshop process, and will remain open and accessible in BASE Ground Hall beyond Design Week.



WITH THE SUPPORT OF LEROY MERLIN



Exhibit

The exhibition program brought together more than +60 international research projects and around 100 emerging designers, including 5 international open studios (finalists for the Fuorisalone Award, Innovation mention) and over 10 projects directly supported by BASE and institutional partners.

We Will Design 2026

studio smarin
MNEMO
HEFLIES
Domus Academy
Elanco + Parasite 2.0
Chéri Magazine
(Gemma Ferriero, Eugenia
Garavaglia, Flavia Franciscone)
Cezara Pădurean & Claudia Feti
(Faculty of Arts and
Design Timișoara)
Ache C. Wang
Kairos Futura
Maëlys Venkiah
Carolina Mortara Aghemio
Gil Monteverde
Catalina Gómez Alvarez
einaidea
Chloé Terrée
Atelier Atollo x Panneau Piano

Elena Tosi Brandi
Gigi Totaro
Cassie Quinn CQ Studio
Dafne Argondizza, Camilla
Piantanida, Riccardo Zambelli,
Matteo Bernasconi
BY THE END OF MAY
(André Trindade &
Davide Onestini)
Alter Atelier
Archeomaterico
Guido Pupulin
Laurin Böhm
Giulia Braglia
Giuseppe Campanella
Avcu Birce
Studio LLOTTA
Micheal McCreedy
Studio Elisabeth Seidel
Ivan Donzelli
Anastrophes Collective
Irene Guerra
Aleksandra Nazarova
io wu
Christos Voustas
Antonia Aschenbrenner
Yuhan Fang
Common Index
Dario Formicola
Robert Clark & Sky Feng
Studio Superfluo
+ Chiara Ciccarelli
Jeongseok Hwang, Minjeong
Kim, Soohyun Namkoong
Loretta Wong, Melody Liu,
Tila Tuzuturk
Gabriele Nasole
RAD
– Ramundo Alessandro Design
Carolina Carmona Hermenegildo

Continental
Wilfried Dsainbayonne
Harim Academy
RUFA
– Rome University of Fine Arts
Altra Venezia
Selenia Marinelli
Tommaso Pardini
Studio Tal Ve Tomer
Pamela Varela & Ella Hebendanz
Benedetta Lusi
Salicornia Studio
Sara Bonaventura
Ginevra Petrozzi
Martina Carbone
Le Ambigue
Cristobal Olmedo
Bookshop by Frakas
RCA & Lemonot



THE WILD FUTURE LAB - KAIROS FUTURA



BLOOMSCROLLING - ACHE C. WANG



LANDSCAPE OF POSITIONS - CHLOÉ TERRÉE



POSTNATURAL REMAINS - GIGI TOTARO



THE YEAR - IO WU



FOREVER - ELENA TOSI BRANDI



HERE TOO. - TAL VE TOMER



AN ECOLOGY OF BEASTS - COMMON INDEX

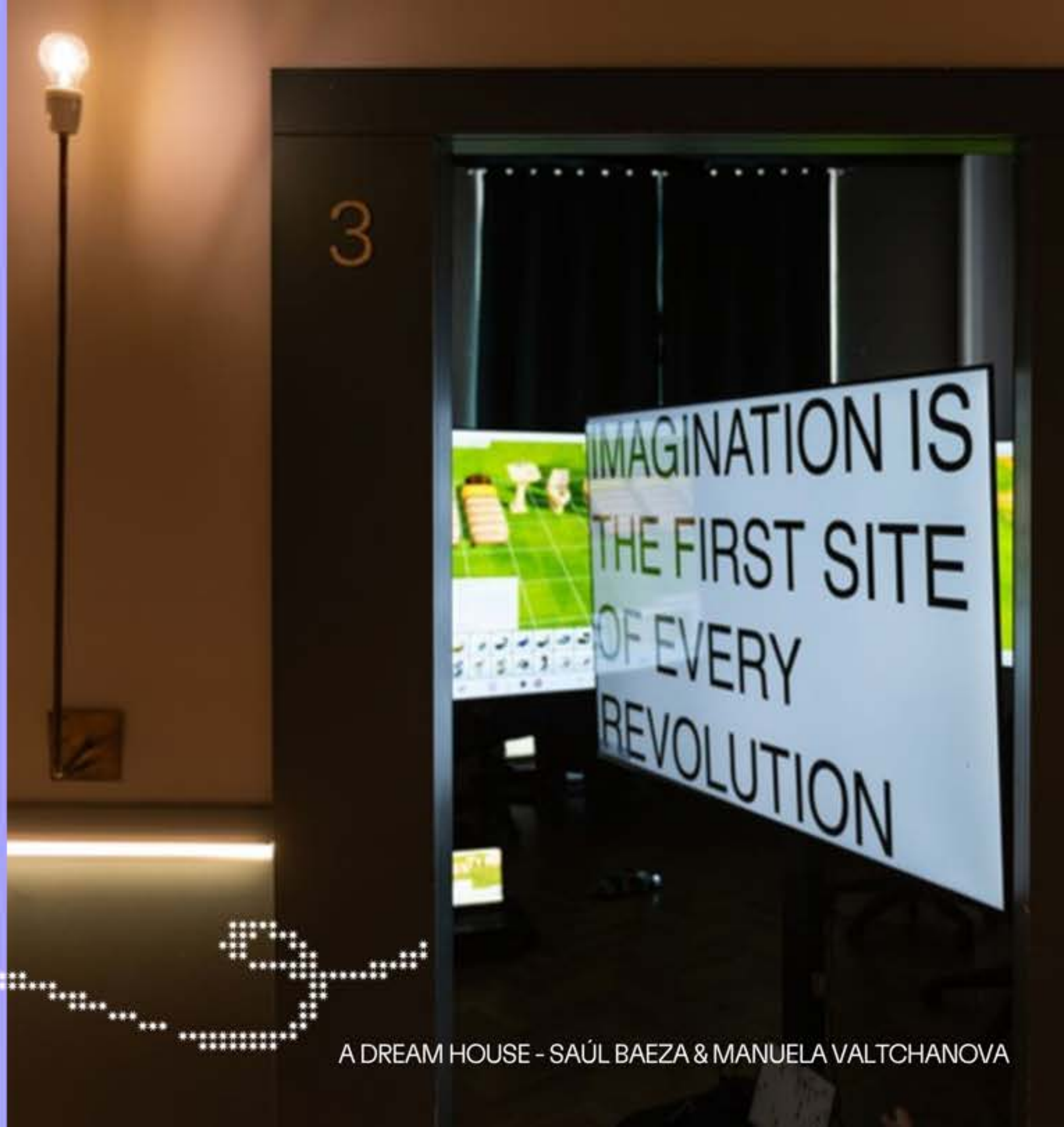
Temporary Home

5 temporary studios in casaBASE

The experimental dimension of We Will Design extended within the rooms of casaBASE, where 5 projects explored the intersection of rituals, technology, and identity.

TEMPORARY HOME 2026 PROJECTS WERE FINALISTS FOR THE FUORISALONE AWARD, INNOVATION MENTION

Designer in Temporary Home:
Jean Baptiste Durand, Bianca Carague,
Lucrezia Alessandrini, Cristina Dezi,
Saúl Baeza and Manuela Valtchanova.



A DREAM HOUSE - SAÚL BAEZA & MANUELA VALTCHANOVA



UN ESPACE D'EXPOSITION D'ARTS VISUELS
DANS LE DOMAINE DE BOISBUCHET
A PARIS, LE 10 OCTOBRE 2014
A 18 HEURES
BILLET D'ENTREE LIBRE
RÉSERVATION OBLIGATOIRE
BOISBUCHET, 100000 BOISBUCHET
BOISBUCHET, 100000 BOISBUCHET
BOISBUCHET, 100000 BOISBUCHET
BOISBUCHET, 100000 BOISBUCHET

BITTERSWEET SYMPHONY - JEAN-BAPTISTE DURAND



Domaine de
Boisbucht



OLFACTORY ECHOES - LUCREZIA ALESSANDRONI



BRITISH
COUNCIL



TECHNOSPOONISM - BIANCA CARAGUE



A DREAM HOUSE - SAÚL BAEZA & MANUELA VALTCHANOVA



RED NOISE - CRISTINA DEZI



Live Camp-ing
**Practices
of Radical Conviviality**



CURATED BY LEMONOT
IN COLLABORATION WITH ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART



A place to co-live, observe,
and experiment.

A space where design becomes
experience, research,
and exchange.

For one week, 20 students
from the Royal College of Art (London)
inhabited the Terrace of BASE Milano,
transforming it into a living urban campsite.



Public program & Parties

A Public Program intertwined visual arts, architecture, talks, and science with nights of sonic exploration, clubbing, and electronic subcultures.

Over 30.000 people participated to We Will Design public program activities.





PUBLIC PROGRAM
IN THE GROUND HALL, BASE MILANO
DESIGN WEEK 2026



INVENTING MILANESE DISHES
ANAS CHAO IN COLLABORATION WITH LIQUID RITUALS

We Will Design Music

A five-day music festival that transformed BASE into an open sonic ecosystem, featuring some of the most exciting names from International and Milan's club scene.

CURATED BY

LE
CAN
NIBALE

IN COLLABORATION WITH NAOTO SOUND SYSTEM



WE WILL DESIGN MUSIC OUTDOOR STAGE

Missione buio

invited children to explore darkness through play and imagination, turning fear into curiosity.



Led by Clara Fois, the project combined workshop and fanzine into an interactive experience of discovery.



BRAVE KID

FABER-CASTELL
since 1761



We Will Design
2026

FOODCOURT

Felicia

Sodamore

Dreamfarm

Planted

For Design Week 2026, BASE introduced a temporary food court.

As design engages with the major environmental and social transformations of our time, food production, distribution, and consumption emerge as key fields of experimentation.

In this context, BASE collaborated with partners exploring alternative food models.



felicia

SODAMORE
drink che sanno di amore ♥

Dreamfarm **planted.**

This week, we chose to stay with the dark
— to listen, to gather, to imagine otherwise.
Whether you crossed our spaces, shared a thought, supported a process, or
moved together through sound
— thank you.

You helped shape a temporary ecosystem of presence, intimacy, and
possibility at BASE Milano and beyond.

THANKYOU

Let's not lose touch.
Stay close, keep sharing your work,
and continue following our journey through In Depth.

You can always reach us at design@base.milano.it
and we hope to see you again very soon.

BASE

BASE

MILANO
DESIGN
WEEK

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

BRITISH
COUNCIL

INSTITUT
FRANÇOIS

GOETHE
INSTITUT

PARTNERS

LEROY
MERLIN

felicia

BRAVE KID

kindof

FABER-CASTELL

planted.

Dreamfarm

APEROL

SODAMORE

TECHNICAL PARTNER

PRESSPOINT
ILLINOIS

P

EXHIBITION PARTNERS

Continental

Elanco

HEFLIES

MNEMO

CULTURAL PARTNERS

Logo of a stylized leaf or shape

Communauté de
Boisbuchet

smarin

LE
CANTON
VAUD

N2OTO

FRANAS