

# ICON

090

SURVIVAL  
December 2010

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LIFE





**PICK OF THE SHOW**  
**Variability**  
12 emerging designers

Clockwise  
from right  
Piedras table  
by Liliana

Ovalle;  
Standard  
by David  
Weatherhead;

Fabricate by  
Henny van  
Nistelrooy



An abandoned office overlooking the Brompton Road was the setting of an exhibition by 12 up-and-coming London designers. Conceived by RCA graduates Henny van Nistelrooy and Liliana Ovalle, *Variability* reflected the diversity of styles and techniques in contemporary design practice.

The boring blue carpet, glass box offices and filing cabinets of the former office were used to considerable effect as props to the pieces on display. Thomas Wagner's Office Tools, David Weatherhead's Standard Stationery and graphic

designer Julia's Meantime wall clock worked particularly well in the environment, while exhibitors' work created interesting juxtapositions between the unique and the ubiquitous.

Henny van Nistelrooy's Fabricate pendant lamps made from a wire frame dressed in a tight-fitting fabric were an interesting take on the standard rice lamp, while Liliana Ovalle's Piedras table presented some unexpected humour – her minimalist side table supported on a leg bent at an angle is held in place by a big hand-carved soapstone boulder so that it doesn't fall over.