



**Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D  
5 -7 June 2018  
Messe Erfurt**

**Pushing boundaries ... and Think big!**

*(Erfurt, 14 May 2018)* In the third edition of the international competition 3D Pioneers Challenge, the organisers once again manage to track down the trends in the current 3D printing industry and bundle them at the trade show Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D in Erfurt.

International entries from 17 countries coming from Europe to Canada, Japan or India have found their way to Erfurt. Among others, renowned institutes and universities such as the UDK Berlin, MIT, Harvard and UCL Bartlett submitted.

"Think big" can be identified as one of the main topics which is a clear change in comparison to the past years.

Not least in the furniture industry, 3D printing is used in the manufacturing of end products. Great names of the design scene such as Wilkhahn are developing furniture with the help of additive manufacturing (AM) and customer acceptance is growing noticeably. Nagami sets standards and can win top-class designers like Ross Lovegrove for his projects, which also caused a sensation at the international furniture fair in Milan and are exhibited in the Centre George Pompidou in Paris. Big players of the industry such as Audi with Concept Breathe and Reebok with Modla set trends with the possibilities that 3D printing offers for the development of future-oriented products.

There are large-format, groundbreaking, outstanding submissions in the field of architecture. Holistic concepts for houses such as Cabin of 3D Printed Curiosities by and with Virginia San Fratello are a part of the exhibition as well as the well-known bridge of MX3D which will be set up next year in Amsterdam.

A change is noticeable in the industry. The 3D printer with its limited production space is extended by robotics and large-format innovations become reality. Matching software is being developed, for example for Voxelchair; which fills the new Digital category with exciting projects.

3DPC was also able to get fabulous submissions in the field of materials, working with glass like Okkasion or recycled plastic waste from Print Your City!.

Social projects such as Fittl, which aims to make Braille toys accessible to everyone as open source in developing countries, will round off the range of finalists in 2018.

The winners will be selected by the competent and international jury at Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D 2018 on site. This year the organisers were able to attract specialists from the industry like Anouk Wipprecht, Julia Körner, Eyal Gever, Achim Menges, Dirk Simon and Sebastian Herkner.

The 3D Pioneers Challenge is once again a platform for pioneers in the 3D printing sector and in its third year shows how existing standards are being broken up and which innovations are currently determining the market.

*Further information of the finalists, the jury members and partners you may find on [www.3dpc.io](http://www.3dpc.io)*

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### **The Jury of the „3D Pioneers Challenge 2018“**

Diana Drewes, Haute Innovation; Sven Eberwein, Tesla Design Team; Barbara Friedrich, Design Consulting & Publishing; Eyal Gever, Artist; Sebastian Herkner, Studio Sebastian Herkner; Julia Körner, JK Design GmbH; Achim Menges, ICD Stuttgart; Silvia Olp, aed e.V.; Dirk Simon, FARSOON Europe GmbH (former BASF3D Print Solutions -B3DPS); Joachim Stumpp, raumPROBE; Andreas Velten, Institut für Anaplastologie; Christoph Völcker, VOXELWORLD; Wolf Udo Wagner, Studio Wagner:Design, Deutscher Designer Club DDC; Anouk Wipprecht, FashionTech Designerin

### **Partners of the „3D Pioneers Challenge 2018“**

Freestate of Thuringia Ministry of Economics, Science and Digital Society; 3D Hubs; 3Druck.com; 3D Printing Business Directory; aed e.V., aed Society for Advancement of Architecture, Engineering, Design; ALL3DP; Avedition; BASF New Business GmbH; Botspot; Canto; DDC Deutscher Designer Club; Designreport; Designspotter; Fabb-it; FIT AG; haute innovation; MakerBot; raumPROBE; Stratasys; Verband 3DDruck e.V.

### **d.sign21**

d.sign21 is a design and consultancy company with a wealth of experience in developing and organising design challenges. Its expertise in design, additive technologies and the global network supports the 3D Pioneers Challenge.

[www.d-sign21.de](http://www.d-sign21.de)

### **Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D**

Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D is one of Europe's most important events in the field of Additive Manufacturing. It has been providing information about the status and development of Rapid Prototyping, the direct production of end products by using Additive Manufacturing as well as the way into series production. With more than 100 user-oriented lectures in the specialist conference and the 3D Printing Conference as well as more than 200 exhibitors on the show floor Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D is a high-class industry get-together which is unique in this form. For the 15th anniversary from 5 to 7 June 2018 more than 5.000 international trade visitors and conference participants are expected in Erfurt.

[www.rapidtech-fabcon.de](http://www.rapidtech-fabcon.de)