



SERPENTINE PAVILION 2026 A SERPENTINE DESIGNED BY LANZA ATELIER

6 JUNE – 25 OCTOBER 2026

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE SERPENTINE PAVILION 2026 IN OUR FREE DIGITAL GUIDE ON BLOOMBERG CONNECTS



Join the free Serpentine Public Wi-Fi and scan the QR code to hear the architects' introduction to the Serpentine Pavilion 2026.



Serpentine is a charity and we need your help more than ever to continue our work. Please donate today to help keep our programmes free and open to all.

Sign up to our newsletter at serpentinegalleries.org and follow [@SerpentineUK](https://twitter.com/SerpentineUK) on social media to discover more.

PAVILION COMMISSION

Since 2000, Serpentine has commissioned internationally renowned and emerging architects to create their first completed structure in England. The Pavilion commission prioritises architects who consistently extend the boundaries of contemporary architectural practice and introduces these practitioners to wider audiences. Serpentine invites architects to design a Pavilion that can be used as a meeting space and café by day and a forum for learning, debate and entertainment at night. This year's Pavilion selection was made by a panel comprising CEO Bettina Korek; Artistic Director Hans Ulrich Obrist; Director of Construction and Special Projects Julie Burnell; Exhibitions Curators Chris Bayley and Tamsin Hong, together with special advisor and architect Sou Fujimoto.

The inaugural Pavilion was designed by Dame Zaha Hadid, who conceived the commissioning programme with former Serpentine Director Dame Julia Peyton-Jones in 2000. Previous Pavilions were designed by: Marina Tabassum Architects (MTA) (2025); Minsuk Cho, Mass Studies (2024); Lina Ghotmeh – Architecture (2023); Theaster Gates (2022); Sumayya Vally, Counterspace (2021); Junya Ishigami + Associates (2019); Frida Escobedo (2018); Kéré Architecture (2017); Bjarke Ingels Group – BIG (2016); selgascano (2015); Smiljan Radić (2014); Sou Fujimoto (2013); Herzog & de Meuron and Ai Weiwei (2012); Peter Zumthor (2011); Jean Nouvel (2010); Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa, SANAA (2009); Frank Gehry (2008); Olafur Eliasson and Kjetil Thorsen (2007); Rem Koolhaas and Cecil Balmond with Arup (2006); Álvaro Siza and Eduardo Souto de Moura with Cecil Balmond, Arup (2005); MVRDV with Arup (2004, unrealised); Oscar Niemeyer (2003); Toyo Ito and Cecil Balmond with Arup (2002); and Daniel Libeskind with Arup (2001).

The Pavilion is realised through sponsorship, in-kind support and its subsequent sale.

Project Directors

Hans Ulrich Obrist, Artistic Director
Bettina Korek, Chief Executive

Project Leader

Julie Burnell, Director of Construction and Special Projects

Senior Project Manager

Kathryn Blanchard

Project Curators

Tamsin Hong, Exhibitions Curator
Liz Stumpf, Assistant Exhibitions Curator

SERPENTINE PAVILION 2026
MADE POSSIBLE BY

Goldman
Sachs

Major Support



OFFICIAL TIMEPIECE



Serpentine supported by

Bloomberg
Philanthropies

LIVE PROGRAMME

SATURDAY TALKS

Curator-led tours of the Serpentine Pavilion

20 June 2026, 12pm

Liz Stumpf, Assistant Exhibitions Curator

25 July 2026, 12pm

Tamsin Hong, Exhibitions Curator

29 August 2026, 12pm

Tamsin Hong, Exhibitions Curator

10 October 2026, 12pm

Liz Stumpf, Assistant Exhibitions Curator

Free tours. Booking required via the Serpentine website. BSL interpretation is available upon prior request for all our Saturday Talks.

PARK NIGHTS

Park Nights is Serpentine's experimental, interdisciplinary live platform presented in the Pavilion, curated by Claude Adjil. This year the series features music, poetry, performance and dance, reimagining what it means to come together, witness and share thoughts through live performance. The programme will take place on select evenings from July to October.

WHAT'S ON

DAVID HOCKNEY: A YEAR IN NORMANDIE AND SOME OTHER THOUGHTS ABOUT PAINTING

12 March – 23 August 2026

Serpentine North

A Year in Normandie and Some Other Thoughts about Painting premieres David Hockney's monumental frieze *A Year in Normandie* (2020–21) in London, alongside a series of new still lifes and portraits painted in late 2025.

CECILY BROWN: PICTURE MAKING

27 March – 6 September 2026

Serpentine South

Picture Making is Cecily Brown's first major solo presentation in a UK institution for over twenty years, bringing together new paintings, drawings and monoprints inspired by Serpentine's unique location in Kensington Gardens.

JESÚS RAFAEL SOTO: PÉNÉTRABLE BBL JAUNE

16 June – 25 October 2026

Kensington Gardens

Jesús Rafael Soto's interactive sculpture *Pénétrable BBL Jaune* (1999 – 2023) exemplifies the artist's lifelong interest in movement, space and tactility. Visitors are welcome to walk through and interact with the work through movement and touch.

SERPENTINE FAMILY DAYS

7 June, 19 July, 23 August 2026, 11am – 3pm

Enjoy free, drop-in and hands-on making, outdoor play and artist-led workshops throughout the day. All families are welcome to bring a picnic to enjoy on the Serpentine Lawn.

For the full programme, tickets and further details please visit serpentinegalleries.org

SERPENTINE

Design by: the unloved
Print by: Impress Print Services Ltd



SERPENTINE PAVILION 2026 *A SERPENTINE*

Designed by LANZA atelier

LANZA atelier believes design can bring beauty to everyday life. The Mexico City-based architecture studio was founded by Isabel Abascal and Alessandro Arienzo in 2015. Their collaborative practice reinterprets familiar materials and forms by paying close attention to craftsmanship, technology and spatial-design traditions. Their work proposes ways of building that foreground dialogue and collective experience.

For the studio, drawing and model-making are central to the design process, serving as tools to investigate material, form and structure. Working globally, the studio approaches architectural practice as something that moves fluidly across cultural spaces, residential projects, public infrastructure and furniture design, while remaining sensitive to each specific site.

For this year's Serpentine Pavilion, LANZA took inspiration from the architectural feature known as a serpentine or crinkle-crinkle wall. This type of brick wall, composed of alternating curves, originated in ancient Egypt and was later introduced to England by Dutch engineers. Its curvilinear form provides stability through lateral support and requires fewer bricks than a straight wall. The name of the Pavilion, *a serpentine*, is inspired by this feature, which makes up the building's south wall and references the nearby Serpentine Lake, whose shape evokes the form of a serpent.

LANZA also designed the Pavilion's chairs and stools, extending their approach to architecture and furniture as part of the same design process at different scales. Made locally from sapele hardwood, the pieces complement the Pavilion and can be arranged into different curves and configurations.

The architecture studio chose brick as the primary material to celebrate the English garden tradition and establish a dialogue with the existing brick façade of the Serpentine South Gallery, originally built as a tea pavilion in 1933–34. *a serpentine* is constructed through the rhythmic repetition of brick columns that shift the walls from opaque to permeable. In this way, the structure challenges the wall as a feature of division and instead creates moments of connection, allowing visitors to see through to the other side.

The north wall of *a serpentine* is in dialogue with the surrounding landscape, harmoniously paralleling the nearby tree canopy. A translucent roof allows light and air to permeate the space, softening the boundary between enclosure and openness. The roof rests lightly on brick columns that evoke a grove of trees. While the structure is positioned on the northern side of the site, the Pavilion extends across the southern lawn. LANZA conceives the outdoor space as active and integral to their design, including a winding bench on the lawn that invites visitors to sit in the open air. The architects hope visitors will interact freely with the space: 'There is no fixed place to sit or look. It's designed for people to move, gather and create their own experience.'

CATALOGUE

Marking LANZA atelier's first monograph, Serpentine and Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther und Franz König, Cologne, will publish *a serpentine*. Designed by Estudio Herrera, it brings together new and insightful contributions from curator José Esparza Chong Cuy; Pulitzer Prize-winning author Cristina Rivera Garza; and a poem by Ocean Vuong. Alongside these contributions, the book features hand-drawn site plans from LANZA's design process; an essay by Isabel Abascal; and an in-depth interview with Hans Ulrich Obrist.

Scan the QR code to preorder your copy:



LIMITED EDITION

To accompany the Serpentine Pavilion 2026, LANZA atelier has designed a special limited-edition stool inspired by the distinctive curves of the coco de mer seed. Bringing together natural materiality and artisanal fabrication, the work reflects both the wider themes of the 2026 Pavilion and LANZA atelier's ongoing exploration of form, process, and nature-led design.

All purchases directly support Serpentine's programmes.

Available in the shop or online:
shop.serpentinegalleries.org

Above:
Serpentine Pavilion 2026 *a serpentine*, designed by Isabel Abascal and Alessandro Arienzo, LANZA atelier. Aerial view © LANZA atelier, Photo Iwan Baan, Courtesy Serpentine.
Front cover:
Serpentine Pavilion 2026, *a serpentine*, designed by Isabel Abascal and Alessandro Arienzo, LANZA atelier. Exterior view © LANZA atelier, Photo Iwan Baan, Courtesy Serpentine.
Inside spread:
Serpentine Pavilion 2026, *a serpentine*, designed by Isabel Abascal and Alessandro Arienzo, LANZA atelier. Interior view © LANZA atelier, Photo Iwan Baan, Courtesy Serpentine.