

# MIX

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MIX Magazine by  
Colour Hive  
Colour, Trends & Design

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Hush & Worth

**Class of 2017**  
Graduate Talent

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# Brave New Talent

Skilled use of colour is always impressive but even more so if the designer is just starting out. To celebrate the best of graduate talent, the MIX Magazine team has selected their personal favourites, each one innovative and outstanding.

## 01 Sofia Ortiz

Originally from Mexico, Ortiz studied art at Yale University, before entering the USA's Rhode Island School of Design for a MFA in painting. Her work at first glance appears broadly abstract, chaotic and led by bold colour, favouring yellow, pink, green and intense cobalt blue. However on closer inspection there are tight and accurate studies of animals tucked into the more impressionist strokes of paint, a sort of secret, more intimate discovery for viewers to connect with.

[sofiaortizsimon.com](http://sofiaortizsimon.com)

## 02 Sarafina Liv Taudal Andersen

A graduate of Denmark's largest university college VIA, we were drawn to Andersen's work because of her commitment to developing her own colour using plant dyes. Her entire collection takes inspiration from the interaction between people and nature. The design process is based on an experimental approach to colour, where, in an attempt to bring nature into the creative process, the collection has been plant dyed, embracing a traditional and, in the West, almost forgotten craft process. The dyes used for the collection include yellow from tansy, red from madder root and a blue green from indigo.

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## 03 Kristen Kong

Originally from Hong Kong and now a student at the Royal College of Art, Kong describes herself as a by-product and special designer, working mainly with discarded and cheap materials. Again there is the importance of accidental colour in her work that veers from the extreme punch of yellow for her RCA show installation, to the delicate multi-tonal effects of her paper jewellery.

[kristenfloratextile.com](http://kristenfloratextile.com)

## 04 Eero Lampinen

Helsinki based illustrator Lampinen works with ink, watercolour and a dreamy digital colour palette, bringing together an intriguing blend of fantasy and pop culture, with characters drawn from alternate realities. Already published in Wire, The New Scientist and Frame, we are not alone in loving this illustrator's work.

[eerolampinen.com](http://eerolampinen.com)

## 05 Frankie Moughton-Small

You'd be forgiven for thinking that tiny fragments of ocean waste, fishing ropes, net and marine debris wouldn't make the most inspiring jewellery, but you would be wrong. This Central Saint Martins jewellery graduate has carefully nuanced slightly different colours of plastic to create objects of unexpected beauty. Moreover, the harsh colours of cheap, throwaway plastic become something altogether more subtle and nuanced in Moughton-Small's hands. Despite the original source

material, there is nothing accidental about this colour.

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## 06 Eilidh Watson

Watson, a recent BA Fine Art graduate at Goldsmiths, focuses on the absence of the female voice through a variety of mediums including printmaking, sculpture and textiles. Watson works with a number of community-engaged projects including Collective Matter and the Baytree Centre, a Brixton based charity for women and girls. We love her bold use of colour, especially for this enormous padded and embellished textile flower that seems to burst with life in the staid gallery space it is displayed in.

[eilidhwatson.co.uk](http://eilidhwatson.co.uk)

## 07 Elspeth Coutts

Coutts is inspired by the interaction of colour and form. Moving from an original calling in fine art towards textile and surface design, she studied at Edinburgh College of Art. Her work is heavily process led, moving fluidly from flat graphics to 3D sculptural, tactile surfaces. Coutts is also keen to explore how colour can be used across a variety of substrates, employing experimental techniques that explore texture and colour in tandem. ►

[elspethcoutts.com](http://elspethcoutts.com)



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#### 08 James Bowen

Graduating in multi media textiles from Loughborough University, Bowen's work stands out because of the designer's completely fearless use of colour. Scarlet fur is shot through with purple, turquoise and gold, while Arctic blue is warmed up with red, turquoise and matt gold. The overall effect is richer than a sack full of cream puffs but is actually skilfully balanced; this sort of exuberance can so easily tip into kitsch but Bowen pulls it off with aplomb.

[jamesfashiontextiles.com](http://jamesfashiontextiles.com)

#### 09 M J Tyson

Recent graduate of the jewellery and metal smithing department of Rhode Island School of Design, M.J.Tyson focuses on casting and alloying. We loved his collection Inheritance, which inserts itself into the existing role of jewellery and bullion as heirlooms with layered personal, historical and economic value, but 'Is suspended in a state of flux indicating the limits of permanence and sentiment.' It's the accidental flashes of colour that we love here, the tiny hit of enamel blue in the melted metals, that give this work that extra dimension.

[mjtyson.com](http://mjtyson.com)



#### 10 Siri Hagerfors

Kontsfack graduate of graphic design and illustration Hagerfors specialises in highly maximalist and over patterned work, layering intense colour on intense colour for an effect that is almost an assault on the senses. This approach is a firm rejection of the neutral, controlled palette that Sweden is perhaps better known for. The palette also underlines the central message of her work, which questions intrinsic Swedish values, not least the way that Swedish-values-rhetoric inevitably leads to exclusion. Colour is used as an experiment with existing Swedish forms and patterns that attempt to break down ideas around 'Us and them.'

[sirihagerfors.com](http://sirihagerfors.com)

#### 11 Emma Brålander

Konstfack Masters graduate in spacial design, Brålander works with loud and attention grabbing choices of colour and composition to convert flat surfaces to three-dimensionality and the other way around. By distorting the space with shards of pink, yellow, orange, black and white, her aim is to muddle the viewer's perceptions and blur the borders between colour and object.

[emmabralander.se](http://emmabralander.se)

#### 12 Ilona Partanen

This illustrator and graphic designer is currently studying a Master's Degree at Aalto University in Finland. Partanen works mainly with gouache, ink and computer techniques. Her illustrative style is characterised

mainly by strong colour intensity, pattern surfaces and contrasts. Look closely at her illustrations and you find playful organic shapes, mischievous characters, dream worlds and a strong rhythm of lines and patterns.

[ilonainillustrations.com](http://ilonainillustrations.com)

#### 13 Sejoon Kim

It takes a deft hand to steer pastels in the right direction away from saccharine same-ness. Design Academy Eindhoven graduate Kim's work has a welcome dark twist that makes these colours work harder. Kim's work delves into cuteness through palette and subject matter and the discovery that in some cultures cuteness is not a protective instinct, but a twisted mechanism that reveals a dark social and cultural construct.

[sejoonkim.com](http://sejoonkim.com)

#### 14 Nihan Aycan

We spotted Aycan back in February at Stockholm Furniture & Light Fair, in an exhibition of work by students from HDK, Academy of Design & Crafts, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. (Un)Spaced, a folding screen with translucent but multiple layers of colour created from acrylic glass sheets and 3M dichroic glass folio creates a pleasing illusory effect that really stood out from the crowd. ■

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