

THE sweepings from a local market hardly sound like promising raw material for a designer, but **Kosuke Araki** has carbonised discarded vegetables and bones into delicate-looking black containers.

The design products graduate invented the processes involved himself and now sells do-it-yourself moulds as well as the finished products (from £550) to help promote an end to food waste.

Araki features, along with many other former students, at the Royal College of Art's summer graduate exhibition, Show RCA (June 20-30).

James Shaw takes biodegradable plastic, pewter and papier-mâché to make furniture, lights and bowls, (blob table £400; pewter vessels £70). **Mauricio Affonso** grows loofahs and uses them to create antimicrobial leg splints – designers Charles and Ray Eames started their careers making splints.

TABLE TALK

Joe Pipal's steam bentwood workshop is the size of a large kitchen table so he can move it to the site where he wants to make his incredibly light ash "sweatshop chair", with its seat made from epoxy resin bandaging (£300).

David Horan uses what he sweeps from the floor after cutting granite to make reconstituted platters (£50). He also designs more conventional-looking tables, coated in graphite, with thick, cylindrical legs. In collaboration with his colleague, **Nicholas Gardner**, he produces a very lightweight but substantial-looking, ply flatpack bench, Phyllida (£750) and a pillow-shaped steel bench in a range of colours (£1,000). **Tom Gottelier's** approach is rather different. He specialises in uniting unlikely manufacturers, designing products round their combined basic skills. His durable triangular stool is made using foundry and enamelling processes (£500). He also uses marble offcuts for simple but highly decorative table legs.

Simon Kinneir designs tableware for the blind and partially sighted that also appeals to the non-disabled (glass, £10). There are hi-tech ideas like **David Bellisario's** digital poster,

Our ingenious designers of the future

The Royal College of Art showcases its graduates' talents this month, says **Corinne Julius**



where the whole family can upload information, and there are products that encourage consumers to participate in the production process, such as **Lauren Davies's** kit for making scents.

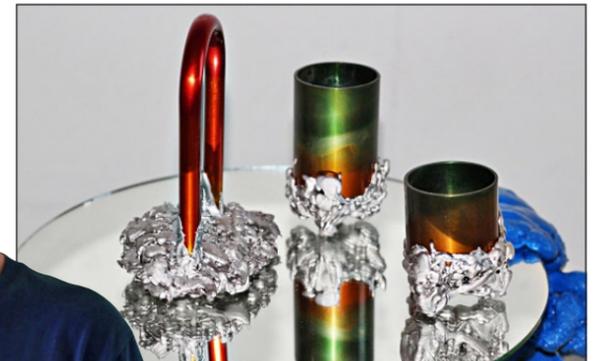
There are more traditional, practical designs such as **Marc Miralda Besa's** functional bathroom pieces – including a waste bin that pushes up from the base and a laundry box-cum-drying rack – together with fun items such as **Lucy Norman's** rainbow cocktail glasses made from bio-resin, which give drinkers a mini light show with each sip (cocktail set £740; individual glass £55).

LIGHT FANTASTIC

Silversmith **James Stocklund** designs pieces that amplify the experience of eating and drinking, from a food-safe rubber plate that makes it possible to scoop up the very last trace on the plate (£190) to brandy glasses with a built-in aerator (£90).

Carved cut glass is used for sculptural lights (£1,100) by **Daniel Woodward**, and **Anabela Chan** uses a new take on the Victorian dome to house her decorative, bright butterflies (£2,000). **Cristina Vezzini**, working in ceramics and glass, uses huge glass tubes as containers for her lights, filled with bone china "corals" (£500). Glass is

Above: Kosuke Araki carbonises waste and turns it into bowls (small £550, medium £850, large £1,550)



Above and left: James Shaw uses an extruder to melt biodegradable plastics into tables and vessels

Below: a David Horan table with cylindrical legs, coated in graphite



also used on an architectural scale. **Kane Cali** works with digital and traditional processes to create glass panels (£1,500) and 3D ceramic wall tiles (£300 a square metre).

Textiles, too, combine traditional and new techniques. **Moira McAulay** makes flexible fold-your-own vessels and lights from textile dipped in silicone (£250).

Ejing Zhang uses materials such as bamboo in new ways, binding it with coloured thread and combining it with plastics to create lunch boxes and domestic accessories. **Mandeep**

Mann blows up her own drawings of Indian temple sculptures to enormous proportions to create mind-boggling wallpapers (£180 per roll).

There are more conventional throws, blankets and cushions but **Jessica Coleman's** fluorescent versions with ceramic-coated thread appeal to the more adventurous (£190).

Some students are producing their designs as tea towels for the show. It's a good way to liven up drying the dishes – or you could frame them as

art pieces by textiles stars of the future.

■ **Show RCA Battersea** is in Howie Street, SW11 and features ceramics and glassware, goldsmithing, silversmithing, metalwork and jewellery, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture.

■ **Show RCA Kensington** is in Kensington Gore, SW7, showing textiles, design interactions, fashion, products, footwear and accessories, innovation design and engineering. Both run from June 20 to 30.

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