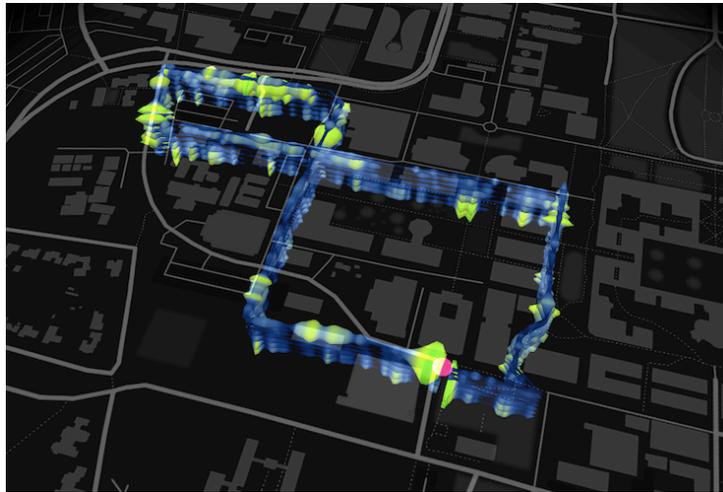


# Stamen

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, October 19, 2017

## STAMEN DESIGN WILL RECEIVE THE COOPER HEWITT, SMITHSONIAN DESIGN MUSEUM'S NATIONAL DESIGN AWARD FOR INTERACTION DESIGN AT NEW YORK CITY GALA, OCTOBER 19



A map showing the location and signals detected along a three-mile, figure eight loop of optical fibers installed beneath the Stanford Campus as part of the Fiber Optic Seismic Observatory. Credit: Stamen Design and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

San Francisco, CA. – Stamen Design will receive the prestigious 2017 National Design Award for Interaction Design at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum's gala in New York City on October 19, 2017. **Stamen Founder, CEO, and Creative Director, Eric Rodenbeck**, will be attending the event to accept the award on behalf of the design studio.

The highly regarded Interaction Design Award is given annually to an individual or firm for exceptional work in the design of interactive digital products, environments, systems, and services. Stamen Design is an independent San Francisco-based studio, working within the field of data visualization, digital map-making, and strategic communications. The National Design Award acknowledges the studio for the diversity and breadth of its bold portfolio of public and private sector projects, which translate information and data into compelling visual narratives at the intersection of technology and design.

Stamen's projects are diverse and provocative, and encourage conversations about available and emerging technologies. By mapping specific types of data for their clients, some of whom are private and others public, Stamen creates stories, bridging technological wonders and cultural inquiries. Their interdisciplinary work strives to create accessible human narratives for the public from these findings and has included pioneering visualizations of data for clients as diverse as His Holiness the Dalai Lama - for whom they created the critically acclaimed project *Atlas of Emotions* - NASDAQ, Facebook, MTV, and Google. Stamen's work is also included in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), an unusual inclusion that attests to both the creative and artistic merit of their unique output.

Among Stamen's recent projects is ***Big Glass Microphone***, a dynamic digital visualization of sound commissioned by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London (V&A), for their upcoming exhibition about the future of design in 2018. *Big Glass Microphone* uses research data provided by the Fiber Optic Seismic Observatory at Stanford University to visualize, and thus amplify, otherwise invisible patterns of subtle environmental audio. The Fiber Optic Seismic Observatory is a collaboration between the Geophysics Department in the School of Earth, Energy & Environmental Sciences at Stanford University, and OptaSense.

Stamen Design is also on ***Team Uplift***, one of 10 teams selected to participate in the Resilient By Design Challenge in the San Francisco Bay Area. This visionary, collaborative research project is dedicated to preemptive ecological intervention and the development of innovative solutions to address the effects of climate change on Bay Area communities. The core team is comprised of Gensler, Arup, and Margie Ruddick Landscape (MRL), and is supported by HR&A Advisors, Stamen Design, UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability (IoES), and Stanford University Sustainable Urban Systems (SUS) group.

Always in search of a human or aesthetic dimension, Stamen tells compelling and accessible stories from data, looking to relay how technologies and science can shed light on and change the world in which we live for the better.

**For further information and to schedule an interview with Stamen Design CEO and Creative Director Eric Rodenbeck, please contact our press office.**

**Stamen Design Press Kit and images:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/jtmupn6sp6ihh43/AACx54EKq3HCBSeyFsl4I8B1a?dl=0>

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#NationalDesignAwards

#### **ABOUT STAMEN DESIGN**

Stamen Design is an independent design and technology company founded by Eric Rodenbeck in San Francisco. Since 2001, Stamen has consistently innovated in interactive design, building beautiful, technically-sophisticated projects for a diverse range of clients from Digital Globe to the Dalai Lama, from New York City to the World Health Organization, from MTV to universities around the country. With a very public-centric approach in much of its work, Stamen's self-initiated projects, such as Field Papers, Stamen Maps, and Mapstack, are open-source resources that increase access to and participation in digital design worldwide. Stamen has consistently moved the bar for data visualization and digital mapmaking to include the playful, the beautiful, and the compelling. The studio's work has been exhibited at biennials and museums worldwide, and is in the permanent collection of MoMA.

#### **ABOUT COOPER HEWITT, SMITHSONIAN DESIGN MUSEUM**

Founded in 1897, Cooper Hewitt is the only museum in the United States devoted exclusively to historic and contemporary design. Housed in the renovated and restored Carnegie Mansion, which was recognized with LEED Silver certification, the museum showcases one of the most diverse and comprehensive collections of design works in existence. Cooper Hewitt offers a full range of interactive capabilities, including the high-tech Pen that allows visitors to "collect" and "save" objects from the galleries, the opportunity to explore the collection digitally on ultra-high-definition touch-screen tables, the ability to draw and project their own designs in the Immersion Room as well as address design problems in the Process Lab.

#### **MEDIA RELATIONS**

**Lyn Winter, Inc.**

Lyn Winter, lyn@lynwinter.com

Marieke Treilhard, marieke@lynwinter.com