

SMART SURFACES

By Rhiannon McGregor

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Screens of the Future by Universal Everything, Sheffield

Watch this video at <https://www.lsnglobal.com/briefing/article/20901/smart-surfaces>

Sheffield – Design studio **Universal Everything** has created a series of visual works that re-imagine commonplace surfaces such as technology-enabled interfaces.

- **The video artworks are part of an ongoing project, the first iteration of which was shown during the studio’s solo exhibition Anthropologies at Sheffield Institute of Arts Gallery**
- **The Screens of the Future film prototypes were developed from emerging technologies**

With phone manufacturers pioneering **flexible display prototypes**, scientists **programming** shape-shifting materials and context-aware capabilities increasingly incorporated into the Internet of Things, Universal Everything has explored the huge potential in these emerging technologies to envisage a future in which smart surfaces are increasingly integrated into everyday life.

Comprising 18 video artworks, the series features concepts that are both purely aesthetic and have a more functional purpose. Digitally patterned hats, fish with a display that tells you when they need to be fed, and plates that recognise and project the nutritional value of food are just some of the ideas presented.

‘The films highlight humanity’s increasingly integrated relationship with technology, serving as product demos of our near future,’ Universal Everything told It’s Nice That.

The Big Picture

We are seeing the next iteration of **Awakening Tech** in which the digital and physical worlds become increasingly entwined. See our **Talent** piece for more on Universal Everything’s humanising approach to digital technology.