



# Cork at Tate Modern



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## Hyundai Commission Superflex One, Two, Three, Swing!



"Central to Superflex's installation One Two Three Swing! is a forest of swings that sit on a stunning cork wall to wall floor. Inspired by its unique natural properties, aroma, colour and use as an impact approved surface, the artists were compelled to use this stunning material in a new and exciting way on a scale never explored before. Amorim we thank you for helping us realise this year's Turbine Hall installation for the thousands of visitors that will enjoy it over its life time here at Tate Modern."

SYNTHIA GRIFFIN, CURATOR,  
REGENERATION & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



More often than not, entirely new solutions in cork are specifically developed to meet the world's most demanding and inventive art projects. This is what Amorim achieved for the Hyundai Commission: Superflex: One Two Three swing! in Tate Modern's iconic Turbine Hall, developing a new typology of cork for the contemporary art institution's landmark annual project, the Hyundai Commission.

### Turbine Hall presents the largest ever cork installation in the UK

From October 2017 to April 2018, as part of the installation, visitors to the Hyundai Commission: SUPERFLEX: One Two Three Swing! will be able to walk along a colossal cork floor, presented in Tate Modern - one of the world's most respected contemporary art institutions.

About 5,000 m2 of an innovative cork composite developed by Amorim have been applied to the space, created by SUPERFLEX, a Danish collective internationally renowned for their often subversive and humorous works and for using art to question society's authenticity.

Visitors are invited to walk along a colossal cork surface and playfully interact with the space on swings fabricated with cork seats.

The choice of cork for the 3rd edition of the Hyundai Commission was deeply influenced and mediated by KWY, a multidisciplinary research platform that combines architects, curators and creative artists from various fields, in order to design and support the development of projects.

### A new cork composite

The challenge posed to Amorim triggered the development of an entirely new cork composite that, unlike previously tested materials, can meet extremely demanding requirements in terms of large-scale impact absorption (cork's elastic capacity allows the absorption of an impact of up to 3 metres high). The elastic properties of cork create an ideal surface for a soft landing from the swings.

The new cork composite is based on an unprecedented combination of natural colour and expanded cork granules. In addition to the aforementioned advantages, it was conceived respecting other requirements of the project, in particular in terms of dimensional stability, waterproofing and resistance to natural sunlight.

### One Two Three Swing!

In addition to extending throughout Turbine Hall, cork also appears as the seat of the swings - a key element of this exhibition concept.

Since the Tate Modern opened in 2000, Turbine Hall has hosted some of the world's most memorable and acclaimed works of contemporary art, which have been seen by millions of visitors. The way artists have interpreted this vast industrial space has revolutionized public perceptions of contemporary art in the 21st century.



"Cork creates a unified, organic surface, as if you were walking into the forest. It has this scent, which adds another level. It's an organic material, instead of a plastic material, and it serves a function as it absorbs impact. It's been proofed, tested, certified and worked on for quite a while."

BJÖRNSTJERNE CHRISTIANSEN, SUPERFLEX



"One of the first challenges of this project was to identify a surface that would comply with the safety characteristics required of play structures, and yet not make the artwork feel like a traditional playground. As Portuguese architects, we naturally thought of cork and reached out to Amorim. After months of collaboration, development and testing, we arrived at a solution which passed all safety regulations and provided us with a continuous, natural flooring surface. It was very satisfying to see this beautiful material featured in such a successful way."

RICARDO GOMES, PARTNER OF KWY STUDIO

