

Rigg Design Prize 2015

Artwork labels

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Recognising excellence in contemporary Australian design, the *Rigg Design Prize* is the highest accolade for object and furniture design in Australia. Awarded to a designer with outstanding creative achievements, the triennial prize is a reflection of the National Gallery of Victoria's commitment to contemporary art, design and architecture. The invitational prize, formerly the *Cicely and Colin Rigg Contemporary Design Award*, was established in 1994 to support contemporary craft and design practice in Victoria. In 2015 the new-look prize extends to include a selection of designers from around Australia.

Curated by the recently established NGV department of Contemporary Design and Architecture, the *Rigg Design Prize 2015* showcases significant bodies of work from seven outstanding designers. Identified as producers of some of the most interesting and compelling object and furniture design in Australia today, the participants are Daniel Emma, Adam Goodrum, Korban/Flaubert, Khai Liew, Brodie Neill, Kate Rohde, and Koskela in collaboration with the weavers of Elcho Island Arts.

The judges of the *Rigg Design Prize 2015* are Gijs Bakker and Wava Carpenter.

The *Rigg Design Prize* is generously supported by the Cicely & Colin Rigg Bequest, managed by Equity Trustees.

Daniel Emma

‘We don’t try to create new revolutionary design – instead, it’s our version of existing geometric forms. What we try to do in all of our design objects is something a little bit different. It’s almost normal, but not quite normal.’

DANIEL TO AND EMMA AISTON

Founded by partners Daniel To and Emma Aiston, Daniel Emma create work imbued with a sense of playfulness. Embracing a reductive approach to design, their everyday objects take the form of basic geometries and shapes. Expressing function in the absence of embellishment and detail, however, is complex and demands serious contemplation and resolve.

DANIEL EMMA, Adelaide

est. 2008

Daniel TO designer

born Australia 1984

Emma AISTON designer

born Australia 1985

Fruit Tingle wall rack

2015

white oak, aluminium, brass

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Tic Tac canisters

2013

Cyprus pine, brass

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Field bookends

2011

granite, leather

manufactured by Field, Washington DC

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Plonk containers

2015

pine, steel

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Petite Friture cherry on the bottom pendant light

2013

aluminium, transparent synthetic polymer resin, light globe
manufactured by Petite Friture, Paris

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

JamFactory Jam chair and desk

2015

white oak, laminated wood, aluminium
manufactured by JamFactory, Adelaide

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

AARK marble watch

2015

steel, leather, glass, marble, clock mechanism
manufactured by AARK, Melbourne

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Field mousemat

2011

granite, leather
manufactured by Field, Washington DC

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

D.E desk stationery container

D.E desk paperweight set

2010

opaque and transparent synthetic polymer resin, brass

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Wrong for Hay cork cone

Wrong for Hay magnetic tower

2013–14

cork, natural ash, magnet

manufactured by Hay, Copenhagen

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Ball Ball Ball pendant light

2013

glass, aluminium, light emitting diode

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Mish Mash chair and armchair

2013

aluminium, marble, solid surface material, maple

handmade by Andrew Bartlett

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Centrepiece vase and fruit bowl set

2015

aluminium, brass, solid surface material, pine

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Isometric dinnerware set

2015

porcelain

handmade by Susan Frost

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Hello mirror

2015

granite, plywood, mirror glass

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Tait Pick'n'Mix bench seat and table

2013

aluminium, marble

manufactured by Tait, Melbourne

Collection of Tait, Melbourne

HomeWork textiles bedspread and cushions

2015

screenprinted linen

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Tic Tac canisters

Tic Tac wall hook

2013

Cyprus pine, brass

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

The Room floor rug

2015

wool

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Loop side table

2015

solid surface material, aluminium

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Lucky Dip sofa

2015

pine, foam, wool

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Time is Ticking wall clock

2015

pine, aluminium, clock mechanism

Collection of the artist, Adelaide

Kate Rohde

'I'd call my practice hyperactive, like an acid trip without the drugs. I'm compelled and repulsed in equal measure by the fantastical environments I make. My work is so excessive, with all the bling and mirrors; it's shiny, loud, colourful and unashamedly decorative.'

KATE ROHDE

Explicit in Kate Rohde's work is an exuberant reimagining, in synthetic polymers and resin, of the historical art and design languages of the Baroque and Rococo periods. Drawing on design history, Rohde's work is a vehicle for cultural and social critique, testing the contemporary relevance of the famous 1913 essay 'Ornament and crime' by Austrian Bauhaus architect Adolf Loos.

Kate ROHDE designer and maker

born Australia 1980

Trophy heads

2015

transparent synthetic polymer resin, air dry clay, acrylic fur, acrylic hair, aluminium, sealant, papier mâché

Collection of the artist, Melbourne

Icing mirror

2015

mirror, sealant, synthetic polymer paint

Collection of the artist, Melbourne

Hair chandelier

2015

opaque and transparent synthetic polymer resin, acrylic hair, brass, steel

Collection of the artist, Melbourne

Crystal Candy wallpaper

2015

inkjet print

Courtesy of the artist, Melbourne

Rave cave dining suite

2015

translucent synthetic polymer resin, composition board

Collection of the artist, Melbourne

Ornament Crimes, table vessels

Phoenix vase

Rabbit vase

Leopard vase

Mutant kitten vase

Squirrel vase

Flowery vase

Bird vase

Medusa vase

2015

translucent synthetic polymer resin

Collection of the artist, Melbourne

Brodie Neill

‘I’ve always tried to push the boundaries. It’s a fine line treading on the border of what is possible and constantly trying to push it. I’m adopting processes that are more accustomed to the field of architecture, and physical processes more familiar to sculpture.’

BRODIE NEILL

Brodie Neill’s furniture explores the idea of digital craft by conceptualising design that merges digital methods with the expertise of traditional trades and craftspeople. His work unites emergent material processes and technology with historical conventions to convey material knowledge.

Brodie NEILL designer

born Australia 1979, lived in England 2005–

Remix chaise lounge

2008

wood, mixed solid surface material

Collection of Detached, Hobart

E-turn bench seat

2007

fibreglass, lacquer

manufactured by Kundalini, Milan, Italy

Collection of Detached, Hobart

Supernova table

2013

cast aluminium, glass

manufactured by Made in Ratio, London

Collection of Made in Ratio, London

Alpha chair

2015

Walnut

manufactured by Made in Ratio, London

Collection of Made in Ratio, London

Khai Liew

'My work incorporates my vision of Australia's social history, material culture and physical landscape. Sōetsu Yanagi, who founded the Japan Folk Crafts Museum, wrote of unconscious beauty, and I subscribe to his view that beauty comes from taking something to its purest form. It does not try to be beautiful, it simply is.'

KHAI LIEW

Utilising cross-cultural references in his designs, Khai Liew employs traditional furniture techniques to speak of history, place and people. His work sheds light on how culture shapes our environment, and his devotion to craft conveys values of time and experience, formalised in objects designed and made to last.

Khai LIEW

born Malaysia 1952, arrived Australia 1971

Rug

2015

wool, silk

Private collection, Adelaide

Lounge chair

2015

European oak

Private collection, Adelaide

Desk and chair

2014

European oak

Private collection, Adelaide

Bedside table

2014

European oak, brass

Private collection, Adelaide

Bedroom chair

2014

sycamore maple

Private collection, Adelaide

Table

2014

European oak

Private collection, Adelaide

Prue cupboard

2010

sycamore maple

Private collection, Adelaide

Floor lamp

2015

sycamore maple

Private collection, Adelaide

Korban/Flaubert

'We like looking at expression and effect, getting down to the work's emotional impact, what it does to your perception, the sense of your own position in space – large things that you have to move around, shifting with your viewpoints as you explore spatial play and a heightened awareness of your position in relation to the object.'

STEPHANIE FLAUBERT

Founded by partners Janos Korban and Stephanie Flaubert, Korban/Flaubert's work exemplifies a profound understanding of the properties and expressive potential of metal, derived from constant experimentation. Korban/Flaubert bridge the fields of architecture, product design and sculpture to design objects that embody material discovery as knowledge.

KORBAN/FLAUBERT, Sydney

est. 1993

Janos KORBAN designer and
metalworker

born Australia 1961

Stefanie FLAUBERT designer

born England 1965

Stalker 1

2014

weathering steel

Collection of the artist, Sydney

Absolute chair

2015

weathering steel

Collection of the artist, Sydney

Iron in the soul (Sculptural bench)

2015

weathering steel

Collection of the artist, Sydney

Refuge (Sculptural playscape)

2015

stainless steel

Collection of the artist, Sydney

Hive screen

2011

stainless steel

Collection of the artist, Sydney

Adam Goodrum

'I see the house as an expression of my career. It starts flat packed, ready to be mobilised, full of possibility. Over time and with experience, it starts to open, but the form is still experimental, a mass of planes. Then, in its fully unfolded state, it's evolved and formed.'

ADAM GOODRUM

Adam Goodrum uses narrative to enrich his design ideas and processes. Sometimes the stories are the inspiration for his design work, delivering the context, materials and processes for its creation; at other times the work itself is the story of context, materials and processes coming together as a new form.

Adam GOODRUM designer

born Australia 1972

Unfolding

2015

transparent synthetic polymer resin, dichroic filter

manufactured by Stage One, Melbourne

Collection of the artist, Sydney

Koskela in collaboration with the weavers of Elcho Island Arts

‘There are ancient cultural stories passed on through the weaving process. It’s more than a beautiful object, it is embedded cultural storytelling.’

SASHA TITCHKOSKY

Founded by partners Russel Koskela and Sasha Titchkosky, Koskela has drawn attention for its collaboration with the weavers of Elcho Island Arts, located north of Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory. Delivering financial benefits to the weavers’ families and communities, the project inspires the passing down of traditions to a new generation of Indigenous craftswomen. Balancing economic, ecological and social considerations, the work delivers tangible results in sustaining community, culture and the environment.

KOSKELA, Sydney

est. 2000

Sasha TITCHOSKY designer

born England 1961

Russel KOSKELA designer

born Australia 1961

WEAVERS OF ELCHO ISLAND ARTS,

Elcho Island art collective

est. late 1980s

Mavis Warrngilna Ganambarr weaver

Dätiwuy born c. 1966

Judy Manany weaver

Galpu born c. 1962

Margaret Dhorrpuy weaver

Wangurri born c. 1965

Verity Burarrwanga weaver

Gumatj born c. 1990

Sharon Djalambarr weaver

Dhalwangu born c. 1983

Ruth Lulwarriwuy weaver

Dätiwuy born c. 1952

Beth Djarrupi Wunungmurra weaver

Dhalwangu born c. 1962

Megan Yunupingu weaver and mural
artist

Gumatj born 1973

Giant lampshade

2013

pandanus, bush string

Pebble coffee table set

2015

wood, glass, pandanus, bush string

Collection of Koskela, Sydney

Hoodie

2014

limewashed birch, plated steel, wire, pandanus, bush string

Collection of Koskela, Sydney

Shelter

2015

stained birch, powder-coated steel, light emitting diodes,
pandanus, bush string

Collection of Koskela, Sydney