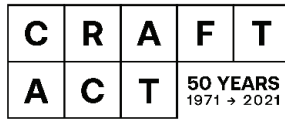


Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre

2021 Annual Report



CRAFT + DESIGN CENTRE



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Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre acknowledges the Ngunnawal, Ngunawal and Ngambri people as the traditional custodians of the ACT and surrounding areas. We honour and respect their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to this country and the contribution they make to the life of this city and region. We also acknowledge other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have made Canberra their home and we aim to respect cultural heritage, customs and beliefs of all Indigenous peoples.

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Emerging Contemporaries exhibition. Photo: 5 Foot Photography

2021: The year in review

2021 has been a significant year for Craft ACT. As the organisation celebrated its 50th Year, its Golden Anniversary, we continued to respond to the challenges of the pandemic in creative and innovative ways; we experienced profound transformation in our activities, in the team, and the board of management. Even though we have traversed change, rescheduling, cancellations, and difficulty, as I look back on 2021, I notice not these challenges but the luminous gems of many accomplishments and successes, and the gorgeous community of makers and supporters that make Craft ACT such a vibrant and dynamic organisation.

As the new CEO of the organisation,

a highlight of the year has been getting to know Craft ACT staff, members, sponsors, supporters, and government partners. I feel privileged to be in this role working with such an incredible and generous community, one that understands the intrinsic value of craft and design in telling our stories, connecting us to our humanity, strengthening our sense of belonging and identity, contributing to our wellbeing and making our lives, and our city more beautiful.

During 2021, many previous staff and Board members have moved on to new opportunities, and as the new CEO, I feel incredibly fortunate to have inherited the wonderful legacy they created. I extend my sincere

gratitude to previous staff: Rachael Coghlan, Kate Nixon, Maddy Zabel, Meagan Jones, Vy Tsan, and Selena Kang. Sincere appreciation also to previous board members: Graham Humphries, Jennie Cameron, and David Marshall for everything they have done to make Craft ACT and the DESIGN Canberra Festival what it is today. I welcome our wonderful new staff: Justine Merrony, Moraig McKenna, Welly McGarry, Bethany Lick, Georgia Arndell, Olinda Narayanan, Travis Bullock, Rachel Byron, and Swan Ricco and new board members: Rod Bobeldijk, Charles Brewer, and Caroline Forster. I thank them for the outstanding creativity, flexibility, commitment, and hard work they have given the organisation in such a short time.

I feel privileged to work with this new team of talented and committed staff and Board members and Craft ACT's 466 highly skilled and very lovely members. All of them showed resilience, creativity, and a collaborative spirit in response to the challenges of 2021. I feel optimistic and excited about working with them to contribute to the growth and vitality of Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre. Together we work towards realising Crafts ACT's vision to embed contemporary craft making and design at the centre of everyday life in Australia's capital, a global city of design.

This annual report surveys the many successes of the Craft ACT community, including member artists, staff, board members, sponsors, donors, and collaborators. These successes are particularly impressive given they were delivered in the context of continuing uncertainty and challenges, including another lockdown in which we had to close our gallery and work remotely while also dealing with the ongoing restrictions to public gatherings.

Our organisation showed resilience and innovation in traversing the ongoing uncertainty and frequent changes the pandemic brought. Despite of all of this, we were proud to host a thriving program of exhibitions with 19 exhibitions in total. We postponed the DESIGN Canberra Festival to 2022, successfully replacing it with the Nurture program, a suite of programs designed specifically to support our member artists and our audiences in this challenging time.

To celebrate our 50th anniversary, we were proud to share our strong 50-year history online by sharing stories from our archives.

As one of the longest-running membership organisations of its type in Australia, 50 years strong, I

was most impressed by the strength of our exhibition program and the calibre of artist members' works. A highlight for me was Transformation – our annual members' exhibition. The exhibition's central theme was how our members, much like alchemists, transform the materials they work with into objects of beauty and meaning. I was delighted to engage with the work of such a vibrant community of craftspeople, all working to make the world a better place, one transformation at a time.

Another exhibition highlight which showcased our members was the first CO:LAB exhibition. This was the culmination of a year-long Craft ACT member professional development program funded by the generous donors of our Circle of Hands program. Artist members Cathy Franzi, Dan Lorrimer, and Allison Jackson engaged in an invaluable opportunity to work with architects, clients, and sustainability experts in an interdisciplinary lighting project that transformed their practices, with the resulting innovative lights being displayed at their exhibition.

An international success was our DESIGN Canberra touring exhibition, Glass utopia, featuring the work of many Craft ACT artists, which arrived at Milan Design Week and showed from September 4 to September 10 2022. Glass utopia had been travelling through Italy since September 2020. The exhibition's final stop was at the gorgeous SIAM old library - 5VIE District at Milan's premiere design festival. This leg of the tour was generously supported by Mr. Lawrence design consultancy and the Embassy of Italy in Australia, Intesa Sanpaolo, and the Prosecco Consortium.

We continue to promote our member makers and the value of high-quality craft and design through our onsite and online retail operations. To this end, in 2021, we established a new

membership category for shoppers and supporters, the Craft and Design Lover member.

We are pleased to report that Craft ACT dramatically increased retail sales in 2021, with a 68% increase from 2020. We firmly believe that integrating locally made craft and design into the wider economy benefits both maker and buyer. Our members' beautiful high quality products reflect a deep connection to our community and are locally made with a small carbon footprint. We look forward to supporting our members by advocating for further economic opportunities for them in 2022.

Craft ACT continued our support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Craft and Design practice during 2021 through multiple projects, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Craft and Design practice into Australian arts and culture, with increased representation and participation.

We celebrated National Reconciliation Week, 2021, by showcasing our First Nations retail stockists in our exhibition, Deep listening; we ran multiple Dilli bag-making workshops with Krystal Hurst (Worimi) from Gillawarra Arts and launched the Between earth and sky exhibition by Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello (Arrernte). While unfortunately, three of our scheduled programs for 2021 had to be postponed due to the lockdown, we are excited about bringing them to fruition in 2022 and running the first dedicated Indigenous Artists-in-residence program with Krystal Hurst and Aidan Hartshorn.

In October, due to the effects of the pandemic, we had to make the difficult decision to postpone the DESIGN Canberra Festival until 2022. However, in keeping with the

theme of 'transformation', we took stock of our ambitions and created the Nurture program. The Nurture program was designed to support our member makers who had suffered adverse effects in the pandemic and to foster connection within our community in a safe way, using the benefits of making to enhance health and wellbeing.

The Nurture program drew on the well-documented benefits of creativity and making to support mental wellbeing by engaging in goal-oriented, repetitive sensory processes with making activities like textiles, ceramics, and woodworking - which can calm the mind. Such activities have been scientifically proven to reduce stress and anxiety and improve wellbeing. (*Tahsin & Davidson, 2018, Craftfulness, Quercus).

The Nurture program included both online and onsite programs: a creative journaling challenge, mindful making workshops, professional development workshops, video interviews of our maker members (Studio stories), a craft and design auction, and a craft and design public art trail commission.

Over 61% of our Nurture program audience was composed of new participants indicating the appetite in the wider Canberra and Australian community at this time for creative wellbeing activities.

Overall, the Nurture program was a great success, with over 603 people participating in 53 fully subscribed programs and 9986 viewing our artists' Studio stories online. We received positive feedback via participant evaluation and bought in over \$33,000 of income for our member artists.

The last part of our Nurture program, Discover: Craft and Design Public Art Trail, will be launched in 2022. The program was developed in

collaboration with the City Renewal Authority and it will provide Craft ACT members with a professional development opportunity to work with mentors in creating public artworks. These works will be presented during Contour 556 and the DESIGN Canberra Festival 2022, activating City West and providing our audiences with a new way of engaging with Craft and Design.

One of our most popular Nurture programs was the Creative journaling challenge. Participants were provided with a journal and encouraged to participate in a daily creative practice responding to a daily prompt. I was struck by the diversity of creativity in the responses to the provided prompts, which demonstrated the extraordinary skill our creatives have in interpreting their experiences.

It is this kind of creative thinking, mobilised by the Craft ACT team and members in 2021, that transformed our expectations of what creative programming can look like. It moved us beyond the traditional genres of exhibitions, festivals, and programs and into new and hybrid activities. These new activities allowed Craft ACT to thrive and grow despite the challenges and actively contributed to the health and wellbeing of our community.

I feel privileged to work with the extraordinary staff at Craft ACT (both previous and current) and thank them for their innovation, flexibility, and tenacity. I am grateful to the Craft ACT Board of Management and thank them for their strategic advice and invaluable support. I thank each and every member of Craft ACT for their support, their creativity and commitment to their practice, and everything they do to make the world better through making. I'd especially like to thank the members who participated in our 2021 program of exhibitions, residencies, committees, and public programs for their time and generosity.

We are extremely grateful to our sponsors and partners, who showed flexibility, loyalty, and generosity in rolling over funds for the 2021 DESIGN Canberra Festival to the 2022 DESIGN Canberra festival and in supporting our new Nurture programs.

I extend a special thank you to Minister Tara Cheyne MLA, her Senior Advisor Micheal Liu, and the dedicated staff at artsACT who continue to support Craft ACT through ACT Government funding; who in 2021 generously supported our 'pivot' from the DESIGN Canberra Festival to Nurture and who believed in our vision to create a responsive program for the arts in Canberra. In doing so, they recognised the critical importance of our activities for our community and our city.

Finally, I thank everyone who has engaged with us, worked with us, participated in our programs, and visited us. It is the community that keeps us strong, and we are so grateful for the Craft ACT community.

Jodie Cunningham
CEO + Artistic Director
Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre



Jodie Cunningham, CEO + Artistic Director, Craft ACT. Photo: 5 Foot Photography



President's report

As Craft ACT celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2021, the pandemic tested us in ways that demanded more resourcefulness and ingenuity than ever. I am happy to say the Craft ACT team met these challenges head-on and with flair and innovation. We continued to deliver exhibitions and programs to our local community throughout this time while creatively adapting to the pandemic environment.

A sudden Canberra lockdown from August to October led to a reconsideration of the DESIGN Canberra program for the year, shifting our theme from 'Transformation' to 'Nurture.' The decision to postpone much of the DESIGN Canberra program for 2021 was difficult but provided an opportunity to reshape the program and address the needs of our members and audience during the pandemic. The Nurture program offered our members invaluable professional development. We also saw a surge in interest within the community for creative, hands-on activities as many of us sought to relieve the tensions of an uncertain world.

Craft ACT is one of the longest-running, continuous member-based organisations in Australia. Since 1971, Craft ACT has played a vital role in sustaining Australia's high-quality studio practice and supporting craftspeople, designers, and audiences. A series of articles and images on our website explores the key moments and figures in our organisational history, and I highly recommend you take a look. What shines through in Craft ACT's history is the incredible generosity of our members and volunteers. Their gift of time and creativity ensures that makers and craftspeople in the Canberra region and across Australia are supported and flourish.

For the Craft ACT board of management, our focus for 2021 was to support the organisation through a period of significant leadership and program changes.

Our CEO of five years, Dr Rachael Coghlan, departed leaving a legacy of increased financial stability, growth to our membership, a well visited and diverse exhibition program, and the now well-established DESIGN Canberra festival. Long-standing staff member Kate Nixon, who ably supported and grew with the Craft ACT team, also departed for new opportunities. We welcomed Jodie Cunningham to the CEO role in July, confident that Jodie's skill and experience in arts administration, education, and professional art practice will maintain our organisation and bring new ideas and member initiatives.

A first for 2021 was the creation of our Circle of Hands donors' circle. Our first four donors, Jenny Edwards, Peta Furnell, Graham Humphries, and Paul Kerr, have helped Craft ACT forge new collaborations and invest in artist development and mentoring. The initial CO:LAB program was a professional development program aimed at upskilling makers in a commercial context. The initial project focused on delivering lighting within residential architecture projects.

As in 2020, I thank our Board of Management members for remaining engaged and collaborative throughout another challenging year, especially as they juggled the changes to their own workplaces and studios. I would especially like to thank two of our outgoing Board members for their exemplary service and commitment to Craft ACT. Past President Graham Humphries has been on the Board for eight years and, in recent times, has provided

invaluable expertise concerning the Kingston Arts Precinct project. Treasurer Sam Bryant will hand over his duties in 2021, having steered our financial position for the past six years. Sam's commitment to ensuring payments are made and grants are appropriately managed has been largely unseen but hugely appreciated.

My thanks also to the Craft ACT staff, whose commitment to delivering programs and services even in the face of pandemic restrictions and closures of our gallery and shop has been superb.

Craft ACT Members are, of course, the backbone of the organisation. Our membership numbers attest to the success of the many programs and benefits offered by Craft ACT and confirm our relevance to the community we serve.

As in previous years, funding and support from government and sponsors have been essential to our operations in 2021. I thank the ACT Government and the Australia Council for the Arts (the Australian Government's arts funding and advisory body) for their ongoing support of Craft ACT.

We very much appreciate the understanding and adaptability of our sponsors in such a challenging year, particularly concerning changes to the DESIGN Canberra festival. We thank you for your continued support.

Rebecca Coronel
President
Craft ACT Board of Management

Craft ACT achievements

Artist participation

130+ in our artistic programs

104 stockists (13 new)

218 DESIGN Canberra presents Nurture

414
artists participated

\$218,720
total income
generated

Income generation for artists

\$68,981 exhibition sales up 6% from 2020

\$114,206 retail sales up 68% from 2020

\$2000 artist-in-residence

\$33,532* DESIGN Canberra Nurture

13% increase in online retail revenue

In addition to full-time employees Craft ACT also engaged designers, craft practitioners and arts workers as casual and part-time staff to the value of \$96,925.90 in 2021

Exhibitions

17 onsite exhibitions

2 offsite exhibitions

76 members in annual exhibition

12 exhibition essays commissioned

17 digital catalogues produced

14 artist fees paid

10,996
attendance at Craft
ACT exhibitions

11,367
attendance at
Craft ACT public
programs

Public programs

21 Craft ACT gallery public programs

22 Craft ACT offsite public programs

778 attendance at Craft ACT public programs

Members

- 5** Life members
- 66** Accredited professional members
- 83** Associate members
- 193** Craft + design maker members
- 50** Craft + design lover members
- 89** Student members

466
members



16.5% from 2020

**Record
engagement**



**10% Craft ACT
website visits**



**25% Craft ACT
Instagram followers**

Communications

- 180,100** Craft ACT website visits up 10% from 2020
- 6282** Craft ACT email subscribers up 7% from 2020
- 5675** followers on Craft ACT Facebook up 4% from 2020
- 7396** followers on Craft ACT Instagram up 25% from 2020
- 47** Craft ACT e-newsletters sent
- 74,913** DESIGN Canberra website visits
- 4507** followers on DESIGN Canberra Facebook up 4% from 2020
- 9441** followers on DESIGN Canberra Instagram up 8% from 2020
- 17** DESIGN Canberra e-newsletters sent
- 72,472** DESIGN Canberra e-newsletter opens

Volunteers and interns

1 intern

Plus many, many hours of time donated by our board and committee members to support the work that we do.

13
intern hours valued
at **\$3,705**

DESIGN Canberra achievement dashboard

The DESIGN Canberra festival 2021 was postponed to 2022 and was replaced with a small program called Nurture which was attended by 10,589 people - a strong result considering COVID-19 restrictions. The majority of events were online, which ensured accessibility for diverse audiences. Attendance figures were:

- 85** attended Crafternoons
- 112** participated in the Creative journalling challenge
- 28** participated in the Creative journalling workshops
- 66** participated in Thrive, online professional development workshops
- 109** participated in Mindful making workshops
- 203** took part in the online Craft and Design auction
- 9986** viewed Studio stories online

10,589
people attended
DESIGN Canberra
Nurture online
and in person

Audience development

Over **60%** of audiences were new visitors, which was a great result for audience development. Of the **30+** events, **45%** were delivered online and, therefore, accessible to diverse audiences. **93%** said they would attend a DESIGN Canberra Nurture program in the future and **88%** would highly recommend DESIGN Canberra Nurture programs to friends and family.

Fields of interest

Craft and design skill development
Learning about artists, craft and design
Social connection
Health and wellbeing
Business skills

Partnerships

Support from **10** sponsors and supporters from the broader Canberra community, including the business, tertiary, government, cultural and industry sectors helped to make DESIGN Canberra Nurture a success.

DESIGN Canberra Nurture program

30+ festival events were presented over 24 days:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Craft and design auction | 20 Studio stories |
| 15 Mindful making workshops | 6 Thrive, professional development workshops |
| 4 Crafternoons | 2 other events |
| 4 Artist talks | |

DESIGN Canberra Nurture income generation

Over **\$33,000** of income was generated which went directly to artists and designers as a result of DESIGN Canberra Nurture.

\$33,000
income generated
for artists

DESIGN Canberra visibility and impact

Active strategic and engaged social media and digital marketing in 2021 made a substantial contribution to the increased visibility and impact of DESIGN Canberra Nurture. Social media and word-of-mouth remain by far the most effective vehicles for raising awareness.

24,000+
website visitors

350,000+
impressions across
social media platforms

24,693 website visitors

74,913 web views

34,399 web sessions

17 e-newsletters sent

74,472 e-newsletters views

350,000+ impressions across social
media platforms

Month by month

JANUARY

DESIGN Canberra 2021 – public call for proposals

CO:LAB 2021 Professional Development Program for members – call for submissions

FEBRUARY

Craft ACT 2022 exhibition program – call for submissions

Opening of *Emerging contemporaries* and *Intersections* by Dr Sarah Schmidt

Floor talk: *Intersections* with Janet De Boos and Wendy Teakel

ACT Legislative Assembly purchases Wendy Teakel piece from *Intersections* for its collection

Archival newsletters were added to the Craft ACT website to build our digital legacy project

MARCH

Artist-in-residence 2022 program – call for submissions

Artist-in-residence 2021 research period – Geoscience Australia

Floor talk: *Emerging contemporaries* with Daniel Leone, Millie Black, Bling Yiu, Maitlan Brown, Olinda Narayanan, Jonathon Zalakos and Annalise Fredericks.

Opening of Artist-in-residence and *Essence of cloud* by Mick Gentleman MLA and Grace Cochrane

Craft ACT AGM held

Craft ACT logo revamped with 50th anniversary included

APRIL

Artist-in-residence 2021 residency – Namagi National Park

Artist-in-residence open day – Namagi National Park

Floor talk: *Between the earth and sky* with Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello and Sharon Peoples

Limited edition Craft ACT 50th anniversary FINK water jug created with Gretel Harrison

All grants acquitted

Craft ACT CO:LAB Professional Development Sydney field trip with artists

MAY

Reconciliation Week Gillawarra Arts weaving workshops x 2

ACT Legislative Assembly purchases Sharon Peoples piece from *Between earth and sky* for its collection

Floor talk: *Essence of cloud* with Mark Elliott

Opening of *Making: A way of life, Small connections, The neck and Body layer; Semblance and self* by Tara Cheyne MLA and Oliver Smith

Floor talk: *Small connections* with Emma Cuppleditch, Erin Daniell, Daria Fox, Polly Dymond, Kath Inglis, and Sarra Tzijan

Launch of Craft ACT 50th anniversary FINK water jug, selling out in 1 hour

Annual fundraising campaign commences – MAKE:OVER

JUNE

DESIGN Canberra 2021 photography competition launched

Australian Museums and Galleries Association National Conference 2021 delegate tour and floor talk

Floor talk: *Making: A way of life* with Alison Jackson and Dan Lorrimer

Floor talk: *Body layer; semblance and self* with Simon Cottrell and Kristina Neumann

Terra celestial encore exhibition at Tidbinbilla Visitor Centre

JULY

Members Julie Ryder, Bev Hogg, and Mel Robson selected as 2022 Artists-in-residence

Corporate gift partnership established between home.byholly and member Kirstie Rea

DESIGN Canberra and IGERs Canberra photography walk

Annual exhibition target exceeded

Lucy Irvine announced as DESIGN Canberra 2021 Designer-in-residence

DESIGN Canberra 2021 Designer-in-residence sponsor soiree event held at Thor's Hammer

Opening of *Ludere (to play)* and *Place Markers*. Opening speech by CEO + Artistic Director Jodie Cunningham

Jodie Cunningham, new CEO, commences in the role of CEO + Artistic Director

AUGUST

ABC Artworks creates a film for DESIGN Canberra 2021 about a collaboration between Designer-in-residence Lucy Irvine and Photographer Davey Barber

Capital Arts Program Organisation (CAPO) grant Craft ACT Emerging Artist award and Outstanding Practice award, sponsored by Craft ACT

Craft ACT gallery, shop, and office closed August 12, 2021, due to COVID-19 ACT Government lockdown

DESIGN Canberra x Canberra BMW car wrap competition launched with four cars

Fiona Hooton Localjinni project information session for members (online)

Professional development talk by Craft ACT staff for CIT Visual Arts students (online)

MAKE:OVER digital development sessions held with Coordinate (online)

Peter Minson and Tamworth Textiles Triennial exhibitions postponed to 2022 due to lockdown

Ludere (to play) and *Place Markers* exhibitions extended to October

SEPTEMBER

ABC Artworks feature DESIGN Canberra, aired live on ABC TV and iview

Glass utopia presented at Milan Design week

Online floor talk: *Ludere (to play)* with Alison Smiles and Caren Elliss, hosted by Jodie Cunningham

OCTOBER

DESIGN Canberra 2021 cancellation announcement + DESIGN Canberra presents Nurture 2021 program announcement

DESIGN Canberra Nurture auction, workshop and Studio Stories call out

New membership category for supporters introduced: Craft + Design Lover

Craft ACT reopens to the public after lockdown with new exhibitions *CO:LAB* and *Transformation*, Members exhibition 2021.

NOVEMBER

DESIGN Canberra presents Nurture

Nurture: Creative journaling challenge launched

Nurture: Thrive: professional development workshops for members with Michael Ofei X 4 (online)

Nurture: Mindful making workshops with Canberra Region Feltmakers, Jenny Manning, Mariana del Castillo, Spinners and Weavers, Kate Stevens, Naomi Zouwer, Kirandeep Grewal, Teffany Thiedeman, Valerie Kirk, Hiroshi Yamaguchi, Fran Romano, and Clare Mazitelli

Nurture: Crafternoons drop-in making and social event for members held x 4

Nurture: Online Craft and Design Auction launched

Nurture: Live auction VIP event 5 held with home.byholly for 50th anniversary FINK jug at Craft ACT

RiotACT interviews with Gretel Harrison, Lymesmith, and CEO Jodie Cunningham

Design Diplomacy at the Residence of the Ambassador of Italy, facilitated by CEO Jodie Cunningham, including Craft ACT member Gretel Harrison (FINK), Ambassador Francesca Tardioli, Chef Danny Russo, and Livia McRobert (SMEG)

Opening of *CO:LAB* and *Transformation*. Opening speech by Tara Cheyne MLA.

Successful supporter agreement with Contour 556 and successful sponsorship agreement with Meredith Hinchliffe and Graham Humphries

Craft ACT sponsors two CAPO cash awards, awarded to Jennifer Robertson (APM, \$2000) and Sue Peachey (Emerging, \$500)

Artist floor talks:

+*CO:LAB* with members Dan Lorrimer, Cathy Franzi, and Jenny Edwards

+*Transformation* with members Julie Bradley and Michele Grimston

+*Transformation* with members Monique van Nieuwland and Julie Ryder

+*Transformation* with members Robyn Campbell, Kirandeep Grewal, and Sharon Peoples

DECEMBER

Nurture: Discover: Craft and design trail call out launched in partnership with City Renewal Authority, supported by Contour 556, Graham Humphries, and Meredith Hinchliffe

Craft ACT members' market stalls x 6 at Dairy Road Markets: Helen Keogh Design, Shen-Ju Hseih, Sodalime Glass - Jacqueline Knight, Jennifer Robertson, Not By Design, Eggpicnic, Atelier 81, NotDeadYet Design

Emerging contemporaries award winners selected for 2022 exhibition

Christmas retail campaign, including 20% off lunchtime happy hours, Crafternoon happy hours, cross-promotional partnership with CRA on the 'Celebrate in the City' campaign

Annual retail sales target exceeded



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander craft and design

Embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander craft and design practice in Australian arts and culture

Craft ACT acknowledges the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples as the traditional custodians of the ACT and surrounding areas. We honour and respect their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to this country and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region. We aim to respect the cultural heritage, customs and beliefs of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting Indigenous craft and design, Craft ACT encourages participation from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists across all our artistic and public programs, including exhibitions, the Artist-in-residence program, DESIGN Canberra and retail opportunities.

In 2021, the theme of National Reconciliation Week was 'More than a word. Reconciliation takes action'. Craft ACT celebrated the week by showcasing First Nations retail stockists in our SHOP Showcase exhibition, Deep listening. The exhibition celebrated the diverse cultural expressions of Indigenous artists and their engagement with traditional and non-traditional techniques in jewellery, object-making, textiles, and glass. Featured works were by Wayne Simon (Biripi), Jenni Kemarre Martiniello (Arrernte), Tjanpi Desert Weavers (Aangu/Yarnangu), Baluk Arts, Krystal Hurst (Worimi), and Sophi Suttor.

Craft ACT also ran multiple sold-out workshops with Krystal Hurst (Worimi) from Gillawarra Arts. During National Reconciliation Week, guests were invited to try their hand at

assembling a mini dilly bag. Guided by Gillawarra Arts artists, participants learnt how to make a mini dilly bag with natural fibres using traditional techniques and learnt about the cultural uses of dilly bags, particularly for Aboriginal women.

Craft ACT's First Nations mentor and board member Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello (Arrernte) featured works in 2021 from the 2020 Artist-in-residence program and the Between earth and sky exhibition. Craft ACT extends warm thanks to Cheyne Halloran (Ngunnawal) for his Welcome to Country at Craft ACT's Between earth and sky opening.

Martiniello's glass brown and yellow bark baskets were also featured in the 2021 members exhibition, Transformation. Kerry-Anne Cousins wrote for Canberra Times of the works, 'The artist continues to surprise with her inventiveness in bringing together the forms and traditions of indigenous crafts with a contemporary mode of expression.' Two of Martiniello's mini glass bicornials were featured in the DESIGN Canberra Nurture: Craft and Design auction.

Due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 in 2021, many of the ATSI craft and design programs Craft ACT had planned to run were postponed. These included the:

- new inaugural Indigenous artist-in-residence program with multi-disciplinary visual artist Jenna Lee (Larrakia, Wardaman and Karajarri) and visual artist and Creative Director of Gillawarra Arts, Krystal Hurst (Worimi)
- professional development program with Kayannie Denigan (Luritja) and screen printer Estelle Briedis
- graphic Intervention for DESIGN Canberra with Mackenzie Saddler (Wiradjuri)
- Ikuntji Artists fabric exhibition in DESIGN Canberra *HOME:MADE* exhibition

Craft ACT's commitment to Indigenous craft and design is embedded within our four key goals — Innovation, Collaboration, Value, and Security. Further Indigenous craft and design reporting can be found in the respective sections of the report.

Featured artists

Baluk Arts

Textiles and jewellery
Deep listening shop showcase exhibition
Stockist in the Craft ACT shop

Rozlyn de Bussey

Glass
Transformation: Craft ACT 2021 members exhibition

Kayannie Denigan

Luritja
Mixed media artist
Postponed professional development program
Postponed exhibition, *HOME:MADE*

Krystal Hurst

Worimi
Visual artist and Creative Director of Gillawarra Arts
Reconciliation Week dillybag workshops
Deep listening shop showcase exhibition
Stockist in the Craft ACT shop
Postponed artist-in-residence program

Ikuntji Artists

Textiles
Postponed exhibition, *HOME:MADE*
Postponed DESIGN Canberra auction

Cheyne Halloran

Ngunnawal
Opening speaker for *Between earth and sky*

Jenna Lee

Larrakia, Wardaman and Karajarri
Multi-disciplinary visual artist
Postponed artist-in-residence program

Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello

Arrernte
Visual artist (glass + textiles), poet, writer and photographer, founder of Kemarre Arts
Transformation: Craft ACT 2021 members exhibition
Glass utopia exhibition
Between earth and sky 2020 artist-in-residence exhibition
DESIGN Canberra Nurture auction
Deep listening shop showcase exhibition
Stockist in the Craft ACT shop
MAKE:OVER professional development program

Mackenzie Saddler

Wiradjuri
Painting
Postponed graphic intervention for DESIGN Canberra

Wayne Simon

Biripi
Visual artist (jeweller)
Deep listening shop showcase exhibition
Stockist in the Craft ACT shop

Sophi Suttor

Ceramics
Deep listening shop showcase exhibition
Stockist in the Craft ACT shop

James Tylor

Kurna and Te Arawa
Multi-disciplinary visual artist
Successful exhibition application for 2022 artistic program

Tjanpi Desert Weavers

Aangu/Yarnangu
Textiles
Deep listening shop showcase exhibition
Stockist in the Craft ACT shop

Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello, Mini yellow & green reeds long weave bicornual, blown glass with cane. Photos: Lean Timms.



Tjanpi desert weavers, woven baskets and lizard, 2021. Photo: Craft ACT





Goal 1: Innovation

Foster innovation and excellence in artistic practice by building on our national and international reputation to support craft practitioners at every practice stage.

Exhibitions

The annual artistic program showcases and supports recent graduates; early, mid, and late-career artists; high calibre and acclaimed practitioners; and craft and design researchers. The program fosters innovation and excellence, building on our proven reputation to support practitioners at every stage of practice.

In 2021, Craft ACT featured twelve exhibitions: two solo, four two-person, and six group shows. These exhibitions featured early, mid, and late-career artists and represented various mediums, including ceramics, glass, metals, paper, textiles, wood, and mixed media. Despite the current pandemic and the related lockdowns, Craft ACT continued the artistic program, providing safe access online and onsite when it was allowed.

After a year of uncertainty following 2020, our Block 1 exhibition (February) showcased two shows, *Emerging Contemporaries* and *Intersections*. Both these exhibitions reflected the impact of the changing landscape of a pandemic world; DeBoos and Teakel explored their

new sense of place while the *Emerging Contemporaries* showcased the perspectives of graduates from local tertiary institutions as they stepped out into a new world of craft and design.

Practice-led research underpinned the next block (March). Jenni Kamarre Martiniello and Sharon Peoples responded to and celebrated real and imagined lands, accompanied by Mark Elliott, with a whimsical tale evoking elation and empathy. *Between Earth and sky*, the 2020 Artist-in-residence exhibition, presented works inspired by Martiniello and Peoples' research at the National Museum of Australia (NMA) and their residency at Namadgi National Park. Inspired by research into an imagined 'cloud essence,' Elliott's *Essence of cloud* was framed by the narrative and character development of real and imagined family history.

In Block 3 (May), we featured metal smiths and leading local, national, and international jewellers in four exhibitions that challenged the preconceptions and possibilities of jewellery and object production. Jackson and Lorrimer's *Making: A way of life* highlights the rare skill

of repeat production, creating editioned tableware that retains character, uniqueness, and the hand of the maker, which is often lacking in mass production wares.

Featuring the JamFactory's Metal Studio staff, tenants, and associates, *Small connections* centred around the connectivity, communication, and relationship between jewellery and the wearer. *The neck*, a group exhibition curated by Bridget Kennedy, explored the neck as a liminal space and a vehicle for political, social, and environmental critique.

Curated by Simon Cottrell, *Body layer; semblance and self* examined the portrayal of self through jewellery, focusing on visualising, materialising, and articulating possibilities of self-knowing.

Block 4 (July) began with *Place Markers*, a solo exhibition by internationally renowned visual artist Sally Blake and *Ludere (to play)*, a body of work featuring award-winning industrial designer Caren Elliss and ceramic artist Alison Smiles. Blake's exhibition explored the regeneration of Australian forests after the loss and destruction



Caren Elliss + Alison Smiles, *Sculpture and dining bench*, 2021. Photo: Michael Haines Photography

caused by the devastating 2019/20 fire season, while Elliss and Smiles' came together in the spirit of experimentation and play, producing objects imbued with the notions of space and the transformative potential of play.

Early in August 2021 Canberra went into an eight-week lockdown. This meant Block 5 including, *You get a rhythm about it*, by Peter Minson's, and *Tension[s] 2020* the Tamworth Textile Triennial were postponed and rescheduled for 2022.

Throughout this time, Craft ACT continued to engage members, the community, and local, national, and international craft and design lovers through online content on our website and social media platforms.

We triumphantly returned in late October 2021 with two exhibitions showcasing our members work, *Transformation: Craft ACT annual*

members exhibition and *CO:LAB*, featured contemporary expressions of craft and design while uniting honoured techniques with modern interpretations. *Transformation* showcased more than 70 artists and over 100 selected works reflecting on the effects of lockdown and the climate crisis. *CO:LAB*, presented the outstanding results of this inaugural professional development program with Cathy Franzi, Alison Jackson, and Dan Lorrimer. Embracing the spirit of collaboration, these makers worked across disciplines, gaining exposure to commercial environments and developing lighting with inspiration from the intersection of architecture, design, and craft.

The artistic program of 2021 resulted from a high standard of applications from craft practitioners and artists on the local, national, and international stages. Each application was peer-reviewed by Craft ACT's Artistic

Excellence Panel, comprised of six Accredited Professional members and Craft ACT's former CEO + Artistic Director, Rachael Coghlan. Despite the uncertainty of 2021, our artist program was a successful showcase of more than 140 artists, makers, and designers.

Research

Craft ACT advocates for practice-led research, where innovation and excellence intersect. In 2021, we supported artists and makers to explore, experiment, and produce various works of art and objects.

Five exhibitions of our artistic program reflected and showcased practice-led research.

Intersections featuring Janet DeBoos and Wendy Teakel, used Rebecca Solnit's 'A Field Guide to Getting Lost' as a departure point for their research into place and home and

the space between lost and found. The pandemic shifted their research, re-defining their geological sense of place and home. The combination of their literary inspiration and response to the changing landscape produced an exhibition of artistic excellence and thought-provoking material.

As artists-in-resident, Jenni Kemarre Martiniello and Sharon Peoples combined their research placement at the National Museum of Australia (NMA) with a stay at the Ready-Cut Cottage in Namadgi National Park. The resulting exhibition, *Between Earth and Sky: 2020 Artists-in-residence*, which featured textile, glass, and mixed media works, demonstrated the engulfing experience had by Martiniello and Peoples as they stepped back from the pandemic and post-fire season devastation. Access to the landscape and collections at the NMA enabled the artists to expand their experimentation with new materials, techniques, landscapes, and inspiration.

The 2021 artists-in-residence, Valerie Kirk and Harriet Schwarzrock, collaborated with research partner

Geoscience, Australia's world-class National mineral and fossil collection, to understand the geological history of Namadgi National Park. They juxtaposed a timeframe of millions of years against the significant radical transformation wrought by recent bushfires.

Essence of cloud, Mark Elliott's multi layered exhibition combined practice-led research and collaboration to create a historical tale interwoven with objects, text, watercolour sketches, performance, music, scent, and animation – a truly enjoyable encompassing of the senses. Elliott conducted extensive research underpinning and contextualising his extraordinary work, which crossed time and place, fantasy and reality. This exhibition highlighted how a holistic approach to art-making and practice-led research could create a full and comprehensive sensory experience.

Sally Blake's *Place Markers* exhibition reflected on the devastation of the 2019/2020 fire destruction through her practice-led research of creating dyes from collected plant material,

particularly Eucalypts. Blake's work was firmly grounded in Namadgi National Park, utilising fire-affected materials from the area including ash, bark, and leaves. Blake created textiles focusing on the devastation and loss experienced by the region, underpinned by her research with the Australian National Botanic Gardens and her ever-growing eucalypts dye database. Blake demonstrated her technical skill and artistic excellence, with her pieces reflecting the landscapes before and after.

The inaugural Craft ACT *CO:LAB* recipients, artists Cathy Franzi, Alison Jackson, and Dan Lorrimer, partook in a collaborative professional development program to develop new lighting. The program was designed to introduce the artists to commercial environments and promote collaboration and practice-led research with industry professionals who shared their expertise and advice. The resulting exhibition showcased new works imbued with a deeper understanding of production, materials, and technique.

matt lambert in collaboration with Edward Cabral, CAKE, 2021.
Photo: Courtesy of the artist.





Harriet Schwarzrock and Valerie Kirk, Geoscience Australia.
Photo: 5 Foot Photography

These practice-led exhibitions provoke viewers to ask themselves about their geography, examine new concepts through new lenses, and analyse and debrief about the loss and devastation we have endured. Craft ACT is proud to facilitate such research and support artists in new contexts.

The foundation of all these successful projects is the generous support of our research partners and sponsors, whose vision and encouragement continue to inspire us. Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra are grateful for support from the following tertiary and research centres in 2021:

- ACT Parks & Conservation
- Australian National Botanical Gardens
- Geoscience Australia
- Light House Architecture & Science
- National Museum of Australia
- School of Art and Design, ANU
- Makeshift, Mental Health Education and Support

Residencies & workshops

Craft ACT continued its cherished partnership with ACT Parks and Conservation Service in 2021 and established a research partnership with Geoscience Australia. These partnerships serve to support the 2021 Artists-in-residence program. 2021 artists-in-residence Valerie Kirk (textiles) and Harriet Schwarzrock (glass), were able to spend March and April with the National Mineral and Fossil Collection at Geoscience Australia. This was in conjunction with research at Gudgenby Ready-Cut Cottage in Namadgi National Park, where they also lived throughout their residence. An exhibition of the artists' work responding to the residency will be held in the Craft ACT Gallery in July and August 2022.

In April, an open day was held at Gudgenby Ready-Cut Cottage in Namadgi National Park with 2021 artists-in-residence, Valerie Kirk (textiles) and Harriet Schwarzrock (glass). 2020 artists-in-residence Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello (glass) and Sharon Peoples (textiles) also

attended the open day as their open day in 2020 had been cancelled due to COVID-19. The open day featured artist demonstrations, workshops, and talks about the inspiration and interpretation of the park environment and its history. The open day was a unique chance for the public to engage with the acclaimed artists and learn directly from Namadgi park rangers.

Due to the uncertainty of the Undercurrent Design Market going ahead later in the year, Craft ACT could not present the popular Ready Set Market program in 2021. A professional development program MAKE:OVER, was held in its place with five Craft ACT members. The program was designed to help artists access global markets and promote Canberra as a design city by transforming their digital identities. As part of the program, we partnered with creative agency, coordinate, to deliver a masterclass on branding strategies, copywriting, and website design. A photoshoot and styling session were postponed to 2022 due to COVID.

Public programs

Public programs were held for both community audiences and Craft ACT members. We presented professional development programs to support members in building new skills and gallery talks and events to complement our exhibition program. Full details are listed in the appendix, highlights included:

- *Emerging Contemporaries* and *Intersections* exhibition opening (February)
- *Intersections* floor talk with artists Janet De Boos and Wendy Teakel (February)
- *Emerging Contemporaries* floor talk with artists Daniel Leone, Millie Black, Bling Yiu, Maitlan Brown, Olinda Narayanan, Jonathon Zalakos, and Annalise Fredericks (March)
- *Between the Earth and Sky* and *Essence of Cloud* exhibition opening (March)
- *Between the Earth and Sky* floor talk with Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello and Sharon Peoples (April)
- *Essence of Cloud* floor talk with Mark Elliott (May)
- *Making: A way of life, Small Connections, The neck, and Body layer; Semblance and Self* exhibition opening (May)
- Canberra Secrets tour x 3 (May)
- Reconciliation Week Gillawarra Arts weaving workshop (May)
- IGNITE block 3 exhibition tour (June)
- Gillawarra Arts weaving workshop (June)
- *Small Connections* floor talk with Emma Cuppleditch, Erin Daniell, Daria Fox, Polly Dymond, Kath Inglis, and Sarra Tzijan (June)
- *Making: A way of life* floor talk with Alison Jackson and Dan Lorrimer (June)
- *Body layer; semblance and self* floor talk with Simon Cottrell and Kristina Neumann (June)
- *Ludere (to play)* and *Place Markers* exhibition opening (July)
- *CO:LAB* and *Transformation* exhibition opening (November)
- *CO:LAB* floor talk with Dan Lorrimer, Cathy Franzi, and Jenny Edwards (November)
- *Transformation* floor talks with Julie Bradley, Michele Grimston, Monique van Nieuwland, Julie Ryder, Robyn Campbell, Kirandeep Grewal, and Sharon Peoples (November)

DESIGN Canberra is the primary outreach program of Craft ACT and aims to foster innovation, facilitate quality discourse, support professional development and promote social inclusion.

Due to the ongoing pandemic in 2021, the main festival, DESIGN Canberra Transformation was postponed to 2022. It was replaced with a small program, Nurture, which drew on the well-documented benefits of creativity to support wellbeing. The program aimed to support Craft ACT members and the Canberra community during a time of ongoing uncertainty.

Additional Nurture program reporting is available in Goal 2: Collaboration.



Goal 2: Collaboration

Ensure more local, regional, national, and global audiences have access to and engage with the Australian craft and design community.

Audience development and attendance

In 2021 with the cancellation of Craft ACT's major public outreach program, DESIGN Canberra, and the introduction of Nurture, our focus moved from large-scale events to smaller Covid-safe events such as online workshops, videos, and member professional development workshops as well as small onsite workshops and programs aimed at facilitating wellbeing in community participants.

We undertook an extensive risk planning process before cancelling the 2021 DESIGN Canberra festival. Our key concerns were public safety and the viability of running a festival within the uncertain environment of changing restrictions on public gatherings. We were reticent to cancel the festival given the impact of cancellation on our sponsor, collaborators, and the 520 local artists who are part of the main DESIGN Canberra program. This concern was a critical factor in developing the Nurture program, which ensured continued support of local artists and maintained the connection with our audiences and the Canberra community.

DESIGN Canberra Nurture, held from 5-28 November 2021, drew

on the well-documented benefits of creativity to support wellbeing and was aimed at supporting artists, members, and the Canberra community. The program was specifically tailored to focus on the wellbeing aspects of creativity, making, and crafting as tools for health and recovery and as an antidote to the stresses brought about by the pandemic.

The program included small-scale making workshops for the public, by Craft ACT members (Mindful making workshops), online professional development workshops for artists (Thrive), video interviews with members (Studio stories), filmed and presented on the DESIGN Canberra website and Instagram; an online & in gallery craft and design auction; a Creative journaling challenge with online workshops (resulting in an online exhibition), and a public art trail commission (Nurture: Discover to be presented in 2022.)

Supporting our member artists is at the heart of what we do, and this drove our commitment to deliver an exciting program, regardless of restrictions. We contributed to the financial security of our members and provided them and our audiences with creative opportunities to enhance wellbeing.

Online workshops and Studio stories have provided Craft ACT with enduring online content. Hybrid digital and in-person events such as the Nurture Craft and design Auction and the Creative journaling challenge showed flexibility in the delivery of programs. Delivering workshops online extended our reach to audiences, with attendees joining the workshops from all over the ACT and Capital region, Sydney, regional NSW, and Victoria.

Understandably, the number of visitors to Nurture events was limited in comparison to the DESIGN Canberra festival; however the events we presented, both in-person and online, were well attended. Nurture included over 30 events and attracted 10,589 attendees (onsite and online). In our audience survey, 61% of participants had not attended a DESIGN Canberra or Craft ACT event before, 57% attended two or more Nurture events, and 89% were highly likely to recommend Nurture to a friend.

All programs were pre-booked, and most charged a modest fee. Some programs, such as the Nurture: Thrive professional development workshops and Creative journaling challenge, were subsidised for members in keeping with the aim of nurturing audiences and members' wellbeing.

DESIGN Canberra presents Nurture programming

The Creative journaling challenge was designed to provide our members with the opportunity to enhance their wellbeing through daily creative practice. The challenge provided a daily prompt word based on the theme of 'transformation,' requiring a creative response in the journal provided. At the end of the month, the journals were digitised and became part of an online exhibition with a prize to be awarded, judged in February 2022. The challenge was supported by two online Creative journaling workshops run by Craft ACT member Mel Young and mental health expert Caitlin Marshal from Makeshift.

Crafternoons were held free for members throughout November, taking place each Friday afternoon. Members were encouraged to bring their making into the Craft ACT gallery and sit, make, and connect with other members amongst the 2021 members exhibition. Talks from

artists in the exhibition were part of each Crafternoon session.

The Nurture: Thrive professional development workshops were a series of four online professional development workshops run by business and marketing expert Michael Ofei. Michael presented four workshops covering different aspects of marketing for craft makers, including branding for craft and design, applying your brand, growing your audience, and creating an online shop. The workshops were very well received by our membership, with 88 people attending and very positive feedback received about the presenter and the content:

- 'Michael talked from his own experience.'
- 'Very thorough presentation. Many useful sources were shared. Many thoughtful ideas. Michael made it specific to artists.'
- 'Precise information that one can apply to ones art practice.'

In 2021 DESIGN Canberra:

- included over 30 events
- attracted 10,589 attendees
- developed audiences, 61% were new visitors
- expanded interest, 350,000+ impressions across social media platforms
- support from 10 sponsors and supporters from the broader Canberra community, including business, tertiary, cultural and industry sectors
- generated over \$30,000 of income directly to artists and designers

Studio stories created an enduring resource of 21 artist video interviews that allowed our audiences a unique look into the working lives of craft artists in the ACT and region. We



Tiffany Thiedeman, clay building workshop. Photo: 5 Foot Photography

Attendance at DESIGN Canberra Nurture can be broken into the following program elements:

- 85 at Crafternoons
- 112 participated in the Creative journalling challenge
- 28 participated in the sketchbook workshops
- 66 participated in online professional development workshops
- 109 participated in Mindful making workshops
- 203 took part in the Craft and design auction
- 9986 viewed Studio stories online

shared these short films through the DESIGN Canberra Website and on short 'teaser' reels on Instagram.

The Nurture: Craft and design auction gave design lovers the chance to own a piece of contemporary design at an auction of works by Craft ACT members. The auction raised \$20,510, with all the proceeds going directly to the artists. Craft ACT removed the usual 30% commission on sales to ensure artists received the maximum possible benefit to off set the challenges they had faced in 2021.

A small event in the Craft ACT gallery accompanied the auction which as live-streamed on Instagram. Geneviève Jacobs interviewed Craft ACT CEO Jodie Cunningham and artists Julie Bradley, Elliot Bastianon, Helen Keogh, Rene Linssen, and Sonia van de Harr, as well as Gretel Harrison from F!NK, who spoke about the limited edition Gold Jug made for Craft ACT's 50th anniversary. The auction was expertly run by Bianca Way from Home.byholly, with spirited bidding both in the room and online.

The Nurture Mindful making workshops were small socially distanced workshops across various creative mediums, held in the Craft ACT gallery by Craft ACT members. These workshops employed craft and design techniques to promote wellbeing. Wellbeing inducing making techniques included clay making, felting, stitching, spoon making, and paper garlands. The fifteen workshops raised \$5877.55 for our artists and attracted 109 participants. The effects on participants' wellbeing were evaluated showing significantly increased scores for happiness, contentedness, and alertness at the end of each of the workshops.

Local/national/global collaborations

Due to the global pandemic, travel continued to be restricted or halted entirely, with local and international border closures. While we couldn't travel, the stunning Glass utopia exhibition completed its tour at Milan

Clare Mazitelli, Embroidered Wall Hanging workshop. Photo: 5 Foot Photography



Design Week in September 2021. Making its debut at DESIGN Canberra in 2019, Glass utopia was displayed at Craft ACT and the Italian Embassy in Australia. This was followed by exhibitions at Design Tasmania and Venice Glass Week in 2020.

Curated by Milan-based design duo Mr.Lawrence (Annalisa Rosso and Francesco Mainardi), this cross-cultural collaborative exhibition showcased the best of Italian and Australian contemporary glass production. The Australian contingent of Glass utopia is now on its long journey home.

Design diplomacy, a public conversation reflecting on design as a part of intercultural exchange, was conducted at the residence of the Ambassador of Italy in November 2021. These Design diplomacy conversations have been key events within DESIGN Canberra since 2018, with many generously hosted at the residence of the Embassy of Italy.

With the postponement of DESIGN Canberra 2021 this design diplomacy event was held as a stand alone program. CEO Jodie Cunningham joined Francesca Tardioli, Ambassador of Italy to Australia, in conversation with Craft ACT member Gretel Harrison from F!NK + Co., Danny Russo, a Chef, and Livia McRobert from Smeg Australia, as part of the Week of the Extraordinary Italian Taste celebration.

Digital Legacy projects

Craft ACT celebrated its 50th golden anniversary in 2021. Since 1971, as one of Australia's longest continuous-running membership organisations in the visual arts, Craft ACT has played a vital role in sustaining Australia's high-quality studio practice and supporting craftspeople, designers, and audiences. Drawing on the extensive Craft ACT archives, a social media campaign or stories from our archives took place throughout 2021.

To mark our 50th anniversary, a limited-edition gold F!NK iconic jug was released, with 17 of the 18 jugs produced selling out almost immediately. The final gold F!NK jug was the star of the auction selling for a record price of \$1200.



Above: Design diplomacy at the Italian Ambassador to Australia Francesca Tardioli's residence. Photo: Pew Pew Studio
Right: Glass Utopia at Milan Design Week. Photo: Amir Farzad





Goal 3: Value

Educate the community about the potential of contemporary craft and design to inform public agendas, promote wellbeing and community cohesion, and forge viable commercial pathways.

Effective communications

Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra continue to be well-supported by local media, with particular thanks to Meredith Hinchliffe of City News and Kerry-Anne Cousins of the Canberra Times, for their ongoing interest and coverage of the exhibition program. Craft ACT also thanks the HerCanberra team and Garland Magazine for their enthusiastic and ongoing support.

Sydney-based creative media specialists, Articulate, were engaged in providing a strategic public relations and communications campaign designed to support the objectives of DESIGN Canberra with a particular focus on expanding the national profile of the festival.

In September 2021, ABC Art Works presented a feature on a DESIGN Canberra collaboration between Designer-in-residence Lucy Irvine and photographer Davey Barber. Art Works is dedicated to exploring the full spectrum of the arts in Australia. Hosted by arts broadcaster Namila Benson, Art Works resets the national artistic conversation and features a palette of ideas for everyone. The DESIGN Canberra feature focused on the collaboration between Lucy and Davey in which Lucy's sculptures were photographed in

situ on Canberra buildings. The Art Works feature resulted in nationally distributed television coverage for the festival. Audiences will see the Lucy Irvine/Davey Barber project again in DESIGN Canberra 2022.

Support from local media for the DESIGN Canberra Nurture program was enthusiastic. Canberra Times, Canberra Weekly, RiotACT, HerCanberra, and ABC Radio Canberra covered the program.

Online and social media took on a new level of importance for promoting Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra in 2021, resulting in innovations that will continue to be used beyond the pandemic. In 2020 and 2021, Craft ACT had to find new ways to engage with audiences in the digital space. This was achieved by creating virtual tours of exhibitions, expanding online content, creating online video profiles of our artsits members (Studio stories) and embracing hybrid online/in-person event models.

As a result, both DESIGN Canberra and Craft ACT enjoyed high levels of engagement and an increase in followers across the board. Active and targeted campaigns on social media, websites, online shops, and through electronic direct marketing (EDM) continued to deliver strong

returns. A total of 64 electronic newsletters were sent, supported by Craft ACT's above-industry-average newsletter 'open rate' (the number of emails opened out of those sent), reaching an engaged audience of 6282 subscribers, with over 195,000+ opens.

In 2021, Craft ACT received a not-for-profit Google Ad grant. Craft ACT placed advertisements for both Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra, resulting in search engines such as Google Search and non-search websites, mobile apps, and videos to advertise our websites. Throughout 2021 our Google Ads for Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra received a combined 1015+ clicks.

Membership

Our membership of craft practitioners, artists, designers, and makers at all career stages is at the heart of Craft ACT. Our members give us purpose; they bring a regional, national, and international perspective and expertise to our artistic programs and inspire us every week of every year.

Craft ACT keeps in regular contact with members via the Craft ACT website, email newsletters (including a dedicated members-only newsletter), and social media.

Our social media platforms are Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

Our primary communication tools are Facebook and Instagram. We communicate through our public-facing Craft ACT page and Instagram feed; and a private Craft ACT Facebook Member page where members can communicate and collaborate. Our public programs seek to provide deeper connections to our members' work and connect them with new audiences and new sources of income, especially through the DESIGN Canberra festival.

In 2021, Craft ACT conducted an evaluation survey with our current members.

Key findings were:

- + members were adversely affected by the pandemic with exhibition cancellations, access restrictions and supply chain issues seeing a halt in financial and brand growth.
- + Members were largely unaware of all of the benefits of Craft ACT Membership

Craft ACT is currently refining ways of communicating membership benefits to ensure membership retention and expansion and have begun developing new professional development programs based on member preferences in survey responses.

In October 2021 we introduced a new membership category, Craft and Design Lover member, specifically for supporters of Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra. The new category enables Craft ACT's growing audience of supporters to make an ongoing contribution to the organisation, receive discounts in our shop and exclusive access to VIP members events.

Total membership increased by 12 percent in 2021. It is heartening to see Craft ACT's work, artistic program, and commitment to excellence and engagement resonate with an expanding network of craft practitioners, designers and supporters from the Canberra region and beyond. There continues to be strong support and engagement from all membership levels.

- 7396 Craft ACT Instagram followers (25% increase)
- 5675 Craft ACT Facebook followers (4.4% increase)
- 380 Craft ACT LinkedIn followers (54% increase)
- 180,100 website visits
- 17 DESIGN Canberra e-newsletters sent (6282 subscribers, 12% increase)
- 4507 DESIGN Canberra Facebook followers (5% increase)
- 9441 DESIGN Canberra Instagram followers (10% increase)
- 269 DESIGN Canberra Twitter followers (19% increase)
- 34,287 total social media followers (Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra)
- 394,519 total reach
- 1354 total posts
- 40,749 total engagements (38% increase)



Body Layer, Semblance and Self exhibition. Photo: 5 Foot Photography.

Accredited Professional membership (APM) is the highest tier of membership at Craft ACT. APMs are professional craft practitioners and designers whose outstanding contributions demonstrate a high standard of artistic merit and technical skill and have local, national, and/or international experience and standing. This respected level of membership is attained by submitting an application and demonstrating a practice of artistic excellence. A panel of peers assesses applications.

Associate membership of Craft ACT is also by application. It is suitable for emerging and established professional craft practitioners and

designers who have demonstrated a strong local and/or regional experience and engagement.

Craft and Design Maker membership is aimed at craft and design practitioners who wish to keep informed and help grow their profession and for friends and supporters who want to engage with local craft and design communities.

We thank the members of the 2021 membership committee, who provided invaluable support to the Craft ACT team in 2021.

Enhanced digital presence and engagement

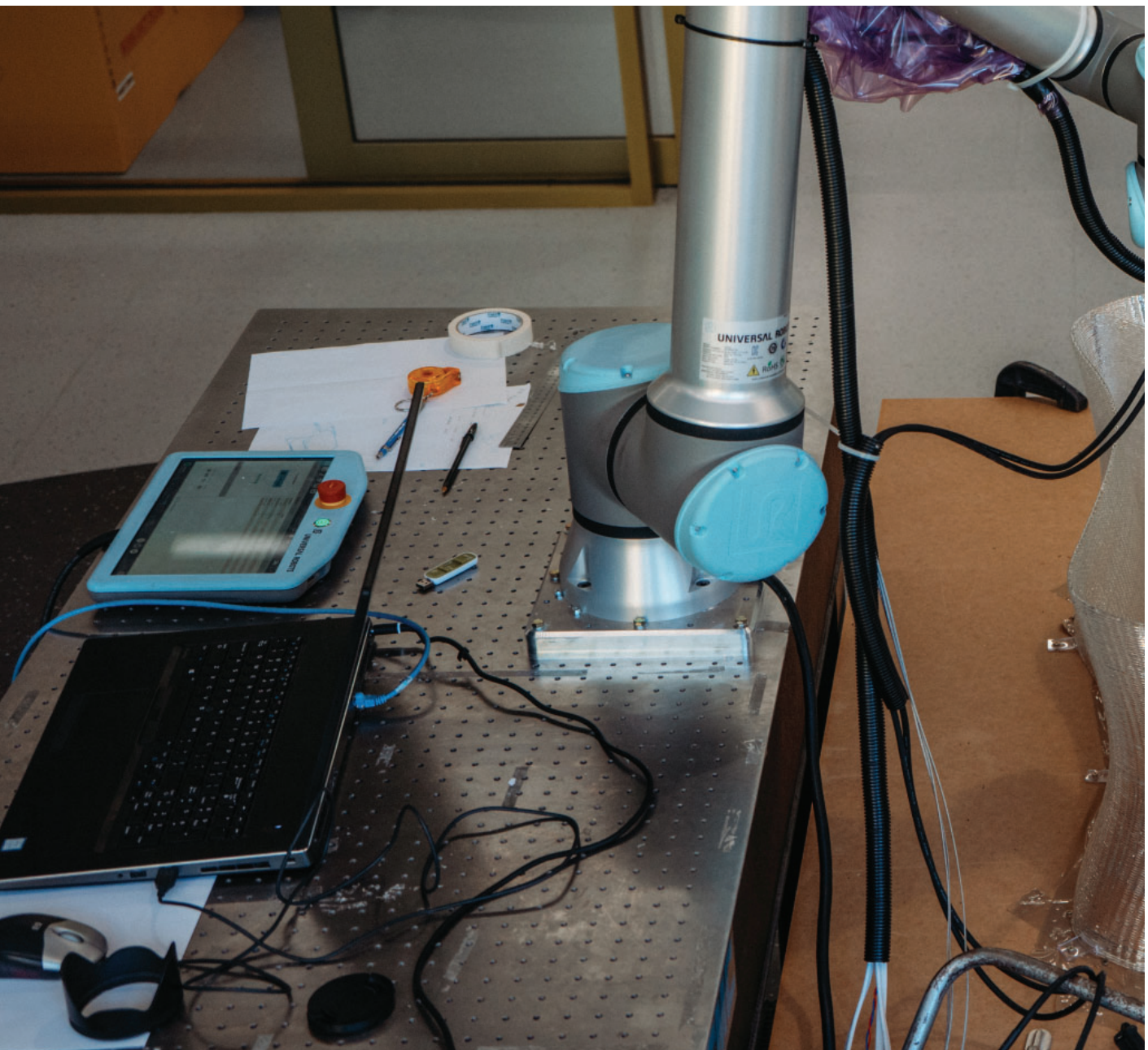
Our Studio stories videos created an opportunity for the public to learn more about our member makers and the value of craft and design. This video series created an opportunity to forge commercial pathways with new audiences while promoting wellbeing and connection. The artists did this through sharing their artistic journey, their experience with COVID-19, and showing their works in the context of their studio. Studio stories creates an online platform that fostered community through shared experience and deepened understanding.

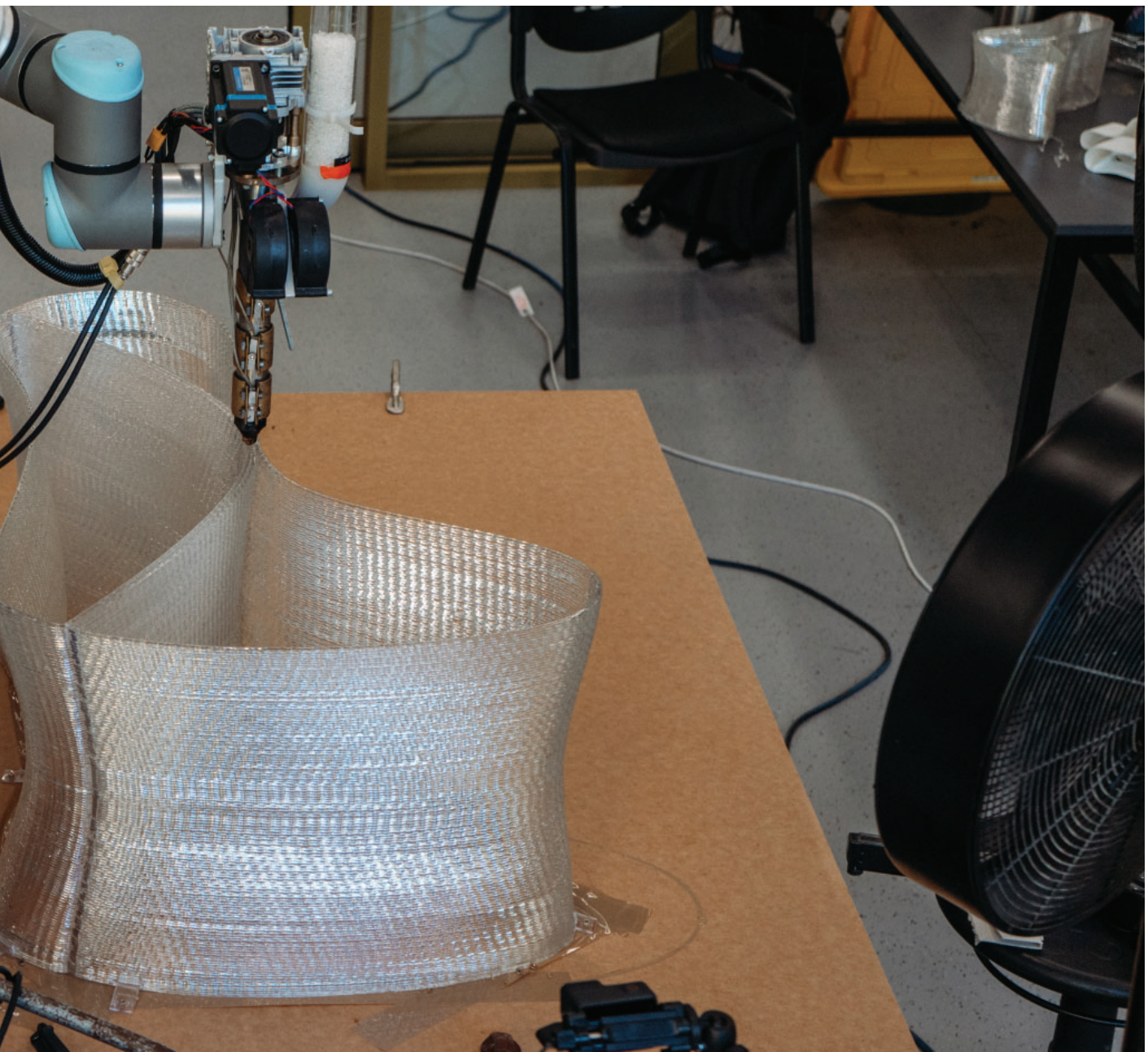
Alison Jackson + Dan Lorrimer, Fork 004 & Spoon 011. Photo: Courtesy of the artists.



Goal 4: Security

Support professionalisation, entrepreneurship, and enterprise development to build capacity, skills, and security for artists and the sector.





Maitlan Brown, 3D printed lounge featured in Emerging Contemporaries exhibition, printed at University of Canberra. Photo: Courtesy of the artist



Cretal Ferguson, Cover Stitched, 2021, powder coated copper, silk. Photo: Grant Hancock

Income

Craft ACT is committed to supporting artists making a living from their practice and bolstering the entire arts sector with a thriving community that can support more creatives and craft practices across the spectrum. Gross sales from our retail space have continued to exceed our target numbers for each quarter, showing strong demand for locally made craft and design.

Our DESIGN Canberra program has proven itself worthy and well suited to the community, which can be seen by the commitment of sponsors to roll over funding from 2021 to 2022. We are also hopeful for further expansion of income for the festival. We have applied for further funding from grants and sponsorship requests to facilitate the festival's continued growth.

Total income generated directly by artists and designers due to Craft ACT was \$218,720. Most of this income resulted from the Craft ACT retail store, while our online shop experienced a 13% increase in sales. With the cancellation of the 2021 DESIGN Canberra festival, income was down from 2020 however Craft ACT's 'pivot' program, Nurture, generated \$33,532.55, which went directly back to artists.

Additionally, we are investing in income-generating activities by growing our professional development programs to support members and staff and introducing new business development tools to facilitate enhanced collaboration (online and in-person) between members, disciplines, mediums, and markets.

New retail stockists include

- Alison Leonard
- Sarra Tzijan
- Daria Fox
- Eggpicnic
- ELC Studio
- Erin Daniell
- Katherine Grocott
- Nicola Knackstredt
- Polly Dymond
- Peter Revelman
- Akie Haga
- Cheryl J Studios
- inSync

Sally Blake, Place Markers exhibition. Photo: 5 Foot Photography

Income for artists, by source:

- exhibition program \$68,981
- retail shop \$114,206
- artist-in-residence program \$2000
- DESIGN Canberra Nurture \$33,532.55

We continue to value and prioritise the growth of First Nation involvement. We are doing this by implementing further Indigenous contemporary craft and design residencies and planning workshops to include an Indigenous teacher and curator.

We aim to support professionalism, develop entrepreneurship and enterprise, and build capacity, skills, and security for artists and the greater arts sector.

The 2021 audited financial reports were available at the 2020 Annual General Meeting and on request.

Design Canberra growth

Our mission to grow the DESIGN Canberra festival, with inspiring legacy projects, pathways toward income generation, expanded commercial partnerships, and marketplace connectivity, has necessarily undergone a Covid transformation. This process of change brought about unexpected benefits and developments.

The popular and growing DESIGN Canberra festival is supported by

the ACT Government (\$100,000 per year since 2017). This partnership works so well because the goals and missions in the Art Minister's Statement of Ambition parallel those of Craft ACT. The festival is expansive in scope, support, and reach. By changing the DESIGN Canberra programming to DESIGN Canberra Nurture in 2021, we successfully adapted to the needs of our community while also securing funding migrations to 2022.

We are grateful to the City Renewal Authority for its general funding to support the festival's CBD Hub programs. This year their funding was redistributed to an innovative program, Discover: Craft and design public art trail, representing a creative approach to support artists through this challenging time.



Nurture was developed and executed with the artist in mind. As tourism and travel ceased worldwide, we restricted our festival towards those who needed it most – the artists. We offered extensive professional development, workshops, member shows, and most importantly, harnessed the power of art as therapy as we sought to nurture our community.

Our ability to weather the storm of COVID-19 is largely thanks to our understanding and supportive sponsors and partners who showed commitment to our cause by moving funding from 2021 to 2022. We thank all our wonderful sponsors at all levels for this massive pivot and their contribution to not only keep us afloat but also allow us to execute a world-class 2022 festival.

Sponsorship and self-generated income account for 70 percent of the festival budget. Due to the support from our community, we were able to secure our festival and ensure the future of our creative industry.

We extend our sincerest gratitude to the following sponsors for moving funding to 2022, thereby supporting our Covid pivot: Canberra BMW, University of Canberra, and their Faculty of Arts and Design, A by Adina, home.byholly, Capital Airport Group, Swayn Foundation, Kambri Centre, Canberra Centre, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Capital Brewing, Lake George Winery, ROJO Customs, HerCanberra, Dezeen, RiotACT, ArtsHub.

Thank you to all of our supporters. We look forward to realising our mutual goals in 2022.

Staff + Professional development

CO:LAB was a new professional development program in 2021. Two Craft ACT members were selected to work with the architecture firm Light House Design and their clients to develop new lighting for a residential project in Canberra.

The artists received a \$5000 artists fee, an exhibition, mentoring, sustainability advice, professional photography, and technical support.

This project encouraged the artists to embrace a spirit of collaboration, work across disciplines and gain exposure to commercial environments with other designers and clients. The key requirement was that this opportunity enhance or transform the craft practitioner's practice.

The artists selected in 2021 were Cathy Franzi, Dan Lorrimer, and Alison Jackson. Cathy created two series of interior pendant lighting, Leaf Print Series and Burrawang Collection in porcelain, creatively responding to concepts of local, sustainable and natural. Dan and Alison developed a series of sculptural pendant lights made from stainless steel and brass, titled Linari Pendant Lights. Sheoak Table Lamp was a collaboration between all three artists.



50th anniversary FINK jug, work in progress. Photo: 5 Foot Photography

The project culminated in an exhibition at Craft ACT in November 2021. CO:LAB was supported by the Craft ACT Circle of Hands donor circle.

Nurture: Thrive was a series of professional development workshops. The four online workshops were by Michael Ofei and focused on developing business skills for craft artists. They covered developing and applying a brand, growing an audience, and building an online shop. These workshops were very well received by members and will hopefully be repeated in the coming years.

Acquittals, reporting and governance

The Craft ACT team (both staff and board) has gone through a change of hand this year, and we have hit the ground running with new and fresh minds on the job.

Craft ACT has the ongoing support of a diverse community of collaborators, sponsors, donors, and 460 (and growing) members. Small and achieving, Craft ACT has proven a strong contributor to the sector. Drawing on this creative and expansive reputation, we have established close relationships with government, universities, retail, business, education, and philanthropic sectors.

With the re-adaptation of the DESIGN Canberra festival to the Nurture program, these well-established relationships have allowed for the secure migration of funding from 2021 to 2022. All our generous sponsors and partners have shown flexibility demanded by COVID-19 restrictions and moved their support to the 2022 festival.

Our valued collaboration with the ACT Parks and Conservation Service on the Artist-in-residence program continues to be a successful and highly regarded initiative. Aligning with the National Library of Australia as the 2021 research partner, our Artist-in-residence program is

extensive and well supported by our partner organisations.

Sincere thanks to the board members, artists, peers, and colleagues who helped prove our organisation’s worth.

Craft ACT’s many valued partner organisations in 2021:

- A by Adina
- ACT Government
- ACT Government – artsACT
- ACT Government – City Renewal Authority
- ACT Parks & Conservation
- Ainslie + Gorman Arts Centres
- Alastair Swain Foundation
- ANU School of Art & Design
- ArchitectureAU
- Arts Hub
- Ausglass
- Australia Council for the Arts
- Australian Academy of Science
- Australian Craft and Design Centres
- Australian Design Centre
- Australian Museums and Galleries Association (ACT)
- Bridget Kennedy Contemporary Jewellery and Project Space
- Canberra Airport Group
- Canberra BMW
- Canberra Centre
- Canberra Contemporary Art Space
- Canberra Institute of Technology
- Canberra Potters’ Society
- Canberra Spinners and Weavers
- Canberra Region Feltmakers
- Capital Arts Patrons’ Organisation (CAPO)
- Capital Brewing Co.
- Contour 556
- Cox Architecture
- Dezeen
- Embassy of Italy in Australia
- F!NK + Co.
- Foundry Co.
- Geoscience Australia
- Gillawarra Arts
- Hearth Studio
- Her Canberra
- home.by holly
- Ikuntji Artists
- JamFactory
- Kambri at ANU
- Kowalski Recruitment
- Lake George Winery
- Light House Architecture and Science
- Makeshift
- National Capital Authority
- National Library of Australia
- National Museum of Australia
- Pack & Send
- Preferred Builders
- RiotACT
- ROJO Customs
- Sturt Gallery & Studios
- Thor’s Hammer
- Tidbinbilla Visitor Centre
- University of Canberra
- University of New South Wales
- Visit Canberra

Government Support

The dedicated staff and sector commitment from artsACT (ACT Government) and the Australia Council for the Arts (Federal Government) expands the work of Craft ACT, as does funding from the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Territory and Federal Governments. We are grateful for the security that this public funding brings to our organisation and especially for the ambition from the minister that includes direct support for DESIGN Canberra's goal of establishing Canberra as a UNESCO City of Design.

We are grateful for the ACT government's Arts Minister's Statement of Ambition for the Arts 21-26 as it aligns so beautifully with Craft ACT's Strategic Plan 21-24.

Additionally, our strong relationship with the ACT Government City Renewal Authority (CRA) has proven vital in the uncertainty of Covid restrictions. The CRA's commitment

to funding has enabled Craft ACT to develop creative, innovative, and dedicated programming in the city centre to strengthen the community's connection to Civic and encourage repeat visitation. This year, the funding was re-allocated to fund Nurture Discover: Craft and design public art trail.

This vital public funding and clever creation of new artistic opportunities, together with the generous contribution from our many sponsors, partners, and donors, serves to secure the future of Craft ACT and the many members we represent.

Private Donors

In 2021 Craft ACT established a trial donor category, the Circle of Hands, with the associated project, CO:LAB. The CO:LAB project included professional development, high-quality studio practice, cross-collaboration between industry and craft, and supported our valued members. We are particularly grateful for the support of the Circle of Hands Donors and delighted that this donor program has secured funds to run the CO:LAB professional development program again in 2022.



Lucy Irvine, 2021-22 DESIGN Canberra designer-in-residence with her work 'The Stills'.
Photo: 5 Foot Photography
Cathy Framzi, Pendant Lights. Photo: Alison Jackson



Board, staff, committees, volunteers and interns

Board of Management

Rebecca Coronel

President
Senior Manager, Strategy, National Film and Sound Archive

Rebecca is a strategic leader in national cultural institutions with a wealth of experience in the museums sector and arts administration. In her current role at the National Film and Sound Archive, she is working on a range of projects, including property strategy. Prior to 2017, Rebecca was the Manager, Exhibition Projects and Interpretation at the National Museum of Australia and was the President of Museums Galleries Australia ACT branch.

2017

Sam Bryant

Treasurer
Business owner, Pack & Send, Fyshwick

Sam is a certified practising accountant with extensive experience in financial management from grass roots accounts payable and receivable through to high-level financial policy development. He holds an MBA and has demonstrated experience with governance requirements of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*.

2016

Graham Humphries

Immediate Past President (non-voting)
Director, Cox Architecture

Graham is highly skilled in international project management as well as national public, commercial and residential projects. He has a strong background in leadership roles and has served as president, chairman and councillor on a number of boards and committees, as well as extensive experience in government advisory groups and committees. He is recognised as a leader for design excellence in architecture.

2013-2021

Jennie Cameron AM

Not-for-profit sector development and fundraising

Having worked in senior roles for Spastic Centres Victoria, St John Ambulance Australia and her own consultancy business. Jennie brings extensive experience in corporate governance, development, fundraising, marketing and communications. She is a Certified Fundraising Executive, a Fellow of the Institute of Company Directors, Member Emeritus of the Fundraising Institute Australia and a member of the Order of Australia.

2019-2021

Laura Crick

Secretary and public officer
Senior Lawyer, Clayton Utz

Laura is an experienced public law litigator who acts for government and private clients in relation to disputes involving administrative decisions, disciplinary proceedings, environment and planning, contracts and employment law. Laura studied art history as part of a Bachelor of Arts/Laws at ANU and tutors there in litigation and dispute management.

2020

Jenny Edwards

Sustainability advocate
Owner, Managing Director and Lead
Scientist, Light House Architecture &
Science

Jenny has a Masters degree in science and is an ACT-licensed Building Energy Efficiency Assessor. In 2010, Jenny established an energy efficiency consulting business, Scinergy, which won the ACT Sustainable Cities Energy Innovation Award for its innovative, scientific approach to improving energy efficiency in the residential construction sector. Since 2011, Jenny has been a Director of award-winning Light House Architecture & Science since. In 2015 Jenny won the 'Outstanding in Industry' award from the ACT branch of the National Association of Women in Construction.

2020

Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello

Member representative
Award winning visual artist,
Accredited Professional Member
Craft ACT

Jenni Kemarre Martiniello is an Award winning visual artist, poet, writer, and photographer of Arrernte, Chinese and Anglo-Celtic descent. Jenni's glass works have been exhibited in numerous exhibitions, including solo exhibitions at Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Belconnen Arts Centre, Canberra Glassworks and Sabbia Gallery in Sydney. She was awarded Canberra Critics Circle Awards for Visual Arts in 2011 and 2013. Jenni was the recipient of a 2-year Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Visual Arts Fellowship from the Australia Council for the Arts for 2013/2014. In 2013 she won the prestigious Telstra Prize for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art.

2021

Isabelle Mackay-Sim

Member representative
Emerging ceramic artist, Associate
Member Craft ACT

Isabelle Mackay-Sim is an emerging Australian ceramic artist and 2018 graduate from the Australian National University Ceramics Department. Since graduating she has participated in numerous exhibitions and residencies in Australia and Internationally. In 2019, Mackay-Sim's work was included in the online exhibition for the Gyeonggi International Korean Ceramics Biennale, and she went on to receive the Talente Award from the Munich International Craft Fair in 2020. Mackay-Sim's sculptural ceramic practice centres around a passion for exploring intersectional feminist issues, featuring the body as a pivotal motif.

2021

David Marshall AM

Tourism and business
Chair, Canberra Region Tourism
Leaders Forum and the Canberra
Region Tourism Advisory Forum

David is currently Chair of the Canberra Region Tourism Leaders Forum and the Canberra Region Tourism Advisory Forum. He also serves as a Board member of the Howard Prime Ministerial Library located at Old Parliament House (MOAD). David is a member of the Canberra Rotary Club and Chairs the Rotary District 9705 Vulnerable Youth Project, providing homes for teenagers 12 to 17 years old seeking a safe place to reside.

2021-2021

Rachael Coghlan

Ex officio (non-voting)
CEO + Artistic Director, Craft ACT:
Craft and Design Centre and Artistic
Director, DESIGN Canberra

Rachael was the Craft ACT CEO + Artistic Director from 2016-2021. In this role she curated a vibrant program of exhibitions, residencies and cross-disciplinary collaborations, including the DESIGN Canberra festival. She gained her PhD in museum studies from the ANU where she is a visiting fellow. Before heading up Craft ACT, Rachael worked for 20 years in leadership roles in creative organisations and national cultural institutions. She has led complex capital projects, interpretation, communications programs, research and change management strategies, and multi-disciplinary teams across institutions including the National Museum of Australia and the National Arboretum Canberra. She is a board member of the Tourism Leaders Forum.

2016-2021

Jodie Cunningham

Ex officio (non-voting)
CEO + Artistic Director, Craft ACT:
Craft and Design Centre and Artistic
Director, DESIGN Canberra

Jodie Cunningham is the CEO + Artistic Director of Craft ACT. Cunningham is a highly creative arts leader, visual artist and educator with extensive experience in developing and delivering innovative exhibitions, public programs and learning experiences in museums, galleries and art contexts. She has an extensive background in visual art and design education and a commitment to developing artists and fostering collaboration. Cunningham advocates for the power of creativity, the arts and cultural activity to provide hope to our communities, strengthen our local and national cultural identities, and facilitate social change.

2021



Craft ACT staff + board, December 2021. Photo Craft ACT

Staff

In addition to full-time arts workers, Craft ACT engages designers, craft practitioners and artists as casual and part-time staff members to further support the Canberra arts community. The total value of this support to arts workers and artists was \$96,925.90 in 2021.

CEO + Artistic Director	Jodie Cunningham (July 2021-present) Rachael Coghlan (until June 2021)
Assistant Director (Communications)	Meagan Jones
Program Director	Kate Nixon (until May 2021)
Gallery + Retail Manager	Welly McGarry (November 2021-present) Madisyn Zabel (until November 2021)
Production Manager	Justine Merrony (from April 2021)
Development Manager	Travis Bullock (from October 2021)
Public Programs Manager	Moraig McKenna (from October 2021)
Marketing + Digital Content Assistant	Georgia Arndell (from October 2021) Vy Tsan (until August 2021)
Gallery + Retail Assistant	Bethany Brewsher

Sincere thanks to the former staff of Craft ACT, who made valuable contributions to the work and achievements of Craft ACT during 2021. Your contributions continue to strengthen and support the work that we do and we appreciate your ongoing support within the sector.

Committees

Craft ACT Membership Committee

Julie Bartholomew (Ceramics, APM)
Sean Booth (Metals, APM)
Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello (Glass, APM)
Valerie Kirk (Textiles, APM)

Craft ACT Artistic Program Committee

Sally Blake (Textiles, APM)
Peter Bollington (Wood, APM)
Rachael Coghlan (Craft ACT)
Cathy Franzi (Ceramics, APM)
Alison Jackson (Metals, APM)
Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello (Glass, APM)

Artist-in-residence Peer Review Committee

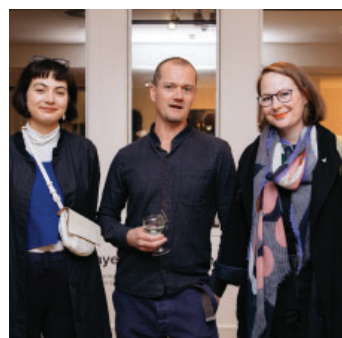
Julie Bartholomew (Ceramics, APM)
Melissa Barton (ACT Parks and Conservation Service)
Sean Booth (Metals, APM)
Kevin Bradley (National Library of Australia)
Rachael Coghlan (Craft ACT)
Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello (Glass, APM)
Valerie Kirk (Textiles, APM)

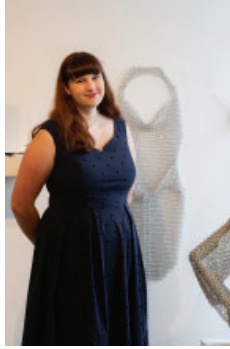
Work experience

Michael Macic

Central to our work is our community engagement and help from volunteers including artists, recent graduates, retirees, high school students and people in our local community. Craft ACT enjoyed over 135 hours in volunteer support in 2021, to a value of \$3705.* We thank and are especially grateful to all our volunteers, interns and supporters.
*Applying notional \$27.45/hour rate method (see www.volunteeringaustralia.org).

Craft ACT thanks the community for its ongoing support of our programs.









Appendices: 2021 CRAFT ACT ACTIVITY

MEMBERSHIP

Life members

FINK Design, Michelle Frost, Meredith Hinchliffe, David Williams, Gene Willsford, Beverley Wood, Bill Wood

Accredited professional members

Ruth Allen, Keiko Amenomori-Schmeisser, Avi Amesbury, Julie Bartholomew, Eugenie Keefer Bell, Annette Blair, Sally Blake, Sean Booth, Julie Bradley, Ximena Natanya Briceno, Margaret Brown, Lisa Cahill, Marilou Chagnaud, Scott Chaseling, Sarit Cohen, Simon Cottrell, Rozlyn de Bussey, Janet DeBoos, Mel Douglas, Mark Elliott, Judi Elliott, Jonathan Everett, Dianne Firth, Caren Florance, Cathy Franzi, Ruth Hingston, Bev Hogg, Lucy Irvine, Pamela Irving, Alison Jackson, Belinda Jessup, Ian Jones, Elizabeth Kelly, Dimity Kidston, Valerie Kirk, Jacqueline Knight, Daniel Lorrimer, Will Maguire, Nikki Main, Zeljko Markov, Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello, Anita McIntyre, Moraig McKenna, Ann McMahon, Gail Nichols, Peter Nilsson, Melanie Olde, Elizabeth Paterson, Kaye Pemberton, Sharon Peoples, Phoebe Porter, Kirstie Rea, Gilbert Riedelbauch, Jennifer Robertson, Barbara Rogers, Luna Ryan, Julie Ryder, Harriet Schwarzrock, Joanne Searle, Heidi Strachan, Belinda Toll, Annie Trevillian, Monique van Nieuwland, Susan Wiscombe, Hiroshi Yamaguchi, Marissa Ziesing

Associate members

Emina Adriaans, Leonie Andrews, Rosie Armstrong, Angela Bakker, Rolf Barfoed, Marie Barincou, Elliot Bastianon, Grace Blake, Peter Bollington, Zoe Brand, Estelle Briedis, Jeremy Brown, Robyn Campbell, Andres Caycedo, Edward Collett, Carol Cooke, Wayne Creaser, Jodie Cunningham, Elizabeth Curry, Lissa-Jane de Sailles, Catherine Drinan, Lea Durie, Rose-Mary Faulkner, Hannah Gason, Nadina Geary, Fiona Glover, Louis Grant, Kirandeep Grewal, Michele Grimston, Kirstin Guenther, Akie Haga, Jochen Heinzmann, Patricia Hely, Gerhard Herbst, Sue Hewat, Marcia Holden, Fiona Hooton, Shen-Ju Hsieh, Sarah

Humphery, Abbey Jamieson, Kerry Johns, Debra Jurss, Alya Khan, Nicola Knackstredt, Benedict Laffan, Cassandra Layne, Chelsea Lemon, Daniel Licastro, Bethany Lick, Rene Linssen, David Liu, Isabelle Mackay-Sim, Jenny Manning, Daniel Margules, Anne Masters, Janet Meaney, Cam Michael, Sean Morris, Sarah Murphy, Catherine Newton, Kate Nixon, Kanun Onsel, Tom Osborne, Lucy Palmer, Emilie Patteson, Sue Peachey, Julie Pennington, Fran Romano, Brenda Runnegar, Tamara Schneider, Rob Schwartz, Sam Sheppard, David Suckling, Rodger Sutherland, Alice Sutton (van Meurs), Sophi Suttor, Tanya Taglietti, Josephine Townsend, Daniel Venables, Jo Victoria, Tania Vrancic, Mel Young, Madisyn Zabel, Barak Zelig

The work of Craft ACT is also supported by 177 general maker members, 30 craft + design lover members, and 90 student members in 2021.

EXHIBITIONS

Block 1: 4 February – 20 March 2021

Emerging contemporaries

Akka Ballenger | Mika Benesh | Millie Black | Maitlan Brown | Ned Collins | Lea Durie | Annalise Fredericks | Daniel Leone | Christine Little | David Liu | Denni Maroudas | Olinda Narayanan | Bling Yiu | Jonathon Zalacos

Emerging contemporaries is the Craft ACT National Award Exhibition for early career artists. This exhibition plays a pivotal role in supporting and transitioning artists into professional practice and placing Australian artists in view of the national cultural collecting institutions, business and industry, and audience.

Exhibition launched by Dr Sarah Schmidt, Director, Canberra Museum and Gallery.

Intersections

Janet DeBoos | Wendy Teakel

Intersections presented new works by respected ceramic artist Janet DeBoos and contemporary visual artist Wendy Teakel. The exhibition included ceramics, drawings,

paintings and sculptures which explored the premise of 'getting lost' as an approach to creative practice. Rebecca Solnit's "A Field Guide to Getting Lost" will be a point of departure for this research.

Exhibition launched by Dr Sarah Schmidt, Director, Canberra Museum and Gallery.

Hortus conclusus | Crucible exhibition

Sharon Peoples

This small exhibition of hand stitched embroideries contained in jewellery boxes and glasses cases examined the concept of *Hortus conclusus*, the enclosed garden.

SHOP showcase: Vivid

Vivid celebrated the vibrant and beautiful colours of summer. This collection of handmade pieces made by Craft ACT members evoked a sense of delight and lightness. These pieces reminded us of those sunny afternoon barbecues by the lake under the bright blue sky, beautiful floral dresses, enjoying nature on long hikes, summer cocktails with friends, and so much more joy yet to be created.

Block 2: 25 March - 22 May 2021

Essence of cloud

Mark Elliott

Essence of cloud was a multi-faceted solo exhibition featuring the work of glass artist Mark Elliott. This exhibition was comprised mainly of Glass objects but also text, mixed media, watercolour sketches, performance, music, scent and animation. Through this exhibition, a story of research into a sublime substance called cloud essence, spanning five centuries, unfolded. This exhibition represented a major turning point in Elliott's career as a long-form body of work, which delves deeply into narrative, and character development through detailed articulation of an imagined family history that at some points intersects with the real.

Exhibition launched by Grace Cochrane, independent curator, writer, consultant and unwavering

advocate for craft and design.

Between earth and sky – 2020 artist-in-residence exhibition

Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello | Sharon Peoples

2020 Craft ACT artists-in-residence Jenni Kemarre Martinello and Sharon Peoples presented a new body of work inspired by their research at the National Museum of Australia (NMA) and their three-week residency period at Namadgi National Park, where Jenni and Sharon shared a living and working space at Gudgenby Ready-Cut Cottage. Presented in partnership with ACT Parks and Conservation Service and National Museum of Australia.

Exhibition launched by Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Mick Gentleman MLA and welcome to country performed by Ngunnawal man, Cheyenne Halloran.

SHOP showcase: Autumn

Our Autumn showcase featured a selection of handmade pieces that included the rich, sumptuous and welcoming colours of Autumn in Australia.

Block 3: 27 May - 17 July 2021

Body layer; Semblance and self

Zoe Brand | Roseanne Bartley | Liesbet Bussche | Jing He | Cara Johnson | Lauren Kalman | matt lambert | Claire McArdle | Kristina Neumann | Tiffany Parbs | Halie Rubenis

Curator Simon Cottrell, Researcher/ Lecturer, ANU School of Art & Design.

This exhibition presented the works of 11 significant Australian and International artists who 'unpacked' the semblance of self through jewellery, as a highly focused activity of visualising, materialising and articulating possibilities of self-knowing. Communicating extremely diverse liminal qualities, traits, or viewpoints of what it is to be a living social human. Once willfully applied/ connected to the relationally active body of a wearer, the nuanced signifiers within these works activate a communication of self, on self. This highly specific action is at the

fundamental core of, what is jewellery.

Exhibition launched by Tara Cheyne MLA and Oliver Smith, respected silversmith and senior lecturer at University of Sydney.

The neck

Vivien Atkinson | Roseanne Bartley | Macarena Bernal | Vernon Bowden | Zoe Brand | Melissa Cameron | Anna Davern | Pennie Jagiello | Cara Johnson | Bridget Kennedy | Claire McArdle | Melinda Young

Curator Bridget Kennedy

The neck, often seen as a sensual part of the body, a site of vulnerability, is also a site of strength, supporting the heavy head, a conduit to our heart and lungs, providing life giving oxygen to our bodies, and nourishment through the ingestion of food. At a time when our planet and humanity seems to be suffocating on many fronts, strangled by powerful, self serving 'leaders', Bridget Kennedy invited selected artists to explore the neck as a vehicle for political, social, and environmental critique.

Exhibition launched by Tara Cheyne MLA and Oliver Smith, respected silversmith and senior lecturer at University of Sydney.

Small connections

Danielle Barrie | Daria Fox | Emma Cuppleditch | Erin Daniell | Gretal Ferguson | Kath Inglis | Katherine Grocott | Polly Dymond | Sarra Tzijan | Zoe Grigoris

Featuring JamFactory Metal Studio staff, tenants and associates, *Small connections* was centred around the concept of connectivity and communication that jewellery offers the giver, receiver and wearer. The relationship people have with jewellery they collect and wear is unlike any other form of art as it can be carried as a token wherever the possessor wishes. Signifying love, faith, status and connection, jewellery is significant in how it as an object links people to each other.

Exhibition launched by Tara Cheyne MLA and Oliver Smith, respected silversmith and senior lecturer at

University of Sydney.

Making: A way of life

Alison Jackson | Dan Lorrimer

Presenting new collaborative work, metalsmiths Alison Jackson and Dan Lorrimer showcased the development, progression and creativity involved in producing small batch edition tableware objects.

Blending small-scale production techniques with one of a kind artwork processes, Alison and Dan explored the skill of the craftsman along with another, perhaps rarer skill, the art of production. That is, the ability to develop, design, make and bring to fruition a collection that is repeatable and more widely accessible to audiences yet retains the character and an element of uniqueness, a hint of the makers hand, that a unique artwork would hold and is often lacking in mass produced products.

Exhibition launched by Tara Cheyne MLA and Oliver Smith, respected silversmith and senior lecturer at University of Sydney.

SHOP showcase: Deep listening

The Deep listening collection celebrated not only bolder action for our Indigenous communities but also more thoughtful listening and self-aware activism. Deep listening celebrated the diverse cultural expressions of Indigenous artists and their engagement with traditional and non-traditional techniques in jewelry, object-making, textiles and glass. These contemporary artists form relationships with the world through bodies of work that were truly more than words.

Block 4/5: 22 July - 16 October 2021

Place markers

Sally Blake

The research for Sally Blake's solo exhibition, Place markers began in 2018/19 by collecting leaves and barks from the ACT eucalypts at the Australian National Botanical Gardens. The plant materials were processed to create dyes to colour threads and cloth to make baskets and works on

paper. Drawings of animals, birds and insects in the ACT eucalypt forests highlighted the flourishing of life these forests protect.

After the dye research was completed 80% of Namadgi National Parks eucalypt forests were burned in the 2019/20 fire season. The fires throughout Australia were so devastating that they have marked a place in history where climate change undeniably declared itself. Blake works with burns, ash, drought-affected burnt leaves and weaving techniques to create works about this huge loss and destruction. After the fires life has begun to regenerate in the forests and Blake's works in copper wire celebrated this renewal.

Exhibition launched by Jodie Cunningham, CEO + Artistic Director, Craft ACT.

Ludere (to play)

Caren Elliss | Alison Smiles

Industrial designer Caren Elliss and ceramic artist Alison Smiles presented a new body of work which explored the joyful potential of the crafted/design object.

Like many great collaborations, Elliss (industrial designer) and Smiles (ceramic artist) came together in the spirit of concept, experimentation and play. Partners in life and practice, they brought contrasting positions on design and technique to a shared interest in exploring new technologies and applying them to contemporary art, craft and design. Specifically, the artists have examined domestic furniture and objects using 3D printing, CNC, laser cutting and mould making, together with the hand made.

This project was generously supported by the Government of South Australia's Arts recovery grant. Exhibition launched by Jodie Cunningham, CEO + Artistic Director, Craft ACT.

SHOP showcase: For wearing

Jewellery is a uniquely empathetic medium that connects us – to art, ideas, and each other. The For wearing showcase was perfect opportunity for buyers to find a thoughtfully crafted piece of jewellery to be collected, passed on and worn for all occasions.

Block 6: 29 October – 14 December 2021

CO:LAB

Cathy Franzi | Alison Jackson | Dan Lorrimer

CO:LAB was a culmination of a year-long Craft ACT pilot professional development and exchange program that forged new directions in the creative industries. Artists' Cathy Franzi, Alison Jackson and Dan Lorrimer were selected and have worked with an architect and their clients to develop a new range of lighting pieces for a residential project in Canberra.

Embracing the spirit of collaboration, these makers have worked across disciplines and have gained exposure to commercial environments with other designers and clients. The exhibition featured the final works and photographs taken during the project.

Exhibition launched by Tara Cheyne MLA.

Transformation: 2021 members exhibition

Ruth Allen | Rolf Barfoed | Sally Blake | Julie Bradley | Ximena Briceno | Estelle Briedis | Maragret Brown | Lisa Cahill | Robyn Campbell | Marilou Chagnaud | Elizabeth Curry | Rozlyn de Bussey | Mel Douglas | Lea Durie | Rose-Mary Faulkner | Dianne Firth | Cathy Franzi | Hannah Gason | Kirandeep Grewal | Michele Grimston | Kirstin Guenther | Jochen Heinzmann | Gerhard Herbst | Sue Hewat | Ruth Hingston | Bev Hogg | Shen-Ju Hsieh | Alison Jackson | Belinda Jessup | Alison Jackson | Ian Jones | Elizabeth Kelly | Dimity Kidston | Valerie Kirk | Nicola Knackstredt | Benedict Laffan | Casandra Layne | Chelsea Lemon |

Bethany Lick | Rene Linssen | David Liu | Dan Lorrimer | Isabelle Mackay-Sim | Will Maguire | Jenny Manning | Daniel Margules | Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello | Cam Michael | Sarah Murphy | Catherine Newton | Peter Nilsson | NOT | Melanie Olde | Kanun Onsel | Emilie Patteson | Sue Peachey | Julie Pennington | Sharon Peoples | Kirstie Rea | Jennifer Robertson | Barbara Rogers | Fran Romano | Brenda Runnegar | Luna Ryan | Julie Ryder | Tamara Schneider | Robert Schwartz | Harriet Schwarzrock | Sam Sheppard | David Suckling | Josephine Townsend | Annie Trevillian | Monique Van Nieuwland | Jo Victoria | Susan Wiscombe | Hiroshi Yamaguchi | Melinda Young | Marissa Ziesing

The 2021 members exhibition, *Transformation*, showcased contemporary expressions of craft and design uniting time-honoured techniques with modern interpretations, in line with Craft ACT's golden anniversary celebrations. This was a showcase exhibition demonstrating the trends in contemporary craft and design in Australia by practitioners from the ACT and surrounding region.

Exhibition launched by Tara Cheyne MLA.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Craft ACT in-gallery public programs

- *Emerging contemporaries* and *Intersections* exhibition opening (February)
- *Intersections* floor talk with artists Janet De Boos and Wendy Teakel (February)
- *Emerging contemporaries* floor talk with artists Daniel Leone, Millie Black, Bling Yiu, Maitlan Brown, Olinda Narayanan, Jonathon Zalakov and Annalise Fredericks (March)
- *Between the earth and sky* and *Essence of cloud* exhibition opening (March)
- *Between the earth and sky* floor talk with Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello and Sharon Peoples (April)
- *Essence of cloud* floor talk with

- Mark Elliott (May)
- *Making: A way of life, Small connections, The neck and Body layer; semblance and self* exhibition opening (May)
- Canberra Secrets tour x3 (May)
- Reconciliation Week Gillawarra Arts weaving workshop (May)
- IGNITE block 3 exhibition tour (June)
- Gillawarra Arts weaving workshop (June)
- *Small connections* floor talk with Emma Cuppleditch, Erin Daniell, Daria Fox, Polly Dymond, Kath Inglis and Sarra Tzijan (June)
- *Making: A way of life* floor talk with Alison Jackson and Dan Lorrimer (June)
- *Body layer; semblance and self* floor talk with Simon Cottrell and Kristina Neumann (June)
- *Ludere (to play)* and *Place Markers* exhibition opening (July)
- CO:LAB floor talk with Dan Lorrimer, Cathy Franzi and Jenny Edwards (November)
- *Transformation* floor talk with Julie Bradley and Michele Grimston (November)
- *Transformation* floor talk with Monique van Nieuwland and Julie Ryder (November)
- *Transformation* floor talk with Robyn Campbell, Kirandeep Grewal and Sharon Peoples (November)
- CO:LAB and *Transformation* exhibition opening (November)

Craft ACT offsite public programs (not including DESIGN Canberra)

- Artists-in-residence: Harriet Schwarzrock and Valerie Kirk completed their research with our 2021 research partner the Geoscience Australia and their residency at Gudgenby Ready-Cut Cottage with our program partner ACT Parks and Conservation Service. (March-April)
- Artist-in-residence open day, Namadgi National Park (April)
- CO:LAB Light House visit (March)
- CO:LAB Design Craft visit (March)
- CO:LAB JamFactory meeting (March)
- CO:LAB Vanessa Hawes visit

- (March)
- CO:LAB John Griggs visit (March)
- CO:LAB Stylecraft visit (March)
- CO:LAB Koskela visit (April)
- CO:LAB Studio Workshopped visit (April)
- CO:LAB Studio Henry Wilson visit (April)
- CO:LAB Studio Mud Australia visit (April)
- CO:LAB Cathy Franzi studio visit (May)
- CO:LAB Alison Jackson and Dan Lorrimer studio visit (May)
- DESIGN Canberra designer-in-residence soiree at Thor's Hammer (July)
- DESIGN Canberra + ITERS Canberra photography walk (July)
- MAKE:OVER digital development sessions held with Coordinate (virtual) (August)
- Fiona Hooton Localjinni talk to members (virtual) (August)
- CIT professional development talk (virtual) (August)
- *Ludere (to play)* virtual interview (August)
- *Glass utopia* at Milan Design week (September)
- Design Diplomacy Italy (November)
- Craft ACT members market stalls at Dairy Road Market (December)

Craft ACT participation in external public programs

- Rachael Coghlan attended Canberra Tourism + Leaders forum (January-June)
- Rachael Coghlan, Kate Nixon and Meagan Jones attended March 4 Justice (March)
- Rachael Coghlan attended University of Canberra design students professional development Q&A (April)
- Madisyn Zabel solo exhibition at Sabbia Gallery, Sydney (May)
- Jodie Cunningham attended Museum next digital learning summit (October)
- Jodie Cunningham and Meagan Jones judged MARSS Australia kids art prize (November)
- Jodie Cunningham and Meagan Jones attended University of Canberra design awards (November)

- Meagan Jones attended CAPO awards (November)
- Meagan Jones attended Canberra Potters members exhibition awards (December)
- Welly McGarry attended Museum next digital exhibition summit (December)

DESIGN CANBERRA NURTURE EVENTS

Mindful making workshops

- Hand felting vessels
- Coiling with colour
- Intuitive markings
- Weaving circle
- Clay hand building for beginners
- Painting special objects
- Mindful layered landscape
- Slow stitching
- Little animals clay building
- Paper garland
- Small spoon carving
- Sensory impressions
- Reflective clay
- Embroidered wall hanging
- Felt finger puppets

Thrive: Professional development workshops

- Make your mark (x2)
- Grow your audience
- Make an online shop

Other events

- Crafternoons (x4)
- Studio stories (x20)
- Creative journaling challenge
- Creative journaling online workshops (x2)
- Online craft and design auction
- Craft and design live auction

MEDIA COVERAGE

Craft ACT publications and media coverage

- The 2021 Craft and Design Planner, *ArtsHub* (January)
- Some craft shows went ahead in 2021, *Canberra Times* (January)
- Artist Hannah Quinlivan explains her light rail stop drawings, *Riot ACT* (January)

- A response to Intersections by Janet DeBoos and Wendy Teakel essay by Dr Sarah Schmidt (February)
- A response to Emerging contemporaries essay by Dr Sarah Schmidt (February)
- What's on in the Canberra arts scene, *Canberra Times* (February)
- Craft show reveals 'deep veins of shared philosophy, *CityNews* (February)
- Emerging artist illustrates connection to nature at Craft ACT exhibition, *Canberra Weekly* (February)
- Emerging contemporaries and Intersections at Craft ACT are impressive, *Canberra Times* (February)
- Emerging contemporaries Craft ACT listing, *Riot ACT* (February)
- What's on in Canberra February 2021, *Canberra Times* (February)
- What's on in Canberra February 2021, *Canberra Weekly* (February)
- Intersections and Emerging contemporaries show diversity of homegrown artistic talent, *HerCanberra* (February)
- Essence of cloud essay by Grace Cochrane AM (March)
- Summer's Tempo essay by Ruth Morgan (March)
- What's on in Canberra for March 2021, *Canberra Weekly* (March)
- The secrets to making it to middle age as an arts organisation, *ArtsHub* (March)
- Opportunities and Awards Wrap, *ArtsHub* (March)
- What's on in Canberra for April 2021, *Canberra Weekly* (April)
- Residency inspires a successful, mature exhibition, *CityNews* (April)
- Mark Elliott, Essence of Cloud, *Garland* (April)
- ICYMI: The week's top news in the arts, *ArtsHub* (April)
- Exploring Between Earth and Sky, *HerCanberra* (April)
- Capital Life April 3, 2021: There's theatre, music and dance on this week, *Canberra Times* (April)
- Review: Between Earth and Sky and Essence of Cloud at Craft ACT are impressive, *Canberra Times* (May)
- Residency in National Park offers transformative career experience, *ArtsHub* (May)
- Meet some of the women who have helped grow craft in Canberra over the past 50 years, *HerCanberra* (May)
- What's on in Canberra for May 2021, *Canberra Times* (May)
- What's on in Canberra's arts scene, *Canberra Times* (May)
- A guide to getting out and about, *Goulburn Post* (May)
- A new F!NK jug - and it's gold, *Canberra Times* (May)
- Attention, collectors: Craft ACT's celebrates 50th anniversary with luxe limited-edition FINK jug, *HerCanberra* (May)
- Local exhibitions to see this week, *HerCanberra* (May)
- Making: A way of life essay by Oliver Smith (May)
- Small connections essay by Rebecca Evans (May)
- The neck essay by Tracey Clement (May)
- Body Layer; Semblance and Self essay by Simon Cottrell (May)
- What's on in Canberra this long weekend, 28-31 May, *Canberra Weekly* (May)
- Are jewellery exhibitions art, and why the recent rise in them?, *ArtsHub* (May)
- Balancing your exhibition and production work, *ArtsHub* (June)
- CEO Coghlan leaves Craft ACT, *CityNews* (June)
- Confident, skilled and living the dream, *CityNews* (June)
- Connectivity and communication through jewellery, *CityNews* (June)
- Craft ACT CEO moving to Parliament House, *Canberra Times* (June)
- Craft ACT exhibitions detail artists' creative journeys during Covid, *Canberra Times* (June)
- Exit interview: Rachael Coghlan, CEO Craft ACT, *Canberra Times* (June)
- The Body Layer; Semblance and Self, *Garland* (June)
- Provocative, inspiring exhibition explores the neck, *CityNews* (June)
- Passionate Jodie will head Craft ACT, *CityNews* (June)
- On the Move: Latest sector appointments and departures, *ArtsHub* (July)
- Ludere (to play) essay by Jemima Kemp (July)
- Place markers essay by Lisa Cahill (July)
- Capital life July 17 2021: PhotoAccess and Craft ACT have new shows, *Canberra Times* (July)
- A champion of the design profession, *Sydney Morning Herald* (August)
- Milan design week highlights: designboom's guide to the 2021 event, *Designboom* (August)
- This Week in the Can, *HerCanberra* (August)
- Sally Blake - Holding hope, *Garland* (August)
- Review: Ludere and Place Markers at Craft ACT are varied, *Canberra Times* (August)
- 'A very grateful accidental cricketer': No armchair ride to the top for Brown, *Sydney Morning Herald* (September)
- For Carol Cooke, the art of collecting is an expression of individuality, *Riot ACT* (September)
- 'Distinctive, iconic and breathtaking': Ainslie's Charred Timber House hits the market, *Riot ACT* (September)
- Lucy Irvine & Davey Barber interventions project, *ABC Art Works* (September)
- Artsday / Three new exhibitions, but just for the weekend, *CityNews* (October)
- Craft ACT's new director has a colourful vision for Canberra, *Riot ACT* (October)
- Capital Life: What's on in the Canberra arts scene from October 23, 2021, *Canberra Times* (October)
- Capital Life: What's on in the Canberra arts scene from October 30, 2021, *Canberra Times* (October)
- CO:LAB essay by Emma Elizabeth (October)
- Questions of intimacy essay by Dr Zsuzsi Soboslay (October)
- Crafts sector seek national policy, *ArtsHub* (October)
- Craft ACT members exhibition + COLAB opening, *Stayhappening* (November)
- Craft ACT's Transformations exhibition is a golden range of works showcasing our best craft artists, *Canberra Times* (November)
- Canberra arts icon Betty Beaver's estate up for auction, *Canberra Times* (November)
- Craft ends the year on a celebratory high, *CityNews* (November)
- Local wine, design and play at the Dairy Road Market, *Riot ACT* (December)
- HerCanberra's Christmas Local Lust List 2021, *HerCanberra* (December)
- Vale 2021: Saluting those we lost, *ArtsHub* (December)
- Ten things to do in Canberra this week (3 - 9 December), *Riot ACT* (December)
- Advent calendar countdown celebrates festive season in the

- city, Canberra Times (December)
- Christmas gift guide: Put 'Canberra' under the tree in 2021, Canberra Times (December)

DESIGN Canberra Nurture media coverage

- Rebooted festival nurtures wellbeing, *ArtsHub* (October)
- 'Nurture' program unveiled by Design Canberra, *CityNews* (October)
- DESIGN Canberra 2021 will be replaced by 'Nurture'—a much-needed dose of art and culture, *HerCanberra* (October)
- DESIGN Canberra Festival might be postponed, but its annual design auction is happening tomorrow night, *HerCanberra* (November)
- Eight things to do on (yet another) rainy weekend, *HerCanberra* (November)
- Design Canberra presents Nurture, My Community Diary (November)
- Nine things to do this weekend (including tonight!) in Canberra, *HerCanberra* (November)
- Six things to do this week in Canberra, *HerCanberra* (November)
- Design Canberra Auction 2021, home.byholly Youtube (November)
- Weekly news wrap with Genevieve Jacobs at Craft ACT, *Riot ACT* Youtube (November)

Radio interviews

- Janet DeBoos and Wendy Teakel, *Art Sound FM* (February)
- Kristina Neumann, *Art Sound FM* (May)
- Interview with Jodie Cunningham about Nurture program, *ABC FM* (October)
- Interview with Jodie Cunningham about Nurture program, *ABC FM* (October)
- Interview with Jodie Cunningham about shopping local, *ABC FM* (December)
- Interview with Jodie Cunningham about shopping local, *ABC FM* (December)

Craft ACT's MAKE:OVER Supporters

Craft ACT would like to thank all of those who have donated to our MAKE:OVER campaign which raised \$12,500 for the professional development of five artists.

Foundations and Trusts:

Darin Cooper Foundation

Circle of Hands (\$5000)

Jenny Edwards, Peta Furnell, Graham Humphries, and Paul Kerr

Future Craft (\$500-1,000 donations):

Rob Henry, Graham Humphries, Light House Architecture & Science, David Marshall, Sue Ranford, Adam Stankevicius, Annie Trevillian, David Williams

Craft Family (\$1-499):

Leslie Abbott, Klara Ahlin, Leonie Andrews, John Avery, Deborah Blackman, Annette Braagaard, Sam Bryant, Margaret Burn, Lucy Caldwell, Jennie Cameron, Sophie Chessell, Rachael Coghlan, Rebecca Coronel, Pam Coronel, Kerry-Anne Cousins, Laura Crick, Janet DeBoos, Wendy Dodd, Jenny Edwards, Joseph Eisenberg, Rebecca Evans, Alex Glouftsis, Libby Gordon, Nancy Gordon, DSGN Homes, Marian Hosking, Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello, Valerie Kirk, Mirah Lambert, R Mahajan, Gina Malouf, Tim McAlister, Virginia McLeod, Kate Nixon, Elizabeth Paterson, Martine Pekarsky, Sharon Peoples, Marylou Pooley, Edward Roberts Builders, Tania Salvestro, Pam Saunders, Oliver Smith, Sue Terry, Belinda Thomas, Sia Tzotzis, Kathryn Vincent, Helen Williams, Ultimate Windows, Janet Wojciechowski

Craft ACT supporters and funding partners

Craft ACT is thankful for the ongoing support and funding given by the ACT and Australian governments, through the Australia Council for the Arts and the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy.

CRAFT + DESIGN CENTRE

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Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian Government and all state and territory governments.

Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre is supported by the ACT Government and the Australia Council for the Arts, the federal government's arts funding and advisory body.

Member of the network of Australian Craft Design Centres (ACDC)



Artist Jennifer Kemarre Martiniello, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Mick Gentleman MLA, artist Sharon Peoples and Manager Events and Visitor Experience, Melissa Barton. Photo 5 Foot Photography





DESIGN Canberra sponsors and partners

DESIGN Canberra is the primary outreach activity for Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre.

Craft ACT gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our partners and sponsors who have rolled over their funding for the 2022 festival.

Our sponsors and partners connect us to like-minded people and share our love of all things design.

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DESIGN Canberra Auction works (L-R): Elizabeth Curry, Phoebe Porter, Bethany Lick, OAT Studio, Tamara Schneider, Sarra Tzijan, Jennifer Robertson, Annette Blair, Eloise White, Francesca Sykes, Lymesmith and Peter Bollington. Photos: Lean Timms.



Thank you

I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who supports Craft ACT in our mission to embed contemporary craft, making, and design at the centre of everyday life in Australia's capital, a global city of design.

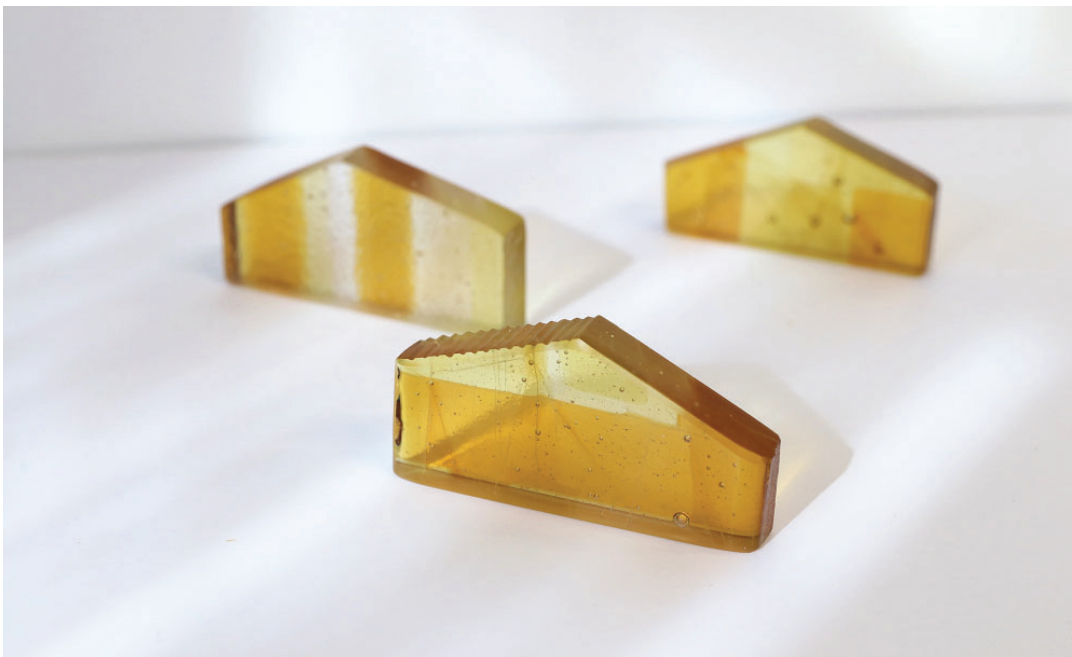
I am especially grateful to our members, who are at the heart of all that we do, as we celebrated 50 years of being the longest-standing membership organisation of its kind in Australia. I am in awe of our member-artist's innovation, skill, and dedication to championing contemporary craft and design in Australia.

We connect the Canberra region's high-quality studio practice to the world with shared passion and commitment. We foster innovation, build collaboration, and champion a secure future for the valued, creative and essential community of contemporary craftspeople, designers, and audiences.

I thank the many members, supporters, funding partners, sponsors, donors, collectors and audience members for their contribution to our 2021 success in a time of ongoing uncertainty. The commitment, dedication, and support for the arts and Australian culture from our generous and engaged partners and supporters have ensured that Craft ACT is in a strong position artistically, financially, professionally, and collaboratively to build our capacity into the future.

I thank our board of management, advisory and committee group members, and, especially, our hardworking staff for their dedication, creativity, flexibility, and tenacity. As the new CEO, I feel honoured to work collaboratively with the Craft ACT community as we move into an optimistic future built on the significant legacy of 50 years of innovation and creative endeavour.

Jodie Cunningham
CEO + Artistic Director
Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre



Photos on pages 14-15:
Craft ACT retail stockists, Chelsea Lemon, Ferro Forma and Eggpicnic. Photo: Georgia Arndell
Mark Elliott, Cloud Essence bottles large tonic and small fragrance with funnel, circa 1870, 2018. Photo: Richard Weinstein
Shen-Ju Hsieh, Dairy Road Markets. Photo: Kelli Donovan

Above: Kirstie Rea, glass sheds, sepical commission for home.byholly. Photo: Craft ACT

Vale



*The firing crew at the end of a firing in 2015, Gundaroo, NSW.
Photo: Courtesy of Ian Jones*



Derek Wrigley. Photo: Courtesy of ANU

In 2021 Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre mourned the loss of former patrons, members, advocates and friends.

Ian Hodgson (1941-2021)

A few words from Ian Jones, Gundaroo

Ian Hodgson passed away on the morning of Sunday 8 August 2021 in the aftermath of a severe stroke he incurred in February. Ian made a massive contribution to the ceramic community in Canberra. He became involved with pottery when he enrolled in the Diploma course at the ANU School of Art upon his retirement, and went on to be President of the Canberra Potters Society for several terms, and was also more recently involved with the Strathnairn Arts Centre. He was a consistent and powerful advocate for ceramics in the Canberra art scene.

My contact with Ian started when he was finishing his Diploma in the late 1990s. I can't remember the exact year, but he wanted his graduating work woodfired, and so began a long relationship that continued up until the present. For over 20 years Ian assisted with almost every firing in my anagama (he refused to come back from Britain for one firing) and was a massive supporter of woodfiring.

He made some great pots, marked with I H arranged like the International Harvester logo and, like International Harvester machinery, he was dogged and consistent. At the end of firings when I was collapsing with tiredness and heat exhaustion Ian would quietly keep side-stoking until the end. However Ian made fewer pots than he should have, as he was always involved with administrative pursuits within the ceramic community.

He made it to 80 years old and leaves behind Jean, their adult children and grandchildren.

Derek Wrigley (1924-2021)

A few words from Amy Jarvis, Canberra Times

Derek Wrigley, a consummate designer whose work through the 20th century and into the 21st was a series of significant yet quiet triumphs for people and their environments, has died. He was 97.

In a career that spanned more than seven decades, Wrigley never wavered from the belief that design had the power to change the world for the better. He made Canberra, a city of bravery, optimism and experimentation, his home and design laboratory. He was awarded an Order of Australia, a life fellowship of the Design Institute of Australia and was inducted into their hall of fame; he was a fellow of the Australian Institute of Architects and was the namesake for the annual Derek Wrigley Award for Sustainable Architecture and an associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Wrigley also made significant contributions to Canberra society including as an active member of the Canberra Art Club, an initiator of the Craft Association of the ACT (now Craft ACT), Wood Group of the ACT, Inventors Association ACT and the Design in Education Council.

He was awarded an Order of Australia, a life fellowship of the Design Institute of Australia and was inducted into their hall of fame; he was a fellow of the Australian Institute of Architects and was the namesake for the annual Derek Wrigley Award for Sustainable Architecture and an associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

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