

# **Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre**

2016 Annual Report



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Cover Image: Robert Foster, *Black Raider*, 2008, teapot, presented in *Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster*, DESIGN Canberra 2016's signature exhibition, which was held in the ActewAGL headquarters. The exhibition celebrated the life and achievements of design luminary Robert Foster (1962–2016) Photo: Madeline McGuigan, Edge Light Photography

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## 2016: The Year In Review

I was honoured to be appointed as the new CEO and Artistic Director of Craft ACT at the end of April 2016 and to lead Craft ACT – an organisation I have admired and respected over many years – through a year of change, of new beginnings and unexpected endings. The 2016 annual report is an opportunity to reflect on the year's achievements and find ways to continue to improve the work that we do to support craft practitioners and designers throughout their careers. Although arts funding continues to be uncertain and, at times, inadequate to fulfil our aspirations across the sector, Craft ACT received welcome news in 2016 of a slightly more secure financial outlook for the

years ahead. We were successful in receiving four-year funding from the Australia Council for the Arts and, late in 2016, the ACT Government announced that the DESIGN Canberra festival would receive financial support for the next four years.

The DESIGN Canberra festival has become Craft ACT's major outreach activity, celebrating and promoting Canberra as a global city of design and providing a high-profile platform to explore interdisciplinary collaboration, and access new audiences and partners for our work. The 2016 program was curated and collaborative and resulted in our biggest, most beautiful and most

ambitious festival. Over a whole month, and at more than 170 events, we showcased the best that the ACT has to offer across all design disciplines.

New on-site and off-site curated exhibitions were ambitious and engaging, presenting and celebrating contemporary craft and design practice and concepts at all levels of experience and across all mediums. The Craft ACT exhibition program is always strong and well supported throughout the year, which is a credit to everyone involved. Highlights included: Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster, which was set among The Journey, his spectacular installation of 'ossolites' in the

ActewAGL headquarters; Reclaim, where designer-makers created high-end objects from waste materials; Judi Elliot's award-winning Black Box: Life, Walls and Houses; and the pop-up exhibition F!NK and Friends, in Craft ACT's new lightbox gallery.

An increased commitment was made in 2016 to forge new and expanded strategic and creative partnerships with businesses and organisations that share our values, to help us promote and celebrate excellence and innovation in contemporary craft and design. Over 100 sponsors and supporters from the broad Canberra community, including the business, tertiary, cultural and industry sectors, partnered with Craft ACT in 2016, and many of these relationships will continue in the years ahead, including with valued partners Rolfe Classic BMW and home.by holly.

Craft ACT was also more international than ever in 2016, hosting visiting international designers and establishing global partnerships with creators in New Zealand, Belgium, Spain, the Philippines and Tonga. As a 40-year-old membership organisation, it is important to maintain and invest in successful programs and enduring relationships. We renewed our energy and commitment to our members and membership program, refocusing our attention on what Craft ACT has done so well over more than 40 years: supporting artists, crafts practitioners, designers and makers at every stage of their careers. The annual members' exhibition featured more members' work than ever, and we took the opportunity to echo Canada's rallying Citizens of Craft movement to connect people with craft. Through exhibition sales, retail operations and festival events, we helped members and artists generate income to support their practice, tripling the previous year's record.

In 2016, we proudly celebrated the 10-year anniversary of the Craft ACT:

Craft and Design Centre's annual artist-in-residence program that gives a leading craft artist, designer or writer the opportunity to immerse themselves in the environment of Namadgi National Park. The anniversary made me reflect that, as CEO, my role is custodian and caretaker, as well as leader: I am just one part of the small but always mighty Craft ACT team and history, which includes current and former board members, dedicated staff, volunteers, members and partners. It is an honour to walk alongside you, and I would like to pay tribute to you all and especially note the incredible contributions in 2016 from Mel George (curator), Julian Hobba (DESIGN Canberra Creative Producer), Richilde Flavell (membership) and Ged Jones (retail).

But, as the Roman philosopher Seneca said, 'Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end'. At the AGM in March 2016, Craft ACT farewelled longstanding CEO Avi Amesbury, whose work in establishing DESIGN Canberra, presenting ambitious and respected programs such as the Australian Ceramics Triennial, and successful application for four-year funding from the Australia Council for the Arts, has placed Craft ACT in a strong position for years to come. Our Braddon-based retail store, Agency, returned to Craft HQ to co-locate with our gallery of beautiful exhibitions and our offices and to

thereby provide a rich, satisfying and sustainable experience for our visitors, stakeholders, community and team.

And finally, it was with the deepest regret and profound sadness that in 2016 we mourned the passing of our friends, mentors, collaborators and inspirations, craft and design icons Robert Foster and Klaus Moje. Their immense contributions to craft and design spanned the globe, and their legacies will endure.

The past year has been one of change, setting the scene for a 2017 full of collaborations and possibilities. We will be taking a group of emerging local designers to Melbourne trade show Denfair, presenting DESIGN Canberra 2017 (featuring a craft and design writer's forum), promoting professional development opportunities, celebrating the 10-year anniversary artist-in-residence exhibition and catalogue, and continuing to champion craft, design and the inspiring work of our members.

We look forward to your continued support, inspiration, encouragement and collaboration.

Rachael Coghlan

CEO, Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre and Artistic Director, DESIGN Canberra





## **CRAFT ACT: Craft and Design Centre Strategic Goals 2017 – 2020:**

**Goal 1:** Support artists to make excellent work, foster experimentation and grow their profile globally

**Goal 2:** Embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander craft and design practice into Australian arts and culture

**Goal 3:** Ensure more audiences have access to, and engage with, Australian craft and design

**Goal 4:** Increase public and private investment in artists and organisational sustainability

# President's Report

2016 was a year of transition and consolidation, achieved alongside projects of ambition and excellence, for which Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre is renowned.

The organisation continues to champion Australian craft and design to national and international audiences, and it is this vision and our reputation for supporting craft artists, designers and makers throughout their careers that gained the support of the Australia Council for the Arts in the allocation of its highly competitive four-year funding of arts organisations announced in 2016. From 2017, we will enter a phase of improved security and growth for Craft ACT as a result of this federal funding commitment, teamed with the ACT Government's welcome support of DESIGN Canberra for a similar period.

In March, we farewelled Avi Amesbury and, in April, welcomed our new, energetic CEO and Artistic Director Rachael Coghlan. Rachael brings more than 20 years' experience working in national cultural institutions to lead Craft ACT into a new period of dynamic and curated artistic programs within our Civic galleries and offsite in new venues. She has already demonstrated her commitment to excellence in interpretation and presentation, strengthened member engagement, established innovative commercial, educational and creative partnerships, improved access and increased visibility, and shaped an ambitious vision for DESIGN Canberra's potential for the

local, national and global design, tourism and business sectors.

Under Rachael's leadership and in response to current economic imperatives, including the changing arts-funding framework, the Board is focused on the long-term financial viability of the organisation. Central to realising the long-term sustainability of benefits to both members and the many audiences who enjoy their work, are the wonderful exhibitions we will continue to enjoy in the Craft ACT gallery. The Board did not take lightly the decision to return the Craft ACT shop to our Civic headquarters, but it has already delivered benefits to the organisation and many members and customers have told us that they prefer the co-location of the gallery, retail and office operations of Craft ACT. As a more sustainable arrangement than previously, this is good news for us.

DESIGN Canberra 2016, Craft ACT's major outreach activity, was another momentous accomplishment with over 170 events from hundreds of participants to an audience reaching a record 69,000 people. Drawing together events and exhibitions from the ACT's design community and cultural institutions, the festival celebrates Canberra as a global city of design, and through this expands the reach and relevance of craft and design practice for our members and partners.

To achieve our goals, Craft ACT relies on support and goodwill from the craft and design community,

from members to audiences to funders and team members. We are grateful for their commitment and enthusiasm. I thank everyone who has supported us in 2016, especially the ACT Government, the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy (an initiative of the Australian, state and territory governments), and the Australian Council for the Arts (the Australian Government's arts funding and advisory body). The support from our generous sponsors has also opened up new opportunities for the organisation and we look forward to continuing collaboration. I sincerely thank my fellow board of management members and would like to note the thoughtful contributions of departing members Stephen Cassidy (a board member since 2014) and Alison Jackson (since 2016), and particularly our long-time treasurer Lyn Valentine (since 2010, resigned at the March 2016 AGM) for their time and expertise, especially during this transitional year. I thank also former CEO Avi Amesbury, who developed Craft ACT from an embryonic organisation into a local flagship with a national and international reach, including the successful DESIGN Canberra initiative. And finally, to the current Craft ACT team of management and staff, thank you for your passion, creativity, ingenuity, optimism and expertise – the board is sincerely grateful for and inspired by the quality of work that you continue to do.

Graham Humphries  
President

# Key Achievements

## ARTIST PARTICIPATION



TOTAL

**959**

↑ 61 FROM 2015

- 156+** in our artistic programs
- 68** stockists (7 new)
- 735** DESIGN Canberra

## INCOME GENERATION FOR ARTISTS



TOTAL

**\$147,731**

income generated ↑ 48% FROM 2015

- \$27,730** Exhibition program
- \$45,336** Retail shop
- \$4663** Artist in Residence
- \$70,000\*** DESIGN Canberra 2016 festival

\*This increased from approximately \$50,000 in 2015, including from open studios and exhibition sales. This outstanding result does not include the highly successful Undercurrent Market sales by artists which could increase total income generation by 400%

Craft ACT also engages designers, craft practitioners and arts workers as casual and part time staff members on their staff to the value of \$246, 578.55

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS



TOTAL

**30,066+**

audience attendance to public programs ↑ 24% from 2015

- 10** Craft ACT gallery public programs  
↑ **3** from 2015
- 7** Craft ACT offsite public programs  
↓ **4** from 2015
- 1066** audience attendance to Craft ACT public programs
- 29,000+** DESIGN Canberra festival (does not include exhibition numbers) ↑ **12, 100** from 2015

## EXHIBITIONS



TOTAL

**49,102**

audience attendance to Craft ACT exhibitions ↑ 57% from 2015

- 13** onsite exhibitions
- + **4** foyer showcases
- + **4** lightbox gallery pop up space  
↑ **5** from 2015
- 4** offsite exhibitions ↑ **1** from 2015
- 42** Members in annual exhibition  
↑ **5** from 2015



## MEMBERS



TOTAL  
**192**

members ↑30% from 2015

- 6** Life Members
- 58** Accredited professional members
- 27** Associate members
- 101** General, student and friend members

## COMMUNICATIONS



TOTAL  
**10,387**

Craft ACT website visits since going live with a new website in July

- 10,387** Craft ACT website visits from July (new website)
- 2081** Craft ACT e-mail subscriber list
- 3456** likes on Craft ACT Facebook
- 1211** followers on new Craft ACT Instagram
- 7** Craft ACT membership communications
- 65,966** DESIGN Canberra website visits
- 847** DESIGN Canberra e-mail subscriber list
- 1611** likes on DESIGN Canberra Facebook
- 1369** followers on new DESIGN Canberra Instagram
- 6** DESIGN Canberra e-newsletters
- 5** DESIGN Canberra sponsorship e-newsletters

## PARTNERSHIPS



**31**

cross-disciplinary partnerships

- 23** from 2015
- 8** International partners ↑1 from 2015
- 5** diplomatic partners ↑2 from 2015

## VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

TOTAL



**6** Interns ↑3 from 2015

**21** Volunteers ↓53 from 2015

**750** volunteer and intern hours valued at **\$20,587.50**

Plus many, many hours of time donated by our energetic, engaged and expert committee members to support the work we do.

# Craft ACT Achievement Dashboard

## DESIGN CANBERRA FESTIVAL 2016 HIGHLIGHTS

Over **69 000** people attended the DESIGN Canberra festival 2016, which was a substantial increase from the 26,000 in attendance in 2015.

The majority of events were free, which ensured accessibility for a diverse audience.

Attendance figures were:

22,000+ at events

40,000+ at exhibitions

2,800+ at Living Rooms

1,000+ at open studios

160+ participating in tours

500+ at activations

77,000+ people attended satellite exhibitions

## DESIGN CANBERRA 2016 PROGRAM

**170+** festival events were presented over 32 days:

54 events

56 exhibitions

16 Living Rooms

27 open studios

8 tours

14 activations



## AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

Of festival audiences, **73 per cent** experienced DESIGN Canberra for the first time in 2016.

New audiences from the under-18 age group were engaged with a focus on programming for children and young people, and the introduction of a successful 'Creative Careers' workshop and Emerging 2016 exhibition at Radford College and Kidscape by the Australian Institute of Landscape Architecture.

*'We learned so much and experienced so much more and felt blessed to be temporarily included in the Canberra design community' – Deborah Biancotti (winner of the urban Walkabout DESIGN Canberra BMW drive competition and Vibe Hotel guest)*

## AUDIENCE BY AGE

Under 18: 10%

10%

18 – 30: 16%

16%

31 – 40: 25%

25%

41 – 50: 22%

22%

51 – 60: 17%

17%

60+: 20%

20%

## PARTICIPATION ACROSS DIVERSE SECTORS



Established artist/designer 18%  
 Mid-career artist/designer 13%  
 Early career artist/designer 20%  
 Government 20%  
 Embassy 3%  
 Community member/design enthusiast 6%  
 Educational institution 6%  
 Cultural institution/gallery 7%  
 Industry 8%  
 Industry/creative 16%



## Over 100 sponsors

and supporters from the broader Canberra community, including the business, tertiary, cultural and industry sectors, helped to make DESIGN Canberra 2016 a success.

## DESIGN CANBERRA VISIBILITY AND IMPACT

Huge advances in impact were made from active strategic and engaged social media and digital marketing in 2016. Word-of-mouth remains the most effective vehicle for raising awareness, which is in line with most cultural activities.



**Extensive media coverage was achieved in print, broadcast and digital platforms:**

**Social Media Reach (Unique Accounts):** 190,000  
**Engagement (Likes, Comments, Shares):** 35,000  
**Digital (Web/Email):** 66,000 Page Views, Average Duration Of 3.09 Minutes  
**Edm Newsletter Subscriber Reach:** 25,000



**Audience by region (web)**

**Canberra/Queanbeyan:** 64.25%  
**New South Wales:** 25.83%  
**Other:** 6.48%

## DESIGN CANBERRA 2016 INCOME GENERATION



Nearly **\$70,000** income was generated by artists and designers as a result of DESIGN Canberra 2016, an increase from the \$50,000 generated in 2015, through open studios and exhibitions.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH IN 2017-2020



Marketing – expand and grow marketing budget from modest \$22,000 in 2016  
 Reach – expand visibility beyond the ACT border and the design sector  
 Buy-in – seek enhanced buy-in from the design and tourism sectors to help DESIGN Canberra realise its potential

# Month by Month

## JANUARY

Curator delivered presentations in the United States



## FEBRUARY

Emerging Contemporaries exhibition

Reminiscences and Reflections exhibition

Looking for the i in desire exhibition

Bula'bula Arts showcase exhibition

Curator's talk by Rohan Nicol, Head, Gold and Silversmithing Workshop and Design Arts coordinator, Australian National University School of Art and Design

Curator's talk to first-year students, Ceramic Workshop, Australian National University School of Art and Design

Dental Hygienist's Association of Australia hosted event at Craft ACT

Q&A with textile artist Monique van Nieuwland and Genevieve Jacobs from ABC 666 at the premiere of the film Gods of Egypt.



## MARCH

Artist talk presented by Sarah Carlson

Artist talk presented by Meredith Hughes

Curator conversation with artist Meredith Hughes

Craft ACT CEO Avi Amesbury retires

## APRIL

Appointment of new Craft ACT CEO, Rachael Coghlan

Group Exchange: 2nd Tamworth Textile Triennale

Connect with Your Nature: Artist-in-Residence exhibition

Alchemy showcase exhibition

Guest curator's talk by Cecilia Heffer

Artist talk by 2015 artist-in-residence, Ruth Hingston

Announcement of a four-year funding program from the Australia Council for the Arts for Craft ACT



## MAY

Members night at Craft ACT

Launch of lightbox gallery

'Meet the Maker' with Alison Jackson and Harriet Schwarzrock

Textiles Week symposium

CEO/Artistic Director presented conferences papers at the Museums Australasia conference in Auckland, New Zealand



## JUNE

Aesthetics in the Time of Emergency exhibition

Crafting Waste exhibition

Mix and Match showcase exhibition

Material Core lightbox gallery exhibition

CEO/Artistic Director presented conferences papers at the Association for Critical Heritage Studies conference in Montreal, Canada

DESIGN Canberra Program Producer delivered a presentation on Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra at ONE DESIGN WEEK, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Craft ACT Instagram account opened





## OCTOBER

'From Maker to Market' conversation with students from the Textiles Workshop at the ANU School of Art and Design

Cultural event with High Commission of Tonga hosted at Australian Defence Force Academy

## JULY

Embracing Innovation: Volume 6 exhibition

Black Box: Life, Walls and Houses exhibition

First Showing lightbox gallery exhibition

FINK & Friends lightbox gallery exhibition

Craft ACT store, Agency, relocated to Craft ACT headquarters

Artist talks with Judi Elliott

## SEPTEMBER

Citizens of Craft exhibition

Grow Your Own exhibition  
A Decade in the High Country, offsite exhibition at Namadgi Visitors Centre

Artist-in-Residence Celebration Day held at Namadgi Visitors Centre

Craft ACT marquee at Floriade

Artist-in-residence demonstrations at Floriade

Artist-in-residence demonstrations and classes at the National Arboretum Canberra



## NOVEMBER

DESIGN Canberra 2016 festival (170+ events)

City of Design, online exhibition

Reclaim exhibition

Mitchell/Fuller: Moving Forward, Looking Back exhibition

Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster, offsite exhibition in the foyer of ActewAGL headquarters

Studio CBR: In the Making, offsite exhibition at the Canberra and Region Visitors Centre

Golden Tangerine, offsite exhibition at Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport

Youth for a Liveable Cebu showcase exhibition

The Uniform Project lightbox gallery exhibition

## AUGUST

New Craft ACT website and online shop launched

Artist talks with Carlos Montana Hoyos and Guy Keulemans

Curator Mel George gave a presentation to students at the ANU School of Art and Design

Future Possible: Re-directing Design, conversation at Gorman Arts Centre  
SEPTEMBER

Citizens of Craft exhibition

Grow Your Own exhibition

A Decade in the High Country, offsite exhibition at Namadgi Visitors Centre

Artist-in-Residence Celebration Day held at Namadgi Visitors Centre

Craft ACT marquee at Floriade

Artist-in-residence demonstrations at Floriade

Artist-in-residence demonstrations and classes at the National Arboretum Canberra



## DECEMBER

Pop-up retail shop, lightbox gallery







Embracing Innovations: Volume 6 exhibition opening  
Taimara Etrat, Moran Mizrahi and Dr. Amit Zoran, Crafted  
Technology Photo: Madeline McGuigan, Edge Light  
Photography

## Goal 1: Artistic Excellence

### Exhibitions

At the heart of Craft ACT's core business are our annual exhibition program and a commitment to artistic excellence. Throughout the year, visitors to Craft ACT can experience the best of contemporary craft and design. The exhibition program champions local makers and puts their work in conversation with the best national and international practitioners. The annual artistic program showcases and supports recent graduates and early career artists through to high-calibre, iconic practitioners as well as craft and design researchers. The program is diverse and innovative, supporting experimental and traditional exhibitions, as well as hosting regional, national and international projects.

In 2016 Craft ACT gallery exhibitions honoured local design icons and elevated the best emerging practitioners. Judi Elliot, the first graduate of the Canberra School of Art Glass Workshop, was invited to present her first local solo show in over a decade. Judi's career has received international recognition through dedicated practice over a long period and her success reflects her diligence and artistry. It was time to celebrate Judi's work and the exhibition earned her the

'Canberra Critics Circle award for Best Exhibition 2016'.

F!NK & Friends responded quickly and personally to the tragic and untimely passing of local design legend Robert Foster. The Fink & Co family, former associates of Robert through his design practice, were invited to contribute an item that, for them, captured the spirit of Robert's practice. Geoffrey Crossick, Chair of the UK Crafts Council, visited the exhibition and wrote in response, 'it is when craft, making and memory come together that the power of an object can become so compelling'.

Citizens of Craft, the Craft ACT Annual Accredited Professional Member's exhibition presented in September/October, featured 42 accredited professional and associate members, an increase in participation compared to recent times. The exhibition embodied a rededication by Craft ACT to the potential of the annual members' show. The exhibition demonstrated the very best local practice and, adopting the inspiring Craft Ontario Citizens of Craft rallying cry, framed the work as essential to the everyday life of the community in which our members live and work.



Judi Elliott's solo exhibition *Black Box: Life, Walls and Houses* received the Canberra Critics Circle award for Best Exhibition 2016. Photo: Rob Little

Reclaim was a great success of the 2016 exhibition program, as nine local makers produced original, high-quality work from materials recycled with the generous support of local business The Green Shed. The show was a genuine community partnership and applied design to the urgent global challenge of managing excessive amounts of waste. The resulting sense that materials of seemingly no value could have value restored to them was an inspiring message to emanate from Craft ACT.

Craft ACT proudly hosted some exceptional artists and work from around Australia. In *Aesthetics in the Time of Emergency*, craft practitioners tackled important contemporary issues including nuclear disaster, climate change and water conservation. *Grow Your Own* was a forest of deceptively technical glass art by practitioners from three states. *A hot house* of everything from beetroots to wall stags, the show delighted in the colours and textures of plant life. And, in *Group Exchange: 2nd*

*Tamworth Textile Triennial*, Craft ACT hosted the exemplary exhibition for contemporary Australian textile-based practice.

Of the exhibitions that were presented in the Craft ACT gallery, 10 were invited as a result of the annual expressions of interest and peer review process.

DESIGN Canberra 2016 provided a platform for a series of offsite exhibitions that extended the reach of Craft ACT and the visibility of work by our member artists into the broader community.

*Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster*, curated by Grace Cochrane, was the most visible and celebrated of the exhibitions in DESIGN Canberra 2016. A celebration of the life and achievements of a local design icon, the exhibition encompassed Robert's work, both from F!NK and from his personal collection. The exhibition was set among, *The Journey*, his spectacular installation of 'ossilites' in the headquarters of ActewAGL, which supported the festival for the

first time. As well as the 49 pieces handmade by Robert from 1987 to 2016, the exhibition included 50 F!NK jugs that were loaned to the exhibition by members of the community.

Studio CBR: *In the Making* was a unique and innovative profile of Canberra's leading craft and design figures and the contribution they make to Canberra as a creative city. Craft ACT, Brand CBR and the University of Canberra collaborated to present photographic portraits of 12 member artists, taken by celebrated local photographer Adam McGrath, in an exhibition at the new Canberra and Region Visitors Centre. ACT Arts Minister Gordon Ramsay participated in a public conversation with Tom Skeeahan about the importance of design to the local economy and community. *Golden Tangerine* exhibited the work of glass artist Elizabeth Kelly in the lobby of the architectural-award-winning Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport, signalling an increasing emphasis on creating opportunities for craft artists across a broader range of sectors.



## Research

The annual Embracing Innovation: Volume 6 exhibition showcases the work of local makers in the context of national and international research-led craft practice. It continues to explore new ways of thinking about craft and design and new materials. For example, the 2016 exhibition displayed stained-glass artist Dorothy Hardy's solar panels embedded in individual panes of glass as a proposed energy source for buildings. Canberra-based artist Jennifer Robertson worked in collaboration with Emeritus Professor Ian Jackson at the Australian National University's Research School of Earth Sciences to develop rock-based threads for textile art. The exhibition produced a series of talks on research and innovation in craft and design, including with the Public Sector Innovation Network and in collaboration with Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centre's Future

Possible series, which hosted Dr Eleni Kalantidou speaking about 'Re-directing design'.

DESIGN Canberra continues to provide a high profile and accessible platform for the discussion of research and innovation in craft and design from around the world. An increasing number of national and international guests in 2016 invited fresh consideration of what Canberra can contribute to, and learn from, trends in global design thinking. Renew Australia founder Marcus Westbury discussed the national experience of experiments in urban design, activating unused city buildings by creating thriving maker spaces and supporting creative industry. Filipino 'trashion' designer and artist Francis Sollano spoke, and ran workshops on, design-oriented urban and environmental activism in a developing country. Iconic New

Zealand designer David Trubridge explored global issues of intellectual property, international promotion and trends in the global design trade. And Italian-Belgian Artistic Director of Reciprocite Design Liege Giovanna Massoni directed a conversation on leading practice in design for social inclusion, presenting to a large audience in collaboration with the Institute of Public Administration Australia. She also participated in the 'Digital/Material: A Conversation on Contemporary Design and Making' forum hosted by the Australian National University School of Art and Design. Digital/Material brought together six craft and design practitioners who are leading the application of digital technology to craft practice in Australia, including Iain Maxwell (Supermanouvre), Cinnamon Lee, Lucy Irvine, Kate Sweetapple and Jacquie Lorber-Kasunic, and Ben Landau (Alterfact).



*Jennifer Robertson, Square, large (2D Lattice Symmetries Series) 2015, stainless steel, silk, linen, handwoven on digital loom, double cloth with supplementary weft. Photo: courtesy of the Artist*



Tundi-Rose Hammond, 'Olaf' the XL coil creature 2015, cable ties, packing foam and digital media. Photo: courtesy of the artist

## Professional Development

Emerging Contemporaries is Craft ACT's springboard for emerging artists, putting their work in a professional context by giving them a high-end exhibition in their first five years of practice. The exhibition is drawn from the winners of Craft ACT National Awards, which in 2016 included students from University of Canberra, the Australian National University and RMIT as well as a JamFactory associate and artists from Tasmania and the Northern Territory.

A number of professional development opportunities were offered as part of DESIGN Canberra 2016. The festival incorporates and supports offsite exhibitions, providing artistic and marketing development opportunities for emerging curators, makers and thinkers. In 2016 these included Appliance, by Ruby Berry and Isabelle Mackay Sim, Coming from the Six: A Furniture Exhibition, featuring the work of Six Wiluna, and Manifesto, an exhibition of architectural manifestos from students at the University of Canberra.

Member artists were invited to curate pop-up exhibitions of craft and design in the Living Rooms program of open homes, which was the breakout success of the 2016 festival. The open studios program brought the general public to the workspaces of member artists who could demonstrate their practice and sell their work direct to an appreciative public. David Trubridge offered a small masterclass seminar session for emerging industrial designers and furniture makers before his public keynote address.

## Public Programs

Craft ACT celebrated the 10-year anniversary of the artist-in-residence program in 2016. Over the last decade, the program has established deep artistic roots and formed a close partnership between Craft ACT and the ACT Parks and Conservation Service. To mark the occasion, a Celebration Day was held at the Namadgi Visitors Centre on Saturday 17 September 2016 and featured presentations by past residents Sally Blake, Marily Cintra, Ruth Hingston, Marian Hosking, Mary Hutchison, Paull McKee, Annee Miron, Bernard Morris, Kirstie Rea, Joanne Searle, and Zsuzsi Soboslay. The 2016 residents, Cathy Franzi and Sione Maileseni (Kingdom of Tonga), took part in the Celebration Day as

part of their residency, as well as presenting classes and workshops at Floriade and the National Arboretum Canberra, which was the 2016 research partner organisation.

Canberra textile artist Monique van Nieuwland was commissioned to provide costume elements for the Hollywood film *Gods of Egypt*. To coincide with the film's opening night in Canberra, a Q&A session with Monique was held at Dendy Cinemas with Genevieve Jacobs of ABC local radio 666.

Talks were held throughout 2016 as an adjunct to the exhibition program. Of particular note was a presentation by Sydney-based curator, researcher, lecturer and artist Cecilia Heffer

in association with the travelling exhibition, *Group Exchange: 2nd Tamworth Textile Triennial*. Cecilia shared her extensive knowledge of Australia's dynamic contemporary textile practice.

DESIGN Canberra festival expanded in 2016 from nine days to a 31-day festival. The program featured over 170 events, exhibitions, talks, tours and other activities and attracted in excess of 69,000 attendees.



*The 10-year Artist-in-Residence Celebration Day, in collaboration with ACT Parks and Conservation at the Namadgi Visitors Centre, featured presentations by Sally Blake, Marily Cintra, Cathy Franzi, Ruth Hingston, Marian Hosking, Mary Hutchison, Sione Maileseni, Paull McKee, Annee Miron, Bernard Morris, Kirstie Rea, Joanne Searle and Zsuzsi Soboslay. Photo: Madeline McGuigan, Edge Light Photography*



Kieren Karritpui McTaggart, *Fishnet on Linen*  
This work featured in the exhibition *Emerging Contemporaries*. Photo: *Dream Pieces*

## Goal 2: First Peoples

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

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In 2016, we sought Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation across all of our artistic and public programs, including exhibitions, the artist-in-residence program, DESIGN Canberra and through retail opportunities. Some of the artists included in these programs during 2016 were:

- Marley Djangarri, Yolngu artist
- Linda Ganyila, Yolngu artist
- Kieren Karritpul McTaggart, Ngen'gi wumirri artist
- Margaret Kemarre Ross, Kemarre artist
- Wayne Simon, Biripi artist
- Rudy Mungulama Bidingal, Yolngu artist
- Sandra Wuthangl Burrawanga, Yolngu artist
- Helen Djaypil Guyula, Yolngu artist
- Mavis Djulpining Marrkula, Yolngu artist
- Kathy Walawun Guyala, Yolngu artist
- Penny Evans, Kamilaroi/ Gamilaraay artist

Previous Craft ACT initiatives, such as Selling Yarns (2013), provide a solid foundation from which the organisation can continue to pursue expanded Indigenous participation and engagement. In 2016 Craft ACT sought external grant funding from multiple sources to support dedicated Indigenous programs and projects. We initiated a partnership with Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair and Bula'bula Arts for future exhibition and program collaboration.





Hiroshi Yamaguchi led workshops at his open studio during DESIGN Canberra 2016. Photo: Madeline McCuigan, Edge Light Photography

## Goal 3: Access

*Ensure more audiences have access to, and engage with, Australian craft and design*

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### Participation and Attendance

Craft ACT continues to seek new ways to engage the public in an appreciation of, and conversation about, contemporary craft and design.

In 2016, there were 13 on-site exhibitions in the Craft ACT Gallery, one more than in 2015. Overall visitation to Craft ACT exhibitions, both onsite and offsite, increased to 28,769, a 15 per cent increase on 2015. The offsite exhibitions held as part of DESIGN Canberra 2016 festival contributed significantly to the increase in exhibition visitation.

A number of new initiatives within DESIGN Canberra 2016 tangibly increased access to local design for new audiences. The Living Rooms program was a series of open homes held each Sunday of the festival, giving public access to acclaimed architecturally designed houses.

With 2,800 visitors over four days, the program was the breakout success of the 2016 festival. Each home had a pop-up exhibition by a local member artist, designer or collective, curated by an emerging designer. This exposed local work to new audiences – 73 per cent of the DESIGN Canberra 2016 audience attended the festival for the first time. Similarly, the Golden Tangerine exhibition of glass art by Elizabeth Kelly in the foyer of Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport, exposed her work to thousands of visitors to the hotel over the course of the month, as well as pairing an artist with a potential business partner. Open Studios, Undercurrent Markets and other events put artists and designers directly in contact with the general public. These programs are the groundwork for increasing opportunities for artists through participation in DESIGN Canberra festival.

Strategic programming partnerships continued to diversify the points of entry to DESIGN Canberra. In 2016 the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) had the rare opportunity to host the International Federation of Landscape Architecture conference in Canberra and, as part of that, incorporated into DESIGN Canberra an impressive public program including talks, tours, parties and activations, notably Backyard Experiment, a re-imagining of Garema Place; and Kidscape, a day of landscape co-design activities for children in Haig Park. Craft ACT partnered with Radford College to present 'Creative Careers' at which approximately 100 aspiring designers – mostly young people – were able to hear the life lessons of 10 established design professionals from Canberra and overseas. The inaugural Contour 556 – Public Art Festival was another highly valuable

programming partnership for DESIGN Canberra. Activating a large stretch of the Lake Burley Griffin foreshore with public art, the festival explored an ongoing interest of DESIGN Canberra – experimentation in creativity and the design of public space.

DESIGN Canberra 2016 ran from 27 October – 25 November with the intent to position DESIGN Canberra as a key opportunity to promote and celebrate Canberra as a global city of design. The signature events and exhibitions of the 2016 festival established a benchmark of quality for DESIGN Canberra and embedded partnerships that will serve the festival into the future. The festival was successful across all measures of attendance and participation, proving, once again, the broad

community appreciation for a major event celebrating Canberra as a centre for creativity, design and innovation.

The ACT Government has committed to supporting DESIGN Canberra from 2017–20, giving certainty to the annual presentation of the festival. This allows for the development of legacy projects that contribute to, as well as celebrate, Canberra’s design culture. Strategies enabling higher levels of marketing and tourism promotion will be implemented over time. Craft ACT is committed to developing DESIGN Canberra as a platform to position its members’ work as central to daily life and grow their ability to collaborate across sectors and realise market opportunities.

#### In 2016, DESIGN Canberra:

- Extended in duration from 9 to 31 days
- Included over 170 events
- Attracted 69,000 attendees, increased from 26,000 in 2015
- Attracted new attendees, 73 per cent of whom were attending for the first time
- Enjoyed participation from artists across all career stages: established artists (18 per cent), mid-career artists (13 per cent) and early career artists (20 per cent)
- Generated nearly \$70,000 of income directly to artists and designers, increasing from \$50,000 in 2015



*If I could change Canberra, DESIGN Canberra 2016 activation project. Bev Hogg at her open studio during DESIGN Canberra 2016. Photos: Madeline McGuigan, Edge Light Photography*



**Attendance at DESIGN Canberra 2016 can be broken into the following program elements:**

- Events: 22,000
- Exhibitions: 40,000
- Living Rooms: 2,800
- Open Studios: 1,000
- Tours: 160
- Activations: 500

In addition to the 69,000 attendees, approximately 77,000 people attended satellite exhibitions presented by external organisations during the festival.

**International**

Craft ACT enables a dynamic exchange of contemporary craft and design ideas and practice through our exhibition and public programs. We provide the ACT and region with the opportunity to view and appreciate the best local practice and contextualise it within national and global trends. We engage with national and international organisations and design experts to promote Canberra as a global city of design and place of excellence in contemporary craft.

DESIGN Canberra 2016 stepped up the festival’s level of international engagement, attracting four leading international designers and thinkers. The visit of Filipino “trashion” and installation artist Francis Sollano was a major, and multi-faceted, aspect of the festival program. He engaged closely with ACT Government partners on his work in sustainability and socially inclusive design as Executive Director of Youth for a Livable Cebu. His own practice as a fashion designer using recycled materials was publicly linked to the work of local artists involved in Reclaim through a front-page article in the Canberra Times.

Artistic Director of Reciprocite Design Liege Giovanna Massoni delivered and participated in a series of talks exploring the latest international design trends, including



in conversation with National Gallery of Australia Director Gerard Vaughan about the relevance of design in contemporary society. She addressed an audience from the Institute of Public Administration Australia on the subject of a Design Liege flagship project Welcome to Seraing, about design for social inclusion and, through the Digital/Material forum at the Australian National University, she met Australian designers who apply digital technology in their fields.

In partnership with the New Zealand High Commission, DESIGN Canberra 2016 brought iconic lighting and furniture designer David Trubridge and designer thinker Jim Scully (a Director of Thinkplace New Zealand) to Australia for the festival. David inspired a group of students and aspiring designers with a free

seminar about 'how to be a designer today', speaking about career pathways and possibilities in design. He gave a keynote address on why beauty should be a guiding star for designers navigating the urgent need for sustainable and ethical practice. Jim led roundtable workshops on city activation and began a process of strategic planning for DESIGN Canberra with Craft ACT that will continue through Thinkplace in Canberra in 2017.

Through DESIGN Canberra, Craft ACT enjoyed collaborations with a number of embassies. The Embassy of Belgium brokered a relationship with the Wallonia and Brussels Trade and Investment Office to support the visit of Giovanna Massoni and held a reception as part of her visit. The Spanish Embassy ran the Inside / Out design competition that was

open to students from the University of Canberra, Monash University and University of Technology Sydney for the design of a shelter at the Spanish Embassy in Yarralumla. The Embassy of the Philippines supported the visit of Francis Sollano and his colleague Stephanie Jarina, including brokering the support of Cebu Pacific Airlines; and the New Zealand High Commission supported the visits of David Trubridge and Jim Scully. An international cultural roundtable involving the NZ Deputy High Commissioner, the British Council Australia, Giovanna Massoni, the Australian National University and several national and local cultural institutions was timed to coincide with Canberra in Wellington Week.

The annual artist-in-residence program continues to attract strong interest from artists around the



*Designer David Trubridge presented a lecture and workshops during the DESIGN Canberra 2016.*



world. In 2016 applications were received from 15 international makers from places as diverse as Scotland, Mexico and the Solomon Islands. This was four more international applications than were received in 2015. Sione Maileseni, a 2016 participant from the Kingdom of Tonga, engaged with the beautiful bush landscape around Canberra as a means of fostering common understandings about craft practice.

### Media

Craft ACT continues to enjoy widespread media coverage for its exhibitions and public programs, including in national and international craft and design publications. An independent public relations consultant was engaged in 2016 to pursue media opportunities

for our programs.

A highlight of exhibition coverage in 2016 was the reflection by Geoffrey Crossick, Chair of the UK Crafts Council, on his visit to the F!NK & Friends exhibition, that was published in leading UK publication *Crafts: A Magazine for Contemporary Craft*. *Aesthetics in the Time of Emergency* was the subject of a feature article by Geelong-based curator Simon Gregg in *Garland Magazine*.

DESIGN Canberra provided a particular focus for media attention in 2016. The festival achieved 39 print and online articles and seven radio interviews. Of particular note was a front-page image and story in the *Canberra Times* that highlighted the visit of Filipino artist Francis Sollano and linked his work, in

which he makes high-end fashion out of recycled materials, to the work of Canberra artists exhibiting in Reclaim. Also, the media gave significant and positive coverage to the work of textile and print artist, Megan Jackson, a Craft ACT member who designed the festival's poster.

### Online

Craft ACT worked hard in 2016 to achieve strategic online engagement via active, targeted, social media campaigns and a new website and online shop. There were 10,387 visits to the new Craft ACT website following its launch in July.

#### Craft ACT media coverage for 2016 included:

- Radio: 8 placements
- Online: 30+ placements
- Print: 20+ placements
- Social media: 50+ placements across interstate bloggers, local influencers, and local media outlets

#### DESIGN Canberra 2016

Social media was used as a strategic and effective channel to promote DESIGN Canberra 2016 and it successfully targeted local and interstate bloggers, influencers and media. As a result, DESIGN Canberra 2016:

- Enjoyed new levels of social media engagement: 190,000 unique social media accounts reached and approximately 35,000 individual engagements (likes, shares, comments)
- Had approximately 66,000 individual web page views at an average visit duration of 3.09 Minutes
- Reached 25,500 edm subscribers



Opening Party at Vibe Hotel Image: Madeline McCuigan Edge Light Photography

## Goal 4: Sustainability

*Increase public and private investment in artists and organisational sustainability*

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Harriet Schwarzart's winter work at Undercurrent Markets, which will be held at the National Portrait Gallery during the London Cambera 2016. Photo: Madeline McCaughey, Edge Light Photography





## Sponsorship

Strategic and creative partnerships are critical for the future growth and sustainability of Craft ACT – their importance cannot be overstated. Financially, the contributions of our partners enable Craft ACT to deliver its exhibition, artist-in-residence and public programs, including DESIGN Canberra. More than that, however, the partnerships we enjoy with government, universities, business, education and philanthropic bodies are the means by which Craft ACT will continue to improve its delivery of its strategic goals: to support artists to make excellent work, to embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander craft and design practice in Australian culture, and to increase access to Australian craft and design. Having engaged and active partners with whom we work to mutual benefit expands the reach and relevance of our work as we share networks and resources. It keeps, and makes, our work relevant to the needs of the community of which we are part and places craft and design in the consciousness of a broad cultural and economic conversation.

In 2016, we continued our longstanding and highly valued collaboration with the ACT Parks and Conservation Service on the artist-in-residence program, which also aligned with the research partner the National Arboretum Canberra.

The change in organisational leadership and management of DESIGN Canberra brought fresh eyes to the partnership needs of the festival. It is, of course, notable and welcome that the ACT Government has committed to annual funding for DESIGN Canberra. The funding provides certainty to the festival's annual presentation by covering



staffing costs and gives us the confidence to enter into longer term partnerships that will support the festival to embed its long-term sustainability and provide continuing increases in programming and marketing resources.

DESIGN Canberra 2016 was a resounding success in terms of the partnerships it created. Special effort was made to give partners value from their participation, through creative opportunities, regular and comprehensive communication, recognition appropriate to their contributions and, most importantly, a sense of mutual endeavour and purpose. Many of the supporters of the festival in 2016, understanding the potential benefits of giving the festival a sense of continuity over time, have already indicated their continuing support in 2017 and, in some cases, 2018 as well.

Craft ACT will continue the tailored and individualised approach we have taken with our partner organisations into future years, ensuring mutual areas of interest and alignment with Craft ACT's strategic goals. For example, through close engagement with Craft ACT programs, two of our high-level partners, Rolfe Classic BMW and home.by holly, provide support as Platinum Partners of DESIGN Canberra, but also support exhibitions on themes that coincide with their values. In 2016, Rolfe Classic BMW supported Embracing Innovation: Volume 6, which showcases the best innovative design practice, and home.by holly supported the Citizens of Craft members' exhibition, an exposition of the beautiful and bespoke in contemporary craft.

**Craft ACT's many valued partner organisations in 2016 are:**

**Financial partners**

- ACTsmart
- ACT Government: City and Town Centre Activation Unit and Graffiti Unit
- Australian Institute of Architects
- Australian National University
- Brand CBR
- Events ACT
- Frost Collective
- Home.by holly
- In the City Canberra
- Rolfe Classic BMW
- MMD Custom Design
- New Zealand High Commission
- The Green Shed
- University of Canberra

**Supporters**

- Australian Institute of Landscape Architects
- Embassy of Belgium
- Embassy of the Philippines / Cebu Pacific
- Her Canberra
- KPMG
- Vibe Hotel
- Zoo Design

**Major Program Partners**

- Australian Institute of Architects
- Australian Institute of Landscape Architects
- Australian National University
- Canberra Glassworks
- Canberra Institute of Technology
- Canberra Potters Society
- Megalo Print Studio
- National Gallery of Australia
- National Portrait Gallery
- University of Canberra

**Collaborative Partnerships**

- ACTsmart
- ACT Government City and Town Centre Activation Unit
- ACT Government Graffiti Unit
- Art Monthly Australasia
- Australian Graphic Design Association
- Australian Institute of Architects
- Australian Institute of Landscape Architects
- Australian National Capital Artists (ANCA)
- Australian National University
- Bilk Gallery
- Canberra Glassworks
- Canberra Institute of Technology
- Canberra Potters Society
- Canberra and Region Visitors Centre
- Contour 556 – Public Art Festival
- Dendy Cinemas Canberra
- High Commission of Tonga
- Impact Comics
- In the City Canberra
- Megalo Print Studio
- Mocan & Green Grout
- Namadgi Visitors Centre
- National Arboretum Canberra
- National Gallery of Australia
- National Portrait Gallery
- Public Sector Innovation Network
- Radford College
- The Green Shed
- University of Canberra
- Undercurrent Markets
- Vibe Hotel
- Watson Arts Centre

## Membership

In 2016 there was renewed energy and commitment to support and build the membership of Craft ACT. As well as continuing high-level exhibition opportunities, we concentrated on refining our existing member benefits and creating and promoting new opportunities, whether through the DESIGN Canberra festival or the Craft ACT shop. Emphasis was placed on making direct contact with members and potential members to encourage their active engagement and understanding of membership benefits.

Member benefits have already been extended to include exclusive access for Craft ACT members to the artist-in-residence national expression-of-interest process, access to

the lightbox gallery at our Civic Square headquarters, the waiving of participation fees for DESIGN Canberra and member discounts for DESIGN Canberra ticketed events. Personal injury insurance cover was offered as an inexpensive add-on to enhance members' insurance coverage.

These initiatives resulted in Craft ACT exceeding 2016 targets for membership numbers overall, and for new and retained accredited professional members. There are now 192 members, compared with 148, in 2015, an increase of 23%. Plans for more membership benefits are being developed, including exclusive access to being a Craft ACT Shop stockist.



Annie Trevillian at her open studio during DESIGN Canberra 2016. Architects Bronwen Jones and Steven Cetreck during the DESIGN Canberra 2016 Living Rooms program featuring a pop-up exhibition of work by Christine Atkins. Photos: Madeleine McCuigan, Edge Light Photography



## Revenue

Craft ACT exceeded its target for income growth to artists by ↑48% from 2015 to 2016.

Income for artists, by source, was as follows:

- Exhibition program \$27,730
- Retail shop \$45,336
- Artist-in-residence program \$4663
- DESIGN Canberra 2016 festival \$70,000

Total income generated directly by artists and designers as a result of Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra 2016 was \$147,731.40

The board and management of Craft ACT decided in June 2016 to relocate the retail store, Agency, to Craft ACT headquarters to co-locate with our gallery of beautiful exhibitions and our offices and to thereby provide a rich, satisfying and sustainable experience for our visitors, stakeholders, community and team.

The 2016 audited financial reports are available at the 2016 Annual General Meeting and on request.

New retail stockists include

- Gemma Simpson, ACT
- Chelsea Lemon, ACT
- Polka Luka, ACT
- Anna Gianakis, ACT
- Hannah Gason, ACT
- Sarah Murphy, ACT
- Anne Masters, ACT

# Board, staff, committees, volunteers, interns

## Board of Management

**Graham Humphries**  
President  
Fellow, Cox Architecture

Graham is a leader in his field of design excellence and architecture and his lengthy career has honed his expertise in international project management and experience serving on government advisory committees

2013

**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, as well as financial reporting, asset accounting, management accounting, general finance and management consulting. Sam is skilled in the preparation of risk management and compliance audits. He holds an MBA and has demonstrated experience with the governance requirements of the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997.

2016

**Alison Jackson**  
Secretary/Public Officer  
Canberra-based gold and  
silversmith

Alison's work focuses on tableware and wearables. Her small-run production work is recognised within the craft and design industry and she has established a successful creative business. Alison has exhibited her one-off work throughout Australia and internationally, including at Milan Design Week. She has been the recipient of many notable awards and grants and is held in public and private collections.

2016

**Liam Early**  
Associate  
Clayton Utz: Commercial Law

Liam holds Bachelor of Law and Bachelor of Arts degrees and is currently studying a Masters of Professional Accounting. His excellent negotiating skills are derived from his expertise in property law, intellectual property rights and trade-marking processes and human resource management.

2014

**Helen O'Neil**

Past President  
Country Director, Australia British  
Council

Helen's leadership in board roles in the national, public and not-for-profit arts sector is based on her senior management and advisory experience in marketing and communications, governance and legislative processes.

2013

**Stephen Cassidy**

Cultural researcher, writer and  
commentator

Stephen has worked in federal government policy development and programs such as national cultural policy, national Indigenous languages policy, and policy relating to cultural institutions and arts organisations.

2014

**Rohan Nicol**

Head of Gold and  
Silversmithing, Design Arts  
Degree coordinator  
ANU School of Art

Rohan is an artist, academic and curator with interests encompassing jewellery, silversmithing and design. He holds qualifications from the Australian National University and Charles Sturt University, from which he was awarded a PhD. His awards include the prestigious Bombay Sapphire design award and funding to conduct research from the Australia Council and Australian universities. He regularly exhibits at peak venues in Australia and internationally. His work is held in collections including the Powerhouse Museum and the National Gallery of Australia.

2016

**Tracy Ireland**

Associate Professor of  
Cultural Heritage, Faculty of  
Arts and Design, University of  
Canberra

Tracy has over 25 years' experience across government, business and academic sectors. She has expertise in strategic and cultural planning, cultural policy and ethics, cultural and community-based research. She is experienced in senior management, executive and advisory roles and has a strong record of community service, particularly through Australia ICOMOS.

2016

**Rachael Coghlan**

Ex-officio  
CEO, Craft ACT: Craft and Design  
Centre and Artistic Director, DESIGN  
Canberra

Rachael is an experienced senior manager and has held several leadership roles in national cultural institutions, shaping strategic planning and the full continuum of visitor engagement from audience development, exhibitions and events, to digital and external communications. She is a PhD candidate at the Australian National University exploring opportunities to democratise the museum experience using audience participation.

2016



## Staff

In addition to 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 \$246,578 in 2016.

### **CEO/Artistic Director**

Rachael Coghlan  
(Avi Amesbury retired March 2016)

### **Curator**

Mel George

### **DESIGN Canberra Creative Producer**

Julian Hobba

### **Gallery and Retail Coordinator**

Gerald Jones

### **Membership Officer**

Richilde Flavell

### **Marketing Coordinator**

Zoe Brand

### **Programming Coordinator**

Sara D'Alessandro

### **DESIGN Canberra Marketing and Sponsorship Assistant**

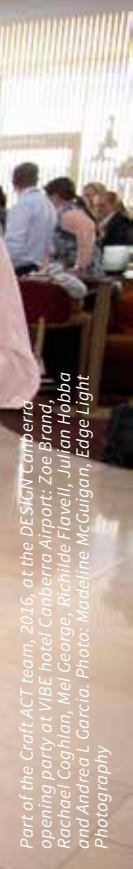
Andrea L Garcia

### **Exhibitions Assistant**

Kate Nixon

### **Gallery Technician (casual)**

Dan Lorrimer



Part of the Craft ACT team, 2016, at the DESIGN Canberra opening party at VIBE hotel Canberra Airport: Zoe Brand, Rachael Coghlan, Mel George, Richilde Flavell, Julian Hobba and Andrea L. Garcia. Photo: Madeline McGuigan, Edge Light Photography

Sincere thanks to the former staff of Craft ACT, who made valuable contributions to the work and achievements of Craft ACT during 2016. Your contributions continue to strengthen and support the work that we do and we appreciate your ongoing support within the sector:

Melissa Amaricai, Avi Amesbury, Gwenyth Macnamara, Yasmin Masri, Thea McGrath, Al Munro, Frances Spurgin and Mel Willis

**Craft ACT Membership Committee**

Rachael Coghlan, Richilde Flavell, Mel George, Bev Hogg and Alison Jackson

**Craft ACT Artistic Program Committee**

Avi Amesbury (January–March), Rachael Coghlan, Mel George, Alison Jackson, Gilbert Riedelbauch and Annie Trevillian

**DESIGN Canberra 2016 Festival Committee**

Stephen Cassidy (Craft ACT Board of Management), Rachael Coghlan (Craft ACT), Julian Hobba (Craft ACT), Alison Jackson (Craft ACT Board of Management), Bronwen Jones (Australian Institute of Architects), Lynne Goodyer (Australian Graphic Design Association), Karina Harris (Harris Hobbs Landscapes), Rohan Nicol (Australian National University), Lisa Scharoun (University of Canberra) and Patrick Stein (University of Canberra)

**DESIGN Canberra Festival 2016 Marketing Brains Trust**

Georgia Conduit (Chair), Rachel Leavitt, Kaet Lovell, Marylou Pooley, Christopher Thomson

**Selling Yarns Committee**

Rachael Coghlan, Mel George, Louise Hamby, Valerie Kirk, Jilda Andrews, Carly Davenport, Avi Amesbury

**Volunteer**

Central to our work is our community engagement and volunteer help from people including artists, recent graduates, retirees, high school students and people in our local community. Craft ACT enjoyed over 750 hours in volunteer support in 2016, to a value\* of \$20, 587.50\*

We thank and are especially grateful to all our volunteers, interns and supporters.

\*Applying notional \$27.45 / our rate method.

[www.volunteeringaustralia.org](http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org)

**Interns**

Emily Cunich, Felicia Dambach, Sandra Hokkanen, Stephanie Mangos, Kate Nixon, Shu-Yen Fe

**Volunteers**

Ahmed Al Ghardaqa, Christine Appleby, Masahiro Asaka, Jessica Ashcroft, Jielian Beh, Harper Coghlan-Smith, Milo Coghlan-Smith, Hilary Crawford, Tristan Dudgeon, Rose-Mary Faulkner, Annita George, David George, Louis Grant, Dan Lorrimer, Alex Thomson, Ben Thomson, Malcolm Thomson, Huyen 'Kat' Trinh, Sunita White, Jesse Wright

**Work Experience**

Harrison Shaw







# Appendices: 2016 Craft Act Activity

## MEMBERSHIP

### Life members

Jenny Deves, Michelle Frost, Meredith Hinchliffe, Gene Willsford, Bill Wood, Beverley Wood

### Accredited professional members

Ruth Allen, Keiko Amenomori-Schmeisser, Avi Amesbury, Stephen Barrass, Eugenie Keefer Bell, Sally Blake, Sean Booth, Ximena Briceno, Margaret Brown, Lisa Cahill, Scott Chaseling, Sarit Cohen, Simon Cottrell, Linda Davy, Rozlyn de Bussey, Janet DeBoos, Judi Elliott, Jonathan Everett, Dianne Firth, Caren Florance, Robert FosterCathy Franzi, Mel George, Geoff Hinchliffe, Ruth Hingston, Bev Hogg, Alison Jackson, Megan Jackson, Belinda Jessup, Ian Jones, Elizabeth Kelly, Valerie Kirk, Jeremy Lepisto, Daniel Lorrimer, Nikki Main, Zeljko Markov, Anita McIntyre, Carlos Montana-Hoyos, Gail Nichols, Peter Nilsson, Elizabeth Paterson, Kaye Pemberton, Sharon Peoples, Kirstie Rea, Gilbert Riedelbauch, Barbara Rogers, Niklavs Rubenis, Luna Ryan, Julie Ryder, Harriet Schwarzrock, Tom Skeeahan, Amanda Stuart, Lia Tajcna, Belinda Toll, Annie Trevillian, Monique van Nieuwland, Mitchell Whitelaw and Richard Whiteley

### Associate members

Christine Atkins, Angela Bakker, Rolf Barfoed, Elliot Bastianon, Rick Beviss, Julie Bradley, Georgina Bryant, Polly Crowden, Helen Daley, Lissa-Jane de Sailles, Catherine Drinan, Daniel Edwards, Richilde Flavell, Lisa Jose, Luke Laffan, Chelsea Lemon, Vivien Lightfoot, René Linssen, Isabelle Mackay-Sim, Yasmin Masri, Sarah Murphy, Kaleb Romano, Zoe Slee, Anna Sutherland, Sophi Suttor, Tom

Taverner and Charles Walker

The work of Craft ACT is also supported by 101 general, friend and student members

## EXHIBITIONS

### Onsite exhibitions: main gallery

**Block one: 11 February to 26 March 2016**

#### Emerging Contemporaries

Craft ACT's annual exhibition series shines a spotlight on our nation's next wave of craft and design practitioners.

Artists: Simon Azzopardi, Gold & Silversmithing Workshop, Australian National University School of Art and Design; Robin Clancy, Sturt School for Wood; Saxon Crinis, Sturt School for Wood; Maija Frankovich, Design Centre Enmore; Sara Lindsay, University of Tasmania; Angela Giuliani, JamFactory Associate; Tundi-Rose Hammond, Textiles Workshop, ANU School of Art and Design; Mahala Hill, Ceramics Workshop, ANU School of Art and Design; Lachlan McLellan, RMIT; Kieren Karritpul McTaggart; Pia Nemeč, Furniture Workshop, ANU School of Art and Design; Margaret Kemarre Ross; Josh Rummukainen, Faculty of Arts and Design, University of Canberra; Wayne Simon; and Madisyn Zabel, Glass Workshop, ANU School of Art and Design

#### Reminiscences and Reflections

This solo exhibition of paper brought together Korean and Western influences.

Artist: Mi-Kyung Myung

### Looking for the i in desire

Meredith Hughes assemblages of found materials deconstructed strategies of Buddhist meditation on emptiness and explored the connectivity of the space between object and representation.

Artist: Meredith Hughes

### Bula'bula Arts

An exhibition of the work of early career artists from the Ramingining community who use traditional craft techniques to create stories of Yolngu culture and country through artworks.

Artists: Marley Djangarri and Linda Ganyila

These exhibitions were opened by Patrick Stein, Designer and Graduate Architect and Mel George, Craft ACT Curator.

### Block two: 8 April to 14 May 2016 Connect with Your Nature: Artist-in-Residence

An exhibition of work inspired by a period spent as artists-in-residence in Namadgi National Park.

Artists: Ruth Hingston and Jodie Hatcher

### Group Exchange: 2nd Tamworth Textile Triennial

This travelling exhibition from Tamworth Regional Gallery celebrated a rich cultural heritage in the promotion of textile practice and excellence in Australia.

Artists: Kate Campbell-Pope, Alana Clifton-Cunningham, Gwen Egg, Sandy Elverd, Louisa Annis-Thomas, Penny Evans, Erica Gray, Hilary Green, Tim Gresham, Mandy Gunn, Kath Inglis, Anita Larkin, Gillian Lavery, Make.Shift Concepts, Kim McKechnie, Lorna Murray, Jemima

Parker, Patrick Snelling, Louise Tuckwell, Monique van Nieuwland, Belinda von Mengersen, Ilka White

### **Alchemy**

Alchemy simultaneously celebrated the beauty of the ordinary and the transformation of everyday artefacts into artworks of extraordinary delicacy and beauty.

Artists: Emilie Patteson and Tara Bromham

These exhibitions were opened by curator Cecilia Heffer, Senior Lecturer, Fashion and Textiles, University of Technology, Sydney; and Brett McNamara, Regional Manager, ACT Parks and Conservation Service.

### **Block three: 26 May to 9 July 2016 Aesthetics in the Time of Emergency**

The artists in this exhibition explored current social issues, such as nuclear disasters and climate change, and their impact on humanity.

Artists: Sarah Field, Jennifer Ashley King, Nadia Mercuri, Jasmine Targett and Bethany Wheeler

### **Crafted Waste**

This exhibition was an exercise in appreciation of the transformation of abandoned items into useful and beautiful furniture and lighting.

Artist: Niklavs Rubenis

Crafted Waste was supported by Rolfe Classic BMW

### **Crucible Showcase: Hsin-Yi Yang**

- presentation of Canberra Potters Society and Craft ACT award-winner Hsin-Yi Yang's playfully textured and coloured interlocking ceramic objects that appealed to the child within.

Artist: Hsin-Yi Yang

These exhibitions were opened by Rohan Nicol, Head, Gold and Silversmithing Workshop, Australian National University School of Art and Design.

### **Block four: 21 July to 27 August 2016**

#### **Embracing Innovation: Volume 6**

The artists in this exhibition are using cutting-edge technologies to change the way they engage, design and create.

Artists: BMW Group; Tamara Efrat, Moran Mizrahi and Amit Zoran; Dorothy Hardy; Guy Keulemans; Yuko Kinoshita, Mehrnough Latifi, Judith Glover and Stephen Barrass; Jenny Judge; James Mazengarb; Carlos Montana-Hoyos and Sam Tomkins, collaborating with Eddi Pianca, Stephen Trathen, Bill Shelley, Jiro Sagara, Sami Ben Fradj and Ali Kuane Nejad; Jennifer Robertson; and Halie Rubenis

Embracing Innovation: Volume 6 was supported by Rolfe Classic BMW.

#### **Black Box: Life, Walls and Houses**

The exhibition of the signature technical style of cast, cut, fused and assembled glass employed by highly acclaimed artist Judi Elliott described a life journey.

Artist: Judi Elliott

These exhibitions were opened by John Mackay AM, Chairman, SpeedCast International (SDA) and TotalEnergy Pty Ltd; and Director, LCM Healthcare Aust, Canberra Raiders Pty Ltd, and Ricky Stuart Foundation

### **Block five: 9 September to 22 October 2016**

#### **Citizens of Craft**

This annual showcase featured accredited professional members and associate members of Craft ACT.

Artists: Ruth Allen, Avi Amesbury, Christine Atkins, Angela Bakker, Stephen Barrass, Sally Blake, Sean Booth, Julie Bradley, Margaret Brown, Sarit Cohen, Linda Davy, Janet DeBoos, Rozlyn de Bussey, Catherine Drinan, Dan Edwards, Judi Elliott, Dianne Firth, Richilde Flavell, Robert Foster, Cathy Franzi, Geoff Hinchcliffe, Ruth Hingston, Alison Jackson, Megan Jackson, Elizabeth Kelly, Dimity Kidston, Jeremy Lepisto, Dan Lorrimer, Nikki Main, Zeljko Markov, Sarah Murphy, Kaye Pemberton, Gilbert Riedelbauch, Barbara Rogers, Niklavs Rubenis, Harriet Schwarzrock, Tom Skeeahan, Lia Tajcna, Nancy Tingey, Belinda Toll, Monique van Nieuwland, and Mitchell Whitelaw

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#### **Grow Your Own**

This exhibition revealed a common love of the garden and the natural world as manifested in the aesthetic and conceptual practices of these artists.

Artists: Amanda Dziedzic, Danielle Rickaby, Lauren Simeoni and Melinda Young

These exhibitions were opened by Holly Komorowski, owner homes.by holly and Mel George, Craft ACT Curator

**Block six: 3 November to 17 December 2016**

**Reclaim**

Designer-makers rose to the challenge of presenting high-end, functional and wearable objects created from waste materials. Artists: Corr Blimey, Christina Bricknell, Simon Cottrell, Nadege Desgenetez, Dan Edwards, Luke Laffan, Gilbert Riedelbauch, Joanne Searle and Sam Tomkins. Reclaim was supported by The Green Shed

**Mitchell/Fuller: Moving Forward, Looking Back**

An exhibition of work that reflected the separate paths taken after Nicholas Fuller completed his training as an apprentice under Scott Mitchell. Artists: Scott Mitchell and Nicholas Fuller

**Youth for a Liveable Cebu**

A small-scale exhibition displaying jewellery made from recycled plastic and metal created through community outreach programs of Youth for a Livable Cebu, the Philippines.

These exhibitions were opened by Francis Sollano, DESIGN Canberra 2016 keynote speaker, Filipino 'trashion' designer and co-founder of Youth for a Livable Cebu; and Raquel Ormella, Guest Editor, Art Monthly Australasia (November 2016) and Honours Convenor, Visual Arts and Design Arts, Australian National University School of Art and Design.

**Onsite exhibitions: lightbox gallery 26 May to 6 June 2016**

**Material Core**

In this exhibition, three Craft ACT members utilised their mediums in unusual ways. Artists: Richilde Flavell, Chelsea Lemon, Charles Walker

**28 June to 16 July 2016**

**First Showing**

This exhibition showcased the artists of Six Wiluna, a communal studio in Canberra. Artists: Rolf Barfoed, Elliot Bastianon, Peter Bollington, Andrew Carvolth and Nicholas Harper

**21 July to 3 September 2016**

**F!NK & Friends**

Craft ACT hosted a pop-up exhibition of personal items on loan from Robert Foster's F!NK + Co extended family including Dan Lorrimer, Janel Laza, Sean Booth, Gretel Harrison, Darren Chong, Louise Scrivener, Kim Berry, Bengt Cannon, Danilo Enders-Moje and Alison Jackson.

**3 November to 30 November 2016**

**The Uniform Project**

The Uniform Project was derived from research into images of women wearing uniforms, in particular, women artists wearing the uniform of a sensible smock. Artists: Alison Alder, Dan Edwards and Megan Jackson. Commissioned by Art Monthly Australasia for the November 2016 issue, guest-edited by Raquel Ormella

**Offsite exhibitions**

**15 September to 25 November 2016  
A Decade in the High Country**

An exhibition celebrating the ten-year partnership between ACT Parks and Conservation and Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre through the annual artist-in-residence program. Artists: Christine Atkins, Marily Cintra, Cathy Franzi, Ruth Hingston, Marian Hoskings, Sione Maileseni and Kirstie Rea. This exhibition was held at Namadgi Visitor Centre

**27 October to 25 November 2016**

**Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster**

Curated by Grace Cochrane, this DESIGN Canberra 2016 signature exhibition celebrated the life and achievements of design luminary Robert Foster (1962–2016). Apart from the now iconic F!NK water jugs, each work displayed was handmade by Robert as a one-off item or prototype for production and included teapots, coffeepots, jugs, vessels, containers and trays. The exhibition also displayed archival documents from the Foster family's collection.

Luminary was presented by Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre, sponsored by Frost Collective and presented at the ActewAGL headquarters, set among Foster's spectacular sculptural installation, The Journey. The exhibition was mounted with the generous assistance of Gretel Harrison, Designcraft, the National Portrait Gallery and the National Museum of Australia.

Luminary was opened by Associate Professor Richard Whiteley, Convenor of Craft and Design & Head of the Glass Workshop, Australian National

University School of Art and Design.

**27 October to 25 November 2016**

### **Studio CBR: In the Making**

This suite of 12 photographic portraits of Canberra's premier designers and makers captured the energy and creativity of Canberra's creative community.

Photography by Adam McGrath.

Artists: Keiko Amenomori-Schmeisser, Simon Cottrell, F!NK Design (Bengt Cannon, Gretel Harrison, Lau Lai, Stephanie Mangos and Johnny Shanahan), Alison Jackson, Dimity Kidston, Chelsea Lemon, Six Wiluna (Rolf Barfoed, Elliot Bastianon, Peter Bollington, Andrew Carvolth and Nicholas Harper), Tom Skeehan, Lia Tajcnar and Richard Whiteley

Studio CBR: In the Making was presented by Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre and was sponsored by Brand CBR and the University of Canberra, with assistance from the Canberra and Region Visitors Centre, Adam McGrath HCreations and the National Museum of Australia.

**27 October to 25 November 2016**

### **Golden Tangerine**

These monumental glass sculptures by Elizabeth Kelly were exhibited in situ at Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport. Artist: Elizabeth Kelly

This exhibition was opened by Philip Vivian, Director, Bates Smart and award-winning architect of Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport.

### **Exhibition articles**

'Emerging Contemporaries – 2016', by Jess Oliver  
Jess Oliver is a writer and art critic: when she's not writing about art,

she's talking about it — in Culture Space, the show that she co-presents on 2XX FM.

'Reminiscences and Reflections' and 'Looking for the i in desire', by Dr Sally Blake  
Sally Blake is a freelance researcher and artist.

'What we make of Nature', by Dr Mary Hutchinson  
Mary Hutchinson is the Visiting Fellow, Centre for Heritage and Museum Studies, Research School of Humanities and the Arts, Australian National University  
'Aesthetics in the Time of Emergency', by Simon Gregg  
Simon Gregg has curated over 50 exhibitions and has published widely on Australian art.

'Crafting Waste', by Dr Eleni Kalantidou  
Eleni Kalantidou is a design psychologist, researcher and educator; she is the convener, Design Futures and Master of Design Futures at Griffith University.

'Embracing Innovation: Volume 6', by Dr Rohan Nicol  
Rohan Nicol is a craftsman, designer, academic and curator.

'Journeys Boxed in Glass: Judi Elliott's Black Box: Life, Walls and Houses', by Grace Blakeley-Carroll  
Grace Blakeley-Carroll is a freelance producer and a PhD candidate in the Centre for Art History and Art Theory at the Australian National University.

'Citizens of Craft', by Emma Quin  
Emma Quin is the CEO, Craft Ontario, Canada.

'Grow Your Own', by Debbie Pryor  
Debbie Pryor is a freelance curator and writer.

'Design is Waste is Design',

by Niklavs Rubenis

Niklavs Rubenis is a designer and maker with a diverse research and studio practice that is driven by an interest in repair, reuse and the 'wicked problem' of design action. He also currently lectures at the Australian National University School of Art and Design.

'Mitchell/Fuller: Moving Forward, Looking Back', by Brian Parkes  
Brian Parkes is CEO and Artistic Director at JamFactory Contemporary Craft and Design in Adelaide.

### **PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

#### **• DESIGN Canberra 2016**

- Exhibitions
- A Decade in the High Country, Namadgi Visitors Centre
- A History of the World in 100 Objects from the British Museum, National Museum of Australia
- Alternative Views, Bilk Gallery
- ANU School of Art Graduating Exhibition, gallery, Australian National University School of Art and Design
- Anvil Design Studio Presents UC Graphic Design Showcase
- Appliance, Marcus Clarke St
- Art+Code Interactive New Media Design, gallery, Australian National University School of Art and Design
- Ceramic Accord, Watson Arts Centre

- Coming from the Six: A Furniture Exhibition by Six Wiluna, Civic Shopfront
- Communicating the Incommunicable: Nathan Pauletto, Sydney Building
- Contour 556 – Public Art Festival, foreshore, Lake Burley Griffin
- Design and Nature, National Gallery of Australia
- Dress Code: Empire, Museum of Australian Democracy
- Elizabeth Kelly: Golden Tangerine: Architechtural Intentions in Glass, lobby, Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport
- Emerging 2016: Radford College Exhibition, Belconnen Arts Centre
- Ignite: CIT 2016 Photography Graduation Exhibition, High Court of Australia
- In Depth: Joanna Bone, Canberra Glassworks
- Inside / Out, Embassy of Spain
- Lucidus, Megalo Print Studio + Gallery
- Luminialion, Cox Gallery
- Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster, foyer, ActewAGL headquarters
- Make/Shift, showroom, Designcraft
- Manifesto Now Redux, University of Canberra
- Mitchell/Fuller: Moving Forward, Looking Back, Craft ACT
- Multiples & Production: First Steps onto Unstable Ground, Foyer Gallery, Australian National University School of Art and Design
- Parks Changing Australia Exhibition, Circa Corridor, National Museum of Australia
- Products by MMD, Anvil Design Studio
- Reclaim, Craft ACT
- René Linssen – Bike Racks, Civic Library
- Spectra: CIT Fashion Design Showcase, Cardif Collective
- Studio CBR: In the Making, Canberra and Region Visitors Centre
- The Sell: Australian Advertising 1790s to 1990s, National Library of Australia
- The Uniform Project, lightbox gallery, Craft ACT
- Time to Tinker!: Blue Gum Community School's Artyology Studio, showcase, Dickson Library
- Trashion, by Francis Sollano, Garema Place shopfront
- University of Canberra Faculty of Arts & Design Graduate Showcase, University of Canberra Faculty of Arts & Design
- University of Canberra Industrial Design exhibition, Belconnen Library
- Youth for a Livable Cebu, foyer, Craft ACT

## Living Rooms

- This event took place in the living rooms of acclaimed Canberra houses in the inner north and inner south, featuring pop-up exhibitions with works on sale by local artists, makers and craft practitioners.

## Inner North

- Eco: 3 Wonga St, O'Connor
- Heritage renovation: 17 Farrer St, Braddon
- Mid-century modern: 99 Price Pl., Downer
- Contemporary: 212 Dryandra St, O'Connor

## Inner South

- Eco: 45 Walker Cr., Narrabundah
- Heritage renovation: 32 Howitt St, Kingston
- Mid-Century modern: 2A Mugga Way, Red Hill
- Contemporary: 84 Caley Cr., Narrabundah

## Tours

- Australian National Botanical Garden Tour
- Bus Tour: Architects from Abroad
- Bus Tour: Innovative Architecture by Emerging Architects
- Centenary Trail Bushwalk
- House and garden bus tour, Australian Institute of Architects
- Politics of Place Segway Tour
- Textiles Studios Tour, with Sharon Peoples
- UC, An Educated Life Campus Tour

## Open Studios

- Angela Bakker & Sarah Murphy
- Rolf Barfoed
- Ruby Berry
- Rick Beviss, Georgie Bryant, Richilde Flavell, Fran Romano, Isabelle Mackay-Sim, Zoe Slee, Tea Garden and Field & Coppice
- Ximena Natanya Briceno
- Estelle Briedis
- Matthew Curtis & Harriet Schwarzrock
- Designcraft
- Geoff Farquhar-Still
- F!nk & Co.
- Bev Hogg
- Megan Jackson
- Dimity Kidston
- Karen Lee
- Anne Masters
- Kaye Pemberton
- Alice Leda Pettiroso
- Six Wiluna
- Tom SkeehanSophi Suttor
- The Hayshed: Julie Ryder, Kirstie Rea, Lisa Cahill
- Thor's Hammer
- Annie Trevillian
- Monique van Nieuwland
- Hiroshi Yamaguchi
- Cultural roundtable, Canberra – Wellington – Singapore
- DESIGN Canberra 2016 city activation, Garema Place
- 'Design for social inclusion', Giovanna Massoni with IPAA and DHS
- Design Means Business, AGDA forum, Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport
- Digital / Material, Australian National University School of Art and Design
- 'Everything is new again', keynote talk, Marcus Westbury, Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport
- Floor talk: Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster, with Grace Cochrane, Curator & Mel George, Craft ACT Curator
- 'Get a Job', Design Institute of Australia
- 'If I could change Canberra', ongoing DESIGN Canberra 2016 activation project
- Impact Comics Festival, Garema Place
- Inside / Out, Embassy of Spain Design Competition winner announcement
- 'Interventions in the landscape', Giovanna Massoni in conversation with Harris Hobbs Landscape Architects
- Keynote talk, Philip Vivian, Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport
- 'Kidscape', Nimby, Haig Park activation
- 'Links and laughter', Boundless Playground Commonwealth Park
- Meraki craft and design night, Mocan and Green Grout, New Acton
- National Landscape Architecture Awards, National Arboretum Canberra
- Nimby closing drinks, Old Parliament House
- Nimby Festival party & outdoor film screening, National Museum of Australia
- Opening party, Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport
- 'Paste up showdown', The Design Kids and La De Da Play: Creativity and Culture Symposium, University of Canberra
- Public graffiti site tour with Byrd
- Resin workshop, University of Canberra
- 'Smooth translation', National Portrait Gallery
- Studio CBR public conversation, ACT Arts Minister Gordon Ramsay in conversation with Tom Skeehan
- 'Sustainable design activism', actsmart talk, Francis Sollano
- The 50th Griffin Lecture, Australian Institute of Architects, National Press Club
- 'The relevance of design in the contemporary world', Giovanna Massoni in conversation with Dr Gerard Vaughan, National Gallery of Australia
- UC public lecture, Nina Marie Lister & Ellen Neises, University of Canberra
- Undercurrent Markets, National Portrait Gallery
- Urban Talks, Smiths Alternative
- VIP launch, DESIGN Canberra 2016 and Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster
- Woden Youth Centre graffiti workshop, Francis Sollano

## Other Events

- 'Art after dark', opening of Inner South Arts Organisations
- ANCA Mitchell 25th birthday open day
- 'Beauty matters', keynote talk, David Trubridge, Main Hall, Ainslie Arts Centre
- 'Being a designer today', seminar, David Trubridge, Ainslie Arts Centre
- 'Before I Die' wall, Garema Place
- Belgian Embassy Soiree
- BMW Open Day, Rolfe Classic BMW
- City Activation roundtable, Jim Scully, Thinkplace NZ
- 'Creative Careers', Radford College
- Craft ACT in-gallery public programs
  - artist talk presented for the benefit of emerging artists by former Emerging Contemporaries exhibitor Sarah Carlson highlighting her career scope and progression. Held in association with the Emerging Contemporaries exhibition
  - artist talk presented by

Meredith Hughes on the influence of Buddhism in her practice. Held in association with her exhibition, Looking for the i in desire, and specifically arranged for members of Diamond Way Buddhist Centre

- curator's talk with Sydney-based curator, researcher, lecturer and artist, Cecilia Heffer, in association with the travelling exhibition Group Exchange: 2nd Tamworth Textile Triennial
- artist's talk with 2015 artist-in-residence and local textile artist Ruth Hingston, held in association with the Connect with Your Nature: Artist-in-Residence exhibition and Heritage Week
- two artist talks with Judi Elliott in association with the Black Box: Life, Walls and Houses for the Glass Workshop, Australian National University School of Art and Design and the International Women's Group
- artists' talks with Dr Carlos Montana-Hoyos (to the Public Sector Innovation Network) and Dr Guy Keulemans (to the Multiples in Production course, Australian National University School of Art and Design) in association with Embracing Innovation: Volume 6
- curator's talk for the Gold and Silversmithing Workshop, Australian National University School of Art and Design, convened by Rohan Nichol, Head and Design Arts coordinator
- joint curator's and artist talk with Craft ACT Curator Mel George and Meredith Hughes for the Canberra Institute of Technology Visual Arts Art Theory course

### Craft ACT offsite public programs

- artist demonstrations at Floriade by artists-in-residence Cathy Franzi and Sione Maileseni
- Canberra Q&A with textile artist Monique van Nieuwland, who was commissioned to design the costumes for the blockbuster film, Gods of Egypt. Hosted by Genevieve Jacobs of ABC 666 and held at the film's Canberra premiere, in partnership with Dendy Cinemas Canberra
- children's craft activity at Floriade
- children's demonstrations and classes by artists-in-residence Cathy Franzi and Sione Maileseni at the National Arboretum Canberra
- Future Possible: Re-directing Design at Gorman Arts Centre explored the future of design with Dr Eleni Kalantidou, a design psychologist with a unique and radical perspective on design futures. The conversation included a panel discussion with Craft ACT Curator Mel George and was enlivened by the contributions of artists who were part of Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre's exhibition Embracing Innovation: Volume 6
- the 10-year Artist-in-Residence Celebration Day, in collaboration with ACT Parks and Conservation at the Namadgi Visitors Centre, featured presentations by Sally Blake, Marilyn Cintra, Cathy Franzi, Ruth Hingston, Marian Hosking, Mary Hutchison, Sione Maileseni, Paull McKee, Annee Miron, Bernard Morris, Kirstie Rea, Joanne Searle, Zsuzsi Soboslay

### Craft ACT participation in external public programs

- Curator Mel George was a panel member for a symposium held at the Australian National University during Textiles Week that included exhibitions and openings, conversations, workshops and artist talks
- CEO/Artistic Director Rachel Coghlan presented conferences papers at:
  - Museums Australasia conference, Auckland, New Zealand, May 2016
  - Association for Critical Heritage Studies conference, Montreal, Canada, June 2016
- Curator Mel George presented 'State of the art: current kiln glass in Australia' at Bullseye Glass Company, Portland, United States and the Visual Arts Department at University of Texas, Arlington, United States
- DESIGN Canberra 2016 Program Producer Julian Hobba delivered a presentation on Craft ACT and DESIGN Canberra at ONE DESIGN WEEK, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

### Craft ACT Media coverage

- 'A joy to explore', Canberra Times
- Grace Blakeley-Carroll, 'Journeys boxed in glass', Ausglass Review
- Geoffrey Crossick, 'Making and memory in Canberra', Crafts: A Magazine for Contemporary Craft
- Kerry-Anne Cousins, 'Colourful designs bring glass to life', Canberra Times
- Kerry-Anne Cousins, 'Craft ACT draws close links with nature', Canberra Times
- Kerry-Anne Cousins, 'Political comment delivered in crafts',



- Canberra Times
- Kerry-Anne Cousins, 'Reclaim and Moving Forward, Looking Back at Craft ACT – the recycled and the new', Canberra Times
- Kerry-Anne Cousins, 'Showcase of new talent', Canberra Times
- 'Emerging Contemporaries', exhibition review, Art Guide Australia
- 'Emerging Contemporaries', exhibition review, BMA Magazine
- 'Emerging Contemporaries', exhibition review, Canberra Times
- Simon Gregg, 'Aesthetics in a time of emergency', Garland Magazine
- Jil Hogan, 'One man's trash. Dig your heels into this high-end trashion', Canberra Times
- Sally Pryor, 'Make waste into craft', Canberra Times
- Sally Pryor, 'Innovation and design', Canberra Times
- Diana Streak, 'Confronting our throwaway culture', Canberra Weekly
- Ian Warden, 'Crafty tribute to a murky tale', Canberra Times

#### **DESIGN Canberra 2016 Media coverage**

- 'DESIGN Canberra: 100+ events, 1 thriving city', outincanberra.com
- 'DESIGN Canberra celebrates award-winning architect Philip Vivian', Green
- 'DESIGN Canberra continues apace this weekend, turning the spotlight on beautiful architecture in the ACT', City News
- 'DESIGN Canberra Festival 2016 launch', The Shaker
- DESIGN Canberra Festival launch, photographs, Canberra Times
- 'Graffiti tour of Belconnen',

- HerCanberra
- 'Haig Park and Garema Place to get pop-up makeovers through temporary activations', Canberra Times
- Jil Hogan, 'DESIGN Canberra launches new festival', Canberra Times
- Jil Hogan, 'Canberra weekender: what's on November 4–6', Fairfax – National Distribution
- Jil Hogan, 'DESIGN Canberra launches new festival', Canberra Times
- Nikita Holcombe, 'DESIGN Canberra / Estelle Briedis', Big Ink
- Nikita Holcombe, 'DESIGN Canberra / Mitchell Fuller', Big Ink
- Nikita Holcombe, 'DESIGN Canberra / Phoebe Porter', Big Ink
- Nikita Holcombe, 'DESIGN Canberra / Rolf Barfoed', Big Ink
- Emma MacDonald, 'Designer living rooms open for viewing', HerCanberra
- Emma MacDonald, 'Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster', HerCanberra
- Louise Maher, 'Luminary: New exhibition celebrates life and work of legendary designer Robert Foster', ABC News
- Helen Musa, 'Foster at the heart of festival', City News
- 'Over 100 events in 2016', Style Curator
- Rachel Packham, 'Design festival offers a peek inside top Canberra homes', allhomes.com, Domain
- Sally Pryor, 'New exhibition celebrating the work of late F!NK designer Robert Foster opens DESIGN Canberra Festival', Sydney Morning Herald, Age, Canberra Times
- Sally Pryor, 'New exhibition celebrating the work of late

- F!NK designer Robert Foster opens DESIGN Canberra Festival', Canberra Times
- Sally Pryor, 'NZ designer David Trubridge takes on Australia's lax intellectual property laws', Canberra Times
- 'Social scene – DC VIP opening', Canberra Weekly
- Calum Stenning, 'DESIGN Canberra festival: what do you need to know', HerCanberra
- 'The Global City of Design', Canberra Weekly
- 'Tom Skeehan, my favourite things', Canberra Weekly
- 'VIP opening Luminary: Remembering Robert Foster', social photos, outincanberra.com
- Chester Ward, 'Five things to do in Canberra this weekend', Riot ACT
- 'What's on in Canberra', HerCanberra
- Mikaela Wright, 'DESIGN Canberra', Big Ink
- 'What's on', Canberra Weekly

#### **Radio interviews**

- Rachael Coghlan, 2CC
- DESIGN Canberra 2016 team, ABC Radio 666
- Francis Sollano, ABC Radio 666
- Rachael Coghlan, Megan Jackson, Bronwen Jones, ABC Radio 666
- David Trubridge, 2CC
- Giovanna Massoni, ABC Radio 666

## Craft ACT Supporters and Funding Partners

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



ACT  
Government



Australian Government



ACT Government

THE VISUAL ARTS AND CRAFT STRATEGY



Australian Government



Australia Council  
for the Arts



Accredited Professional Member Niklavs Rubenis' solo exhibition 'Crafting Waste', sponsored by Rolfe Classic BMW  
Photo: Edge Light Photography

CRAFTING WASTE

NIKLAFF TUBENIS

Supported By Rolfe Classic BMW 



# 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 for the 2016 festival.





Sponsor Holly Komorowski with pop-up curator Stephanie Mangos during the DESIGN Canberra 2016 Living Rooms program. Photo: Madeline McOgilgan, Edge Light Photography

## Thank You

Craft ACT sincerely thanks its sponsors, partners and supporters. Their commitment, dedication and support for the arts and Australian culture help foster a greater understanding of craft and design, enables direct support to artists, and makes the work that we do more accessible to a broader audience. We thank our board of management, advisory group members and especially our hard-working staff for their passion, creativity, ingenuity, optimism and expertise. We express our heartfelt gratitude for the many hours donated by interns and volunteers to assist in the delivery of the artistic and public programs. Most of all, we thank our members, who are at the heart of what we do, and the Canberra and region craft and design community.



Page 12-13: Month by Month

January: Mel George; February: Q&A with textile artist Monique van Nieuwland and Genevieve Jacobs of ABC 666; March: Detail of Meredith Hughes' *Even*, in *Looking for the i in desire*; April: Ruth Hingston presenting the 2015 artist-in-residence talk; May: the inaugural exhibition *Material Core* in the lightbox gallery; June: Bethany Wheeler's *Hazard Shadow* in *Aesthetics in the Time of Emergency*; July: *Flnk & Friends* pop-up exhibition in the lightbox gallery; August: The Japanese-language prototype created by Dr Yuko Kinoshita, Associate Professor Carlos Montana-Hoyos and Sam Tomkins in *Embracing Innovation: Volume 6*; September: Tom Skeehan's *Hup Hup chair* in *Citizens of Craft*; October: 2016 artist-in-residence Sione Maileseni from the Kingdom of Tonga; November: *DESIGN Canberra 2016*; December: Wayne Simon's *Quandongs*

[January] Photo: Madeline McGuigan, *Edge Light Photography*

[February] Photo: Mel George

[March] Photo: Brenton McGeachie

[April] Photo: Tim Brooks

[May] Photo: Rachael Coghlan

[June] Photo: courtesy of the artist

[July] Photo: Andrew Sikorski

[August] Photo: courtesy of the artist

[September] Photo: Charlie White

[October] Photo: Madeline McGuigan, *Edge Light Photography*

[November]: Photo: Madeline McGuigan, *Edge Light Photography*

[December]: Photo: courtesy of the artist

Elaine Stanford, Mel George and Sandie Bigg-Wither presented a cheque for \$10,000 to support the *Reclaim* exhibition. Christina Bricknell rummaging through the chairs at *The Green Shed* to select materials for the work in *Reclaim*. Photo: Hilary Hanrahan. Photo: Alex Hobba





# **Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre**

2016 Annual Report

