

Design Canberra presents

# Nurture.

MEDIA RELEASE  
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## GOING ONCE, GOING TWICE... SOLD.

*The annual DESIGN Canberra online is back bigger than ever in 2021.*



**Canberra, Australia:** Craft ACT is giving design-lovers the chance to own their own piece of contemporary design at an auction of works by Craft ACT members. This year we are featuring a record 73 works by 56 artists.

In line with the [Design Canberra Nurture program](#) and in the spirit of supporting artists after a tough two years, all the proceeds will go directly to the artists.

*"We have removed our usual commission on sales to ensure artists receive the maximum possible benefit. No matter where design lovers are located, they can bid online to buy experimental, small scale or one-off pieces from Australian craft practitioners and designers",* said Craft ACT CEO, Jodie Cunningham

Award winning local artists and designers have been selected for the 2021 auction. One of the most exciting items in the line-up is the last remaining Craft ACT 50th anniversary FINK water jug. Valued as a collector's item, this "Special Edition" FINK water jug, captures FINK's intent to create unique functional objects and celebrate Craft ACT's 50th -Golden- Anniversary. Only 18 jugs were made and they sold out with half an hour of launching. From 7pm on Sat 20 Nov, a special live auction will be held with the team from home.byholly to auction off the last remaining jug, in addition to the online auction. All proceeds from the sale of the anniversary jug go to the DESIGN Canberra Nurture professional development opportunity for Craft ACT members.

Designer Elliot Bastianon has mostly recently been featured in Melbourne's NGV Triennial and has been commissioned to be part of the inaugural exhibition presented in the new HOTA Gallery on the Gold Coast. OAT Studio was a finalist in the Textile category of The Design Files + Laminex Design Awards 2021.

Canberra's thriving contemporary craft and design scene is also represented by Estelle Briedis and her minimalist gold foiled panel, a contemporary hand drawn velvet ottoman by Tamara Schneider, and a colourful abstract collage by 2019 CAPO fellow, Julie Bradley. The 2021 auction line-up has been expanded from a dedicated Canberra focus to feature work by emerging and established designers from across the country.

National design excellence is represented by contemporary ceramics platter from Christopher Plumridge (VIC), playful glass objects by Mark Elliott (NSW) and gold lustre porcelain brooches by Minqi Gu (QLD).

South Australia's vibrant contemporary craft and design community is represented by Francesca Sykes (furniture + objects), Sarra Tzijan (metals), Eloise White (ceramics) and Caren Ellis (industrial design) and Alison Smiles (ceramics). These makers are from the acclaimed JamFactory associate program which nurtures craft practitioners and designers.

The full line up of works is available to view online from 9am, Friday 12 November. Bidding will open at 9am Saturday 20 November and close at 9pm. The full line up of works is available for viewing on 32 Auctions: <https://www.32auctions.com/nurture>

View the 50th Anniversary FINK Jug live auction here: <https://www.32auctions.com/50thfinkjug>

Design Canberra's Nurture program draws on the well documented benefits of creativity to support wellbeing and is aimed at supporting our artists and the Canberra community during this difficult time. The program is specifically tailored to focus on the well-being aspects of creativity, making and crafting as tools for health and recovery; and as an antidote to the stresses brought about by the pandemic.

For more information about the Nurture program please visit <https://designcanberrafestival.com.au/>

*Ends*

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**IMAGE BANK:** <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/hfjy1kwhy58bn1i/AACKz7BCaMfBBokMgwaNPwXoa?dl=0>

**IMAGE CAPTION:** 2021 auction works by (L-R) Estelle Briedis, Jennifer Robertson, FINK, Tamara Schneider and Bethany Lick.

Photos: Lean Timms

#### **About DESIGN Canberra**

DESIGN Canberra is the primary outreach program for Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre, a non-for-profit membership-based organisation which supports artists, craft practitioners, designers and makers at every stage of their careers. DESIGN Canberra seeks to develop new and expanded audiences for design and craft, whilst forging marketplace connections and unexpected collaborations, and acting as a source of inspiration. The festival is delivered in collaboration with industry, associations and educational institutions committed to the design arts and creative industries in Canberra. DESIGN Canberra is presented by Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre.