

# DESIGN CANBERRA FESTIVAL 2018

## Chelsea Lemon Announced as the 2018 DESIGN Canberra Festival Designer in Residence

Canberra based designer and maker known for her work with timber, Chelsea Lemon, has been selected as the designer in residence for the 2018 DESIGN Canberra Festival.

For the past two years, DESIGN Canberra has invited a local designer to create the look and feel of the festival. In 2018, the design will align with this year's theme of 'geometry'.

Chelsea's work questions archetypical furniture and showcases a new and fresh approach to a traditional woodworking technique. Her practice incorporates art into craft and design and offers a new perspective on furniture design within Australia.

Delivering a fresh approach and innovative flare to the festival, Chelsea's work was selected for its quality, the rigour of her practice and the symmetry of her work with the festival's theme.

*"As the 2018 festival theme explores geometry, I created a design that refers to the geometric buildings and visual forms which create our city,"* says Chelsea Lemon.

Chelsea works with timber as her medium, with many of her pieces including foliage and plant themes, mixed with interactivity and the decorative woodworking technique - parquetry. Her work explores new ways of incorporating shapes into design, by creating dynamic geometric arrangements and forms that are influenced by nature.

As Canberra is a city of design, well known for its iconic mid-century modern architecture and design community, Chelsea's work refers to the many buildings that represent the diverse architectural designs within the Canberra region and reflect the places where human connections are formed.

Her design makes reference to the Shine Dome, Australian War Memorial, Melbourne Building, National Carillon, Arboretum Parliament House and Enrico Taglietti's architecture within the Pakistan High Commission, each significant in themselves and together creating a place for the diverse culture within Canberra to thrive.

*"The design I have constructed is formed with layered blackcore and added colour to define various buildings throughout Canberra. I developed this style whilst exploring a woodworking technique known as parquetry during my Honours year at the Australian National University's Furniture Studio".*

Although this project deviates from the timber designs Chelsea is most known for, she chose to work with layered material for this project so the finished piece can be deconstructed into small components and reconstructed to depict a different representation of Canberra; the Canberra that is an everchanging, growing, melting pot of ideas and designs.

Chelsea graduated from the Australian National University's School of Art with Honours in a Bachelor of Visual Arts, majoring in Furniture Design in 2015. She received the 2014 Designcraft: Craft+ Design People's Choice Award for her Triangulation Chair and has exhibited her furniture at Parliament House.

From 5-25 November 2018, Chelsea Lemon will be the designer in residence creating new work for DESIGN Canberra exhibitions including "The Void: Reimagining Enrico Taglietti" and the contemporary design auction, and creating a bespoke gift for festival partners.

DESIGN Canberra is the primary outreach program for Craft ACT, a not-for-profit membership-based organisation which supports artists, craft practitioners, designers and makers at every stage of their careers. Craft ACT promotes and celebrates excellence and innovation in contemporary craft and design, and is supported by the ACT Government; the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments; and the Australia Council for the Arts, the Australian Government's arts funding and advisory body.

More information on the festival can be found at [www.designcanberrafestival.com.au](http://www.designcanberrafestival.com.au)

**DESIGN Canberra Festival 2018 is proudly sponsored by:**

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**About DESIGN Canberra**

DESIGN Canberra is an annual festival which celebrates and promotes Canberra as a global city of design.

Design is in Canberra's DNA. From the time of Walter and Marion Griffin's visionary design a century ago, to iconic experimental modernist architecture of the 1950s and 60s, through to contemporary and sustainable design developments today, Canberra has always been a living design laboratory.

Throughout November 2018, over 100 events, exhibitions, talks, tours, markets, artist studios and open homes will be showcased as DESIGN Canberra. The festival is for all interests and ages and most events are free. Last year a record 94,500 people attended the festival.

Presented by Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre. Program: [www.designcanberrafestival.com.au](http://www.designcanberrafestival.com.au)

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