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Australian
Design
Centre

Mid-Year Edition

Celebrating achievements and showcasing what's to come in 2025!



In Sydney we presented **13** exhibitions with work by **225** artists from January to July 2025.

78,200 people have seen an Australian Design Centre exhibition so far in 2025.



ADC On Tour presents the work of **44** artists in **5** locations across regional Australia in 2025.

Work by **140** Australian artists presented in Object Shop.



What's On Now



New Exuberance

Contemporary Australian Textile Design in collaboration with JamFactory.

Exhibition Dates: NOW
- 16 August 2025



Object Space: Drop Let

April Phillips in collaboration with Regional Arts NSW.

Exhibition Dates: NOW
- 16 August 2025



ADC On Tour

re/JOY Tasmanian
Museum & Art
Gallery, NOW - 24
August 2025

SIXTY Toowoomba
Regional Gallery, 16
August - 12 October
2025



Events

***Jewellery from Plastic
Debris Workshop with
Melinda Young***, 26 July
12:30 - 3:30pm, Tickets
[here](#).

***Make a Rag Rug with
Vita Cochran***, 1 August
1:30 - 4:40pm, Tickets
[here](#).

What's Next in 2025



The Story So Far: Helen Britton

Australian Design Centre proudly presents the tenth artist in the Centre's *Living Treasures: Masters of Australian Craft* series, **Helen Britton *The Story So Far***.

Helen Britton is a multidisciplinary Australian artist. Born in regional NSW and based between Australia and Munich in Germany, Helen's practice includes jewellery, sculpture, drawings, stencils and installations, and is informed by popular culture and folk art, threatened traditions, environmental destruction and human anxiety.

Living Treasures: Masters of Australian Craft is an initiative of the Australian Design Centre. The series aims to celebrate the achievements of Australia's most iconic crafts practitioners, through a touring exhibition and a major monograph publication.

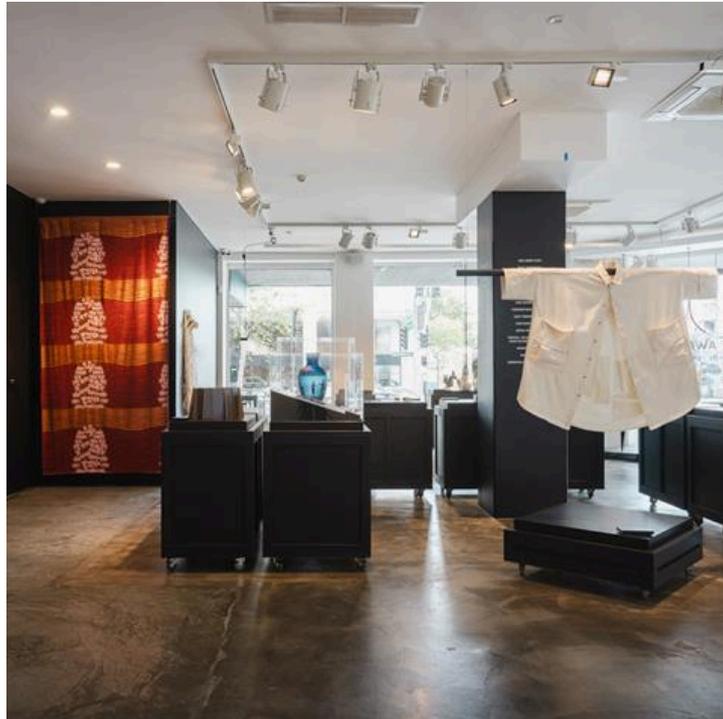
Living Treasures celebrates the work and practice of exceptional individuals who have demonstrated more than three decades of excellence in their chosen discipline.

The *Living Treasures* exhibitions focus on current work – they are not historic surveys. This concept aims to ensure that the work and ideas presented are current reflections of the practitioner's process and output. Each exhibition is accompanied by a beautiful monograph, which not only celebrates the work but also delves into each artist's background in more detail, contextualising their status as a leading practitioner of their craft.

As the tenth artist to be awarded this honour, Helen's exhibition will tour across Australia from 2025 to 2027 with ADC On Tour, Australian Design Centre's national exhibition touring program supported by Australian regional and public gallery touring partners.

Opening Night: Wednesday 27 August, 6 - 8pm

Exhibition Dates: 28 August - 4 October 2025



MAKE Award

MAKE Award: Biennial Prize for Innovation in Australian Craft and Design is a national award produced and presented by ADC. The 36 finalists were announced in June, working across object design and material practice in the fields of ceramics, glass, furniture, metal, jewellery, textiles and fibre.

The winners will be announced at the launch event on Friday 10 October.

Opening Night: Friday 10 October, 6-8pm

Exhibition Dates: 10 October - 22 November 2025



Sydney Craft Week

The 9th annual **Sydney Craft Week Festival** will run from 10-19 October 2025. Ten days of making, stimulating exhibitions and events and inspiring conversations exploring this year's theme of 'Material Intelligence' in all its forms for Sydney's designer makers, craft community and craft lovers.

This year's program includes over 600 participating artists and 57 participating groups across 45 suburbs of Sydney to present over 220 events, exhibitions, workshops, markets, open studios and more.

Program Live: 2 September

Festival Dates: 10 - 19 October 2025

More in 2025

Gallery 2: *Remade- Reloved* 10 October - 22 November 2025

Object Space: Jo Victoria 10 October - 22 November 2025

Gallery 1: *Second Look: the Legacy* 27 November - February 2026

Gallery 2: *Trace Lines Landlines* by Melinda Young 27 November - February 2026

Object Space: Annemaree Dalziel 27 November - February 2026

Challenging times for ADC

Australian Design Centre is an integral part of the arts ecology in Australia. This small, dynamic, independent organisation has nurtured and supported thousands of artists since 1964, presenting their work locally, nationally and internationally across extensive exhibition, touring, retail, publishing and digital platforms.

Recently we announced the difficult news that both Federal and State governments, through Creative Australia and Create NSW, have chosen not to support Australian Design Centre with four year operational funding.

Despite ADC being recommended by peers for funding, decisions by government quoting a lack of available funds and other priorities, means that NSW will be the only state/territory in Australia without a government funded organisation dedicated to craft and design practice.

This means that from 2026 ADC will no longer have the \$500,000 in base level funding needed to support annual operations.

To read the full announcement, click [here](#).

Imagine the Future

We're interested in formal proposals to help us to reimagine our future from 2026.

We invite proposals in confidence from organisations, institutions, and individuals with an interest in ensuring that the legacy of ADC lives on.

Contact ADC CEO & Artistic Director Lisa Cahill by 15 August 2025 to discuss your ideas: lisa@australiandesigncentre.com

Donate

Imagine if our 30,000+ supporters each gave a \$100 tax deductible donation to ADC. This would mean \$3 million to continue our operations, securing the organisation to support thousands of designers, artists and makers for the next five years.

Any amount over \$2 is tax deductible.

DONATE TODAY

Thank you to the generosity of 220 people, we have raised 46,000 so far.

Community Support

Many people have written to government and voice their concerns in the media about the defunding of ADC. Here are some of the things they have said:

"We must remember the important role that craft and design practices play in innovation in Australia. It is unbelievable that our government should consider it not a priority."

"ADC has played a pivotal role in our development, offering us early opportunities, professional mentorship, and a platform to share our work with wider audiences. Through their belief in our practice, we have been able to grow from a small independent studio to an award-winning business whose work spans exhibitions, public art, educational programs and national institutions."

"To withdraw support from the one institution in NSW that champions expertly crafted objects is not only shortsighted, but emblematic of a broader, troubling trend in which material culture and long-term artistic labour are devalued...This would be an unacceptable loss — not just for artists like myself, but for future generations and for the broader Australian public, who deserve access to the richness and depth of our nation's design culture."

Read about ADC's funding challenge in the media:

[ArtsHub 'Australian Design Centre loses state and federal funding faces uncertain future'](#)

[ArtsHub Opinions Analysis](#)

[ArchitectureAU 'The Australian Design Centre needs our help'](#)

[WoodReview 'Australian Design Centre base funding to be withdrawn'](#)

[The Guardian](#)

[Canberra Times](#)

[The Sydney Morning Herald](#)

[The Sydney Morning Herald 7 July 2025](#)

[ArtsHub 'Defunding Success in the arts is not saving money - it's destroying value'](#)
[ABC Saturday Breakfast Radio with Dom Knight](#)
[John McDonald Editorial 'Beggars' Banquet'](#)
[John McDonald Editorial 'Secret Sharers'](#)

Follow us on socials for updates:

Acknowledgement of Country

Australian Design Centre is proud to be a creative place located on Gadigal Country. We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Owners, the Gadigal People, and to Elders past and present. As a cultural organisation with national connections, we also pay our respects to all First Peoples across the country.

About Australian Design Centre

Established in 1964, Australian Design Centre is an independent impact organisation based in Darlinghurst, Sydney. We support and promote Australia's innovative designer makers, established and emerging, and encourage people to engage with design, craft and creativity through dynamic and high-quality national touring exhibitions, publishing, digital and educational activities.

ADC is supported by the generosity of our partners and donors, the Australian Government through the Visions Australia program, the NSW Government through Create NSW (until the end of 2025) and the City of Sydney.

ADC is a member of Australian Craft and Design Centres network, Australian Museum and Galleries Association, Arts Law, NAVA, Regional and Public Galleries NSW and the Sydney Culture Network.

Government Partners:



CITY OF SYDNEY



Australian Government
Visions of Australia

Supporting Partner:

SIGNWAVE
Newtown

Images:

Jeff McCann, ADC Opening Night, 2025. Photo: Jacquie Manning. ADC Opening Night, 2025. Photo: Stephen Wilson Barker. SIXTY, ADC On Tour - Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, 2024. Photo: Courtesy of BMCC. ADC Opening Night, 2025. Photo: Stephen Wilson Barker. ADC Opening Night, 2025. Photo: Jacquie Manning. ADC Opening Night, 2025. Photo: Jacquie Manning. re/JOY Opening Night, 2024. Photo: Jacquie Manning. Vita Cochran, ADC Opening Night, 2025. Photo: Jacquie Manning. Helen Britton, 2025. Photo: COTA. MAKE Award 2023, Install, 2023. Photo: Amy Piddington. Sydney Craft Week, 2024. Photo: Rueben Davis.



Australian Design Centre

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Gallery and Object Shop Opening Hours

Tuesday to Saturday 11am - 4pm

or other times by appointment.

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