



## MEDIA RELEASE

14 September 2016

### Indigenous Design exhibition opens 29 September

Australian Design Centre is delighted to present an exhibition of work by Nicole Monks and Lucy Simpson, the two recipients of the Arts NSW Indigenous Design Mentorship 2016.

The two designers have been working with Australian Design Centre, and selected community / industry mentors throughout the year to develop work for this exhibition, Nicole Monks: *Marlu (Kangaroo)* and Lucy Simpson: *Dhuwi*.

Funded by Arts NSW, the \$20,000 Indigenous Design Mentorships have been facilitated by Australian Design Centre.

Nicole Monks, is a trans-disciplinary creative working across furniture design, photo media and light sculpture.

She was the recent winner of the *Wandjuk Marika Memorial 3D Award*

at the 33rd Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award. Monks has designed a new furniture collection *Marlu (Kangaroo)*. The collection includes *Nyinajim anha (Sitting Together)* inspired by the campfire as a meeting place for women to weave, cook, and pass down stories and *Wabarn Wabarn (Bounce)*, inspired by the movement of the kangaroo. *Wabarn Wabarn (Bounce)* will launch in October. Nicole has been mentored by Terri Winter, founder of retail concept store, Top3 by Design.

Lucy Simpson is a textile, graphic and object designer, she recently featured at the Museum of Contemporary Art's *Primavera* 2015 and is founder of design and textiles label *Gaawaa Miyay*. Lucy Simpson will present a mixed

media sensory installation: *Dhuwi*, a translation of spirit / soul / central life / essence, developed and created with her family, Yuwaalaraay/ Gamilaraay community and industry experts including UNSW Art & Design, Associate Professor and textiles artist Liz Williamson, UNSW Art & Design, Senior Lecturer, Rod Bamford and Indigenous curator Emily McDaniel.

Lisa Cahill, Director of Australian Design Centre says, "Working with these two emerging Indigenous designers has been a privilege and we are delighted to be sharing their resulting work. Australian Design Centre has supported many Indigenous artists over its 50-year history including the exhibition currently touring of [\*Living Treasure: Masters of Australian Craft\*](#) Lola Greeno."

The exhibition will be opened on Thursday 29 September, 6pm by Tess Allas, Director Indigenous Program at UNSW Art & Design.

### **Indigenous Design**

Nicole Monks: *Marlu (Kangaroo)*

Lucy Simpson: *Dhuwi*

29 September - 23 November 2016

Australian Design Centre, 101 - 115 William St,  
Darlinghurst (corner Palmer St)

Gallery open Tuesday – Saturday, 11am – 4pm. Free exhibition entry

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### **Indigenous Design events and talks**

#### **Indigenous Design Exhibition Opening night**

Opening night of the new exhibition

Indigenous Design: Nicole Monks: *Marlu (Kangaroo)* and Lucy Simpson: *Dhuwi*.

Guest speaker: Tess Allas, Director Indigenous Programs,  
UNSW Art & Design

Date/Time: Thursday 29 September, 6 - 8pm

Invitation: [RSVP here](#)

### **In Conversation with Lucy Simpson and guest**

Yuwaalaraay designer Lucy Simpson and special guests will take a group through her exhibition explaining the deeper meaning and back stories to her pieces followed by a seated, informal talk with Q&A. Performance by Nardi Simpson (The Stiff Gins)

Date/Time: Tuesday 11 October, 6pm to 8pm

Admission: \$10

Bookings: [here](#)

### **Nicole Monks Public Program: Yarning & Yarning Workshop**

A cosy workshop hosted around Nicole's table, *Nyinajimanha (Sitting Together)*. *Nyinajimanha* is a place for passing on knowledge, creating objects and developing deeper connections.

When: Saturday 8 October, 11.30am - 3pm

4 x 45 minute workshops

Admission: TBC

### **Mentorship Panel Discussion**

A panel discussion hosted by ADC in collaboration with Women in the Arts exploring the value of mentoring and the mentor/mentee relationship. Facilitated by WIA's Isabelle Hore-Thorburn and Katie Winten, speakers include Lucy Simpson, Nicole Monks and Terri Winter from Top3 by Design. Ticket price includes a drink on arrival.

Date/Time: Thursday 10 November, 6 - 8pm

Admission: \$10

Bookings: [here](#)

### **About Australian Design Centre**

The Australian Design Centre is Australia's leading arts organisation dedicated exclusively to design and contemporary craft. We support the power of design in innovation and craft through exhibitions, events, education programs and digital platforms.

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Images: Lucy Simpson and Nicole Monks, 2016. Photo credit: courtesy of the artist. Nicole Monks, *Yarning and yarning*, 2016, wild wallaby yarn and knitting needles. Photo credit: courtesy of the artist.



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