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### Media release

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## Sydney Craft Week launches 2017 program

This October, experience all that Sydney's vibrant craft scene has to offer at [Sydney Craft Week](#). An initiative of the Australian Design Centre, Sydney Craft Week brings together a range of events under the one umbrella – from the latest big exhibitions at museums through to lectures and public talks and a huge number of workshops from beginner through to advanced making skills.

*"ADC is just one part of an extraordinarily diverse ecosystem of making in Sydney. Sydney Craft Week shines the spotlight on our talented makers,"* said ADC CEO and Artistic Director Lisa Cahill.

Events are taking place right around Sydney with at least one event in over 50 different suburbs, from Darlinghurst to Marrickville, Palm Beach to Concord, and Parramatta to Mittagong.

*"This year's Sydney Craft Week provides a snapshot of the state of craft right now, a burgeoning, exciting field where handmade is evolving alongside, and sometimes as an antidote to, our digital age,"* said ADC Creative Strategy Associate Penny Craswell.

Here are some [selected highlights](#) from a program of over 100 events.

### Handmade in a digital age

- *Biotextilology: The Cellular Catwalk* will showcase the work of Melissa Knothe Tait, who brings together the fields of biotechnology and textile design at ADC.
- Anna-Lise Backlund will be showing her 3D printed vases and jewellery pieces at her West Elm Pop Up Store in Bondi Junction.

- Craft scholar and writer Jessica Hemmings will be visiting from Sweden and speak at UNSW Art and Design, and Barometer Gallery.

### **Handmade market days**

- Saturday 7 October is the Australian Design Centre's Makers Market in Darlinghurst.
- Sunday 8 October is the Hazelhurst Art and Design Market in Gynea.
- Saturday 14 October is the Makers and Shakers Market in Marrickville.

### **Masters of craft**

- Head to Sturt Galleries and Studio, and Sabbia Gallery to see the latest work of Jeff Mincham, one of Australia's most celebrated ceramicists.
- Visit the studio of renowned textile artist Liz Williamson in Stanmore and get to see her in action at the loom.

### **Indigenous design**

- Four Aboriginal artists will be taking part in *60,000 Years in the Making: A Practitioner's Yarn-Up* at the Powerhouse Museum.
- *Bulay(i): Buku-Larrnggay Mulka and The Indigenous Jewellery Project* will be on display at the Australian Design Centre, featuring Yolngu jewellery of north-east Arnhem Land.

### **Get your hands dirty**

- Koskela will hold a weekend of whittling and weaving with master spoonsmith AKA Jeff Donne.
- MakerSpace & company in Marrickville will be holding classes in woodwork, machine knitting, leatherwork and knife making.
- The Fortynine Studio and Bic Tieu will be collaborating on a two-day Casting and Patina workshop where you will make an object in porcelain and bronze.
- Learn the art of weaving with Catriona Pollard at Mosman Village Yoga.
- Learn to crochet at the Speckled Squares Blanket Workshop at the Happenstore in Annandale or at the City East Community College in Bondi Junction, where you can also hear about how to turn a hobby into a business.
- Drop in and learn how to throw ceramics on the wheel at the Pottery Shed in Surry Hills for free all day Monday 9 and 16 October.
- These venues are hosting four or more workshops each

during Sydney Craft Week: Sydney Jewellery School, COMMUNE, Sew Make Create, Work-Shop Makery, Parramatta Clay and Arts Inc, Made by me workshops, The Rizzeria.

- If you have ever wanted to experience working and blowing molten glass, try Glassblowing and Sculpting on the Flame with Mark Elliott.

### **Craftivism in Focus**

- Learn to knit, have fun and connect with your community at Pussy Hat Knitting workshops with Shared Threads in the CBD and in Leichhardt.

- Find out how to fix your ceramics and reduce waste – learn the art of Kintsugi with Studio Enti in Darlinghurst.

- The Bronte Sewing Room is hosting a REMAKE Bag workshop, helping you to upcycle, while Reverse Garbage are holding two workshops inviting you to create new objects from reused materials that would otherwise end up in landfill.

### **Experiential events**

- Book now for Crafty Dining On Foley when five craft venues on Foley Lane in Darlinghurst will team up with five local restaurants on a dining walk event led by The Sydney Connection.

- Bring your partner to a Claydate held by Conscious Dating Co, or create a spooky clay creation with your date at Freaky Friday the 13th Date Night at Kil.n.it.

- Learn how to create simple circuits and explore a world where hand crafts and electronics meet with Bobbin and Ink x Working Cloth

- Become absorbed in making via mathematical paper folding when STEAMPop presents Lumifold: Mindful Math-Making.

More information on all events is available at [sydneycraftweek.com](http://sydneycraftweek.com)

The Sydney Craft Week printed guide includes an original cover artwork by Sydney designer Rachel Castle. The guide will be distributed in creative venues across Sydney. Preview [online here](#).

Follow [@sydneycraftweek](#) on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) for alerts on what's happening.

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**About Australian Design Centre**

The Australian Design Centre is one of 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.

ADC has been around for more than fifty years. Our foundation is in craft. With such a rich history in craft that threads through our exhibitions, retail activities and publishing, we feel we are well placed to take a lead role. Having said this, Sydney Craft Week is not about us, but about the diverse community of makers in our beautiful city whose hands weave, hammer, throw, bend, twist, fire, decorate, create and problem-solve day in, day out, right across the greater Sydney area.

An initiative of the Australian Design Centre



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Gunjan Aylawadi, *Hakk*, 2015. Curled paper strips on card. Photograph by Hollie Paterson



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