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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

23 January 2018

For immediate release

### ***Future Artefacts: fashion design and contemporary jewellery create an imagined future***

Australian Design Centre is delighted to present, in collaboration with Karen Woodbury Fine Art, *Future Artefacts* by Australian designers Alexi Freeman, Tessa Blazey and photographer Jane Burton opening on Thursday 8 February.

*Future Artefacts* is the culmination of a seven-year collaboration between fashion designer **Alexi Freeman** and contemporary jeweller **Tessa Blazey** and includes sculptural gowns and veils, with photographs featuring the works in ethereal settings.

Freeman and Blazey's collaborative practice is inspired by their shared love of science fiction and geometry, crafting wearable sculptures that could potentially become artefacts of the future. The work explores a fascination with archaeology, evoking the imagined body through the design and production of wearable artefacts. They create a vision of what the future may look like and who the inhabitants might be.

The designers acknowledge many influences for this series of work, ranging from medieval scale armour to art deco and the costume design of Paco Rabanne in the 1968 sci-fi classic, *Barbarella*. They use a mixture of techniques including ancient low-tech jewellery processes, such as lost wax casting and chainmail construction, in combination with contemporary industrial manufacturing like laser cutting.

**Jane Burton** is a photographic artist known for her depictions of female sensuality and sexuality, brooding landscapes, derelict architectures and abandoned interiors. The *Future Artefacts* photography takes the works to a variety of landscapes, chosen for their primeval appearance or post-apocalyptic aura: places sculpted through volcanic eruption, by wind, and water; structures built by man and then abandoned.

The collaboration is brought together by artist **Kate Rohde's** resin sculptures as props and **Byron Meyer's** ambient soundscape.

*Future Artefacts* is presented in collaboration with [Karen Woodbury Fine Art](#) and was first presented at [Craft Victoria](#) in 2017.

### ***Future Artefacts***

**8 February - 24 March 2018**

Explore the *Future Artefacts* website [here](#)

### **Event**

#### **Constructing Fantastical Worlds: An evening of fashion & photography**

Fashion designer Alexi Freeman and photographer Jane Burton in conversation with ADC's Creative Strategy Associate Penny Craswell.

A behind the scenes look into the design process of Alexi Freeman and *Future Artefacts* collaborator Tessa Blazey. Photographer Jane Burton will present a slideshow of her work, with a particular focus on her influences in film, fantasy and fairy tales.

**When:** Friday 9 February, 6-8pm

**Where:** Australian Design Centre, 101-115 William Street, Darlinghurst

**Admission:** Free

**RSVP** essential - [book here](#)

### **Australian Design Centre**

101-115 William Street,

Darlinghurst, Sydney NSW 2010

Tuesday - Saturday, 11am - 4pm and by appointment

### **For interviews, images or information please contact:**

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**About Australian Design Centre**

Established in 1964, Australian Design Centre (ADC) is one of Australia’s most innovative arts organisations.

ADC is a not-for-profit organisation that creates opportunities for people to engage with design, craft and creativity through dynamic and high-quality touring exhibitions, publishing, digital and educational activities.

- ADC’s mission is to ignite creativity through:
- Exhibitions – Showcasing the best making and design by Australian creators.
  - Touring – Bringing the power of making and design to new audiences across Australia.
  - Learning – Inspiring Australians to use design to transform their future.

Exhibition Partners:			
Karen Woodbury Fine Art	<b>craft</b>		CARLTON AUDIO VISUAL
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Australian Design Centre is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments, the New South Wales Government through Create NSW, the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, and the City of Sydney. Australian Design Centre is a member of Australian Craft and Design Centres (ACDC) network and the Sydney Culture Network.

**Image credits:**

*Future Artefacts*, collaborative work by Alexi Freeman and Tessa Blazey, photograph by Jane Burton.  
*Gown of Shadows*, 2014, Photo: Paul Philipson



Australian Design Centre  
101 - 115 William St  
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

Gallery and Object Shop: Tuesday - Saturday, 11am - 4pm

02 9361 7999

Office: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

02 9361 4555

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