

Media release: CONCRETE: art  
design architecture opens 31  
January.

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Australian  
Design  
Centre

**Media  
release**



### **Concrete in art, design, architecture**

A major exhibition exploring innovative and outstanding ways that concrete is being used by Australian artists, designers and architects in the 21st century opens at Australian Design Centre on Friday 31 January.

Media are invited to attend the launch event and preview from 5:00pm on Thursday 6 February. Formalities commence at 6.40pm. RSVP [here](#).



*CONCRETE: art design architecture* is a major exhibition exploring innovative ways that concrete is being used by artists, designers and architects in Australia in the 21st century.

Australian Design Centre is delighted to present this incoming touring exhibition in Sydney produced by our partners at Adelaide's JamFactory. Curated by JamFactory's Margaret Hancock Davis (Senior Curator) and Brian Parkes (CEO), the exhibition includes 21 artists, designers and architects from across Australia and brings together products, projects and works of art that reflect many of the current preoccupations with concrete within contemporary art, design and architecture in Australia.

Having a history spanning over 3000 years, concrete was first used by Egyptians in the building of the pyramids before the Romans produced what today we call hydraulic cement based concrete, used most dramatically in the Pantheon (completed 128AD). With the fall of the Roman Empire the secrets of concrete were lost, and it was not until the early nineteenth century that, through the development of Portland Cement, modern concrete was born.

It is hard to imagine a world without concrete. A material so ubiquitous we rarely take the opportunity to consider its impact on our lives and its role in the development of modern societies. This exhibition aims to question our preconceptions of concrete and to consider its functional as well as its expressive, poetic and aesthetic dimensions.

The exhibitors represent a broad range of approaches to working with concrete, and the range of work in the exhibition is extensive – from fine, hand-crafted jewellery

to spectacular buildings. Some of the exhibitors include: the Pritzker award winning architect Glenn Murcutt and the multiple award winning architectural firm Candalepas Associates, who have both used concrete to create beautiful places of worship; celebrated designers Adam Goodrum and Alexander Lotersztain who have separately designed striking concrete outdoor furniture; leading visual artists Jamie North, Abdul-Rahman Abdullah and Megan Cope who have each produced thought-provoking sculptural works, and jeweller Inari Kiuru who draws the eye to the intricate detail of concrete's infinitely varied surface.

FULL LIST OF EXHIBITORS: Abdul-Rahman Abdullah (WA) Adam Goodrum (NSW) Alexander Lotersztain (Qld) Anna Horne (SA), Baldasso Cortese Architects (Vic), Candalepas Associates (NSW), CHEB – Deb Jones and Christine Cholewa (SA) Convic (Vic), Durbach Block Jagers Architects (NSW) Edition Office (Vic), Elvis Richardson (Vic), Glenn Murcutt (NSW), Kyoko Hashimoto and Guy Keulemans (NSW) Inari Kiuru (Vic), Jamie North (NSW), Megan Cope (Vic), Rhiannon Slatter (Vic), Tom Borgas (SA), Sanne Mestrom (Vic), SMART Design Studio (NSW), WOOD Melbourne (Vic)

*CONCRETE* is the fourth and final exhibition in JamFactory's acclaimed *art design architecture series* and will conclude this significant 10-year project exploring material culture in Australia.

**When: 31 January - 18 March 2020**

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

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

*CONCRETE: art design architecture* is supported by Visions of Australia funding through Australian Government's Department of Communications and Arts and the South Australian Government through the Department of Skills and Industry.

The Principal Sponsor for *CONCRETE: art design architecture* is Cement Concrete & Aggregates Australia, the peak body for the cement, concrete and quarry industry in Australia.

*CONCRETE: art design architecture* partners and sponsors:

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PROJECT TWO

**Kōbe Board**

cement bonded wood composite



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Australian Design Centre is supported by the generosity of our partners and donors, 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 for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body, and the City of Sydney. Australian Design Centre is a member of Australian Craft and Design Centres network and the Sydney Culture Network.

Australian Design Centre is proud to be a creative place located on Gadigal Land.

We acknowledge with respect the traditional owners the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation.

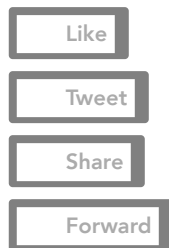
Image from top to bottom: Candalpas Associates, *Punchbowl Mosque* 2018.  
Photo: Rory Gardiner. Adam Goodrum, *Concrete Benches* for Ovolo Nishi,  
(formally Hotel Hotel) 2014. Photo: Joshua Ayett. Kyoko Hashimoto and Guy  
Keulemans, *Large Prayer Beads, (Daijuzu)* (detail) 2018. Photo: Kyoto  
Hashimoto.



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