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Media release

Thursday 6 September 2018

## Sydney Craft Week 2018 program launch

### The Festival: Friday 5 October – Sunday 14 October

Spanning 10 days in October, Sydney Craft Week puts the spotlight on the city's incredible craft scene.

In the second year of the festival, Sydney Craft Week is bigger than ever, with 89 venues across 48 suburbs, including

- 109 workshops,
- 47 exhibitions and
- 200+ events total.

An initiative of the Australian Design Centre, and supported by a City of Sydney Festivals Grant, this year's festival is jam-packed with events for everyone, including but not limited to: exhibitions, talks, workshops, retail events (including markets), open studios and live demonstrations. There are also lots of events with food and drink, fun family-friendly events for the school holidays, and lots more.

#### Theme

The theme, mindful making, explores how working with your hands offers opportunities to focus, connect, relax and create. We also focus on how makers approach their craft by applying a thoughtful and considered approach to the sustainable use of materials, innovative processes and an understanding of community needs.

#### Ambassador

This year, we are delighted to welcome Karen McCartney, author and editor, as the Sydney Craft Week Ambassador for 2018. She will be leading a [panel discussion](#) at ADC for Craft Up Late on Tuesday 9 October, with five Sydney makers who will explore how their process contributes to their sense of personal wellbeing.

#### Festival Directors

Festival Directors Lisa Cahill and Penny Craswell are thrilled to see this year's program come together with so many great organisations and makers involved. "At ADC we live and breathe contemporary craft and design, and we knew this festival filled a much-needed gap to celebrate and support our craftspeople, and that it would simply be fun for everyone!" they said.

**Craft Up Late**

After feedback from last year, Sydney Craft Week now presents [Craft Up Late](#) over three evenings in three different precincts, offering the opportunity to visit 50+ venues in the evenings (5–8pm):

- Tuesday 9 October in Sydney City, Darlinghurst, Surry Hills and Redfern
- Wednesday 10 October in Eastern Suburbs
- Thursday 11 October in Inner West

**Where**

Sydney Craft Week 2018 is staged in 89 venues across 48 suburbs including the following precincts: [Sydney City](#); [Darlinghurst, Surry Hills and Redfern](#); [Eastern Suburbs](#); [Inner West](#); [Northern Sydney](#), and [Greater Sydney](#).

Sydney Craft Week is designed to appeal to professional craftspeople and anyone interested in making or supporting local creatives.

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

The Sydney Craft Week printed program will be distributed across participating venues. Please click here to see a PDF or view online now at [www.sydneycraftweek.com](http://www.sydneycraftweek.com)

Follow @sydneycraftweek on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) for alerts on what's happening and follow #sydneycraftweek #scw18

**Highlights**

This year, so many of our events reflect our theme, **mindful making**, including [Craftfulness – A Conversation](#) at ADC, a [Japanese Kintsugi workshop](#) at Studio Enti, a series of [mindful workshops](#) at Work-Shop Redfern, the [Making it Better Workshop](#) with Shared Threads at ADC, a [Mindful Making](#) workshop at gaffa, [QuiltNSW's stitch-in](#) with Arterie at Chris O'Brien Lifehouse and [Wild Fibres Basketry workshop](#).

This year, **Indigenous makers** are in the spotlight thanks to the ADC exhibition [In These HANDS: Mara nyangangka](#), which features new paintings, ceramics, tjampi weavings and punu from the artists of Ernabella presented by Sturt Gallery and Ernabella Arts. The Australian Museum is also focussing on Indigenous makers with their [Adorned jewellery workshop](#).

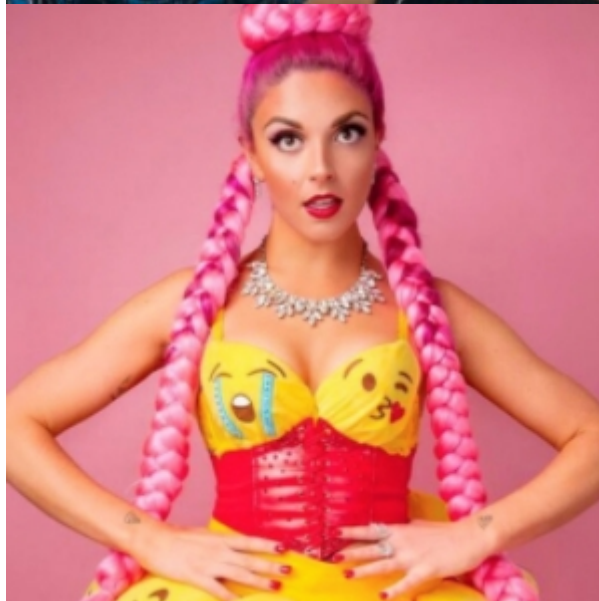
**Exhibitions** this year include [Thinking through making](#) at UNSW Galleries, [Traditional Afghani Textiles](#) at Guildford Library, [Artisans in the Gardens](#) at the Royal Botanic Gardens, [Form, Surface, Structure: Sculptural Ceramics](#) at Kerrie Lowe Gallery, [The Intuitive Thread](#) presented by The Japan Foundation, [Embroidered Relations: From India to UTS](#) at UTS Library, [Feast of K-Chopsticks](#) at Korean Cultural Centre, [Bravery Unmasked](#) at Casula Powerhouse, [Seed Stitch Contemporary Textile Awards](#) at ADC, [Future of the Anthropocene](#) at Courtesy of the Artist, [Making in Pieces, Hypersensitive/ Hipersensitif](#) and [Pop Life](#) at gaffa, [Landlines](#) by Melinda Young at Ihnen Atelier Jewellery, [Received Landscapes Brenden Scott French](#) and [Inflorescence Cathy Franzi](#) at Sabbia, [Shells](#) at Barometer Gallery, [ap-ro-po](#) at Stanley Street Gallery and [Blanc Feelings Milly Dent](#) at Saint Cloche.

Occurring during the **school holidays**, this year sees a number of family friendly events taking place. Workshops and activities for kids are being put on by [Monster Mice](#)

[Collective](#) in Glebe, [Creative Kids Co](#) in Paddington, [Melissa's Art Studio](#) in the Inner West and [Mosman Art Gallery](#), while ADC is holding more sessions of its extremely popular [3D printing workshops](#) for kids. Kids are also welcome to come along to a range of great events.

There are three big **markets** taking place, the [Makers and Shakers Market](#) at Marrickville Town Hall on Saturday 6 October, [Made by Hand: Hazelhurst Art and Design Market](#) at Hazelhurst Arts Centre on Sunday 7 October and ADC's own [Makers Market](#) in Darlinghurst on Saturday 13 October.

**Workshops** There are 109 workshops on during Sydney Craft Week this year covering a huge range of different disciplines and creative ideas from basketry to glass blowing, jewellery-making to ceramics, weaving to mathematical paper folding. See the [website](#) for more details.



#### About SCW

[Sydney Craft Week](#) is an inspirational festival that speaks to our fundamental human urge to create, while also showcasing exceptional contemporary craft. An initiative of the Australian Design Centre, this ten-day

festival features a range of exhibitions, workshops, talks and open studios.

Sydney Craft Week unites the very active craft sector within Sydney's creative community - including ceramicists, jewellers, quilters, knitters and other textile artists, plus timber workers, print makers, leather crafters, Indigenous makers and creatives of all kinds who work with their hands.

The core of Sydney Craft Week is collaboration, creativity and community participation.

### About ADC

Handmade is at the heart of what we do at the Australian Design Centre (ADC). For more than 50 years we have presented craft in all forms and supported makers and designers across the full spectrum of skill and materiality. ADC is just one part of an extraordinarily diverse ecosystem of making in Sydney and this new event is our way of showcasing many of the city's talented makers.



**Media contacts:** For more information, images or interviews please contact Alix Fiveash, Communications and Partnerships Manager, Australian Design Centre on 02 9361 4555 or email [alix@australiandesigncentre.com](mailto:alix@australiandesigncentre.com)

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, 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.



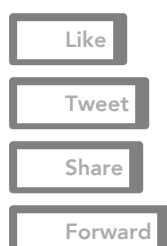
**Image credits:** Top: Esme Timbery, *Untitled 'Harbour Bridge'*, (2002). Photo: Courtesy of Sydney Opera House Trust. Background photography by Dennis Golding. Bottom: Fatemah T Embroidery as part of Traditional Afghani Textiles at Guildford Library. Photo India Betar. Singing Burlesque Fembot from the Future Lou P Scarlett as part of Loosen Up presented by Spunky Bruiser and Jeff McCann. Photo Amy Benjamin. Teapot Assembly. Photo courtesy Something at Marys.



Australian Design Centre  
101 - 115 William St  
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

Gallery and Object Shop: Tuesday - Saturday, 11 am - 4pm  
02 9361 7999  
Office: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm  
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