

WORLD

Making up this elite group of creatives are the names the Australian design world is talking about right now. Some are emerging studios, still young in their careers and forging a path as the country's **NEXT BIG THINGS**, while others have more than earned their place as **ICONS OF THE INDUSTRY**. Between them, these interior designers, architects, product designers and artists have overseen some of the nation's most innovative and exciting projects, spanning residential, retail, hospitality and more.

Needless to say, whittling down this list to just 50 names was no easy task. The sheer number of **EXCEPTIONAL AUSTRALIAN DESIGNERS, ARCHITECTS AND ARTISTS** could easily fill a whole magazine. But as problems go, it's a very good one to have. It is a testament to just how much fantastic talent we have in this country, and proof that the future of the Australian design industry is in very safe hands. Here, we present our **INAUGURAL VL50**.

Compiled by the *Vogue Living* team Written by Jake Millar

W150

Interior designers



BLAINEY NORTH, SYDNEY

CLIENTS: Russell Crowe, Nicole Kidman, James Packer, Alice Temperley, the Pratt family and the Stokes family.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: The world's tallest residential tower on Central Park; a number of grand homes in Sydney, Melbourne, New York and London; and superyachts. "We are also working on a secret new arm of the business, which is keeping me working through the night," says the managing director.
ETHOS: "We treat every project like a couture garment with a rigour and repetition in detail that challenges our clients' ideas of what is possible."



ARENT&PYKE, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: "Things started to take off when we joined forces in 2007," says director Juliette Arent Squadrito of linking up with fellow director Sarah-Jane Pyke. "A key project for us was The Avenue, which won multiple national design awards in 2014."
CLIENTS: Mostly private residences in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth and New Zealand; and a new Australian headquarters and Experience Space for Vida Glow.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Continuing the relationship with Polly Harbison (their Garden House featured in *VL Nov/Dec 2020*) with two new projects this year.
ETHOS: "Our work is about a modern comfort — natural, uncontrived and optimistic. Clever, not tricky. Timeless, not boring. There is a sensuality and elegance to the work, mindful of place and those who inhabit it."

PHOTOGRAPHERS: ANSON SMART (BLAINEY NORTH), JULIE ADAMS (ARENTPYKE), FELIX FOREST (RICHARDS STANISICH), IMAGE COURTESY OF AJ BALE (DYLAN FARRELL DESIGN), HANNAH BLACKMORE (HANDELSMANN + KHAW), HAIR & MAKE-UP: ALLISON BOYLE (BLAINEY NORTH)

RICHARDS STANISICH, SYDNEY

CLIENTS: "Private residential clients are a big part of our work," say founding directors Kirsten Stanisich and Jonathan Richards.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Two Art Deco properties overlooking Bondi Beach; Woollahra Hotel; corporate CBD projects for AMP; and ongoing furniture design with The Wood Room.
ETHOS: "We take inspiration from the unique charm of every project. Our work is characterised by beautifully simple spaces overlaid with elegant detailing."



DYLAN FARRELL DESIGN, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: "I was 'cold-called' in for an interview by a man I had never met before to design radiant-heater covers for an apartment," says the founding designer. "I almost skipped the interview but I walked out with a commission to design and decorate a new six-storey townhouse on New York's Upper West Side."
CLIENTS: Private clients from Sydney and Melbourne, and a furniture line represented by Jean de Merry in the US.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A farmstay in Bowral, a waterfront estate in Point Piper, and a transitional home in Palm Beach.
ETHOS: "We start each project by abandoning the intrusion of experience and asking, 'What happens when you start seeking something you've never sought before?' By carefully lifting back this curtain, we discover authenticity in each of our clients' homes."



HANDELSMANN + KHAW, SYDNEY

CLIENTS: Private residential projects ranging from Watsons Bay to Los Angeles, applying a signature look across Arts and Crafts, Art Deco, mid-century and contemporary styles.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A Leslie Wilkinson house in Vaucluse; a Victorian homestead near Mudgee; a heritage-listed Art Deco building on the Bondi beachfront; and a 1920s home in Woollahra with a Hollywood Hills theme.
ETHOS: "We seek to give our interiors a contemporary timelessness: a combination of paring back the architecture to its original bones and an unexpected mix of vintage and custom pieces which cut across eras and provenances," say founders Tania Handelsmann and Gillian Khaw.



M50

Interior designers



« AKIN ATELIER, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: Working with Belinda Seper on The Corner Shop flagship in 2005, the same year Akin Atelier was founded.
CLIENTS: Merivale, Camilla and Marc, Bassike, Dion Lee, The Australian Ballet, Melanie Grant, Qantas, and private residential architecture and interior design.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A retail space within the new Art Gallery of NSW development; a private residential house and guesthouse in the Southern Highlands; and accommodation and restaurant and bar spaces for Wisemans Surf Lodge.
ETHOS: “The most important part of my role as a designer is to create a visual language that threads a project together. I believe this creates experience, which is what shapes and defines a space,” says founding director Kelvin Ho.

» ALWILL INTERIORS, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “Launching my first furniture collection,” says principal Romy Alwill, “which was inspired by travel and architecture; the virtual Paris apartment concept; and a recently completed project Villa Carlo.”
CLIENTS: High-end residential and boutique commercial jobs mainly in Sydney and surrounding regions; interiors with Luigi Rosselli Architects; Bannisters Hotels.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A property with Fearon Hay Architects in Sydney’s Eastern Suburbs.
ETHOS: “We aspire to a style that is considered and timeless, but still evolving with current interior directions though not dictated by them. My favourite era of design is the 1930s — think Carlo Scarpa and Villa Necchi Campiglio. I also love Japanese design, having lived in Japan for some time — I love its innate connection to nature. We love to work with emerging designers internationally and bring that global feel into our interiors.”

PHOTOGRAPHERS: SEAN KENNEDY (AKIN ATELIER), TOBY PEET (ACME), ANSON SMART (ALEXANDER & CO), PRUE RUSCOE (ALWILL INTERIORS)



« ACME, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: Sydney’s Archie Rose Distilling Co.’s distillery in 2014, which won two awards at the 2015 Restaurant & Bar Design Awards in London.
CLIENTS: The Grounds, Merivale, Andrew McConnell, 25Hours Hotel.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A project for The Grounds; Neil Perry’s new restaurant; a hotel in Paddington; and a wellness hub in Brisbane.
ETHOS: “Our desire is to elevate the patron’s experience by capturing a moment in time. It’s about creating a sensory journey heightened by nostalgia,” say founders Vince Alafaci and Caroline Choker.

» ALEXANDER & CO, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “I was incredibly lucky to be introduced to chef Sean Connolly in the early days of our practice,” says director Jeremy Bull, “and worked with him and the team on the new Dubai Opera and flagship restaurant Sean Connolly at Dubai Opera. “This project received global recognition.”
CLIENTS: Mainly private clients on residential projects; hospitality operators and developers.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Numerous residential houses plus the iconic Indiana Teahouse in Cottesloe, Perth.
ETHOS: “Our work is handmade, it is inherently imperfect. We walk a line between the historic and contemporary, with a celebration of both our design history and our future ecology.”



W150

Interior designers

» DANIELLE BRUSTMAN, MELBOURNE

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “Being invited to be a finalist in the 2018 Rigg Design Prize with my installation *Inner-Terior* at the NGV,” says the interior designer.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Mitch Studio.

ETHOS: “My work is driven by a desire to create playful and narrative-driven spaces using colour, light and form as my key tools. I am aiming to create dream-like environments that will inspire my clients and keep them comfy at the same time.”



» FLACK STUDIO, MELBOURNE

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “Our invitation to the 2018 NGV Rigg Prize, which cemented our focus on the transformative effect design can have on community and the importance of design as art,” says founder David Flack.

CLIENTS: Predominantly family homes or family-run businesses.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: “A hotel we’ve been working on for the last two years in Sydney, opening at the end of 2021.”

ETHOS: “With a respect for the past and an eye to the future, we believe that creative flair combined with exceptional rigour creates spaces of sophistication and ease.”



» DOHERTY DESIGN STUDIO, MELBOURNE

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “Not long after starting my own business, I was asked to design Paul and Joe’s flagship Australian store in Toorak,” says founding director Mardi Doherty. “It was an invaluable experience to work on such a multi-layered project for a prestigious international fashion brand.”

CLIENTS: Paul and Joe, Mecca, Good Vibes Yoga, Marquis, Gewürzhaus, Bà Xã noodle bar, Diesel.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: “Capitalising on the recent growth in regional areas, a new client is busy turning the land to establish a self-sufficient approach to living in Castle Creek, a few hours north of Melbourne. We are seeing our clients embrace country and coastal living. Our role is to immerse ourselves in our clients’ lifestyles and environments, collaborating with local trades and suppliers to create truly bespoke homes. The ability to work from home in these rural settings allows our clients to connect to their city work colleagues remotely, and still enjoy the benefits of a slower pace in the country.”

ETHOS: “We love producing contemporary interiors that are diverse, vibrant and eclectic. As a studio we’ve embraced a collaborative and bespoke design philosophy, which we hope is evident in the breadth and era-hopping diversity of our residential and commercial work.”



DECUS INTERIORS, SYDNEY

CLIENTS: Mostly within the residential sector – “we strive to attract full service, open-minded, adventurous clientele to create really special homes that they love to spend time in,” says founder Alexandra Donohoe Church.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Completing a residential project along the coast of Western Australia, and an heritage residence in Sydney.

ETHOS: “Moving into our second decade of practice, we are redefining our design language within the residential interior landscape; a language that acknowledges the importance of residential design and the role it plays in our lives. We are detail-driven, layered yet always refined, and we love experimenting with opposing elements for a sense of polarity. There’s something intangible but powerful about injecting a little tension and the unexpected into every design.”



» CHRISTIAN LYON DESIGN, PERTH

CLIENTS: Christopher Boots, Robyn Cosgrove Rugs, Ralph Pucci Gallery, Christian Astuguevieille, Holly Hunt, Mobilia, Temple Rugs.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON:

“The interior of an iconic ‘80s masterpiece,” says the founding designer. “It’s been a dream job.”

ETHOS: “Responsive, evolving and eclectic — I love mixing bespoke, handmade pieces with vintage and contemporary works by design luminaries. I’m never enslaved to trends — it’s important to me that the space caters for the way my client lives and expresses their personality.”

PHOTOGRAPHERS: CLINTON WEAVER (DECUS INTERIORS), JODY D'ARCY (FLACK STUDIO), ANSON SMART (FLACK STUDIO), AIMEE UPSOMBE (DOHERTY DESIGN STUDIO)

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Interior designers



« TRAVIS WALTON ARCHITECTURE & INTERIOR DESIGN, MELBOURNE

CLIENTS: Tribe Hotels, IHG (InterContinental Hotels Group), Elle Macpherson, Samantha Wills, L'Oréal Luxe Australia, Laneway Greens, Greene Street Juice Co., Vicland Property Group.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: "A beautiful family beach house on Victoria's surf coast that comprises three levels and connects directly to the Great Ocean Road," says the founder.

ETHOS: "I pride myself on meticulous attention to detail with a bold, sleek take on contemporary luxury. By utilising texture, light and form, we craft thoughtful designs that are both beautiful and intelligent. Often employing bespoke elements, we create inspiring one-of-a-kind spaces that stand as both a physical expression of the clients' brand or identity and an enduring statement of great design."

≈ HECKER GUTHRIE, MELBOURNE

CLIENTS: Piccolo, Golden Age Group, Script Skincare, Piccolina, Hyatt, Polperro, Maddox Fit, SkyCity Entertainment Group.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: "A new sparkling wine house called Idée Fixe, located on the south of the Margaret River — dedicated to Vasse Felix's obsession with Blanc de Blanc," say founding directors Hamish Guthrie and Paul Hecker.

ETHOS: "The aim of the practice is to create spaces that are endearing and beautiful, where the feeling speaks louder than the furnishings and the levels of charm and comfort outweigh the instant gratification of the merely new."



« FIONA LYNCH, MELBOURNE

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: QIC/Dexus' foyer at 80 Collins. "It's been a launchpad into larger projects including the hospitality and public institution sectors, entwining my art and design background," says the founding designer.

CLIENTS: Private residential clients, Maurice Terzini, Lee Mathews, plus an international hotel brand launching in Australia in 2021.

ETHOS: "An emotive potency defines my work. It strikes a calm balance between strength and sensitivity, embodying a highly resolved sensual minimalism that's rooted in craftsmanship."

PASCALE GOMES-McNABB DESIGN, MELBOURNE

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: "Cumulus Inc. was a highlight and culmination of my experience in design and hospitality know-how," says the founding designer. "In 2019, it won a Hall Of Fame award at the Eat Drink Design Awards."

CLIENTS: The Bentley Group, the Van Haandel Group, Wood Marsh Architecture, Terroir.

ETHOS: "Through design, I endeavour to create timeless, beautiful and considered interior landscapes and objects. For me, the design process is about inventively and thoughtfully using materials, space and light to create spatial experiences that enhance our everyday lives. By collaborating with clients, craftspeople and makers, I deliver contemporary individualised objects, installations and interior design."



PHOTOGRAPHERS: ELISA WATSON (TRAVIS WALTON), SHANNON McGRATH (HECKER GUTHRIE), SEAN FENNESSY (FIONA LYNCH), JAMES MORGAN (PASCALE GOMES-McNABB)

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Interior designers



» THOMAS HAMEL & ASSOCIATES, SYDNEY

CLIENTS: A number of private clients.
CURRENTLY WORKING ON: “We’re in the planning stages of redesigning a unique home located on the NSW South Coast with views of the forest on one side and ocean on the other,” says the founding interior designer.

ETHOS: “My inspiration comes from my international experience and travels, and I hope this translates into a sophisticated look that goes beyond trends and is truly timeless. Cross-pollination and intelligent editing are hallmarks of my style. I am also inspired by great clients, and I have been lucky to have had many who I now call dear friends.”



« TOM MARK HENRY, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “After only two years of Tom Mark Henry being established, we won two awards at the World Interiors News Awards in London,” says founding director Cushla McFadden (pictured, with fellow director Jade Nottage on the left).

CLIENTS: The Star Entertainment Group, Microsoft, WeWork.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A boutique hotel in Sydney, due for completion in 2021.

ETHOS: “Our aesthetic is refined yet playfully sophisticated. We love to collaborate with our clients to allow their story to guide the design, while always seeking to deliver an element of the unexpected.”

» KENNEDY NOLAN, MELBOURNE

CLIENTS: Private residential, private developers, schools, universities, local government, commercial parties.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: “We have been working on a Melbourne CBD hotel for which we designed the building as well as the interior,” says founding director Patrick Kennedy.

ETHOS: “Our work is diverse because we approach design as a versatile discipline that springs from imagination — every time we encounter a new brief, client or context, the creative process begins anew.”



EMERGING INTERIOR DESIGNERS

ALICIA HOLGAR, BRISBANE

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: The Avian Apartment. “I had a wonderful client who allowed creative freedom within the parameters of brief, budget and time, which made it a joy to work on and resulted in the project being awarded, and published nationally and internationally,” says the interior designer.

CLIENTS: “I recently worked for Architectus within its interior architecture team, and am now running a suite of residential projects for private clients.”

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: An extensive refurbishment to transition two apartments into one residence in Brisbane.

ETHOS: “My philosophy is to collaborate with my clients to achieve an outcome that is receptive to people, place, community and environment. As such, my design aesthetic is grounded by the essence of warm minimalism and organic modernism.”

ESOTERIKO, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: Shelter in Double Bay. “This was our first commercial project and it received a huge amount of attention,” says director Anna Trefely.

CLIENTS: Mirvac, Gavin Rubinstein and The Rubinstein Group, Rachel Gilbert, Kristin Fisher Eyebrows.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A cutting-edge gym concept, an office, and a new direction for a growing fashion retail brand.

ETHOS: “I don’t think we have a ‘style’ per se — it’s more of an attitude or point of view. We always want to understand and respond to the people who will ultimately be interacting in the space. There is always a fairly relentless and obsessive examination throughout the process — refining, distilling, essentially trying to achieve something that elevates the human experience, which is what makes every project unique.”



» K.P.D.O., MELB AND SYD

CLIENTS: Across various project scales throughout Melbourne, Sydney and Hong Kong.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A luxury home in Toorak. “The trusting and close-knit relationship we share with our adventurous client has allowed K.P.D.O. to deliver a truly inspired project,” says founder and director of interiors Kerry Phelan.

ETHOS: “We’re very art based, and our work treads a fine line between restraint and exuberance. We’re always inspired by an expressive use of materials and rigorous detailing. We strive to reflect the personality of each client.”

» STATE OF KIN, PERTH

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “Brick House, our first completed high-end residential project, is a landmark for us,” says director Alessandra French, pictured with director Ara Salomone, and senior designers Amy Clark and Jessie Nguyen.

CLIENTS: Shutter House,

Bodyscape Yoga, Lulu La Delizia, Chu Bakery.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Sweep House, designed for a young professional family. “The brief was to create a space that is enduring and timeless.”

ETHOS: “Our vision centres on innovation, momentum and craftsmanship. Each project is formed from

its own nucleus of insight, and tended to with vitality, perception and zeal. We’re passionate about delivering expressive, contemporary spaces, and we focus on the experience of users within the spaces created, reflecting a distinctively characteristic outcome.”

PHOTOGRAPHERS: DAMIEN BENNETT (TOM MARK HENRY), MARK ROBER (THOMAS HAMEL & ASSOCIATES), DEREK SWALWELL (KENNEDY NOLAN), SOPHIE PEARCE (STATE OF KIN)

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Interior designers

≈ SJB, MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY

CLIENTS: Private houses, GSA Capital, Square Peg. “In the hotel and hospitality space, we’re currently working with TFE Hotels and Cienna Group on venues in Victoria, New South Wales and Europe,” says Andrew Parr, director, interior design, Melbourne.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A unique private residence in Toorak.

ETHOS: “My design style is contemporary but adherent to the client brief. I like to design spaces that have a sense of place and theatre, and provide a unique experience for the user. I believe in blurring the divide between interior and exterior spaces, and delivering a procession of spaces that are responsive to the client.”

≈ TAM SIN JOHNSON, SYDNEY

CLIENTS: A mix of high-end residential projects and hotels, retail and hospitality projects.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Rae’s on Wategos; Lucy Folk’s new boutique in Paddington, “and the refurb of my own home, which has not been touched since 1926,” says the interior designer.

ETHOS: “I like to create what I think of as ‘tactful disharmony’, where unexpected pieces come together — the collected and the custom, the antique and the contemporary, the refined and the organic. But for every moment of collision there is one of calmness, presided over by a love of beauty and a deep appreciation for function and comfort.”

≈ MIM DESIGN, MELBOURNE

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “The most significant turning point of my career was making the decision to start my own business,” says founding director Miriam Fanning. “It’s always a risk going out on your own, so it was a leap of faith, however I was very fortunate and within weeks had landed my first project working on a resort in Palm Cove. Before I knew it, my consultancy grew into a studio and we’ve continued to grow incrementally since then.

We’re now celebrating 21 years — another milestone and turning point for which I’m incredibly proud and grateful.”

CLIENTS: Forme, Costa Fox, Walker Corporation, Hub Property Group, McLaren Developments, Williams Group.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Enoteca Boccaccio.

ETHOS: “As I reflect on our team and our portfolio of work, the continuity of architecture and interior design has been a recurring theme.

We love the collaborative process, whether with each other, or with builders, suppliers and of course our wonderful clients. Working across residential, hospitality and commercial sectors, the challenges are varied, however a commitment to quality and a refined finish remains the same. Ultimately we strive to inspire our clients and go beyond their expectations by creating work they love.”

PHOTOGRAPHERS: NICOLE ENGLAND (SJB), ANSON SMART (TAM SIN JOHNSON), PETER CLARKE (MIM DESIGN), PRUE RUSCOE (YSG)



YSG, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “When it rains it pours — we’ve had several mind-blowing opportunities land all at the same time. And all of which I can’t talk about!” says principal Yasmine Ghoniem.

CLIENTS: Four Pillars Gin, Gage Roads Brewing Co., Go-To, Cultiver, The Lord Dudley, as well as local and international high-end private clients.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: “A private residence in Kuwait for a dear friend I went to high school with.”

ETHOS: “Sculptural, textural and unexpected. Perfection in my book is about cohesive clashes and unpredictable conclusions. It’s imperative that my design outcomes supersede our client’s wildest expectations.”

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Product designers

ELLIAT RICH, DARWIN (A)

CLIENTS: SheBuilt with Agius Scorpio Architects, DesignByThem, Professor Joel Pearson, Future Minds Lab, UAP (Urban Art Projects), Indigenous Art Code.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Design objects for The Things We Made Next for NGV's Melbourne Design Week. "It's a part of a collaborative practice based on collectively imagining multiple futures and expressing them through multiple means," says Rich.

ETHOS: "My designs are like periscopes peering around the edges of modernity to get a better look at our almost impossible, awe-inspiring planet."

DANIEL BODDAM, SYDNEY (B)

CLIENTS: Residential architecture; "an extension to the architecture arm of the studio are our furniture collections," adds the architect and furniture designer.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A few furniture pieces, "and continuing to experiment with quality Australian materials, colours and textures inspired by the raw landscape."

ETHOS: "We are a practice driven by a pursuit of simplicity, with a belief that a sense of wellbeing can be achieved through design. Regardless of expression — architecture, interiors or furniture design — we seek to inspire human engagement and a connection with nature whilst celebrating the artisanal."

JON GOULDER, ADELAIDE (C)

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: "My greatest honour was having a number of my works collected by the National Gallery of Australia in 2009," says the designer-maker.

CLIENTS: "I am a senior designer and maker with Snøhetta, represented by Broached Commissions as well as Spence & Lyda."

ETHOS: "As a fourth-generation furniture maker, I am thankful for my innate design ability. I aim to help define modern craft and design in Australia."

HENRY WILSON, SYDNEY (D)

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: "The A-joint system I designed in 2010, which won a design award valued at \$30k and helped me establish my studio practice," says Wilson.

CLIENTS: Aesop, Laker Studio.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Laker Studio with David Caon; larger scale systems and furniture pieces distributed by Living Edge.

ETHOS: "I like objects with feeling, that are practical and a touch ambiguous. There is a clear form and function in my products, but it's important they also have feeling. I explore how imperfection can be introduced into an industrial process, to make something at scale that retains a sense of individual charm."

ADAM GOODRUM, SYDNEY (E)

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: "When my Stitch chair was put into production with Cappellini," says the industrial designer.

CLIENTS: Kvadrat, Brickworks, Nau, Tait.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Nau for Cult with a new chair and a modular sofa collection to be launched in June.

ETHOS: "Every space is defined by the objects in it. With all my projects, I endeavour to create thoughtful objects with personality."

DAVID CAON, SYDNEY (F)

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: Designing the interior of Qantas's 787 Dreamliners.

CLIENTS: Qantas, Woolmark, Schneider Electric, Woven Image, Living Edge.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: Laker Studio, Neil Perry's new restaurant in Double Bay.

ETHOS: "Design is an amalgam of elements that bind to create a feeling, a response," says the industrial designer. "Shapes, materials and colours can be emotive but it's crucial to champion functionality and process. Creating something effortlessly from as few steps as possible is akin to art. The further along my journey I travel, the more I value simplicity and honesty."

TRENT JANSEN, SYDNEY (G)

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: "When Moooi put my Pregnant Chair into production. I was 27, and it was a real turning point for me," says Jansen.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: An exhibition for Gallery Sally Dan-Cuthbert; The Design of Repair, an Australian Research Council Linkage Project at UNSW Art & Design with Dr Guy Keulemans, Australian Design Centre, JamFactory and Design Tasmania; and lecturing at UNSW Art & Design.

ETHOS: "We use research to better understand the values, ideas, attitudes and assumptions (the culture) of specific groups of people, and then we work to embody these ideas in the objects we design, generating material culture that purposefully communicates richly symbolic human stories."

TOM FEREDAY, SYDNEY (H)

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: "The opportunity to collaborate with Herman Miller at the age of 24," says the industrial designer.

CLIENTS: Louis Vuitton, Alessi, Stellar Works and Herman Miller, as well as pieces exhibited at the MCA, Art Gallery of NSW and Powerhouse Museum.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: A new collection, the Nami range for Nau. "I'm also very proud to be collaborating with the Art Gallery of NSW on a bespoke collection of furniture for the gallery."

ETHOS: "I'm fascinated by the tension that lies between natural materials and contemporary design, and manufacture and develop unique designs originating from an intrinsic inquiry into the role of objects today. My work celebrates the materials and manufacture behind furniture and objects, guiding considered and thoughtful design outcomes that explore the notion of refined utility."

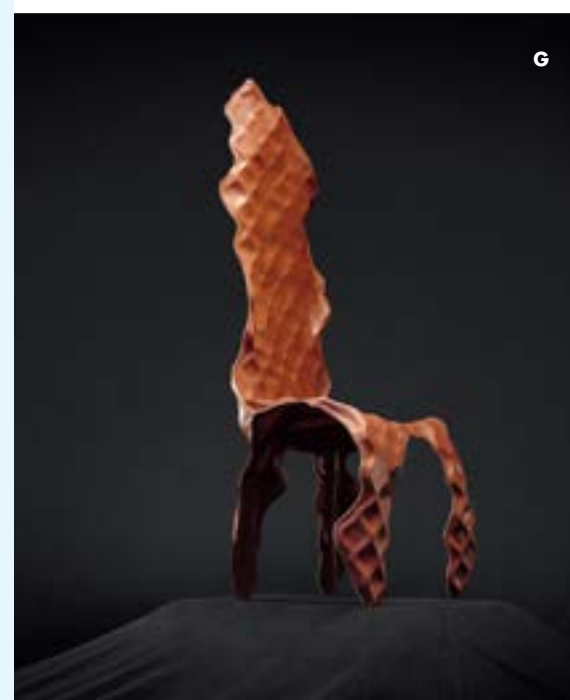
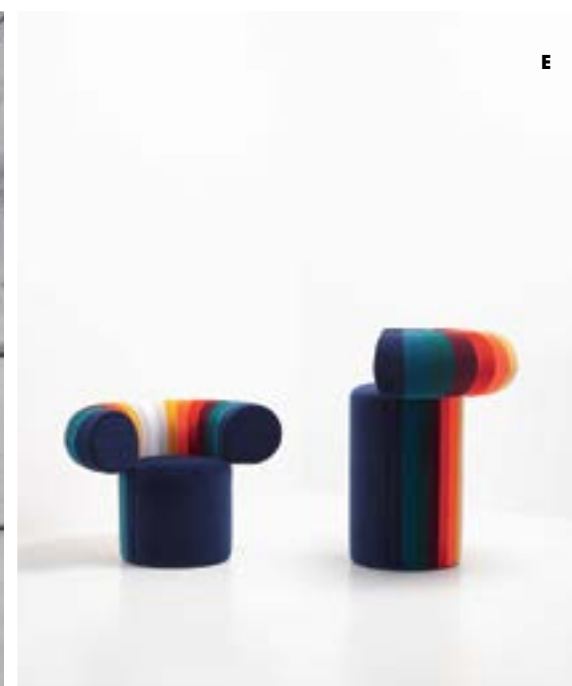
IVANA TAYLOR, SYDNEY (I)

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: The Wrapped Arch light. "It signified a new way of working through collaboration," says the textile and furniture designer. "The piece involved a steel frame by a metal worker with whom I worked to refine the structure to allow my wrapping process to be illuminated from within."

CLIENTS: JamFactory, Gallery Sally Dan-Cuthbert, designs for several exhibitions.

ETHOS: "My style reflects the inherent mindfulness and rhythmic qualities of the wrapping, weaving and knotting textile and construction techniques I use to create tactile and playful furniture, sculptural objects and lights."

PHOTOGRAPHERS: JAMES MORGAN; IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND GORRIE SANNON GALLERY; MELBOURNE (ELLIAT RICH); KELLY BERTSIS (DANIEL BODDAM); CLAIRE SUMMERS (JON GOULDER); EART; CELESTINE (HENRY WILSON); LUKE EVANS (ADAM GOODRUM); NICK CURRIN (DAVID CAON); TOM FEREDAY (TOM FEREDAY); DEAN TOPFER; IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND GALLERY SALLY DAN-CUTHBERT; SYDNEY (IVANA TAYLOR); STYLIST: CLAIRE DELMAR (DANIEL BODDAM); TRENT JANSEN (TRENT JANSEN); SARAH ADAMSON (TOM FEREDAY)



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Emerging artists



» AGATHA GOTHE-SNAPE, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “Being invited to show my work *Rhetorical Chorus* at Performa New York in 2015 with a brand new baby!” says the artist.

CLIENTS: Speculative Narratives and Networks Studio, Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building, University of Technology Sydney; embedded artist at the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: The exhibition *Eucalyptusdom* at the Powerhouse Museum.

ETHOS: “Take everything away except what is needed. Produce and consume wisely and with equal measures of care and pleasure.”



» RAMESH MARIO NITHIYENDRAN, SYDNEY

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “Exhibiting in the 2018 Dhaka Art Summit,” says the artist. “And a large-scale co-commission with Artspace Sydney and the Samdani Art Foundation, which travelled to the Encounters sector for Art Basel Hong Kong in 2018.”

CLIENTS: Outdoor public art commissions; HOTA, Gold Coast.

ETHOS: “I believe art is powerful. It encourages non-prescriptive and lateral ways to view and experience the world. This is in the back of my mind when I make artworks. I think about colour, expression, gesture and a multitude of histories.”

PHOTOGRAPHERS: GUILLES PERNET, COURTESY OF GALLERIE ARMELE SOVERI (MILANO), MAJKA BASKA (AGATHA GOTHE-SNAPE), JOHN TOROURKE AND REUBEN GATES (ESTHER STEWART)

» ESTHER STEWART, MELBOURNE

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “Not sure that I have had a big moment,” says the artist, “but rather a continual development based on a learned practice foundation taught to me by engaged, driven and interesting female teachers Kate Daw, Simone Slee, Bianca Hester, Jan Murray and Marie Sierra.”

ETHOS: “I am interested in continually learning. Currently, I am focusing on balancing an art practice while expanding my field of research in architecture. Generally, I am prioritising being more observant and working more collaboratively.”



Product designer

CHRISTOPHER BOOTS, MELBOURNE

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENT: “Working with Hermès on its New York City flagship holiday windows for 2014-2015 is certainly the most memorable highlight,” says the industrial designer.

CLIENTS: Cartier, Omega, Greg Natale, Travis Walton Architecture & Interior Design, Alexandra Kidd Design, Pascale Gomes-McNabb Design, Fender Katsalidis.

CURRENTLY WORKING ON: “A new project to coincide with our 10th anniversary on November 11 this year. Watch this space!”

ETHOS: “An overarching design philosophy is challenging to encapsulate: it all comes back to values, and how we choose to express them. My core values are based on nature — what better designer exists?”