

MediaRelease

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Contemporary practitioners are using our oldest building material

Wood. Naturally Better Program Partners were invited to a private viewing of an exciting contemporary exhibition showcasing Australian artists, designers and architects.

WOOD: Art Design Architecture celebrates our long and lasting relationship with wood and presents its diverse properties and qualities, along with the multiplicity of ways it can be used.

The exhibition comprises 28 exhibits, showcasing work by contemporary Australian artists, designers and architects. It represents a cross-section of current creative practices, modes of thinking and relationships to this fundamental material and combines furniture and functional objects, sculptural works (including wood carving by Indigenous artists), interiors and architectural work. The exhibition looks at the use of wood through three lenses; place and identity, sustainability and ecology, craftsmanship and technology.

Brian Parkes, Chief Executive of the JamFactory and co-curator of the exhibition, Lionel Bawden sculptor, Drew Heath architect and Stephen Goddard catalogue designer, gave guests a private tour.

Art design and architecture are rarely brought together in a single exhibition, but doing so allows a broader exploration of our relationship to wood and how we engage with it in our every day life.

Forest and Wood Products Australia are the principal sponsors of the exhibition. "We are delighted to align the exhibition with our Wood. Naturally Better brand. As one of our few truly renewable materials, sustainably sourced wood will be playing a major role in helping us preserve the environment while maintaining the quality of life we seek", said Ric Sinclair, managing director of FWPA.

"Today, through activities such as Wood. Naturally Better, we are informing people about the advantages of wood. In the future we will live with the results ", Ric added.

WOOD: art design architecture resulted from collaboration between JamFactory Contemporary Craft and Design and Botanic Gardens of Adelaide. The exhibition has been touring Australia for 2 years with the final exhibition being held at The Object Gallery, St Margarets, 417 Bourke Street, Surry Hills NSW, closing on 7 December.

About Forest and Wood Products Australia

FWPA aims to improve the competitiveness and sustainability of the Australian forest and wood products industry through innovation by investing in effective and relevant R&D and promotion of the industry's products, services and values. FWPA undertakes industry-level activities where a collective approach delivers more effective and valuable commercial outcomes than individual action. We deliver services that support the industry's capacity as a major exporter and mainstay of regional communities in many parts of Australia.



ENDS – Images from the viewing can be <u>found here</u>. Further images and details on art pieces can be <u>found here</u>.

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