

THE INTERNATIONAL ISSUE

AUSTRALIA

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MATERIAL WORLD
The magic of fabric, fashion and dance

Milan
2008

AUSTRALIA ON SHOW
AT THE FURNITURE FAIR

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New York apartment

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Glenn Murcutt
Zaha Hadid
Ettore Sottsass

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FROM LEFT Nick Rennie, Helen Kontouris, Adam Goodrum, Trent Jansen and Brian Steendyk, at the Piazza del Duomo in Milan, are the latest design names to watch.

MOVERS & SHAKERS

Hats off to these fresh faces of Australian design who unveiled their latest projects at the Milan Furniture Fair to universal acclaim.

1 BRIAN STEENDYK Age: 37 City: Brisbane
Design: Cero chair. "The chair was inspired by my fascination with the aeronautic industry. This piece was based on the outside of a jet engine and the fact that the central void produces the force. The chair is made from recyclable rotationally moulded plastic." The Cero is part of Sydney's Powerhouse Museum's permanent collection and graces the foyer of the National Gallery in Canberra.
Designed for: Serralunga (available from Schiavello, www.schiavello.com).
What's next? "We are working on a whole range of things with a focus on lighting and seating. We are designing a table to complement the Cero chair which will be produced later this year. Plus a range of Palm Springs-inspired wire chairs (pictured below) for Serralunga which will be manufactured in Italy and Australia. Another piece in the pipeline is the Dove chair, which is made from injection plastic. I am also involved in an exhibition that will be launched in October at the Queensland Art Gallery called *Place Makers: Contemporary Queensland Architects*, which explores diverse design approaches to climate, lifestyle and population growth." www.steendyk.com

2 NICK RENNIE Age: 33 City: Melbourne
Design: Chiku shelving. This is a self-standing bookshelf with five slim black shelves connected by seven black-painted metal poles. "The design was inspired by bamboo forests in Japan, with the different angles of the shelving unit replicating those of bamboo growing naturally in the wild."
Designed for: Porro (available from Space, www.spacefurniture.com).
What's next? "Working hard to make international contacts, and trying to capitalise on the success from the launch of my Chiku shelving. Further development of an outdoor range with Idée, a wonderful Japanese company, as well as a few secret projects in the wings. And, all the time, continuing the push for Australian design on the international scene." www.happyfinishdesign.com

3 TRENT JANSEN Age: 26 City: Sydney
Design: The Pregnant chair is a wooden design that fits a smaller chair within the body of a full-sized one, as though the larger chair were pregnant. The smaller chair can be removed depending on seating needs.
Designed for: Moooi (available from Space, www.spacefurniture.com).
What's next: "I have completed two lighting pieces and one new furniture piece for Moooi. If they like them I will be back in Milan next year. I'm also working on a new range of sustainable lighting for ISM Objects (www.ismobjects.com.au). I'm heading to Singapore to deliver a sustainable design workshop. The trip is arranged by the Australian High Commission as a follow-up to my participation in Utterubbish for Singapore Design Festival last year." www.trentjansen.com



4 ADAM GOODRUM Age: 35 City: Sydney
Design: Stitch chair. "Folding chairs are not usually taken seriously as proper seating but are great where there is limited storage. I wanted to design a chair that folded flat but didn't look like a conventional folding chair." Stitch is an aluminium chair (pictured) that closes to 15mm and stands alone as an attractive piece of furniture, irrespective of its folding attribute. The chair will be available in a number of colours and should be on sale later in the year.
Designed for: Cappellini (available from De De Ce, www.dedece.com.au).
What's next? "Cappellini is interested in producing a whole range of folding items inspired by Stitch. The company is also interested in collaborating with me on more projects in the future, so I'm very chuffed." www.adamgoodrum.com

5 HELEN KONTOURIS Age: 31 City: Melbourne
Design: "I did two pieces for the Spanish company Manufacturas Celda. The Outline lamp, a standing pendant lamp, was influenced by the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. I used tubed steel for the stand and the shade is cotton. The other was the Minka chair (not pictured), a voluptuous form in which sharp lines collide with soft curves. The seat is fibreglass and upholstered in saddle leather."
Designed for: Manufacturas Celda (www.manufacturaselda.com).
What's next? "I'm releasing an outdoor collection for Sunweave (Hong Kong). Plus new products for Schiavello in Australia – including the Chubby sofa range. I'm also doing new products for a fashion brand." www.helenkontouris.com