

Shadow Places

An artwork by The Cad Factory's Vic McEwan, Nicole Barakat, the National Museum of Australia's George Main and the Narrandera Community Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences for Sydney Design 2 - 11 September 2016



The Artwork

The artwork Shadow Places is a creative collaboration between the artists Vic McEwan, Nicole Barakat, George Main, along with Narrandera community members and textile artists, commissioned by MAAS.

Shadow Places will consist of 4 - 9 large round hay bales, with video projections and sound exploring the themes of Sydney Design, along with a number of three dimensional textile components linking the hay bales to the video content. The artwork will be installed in the Turbine Hall at MAAS for Sydney Design 2016 from 2 -11 September.

You are invited to be part of the textile making team for Shadow Places.



The project

Shadow Places is an installation that combines ecological & agricultural thinking, projection, sound & light and focuses on the interconnectedness of rural and urban places and people. It proposes that rural landscapes are forgotten places, despite people being intimately tied to them through food and fibre production, through ecology and materiality.

The title 'Shadow Places' comes from the writings of eminent Australian philosopher Val Plumwood who used this term to describe productive places hidden from the people they sustain, places that people don't know but are so reliant on through the consumption of food and fibre. We tend to value the outputs, not the places. We see them as spaces to extract from, not places to visit or connect to.

Due to the very nature of industrial systems of food and fibre production, processing and distribution, we cannot easily identify or care for these places, which is arguably one of the reasons why many of these regional locations are faltering, ecologically and socially.

We intend to look at the implications and consequences that design have had on our agricultural past and futures in terms of food and fibre security and climate change and its impact on both people and place.



The theme for Sydney Design

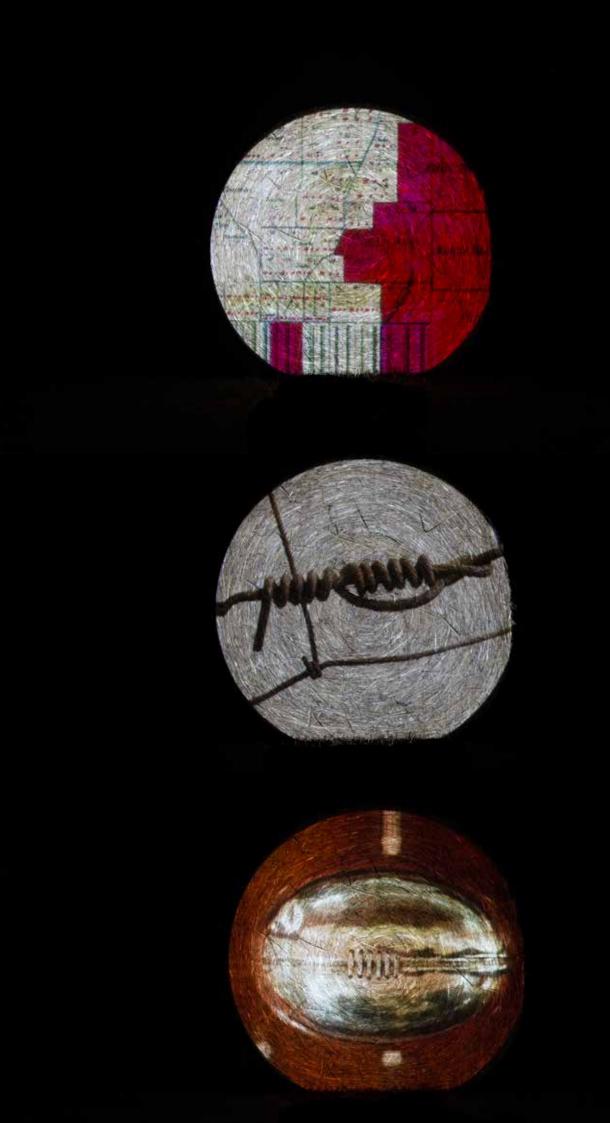
Make or Break

It is an exciting time in the design world with technology making more possible than ever before. For many designers these increased opportunities provoke a revision of the past. Inspired by previous approaches, products and techniques - designers rework these and create new work for the future. The ability of design to solve problems is never more valuable as we face a new world order of manufacturing, economic and environmental challenges. The theme for Sydney Design 2016 'Make or Break' explores designers' response to this and carries on with the tradition of the festival presenting the industry to the public.

Project Aims

The artwork devised will visually responds to the Sydney Design themes in a creative and innovative way. The aim of this project is twofold:

- To create an artwork and accompanying public program that engagingly interprets the Sydney Design themes to Museum visitors.
- To invite rural communities and non-rural audiences to rethink how they perceive of design and innovation originating in a regional setting. The artwork will tease out the impact of design in a rural and agricultural context and make salient what design suggests to regional communities.



Process: Textile Workshops with Nicole Barakat over three weekends

We are inviting members of the Eco-Dying Circle to continue working with Nicole to help create new artworks for Shadow Places. This invitation extends to other Narrandera community members interested in textiles.

Workshop 1

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 June Arts Hub Narrandera 10am - 4pm

Workshop 2

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 June Arts Hub Narrandera 10am - 4pm

Workshop 3

Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 August Arts Hub Narrandera 10am - 4pm

On Exhibition

Opening Night Thursday 1 September at MAAS 2 - 11 September MAAS, Ultimo, Sydney

RSVP

We need to know one week in advance of each workshop if you will be attending, so we can organise catering. Vegan lunch will be provided. Please advise us of any additional dietary requirements.

Call Sarah 0405 447 490 or email sarah@cadfactory.com.au



