

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Tasmanian represents Australia at the inaugural London Design Biennale

London-based Tasmanian designer Brodie Neill will be centre of the world stage with a new installation, Plastic Effects, at the first London Design Biennale next week.

A University of Tasmania alumnus, Neill collaborated with Dr Jennifer Lavers, of the University's Institute of Marine and Antarctic Science (IMAS), in preparing the installation. Dr Lavers' research interests include the impact of plastics on ocean ecology and wildlife.

The installation will include photographic works and a specimen table, titled Gyro, designed by Neill, which is constituted from ocean plastics and developed by the designer and his collaborators.

University Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Brigid Heywood said the Neill installation brought into focus a number of important themes for the University.

"Brodie Neill is a striking example of our belief that by offering a world-class University here, our students can go on to make their mark globally, wherever their careers take them," Professor Heywood said.

"Our research strengths are distinctive, and we are very good at collaborating within and across disciplines in new and unexpected ways to develop responses to global concerns.

"Neill brings together traditional and artisan sensibilities with contemporary materials and the capacity for digital fabrication; something our creative practice disciplines are renowned for.

"We are immensely proud of the achievements our researchers and alumni, and the Biennale brings the strength of both together."

The London Design Biennale will be held from September 7-27 and includes work from more than 35 countries, responding to the theme 'Utopia by Design'.

It will be attended by 90,000 visitors, including key industry leaders, and the University - which is supporting Neill's exhibition - will host a function in London to mark its opening on 7 September.

The University of Tasmania has research strengths of national and world standing in a range of areas, including Southern Ocean oceanography and climate science (through IMAS) and design (through the Tasmanian College of the Arts and the School of Architecture).

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

Brodie Neill is based in London and is available for interview by emailing sameera@sameerahanif.com.

Pictures of Neill and his specimen table Gyro are available by emailing Media.Office@utas.edu.au.

Information released by:

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