

MEDIA RELEASE
Wednesday 18 July 2018

MAAS Architecture Commission 2019

Following the inaugural Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS) Architecture Commission in 2018, entries are now open for the 2019 MAAS Architecture Commission as part of **Sydney Design Festival**.

The 2019 MAAS Architecture Commission will be a feature of the Sydney Design Festival, an annual celebration of design at venues across Sydney from 1 – 10 March 2019. In 2019 the MAAS Architecture Commission site will be the forecourt of the Powerhouse Museum, a location that offers the awarded designers an opportunity for high visibility through museum visitation and heavy traffic along Harris St Ultimo. The installation will be on view on the Museum forecourt for the duration of the festival.

Architects and designers are invited to design a temporary installation or structure that responds to the site and explores the potential for architecture to address complex issues, including those of environmental sustainability, access and inclusion through collective design.

MAAS Director, Curatorial, Collections & Exhibitions Peter Denham said *“The MAAS Architecture Commission is an opportunity for emerging practitioners to create something truly unique that will be experienced by both the design community and the wider Sydney community. The 2018 commission Four Periscopes has been very popular with visitors. We look forward to working with another inspiring architect or architectural team to bring their vision of community design to life for the 2019 Sydney Design Festival.”*

Australian architecture studio **TRIAS** was awarded the first annual MAAS Architecture Commission as part of the 20th **Sydney Design Festival** in March 2018. TRIAS’ installation **Four Periscopes** consisted of four towers which were filled with a series of periscopic mirrors suspended above the ground, inviting visitors to look inside them, the reflections connecting people from the balconies to the ground floor, and from one tower to another. Visible from all levels of the Powerhouse Museum, TRIAS’s winning work was a playful installation that evoked curiosity, encouraged interaction and inspired engagement.

The 2019 MAAS Architecture Commission competition will be judged by a panel of industry experts:

William Smart, Director and Founder, Smart Design Studio

Dr Sam Spurr, Senior Lecturer, UNSW

Michael Hromek, Professional Tutor, Jumbunna Inst for Indigenous Education & Research, UTS

Kelvin Ho, Founder, Akin Creative

Diana Snape, Senior Design Advisor, Office of the Government Architect, NSW

Jennifer McMaster, Director, TRIAS

Keinton Butler, Senior Curator, MAAS

Sophie Harrington, Public Programs Manager, MAAS

Peter Denham, Director, Curatorial, Collections & Exhibitions, MAAS

The annual MAAS Architecture Commission is made possible by a generous private donor. It offers emerging and established architectural and design talent the opportunity to design and present innovative projects for the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences.

The Sydney Design Festival is one of the longest running design festivals in the world. Attracting over 60,000 attendees to over 100 events, the festival brings together design practitioners, commentators

and enthusiasts for 10 days of events, workshops and exhibitions. The 2019 Sydney Design Festival will run at venues across Sydney from 1 – 10 March 2019.

ARCHITECTURE COMMISSION DETAILS

What: *MAAS Architecture Commission 2019*

Where: Powerhouse Museum, 500 Harris Street, Ultimo NSW 2007

Entry: <https://ma.as/architecturecommission2019>

Key Dates:

EOIs open 18 July 2018

EOIs close 13 August 2018

Winning design announced September 2018

Sydney Design Festival and MAAS Architecture Commission installation open 1 March 2019

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o5v51n0akkczd2k/AABG2b1-cjdcNXNr9_Opfev8a?dl=0

Sydney Design Festival

1 – 10 March 2019

Full program to be announced in January 2019

<https://sydneydesign.com.au/2019/>

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About the Museum of Arts and Applied Sciences

Powerhouse Museum, alongside Sydney Observatory and Discovery Centre, is part of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS), Australia's contemporary museum for excellence and innovation in applied arts and sciences. The Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences founded in 1879 has a vast and diverse collection of over 500,000 objects.

MAAS acknowledges Australia's First Nations Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land and gives respect to the Elders – past and present – and through them to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.