

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: TUESDAY 29 JULY 2008

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Student furniture designs are fresh and quirky

An exhibition of quirky, innovative work by Australia's furniture makers of the future will open at the Powerhouse Gallery and Art Space at Inveresk from Friday 1 August.

Fifteen pieces by first and second year students from the Australian School of Fine Furniture will show the process of design from initial concept sketches to scale modelling and full-size prototyping.

"*Select 08* is an exhibition showing the refinement and progress of students' ideas," said the head of the school Simon Ancher.

"The furniture is evidence of the students' outstandingly fresh, innovative responses to ordinary household items such as mirrors, coffee tables, folding screens and lights."

An example of the students' quirky approach is a cabinet with drawers whose handles are hidden – and activated with magnets. Another is a mirror based on an easel design with a Da Vinci Code-like hinge at the back.

"This work mixes high standards of finish with innovative interpretation of standard objects," Simon said.

"The materials are largely timber, solid and veneered and the students have given considerable thought to the aspects of environmentally sustainable design and production."

Event: *Select 08* exhibition of furniture by students at the Australian School of Fine Furniture. Guest speaker, Jennifer Loy, research fellow Centre for Sustainable Architecture with Wood, UTAS.

When: Launch 5.30pm-7pm, Friday 1 August. Exhibition runs 29 July – 8 August.

Where: Powerhouse Gallery and Art Space, Blue Café, Inveresk.

Plus: *The Process of Design*, workshops by Simon Ancher, Australian School of Fine Furniture, Wednesday 30 July, 10am and 2.30pm and Wednesday 6 August, 10am and 2.30pm.

Information Released by:

Media Office, University of Tasmania

Phone: 6226 2124 Mobile: 0417 517 291

Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au