BRODIE NEILL

Design Tasmania



ReCoil

Presented by Design Tasmania in collaboration with Hydrowood, with the support of the Tasmanian Government, and Lark Distillery.

"The world of waste is plentiful, with limitless potential to recycle. No longer do we need to sacrifice the environment in the harvesting of its natural resources."

Brodie Neill

For immediate release November 2021

Brodie Neill: ReCoil

Presented by Design Tasmania in collaboration with Hydrowood, with the support of the Tasmanian Government, and Lark Distillery.

VIP tour to celebrate Brodie Neill: ReCoil presented for London Craft Week and the launch of Hydrowood's Traceability Portal.

With Minister for Trade; Guy Barnett MP and Andrew Morgan of Hydrowood.

Tuesday 2nd November, 11am.

Design Tasmania: corner of Tamar and Brisbane Streets.

ReCoil

London-based Tasmanian designer's inventive upcycled timber work; *ReCoil*, was the standout event of London Craft Week 2021. With physical viewership of 3000+ VIPs and extensive digital exposure internationally.

ReCoil has garnered the interest of press and professional bodies across the globe and attracted the attention of VIP's including Lord Rumi Verjee with an exclusive Australian High Commission event to celebrate it's inclusion in the *UK/Australia Season 2021/22* program.

ReCoil provided a sensational showcase of the Tasmanian spirit through innovation, resources and design. The success of the show has continued with invitations to showcase ReCoil in the worlds leading galleries, institutions and museums and has been a catalyst for discussion with major architectural firms, the words largest boat builders and interior design organisations.

ReCoil will return to Design Tasmania in Summer 2022, where Tasmanian born, world renown designer Brodie Neill will provide local makers insight into his multi-facted practice through an upcoming virtual Q&A.

Hydrowood Traceability Portal Launch

Through the use of block-chain technology Hydrowood is trialing a new traceability portal which enables the purchaser of a piece of Hydrowood furniture to be confident that the timber used in their piece is authentic and ethically sourced from Lake Pieman, Tasmania.

Brodie Neill: ReCoil.

A centrepiece crafted with forgotten timber reclaimed from Tasmania's lakes. *ReCoil* invites conversation, taking you on a journey of the reimagined, through the island's rugged beauty.

Brodie Neill *ReCoil* is currently available virtually, and via a digital display at Design Tasmania.



Hydrowood Traceability Portal Launch

Tasmanian underwater logging company Hydrowood, today launched it's pilot traceability portal. The portal co-funded by the Tasmanian Government's Department of State Growth gives consumers piece of mind that the product that they have purchased is authentic.

The ReCoil collaboration presented a opportunity to launch and showcase this emerging technology on an international scale. By scanning the QR code the consumer not only confirms the authenticity of the materials but is takes the user through the unique narrative of the Hydrowood story. <u>discover.hydrowood.com.au</u>



"As consumers become more aware and interested in the provenance and background story of products it will become important to be able to prove the authenticity of materials. This is particularly relevant where place branding, such as that which we see in Tasmania, adds to the value proposition of the product.

Through the use of block-chain technology Hydrowood is trailing a new traceability portal which enables the purchaser of a piece of Hydrowood furniture to be confident that the timber used in their piece is authentic and ethically sourced from Lake Pieman."

Andrew Morgan Managing Director, Hydrowood

"Place-of-origin can be a valuable asset for Tasmanian businesses looking to sell their premium products internationally given our reputation for quality, and it's an asset worth protecting."

Guy Barnett MP Minister for Trade, Tasmanian Government



ReCoil

Brodie Neill is known for his mastery of materials, form, and process. Continuum shows his major, upcycled works. ReCoil is presented by not-for- profit design advocates Design Tasmania with timber innovators Hydrowood in partnership with the Tasmanian Government.

What is ReCoil?

ReCoil is an elliptical centrepiece dining table. It is made entirely of precious reclaimed Hydrowood timber veneer offcuts. Seven native Tasmanian tree species are featured. These include Huon pine, Tasmanian Oak, Celery Top Pine, Sassafras, Myrtle and Blackwood.

The veneers are meticulously coiled by hand in outward spirals. These reference the trees' annual growth rings. The finished table is 2.2m x 1.4m x 78cm H. It comprises 3km of veneer strips.

The effect of a spectrum of wood tones from honey to burnt umber. The honey-coloured wood is the rarest and most treasured of all Tasmanian timbers, Huon pine, and the burnt umber is Tasmanian Oak.

The actual colour combinations and sequence of the veneers is randomised into a blueprint consisting of all the species and their many lengths of scraps. The resulting combinations of the veneers mesmerise, demanding attention. The woods release their unique oils, particularly of notice is the scented Huon pine.

The tabletop has been CNC trimmed smooth, flush cut. The surface is polished, finished with resin. The table stem is made of larger pieces of veneer. The impact of Recoil comes from its refined, innovative process, and positive message.



What is it made from? And how?

Hydrowood reclaims trees that were lost underwater when a forest in the Pieman River valley, on Tasmania's rugged west coast, were submerged for a hydroelectricity scheme in the 1980s.

The veneers offcuts were sent to Reliance Veneers in Stamford Hill, London, where they were cut. A randomised algorithm set the patterns for Neill to execute. The veneers are hand coiled, a process that took over 60 hours, over many days. The surface is CNC trimmed, flush cut, with a gloss finish of resin. Recoil has been made in the Brodie Neill studio in North-East London.

Facts and figures:

Total length of veneers: 3km Species of trees: 7 Weight of ReCoil is c. 60kgs Hours to make: 60hrs of coiling alone, and endless preparations!

More on the trees:

Seven native Tasmanian tree species are featured. These include Huon pine, Tasmanian Oak, Celery Top Pine, Sassafras, Myrtle and Blackwood. The tree ages ranges from 100-200 years old Oak through to 2000 year old Huon Pine. While the trees are underwater, they are slowly breaking down releasing the greenhouse gas, methane and carbon dioxide. Methane is 20-30x worse than CO2. By removing the trees, stabilising, and using the timber in the built environment, Hydro wood is halting this release.



About the collaboration :

ReCoil represents an important collaboration between design and industry. It illustrates the spirit of Tasmania, through innovation and approach to sustainability, showcasing the breadth of our top quality product from unique raw materials, beautifully designed objects through to our iconic beverages.

Such collaborations encourage and inspire innovation, champion sustainable use of materials and encouraging local designers to explore new development pathways for their practices.

"It is the first of a series of projects for Design Tasmania that explore the opportunities for growth through partnerships between design, manufacturing and Tasmanian raw materials."

Megan Perkins Design Tasmania Chair "London Craft Week was delighted to have Design Tasmania and Brodie Neill. To not only showcase the best of Australian craftsmanship and design, but to champion the relevance of craft to contemporary design and the sustainability agenda more broadly."

Naomi Davenport

Head of Programme and Content, London Craft Week



Brodie Neill

Brodie Neill Born and raised in Hobart, Tasmania, Brodie Neill studied Furniture Design at the Tasmanian School of Art before completing his Master's at the Rhode Island School of Design (US). In 2005 Neill setup his London studio where his work covers limited editions as well as production pieces for his self- produced brand Made in Ratio. In 2016, Neill represented Australia at the inaugural London Design Biennale with a critically acclaimed installation Plastic Effects, where he launched the now iconic Gyro table.

Neill is known for his mastery of materials, form, and process. He crafts inventive, resourceful, beautiful contemporary design works. Brodie Neill recontextualises and transforms not only virgin materials, but the forgotten, the waste, the discarded, into mesmerizingly beautiful, refined designs. All of this with a strong message that is elegantly contained in each piece. They embody care, environment, origin, and lifecycle. Eminently collectable, Brodie Neill designs can be found in galleries and museums, as well as the home, particularly with Made in Ratio.

Design Tasmania

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About Design Tasmania

Design Tasmania is recognised as one of Australia's leading not-for-profit design organisations. Dedicated to nurturing and championing creative practice in Tasmania, encouraging creative risk-taking, facilitate new work, and collaborating to broaden the national and international audience for Tasmanian design and craft and bring design to as many as possible. Housing one of Australia's most significant contemporary timber design collections, Design Tasmania's City Park hub is recognised as one of the world's best contemporary buildings. For 45 years, Design Tasmania has informed, inspired, and promoted Design and Craft through exhibitions, mentoring, colloquiums, camps and workshops.

About Hydrowood

Below the waters of Lake Pieman on Tasmania's west coast lies a treasure hidden for over 40 years. An ancient forest lost to the deep, dark waters. Lost, that is, until advanced forestry techniques and careful environmental stewardship help bring these precious timbers to the surface.

About Lark Distillery

The House of Lark, pioneers of Tasmanian Whisky, founded by Bill Lark in 1992. Equal parts yesterday, and tomorrow, fiercely determined, but embracing change. Lark is the world's most innovative distillery, housing a range of hand-crafted whisky's, headlined by its award-winning Classic Cask Single Malt. Carbon Neutral, and named Top 4 Distilleries in the World, Lark continuous to experiment and create unexpected experiences in whisky.

About UK/Australia Season 2021-22

The UK/Australia Season is a joint initiative by the British Council and the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Season highlights the breadth of partnership between Australia and the UK, and aims to deepen and extend cultural connections. The Season commences in September 2021, concluding in March 2022 in Australia and in December 2022 in the UK. The theme 'Who Are We Now?' will reflect on our history, explore our current relationship, and imagine our future together. The Season will feature programming for all ages, and will celebrate the diversity of cultures and languages in both countries. It will emphasise Australia's First Nations voices, enable cultural exchange with Wales, Scotland, England and Northern Ireland, and the diverse societies that have emerged in both Australia and the UK through migration.

Image Credit ReCoil Table, photo by Angela Moore. Hydrowood Lake Pieman, photo by Samual Shelley. ReCoil Table, photo by Angela Moore. ReCoil Construction, photo by Mark Cocksedge. Lark Distillery + ReCoil, image courtesy of Lark Distillery. Mark Cocksedge. Neill at Reliance Veneers factory, Stamford Hill.

Design Tasmania would like to thank Hydrowood, the Tasmanian Government, Lark Distillery and Jansz for their generous support of this project.

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BRODIE NEILL

















The Ian Pot Foundation