

# furnitex 2008

## VIVID 2008 WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT FURNITEX

The entries in this year's **VIVID – Vibrant Visions In Design** furniture competition at **FURNITEX** certainly did not disappoint, with over 90 products entered from emerging designers across Australia.

The VIVID awards were announced and presented by the Victorian Premier, John Brumby on Thursday 17 July at the official opening of FURNITEX in the categories of Concept, Commercial and Student. This year also saw the introduction of an exciting new award – the VIVID Green Award.

VIVID curator, Uli Hasel praised the big and bold entries this year with many designs dominated by clean lines and beautiful workmanship. In particular she was pleased with the fact that nearly half of all the products entered were ecologically sustainable.

### **VIVID 2008 Concept Award winner – COCOON COUCH by Victorian designer Damien Hipwell.**



Judges comments for the Cocoon Couch – A visually very exciting piece that has the WOW factor and great potential for further development.

Short-listed for the VIVID 2008 Concept Award were: CHAIR TWO by Justin Vecchio (VIC), the QUUB chest of drawers by Kevin O'Connor (VIC) and the BAMBOO Nesting Tables by Takeshi Iue (SA).

### **VIVID 2008 Student Award winner – AURA Coffee Table by New South Wales student Kieran Choy.**

Judges comments for the AURA coffee table – This piece has beautiful form from all directions, is highly commercially viable and very well made.

Short listed for VIVID 2008 Student Award were: SALT + PEPPER Stools by Jessica Diec (VIC), GUM Children's Table by Oliver Ward (VIC) and A JIG MISTAKE by Oscar Angel (VIC).



**VIVID 2008 Commercial Award winner – BARK Chaise by Perth-based designer Michael Shepherd (WA).**



Judges comments for the BARK CHAISE – Everything you would want in a product: simplicity, comfort, multi-purpose, visual appeal and perfectly suited for our Australian lifestyle.

Short listed for the VIVID 2008 Commercial Award were: MELEE Pendants by Brad Stebbing (NSW) and CREDENZA by Gareth Brown (SA).

**The inaugural VIVID 2008 Green Award winner – BAMBOO Nesting tables by Adelaide-based designer Takeshi Iue (SA).**

Judges comments for the BAMBOO Nesting tables – Here is a product where nothing is compromised – a functional, mainstream design, made from one of the most sustainable materials available, making it highly commercially viable.

Short listed for the VIVID 2008 Green Award were: QUUB Chest of Drawers by Kevin O'Connor (VIC), the MESTE Stool by Kin Jung Ly (NSW) and the GUM Children's Table by Oliver Ward (VIC).

Thanks must go to the VIVID 2008 judges – Lee Kidman of Red Dust Furniture, Wendy Moore of Home Beautiful, Sean Felix of Gravity + Grace and Kel Dummett from Sustainability Victoria.



For enquiries regarding VIVID 2009 please contact the curator, Uli Hasel on Tel: 5152 3731 or 0438 523 731.

Featuring 600+ exhibitors and attracting over 16,000 visitors FURNITEX is Australasia's largest furniture and furnishings Trade Fair. FURNITEX 2009 will be held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre from Thursday 16 - Sunday 19 July 2009.

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