



ELLIAT

MEDIA RELEASE

Alice Springs designed and made chairs to be showcased in Venice

Sixteen *Anerle-aneme* chairs are on their way to the 2016 Venice Architecture Biennale.

The International Architecture Exhibition will be held in the Italian city from May to November 2016. It is widely considered to be the most prestigious international event on the architectural calendar. It was established in 1980 and is held every alternate year to the Venice Art Biennale.

The chairs will form part of the exhibition 'The Pool' conceived by this year's Creative Directors of Australia's Exhibition - Amelia Holliday and Isabelle Toland (Aileen Sage Architects) with Michelle Tabet.

Australia's Exhibition 'The Pool', will explore Australia's architecture, landscape, culture and identity through our unique connection to pools. Stories around a number of the Northern Territory's natural pools as well as pools in remote communities are being featured as part of the exhibition.

The *Anerle-aneme* chair is designed by Alice Springs based designer Elliat Rich and fabricated by Aboriginal employees in the Centre for Appropriate Technology's Enterprise Workshop.

The chair builds on an earlier successful collaboration in the design and fabrication of the *1888 Benches*, public seating installed as part of the Alice Springs Todd Mall upgrade.

Anerle-aneme means 'sit a little while' in the local Arrernte language of central Australia. The chair is made of steel and features a slatted seat and back rest, powder coated in four colours resonant of the central Australia landscape – blue, ochre, green and grey – and framed in black.

The chair is designed for style, comfort and outdoor resilience – a perfect pool side addition.

"The chair showcases the success of a collaboration that has brought together the stories and skills of central Australia. The use of durable materials, a contemporary design aesthetic and local fabrication are a good indication of what kind of product we might see more of in the future" said Elliat Rich.

The chairs will be placed poolside in Australia's new pavilion in Venice at the Biennale and on the open deck.

"The '*Anerle -aneme*' chair highlights what can be achieved through creative collaboration between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Territorians. Our staff have gained skills and confidence and our innovation will be demonstrated to the world" the Centre for Appropriate Technology's CEO Steve Rogers said.

The Collaborators

Elliat Rich

Elliat Rich is based in Alice Springs, Central Australia. She works across a broad-spectrum of design for a diverse client base, remotely, locally and nationally. Her practice covers cross-cultural resources, exhibition design, public art and furniture, product development, one-off exhibition and editioned objects. All projects align with an ethical imperative to increase equality between people and across species.

Rich completed her Bachelor of Design at the College of Fine Arts, UNSW with first class honours in 2006. In 2014 her and her partner launched Elbowrkshp, a studio, retail space and workshop that they share with other creative professionals.

Centre for Appropriate Technology Ltd

The Centre for Appropriate Technology Ltd (CAT) is a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander not-for-profit science and technology company. CAT's Head Office is in Alice Springs with regional outreach through offices in Cairns and Darwin. CAT has a history of technology innovation and application in remote areas. CAT's relationships with and knowledge of people and place ensures that Aboriginal people are central to the decisions that affect their lives and futures.

The Enterprise workshop is the practical face of our work with remote Aboriginal communities. Here we design and deliver products and services to improve people's lives.

The CAT Enterprise is staffed by Aboriginal people who are supported to develop skills and extend their career horizons. We match work with accredited training and strive for innovation in design and appropriateness. Those employed provide solid role models for younger generations, helping to ensure a prosperous and positive future.

Australia's presence at the Venice Architecture Biennale is managed by the **Australian Institute of Architects**, who gratefully appreciate the support of the Australia Council for the Arts, governments, architectural industry and sponsors, making it possible to participate in this important international event.

Registrations of interest for orders are being taken. Please contact CAT on +61 8 8959 6100 or info@icat.org.au

Media Contacts:

Metta Young: 0404 467 814 (CAT Ltd)

Elliat Rich: 0437 311 321