

WELCOME



**From the editorial team**

**W**e like to imagine there's a neat synthesis between the redesign process for this issue of *Houses* and the projects you'll find within its pages. In each there is a precise stripping away of old elements, a salvaging of the parts you like, and a reinvigoration of what remains with a new look and a new purpose. It has been a collaborative effort. The editorial team (pictured above – Cameron Bruhn, Katelin Butler, Sue Harris and Peter Davies) has worked together closely to bring you this unique presentation of Australia's best residential architecture and design projects. As always, *Houses* continues to seek out engaging projects that respond to issues of site, climate, sustainability, history and context. Inevitably, each one is animated by the lives of its occupants.



Ken Leung was the creative force behind the new look of *Houses*. Ken, an Australian graphic designer who

has previously worked with international magazines *Monocle* and *Vanity Fair*, currently heads up the London-based design consultancy Modern Publicity. For his work on the redesign of *Houses*, Ken drew inspiration from the craftsmanship of traditional architectural drawings and their hand-lettering.

Write to us at  
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01



02



STUDIO

## Yuta BADAYALA

• LIGHTING •

Working with Indigenous artists, Koskela has created a collection of simple pendant lights wrapped in the impossibly light and intricately woven patterns of Arnhem Island tradition.

Words by [Peter Davies](#)  
Photography by [Anson Smart](#)

**T**here is an elegant duality to the spindly lines and delicate whorls of the Yuta Badayala lighting collection: unlit, they are finely crafted Indigenous artifacts suspended from the ceiling; illuminated, they cast an eerie but lovely tangle of linear patterns and shadowy ellipses.

“It is as though they are two products in one: they have a beautiful quality during the day, and then a whole new life at night,” says Sasha Titchkosky, one half of the team at Koskela, the Australian furniture design company that has worked with Indigenous artists to create this arresting lighting collection.

After three years of research, Sasha and partner Russel Koskela proposed the project to Elcho Island Arts, an Arnhem Land arts organization. Working with centre manager Dion Teasdale and Yolngu artist Mavis Warrngilna Ganambarr, Sasha and Russell devised a collaboration that would apply the local artists’ traditional bush-string weaving techniques to contemporary forms.

“We realized after we learnt more about what was involved in producing the weaving that products you would traditionally associate with weaving – placemats, for example – could never be produced at a price that would compete with cheap woven imported products,” explains Sasha. “We had always had some lighting in our collection, but had started to experiment a bit more in this area.”

Alongside Mavis, the Yuta Badayala project (which means *New Light* in Yolngu) has drawn together prominent Elcho Island artists, including Roslyn Malngumba, Margaret Bambalara and Julienne Gitjulu. The Koskela team’s

keen interest in Aboriginal culture meant they were keen to create a range that was culturally sensitive and that would provide an alternate income for the artists involved.

“All the materials and the dyes are derived from natural materials found on the island or on the mainland nearby, and they vary depending on seasonal availability,” explains Sasha. “Each piece is unique. We merely provide a form and the women are free to interpret this form however they choose. This makes each piece even more special.”

The resulting lights, with their alluring tactility and earthy palette, are objects whose very handcraftedness effortlessly bests any slick mass-produced alternative.

“This collaboration has been a true joy for us,” Sasha says. “We relish our visits to Elcho Island and every delivery that we get of the lampshades – the women never cease to surprise us with the way they interpret the forms.” [www.koskela.com.au](http://www.koskela.com.au)

01 Yuta Badayala  
Light 03, 2009, by  
Roslyn Malngumba.

02 Yuta Badayala  
Light 02, 2009, by Mavis  
Warrngilna Ganambarr.

01

**01**  
**Premium Cube tiles**

The parquet-style patterning of Inax's Ecocarat tiles conceals some surprising technology – the tiles clean the air, reducing odours and removing toxins.

[www.artedomus.com](http://www.artedomus.com)



02

**02**  
**Black Rocks quartz surface**

CaesarStone's latest palette features colours inspired by nature. Black Rocks offers subtle tonal combinations of black, white and grey.

[www.caesarstone.com.au](http://www.caesarstone.com.au)

03

**03**  
**PWI90MP oven**

A ceramic glass induction cooktop crests Ilve's latest slick upright oven. A triple-glazed door and cool-touch handle ensure the 90 cm oven is safe to touch.

[www.ilve.com.au](http://www.ilve.com.au)

**"Familiar forms graced with intriguing new design offer moments of delight for any living space."**

04

**04**  
**Chilewich pet mats**

Four-legged friends will have no excuse for messy food areas with these new pet mats, crafted from basketweave flooring.

[www.chilewich.com](http://www.chilewich.com)

**05**  
**George washbasin**

A distinctly masculine flavour infuses Falper's George washbasin. It features a Pietraluce basin with quilted exterior detail.

[www.rogerseller.com.au](http://www.rogerseller.com.au)

PRODUCTS

**TREASURE TROVE**

05



06

**06**  
**Zoe chair**

Designer Franco Poli slices coach hide into an elegant net-like seat back in Matteograssi's Zoe chair. Its frame is tubular steel.

[www.classique.net.au](http://www.classique.net.au)

PRODUCTS

07



**07**  
**Shell seating collection**

Fuera Dentro's latest outdoor collection by Dutch designer Jan des Bouvrie includes two chairs, a sofa, four tables and a sunbed. It is upholstered in Batyline. [www.parterre.com.au](http://www.parterre.com.au)



08

**08**  
**Cloth wallpaper**

Textile designer Julie Paterson turns her hand to wallpapers in this new collection, inspired by landscape. [www.porterspains.com](http://www.porterspains.com)

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**10**  
**Oasis outdoor furniture**

Boat-building techniques informed the design of Kenneth Cobonpue's Oasis outdoor range. It is made of aluminium framing and polyethylene strips. [www.kezu.com.au](http://www.kezu.com.au)

**11**  
**Nirvana silk fabric**

Drawn from Buddhist tradition, a stylized pattern of a sacred fig adorns the Nirvana silk design. It is from Jim Thompson's Illumination collection. [www.milgate.com.au](http://www.milgate.com.au)



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09

**09**  
**Diptera rug**

This latest rug range from Iranian architect Behrouz Kolahi is an entomologist's dream - a kooky collection of insect-themed designs. This one is called Diptera. [www.stilebk.it](http://www.stilebk.it)

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