

There's a Hole in my Bucket



'There's a Hole in my Bucket' was first staged as part of the 2007 Melbourne Design Festival, and responded to the theme 'When it Rains it Pours' by introducing the bucket as a symbol for design. The humble bucket, perhaps one of the oldest examples of functional design, has experienced a major resurgence in the public imagination since water restrictions have forced us all to collect and conserve water. This year it's Sydney's turn to put a bucket where your mouth is and contribute to a public forum for ideas relating to form, sustainability, function and the importance of design in our everyday lives. The project aims to encourage people to think about the design inherent in everything they encounter, and by highlighting what is bad, encourage us all to think about good design, and what it means.

There's a Hole in my Bucket during Sydney Design Week will also act as a documentation of the design landscape of Sydney by the people living in it. The photographs will not only summarise our concerns for design but also highlight the complexity and beauty of the built environment we operate in. The outcomes of the Melbourne edition of the project can be found at www.theresaholeinmybucket.com

**A Sydney Design Week
project by
Ambiguous Horse
7 - 24 August 2008**

The Project 100 bright yellow buckets will be introduced into the Sydney landscape, each of them rendered useless by a hole cut into their bottom. Since the buckets are no longer able to carry water and undertake their functional purpose, they will be used to signpost examples of design that in the photographers opinion, are flawed or counter-productive in some way. The photographs will be posted on the project website for the public to view. Of the 100 buckets, 20 will be photographed by local designers, the remaining 80 made available to the public.

There is no restriction on the content of the photographs, the only condition is that they must contain a bright yellow bucket with the identification number visible. Participants will be encouraged to think about what the bucket represents to them, and photograph it in surroundings that communicate their thoughts on the challenges facing the design industry. It may be a bottleneck on a busy thoroughfare, it may be a water saving device that burns large amounts of fossil fuel to produce. It may be a public space that is always empty. Participants will be required to provide a rationale for their photograph, and the judges will favour entries that demonstrate original thinking about design and the design industry.

*Ambiguous
Horse* 

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The Process 100 numbered buckets will be created. 20 of these will be sent to prominent Sydney-based designers across several disciplines before the festival begins. These designers will photograph the bucket in their selected setting and email one image to Ambiguous Horse. Contact information and a short (50 words or less) written accompaniment to the photograph will be supplied with each image. The website, designed by Anton Ward of Knew Design, will be launched one week before Design Week with the designer's photographs and descriptions, along with information for the public about how to participate in the project.

For the duration of Design Week, the 80 remaining buckets will be available to collect from various retail, gallery and participating Design Week sites around Sydney. Members of the public will be encouraged to collect a bucket while they are attending a Design Week event and take a photograph that expresses what they feel about design. The project is open to both adults and children, designers and non-designers. Everyone is welcome!

www.theresaholeinmybucket.com will be updated daily during Design Week to display new images. A number of prizes will be offered as an incentive to participate. Judges to select the prizewinners will be drawn from the design, sustainability and media industries. At the conclusion of Design Week, a closing party for the project will be held to bring together the designers and participants, award prizes and reflect on the ideas generated by the images.

Your Involvement is sought as one of the 20 designers to photograph a bucket and set the project in motion. You have been selected for the critical and creative contribution you will bring to the project. As one of the 20 designers, you will set the parameters for the public and in many ways start the conversation about design that the project encourages. By participating, you will be in the running for all of the competition prizes and also benefit from the media exposure the project will generate.

For more information or to confirm your involvement, please contact Ambiguous Horse Director Pip Carroll on:
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