

MPAVILION

THE NINTH MPAVILION PROGRAM GENERATES IMPACTS BEYOND THE PAVILION

Celebrating and showcasing the best of contemporary Australian and international architecture and design

10 November 2022

Today MPavilion, an initiative of the **Naomi Milgrom Foundation**, has announced its **FREE** program taking place in the Queen Victoria Gardens at the ninth **MPavilion**, designed by Bangkok-based architecture and design practice **all(zone)**, from **Thursday 8 December 2022 – Thursday 6 April 2023**.

Driving Melbourne's multi billion dollar creative and cultural economy, the intellectually and artistically rich program will feature more than 250 events exploring the three program themes: **Under One Roof** (December); **Material Lab** (January and February); and **Unseen Design** (March and April).

Celebrating Australian design and building careers through its design commissions, Melbourne-based Lebanese designer **Safa El Samad** has created a utilitarian-inspired uniform for MPavilion staff, drawing on her experience as a multidisciplinary artist, fashion designer and aspiring architect.

The 2022 **chair design commission** was awarded to **Re-pete** by University of Canberra trio Sam Tomkins, Iain [Max] Maxwell and Ben Ennis-Butler for their lightweight, zero-waste stool produced from robotically extruded recyclable plastic.

Advocating for better cities through collaboration and partnership, the 2022 program continues to build on its success by harnessing the talents of more than **500** creatives, including collaborations with **Rachaporn Choochuey** of **all(zone)** (Thailand), **James Binning** from **Assemble** (UK), **Philipp Misselwitz** from **Bauhaus Earth** (Germany), **John Gómez** (UK), **Nick the Record** (UK), **Dita**, (Indonesia), **Crown Ruler**, **Sustainability Victoria**, **Australian Tapestry Workshop**, **Thai Embassy**, **Thai Australian Chamber**, **Melbourne School of Design**, **Polyglot Theatre** and **Melbourne Theatre Company**.

In exciting firsts this season, the **MPavilion Food Truck** will be a permanent feature in the Queen Victoria Gardens, making MPavilion the place to picnic this summer. The pop-up restaurant will feature mouth-watering culinary collaborations, including a special partnership with **Parcs** on 15-18 December and 30 March-2 April. Inspired by the fishing net layer of **all(zone)**'s MPavilion 2022 design, **Parcs** chef **Dennis Yong** has created a 'bootleg fish & chip' themed menu that draws on the ferment & wine bar's sustainable ethos. To cap off the new food offering, MPavilion has collaborated with local Preston brewery **Tall Boy & Moose** to create the **MPavilion Pale Ale** with a summer-inspired label designed by Los Angeles/Melbourne-based graphic designer **Anita Shao**.

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The 2022 season will also launch the inaugural **MPavilion Education Program**, the only free design program of its kind in Australia for school students. The program will champion student curiosity, value bold ideas and provide a supportive environment for students to test and expand their knowledge of architecture and design.

In a shining example of cultural diplomacy, MPavilion will launch with the **Thai Festival** on Saturday 10 December, presented in partnership with the Thai Embassy. The epic celebration of Thai culture, architecture and design will commemorate the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and Thailand. Activities include a **lantern-making** workshop, a monk blessing with **monks of Buddha Bodhivana Monastery**, traditional **Thai long drum dance** performances, and contemporary **Thai dance** with **Chef Nartchanok Jansri** (Good Thaimess) in the MPavilion Food Truck serving up a selection of tasty Thai dishes.

MPavilion's annual Indigenous design forum **BLAKitecture**, which began in 2017 to promote First Nations voices, leadership and practice, returns for its sixth year. The three-part series of conversations across December, February and March will focus on Kinship, Material Agency and the Barriers of Bureaucracy. In March, the **Melbourne Theatre Company** brings its **First Peoples Young Artists Program** to MPavilion, sharing performance work developed with Palawa playwright Nathan Maynard. The program is an opportunity for emerging creatives as they seek to examine what a de-colonised world looks like in the current design of society.

Jen Zielinska, Creative Director of MPavilion, said: "I am extremely proud to present the 2022 MPavilion program. Celebrating cultural collaboration and encompassing all(zone)'s experimental approach to design, the impactful 2022 program of events will advocate for better cities, mentor the creative workforce of the future and position Victoria as a global design leader for MPavilion's ninth consecutive year."

The opening weekend (9-11 December) will kick off with a **Crown Ruler** party featuring **John Gómez** (UK/Tangent), **Nick The Record** (UK/Tangent) and **Dita** (IND/Potato Head). Other December highlights include the return of **DJ 101 with DJ Sarah**, a program for aspiring female-identifying, trans, and non-binary talent looking to break into the dance music scene; and **Our voices telling our stories: Black Diasporas film screening**, a community-driven showcase of 10 short films on the experiences of individuals of African ancestry living in Melbourne.

The January and February program will see the MPavilion transform into a **Material Lab**, exploring 50 different materials. Highlights during the school holidays include; **Mother Earth Textile Collective**, exploring Indigenous Latin American symbolism through textile art; **How long is a piece of string?**, a workshop and interactive installation facilitated by 100 Story Building; and **Feast by Polyglot Theatre**, an installation that lets children play with materials other than food to make truly delicious, and sometimes really horrible, culinary creations.

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Closing out the season, the March and April program will shine a light on **Unseen Design**. Events include; **Would you kiss a robot? Exploring the future of sex**, a conversation exploring how design impacts our most intimate moments and how technology could catalyse connection; **Mixed media: the craft of belonging**, a hands-on collage workshop facilitated by Being Biracial podcast hosts Kate Robinson and Maria Birch-Morunga; and **Gender and home design: Creating private spaces by and for women**, a panel conversation hosted by Nightingale Housing on the important subtleties of creating spaces that improve the lives of women and girls.

The 2022 program will also provide ample chance for the public to have a dance with a stellar lineup of MMusic events including an evening of synth-pop revival and underground electronic music with a live performance by homegrown duo **Syzygy** and a closing party featuring the diverse, eclectic sounds of Melbourne's very own infamous Strictly Vinyl party, thrown by **DJ Jimmy James** and **DJ Jnett**.

View the full schedule of impactful events, discussions and collaborations from the **2022 MPavilion program** [here](#).

Website: mpavilion.org | Instagram: [@mpavilion](https://www.instagram.com/mpavilion)

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About MPavilion:

MPavilion is an ongoing initiative of the **Naomi Milgrom Foundation** and is supported by the City of Melbourne and State Government of Victoria through Creative Victoria.

Each year since 2014, the Naomi Milgrom Foundation has commissioned an outstanding architect to design a pavilion for the **Queen Victoria Gardens**, in the centre of Melbourne's Southbank Arts Precinct. At the close of each season, the MPavilion is gifted by the Naomi Milgrom Foundation to the people of Victoria and relocated to a new, permanent home, where it can be engaged by the community.

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