

MEDIA RELEASE

May 2009

**Colours, controversy and challenging designs:  
International Industry Seminar Series Announced**

Join a controversial Glaswegian textile designer, one of Europe's most in-demand trend hunters and a global colour visionary when they take to the stage in the International Industry Seminar Series at Furnitex, 2009. Staged from 16-19 July at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre, this year's series features an impressive line up of six local and international authorities who will reveal the colour palettes, products and materials driving global furniture and furnishing trends.

The Seminar Series will open with **Paul Simmons**(UK), one half of provocative fabric and wallpaper label Timorous Beasties, who will speak on **The Evolution of Textiles** – from cave men to the cutting edge. Noted for their increasingly experimental approach to both hand-printing and machine production, the Timorous Beasties aesthetic has evolved from interpretations of the natural world to a searingly contemporary graphic style. The duo recently made headlines with their 'Edinburgh Toile' print, commissioned by the Edinburgh International Festival (EIF), which explores social and political issues through its gritty depiction of the city's streetscape.

Joining Paul will be **Mark Woodman** (USA), owner of consulting firm Mark Woodman Design & Color. An international authority, Mark will talk about the evolving meanings of colour and the shades of things to come in his **Colour ID** seminar. Drawing from his extensive world travel, Mark's work has ranged from private residences and office interiors to hand selecting colour palettes for entire communities. He is frequently invited to share his insights across the media, and is a colour Ambassador for leading paint brands Duron, Frazee Paints and Sherwin-Williams.

Furnitex is delighted to welcome back resident trend forecaster **Milou Ket** (The Netherlands), founder of Milou Ket Styling and Design. Milou will explore **Interior Trends for 2010**, and reveal the materials, structures and forms driving future product developments. With 30 years experience sourcing fabric and print collections, Milou has inspired new product developments for clients such as Volvo Cars, Ikea and Esprit Home products, and also produces 'Innovation Lab', a special edition of her Milou Ket Trend Service publications focusing on the latest design trends for the contract and hospitality markets.

Melbourne's **Dean Gaylor**, of high profile lighting design studio, Mance Design, will share his local perspective on the challenges facing designers in his talk **Not to be Taken Lightly**. Dean will offer invaluable tips on achieving high-end, decorative lighting within today's budgets, and share his thoughts on whether Australians should follow European trends, or lead with their own aspirations. As Managing Director of Mance Design, Dean is particularly captivated by the process of creating sculptural pieces, and in experimenting with unconventional materials.

**Peter Davidson** is a co-founder of the architectural firm LAB Architecture, who led one of the world's most significant public projects of the past decade when they won the design competition for Federation Square in Melbourne. Peter will share his unique perspective on how the dynamic geometry of life and organisational patterns influence Lab Architecture's work in his **Design in a Complex World** seminar.

Whilst many are forecasting next season, **Chris Stone** is looking at the **Colour Palettes and Design Predictions for 2011**. After concentrating on his early career in Milan, Chris spent 17 years at Sheridan, where he developed the Australian label into an international enterprise. In addition to heading **Chris Stone Design**, Chris currently lectures at UTS, COFA and the Whitehouse Institute in Sydney, and produces the bi-annual publication Colourworks.

This year Furnitex and DECORATION + DESIGN Melbourne is an event partner of the State of Design Festival (15-25 July).

**What:** INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRY SEMINAR SERIES

**Where:** Melbourne Exhibition Centre, Southbank

**When:** Thursday 16 July

- **Design in a Complex World**, Peter Davidson, Lab Architecture, (Australia), 9.30am-10.30am.
- **The Evolution of Textiles**, Paul Simmons, Timorous Beasties, (UK), 11.30am-12.30pm.
- **Colour ID**, Mark Woodman, Mark Woodman Design & Colour (USA), 2.30pm-3.30pm.

Friday 17 July

- **Interior Trends for 2010**, Milou Ket, Milou Ket Styling & Design (The Netherlands), 9.45am-10.45am.
- **Not to be Taken Lightly**, Dean Gaylor, Mance Design (Australia), 11.45am-12.45pm.
- **Colour Palettes & Design Predictions for 2011**, Chris Stone, Chris Stone Design (Australia), 2.30pm-3.30pm

**Tickets:** Seminar tickets cost \$44 (inc GST) and are available at [www.furnitex.com.au](http://www.furnitex.com.au). Pre-booking is essential.

**Event organiser:** Australian Exhibitions and Conferences Pty Ltd

**Web:** [www.furnitex.com.au](http://www.furnitex.com.au) or [www.decorationdesign.com.au](http://www.decorationdesign.com.au)

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