

*the*

*It's our 19th birthday!*  
To celebrate, we bring  
you the most interesting  
people in Australian  
design and the reasons  
why we love them...

# HOT 19

**Heleena Trahanas**

Tamsin Johnson

**Richard Unsworth**

Leila Jeffreys

**Alyce Tran**

Henry Wilson

**Utopia Goods**

Heidi Middleton

**Dana Tomić Hughes**

Anson Smart

**Steve Cordony**

Karen McCartney

**Lyon Housemuseum**

Bassike

**Joost Bakker**

Carol Crawford

**Richard Parker**

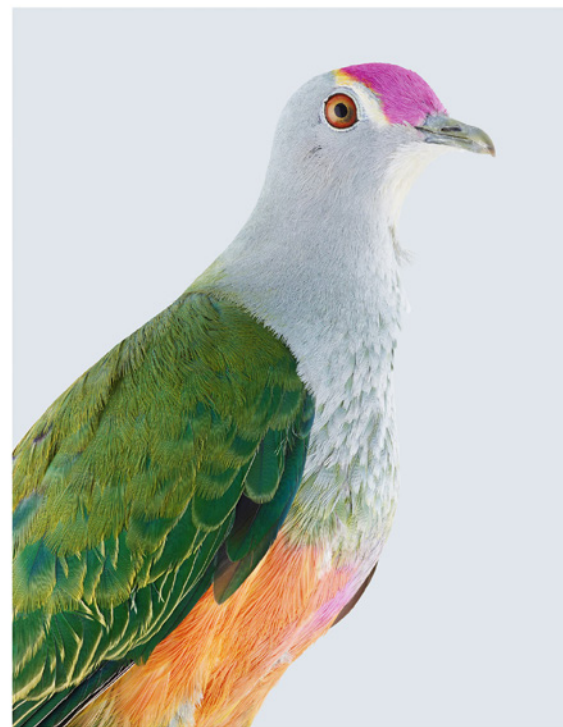
Lottie Consalvo

**Emma Elizabeth**



## HELEENA TRAHANAS The side-hustler

**Heleena Trahanas sets a damn good table.** When the Dinosaur Designs marketing manager isn't up to her shoulders in a rainbow of the label's iconic resin bangles, she's scouring Italy for vases, sculptural centrepieces, plates and bowls for her side-hustle, the lifestyle brand Alex And Trahanas, which she started with fellow travel obsessive Alexandra Heard. Her top table-setting tip? "Add unique pieces. Our hand-painted Apulian face plates and vases (below) or a Dinosaur Designs piece, paired with linen napkins, balances fun and sophistication." [alexandtrahanas.com](http://alexandtrahanas.com)



## 4 | LEILA JEFFREYS The bird whisperer

**Leila Jeffreys has the patience of a saint.** She's photographed wild and rare birds (some of which have come through rescue shelters), but capturing them in her signature style (at once stunning and unnervingly human-like poses) takes hours. A series can take years to complete while she waits for the right bird. Her large-format works, such as *Rose Crowned Dove* (above), are in high demand internationally but, luckily for us, Leila will have her first Australian exhibition in five years this October, at Sydney's Olsen Gallery, and her work will be explored in an ABC documentary. [leilajeffreys.com](http://leilajeffreys.com)



## 5 | ALYCE TRAN The multi-tasking creative

**When Alyce Tran says, "I'm a commercial creative"** and able to make creative things commercially viable," it's an understatement. The co-founder of accessories label The Daily Edited regularly pumps out It bags, such as personalised leather vertical clutch (left) and accessories that appeal to the masses but keep their cool. She's also just launched a homewares company, In The Round House, retailing mildly priced, high-design pieces online. Alyce sits at the helm of a multimillion-dollar business but is still hands-on. Visual output, product design, marketing strategy, admin, store concept, customer service... the only thing she doesn't seem to do is sleep. [thedailyedited.com](http://thedailyedited.com); [intheroundhouse.com.au](http://intheroundhouse.com.au)

## 2 | TAMSIN JOHNSON The treasure hunter

**If a piece isn't custom designed** or a one-off, interior designer Tamsin Johnson doesn't want to know about it. Her design philosophy is all about originality, which is why her new showroom in Sydney's Paddington (left) stocks unique treasures from Europe. Does she ever hate to part with something? "Both my parents were antique and art dealers, and I got home from school one day and the desk in my bedroom had been sold," Tamsin says. "I'm used to things coming and going." [tamsinjohnson.com](http://tamsinjohnson.com)



PHOTOGRAPHY: FELIX FOREST (TAMSIN JOHNSON AND SHOWROOM), MAREE HOMER (RICHARD UNSWORTH), COURTESY LEILA JEFFREYS AND ALYCE TRAN





THE CUT



## 8 | HEIDI MIDDLETON The fashion maverick

**Former Sass & Bide designer Heidi Middleton** has reached a point in her career where she is focusing only on what she loves. Heidi's new venture, Artclub, is an online atelier of sustainable fashion, curated vintage pieces and the art she has created (think Cubist-style paintings). Firmly among the vanguard of new retail, Artclub is about "treasuring pieces and passing them on", she says. "It's the slow-fashion philosophy, making a positive impact on people and the planet." Look out for an Artclub pop-up this year when Heidi takes pieces such as *Art III* (opposite, top centre) on tour. [thisisartclub.com](http://thisisartclub.com)

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## DANA TOMIĆ HUGHES The design documenter

**Dana Tomić Hughes really loves Milan.**

As the author of Yellowtrace, an online compendium of everything design-related, she has visited Milan Design Week for the past 10 years and reported on what she's seen. The result is Milantrace, an immersive audio-visual experience of everything you need to know about the most important week in the design calendar. This year is set to be massive, with the launch of a new website and, for Dana and husband Nick, a second child in October. [yellowtrace.com.au](http://yellowtrace.com.au)



## 6 | HENRY WILSON The imaginator

**Anyone familiar with the work of designer Henry Wilson** knows that the harmony he creates between material and object, form and function is a thing of beauty. Australian-born Henry formed Studio Henry Wilson soon after finishing his Master's degree in the Netherlands. Since then, he has used bronze, aluminium and stone to create unique furniture pieces, lighting (his Block travertine sconce is pictured left) and accessories, such as door handles and bookends, in ways that enhance the materials' natural qualities. He's also designed the interiors of two Aesop stores. [henrywilson.com.au](http://henrywilson.com.au)

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## BRUCE SLORACH & SOPHIE TATLOW, UTOPIA GOODS The botanical specialists

**Artist Bruce Slorach's illustrations** may be permanently housed in Sydney's Powerhouse Museum and the National Gallery of Victoria, but his luxury homewares range, Utopia Goods, lets you keep pieces of his art in your own home. Along with his partner, Sophie Tatlow, Bruce oversees each stage of the design process, making covetable prints and fabrics and ensuring each is an homage to Australian botanicals. Pictured are his Native Meadow salon chair and Imperial Waratah wallpaper. [utopiagoods.com](http://utopiagoods.com)



PHOTOGRAPHY: BRETT STEVENS (HENRY WILSON), PETER DILLON (UTOPIA GOODS), INDIA GRACE PLOWMAN (HEIDI MIDDLETON), NICK HUGHES (DANA TOMIĆ HUGHES), RUSSELL HORTON (ANSON SMART), SOPHIE LEA PHOTOGRAPHY (STEVE CORDONY), HOTEL PALISADE DESIGN, SIBELLA COURT



## 10 | ANSON SMART The photographer of life

**Everyone wants their house shot by Anson Smart.** He has a way. A long time ago, the canny photographer realised that if he shot all his favourite things in life – including but not limited to "amazing places, homes that have a soul and a personal touch, tasty food and people with their own style" – he could have his dream life. Since then, Anson has risen to the top of interiors and food photography and still found time to snap elephants in Thailand, palaces in Morocco and local landmarks here, such as Sydney's Hotel Palisade (above). This year, he's working on a personal project that "could fail miserably... or I'll be pleasantly surprised". Our money's on the latter. [ansonsmart.com](http://ansonsmart.com)

## 11 | STEVE CORDONY The go-to stylist

**Steve Cordony is synonymous** with high style. The prolific interiors and event stylist travels the world producing shoots and videos showing his innate talent for creating domestic bliss. Steve says that once you have the key pieces in place, it's all about the small details, such as the power of a vase with the right flower. With more than 70,000 followers, he's one of Australia's top 10 interiors Instagrammers, meaning Cordony #inspo is all access, all the time. [stevecordony.com](http://stevecordony.com)







## 12 | KAREN MCCARTNEY The design leader

**Karen McCartney's deserved place** on the list goes beyond the fact that she was the launch editor of this magazine. Since handing over the reins in 2010, she has remained an authority in the world of design and architecture. Karen also has several books under her belt, the most recent being *The Alchemy Of Things*, a stunning tome she describes as featuring “highly creative people working on the edges of design rather than in the mainstream”. Karen has found that her skills as an editor translate perfectly into other ventures, among them content company Edit'd, where she creates strategy and material for some of Australia's premium brands. [editd.com.au](http://editd.com.au)



## 13 | LYON HOUSEMUSEUM The arty oversharers

**Perhaps the easiest way to describe Lyon Housemuseum** is like Hansel and Gretel's house of edible treats, but for creatives. While that fairytale house was made of confectionery, Melbourne's LH is made of experimental art. Privately owned by architect Corbett Lyon and his wife, computer scientist Yueji, it challenges conventional ideas about public versus private space. With 350+ works by more than 50 artists – including Emily Floyd's *Workshop* (detail) above, the exhibit now extends beyond the original building into Housemuseum Galleries, a public space for “engagement with creative life”. [lyonhousemuseum.com.au](http://lyonhousemuseum.com.au)



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### MARY LOU RYAN & DEBORAH SAMS, BASSIKE The ethics committee

**Since establishing Bassike in 2006**, designers Mary Lou Ryan (above left) and Deborah Sams have stayed true to their ethos of sustainability. Each collection is a considered edit of luxurious yet wearable pieces made locally from organic cotton, making it one of the most comfortable brands for both body and conscience. Mary Lou and Deborah's devotion to eco-friendly design extends to their beautifully constructed flagship stores in Sydney (above) and LA, designed in collaboration with similarly minded architect Kelvin Ho and his Akin Creative. Expect calming white, natural textures, recycled timber and feel-great clothes. [bassike.com](http://bassike.com)

PHOTOGRAPHY: PRUE RUSCOE (KAREN MCCARTNEY), JOHN GOLLINGS (LYON HOUSEMUSEUM), ADAM GIBSON (JOOST BAKKER) AND COURTESY CAROL CRAWFORD. KAREN MCCARTNEY BOOK IMAGE OF MARTYN THOMPSON'S NEW YORK LOFT AS SEEN IN *PERFECT IMPERFECT: THE BEAUTY OF ACCIDENT, AGE AND PATINA*. PHOTOGRAPHED BY SHARVY CAIRNS AND STYLED BY GLEN PROEBSTEL. MURAL BY DOVE DRURY HORNBUCKLE



## 15 JOOST BAKKER The stickler for sustainability

**From humble beginnings on his family's flower farm in Holland**, Joost Bakker has become a major player in the sustainable hospitality game. From Greenhouse by Joost, a pop-up made from recycled and recyclable materials, to Silo, Australia's first zero-waste restaurant, Joost's passion has taken many forms. For a time he worked on a sustainable housing project, and he's also created floral installations out of upcycled materials for hot Melbourne restaurants. Then there's the awe-inspiring TED talk... [@joostbakker](https://twitter.com/joostbakker)

## 16 | CAROL CRAWFORD The natural stone shaper

**To say Carol Crawford's sculptures** are sentimental is an understatement. Each one has a name and she misses it when it's gone (although she's happy to see them go to good homes and will often try to visit first). In addition, many of her pieces are connected to emotional and very personal moments. Carol might find a stone while walking her dog or cast the net much wider and buy one from overseas. She'll then spend months cutting, filing and gently shaping it into one of her signature abstract, bulbous shapes, letting it decide what it wants to become. [carolcrawfordsculpture.net](http://carolcrawfordsculpture.net)



## 17 | RICHARD PARKER The skin illuminator

**We have Richard Parker's parents to thank** for the Rationale skincare range. Richard was obsessed with having perfect skin after inheriting his parents' conditions (one had acne and the other a propensity for sun damage). Instead of relying on someone else to tell him how to deal with it, he studied up on dermatology and pharmacology before studying formulation science at university. Three decades later, we get to reap the rewards of Richard's hard work with a science-backed range that marries beauty and medicine, sold online and at Rationale stores and medical clinics nationally. [rationale.com](http://rationale.com)







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## LOTTIE CONSALVO

## The modern artist

**Remember the name.** Lottie Consalvo uses painting, video, sculpture and performance to explore ideas that are beyond words – and sometimes comprehension. “I explore longing, desire, the manifestation of thoughts, and how we shift through experiences,” she says of pieces such as *If It Never Ends* (left). “Painting allows me to move more subtly and slowly [while] there’s a potency with performance and video that can be overwhelming.” Those who like their art to be aesthetically pleasing with a side order of existential crisis would do well to see her next exhibition at Sydney’s Dominik Mersch Gallery, from August 15. [dominikmerschgallery.com](http://dominikmerschgallery.com)

19 | EMMA ELIZABETH  
The Australian  
design campaigner

**Designer and stylist Emma Elizabeth could be our most passionate design advocate.** Her curated hub, Local Design, proudly elevates local designers to the global stage by giving them a network and a voice. “We are a rapidly growing industry with world-class talent,” she says. “Australian designers aren’t afraid to take risks.” When Emma Elizabeth isn’t exhibiting her own work at Milan Design Week, she takes select clients on edited tours of the event, to see the people and pieces she deems the most important. Sign us up! [emmaelizabethdesigns.com](http://emmaelizabethdesigns.com) **10**

