

Editorial — Issue 1, 2009

Welcome to the first issue of the Craft Australia Research Centre journal *craft + design enquiry*. The journal aims to advance high quality research undertaken by craft, design and related sectors by publishing research on specific themes and areas. Papers will be peer-reviewed by an international panel and published online yearly.

The journal will provide a forum for debate and contributors will be academics and/or practitioners from art, craft, design areas, material culture, anthropology, cultural studies and allied areas. We invite papers that conform to the usual conventions of academic publishing and papers that test less conventional or alternative means of documenting and disseminating research about the field. In this sense the journal will be unique in encouraging practitioners to critically analyse and evaluate knowledge gained through their experience as makers. At the same time it will provide a forum for researchers from a variety of disciplines to share insights into the field and, additionally, we welcome collaborative pieces between artists and writers or others with an interest in the field.

The Craft Australia Research Centre will make a call for papers once a year but for this initial publication we have — because a good opportunity arose — taken a different approach. Papers from the conference, ‘Migratory Practices: exchanges between anthropology, art, craft and design’, held in the United Kingdom in September 2006, were put forward by the organisers at Manchester Metropolitan University, MMU, and it is these that form this first issue. The aims of *craft + design enquiry* and those of the conference we thought entirely congruent in expressing an interest in extending debate about relationships between art, craft, design and other disciplinary areas, in this case anthropology.

It is not always possible to replicate conference presentation formats in a journal of this nature and not all of the papers are included here. Those published, all peer-reviewed, engage with a range of topics debated at the conference including making, ethnography and fieldwork and the ethics of anthropological and artistic production. The *craft + design enquiry* journal is very happy to be able to present these papers and we thank our colleagues at MMU for their collaboration in the development of this issue.

craft + design enquiry has made a first call for papers about the area of cross-cultural exchanges in craft and design to be published in 2010. A further call for papers will be announced in October. For this, and for future issues, we look forward to receiving papers that interrogate ways in which discourses surrounding practice might be given voice.

Craft Australia Research Centre Committee