

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, 20 APRIL, 2010

MEMBERS: The Right Worshipful, Lord Mayor, Mr G R Sawyer (Chairman); Member J D Bailey; Member R T Dee; Member R K Elix; Member H I Galton; Member G A Lambert; Member R Lesley; Member F P Marrone; Member A R Mitchell; Member K M Moir; Member J L Sangster; Member H D Sjoberg.

OFFICERS: Chief Executive Officer, Mr B Dowd; General Manager Corporate Services, Mr F Crawley; General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Mr J Banks; General Manager Infrastructure, Mr L Cercarelli; Committee Administrator, Ms L Elmer.

GUESTS: Members from the Northern Territory Government will be in attendance from 5.15 pm to brief the Council regarding East Point Military Museum.

Ms Renai Grace from Positive Solutions will be in attendance from 5.45 pm to brief the Council regarding Presentation of Public Art Curatorial Framework and Concept Designs for The Mall.

Enquiries and/or Apologies: Linda Elmer
E-mail: l.elmer@darwin.nt.gov.au
PH: 8930 0670

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1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN**2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE****2.1 Apologies****2.2 Leave of Absence Granted**

Nil

2.3 Leave of Absence Requested**3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF****4 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS****4.1 Closure to the Public for Confidential Items**

THAT pursuant to Section 65 (2) of the Local Government Act and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential matters referred from Committees including Confidential Committee Items, and the following Items:-

<u>Item</u>	<u>Regulation</u>	<u>Reason</u>
C9.1	8(e)	Information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential.

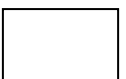
DECISION NO.20\() (20/04/10)

5 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

5.1 East Point Military Museum Common No. 1477575

Members from the Northern Territory Government will be in attendance from 5.15 pm to brief the Council regarding East Point Military Museum.

There is no separate report on this item.



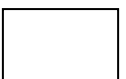
5 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

5.2 **Presentation of Public Art Curatorial Framework and Concept Designs for The Mall**

Report No. 10C0051 AR:kl (14/04/10) Common No. 1758906

Ms Renai Grace from Positive Solutions will be in attendance from 5.45 pm to brief the Council regarding Presentation of Public Art Curatorial Framework and Concept Designs for The Mall.

Report Number 10C0051 AR:kl attached



ENCL: YES

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL
REPORT

DATE: 14/4/2010

TO: SPECIAL COUNCIL/OPEN

APPROVED: JB

FROM: GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY &
CULTURAL SERVICES

APPROVED: AR

REPORT NO: 10C0051 AR:kl

COMMON NO: 1758906

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC ART CURATORIAL FRAMEWORK AND
CONCEPT DESIGNS FOR THE MALL**ITEM NO: 5.2****SYNOPSIS:**

This report presents the curatorial framework and rationale for new Public Art to be commissioned for The Mall as part of the My0800 City Revitalisation project.

GENERAL:

An upgrade of The Mall is scheduled to be undertaken in 2010 as part of the My0800 City Revitalisation project. An amount of 2 per cent of the budget for The Mall upgrade has been identified for the commission of new Public Art.

In 2009, Council engaged Positive Solutions to project manage the commission of new Public Art for The Mall as part of the project team coordinated by DCC and Tract Consultants and including Design Stage lighting consultants. The decision to engage a Public Art Project Manager to manage this large scale Public Art project is in line with Council's current Public Art policy (2008), the Darwin City Centre Public Art Master Plan currently being developed by Council, and Arts NT's current funding guidelines.

Positive Solutions in consultation with the project team identified three Public Art opportunities for The Mall being:

- A major Public Art opportunity to create light-based works installed at 7 (potentially 8) lighting poles in The Mall
- A Public Art opportunity to engage with the Larrakia community to create a 2 dimensional design or text based work for the ground plane paving treatment at Raintree Park
- The opportunity to acquire editioned 'Gatherings' artworks to be installed as playful elements revealed throughout The Mall

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 CONCEPT DESIGNS FOR THE MALL

Positive Solutions visited Darwin in August and October 2009 and met with local artists, arts organisations, indigenous organisations and gallery operators to discuss these opportunities. A long list of over 100 local artists was compiled.

To engage with the local arts community, Positive Solutions and Urban Art Projects were engaged to deliver a 3 day Public Art workshop in November 2009 (funded by Council in partnership with the Northern Territory Government) for local artists interested in expanding their practice to include Public Art. This professional development opportunity also served as an opportunity for the Public Art Project Manager, Renai Grace, to meet with local artists and further discuss opportunities in The Mall.

Following the Public Art Workshop, the project team identified a shortlist of about 20 artists whose art practice met the vision for The Mall, including many of the local artists who had participated in the Public Art Workshop. Shortlisted artists were contacted to ascertain their interest in the major Public Art opportunity for The Mall upgrade. After further consideration, the shortlist was reduced to 6 artists. 3 artists working in contrasting styles were finally selected to undertake concept design work for the major public art opportunity.

Artists Aly de Groot, Tobias Richardson and Katrina Tyler were contracted through Urban Art Projects to undertake concept design work. At this early stage, design drawings have been provided to illustrate each concept, which will be developed to engineering specifications in the concept development stage. Renai Grace (Positive Solutions) will attend the Special Council meeting on 20 April 2010 to present and discuss these designs and the curatorial framework.

The concept design by Katrina Tyler has been recommended by the project team who have described the work as 'subtle and poetic' with links to the ocean (The Mall being a thoroughfare to the Smith Street Walkway and Waterfront precinct) and to the artist's own work 'Fragment' which was commissioned in 2008 and is installed outside the Darwin Convention Centre.

The curatorial rationale for The Mall and concept designs for the major Public Art opportunity, of which that by Katrina Tyler has been recommended for commission, are presented for Council's endorsement.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

An amount equalling 4 per cent of The Mall upgrade project budget has been identified for Public Art. An additional amount of \$50,000 has been requested from Arts NT (Northern Territory Government) to be advised 15 June 2010.

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 REPORT NUMBER: 10C0051 AR:kl
 SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC ART CURATORIAL FRAMEWORK AND
 CONCEPT DESIGNS FOR THE MALL

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS:

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Darwin City Council 2008 – 2012 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond':-

Goal

3 Assist Individuals and the Community Stay Connected with the Darwin Region

Outcome

3.1 Promote the use of public spaces

Key Strategies

3.1.1 Enhance public spaces and encourage greater use by the community

Goal

5 Facilitate and Maintain a Cohesive Community

Outcome

5.2 Promote Darwin's culture

Key Strategies

5.2.2 Create opportunities for the expression of cultural diversity through art

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Intellectual property rights in the works designed remains with the artists.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil pertaining to this report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS IMPLICATIONS:

The commission of new Public Art for the Mall is likely to attract media attention.

COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS:

Urban Art Projects will manage the design development, engineering, fabrication and installation of the artworks and is experienced in delivering Public Art which meets community safety requirements and current building codes.

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SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC ART CURATORIAL FRAMEWORK AND
CONCEPT DESIGNS FOR THE MALL

DELEGATION:

A Council decision is required.

CONSULTATION:

Positive Solutions
Tract Consultants
Urban Art Projects
Design Stage (lighting consultants)
General Manager Community and Cultural Services
General Manager Infrastructure
Arts and Cultural Development Officer

PROPOSED PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS:

Nil.

APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE

Details on the Public Art works and artists are to be installed at the site.

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 REPORT NUMBER: 10C0051 AR:kl
 SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC ART CURATORIAL FRAMEWORK AND
 CONCEPT DESIGNS FOR THE MALL

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

- A. THAT Report Number 10C0051 AR:kl entitled, Presentation of Public Art Curatorial Framework and Concept Designs for The Mall, be received and noted.
- B. THAT Council endorse the Curatorial Framework and Rationale for The Mall being:
 - A major Public Art opportunity to create light-based works installed at 7 (potentially 8) lighting poles in The Mall
 - A Public Art opportunity to engage with the Larrakia community to create a 2 dimensional design or text based work for the ground plane paving treatment at Raintree Park
 - The opportunity to acquire editioned 'Gatherings' artworks to be installed as playful elements revealed throughout The Mall
- C. THAT Council endorse for commission the major Public Art opportunity concept design by Katrina Tyler, subject to concept development work being undertaken and the refining of designs to meet engineering and safety specifications.

ALICE RAE
ARTS & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER

JOHN BANKS
GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY &
CULTURAL SERVICES

Any queries on this report may be directed to Alice Rae on 89300674 or
a.rae@darwin.nt.gov.au

DARWIN MALL REVITALISATION



SCHEMATIC DESIGN



Design Intent

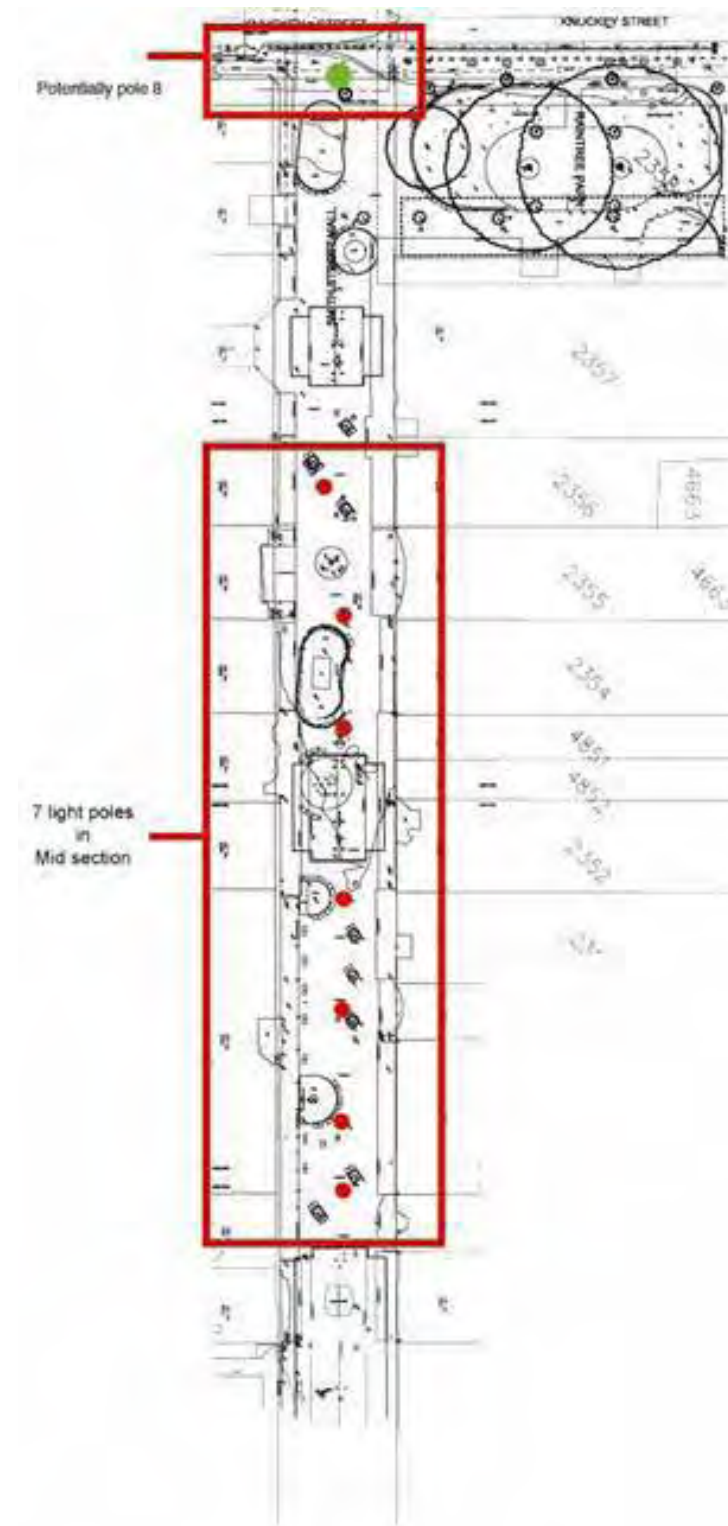
The revitalization of the Mall aims to improve way-finding and create a contemporary civic place through the 'decluttering' of the Mall. This will be achieved by removal of planter boxes, excess signage, entry statement and a number of small trees. The areas will be redesigned to accommodate new shade structures, public artwork in the form of lighting pole features, introduction of new shade trees, and soft planting areas.

The Mall redevelopment is the first project to be procured as part of this strategy and will build upon the successes and processes established through the public art program on Darwin's Waterfront.

Public art for the Mall will provide a link to the Waterfront both physically via the Smith Street connection project and conceptually through the curatorial framework and approaches to commissioning.

The artwork vision for Smith Street Mall aims to create a benchmark project for Darwin City Council. The vision will align with the following three core components from DCC's Master Plan for the revitalization of Darwin's CBD:

- The Sustainable City – Produce high quality artworks that reflect the sustainability focus of Darwin City Council
- The Event City - Create a sense of place and community through artworks that are culturally relevant in a contemporary and innovative way
- The 24 hour City - Provide a range of unique spaces and environments through integrated and temporary art works



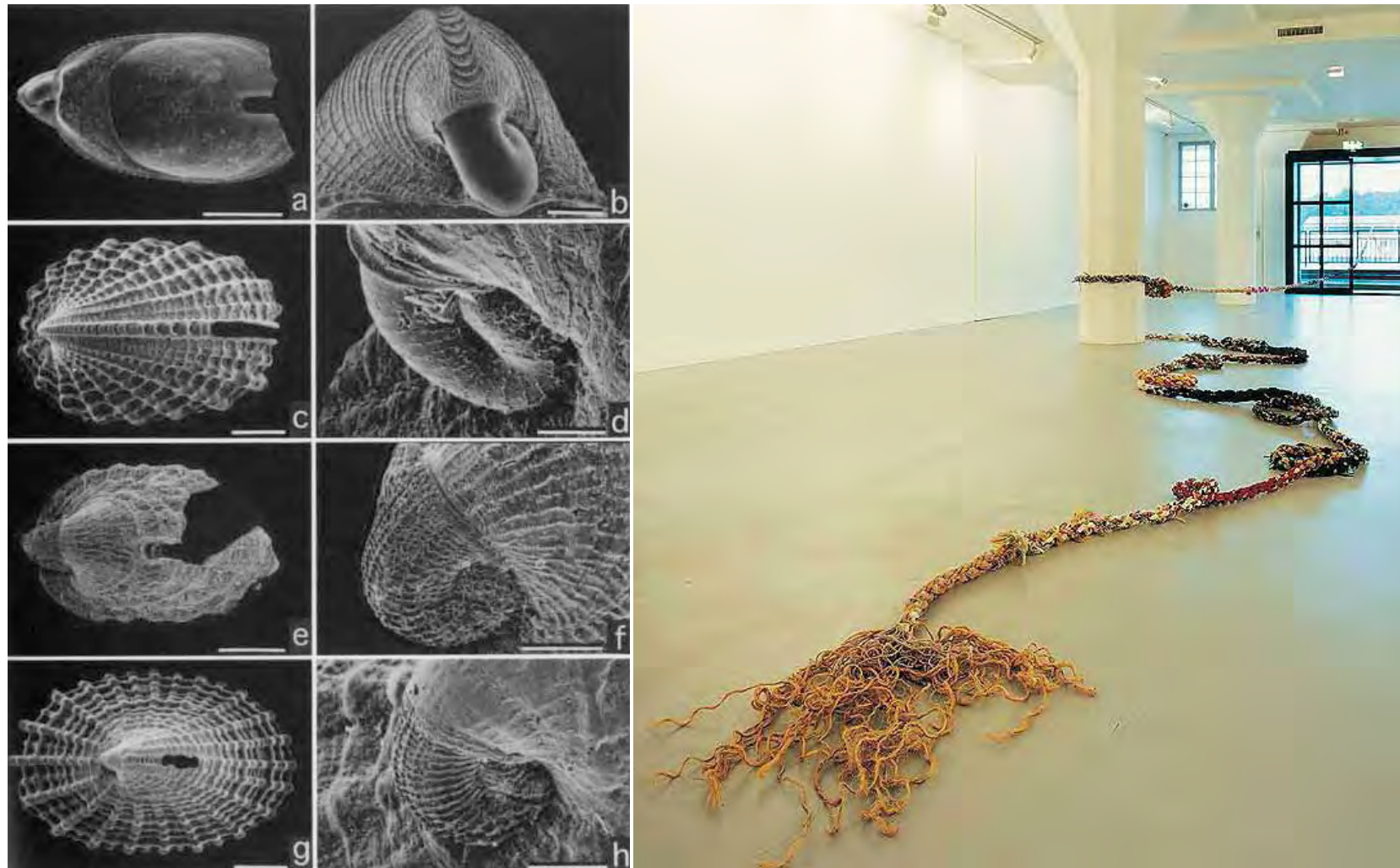
Design Intent

There are currently seven lighting poles currently positioned in the middle of the Mall. There is potentially an eighth opportunity at the Knuckey Street entrance to the Mall.

Site specific and environmentally sustainable artworks to be created for the Mall that:

- Integrate with the surroundings
- Act as directional markers or way finders
- Provide points of interest and playfulness within the streetscape
- Animate spaces and engage users both day and night
- Embodies an environmentally sustainable vision for Darwin

Janine Antoni



Crush Design

Curatorial Rationale

The Smith Street Mall art project aims to repositioning the Mall as a thriving, creative and enterprising place. It will promote social interaction through unique experiences whilst presenting Darwin's unique culture.

Artworks for Smith Street Mall will also draw upon, and create for visitors and residents, an opportunity to engage with the space through the notions of:

Reveal - Intertwine - Illuminate

REVEAL

Smith Street Mall reveals disclosed pathways and access points to other parts of the city. The arcades, laneways and connections provide residents and visitors with protection from the elements and informal and inclusive areas to shop and dine. The artworks aim to reveal hidden histories, top end flora and fauna, cultural layers and ways of life that have been part of this landscape.

Reveal, as a notion, embodies the use of text and patterns by the artists to depict cultural stories, as well as subtly positioning artworks to create playful and humorous environments.

Visitors and residents will discover and rediscover aspects of the artworks during the day and night. Sculptural elements will reactivate the space during the evening as lighting features.

INTERTWINE

Smith Street Mall's art program will draw inspiration from its geographic location, the depth of its diverse culture and history of the region. Intertwining these threads into the artworks to inspire discovery and adventure through exploration of the past and present connections of the culture of the region.

It will embrace tradition to create a sense of place within specific areas of the Mall and reflect traditional and contemporary Darwin lifestyle and culture. The notion of intertwine will guide the artwork opportunities and assist the artists in activating spaces across the site.

Woven forms maybe considered as symbolic references to pathways and traditional process and practices. Artists may also explore materiality, symbols, objects, flora and fauna and organic forms as a narrative or repetitive element to create a journey through the Mall.

ILLUMINATE

The aim of the artworks is to primarily adorn the lighting fixtures and in so doing, provide shadows and secondary artistic effects during the day and at night. These elements will act as landmarks and create a sense of place as well as provide lighting the Mall for way-finding. The act of illuminating the Mall may also draw inspiration from Darwin's reputation for tropical lightning storms. There are various types of lightning that could be interpreted and 'drawn' into the sky or referenced through the lighting opportunities. These include: bead, ribbon, staccato, folked and ball lightning.



Overview

These cast aluminium works are the result of a joint initiative between The Toga Group and Urban Art Projects. The artists represented here, Graham Badari and Margaret Gamuti participated in capacity building workshops conducted by Urban Art Projects, Brisbane, in 2007/2008. The artists were assisted in finding methods to translate their art practice into 3D 'patterns' which were then sand moulded and cast.

Graham, also primarily a painter, is from Gumbalanya (Oenpelli). His 'Fruit Bats' beautifully represent the line and form found in his paintings.

Margaret live in Milngimbi in Arnhemland. Margaret weaves, paints and carves her works. Margaret's 'Handbag', whilst modelled on a traditional basket, has a very contemporary edge. Another of Margaret's handbags was preselected into the 2008 Togart Contemporary Art Award.

The workshops with Urban Art Projects are an ongoing programme, with continuous advisory support from The Toga Group, and financial support from the Northern Territory Government.



SELECTEDARTISTS <



ALYDEGROOT



KATRINATYLER



TOBIASRICHARDSON

ARTIST <

ALY DE GROOT



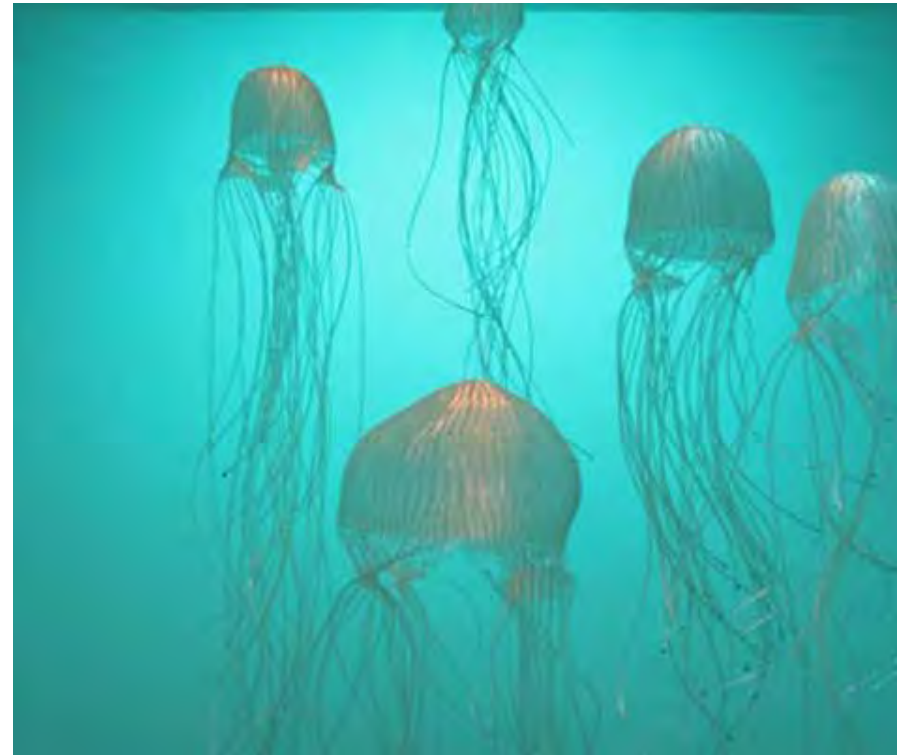
ALY DE GROOT

Aly de Groot is an independent fibre artist influenced by the diverse culture and intense climate and landscape of the Northern Territory. Learning from traditional and contemporary basket makers and fibre artists from Australia and overseas, de Groot's work reflects the social, political and personal.

In 2005 she was one of nine Australian artists selected to exhibit at Talente, the International Art and Design Fair in Munich and was the recipient of the Freedman Foundation Travelling Scholarship.

Her work was recently shown in Beautiful Beasts at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.





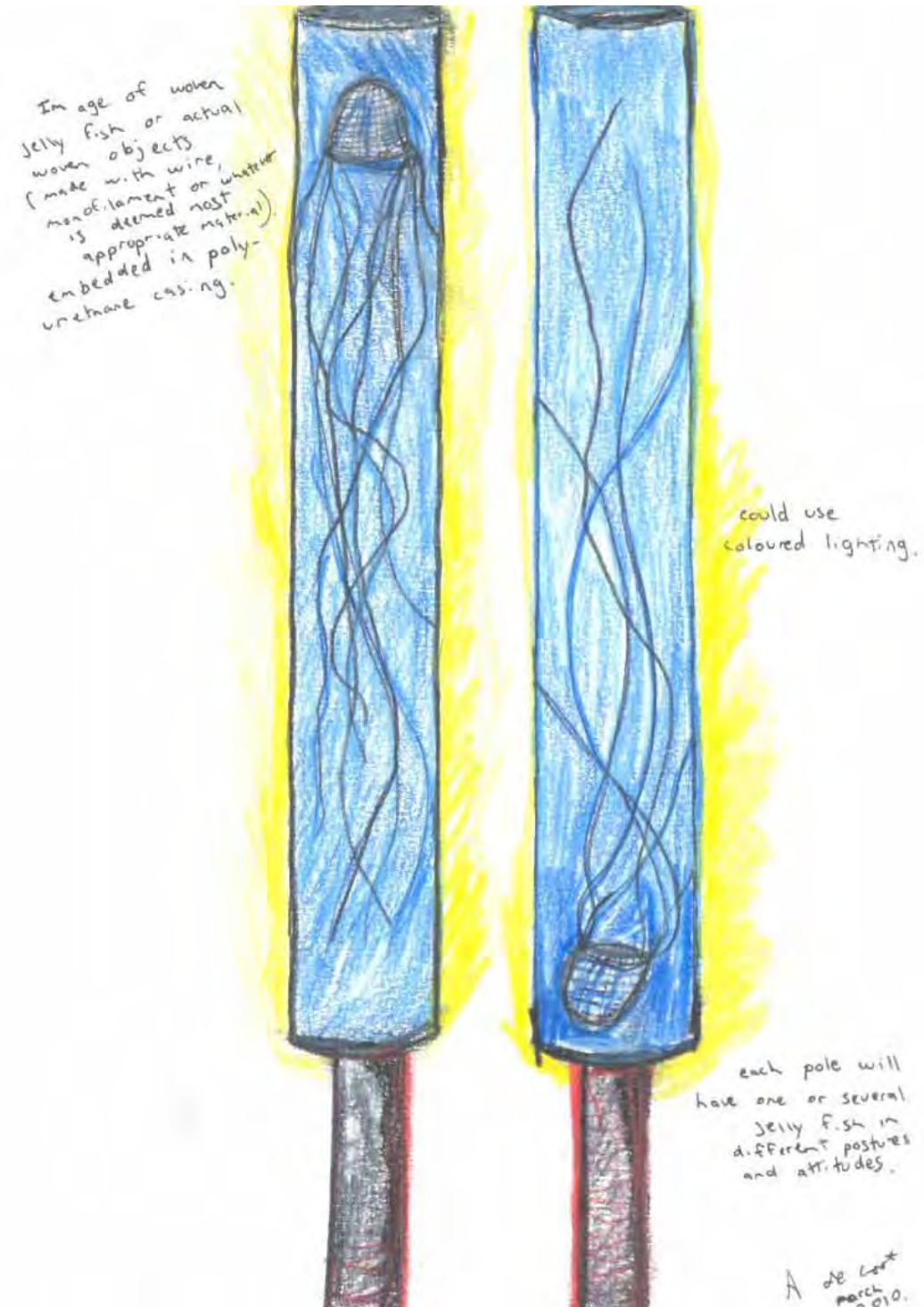
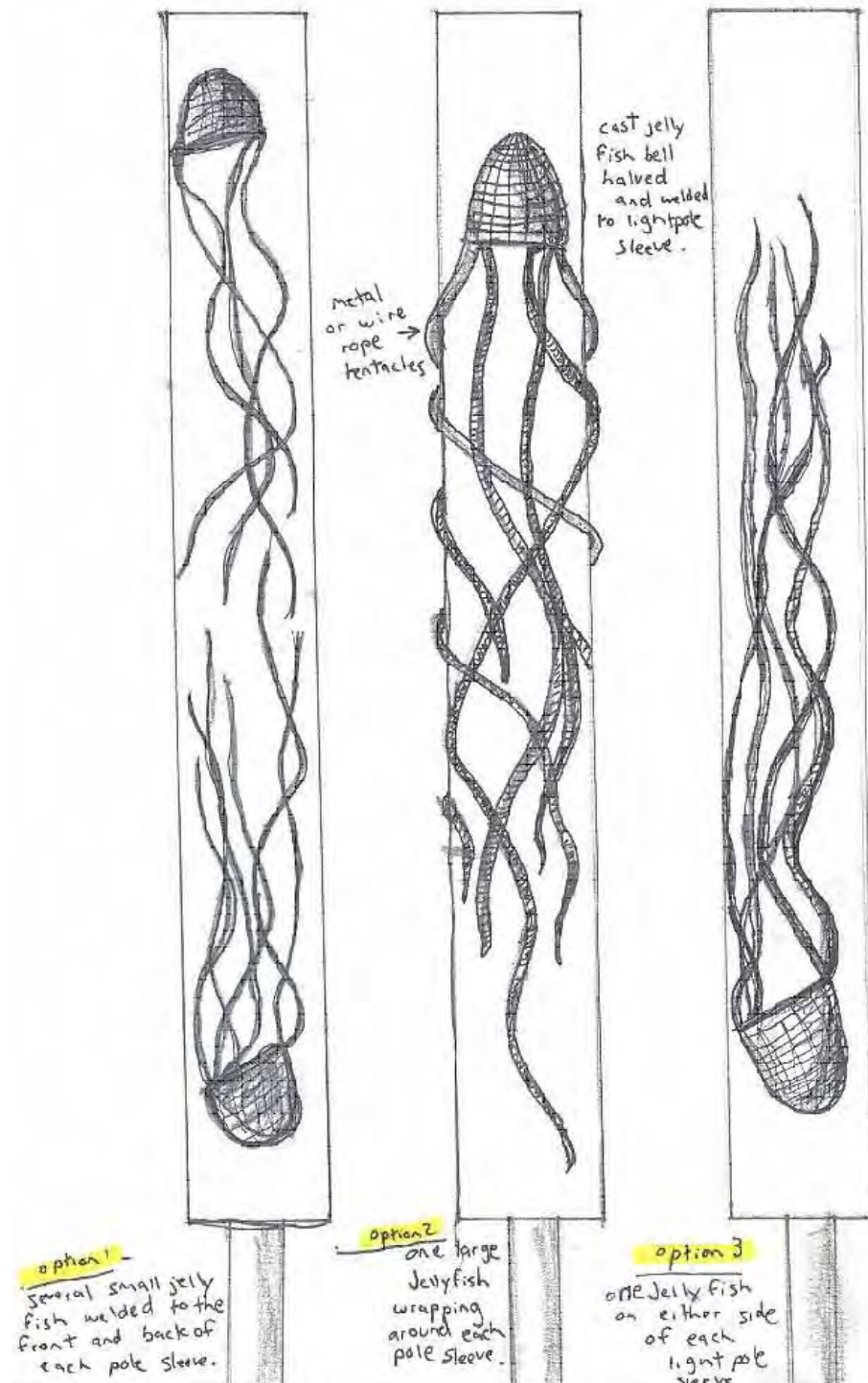
CONCEPTUAL OVERVIEW

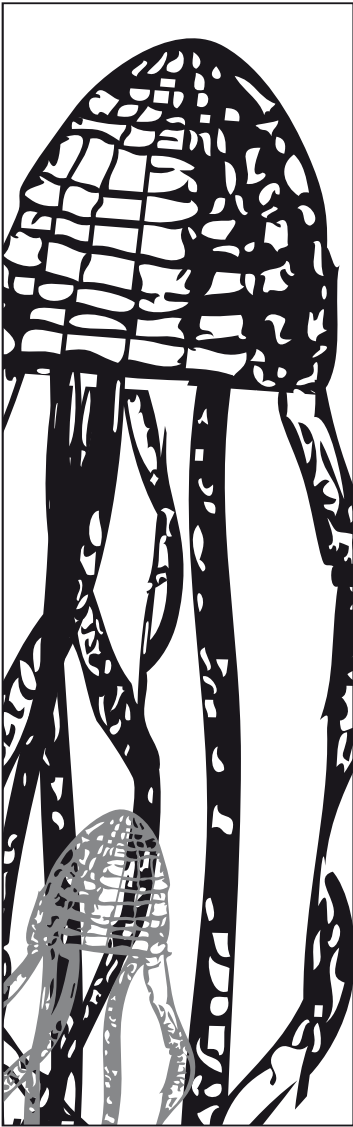
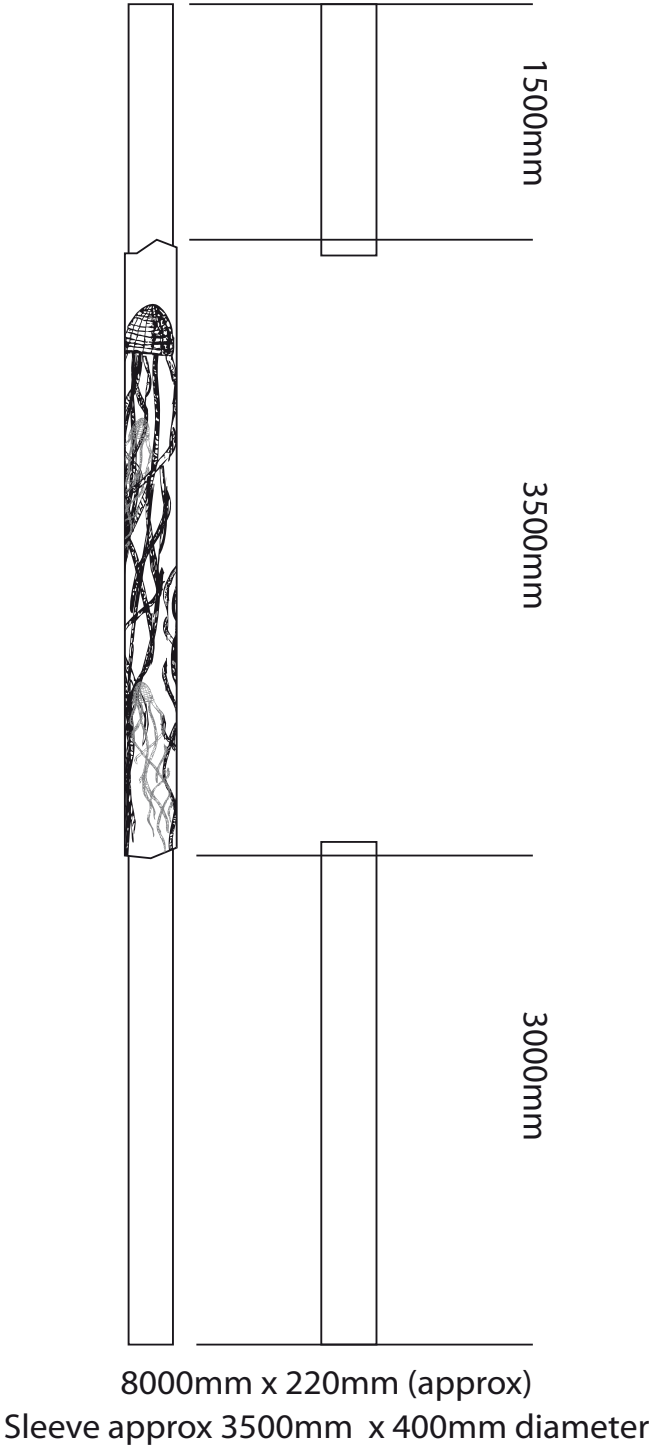
De Groot's concept is entitled Interwoven-Intertwined, as it demonstrates the ability of weaving as a medium to interweave cultures, places and people.

The aim of the artwork is to integrate with the surroundings and provide a pathway to the sea, linking the Smith Street Mall to the Waterfront.

De Groot has explored the Box Jellyfish in her concept, as it is a prominent marine-animal in the Northern Territory with many species found in Darwin's harbour area. The Box Jellyfish epitomizes the intensity of climate and landscape in the Northern Territory with its astounding sunsets and hidden dangerous creatures beneath the ocean's surface.

These deadly yet beautiful and mysterious creatures have inspired her recent works, resulting in the creation of swarms of woven Box jellyfish created from monofilament (fishing line) and translated into detailed etched paneling.





etched/sandblasted/routed
in translucent polycarbonate/perspex



ARTIST <

ALY DE GROOT

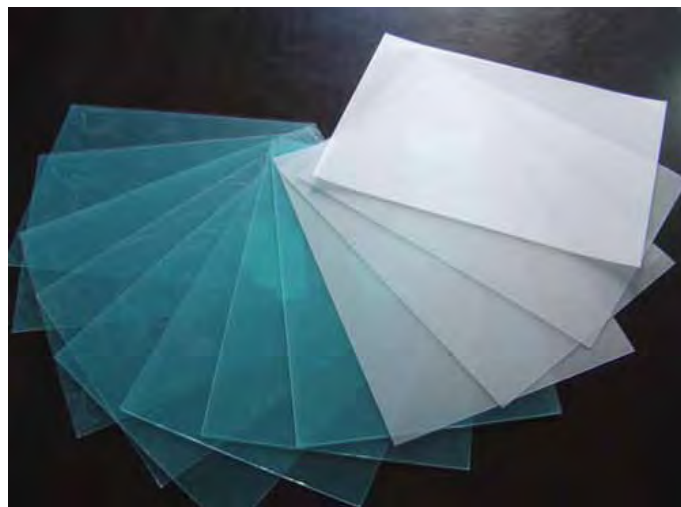


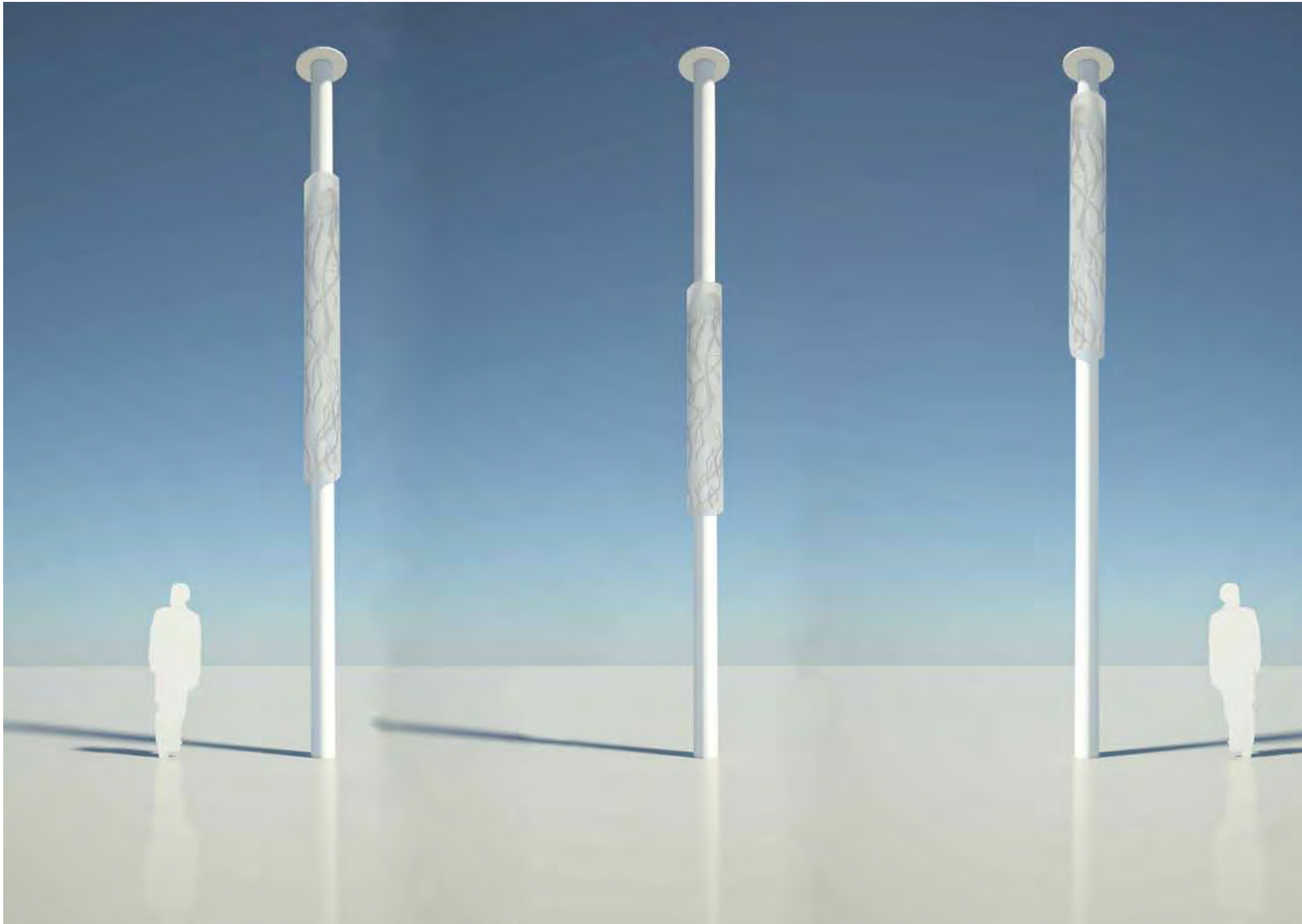
MATERIALS

It is proposed that the lighting element be made from either formed polycarbonate or perspex. The surface of this will be treated to receive the graphic application. The graphic will be etched/sandblasted or routed into the surface. During the day a subtle play of shadow will highlight the graphic, while at night the light will pool and reveal the graphic whilst also providing ambient lighting to the area.

There will be a multiple number of differing graphics spread over the lighting poles to ensure that each pole possesses a unique look and feel. The sleeved element will connect back to the lighting tower pole, obscuring the electrical outlet of the lighting component.

A number of options will be explored during design development and these include, coloured vs white sleeve, positive vs negative image treatment, lighting colour change and the graphic pattern itself to be applied.





ARTIST <

TOBIAS RICHARDSON

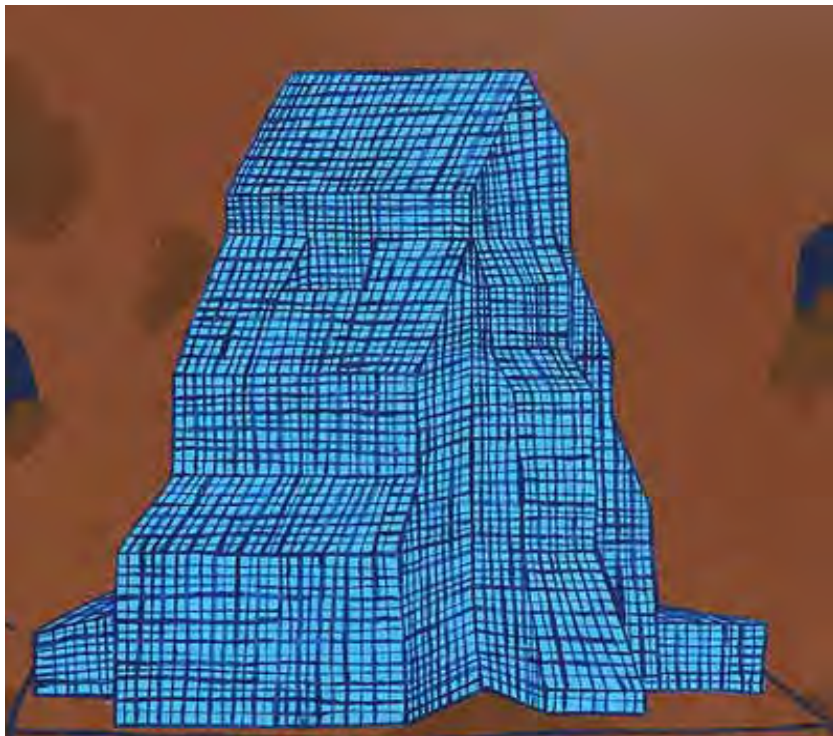
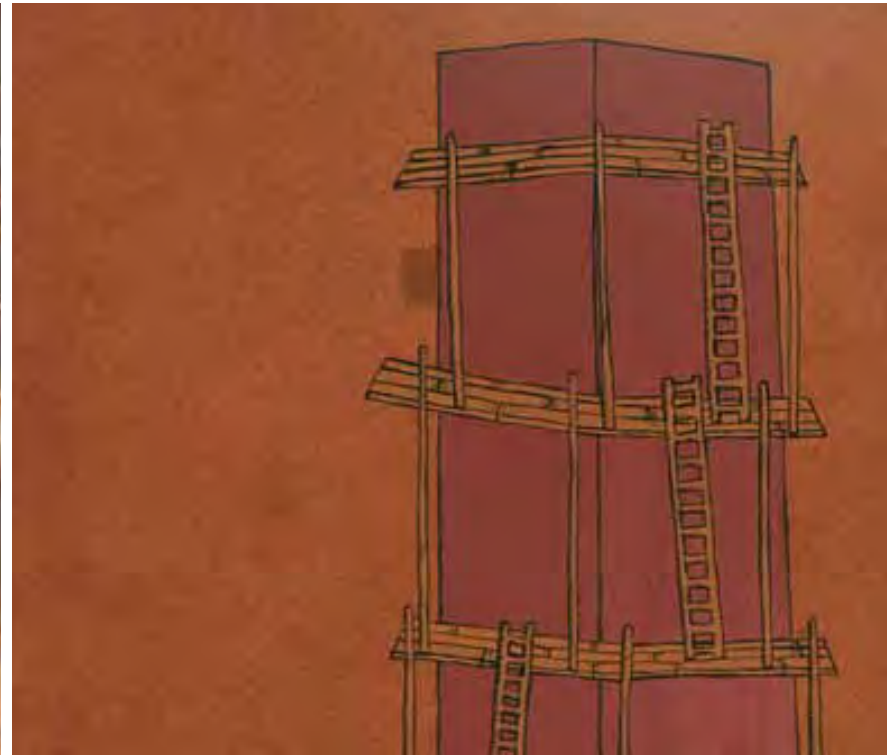
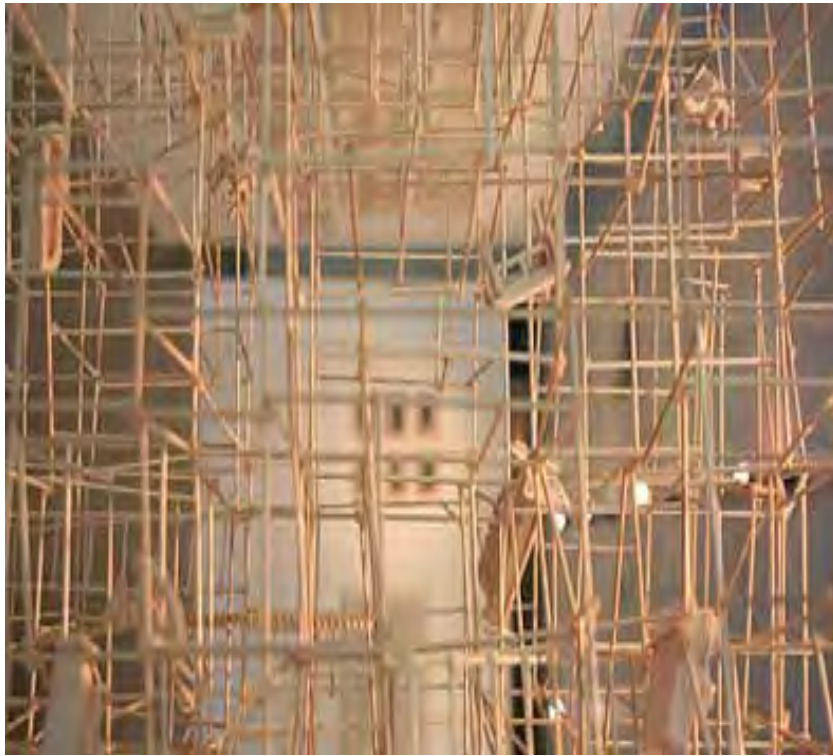
TOBIAS RICHARDSON

Tobias Richardson has been exhibiting widely throughout Australia for twenty years.

First studying at the National Art School (Sydney), he later gained a BVA at the San Francisco Art Institute (CA, USA). Richardson has lived in the Northern Territory since 1997, teaching in remote Indigenous communities and most recently as Lecturer in Studio Practice at Charles Darwin University.

Richardson's work was shown at the 2007 Biennale Exhibition Focus on Australian Contemporary Art—Cross Currents at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney.

Richardson has recently participated in international Artist in-residence programs in Malaysia and Indonesia.





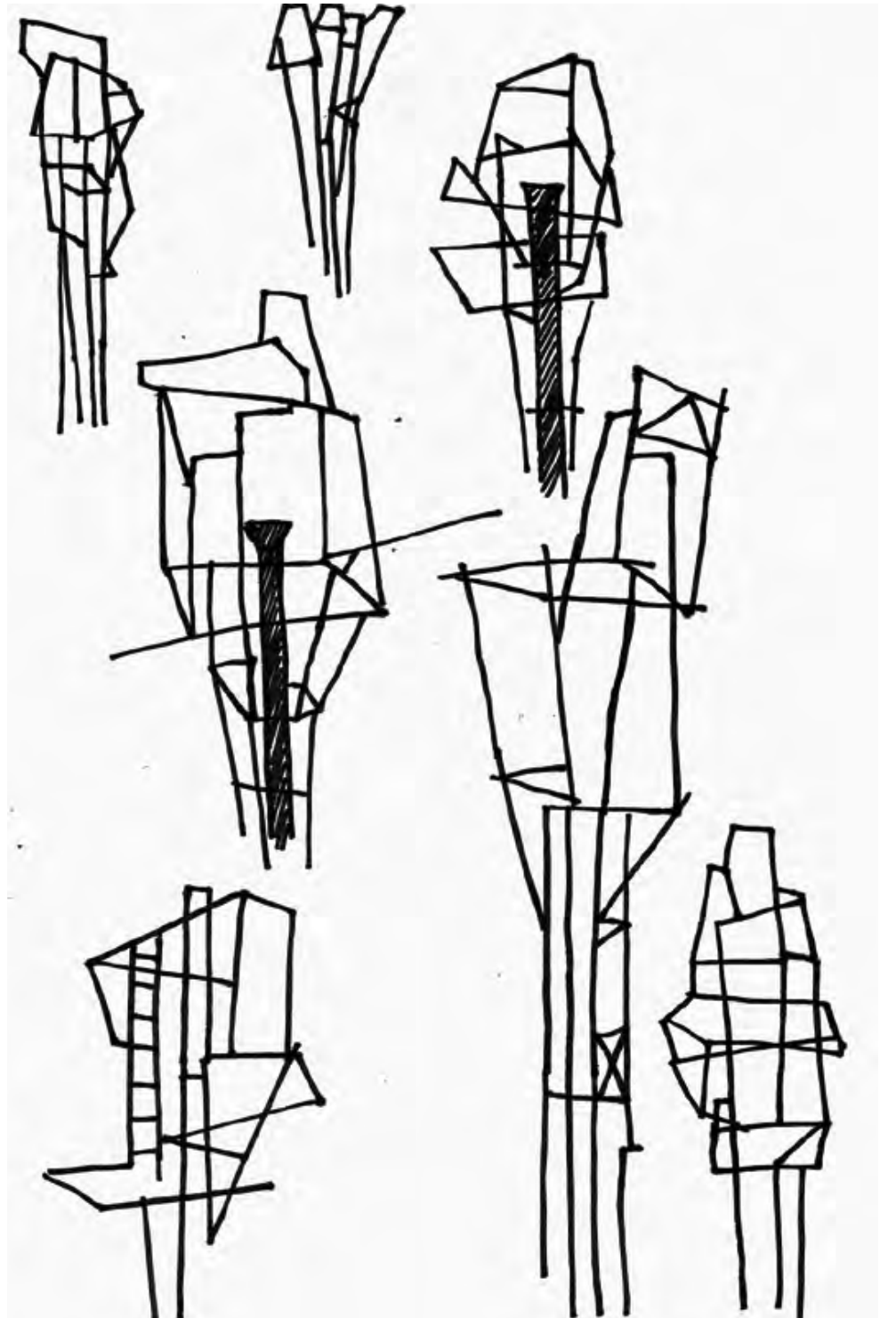
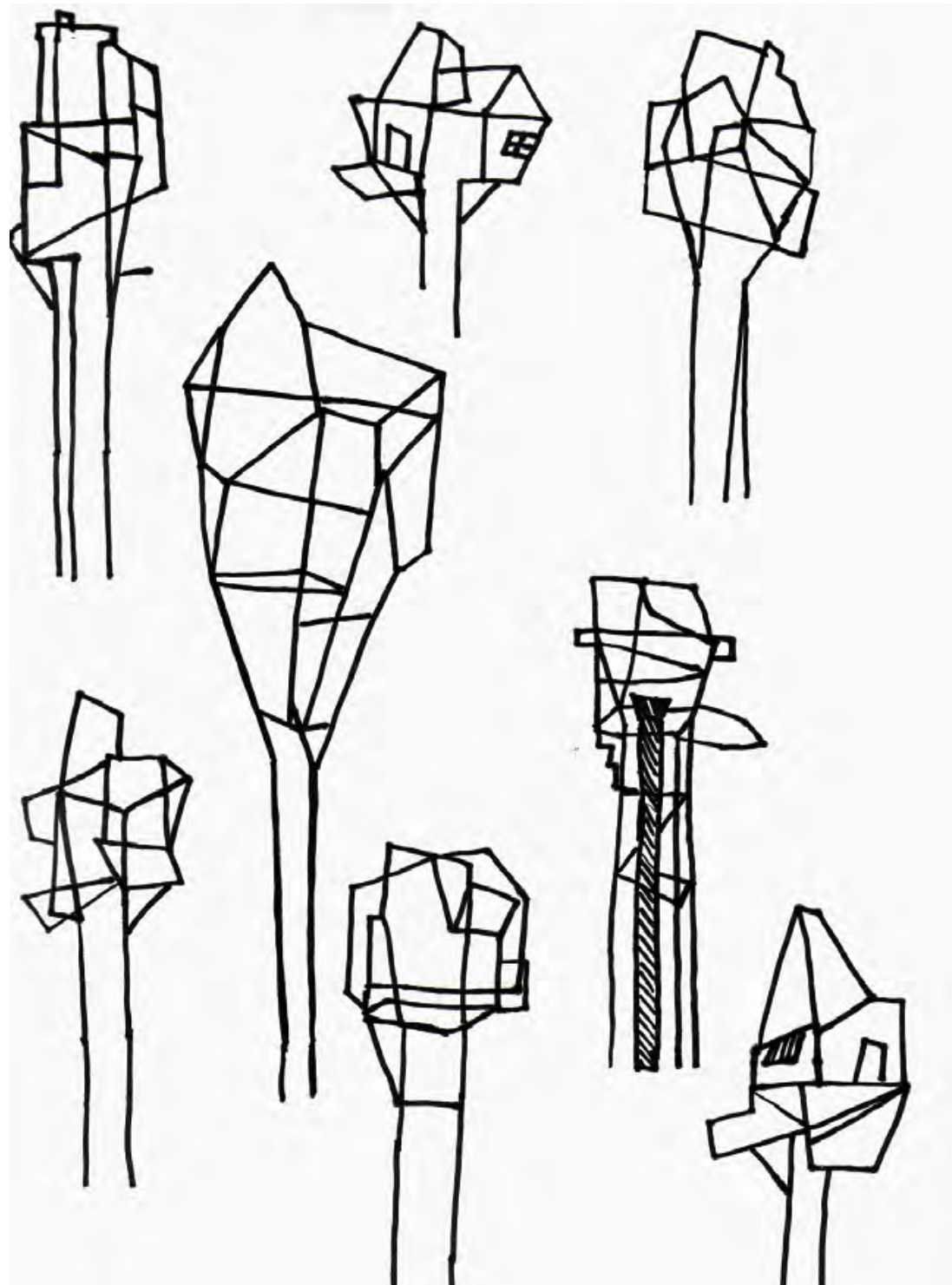
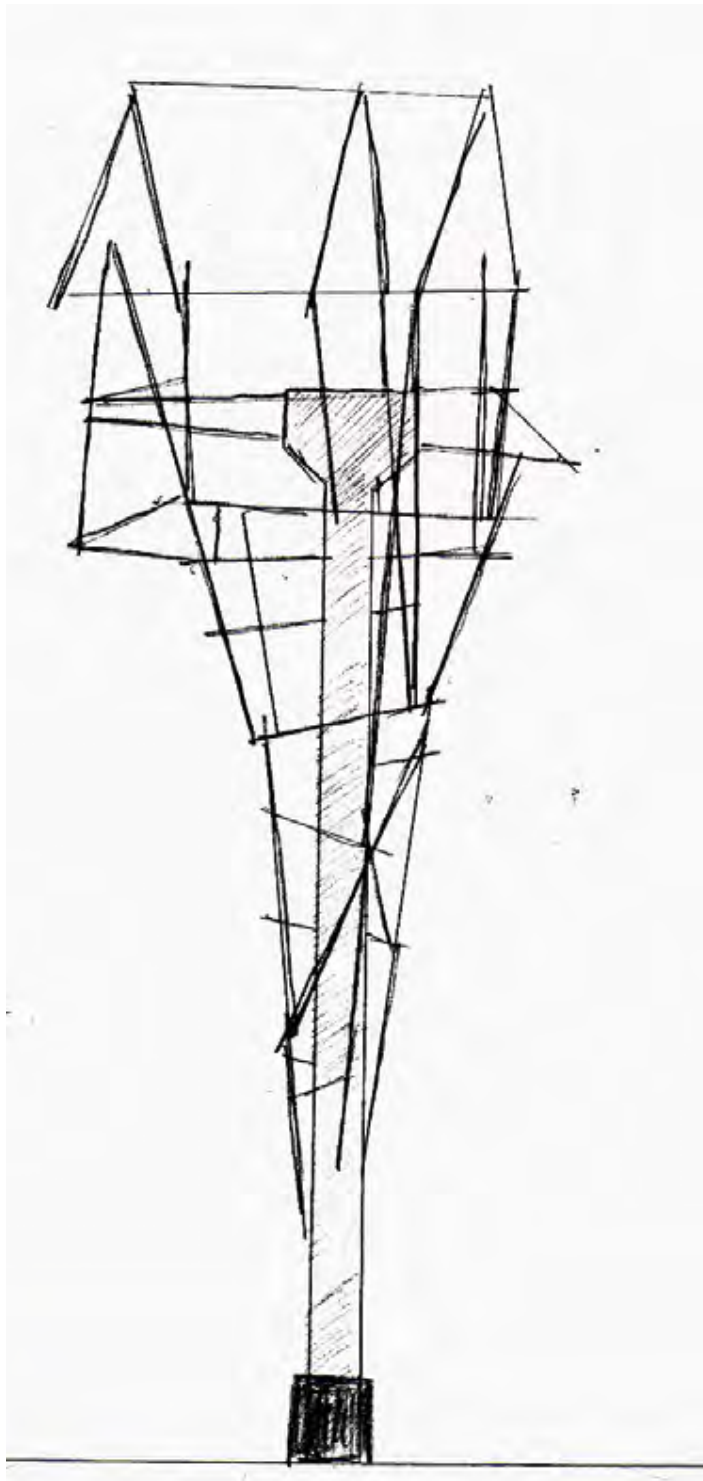
CONCEPTUAL OVERVIEW

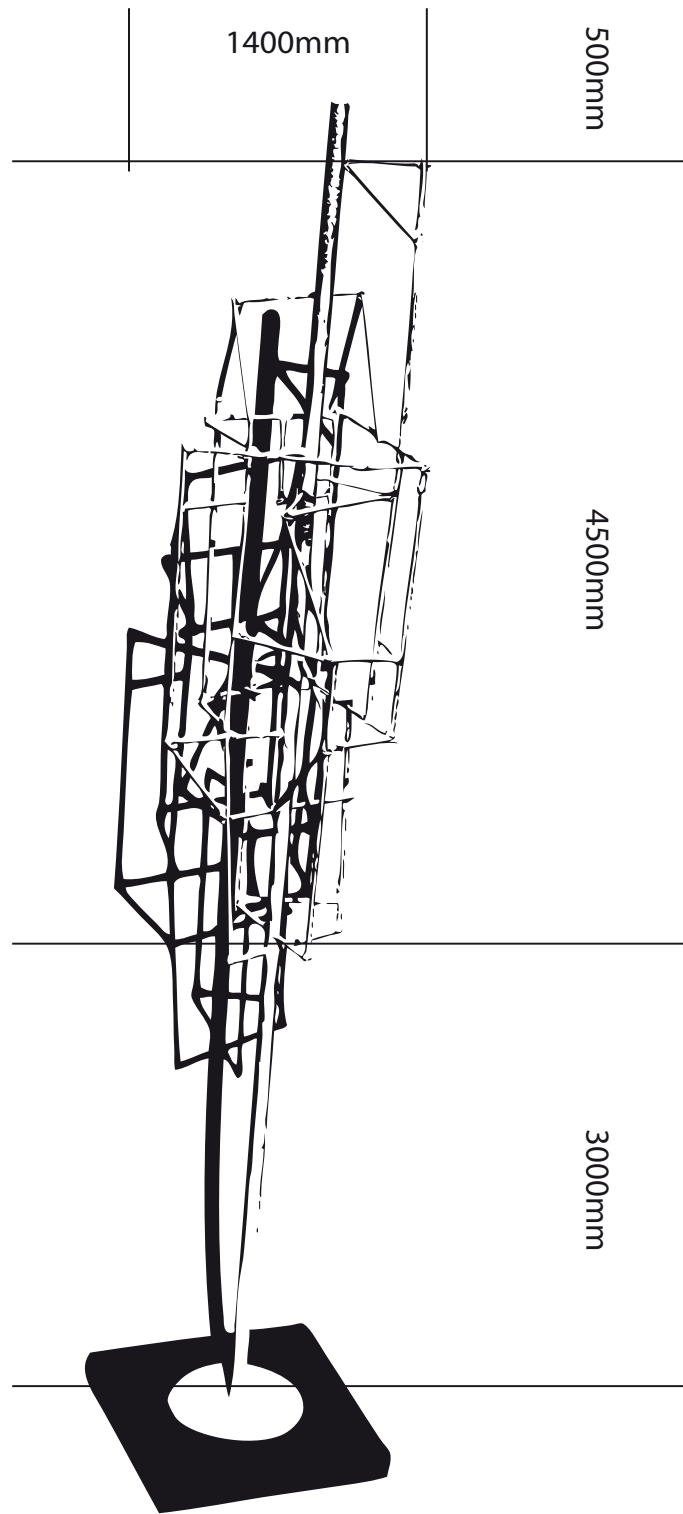
Richardson's concept has been informed by the architecture of Darwin and unique processes found in building techniques of South-East Asia and Australia to create scaffolding inspired forms to shroud the lighting poles. The scaffolding forms act as drawings and are inspired by elements in the built environment.

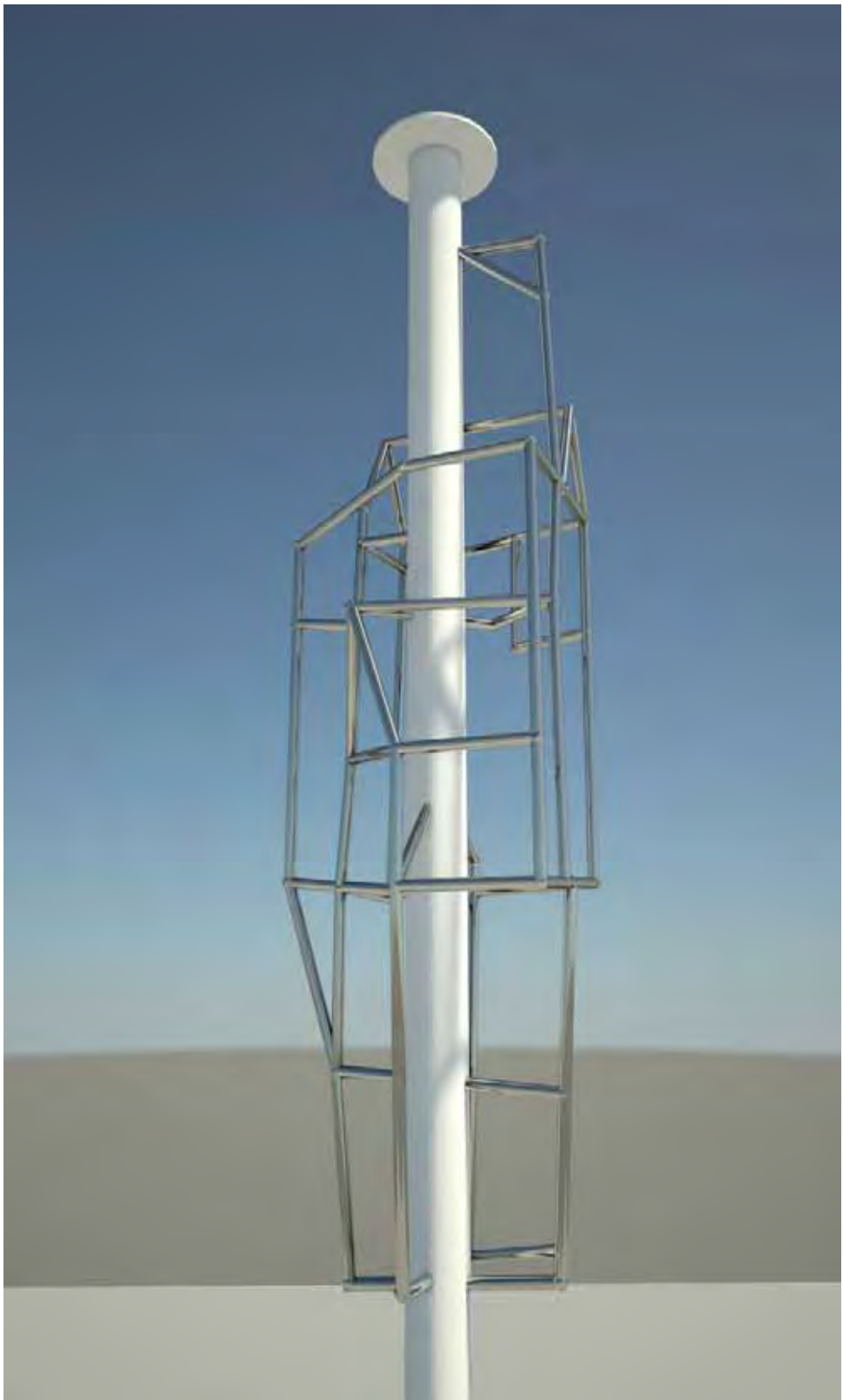
While each lighting pole artwork will be different in composition, the completed series will merge as a singular aesthetic.

The scaffolding aim to create shadow effects both day and night through sunlight and lighting, casting shadows onto the ground area of the Mall. As the sun moves through the Mall the shadows will distort and shift. The shadows, and the artworks will be suggestive and open to interpretation, adding a playful quality. The shadow aspect aligns to the curatorial rationale of 'Illuminate, Reveal, Play, Intertwine' and the history of the site.

The scaffolding form takes in references from organic bamboo scaffolding, endemic throughout south-east Asia and metal scaffolding techniques commonly used in Australia. These elements will echo the built environment – windows, house facades, stairs, doors as well as referencing historic structure such as Darwin CBD churches.







ARTIST <

TOBIAS RICHARDSON

Thomas Heatherwick



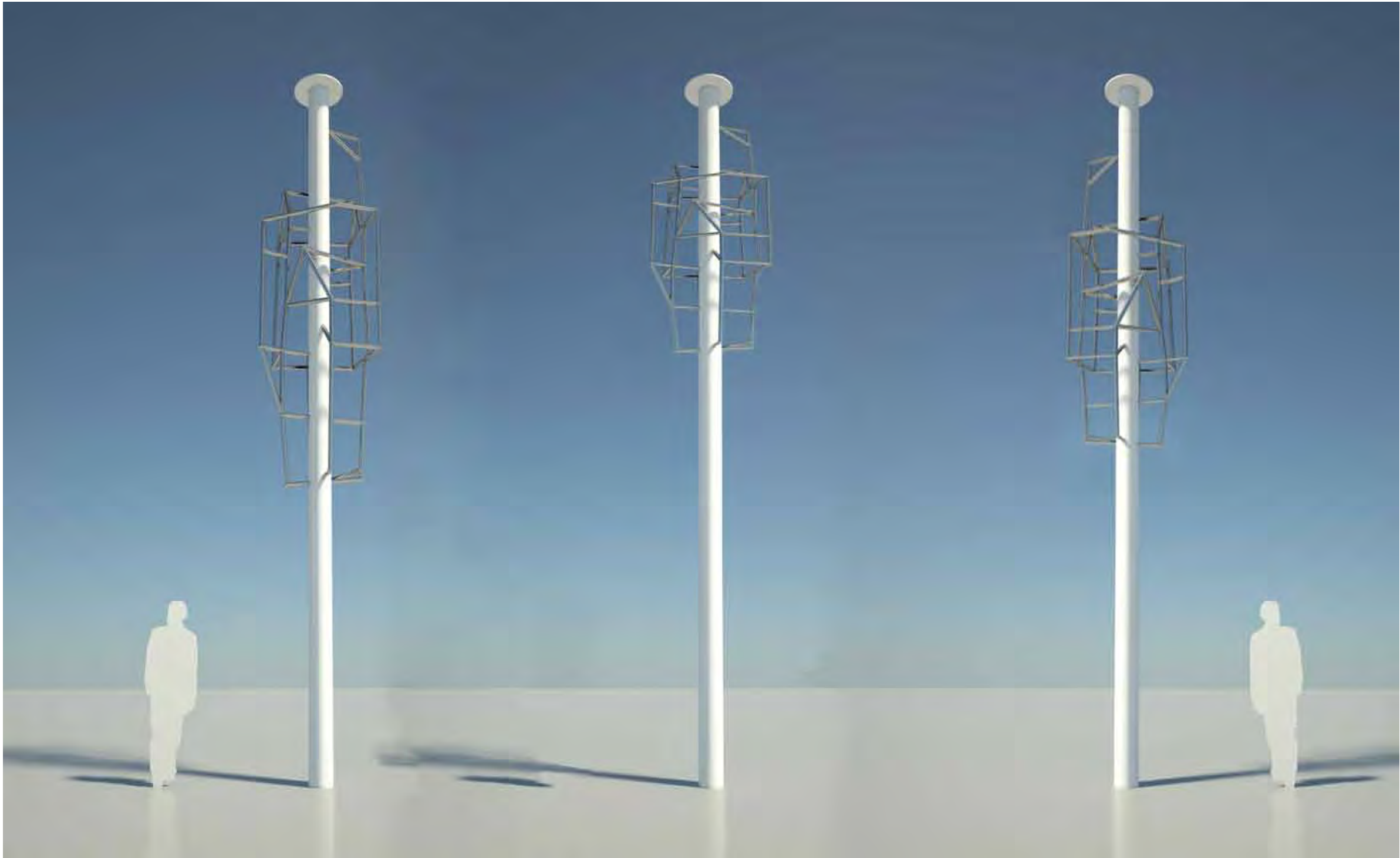
Michael Parakowhai

MATERIALS

It is proposed that this sculpture be made from aluminium rod, welded and finished at the ends. Taken through design development a range of appropriate surface finishes will be explored, all emphasising a high gloss minimalist aesthetic. It is proposed that either a powder coat or a wet spray finish is applied. The rods will be welded together in such a way that it highlights the playful nature of this piece and forms an integral part of the visual flow, encouraging the eye to move and rest.

The lighting of this piece will come from the top of the poles and will diffuse down, thus creating a pool of shadows around the feet of pedestrians. Given the linear nature of this piece, light will follow the aluminium rod and the architecture of the sculpture will be highlighted.

During the day time the sun will also cause shadow play with a shifting and changing light and perspective, creating an experiential piece constantly evolving throughout the year.



ARTIST <

KATRINA TYLER

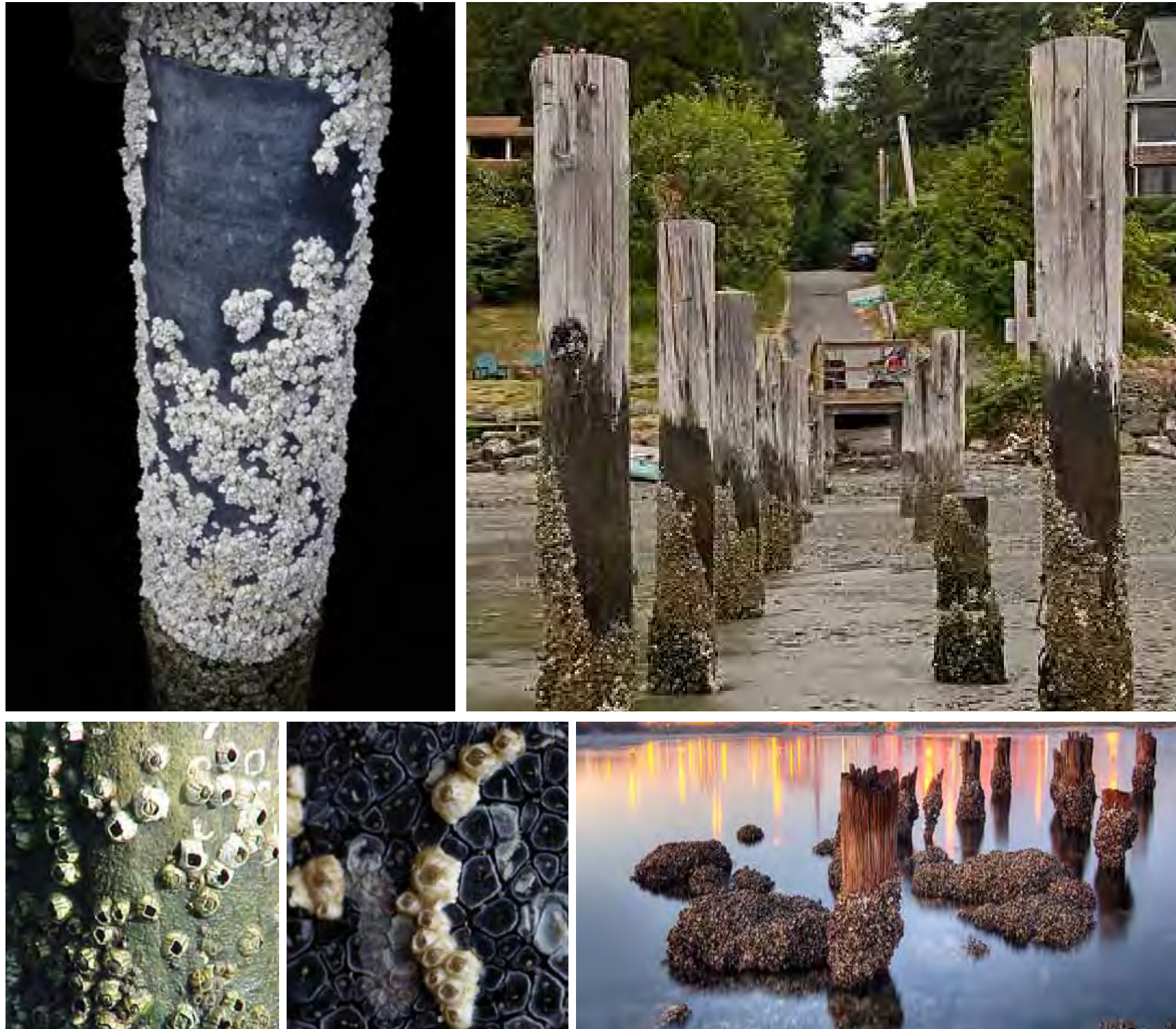


KATRINA TYLER

Katrina Tyler completed her BA Fine Art in Gold and Silversmithing at RMIT in 2003 and had her graduate work selected for the Fresh! Award at Craft Victoria the same year. In early 2005, she moved to Darwin where she settled for nearly three years.

Darwin's landscape has played a key role in Katrina's practice. After receiving the 2007 Territory Craft Youth Mentorship Grant, Katrina was able to spend three months in the Metal Design Studio at JamFactory in Adelaide. The Public Sculpture Commission at the Darwin Waterfront has enabled her to broaden her practice into a larger scale.





CONCEPTUAL OVERVIEW

POLE AS PYLON - SITE FOR CONGREGATION, COLONISATION, UNIFICATION AND PROLIFERATION

Tyler has drawn inspiration from the coastline and maritime history of Darwin. Specifically, the distinct yet random patterns and clusters formed by marine species upon the pylons of Stokes Hill Wharf.

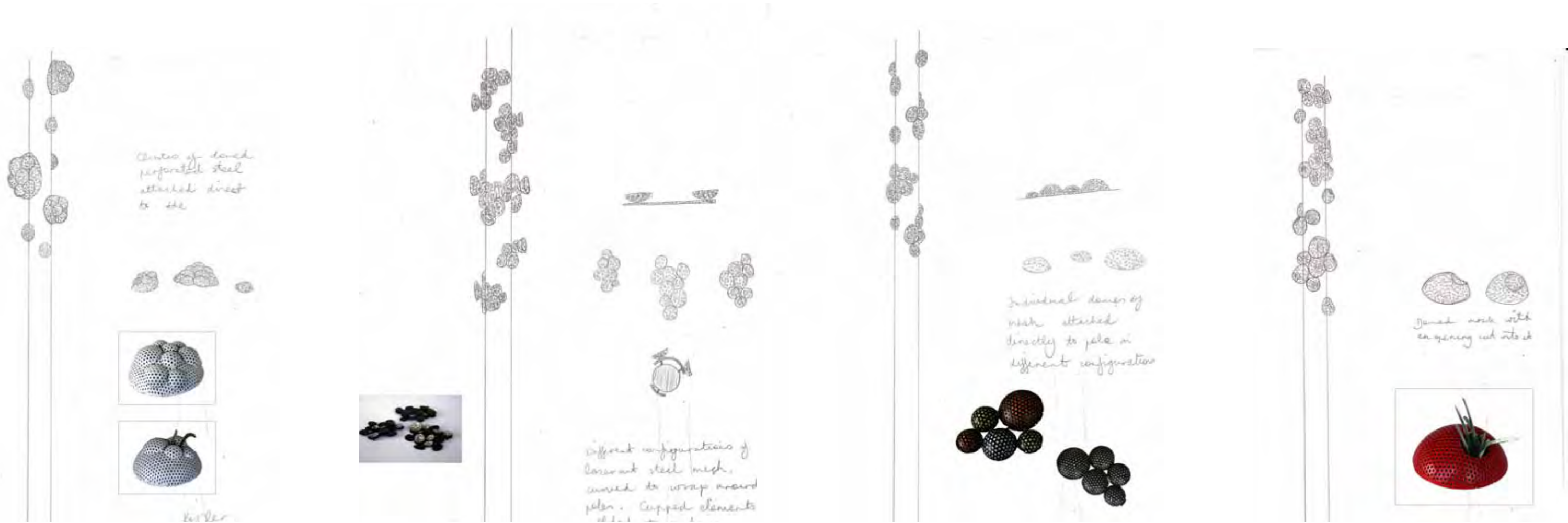
Referencing the pylons, although in an abstracted manner, she intends to symbolically link the Smith Street Mall with the wharf, that brought so many people, materials and products from other lands via the sea.

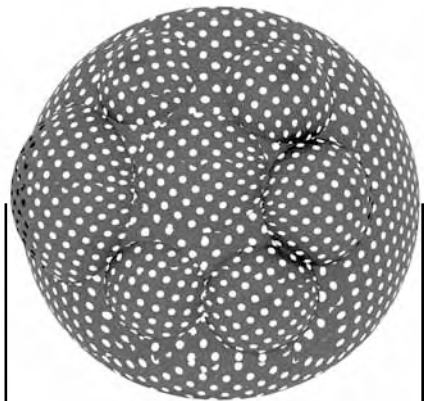
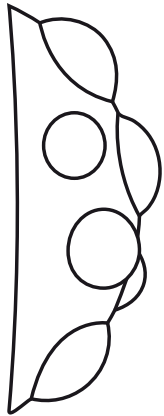
POLE AS MARKER - SITE FOR WAY-FINDING AND CONTEMPLATION OF TIDAL MOVEMENTS AND DARWIN'S COASTAL LOCATION

The vast tidal movements in Darwin's waters reveal the pylons at Stokes Hill Wharf to differing depths. The clusters and growths of species change their characteristics depending on the amount of time they are submerged or exposed by tidal movements. They also provide a marker of where tidal movements fluctuate.

Tyler's lighting pole installation explores the idea that each pole reflects the changing tidal movements through placement of design elements. This aims to lead the viewers' gaze through the Mall and encourages them to discover the subtle differences between the poles.

At night, it is envisaged that the elements/poles are illuminated in a way that creates a sense of wonder and play, and establish relationships between the poles.



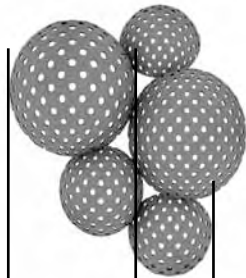


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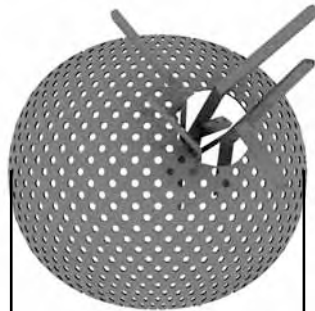
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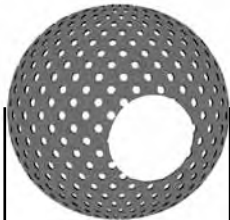


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80mm



180mm



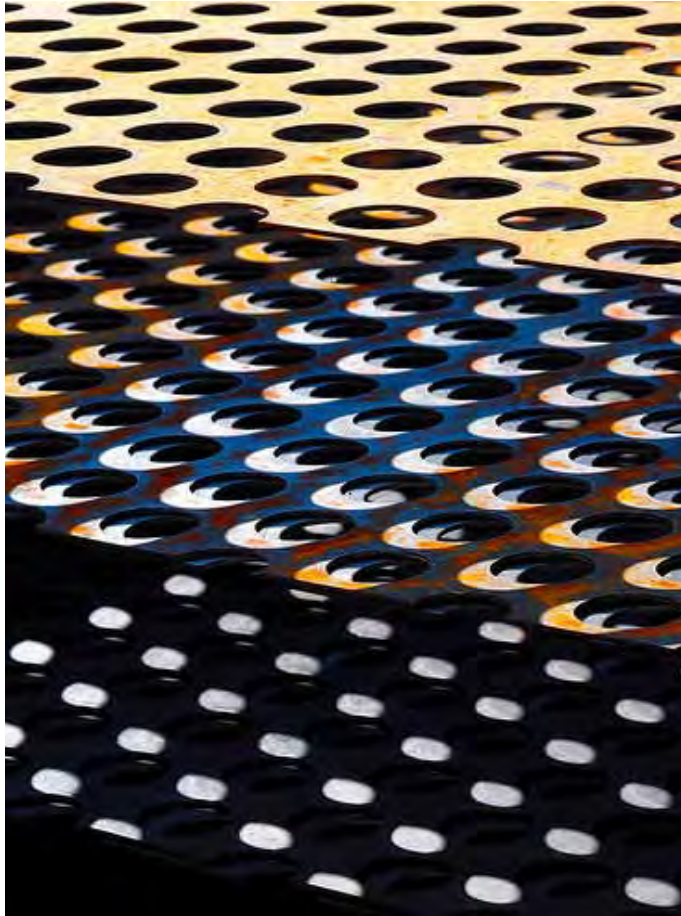
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ARTIST <

KATRINA TYLER

Donna Marcus



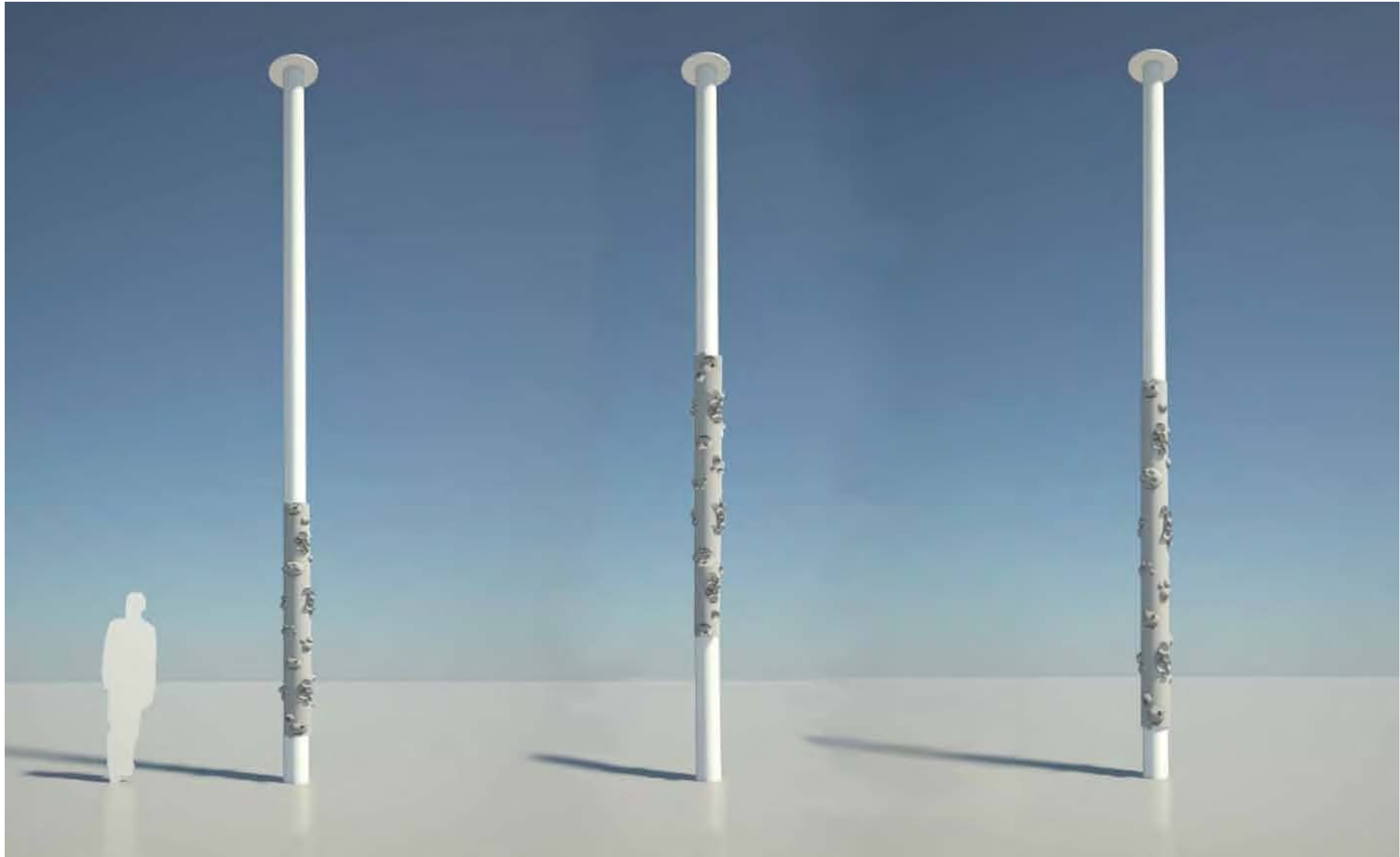
Donna Marcus

MATERIALS

It is proposed that the lighting element be made from laser cut aluminium sheet and available perforated aluminium sheet. These shapes will then be cut and pressed to form the required dome elements. Welded or attached via slots, these come together to form clusters in a arc that enables them to sit at the same curve as the supporting lighting tower. The clusters obscure the lighting element that sits behind and lights these playful figures at night.

There will be a number of samples made and investigation into creating a textured surface that best animates Katrinas aesthetic prevalent in her jewellery. It is recommended though that these clusters be wet sprayed to stand firm against the weather conditions in Darwin.

UAP can provide documentation indicating the required placement of fixing points before the poles go into fabrication. A number of options will be explored during design development and these include, colour investigation, surface texture, patterned and formed dome shape, light fixing areas and amount of elements spread over the lighting poles.



6 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

THAT pursuant to Section 65 (2) of the Local Government Act and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

DECISION NO.20\() (20/04/10)

