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# Yuta Badayala [In a New Light]

**A collaboration between Koskela and Yolngu artists from Elcho Island Arts**

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Object: Australian Centre for Craft and Design will exhibit a range of lights which are the first market-ready outcomes of a collaboration between furniture designers Koskela and weavers from Elcho Island Arts. The exhibition will open in Object's Project Space on 6 February 2010.

*Yuta Badayala (In a new light)* builds on Object's ongoing commitment to nurturing and promoting contemporary Indigenous craft and design practices and includes pieces by Mavis Warrngilna Ganambarr, Roslyn Malngumba, Margaret Bambalara and Julienne Gitjpu.

Each of the lampshades uses traditional pandanus and bush string weaving techniques. They are filled with the stories of their makers - about their lands, their culture and their traditions. Each light is a unique piece, its final form relying solely on each artist's interpretation of the form which Koskela provides. It is the first time these traditional techniques have been used to create products which are specifically designed for the contemporary interiors market.

Mavis Warrngilna Ganambarr, highly acclaimed Yolngu artist said that when Koskela approached her with the idea of weaving on lampshades, she was interested in the idea. "I thought it would be interesting to take our traditional Yolngu materials and use them on Balanda objects. We all thought this would be a good way to show a new audience what can be done by Yolngu artists with materials from the bush" said Ganambarr.

Koskela Directors Russel Koskela and Sasha Titchkosky first started thinking about how they could work with Indigenous weavers in 2006. The aim of their collaborations is to provide Indigenous weavers with an additional stream of income from their work and to introduce new and compelling art products into contemporary interiors.

The project represents a genuine collaboration with the weavers contributing technical skills, material knowledge and artistic capabilities, while Koskela contribute design and marketing skills along with their significant experience in the interiors market.

### ARTIST TALK

Russel Koskela and Sasha Titchkosky will join Mavis Warrngilna Ganambarr and Roslyn Malngumba in a weaving demonstration and conversation about the project.  
6 February 2010, 2-3pm at Object Gallery

*Yuta Badayala (In a new light)* runs from 6 February – 28 March 2010 in Object's Project Space *STATE. RESPOND.* Exploring sustainable design will be showing in Object's Main Gallery.

-ENDS -



PRINCIPAL FUNDING

Exhibition Partner

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Object Gallery & Collect. 417 Bourke Street Surry Hills. Open Tuesday - Friday 11am - 5pm. Saturday - Sunday 10am - 5pm. Free admission.

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Elcho Island is located in the Arafura Sea off the coast of north-east Arnhem Land in Australia's Northern Territory. Home to the Yolngu people, Elcho Island is an important creative hub, with ARIA award-winning musician Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu, the Chooky Dancers and increasingly successful fibre artists all hailing from this island.

Russel Koskela, Sasha Titchkosky (Koskela), Mavis Warrngilna Ganambarr and Roslyn Malngumba will be available for interview.

[www.koskela.com.au](http://www.koskela.com.au)

[www.elchoarts.com](http://www.elchoarts.com)



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