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## MEDIA RELEASE

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The Australian Academy of Design and Toyota Australia are pleased to announce that the winner of the inaugural Emerging Sculptor Award is local sculptor, Penny Parkinson. Penny was chosen from a strong field of over 30 entrants, among them finalists David Marshall, Kate Caish and Kate Vivian. Her work will be exhibited as part of Hybrid 2009, a joint Academy–Toyota arts event celebrating sculpture that includes a public lecture, a Sculpture Forum and the launch of the fifth annual Toyota Community Spirit Gallery Sculpture Exhibition.

Born in Echuca, Penny Parkinson studied Industrial Design at RMIT and Fine Art at LaTrobe College of Art and Design. Her sculpture utilises the medium of stockings. Penny's 'Skin Deep', exhibition comprising large hanging works, will be on display in the Academy's Clement Meadmore Gallery in October. 'The works are interrelated, but separate,' explains Penny. 'They are related by materials and concept. I draw inspiration from everyday consumer and industrial textiles.'

The judging panel for the Emerging Sculptor Award comprised Ken Wong, Director of the Toyota Community Spirit Gallery, Dr Robert Treseder, Director of the Australian Academy of Design and Malcolm Thomson, Curator of the Clement Meadmore Gallery. In announcing Penny as the winner Ken Wong said the judges were impressed with 'the outstanding quality of her submission of a clear and concise plan for the exhibition space that showcases her innovative emerging practice'.

Also part of Hybrid 2009, Robert Lindsay, Director of the McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park, will deliver the 2009 Clement Meadmore Invitational Lecture at the Academy, immediately followed by the Sculpture Forum. The forum will bring together leading art historians, educators and sculptors to discuss topical Australian sculptural issues. Both the lecture and forum are free events open to the public.

For further information on the Emerging Sculptor Award and the Sculpture Forum please phone Malcolm Thomson at the Australian Academy of Design on 03 9676 9000.

Hybrid 2009 events at the Australian Academy of Design, 220 Ingles Street, Port Melbourne.

- Emerging Sculptor Award Exhibition: Launch by the Hon Ted Baillieu, MHR, Leader of the Opposition on 7 October 2009 at 2pm in the Clement Meadmore Gallery. Featuring the work of the inaugural recipient, Penny Parkinson. The exhibition runs from Wednesday 7 October to Friday 16 October 2009 Opening hours: 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.
- The 2009 Clement Meadmore Invitational Lecture: Robert Lindsay, Director, McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park, 7 October 2009 at 2.45pm, followed by the Sculpture Forum:
   Changes in Sculpture Education a panel discussion chaired by Dr Dan Wollmering, BA St Johns, MA RMIT, PhD Deakin, Sculptor; with Dr Deane Hardwick, PhD Monash, Art Historian, Lecturer AAD; Loretta Quinn, MFA Monash, Lecturer RMIT, Sculptor; Jason Waterhouse, BFA VCA, TAFE Lecturer, Sculptor.

## **About the Australian Academy of Design**

The Australian Academy of Design is a not-for-profit higher education provider specialising in art and design education. Key objectives are to develop creative, innovative industry leaders responsive to community and environmental concerns, with a commitment to, and appreciation of, design effectiveness. The Academy's accredited Bachelor of Design Arts course enables students to undertake major studies in advertising, fashion design, graphic design, photo media and visual arts. Post-graduate studies and international exchanges are also available.

For upcoming events at the Australian Academy of Design visit the website www.designacademy.edu.au or to join the mailing list contact Marketing Manager, Sara Bidois, on marketing@designacademy.edu.au or 9676 9000.