



Catherine Duniyam

P O R T F O L I O

Bachelor Environmental Design (Architecture) (UTas) // Graduate Cert. Sustainability and Planning (RMIT)
Specialist Cert. Green Roofs and Walls (UoM) // Horticultural Principles (UoM) // Founding Director CommuniTree

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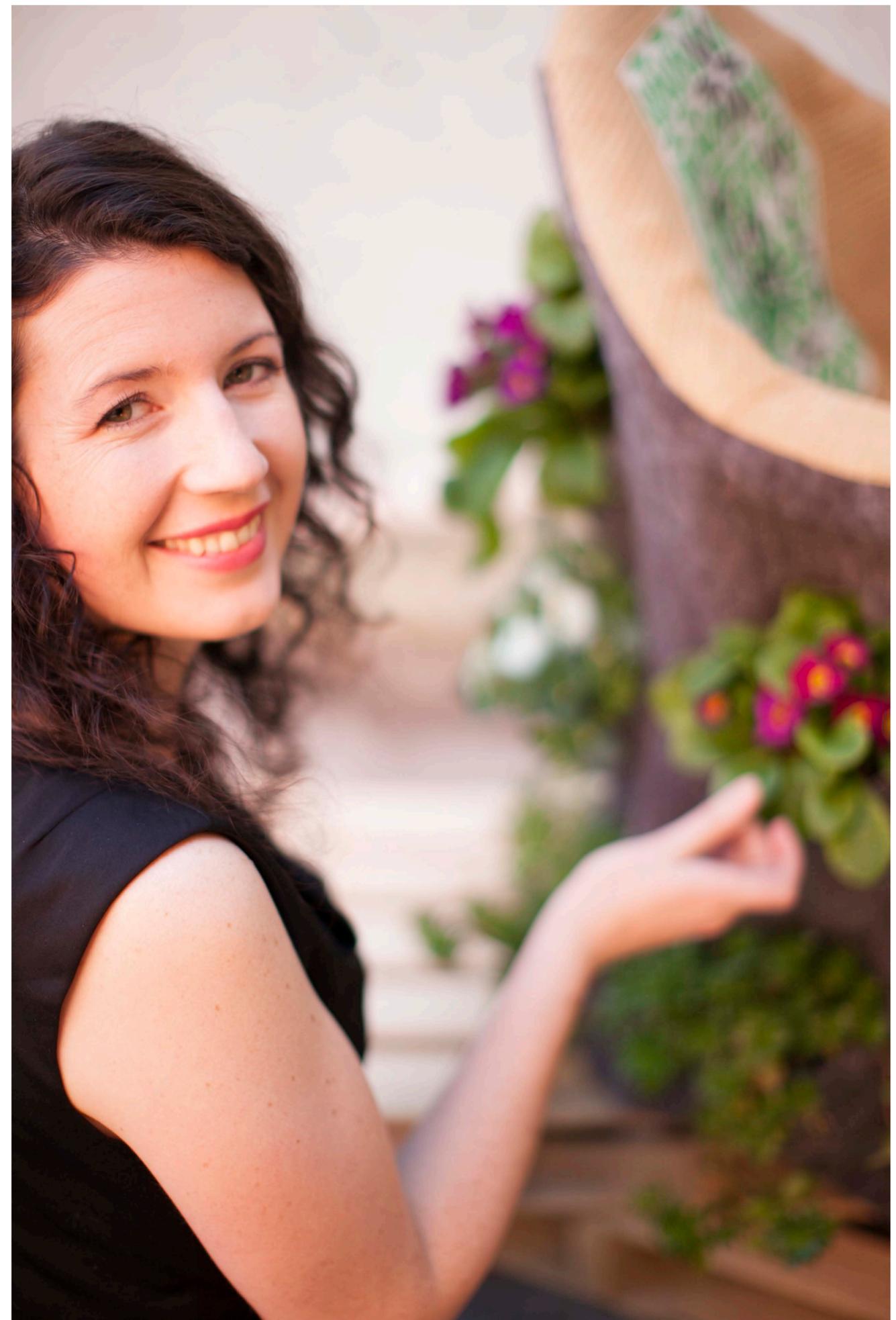
Links

[Curriculum Vitae](#)

[Website](#)

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Catherine Duniam transforms the city into a living oasis through intelligent design and creative concepts.

In 2010, Catherine established green design business CommuniTree, where she built a Living Marquee for the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show, Cycled with a TV garden to the Sustainable Living Festival and grew a living dress for the Melbourne Cup. She's been commissioned for other large events and developed a number of 'living' products along the way.

Growing up on a farm in North West Tasmania, Catherine has been designing, growing and creating from a young age. Her practical 'can do' approach to green solutions brings her creative ideas to life.

Catherine's designs are influenced and inspired by the natural environment. Believing engagement with the natural world is fundamental to physical and psychological health, Catherine designs unique and creative solutions for greening the city.

With qualifications in Architecture, Sustainability, Green Roofs & Walls, Horticulture and Business Management, she matches ideas with skills to bring projects to life.



Living Furniture

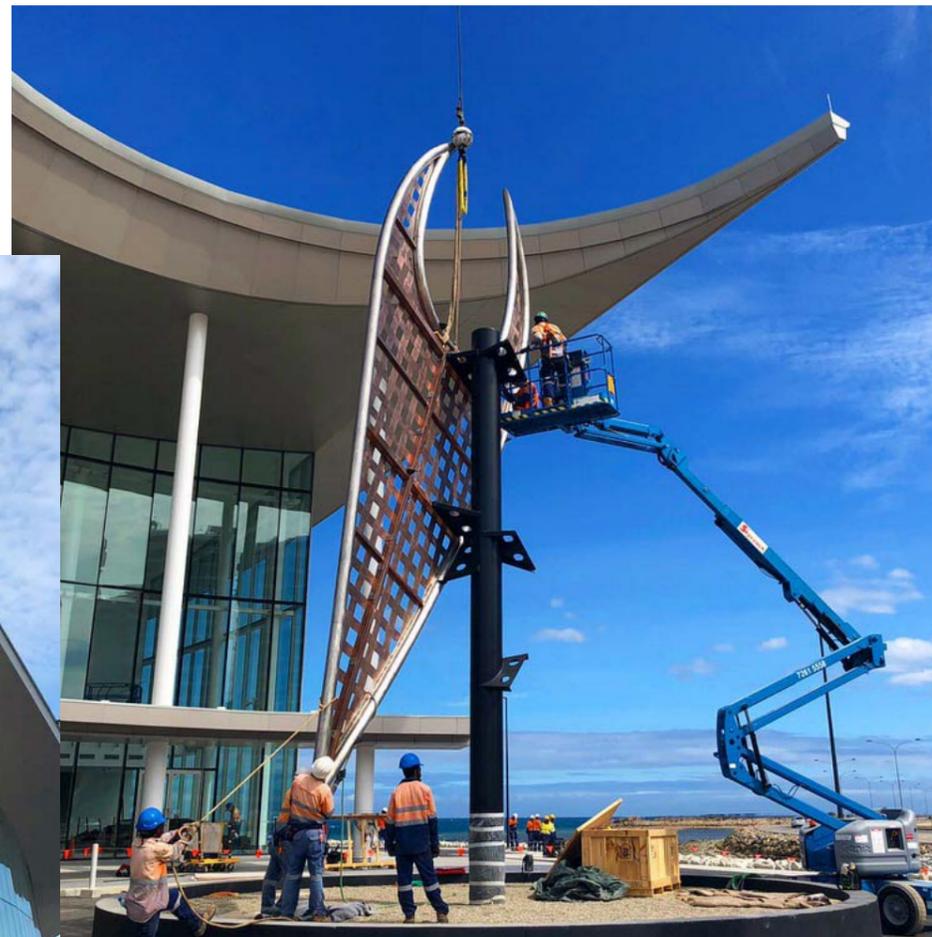
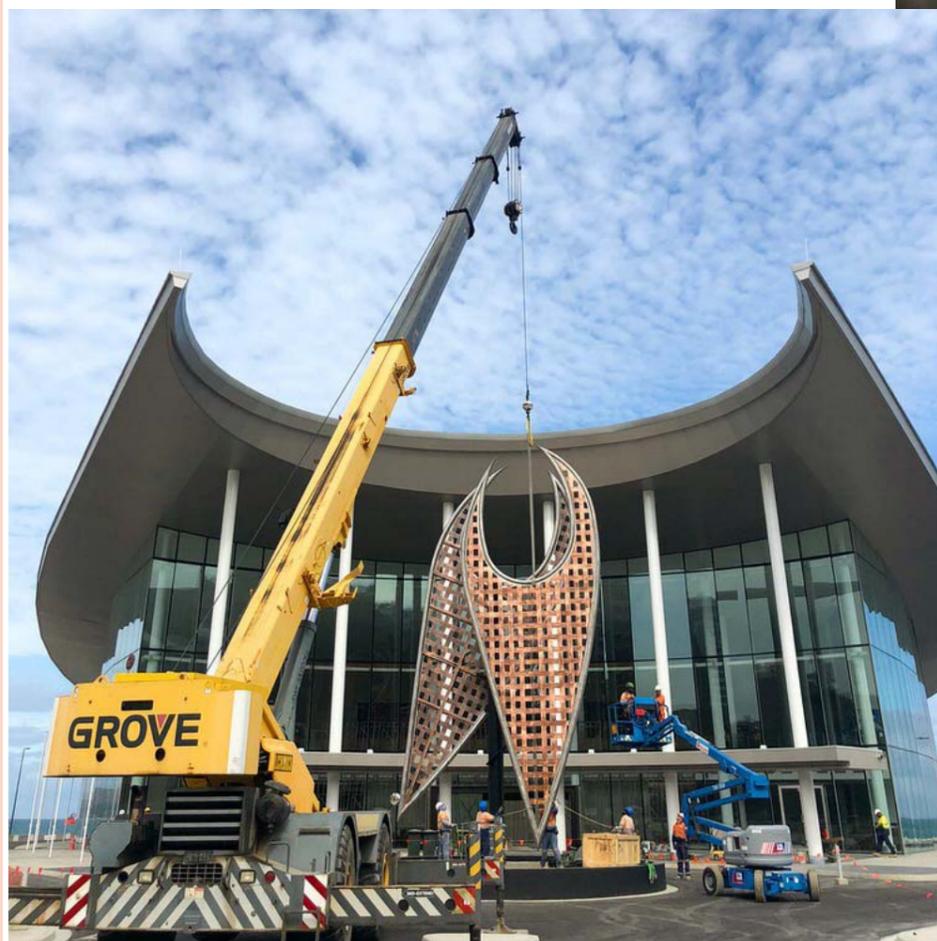
Catherine's latest *Living* idea is to design and develop a range of permanent Living Furniture suitable for interior and exterior spaces, in an effort to increase greenery in cities. These images are an artistic impression of how this furniture may look.



Lump, APEC Haus Lakatoi Sculpture



This 12m high sculpture features at the entrance of the brand new APEC Haus, built in Port Moresby, PNG, to host the APEC Summit, scheduled for November 2018.



Catherine costed, pitched and secured project; Ordered all materials; Assisted director by managing timeline and budget (\$160K+); client liaison; all logistics, including international shipping to Port Moresby, PNG. Further details on [Lump's Website](#)



Lump, APEC Haus Western Wall Art Works



These 66 qty 4.6x1.2m laser cut panels decorate the side of the brand new APEC Haus, built in Port Moresby, PNG, to host the APEC Summit, scheduled for November 2018.



Catherine costed, pitched and secured project; Project Managed; Ordered all materials; Managed timeline and budget (\$250K+); client liaison; all logistics, including international shipping to Port Moresby, PNG. Further details on [Lump's Website](#)

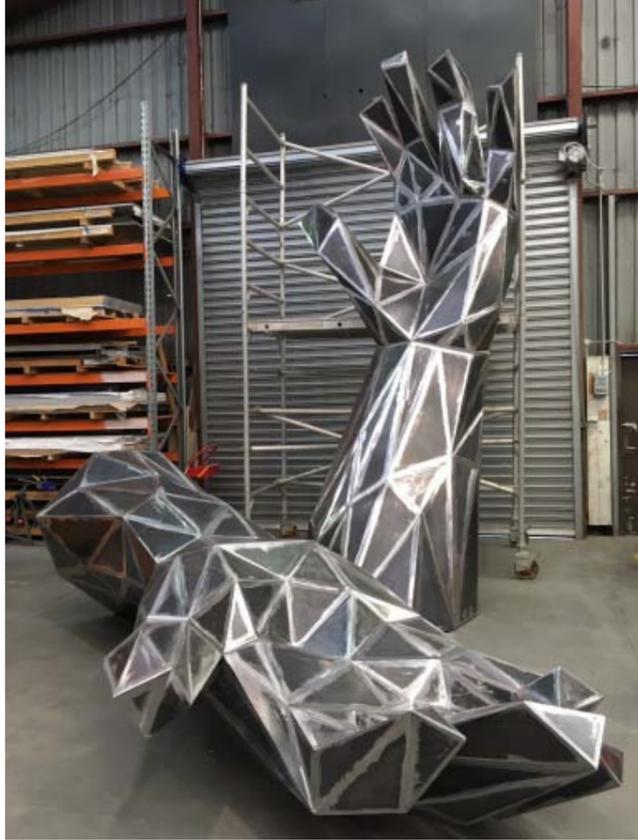
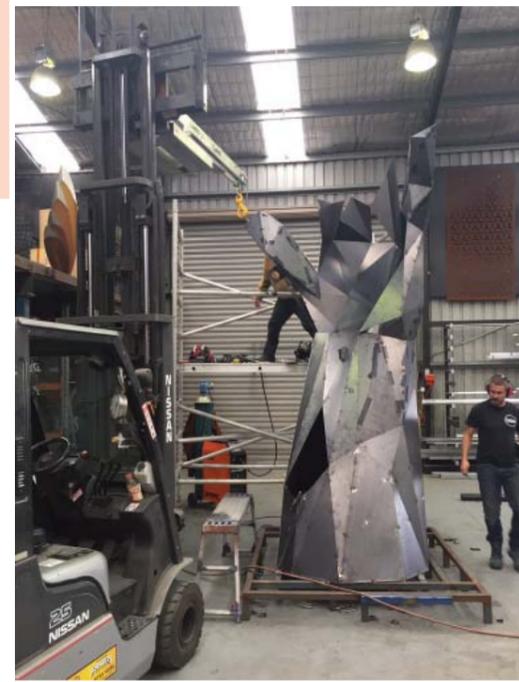
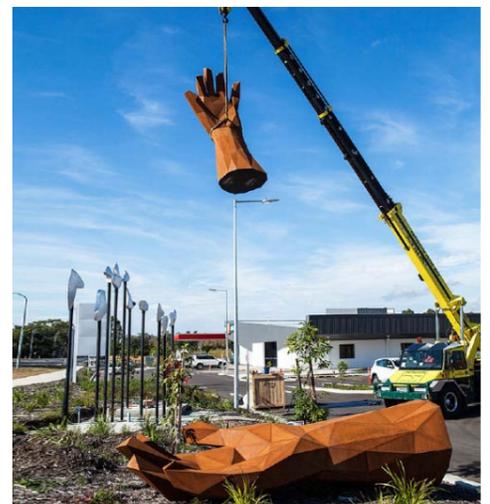


Lump, Benaraby Project

This was the first large project (\$150K+) Catherine managed with Lump. She secured the project, generated initial concept design from client's marquette, instructed our CAD technician to model the project, communicated with engineer, instructed our fabrication team, arranged all logistics (transport, crane, etc), and maintained client communication throughout. Further details: [Lump's Website](#) and [CV](#)



Client's initial marquette

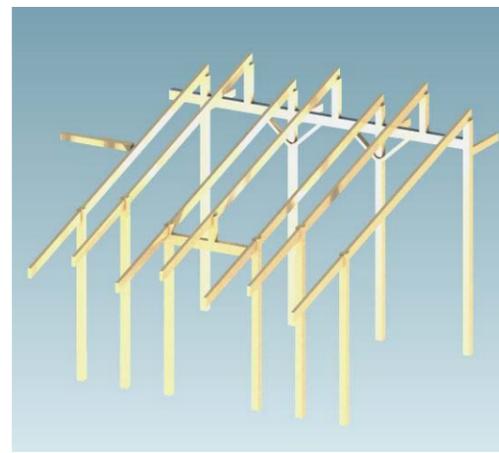


Landells Rd Extension

A WORK IN PROGRESS

My partner and I have recently bought this quaint weatherboard house in Pascoe Vale. It has been well cared for by one family since 1951, and is in very good condition. It is however a little small, and we would like to add an extra room for a home office / guest bedroom.

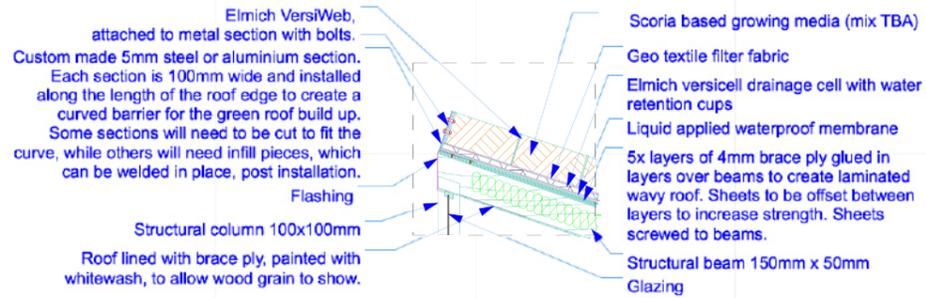
This design is a work in progress using ArchiCAD, and this page will be updated as work progresses.



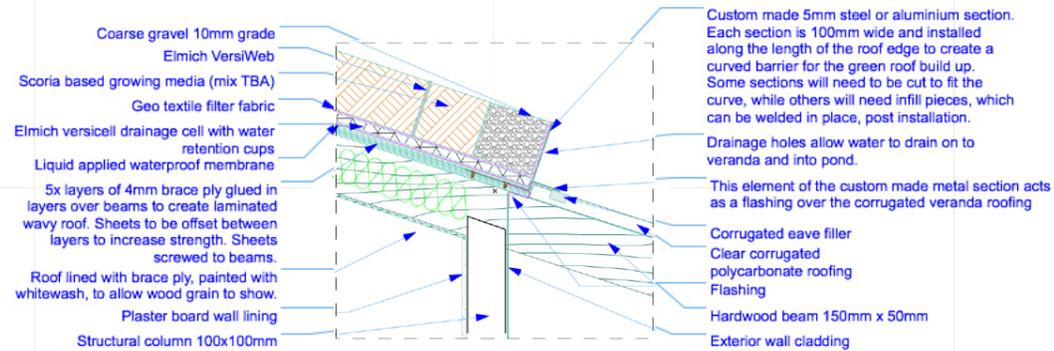
Structural timber framework



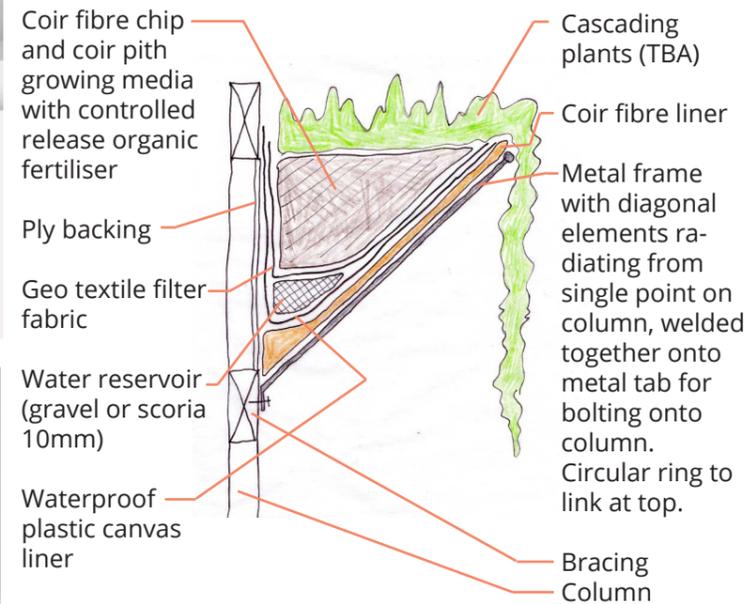
Upper roof edge detail



Lower roof edge detail



Self watering planter detail section (to be installed onto bracing at top of rear columns).



Notes: Green roof to be planted in a 'wild meadow' style with a mix of exotic and native plants (TBA). Ceiling clad in brace ply and white washed - will show timber grain while reflecting light. Veranda roofing: corrugated polycarbonate sheet.



Living Carnival Cutouts

CommuniTree's unique event attraction, the Living Carnival Cutouts, brings laughter and joy with plants!

With specific training in Green Walls, Catherine's specialised system permanently houses the live plants, while maintaining light weight and ease of handling to ensure simple set up and transport of the built elements.

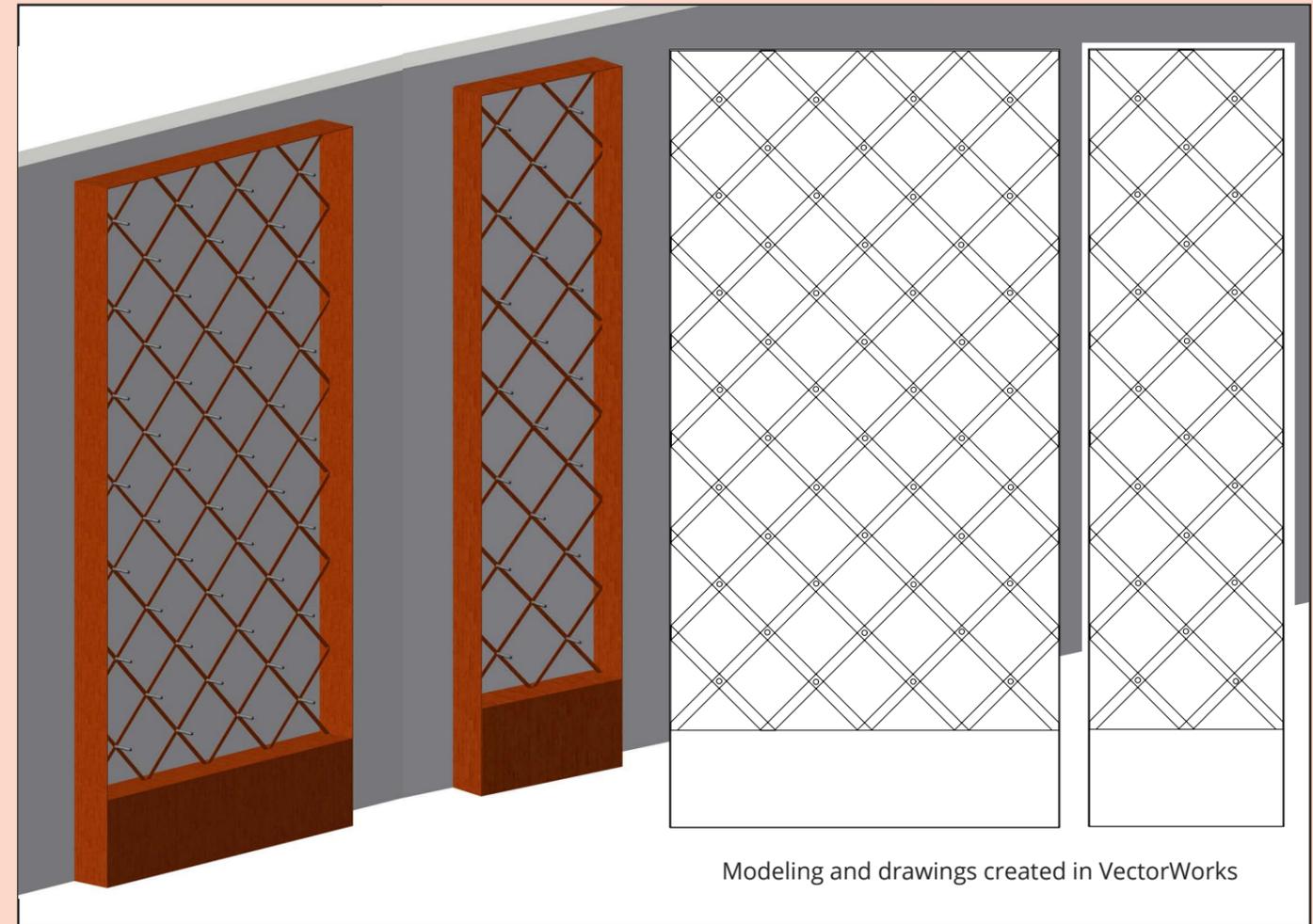
The Living Carnival Cutouts have featured at numerous events across Victoria, including Fair@Square at Federation Square, Australia Day celebrations at Docklands, Stringybark Festival, Coburg Night Markets and many more.



Coco Loco Green Walls



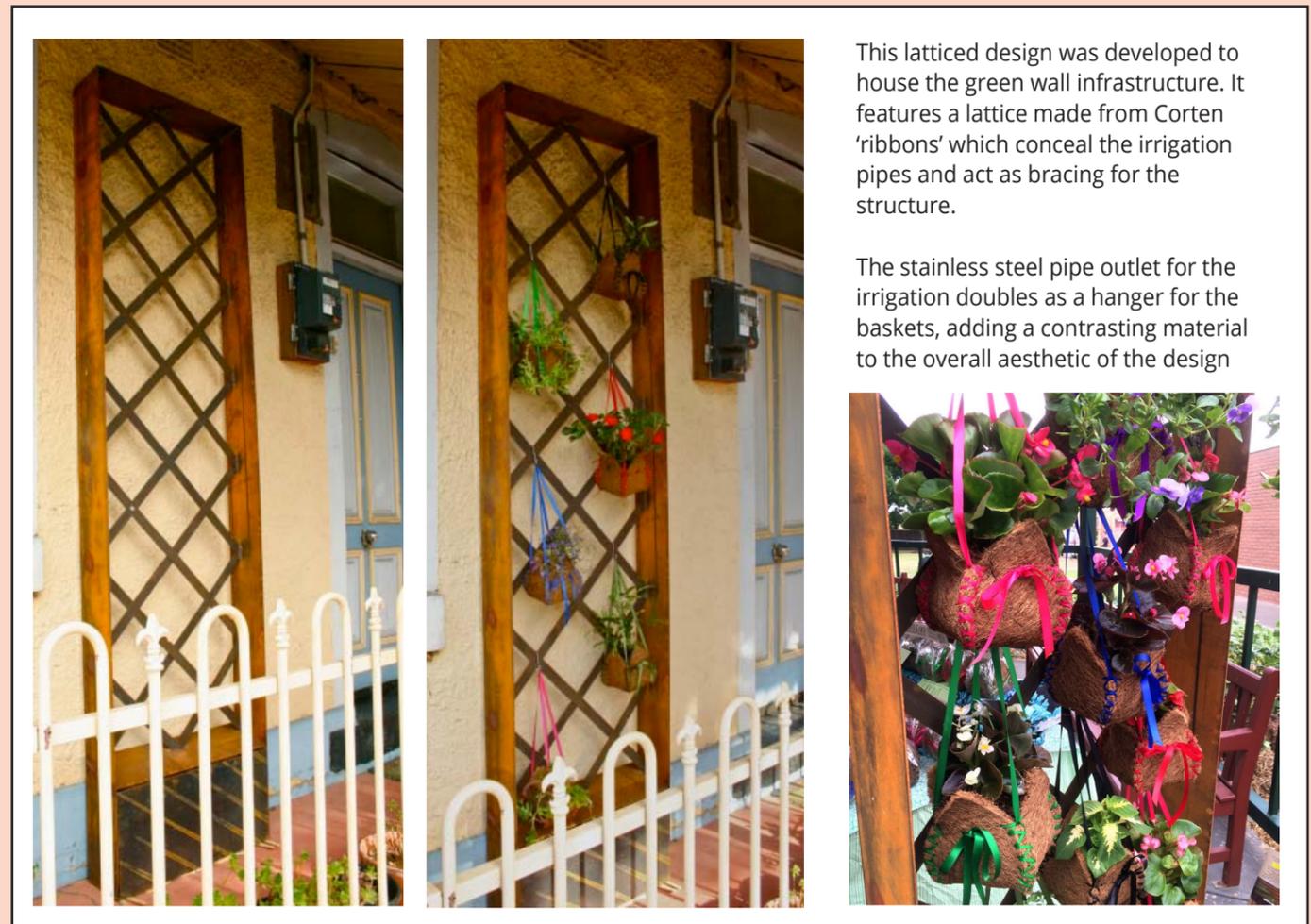
Catherine designed and developed these green wall metal screens to display her Coco Loco Hanging Baskets. Utilising VectorWorks, sourcing materials, cutting to specification, then welding them herself, Catherine's rustic Corten Steel metal screens compliments the colourful foliage, flowers and ribbons of the baskets.



Modeling and drawings created in VectorWorks

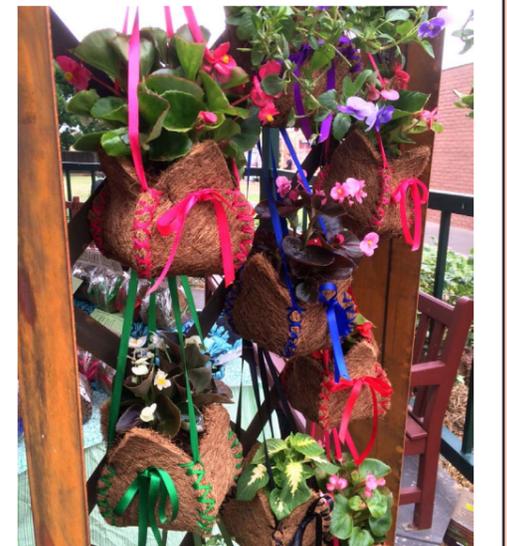


This chain design allows for movement within the screen and provides a softer barrier between spaces. Irrigation, if fitted, would run along the underside of the top element and drip water down over plants.



This latticed design was developed to house the green wall infrastructure. It features a lattice made from Corten 'ribbons' which conceal the irrigation pipes and act as bracing for the structure.

The stainless steel pipe outlet for the irrigation doubles as a hanger for the baskets, adding a contrasting material to the overall aesthetic of the design



The Living Office – How is your PLANT / LIFE balance?

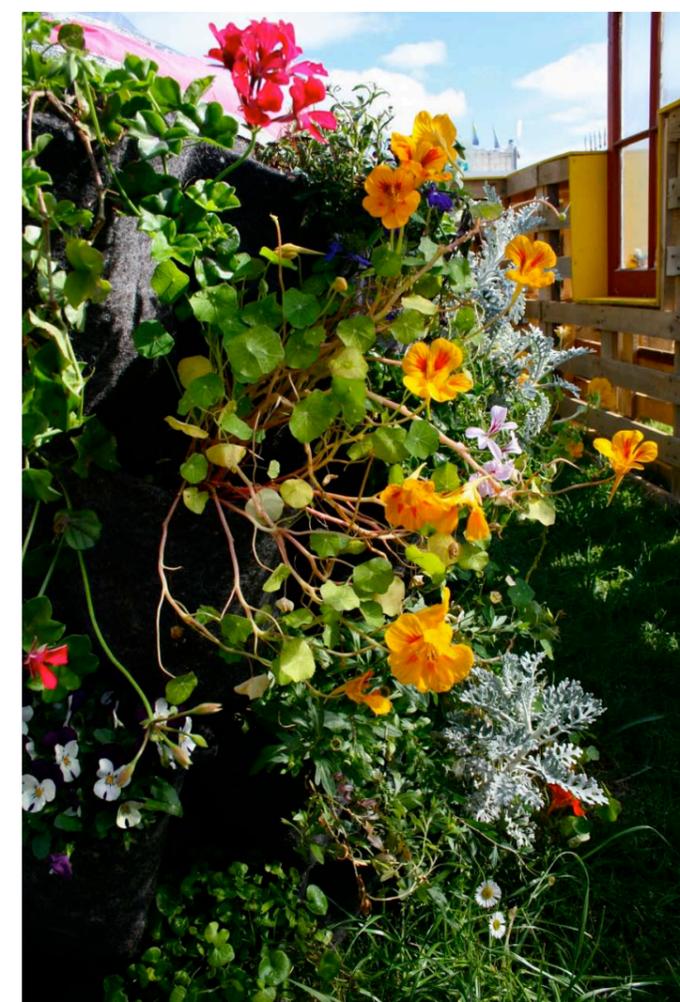


The Living Office is a fun, interactive space that re-imagines the office workspace. Filled with lush greens, it transforms E-waste into a fun activity for both parents and children alike. Gadgets retain basic functioning - such as a clickable mouse, a keyboard that types and a grassy phone.

Catherine created The Living Office for the Royal Melbourne Show 2014, and has since hired it to numerous events around Victoria.

The Living Living Room

Bringing an ordinary domestic scene to life!



Close up of the cascading foliage and flowers from the side of the Living Armchair at Melbourne Show 2014.



The Living Living Room features two floral armchairs adapted to house custom made vertical gardens. Paired with a vintage TV sprouting abundant herbs and veggies, The Living Living Room is a comfortable, functional and fun green oasis!

Commissioned for the Royal Melbourne Show, Catherine developed and built the concept in 2013. She designed and hand-made the green-wall system for the chairs, and created a self watering planter from a vintage TV.

The Living Living Room has since gone on to become a popular feature at many events around Victoria, such as Fair@Square, Sustainable Living Festival and numerous local council events.



The Grassy Chooks

The Grassy Chooks were commissioned by The Royal Melbourne Show for the My Backyard space, a section dedicated to sustainability. They proved to be a hit with show visitors, and were photographed non-stop.



The Living House

The Living House event concept is a series of 'rooms' featuring living art pieces that transform household objects with lush, colourful vegetation.

Catherine designed and developed the concept to pitch to large events and expos around Australia.

The Living Office - How is your PLANT / LIFE balance?



The Living Bedroom

This piece is inspired by a four poster bed and features a grassy 'mattress' that people can sit or lie on. It's enclosed by living 'curtains', made from lattice and climbing flowers, which grow from the planter boxes at the base of each panel.

The grassy mattress uses real springs so the grass is soft and springy like a real mattress. The mattress and base are enclosed by a plywood surround, which is decorated with cloth curtains.



Living Signage

When entering The Living House through this archway, you might be taken away by the smell of freshly cut grass or even finally stop to smell the roses!

This Living Signage sets the mood and is the entry point for The Living House.

As a template, the Living Signage design can be modified as per event needs. It currently features green roof technology and green walls can also be added.



The Kitchen Garden

The Kitchen Garden takes everyday objects found in your kitchen and transforms them into a living sculpture.

The oven is filled with flowering plants, using warm colours and chillies, evoking the sense of heat traditionally coming from your oven.

The flower feature is constructed from kitchen sinks. The centre of the flower is the sink-bowl and the petals are created from multiple sink-drainer pieces.



Living People

Of course the Living House is nothing without people! These cool cats, created from old mannequins, are brought to life with foliage and flowers that resemble clothing, hair and all the trimmings.

The mannequins are adapted to house plants and are fitted with irrigation systems to keep plants thriving throughout your event.



conceptual image

The Living Living Room



The Living Bathroom

The Living Bathroom is a water-feature created from bathroom items.

The bathtub acts as a fish pond and a vertical garden, made from shower-screen glass, rises out of the fishpond.

Bathroom taps feature in the irrigation system installed within the green wall.

This is an aquaponics system in which the fish pond water is used to irrigate and fertilise the plants, and the plants in turn filter the water for the fish.



The Living Backyard



A house isn't a home without pets.

These grassy chickens were a huge hit at the Royal Melbourne Show 2014. We create a range of grassy, 'living' animals - from chickens to horses and everything else in between and can make grassy animals of your choice to compliment The Living House.

The Living Chair



Catherine designed and developed The Living Chair as a novel solution for people with small outside spaces, such as balconies and courtyards. Residents no longer have to choose between seating or plants and can experience the benefits of being closer to nature in their urban surrounds.

Made from long-lasting recycled materials, The Living Chair cover fits any standard plastic outdoor chair. Materials include green wall felt (made from recycled plastic bottles) and recyclable, UV protected HDPE fabric.

Residents can either plant directly into the pockets, or sit potted plants into the pockets instead - leaving their options open to switch plants around according to the season. Herbs, small flowering plants and succulents all thrive in the chairs.

Catherine worked with the Sudanese Australian community in Dandenong to train women from refugee backgrounds to make The Living Chair.



The Cool Pod

look hot while staying cool

Catherine was commissioned to create a large display at the Royal Melbourne Show 2013 and 2014, which featured The Cool Pod - a gazebo with a green roof and vertical gardens.



The "Cool Pod" is a cool retreat for those sweltering summer days – the green roof insulates while the vertical gardens transpire water, creating an overall cooling effect. The green roof is adaptable and can feature a range of plants, including indigenous species or herbs and vegetables.

This unique concept uses green infrastructure in designing solutions to combat the summer heat. Why sit in your lounge room under the air conditioning when you can freshen up in The Cool Pod instead?!



In 2013, Catherine ran children's workshops at the Royal Melbourne Show as part of the 'My Backyard' space. These kids are creating shoe gardens and having fun getting their hands dirty.

COCO LOCO

hanging baskets



Coco Loco Hanging Baskets were designed and developed by Catherine in August 2011. She opened her first Christmas pop-up shop in Melbourne CBD to sell directly to the public in November the same year.

Believing that plants improve people's mental and physical health, Catherine created Coco Loco Hanging Baskets, as an easy way to create a hanging garden in a living space.

Coco Locos simply need to be soaked for 30 minutes once per week. Once removed and allowed to drain, they won't drip when hanging, so you can keep them inside too.

Coco Loco Hanging Baskets have broad appeal and are stocked in stores both in Melbourne and Sydney.



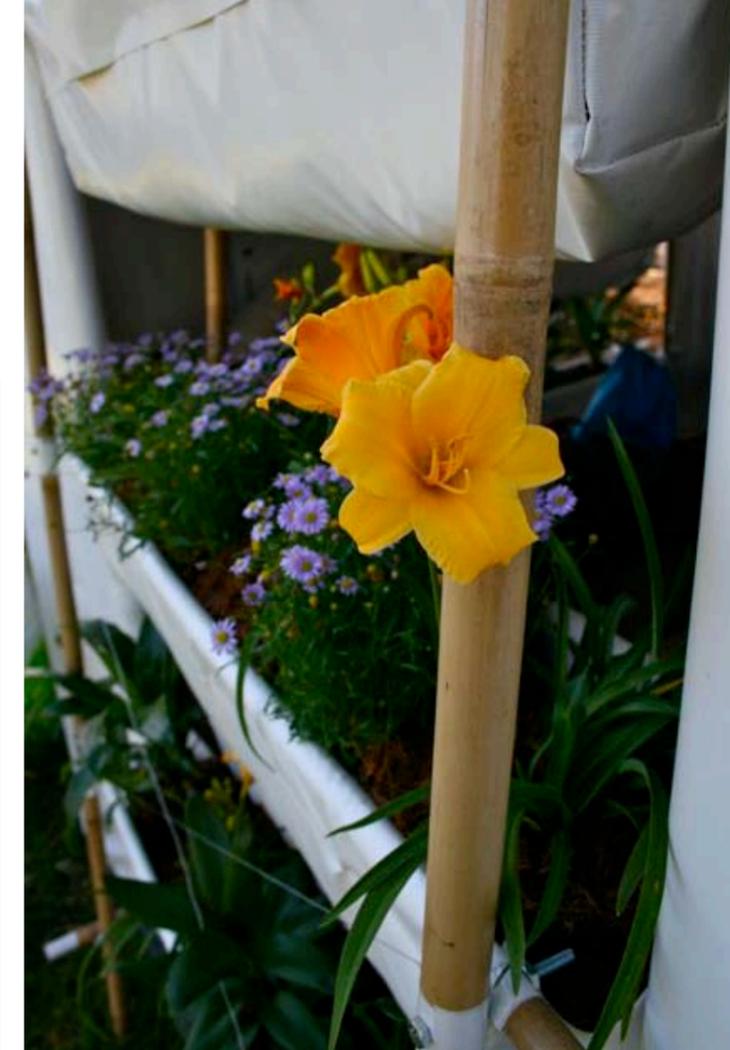
CommuniTy

Catherine's trains and employs Australians from refugee backgrounds to stitch Coco Loco Hanging Baskets in Melbourne.

The Living Marquee

CommuniTree's first project, The Living Marquee, was displayed at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show 2011. It transformed an ordinary cafe outlet into a lively feature and talking point for visitors getting their morning coffees!

Catherine designed, developed, tested and built the specialised modular green roof system and the Australian grown bamboo vertical gardens.



The Green Roof Space at SLF

In 2010 Catherine collaborated on a project to build a demonstration green roof to display at The Sustainable Living Festival. It featured local indigenous species, combined with a sleek modern design.

Catherine, together with project partner Antonino Giglio, was commissioned to present talks on green roofs and their role in dealing with climate change. Their aim was to raise awareness and promote green roofs within Australia.

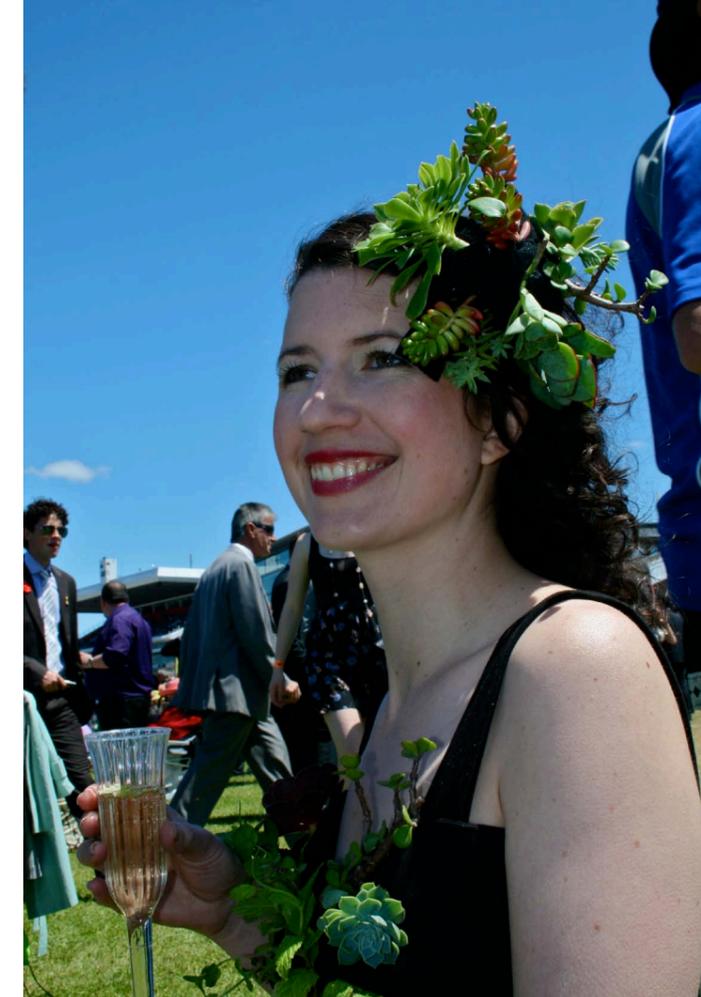


The Living Dress and Garden Girl



Catherine designed, made and grew the "Living" Dress, which she wore to Melbourne Oaks Day races in 2009. It was here that she launched the character "Garden Girl".

Catherine took part in Myer's "Fashions on the Field" competition and garnered media coverage from [Channel 10](#) and [The Herald Sun](#).



The Living TV



Catherine built and grew the Living TV in 2007 as a creative way of encouraging people to garden instead of watching TV.

For the Sustainable Living Festival 2007, she attached the TV to her bike and rode into the city from her home in Thornbury on a 40 degree day!

From here the TV was displayed at Lentil as Anything at the Abbotsford Convent and Friends of the Earth in Smith St, Collingwood.





Sectional Axonometric

The Living School

The brief of this 3rd Year Architecture design project, was to first master-plan a school in Brunswick, Victoria, as a group, before focusing on a section of the plan to design individually.

Catherine based her design on the observation that inner city kids have less exposure to nature than their counterparts in the country. She focused the design of the classrooms as a place of learning about the environment.

A shared area between classrooms is the 'water education' area. The upper level has a partial glass ceiling to enable children to see rain as it falls. From the roof the rain flows down a glass wall into a glass water tank. Sinks and taps in the centre of the space are supplied by this tank. A wetland situated below under the cantilevered first floor filters grey-water from the classroom sinks, while also providing inner city habitat for local fauna. The idea is to teach children about water sources and local waterways.

This project features Catherine's first green roof design (although she didn't know that such a term existed then). The green roof is created by placing soil into the guttering and allowing plants to grow, as they're being watered as it rains. This also filters the water traveling down to the glass water tanks.



External perspective, which shows green facades created by climbing plants, and bamboo railings on upper walkway. The roof shape is influenced by the saw tooth warehouses typical of Brunswick, as are the brick walls of the ground floor.

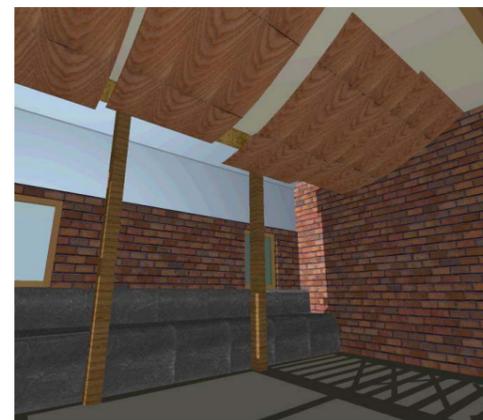


Developmental sketches

External perspective which shows the wetland used for filtering grey-water from the classroom sinks, while also providing inner city habitat for local fauna.



The upper level has sections of glass floor to allow children to look down over the wetland, and increase their awareness of the environment.



Internal perspective showing how the ceiling panels can move to change the quality of the space. Also shows built in seating and window above, which brings light into this lower level.



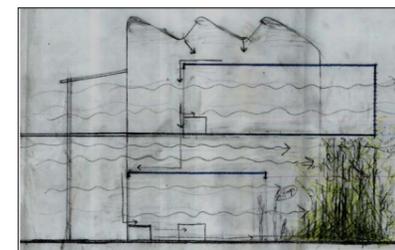
Internal perspective - see next page for further details



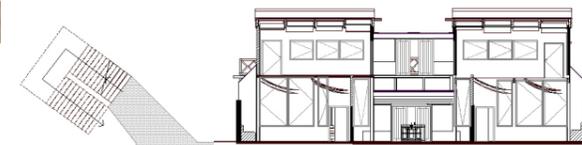
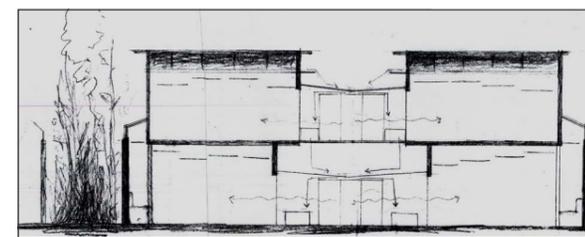
Internal perspective of ceiling panels. These plywood veneer panels are designed to create a flexible multi-use space, by lowering and raising the panels.

By lowering the panels, an intimate space can be created, such as a reading room. Or when raised to full height, you can create a more light and open space.

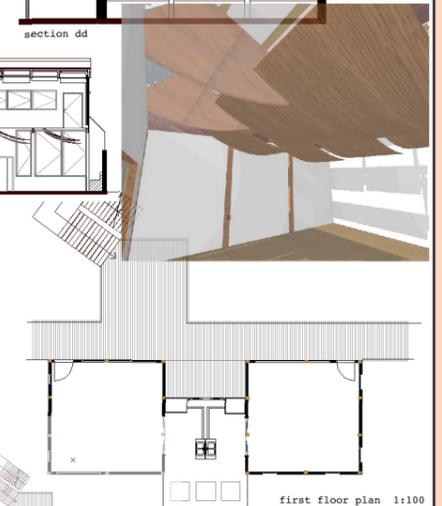
The roof also features louvers for ventilation, and specially engineered box beams to support the ceiling panels. Catherine's idea was to design a space to be flexible and adaptable, increasing its longevity and sustainability.



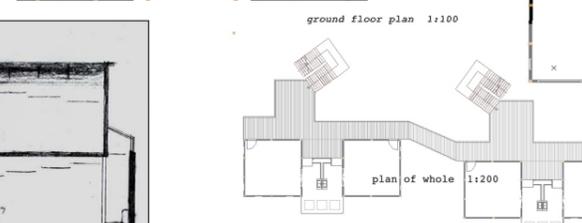
Developmental sketches



ground floor plan 1:100



first floor plan 1:100



plan of whole 1:200

Please note - I have lost the original files for these images so I apologise for the bad quality

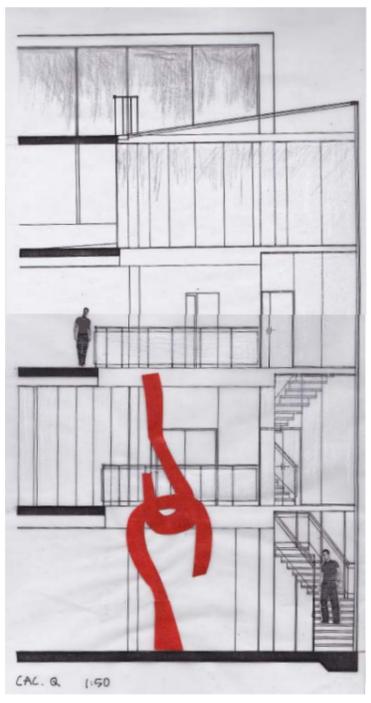
C3



Western Elevation



Northern Elevation



CAL. G. 1:50

Art Gallery Design Project

The brief for this student project was to design an art gallery and cinema complex. The site is in an industrial area of Launceston, close to Boags Brewery, on the Esplanade that runs along the North Esk River.

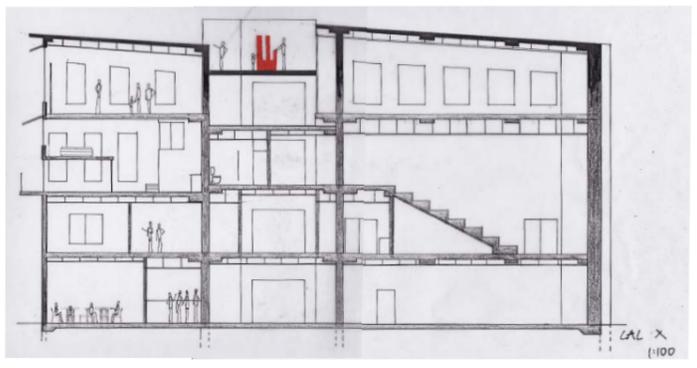
The Landscape in this area is very flat and empty and after several site visits, Catherine felt that the whole area needed a feature to make it interesting. She designed the Big Red Wall (BRW) - a large structure that spanned the street and continued to the river's edge.

The wall doubles as a pedestrian bridge and viewing platform, while also providing a sense of adventure as the stairs curved down behind the wall and through the building.

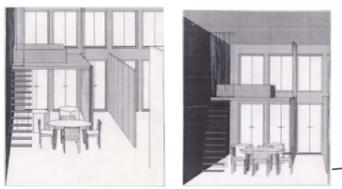
The corner of the building behind the BRW features a two level cafe, which can be observed walking down the curving stairs between the glass curtain wall and the BRW.

The BRW is built with a steel frame and clad with painted timber batons, allowing light and air to flow through it. Further structural details can be seen in the detail section drawing on this page.

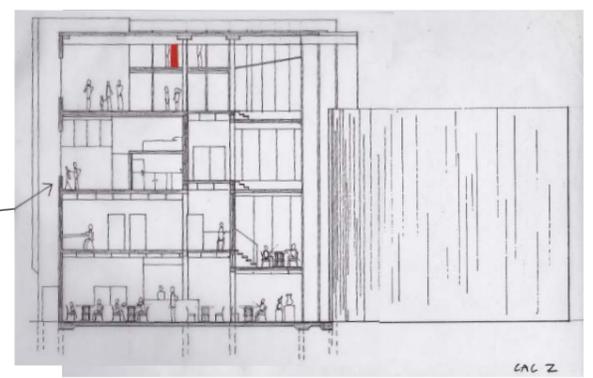
Although the working drawings were done by hand for this project, Catherine modeled the corner section of the building to further explore the dynamics of the BRW feature, and the journey people would take through the building. Though not a complete project, it did serve as a challenging and rewarding exercise in exploring the built form using Vectorworks.



CAL. X. 1:100



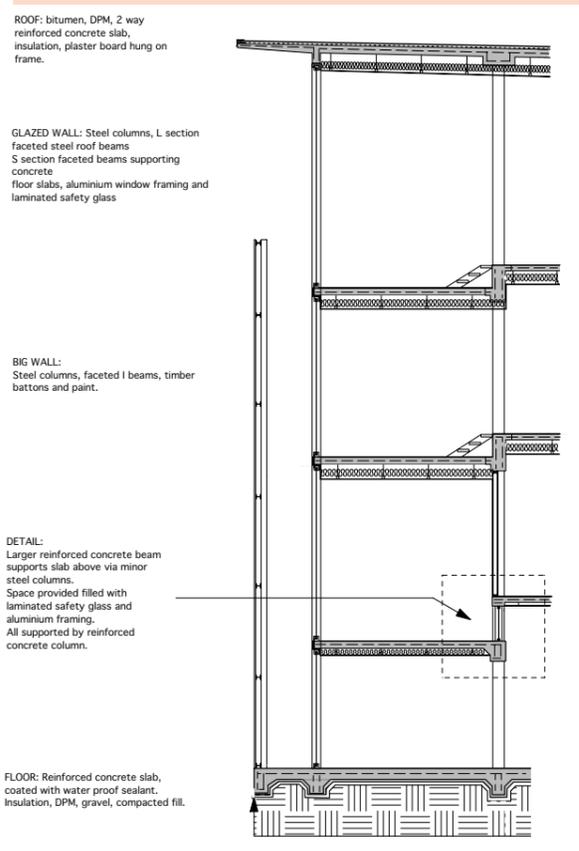
Artist in Residence perspectives. Spaces temporarily divided by curtains and screens - cosy or open



CAL. Z



Sketch Model



Detail Section

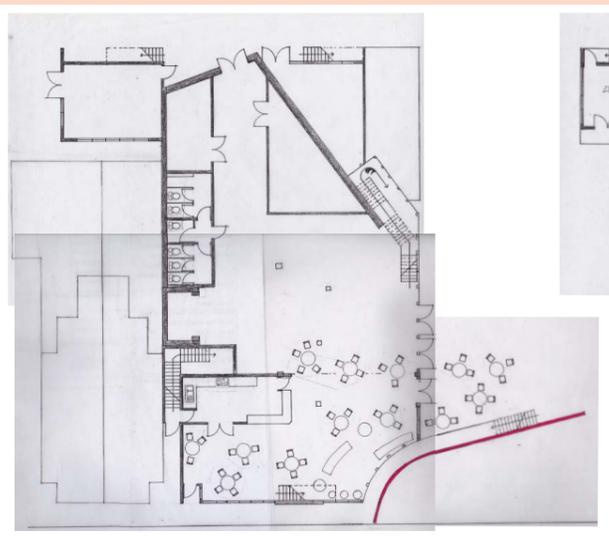
ROOF: bitumen, DPM, 2 way reinforced concrete slab, insulation, plaster board hung on frame.

GLAZED WALL: Steel columns, L section faceted steel roof beams, S section faceted beams supporting concrete floor slabs, aluminium window framing and laminated safety glass

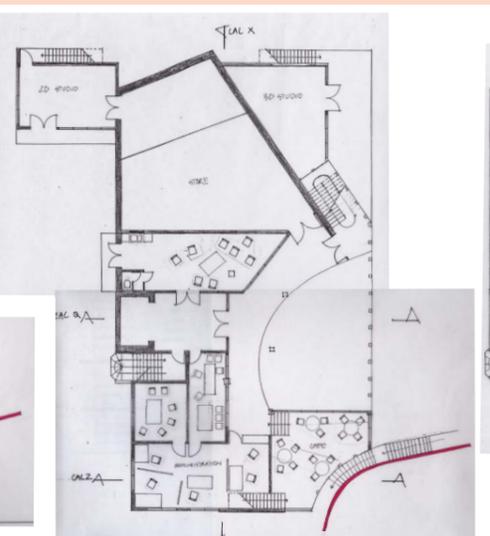
BIG WALL: Steel columns, faceted I beams, timber batons and paint.

DETAIL: Larger reinforced concrete beam supports slab above via minor steel columns. Space provided filled with laminated safety glass and aluminium framing. All supported by reinforced concrete column.

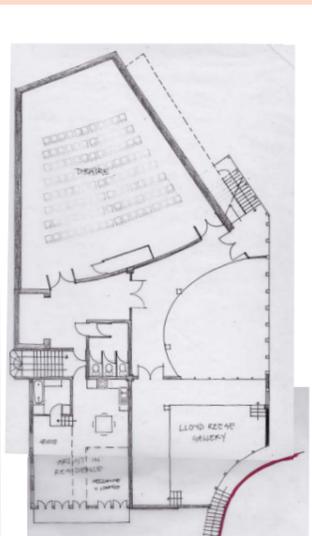
FLOOR: Reinforced concrete slab, coated with water proof sealant. Insulation, DPM, gravel, compacted fill.



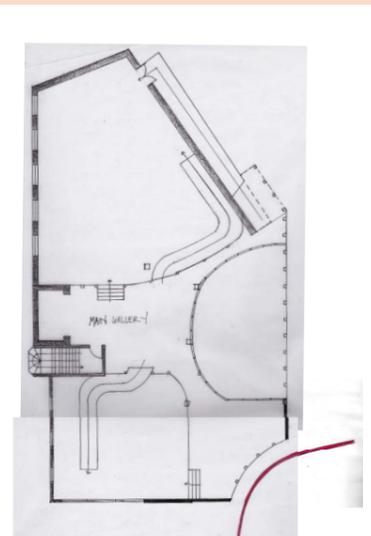
Ground Floor Plan



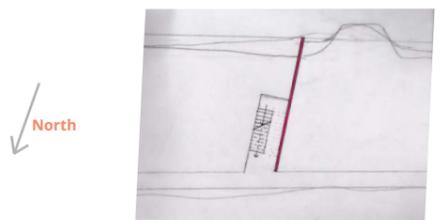
First Floor Plan



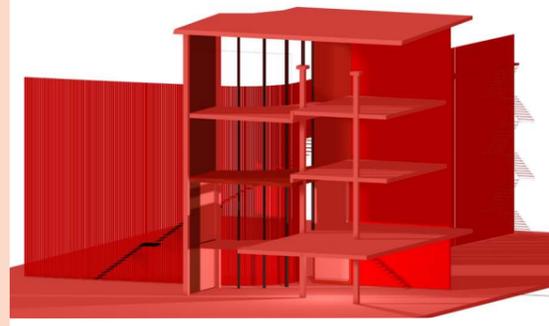
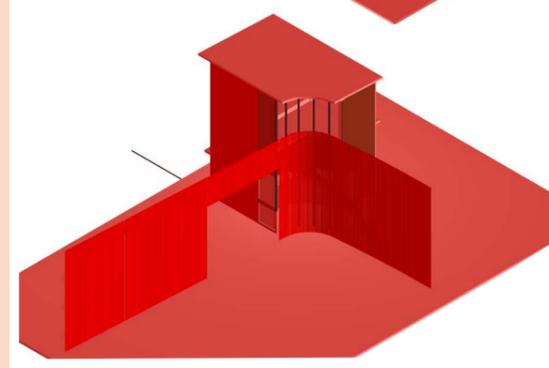
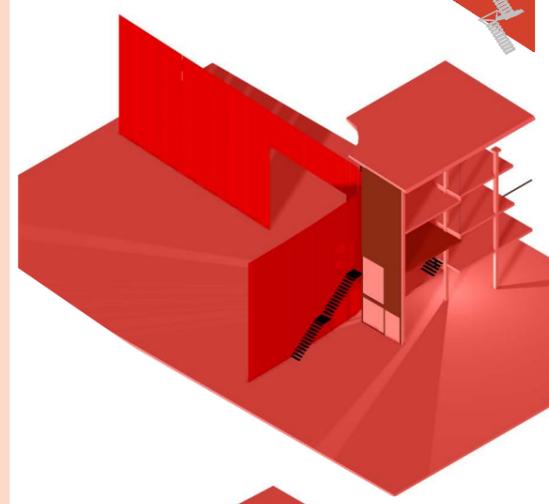
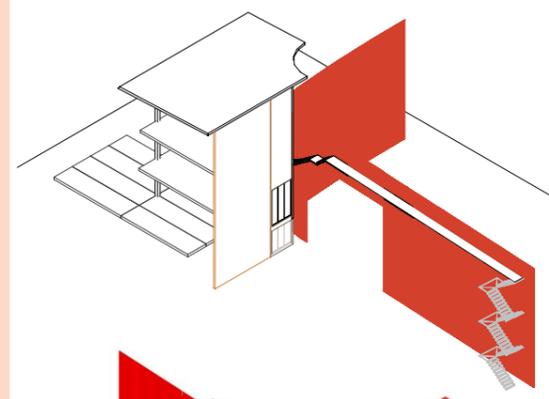
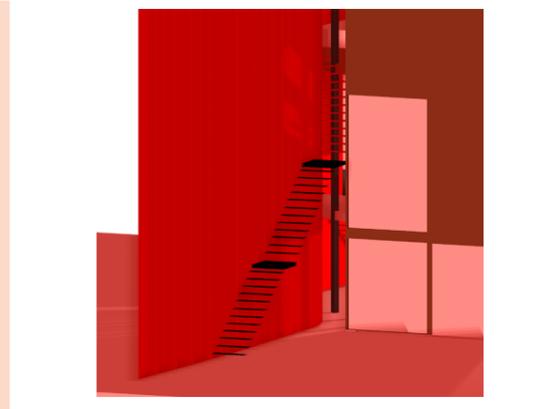
Second Floor Plan



Third Floor Plan



North



CommuniTree Promotional Flyers

Catherine graphic designed all of CommuniTree's marketing collateral, using her skills in the Adobe Creative Suite to produce high quality media assets. These examples, created in Indesign, also utilised her skills in Photoshop to manipulate photos as required.

August 2014



shop online at
CommuniTree.com.au

pg 1



The Cool Pod is designed as a cool retreat for those sweltering summer days. The green roof insulates while the vertical gardens transpire water, creating an overall cooling effect, saving on electricity bills.



CommuniTree creates inspiring Living Sculptures like *The Living Living Room* for events, schools, public spaces and homes.



Contact us to discuss *living* design solutions for your spaces
p: 0407 800 961 e: info@communitree.com.au

pg 2

October 2015



CommuniTree was founded by Catherine Duniam, with the aim of bringing nature into the city.



Coco Loco Hanging Baskets are an easy way to create a hanging garden in your space. Simply soak once per week - and with no drips you can hang them inside too! Melbourne made by women from refugee backgrounds, using sustainable materials and with a lifespan of 2+ years, Coco Loco Hanging Baskets are the durable, sustainable and ethical choice.



shop online at
CommuniTree.com.au

Contact Catherine Duniam
Founding Director
p: 0407 800 961
e: catherine@communitree.com.au



pg 1



CommuniTree creates unique and inspiring Living Creations for events, schools, homes, and public spaces. Custom order a living wall, book for your upcoming event, or commission a bespoke living sculpture. Let CommuniTree bring your ideas to life!



follow us...

 /cocolocobycommunitree

 @communitree_au

pg 2

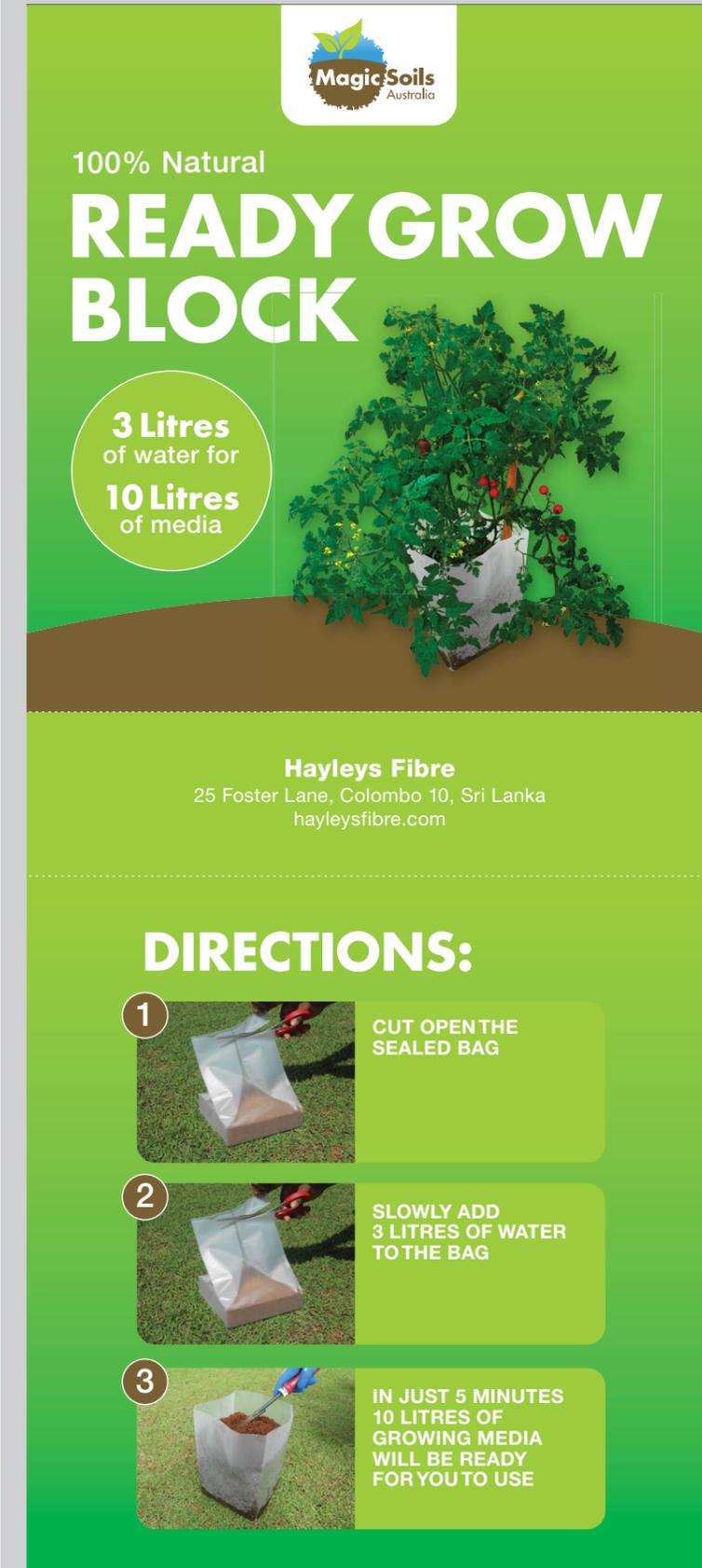
Magic Soils Australia Label Project



Original Photos



Magic Soils required an image of a plant for a new product label. As they didn't have time to grow the plant inside the new product, Catherine took an existing plant from her garden and shot the plant on a white background, edited out the background in Photoshop, and superimposed it onto an image of the product, while also editing the plant leaves, flowers and fruit to look more appealing.



Final Result