

What if we became part of a conversation with our Pacific neighbours, building a house together to explore the inventive and resourceful ways Pacific Island communities approach design?

Happy Talk, an initiative started by Liane Rossler and Heidi Dokulil to open such a conversation, launches at Art & About with the Happy Talk House project. A pavilion built from timber pallets, using traditional skills and inspired by the resourcefulness of Gilligan's Island, this house will become home to public art projects, talks and workshops throughout Art & About, in Sandringham Gardens, Hyde Park.

Image courtesy of **Maryann Talia Pau**



Liane Rossler

Is a passionate spokesperson and ambassador for key issues related to the creative industries and the environment. Her more recent work includes Supercyclers, a design project focused on clever and beautiful reuse of waste shown at the recent Milan Design Week. Liane was also a co-founder and former designer and director of Dinosaur Designs.

Heidi Dokulil

Is a former editor of Monument magazine, co-founder of The Parcel Group, the creative entrepreneurship program Springboard and the Australian Design Unit.

Opening night party
Friday 23 September
Happy Talk, Hyde Park
5pm – 9pm

'Welcome' to the Happy Talk House performed by Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and Pacific Island groups from 7pm.

Closing night
Saturday 22 October
Happy Talk, Hyde Park
6.30pm – 9.30pm

Come and celebrate at the Happy Talk House, meet Happy Talk friends, see all the creative outcomes of workshops and local design collaborations, and enjoy food and festivities from the Pacific Islands.



Happy Talk Workshops
(limited to 20 per workshop)

Lei Day workshops

**30 September and
7 & 14 & 21 October**
12pm – 2pm

Workshop leaders
Maryann Talia Pau,
Tracey Deep & Sione Falemaka

Lei giving is a gesture of welcome. Materials supplied will include flowers, shells, ribbon and other found materials.

Poi Making (6 - 12 years)

22 October
11am – 2pm

The art of poi making will be explored with kids (and big kids too).

**Sydney Architecture Festival
Kids' Design Workshop (6 - 12 years)**

23 October
11am – 2pm

Join workshop leader Sam Marshall and weave materials to create one big cubby house in the park, and meet the architect of the Happy Talk House, Mano Ponnambalam.

**Bicycle basket and
accessory weaving**

1 & 8 & 15 & 16 October
2 – 5pm

Workshop leaders
Maryann Talia Pau & Sione Falemaka
Some weaving experience recommended.

Tivaivai Workshop

9 October
11am – 2pm

Learn the art of Tivaivai making with local Cook Island artists.

Image courtesy of **Sione Falemaka**

Bicycle Accessories
Sydney Cycle Chic

2 October
2pm – 5pm

Workshop leader Saskia Howard
No experience required

Happy Talks

**29 September
6 & 13 & 20 October**
6.30pm – 7.30pm

Meet creative members of the local Pacific Islands community and hear inspiring stories every Thursday night at the Happy Talk House.

**Happy Talk & The Paper Mill
Workshops & Talks**
The Paper Mill
Shop 2, 1 Angel Place

**Gillian Christie
Basketry**

5 October
3pm – 5.30pm
Talk from 6pm – 7pm

**Frances Robinson
Bookmaking**

6 October
3pm – 5.30pm
Talk from 6pm – 7pm

**Sione Falemaka
Lei weaving**

7 October
3pm – 5.30pm
Talk from 6pm – 7pm

**The Fourtynine
Upcycled furniture**

8 October
11am – 1.30pm
Talk from 2pm – 3pm

For more information & workshop bookings visit artandabout.com.au