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Highlights From The Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander Collection * **Reviews**

“Cultural Evolution,” *World Sculpture News*, Winter 2016.

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NEWS

BRIEF

2016 is on from March 12 to April 3, 2016 in Lorne, Victoria. For more information visit www.lornesculpture.com.

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THE UNITED STATES

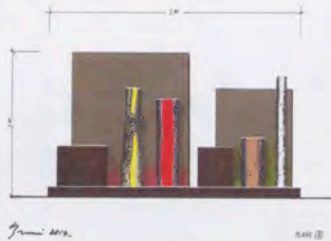
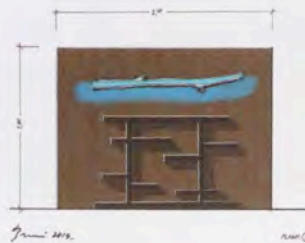
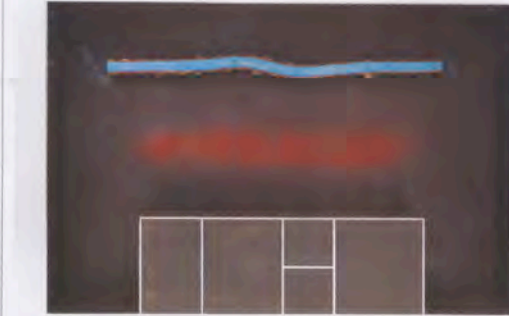
Cultural Evolution

From May 5 through June 11, 2016, Friedman Benda will present Italian designer and architect Andrea Branzi's second solo exhibition in New York, entitled *Interiors*, in which he presents his new *Plank* series.

Renowned for co-founding the design collective Archizoom and Domus Academy as well as for his role in Italian Radical Architecture, Superarchitettura, Alchimia, and the Memphis Group, Branzi was celebrated with a solo exhibition at the Fondation Cartier in 2008 and more recently with a 50-year retrospective at Musée des arts décoratifs, Bordeaux in 2014–2015. He will be honored again with a solo exhibition at the Centre Pompidou in 2017.

Branzi grounds his conceptual and theoretical writing in the physical works he creates. The *Plank* series takes abstract ideas about the history of cultural evolution and roots them in these cabinets. The entire series plays with the coupling of aluminum and raw wood, along with highlights of spray paint. While maintaining their individual identities, these materials become one environment and invite human interaction.

This joining of manmade and natural materials, of the gestural and the methodical, is an exploration in Branzi's work that dates back to his 1980s' *Animali Domestici*, which was the first time Branzi included raw trees in his work, a detail that we see included in the *Plank* series. Branzi intends the cabinets to be used as vessels filled with personal objects from daily life. He ad-



Above:
Andrea Branzi,
Plank Cabinet 6,
2015, patinated and
polished aluminum,
wood, spray paint,
160 x 240 x 45.1 cm.
Edition of 12.
Photograph by
Adam Reich.

Left: Andrea
Branzi, **Drawing
for Plank, 2** and
**Drawing for
Plank, 8**.

All images:
Courtesy of
Friedman Benda
and Andrea Branzi.

resses how new technological developments are changing the role of the home, allowing it to become a workplace and evolving social space.

Branzi's theoretical approach, as well as his designs, expose the links between seemingly opposing concepts of nature and technology, landscape and architecture, wilderness and civilization, derived from a longtime fascination with how humans interact with each other and with their physical surroundings, especially in urban centers. He embraces the outlook that people

will incorporate art and design into their daily lives rather than live parallel with them.

Andrea Branzi was born in Florence in 1938 and studied as an architect at the Florence School of Architecture, receiving a degree in 1966. In 1966, he became a founding member of the Archizoom Associati, a group of designers who embraced the fall of modernism to uncover the reality hiding behind an urban utopian dream. The group stipulated *No-Stop City* in 1969, which imagined a world taken to the extremes of modernism.

The Superarchitettura movement grew out of the theoretical framework put forth by *No-Stop City* on super-production and super-consumption.

By the late 1970s, Branzi participated in the influential communal efforts at revolutionizing design with Alchimia and, a few years later, the Memphis Group. He currently lives and works in Milan, and, until 2009, was a professor and chairman of the School of Interior Design at the Politecnico di Milano.

Branzi is a co-founder of Domus Academy, the first international post-graduate school for design. He distinguished himself as a three-time recipient of the Compasso d'Oro, honored for individual or group effort in 1979, 1987, and 1995. His work has been featured in the *Venice Biennale* and at the *Triennale Design Museum* in Milan, where he has also curated several design exhibitions. He has been widely published and is frequently invited to lecture internationally.

In 2008, Branzi was named an Honorary Royal Designer in the United Kingdom and he received an honorary degree from La Sapienza in Rome. That same year, his work was featured in an installation at the Fondation Cartier, Paris.

Friedman Benda represents an international roster of designers spanning five continents and multiple generations. It is located at 515 W 26th Street, New York, NY 10001.

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AUSTRALIA

Voices Of Unique Narratives

Greenaway Art Gallery is presenting *Alone with the gods*, by Patricia Piccinini + Peter Hennessey until April 2, 2016. Following their first collabora-

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