



# Designed to inspire

**T**HE number of Australian Made furniture companies at Furnitex 2009 will be the highest in seven years.

More than 50 local manufacturers have already been confirmed for this year's trade fair.

The fair will run from July 16-19 at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre with the Decoration + Design Melbourne.

"The value of the Australian dollar has made locally made furniture very price-competitive," says exhibition director David Connolly.

"Local furniture is of exceptional quality, and comes with extended warranties.

"Retailers can choose local manufacturers that allow them to place orders based on what's happening at store level."

Returning to the fair is Colby Furniture, which won the manufacturer of the year award at Furnitex 2007.

Furnitex is also welcoming back Australian-owned and -operated Silver Lynx, winner of the 2007 excellence in design and manufacture, best dining furniture award at the FIAA Vic/Tas Furnitex gala dinner.

Melbourne-based exhibitor Molic, whose portfolio includes pro-

**Sling shot:** The Rient Stool, designed by Brett Capron, of Richmond for this year's VIVID competition at Furnitex.



green categories.

This year Furnitex and Decoration + Design Melbourne is a key satellite event of the State of Design Festival (July 15-25).

jects for Novotel and Mercure hotels, will celebrate its 10th Furnitex by exhibiting award-winning designs.

Visitors can also see furniture design competition VIVID (Vibrant Visions In Design). This year, 45 of Australia's young designers have entered more than 100 pieces of furniture in commercial, concept, student and

**What:** Furnitex 2009 and Decoration + Design Melbourne

**Where:** Melbourne Exhibition Centre, Southbank

**When:** 9-5pm, Thursday, Friday July 16-17; 10-5pm, Saturday-Sunday, July 18-19.

**Details:** 9654 7773 or furnitex@aec.net.au

**Web:** www.furnitex.com.au or www.decorationsdesign.com.au/