



CRAFT CROWD

A NIGHT WITH KHAI LIEW

Celebrated furniture designer Khai Liew (3 with partner Nichole Palyga) transformed his showroom into a sumptuous banquet hall for the launch of Collect+ors – an exhibition featuring unique sculptural pieces of furniture. The works were created by Liew in collaboration with six world-renowned artisans with ties to Adelaide: Julie Blyfield and Kirsten Coelho (8 left to right), Gwyn Hanssen Pigott (1), Jessica Loughlin and Bruce Nuske (both 9) and Prue Venables. “We’re all good friends,” says Liew. “We showed together at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London between 2006 and 2007 – and we share a similar aesthetic.” *The Adelaide* magazine food writer Amanda Daniel cooked up an impressive feast for the party. “The dinner is about the artists and their friends – it’s a gathering,” she says. The result was a rustic treat: braised whole lamb from Hutton Vale in the Barossa, organic bread (4), raw turnip, radicchio and walnut salad (2), and bottles of Honey Moon wines (7) – left on the table so the drink flowed with the conversation (5). *Vogue Living* editor David Clark (6), a long-time admirer of Liew’s work, was on hand to officially open the exhibition. “Khai’s work is about the urge to refine,” says Clark, “There’s something very Zen-like about that approach.” While Liew’s work is recognised internationally, he remains committed to Adelaide, the city he came to as a teenager. “It’s necessary to be aware of what’s happening around the world, but my inspiration is from here,” he says.

