

Western Australian Aboriginal Healthcare Clinics win ‘The Wellness Space’ category at the 2019 INDE. Awards

Sydney based, Kaunitz Yeung Architecture, have been recognised at the 2019 INDE. Awards winning ‘[The Wellness Space](#)’ Category for their work on the Aboriginal healthcare clinics in Punmu and Parnngurr, Western Australia, which were commissioned by the Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Services (PAMS) and completed in November 2018.

Hero Image Link here (Punmu Clinic) <https://bit.ly/2MY7ntH>

Photography Brett Boardman

Media Release, Melbourne, Australia, Saturday 22 June 2019 AEST, The Punmu and Parnngurr Aboriginal healthcare clinics in the Western Australian desert have been announced as the winner of the [The Wellness Space](#) category at the 2019 INDE. Awards held in Melbourne, Australia on the evening of Friday 21 June 2019. The prestigious awards received over 430 entries from 14 countries in the Indo Pacific, showing progressiveness and innovation in an enormous diversity of contexts.



The clinics were commissioned by the Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service (PAMS) and designed by Sydney based Architecture firm, **Kaunitz Yeung Architecture**, known for their healthcare building architecture, design and project management in remote communities.

The clinics, completed in November 2018 are 1800kms from Perth and 1,000kms apart by road, which Director and cofounder **David Kaunitz**, said, called for a “unique approach to materials, equipment and the building process”.

“We believe best practice buildings should be available to all Australians and we are thrilled this project has been recognised in such a prestigious, international environment. It was a privilege to work with the Martu communities. Their involvement in the design process was instrumental to successfully collaborating on the project,” Mr Kaunitz said.

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“PAMS required two replacement clinics which addressed the programmatic constraints and modest budget of AUD\$2 million per clinic, whilst reinforcing the organisational approach of respect of people, land and culture to create a facility with community ownership.

"There were models and lots of detailed drawings, presentations, visualisations, not only to the board but to members of the communities and elders.

“The design process was underpinned by iterative consultation which engaged the communities, the clinicians and the client in an ongoing dialogue through the design and delivery of the buildings. One way in which we did this was through inviting members of the community to provide us with their artwork, which was translated into aluminum screens and bush themes.

“Good buildings are not possible without great clients. Without the dedication of CEO Robby Chibawe, and the Martu communities, this outcome would not have been possible.”

Robby Chibawe, CEO of PAMS, said, “The respectful and collaborative approach by Kaunitz Yeung Architecture with the Martu Elders and communities has created a deep sense of ownership and pride in our remote clinics.

“They have designed and project managed the clinics in two of the remotest communities in Australia with professionalism, care, and within a tight budget. These were delivered to a high quality with the clinical spaces and health provision equal to that of a major city.”

Kaunitz Yeung Architecture have built a strong reputation in collaborating with communities, stakeholders and end users to produce internationally recognised architecture within modest budgets that places people at the centre of buildings.

This week the same clinics were also recognised at the 2019 European Healthcare Design Awards in London, UK where they won the Healthcare Design (Under 25,000 sqm) category and received a Highly Commended in the Design for Health & Wellness category at the 2019.

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VIDEO Link – flyover footage - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NObH2xVY1PA>
Photography of PAMS by Brett Boardman - download high res imagery via this link
<https://bit.ly/2T1U2y1>

Further details about the winning entry can be found here
<https://www.indeawards.com/the-wellness-space-2019/punmu-parngurr-aboriginal-health-clinics/>

Winners and the Awards can be found via the link here
<https://www.indeawards.com/2019-winners/>

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Available for Interview:

David Kaunitz, Director and founder Kaunitz Yeung Architecture www.kaunitzyeung.com

Robby Chibawe, CEO of Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Services (PAMS)

Additional healthcare clinics information

Kaunitz Yeung Architecture has received numerous awards and mentions for their healthcare architecture, design and project management in remote communities.

In March 2019 the Punmu and Parnngurr Aboriginal Health Clinics were named as one of only ten winning projects at the **World Architecture Awards**.

In June 2019 the clinics were recognised at the **2019 European Healthcare Design Awards** in London, UK where they won the Healthcare Design (Under 25,000 sqm) category and received a Highly Commended in the Design for Health & Wellness category at the 2019.

They have also received awards for redesigning additional clinics in remote communities, including the Wanarn Clinic, in the Gibson Desert, 1000km west of Alice Springs. The clinic won *Best Sustainable Building: 2015 European Architecture Forum Awards* and received a *2015 Awards Commendation* from the **Western Australian Institute of Architects Best Public Building**.

The Biripi Health Service, Purfleet Clinic, also redesigned by Kaunitz Yeung to provide a community hub to place wellbeing at the centre of the community was a recipient of **2018 NSW Architecture Awards: Premier's Prize, 2018 NSW Architecture Awards: Commercial Architecture, 2018 NSW Architecture Awards: Colorbond Award for Steel Architecture, 2017: European Healthcare Design Awards: Healthcare Design** and **2017: European Healthcare Design Awards: Infill or Conversion**.

David Kaunitz Bio

David Kaunitz is an Australian architect who is also registered in the UK. Following graduation from UNSW David worked in the UK for 7 years where he ran the London office of a large multi office practice and was a senior architect on the London Olympic Village. Subsequently David lived in the Solomon Islands leading community development and post disaster responses for various governments, agencies and NGOs across the Pacific and South East Asia.

In starting Kaunitz Yeung Architecture with his wife Ka Wai Yeung he has combined his extensive commercial experience with his knowledge of living in and working with communities. This results in architecture that places people at its centre and where good architecture does not need to necessarily be a luxury item.

Kaunitz Yeung Architecture Bio

Kaunitz Yeung Architecture is a multi-award winning internationally recognised practice founded by the husband and wife team of **David Kaunitz** and **Ka Wai Yeung**. It combines their extensive commercial experience with David's knowledge of living in and working with communities. The result is architecture that places people at its centre and where good

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architecture does not need to necessarily be a luxury item. Their projects are bespoke solutions that sensitively respond to clients, stakeholders, end user requirements, site context and the budget.