

## Architecture student, Marni Reti, receives prestigious Droga Indigenous Architecture Scholarship

*Aboriginal architecture student, Marni Reti, has been awarded one of the highly sought after Droga Indigenous Architecture scholarships in partnership with the University of Technology, Sydney. In December 2018 Ms Reti was also chosen for a specially created role with award-winning architecture firm, [Kaunitz Yeung Architecture](#), who are committed to supporting the progress of Aboriginal architects and bringing their perspective to practice*

**Media Release, Sydney, Australia, Monday 08 July 2019** – Aboriginal architecture student, **Marni Reti**, 23, has been awarded one of the highly sought after Droga Indigenous Architecture scholarships at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS). Ms Reti is currently in the first year of her master's degree at UTS, and in December 2018 was also the successful recipient of a newly created role at Sydney architecture firm, Kaunitz Yeung Architecture, who are committed to supporting the progress of Aboriginal architects and bringing their perspective to practice.

With only 28 of the 12,000 registered architects in Australia being Indigenous, the scholarship was designed to develop a meaningful representation in Australian architecture of Indigenous professionals and support a student's contribution to architectural culture and production in Australia.

The [partnership](#) between the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) and the Droga Family Foundation was established to support a number of Aboriginal students through the lengthy tertiary architectural education process. The selection process recognised a student's passion for architecture, motivation, advance professional development and commitment to benefiting the Indigenous community through architectural culture and production.

**Marni Reti** said, "The fact that an opportunity like this exists is really incredible and being a part of this support network for younger students – particularly young Aboriginal girls – is really exciting to me.

"This scholarship, for me, means I can focus on my studies, my family and the work I do at Kaunitz Yeung Architecture that I'm passionate about. It's also an acknowledgement from the wider industry that the current statistics and low level of engagement with Indigenous voices is an issue, but that it is now recognised as an issue and subsequently being addressed."

**David Kaunitz**, director of Kaunitz Yeung Architecture, said, "We are committed to supporting the progress of Aboriginal architects and bringing their perspective to practice. "I am very proud to see Marni receive the Droga Indigenous Architecture scholarship. Her dedication and work ethic is to be commended. She is an absolute asset to our team and I look forward to supporting and watching her progress."

**ENDS**

## KAUNITZ YEUNG ARCHITECTURE

For further information and interviews, please contact Samantha Dybac – The PR Hub e: [Samantha@theprhub.com.au](mailto:Samantha@theprhub.com.au) p: 0411 251 373

Further Information can be obtained on the Droga Indigenous Architecture Scholarship here <https://bit.ly/2LEtG54>

### Available for Interview:

**Marni Reti**, Aboriginal architecture student

**David Kaunitz**, Director - Kaunitz Yeung Architecture

Download a high res image of Marni Reti here

<https://bit.ly/2rxpSaR>

### About Kaunitz Yeung Architecture

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 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.

### Additional Aboriginal 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 Parngurr 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**.