[](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/)Luxury Lodges of Australia Media Backgrounders: HALO EFFECT

# Halo Effect: Art and Craft

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| Supporting and providing opportunities for established and emerging artists | Human beings have always sought to interpret the natural world and express their connection to the landscape through art.  Many of the [Luxury Lodges of Australia](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/) have formed partnerships with local, established and emerging artists and artisans, recognising that exposure to the particular art and craft of a region deepens an understanding of the environment and culture and builds a sense of place.  These partnerships provide economic support and exposure to individual artists and arts collectives through commissions that adorn the Lodges, but also enable mutually-nourishing workshops and meetings between artists and guests. |
| Longitude 131°Multi-faceted Partnerships | The vibrant ceramics, woven baskets, paintings and wood carvings that adorn [Longitude 131](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/lodges/longitude131/)°s guest tents and common areas, and which are for sale in the boutique, attest to the multi-faceted partnerships forged by Baillie Lodges’ Co-founder, Hailey Baillie, with First Nations artists from the Central and Western Deserts of the Red Centre, and include Ernabella ceramics, Tjanpi weavings and Maruku dot paintings.  Ernabella is the oldest continuously running Indigenous arts centre in Australia and the relationship with the Lodge has developed since it was established in 2013 to encompass commissioned works and the purchase of works for sale in the boutique (amounting to more than $1.8 million in art purchases as at 2023); and an artists-in-residence program that sees artists painting canvases on site at the lodge. It also includes exclusive visits for lodge guests to meet the artists at the remote arts centre itself and to gain an insight into the techniques and ancient stories which form the basis of their artworks.  Baillie Lodges provided $50,000 for two consecutive years to fund a dedicated ceramicist to train and mentor the Ernabella artists. But this was just the start of significant economic empowerment of the centre. The majority of the thriving community’s income is now from the sale and commission of artworks, ensuring economic security for the arts centre and preservation of culture.  The partnership has stimulated many social benefits too, drawing women, men and children from the community together with purpose through their art. In an inter-generational project commissioned by the Lodge, 26 Ernabella women of various ages created around 500 ceramic ‘spinifex’ tiles that now surround the bar, while male elders from the community trained the younger men to craft 25 wooden spears, or kulata, which form a striking entrance to the spa.  The lodge has more recently established a relationship with the women of the Tjanpi Desert Weavers social enterprise, working with women in the remote communities of the Central and Western deserts, supporting their contemporary fibre artworks which include baskets and sculptures.  Guests can also join the ladies from Maruku Arts for a fun introduction to Aboriginal art and the symbols and painting styles used in Anangu artworks – including creating a painting to take home as memento. |
| Lake HouseArt Connects to Place | Co-founder, Allan Wolf-Tasker was a talented artist in his own right, his works have been core to the character of [Lake House](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/lodges/lakehouse/), telling the story of the community of chefs, cooks and people that make up their community; the landscapes and places that have inspired, the moments of commentary and celebration.  The works of renowned national and international artists – including sculptors, glass artists and painters - sit alongside those of Allan and other local artists, championed by the Wolf-Taskers over the decades.  At their nearby Dairy Flat Lodge, the Lake House team commissioned works of custom-made furniture and cabinetry from local artisans, as well as paintings and bronze and wood sculptures.  The lodge’s in-house designer, Fran Pigeon – whose job it is to curate the on-site art - uses her own skills as an artist and illustrator to help connect the art, artists and guests with a sense of place and purpose. Fran’s illustrations and paintings can be seen on the walls of Dairy Flat Lodge and she hosts exclusive watercolour workshops for guests, often inspired by the seasonal produce and colours of the surrounding farm and country gardens and the native flora of the nearby Wombat State Forest. |
| qualiaBallet in Paradise | 2022 marked the 60th anniversary of the Australian Ballet, and the eighth performance of what has become a biennial event at [qualia](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/lodges/qualia/): ‘Pas de Deux in Paradise’. The collaboration between qualia and The Australian Ballet was established in 2010 and the intimate performance of the pas de deux repertoire by The Ballet’s principal dancers has grown in popularity every year.  Pas de Deux in Paradise is a unique opportunity to see the country's top dancers perform in a breathtaking setting with the Whitsunday Islands as backdrop, but also a rare chance for Lodge guests to get a glimpse ‘back stage’, with a number of exclusive experiences with the dancers themselves. The itinerary includes a morning ballet barre class and a dance class viewing of the dancers, held on stage at Pebble Beach, as well as a chance to hear from Artistic Director, David Hallberg in a Masterclass session. |
| Silky Oaks LodgeSense of Place | At [Silky Oaks Lodge](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/lodges/silkyoakslodge/) an installation of 45 ceramic tiles created by local Aboriginal artists from the Yalanji Arts Centre adds a sense of place for guests as they arrive at the main Lodge, while hand-made pots by Cairns-based artist, Shireen Talibudeen are on display in the lounge.  Catherine Nelson’s captivating digital landscape ‘paintings’ capture the surrounding World Heritage rainforest and life within it, including Kuku Yalanji children playing in the Mossman River.  Three of Indigenous artist Danie Mellor’s prints set the scene at the lodge entry. Danie was Winner of the 2009 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, and is famous for his depictions of Aboriginal forest shelters. |
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| The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 global goals adopted by the United Nations in 2015 to achieve a more sustainable and equitable world by 2030. As part of their commitment to the SDGs, the Luxury Lodges of Australia provide opportunities for established and emerging artists by displaying original artworks that showcase the unique character and cultural heritage of each destination. | |