# Antiquate

BY KERRI HOLLINGSWORTH

Nestled at the foot of the Cathedral Ranges in Central Victoria, is the heart of Antiquate - a business that is determined to make a change in the upholstery world.

The humble beginnings of Antiquate originally developed from a love of upholstery and interior design that quickly evolved into so much more. With a growing concern for increasing and unsustainable waste, director Kerri Hollingsworth vowed to make positive changes to ensure she no longer participated in naive contributions towards landfill.

Small changes were initially made in her everyday life that led to a complete redirection in every aspect of her personal and business essence. With a passion for creative design, sustainability and reducing her environmental footprint, it is now the keystone of the way the business operates.

Antiquate's philosophy is to make a statement in design, in style and in environmental awareness. Built on a belief that businesses and the environment can work together harmoniously, Kerri is continuously driven to take conscious effort and 'out of the box' thinking to improve her skills, design process and the final outcomes. With a genuine love of textiles, recycling and earth friendly solutions, Antiquate is not only a business that completely aligns with those beliefs, but also inspires to make positive shifts within the design industry.

## MAINTAINING AN ONGOING CONNECTION WITH NATURE IS A DRIVING FORCE FOR ANTIQUATE'S GROWTH

Striving to be a zero waste business, 'upholstery art' was conceptualised to offer a creative alternative to standard upholstery, whilst actively assisting in reducing unnecessary landfill. Designing and executing woven panels of recycled fabric, natural fibre ropes, trim off cuts, yarn and twine creates a truly unique statement piece that promotes a mutual respect for both exclusive design and our planet. Meticulously sorting through all fibres, fabric scraps and trim off cuts as well as utilising salvaged and sourced items found along the way, paints a picture on each individual piece that is restored to give life to a unique original piece.

The latest creation 'Autumn' was designed with the whole life cycle in mind. Being 100% bio degradable means that when this piece of 'upholstery art' finally tires, not only can it be reupholstered again and again, but any fibres not needed for the next edition of Autumn will safely return to the earth without creating one ounce of waste.

# 100% BIO DEGRADABLE MEANS THAT THE 'UPHOLSTERY ART' RETURNS TO THE EARTH WITHOUT CREATING ONE OUNCE OF WASTE.

Hunting for the perfect materials to comply with the design scheme was eye opening, as it brought to light many incredible companies making headway in environmental awareness and product development. Several factors were considered in the design process - from selecting a 100% compostable New Zealand wool fabric from Laine Furnishings, to the linseed based natural treatment for the timber frame. The internal build consists of coconut fibre, hessian and cotton batting which replaces the need for foam. The weave consists of natural hemp and cotton rope, a selection of local and imported wool, mohair and alpaca yarn (including a very special skein that was home spun and dyed by Kerri's grandparents), raffia, natural fibre fabric scraps, jute twines and hessian. The result is a wonderful mixture of fibres that create a rare piece of furniture full of textured goodness and a deep colour palette with autumn hues.

Maintaining an ongoing connection with nature is a driving force for Antiquate's growth. Living on a farm and working with natural fibres proves a constant inspiration to not only continue the journey towards zero waste, but to create ever evolving exclusive designs that put recycled elements at the centre of the design world. Kerri wholeheartedly believes every decision we make, each and every day, has a monumental effect on our planet, both positive and negative. It is our choice as to which effect we will have.