



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Design students to tour Italy**

This Saturday, April 12, a group of 15 design students and two lecturers from Raffles College of Design and Commerce in North Sydney will head to Italy for a 19-day study tour.

Among the group will be second year Bachelor of Design (interior design) student, Camilla Ingall, of St Leonards, who sees the trip as a way to shed new light on the history of design.

“When we study interior design, we don’t just look at fabrics and colours, we explore the foundations of architecture, so this trip is an extremely valuable learning exercise. I am so excited to be going,” Camilla says.

“When we return it will form the basis of a major assignment in our subject *Past and Present*. To experience the history of architecture in Italy, will change and broaden my perspective on design – I have no doubt,” she says.

The group will visit Rome, Florence and Milan, where they will meet with Italian design students from each of the major universities and visit studios of prominent international designers like architect Renzo Piano and Professor M. A. Arnaboldi. The tour also takes in the world heritage site of Pompeii, plus Pisa, Sienna and Venice and explores the design styles of the Romans, Etruscans and the Byzantines.

In Milan, the group will be hosted by the Domus Academy, one of the most prestigious European graduate schools in design. Three former students of Raffles College, who were on the 2004 tour to Italy, have already graduated with Masters degrees from the Domus Academy. Two have opened an interior design consulting office in Manly, while the third is now working in the USA.

The group is made up of students from across the world: Australia, China, Indonesia and Korea, as well as from different design disciplines: interior; graphic and fashion design.

Raffles’ College Head of Interior Design, Associate Professor Bob Chung, who will be leading the group, is excited about the study tour. He says, “The last group of students who went to Italy returned to Australia with a new focus and vision. I saw a marked change in them; they were more lively and participated more deeply in class.”

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