

Owen & Vokes create 'distinctly Australian' prefab house

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Prefab house installed in Brisbane is a
'unique urban living experiment'.



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Owen & Vokes' The White Series is installed on Brisbane's South Bank



A prefab house designed by Brisbane firm Owen & Vokes has been installed on Brisbane's South Bank. Designed for Happy Haus, a firm that specialises in modular houses, the project is described as a "unique urban living experiment".

Called The White Series, this is the second series to be built by the company after Donovan Hill's DHAN range, launched in May 2009. The DHAN range was selected as one of nineteen designs by the Bushfire Homes Service to support the rebuilding process following the devastation of the bushfires in February this year.

The White Series features white weatherboard cladding and large cut away windows, and can be arranged in a variety of housing types including the suburban home, share-holiday home, couple's retreat or rental property.

Based around a central pod, the structure can be extended with rooms, outdoor spaces and additional common areas. Happy Haus founder Toby Lewis explained that the display offered consumers the chance to experience the prefab house first hand.

As well as demonstrating the convenience and ease of prefab houses, the company aims to promote urban agriculture, with a low maintenance garden suited to inner-city living and consumers who have limited time and space for gardening. The display will "create a distinctly Australian, subtropical community house and garden," particularly suited to the Queensland climate.

Furniture for the house will be provided by Small Australian Projects, a design focused company that prioritises environmental sensitivity. The furniture company is also owned by Lewis, who has collaborated with Owen & Vokes, Donovan Hill and Durbach Block on the furniture designs.

The house will remain on display at Brisbane's South Bank on the corner of Grey and Tribune Streets for 12 months.