**PRACTICUM WORK EXPERIENCE**

The Design Action Program facilitates opportunities for RMIT Industrial Design students and recent graduates to work together with host organisations for mutual benefit. It integrates work experience into the Bachelor of Design degree program, and fosters internship opportunities for graduates.

Design activity undertaken in the program can occur flexibly, allowing students and recent graduates the opportunity to work with a range of host organisations in business, educational, community and government settings, on real world issues with outcomes that matter.

**Bryce Tayleur with The Social Studio, 2013**

**Grace McQuilten**
CEO, The Social Studio

Bryce's involvement was fantastic. The design work that he completed will certainly be of great value to us, and we are currently sourcing volunteers to help with sourcing materials and carpentry work.

In retrospect I think the initial expectations of The Social Studio, and of Bryce, were ambitious. Bryce needed more support and structure to implement the project. Working independently in a workplace is very different to working within the structured and closely supervised context of a training environment.

We hope to be able to keep working with Bryce to realise some of his great design work.

**Bryce Tayleur**

The work I was involved in focused on doing finishing touches to the organisation's new retail space. I undertook a number of practical jobs that utilised my skills as an industrial designer. These included both design work, particularly to help solve storage issues, and detailing some of the existing work.

The experience gave me a better understanding of working under real life conditions, particularly the importance of communication, prioritising jobs, and being realistic about what can be achieved within time and budget constraints.

Something I really wanted to gain experience in was the consulting process. In my meetings and communications with Grace I learned a lot about this process and gained valuable insights into how I could potentially run my own freelance design work.

I was really excited to have the opportunity to work for such a successful and prominent social enterprise. It was a massive eye opener to come into this space and catch just a glimpse of the dedication and the work being done by Grace and her team.