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Lark's Allison Jones nominated as Australian Designer of the Year

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Allison Jones, owner of the successful retail and wholesale venture **Lark**, has been named a talent to watch after recently receiving a nomination for the Australian Designer of the Year category in the 2009 Home Beautiful Product of the Year Awards.

While Jones fell short of taking home the award, her nomination represents a significant

achievement and has propelled her whimsical collection of homemade toys, homewares and accessories into the public eye.

"It was a bit of a surprise, I can tell you, but I think it is lovely that they nominated **Lark** when there are so many big and amazing design companies out there," Jones says.

Judged by leaders of the Australian design industry and Home Beautiful editor Wendy Moore, the awards recognise excellence in design for a body of work and were broadcast on The Morning Show on Channel Seven.

Lark's hand-knitted Cornishware tea set and Lambie toy were reviewed by the judges along with Jones' vintage wallpaper coasters and the Cute Creatures organic soap.

Jones launched **Lark** in England in 2004 and, together with her young family and Australian partner Paul, moved her business to rural Victoria in 2006.

Lark recently relocated and on September 24, Jones threw open the doors to her new showroom in Daylesford, Victoria, which exhibits her handmade merchandise and ethical product collections imported from non-profit organisations and local and international artisans.