

# TRANSFORM:

Altering the Future of Architecture

30 May, 2013  
Spring Street Conference Centre  
Melbourne, Australia



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

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Parlour:  
women, equity, architecture.

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PARLOUR AND THE MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF DESIGN HOST A DAY OF DISCUSSION AND DEBATE ABOUT GENDER, AGENCY AND REMAKING THE PROFESSION:

If architecture was more inclusive would it also be in a stronger position?

Architecture is in the midst of substantial change. How architects define themselves, how practices operate, and the range of roles and types of work pursued – all is up for grabs.

It's also time for a more gender-inclusive profession, one that assists women and men to better balance professional and personal lives, to realise their full potential, and to stay in the profession.

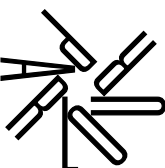
How might we alter the future of architecture to generate a more equitable, effective and robust profession? What might such a discipline look like? How can architecture make meaningful and compelling contributions to communities, while also being more inclusive?

DESIGN & TYPOGRAPHY: STUDIO CATHERINE GRIFFITHS

TRANSFORM is an initiative of the ARC-funded research project Equity and Diversity in the Australian Architecture Profession: Women, Work and Leadership, and is presented in association with the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, the University of Melbourne.

RESEARCH PARTNERS:

University of Queensland  
University of Melbourne  
Bates Smart  
BVN Architecture  
PTW  
Australian Institute of Architects  
Architecture Media



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09.00–09.15

Introduction and welcome

Naomi Stead and Shelley Penn.

09.15–10.00

Advocacy, activism and the futures of architecture

How do we generate change in the profession and the discipline? What strategies and tactics can we use to have affect, both individually and collectively? And what kind of profession do we want anyway?

Keynote by Lori Brown, followed by a short discussion with Shelley Penn and Ben Hewett, chaired by Justine Clark.

10.00–10.25 - MORNING TEA

10.25–11.45

Do architectural workplace cultures need to change?

What strategies – formal and informal – can we use to develop equitable and productive workplaces? How can periods of parental leave, flexible or part-time work be managed to benefit both individuals and organisations? How can processes for retaining, rewarding and developing staff be made fair and transparent?

Panel discussion chaired by Sandra Kaji-O'Grady with Misty Waters, Bill Dowzer, Lee Hillam, Ann Lau and Gill Matthewson.

11.45–13.00

Can policy drive professional and disciplinary change?

The Parlour Good Practice Guidelines will set out rights and responsibilities, tips and tactics, on a range of issues – pay equity, flexible work patterns, meaningful part-time work, avoiding long-hours cultures and negotiating working conditions, among others. This consultation session gives you the chance to provide input and feedback on the draft guidelines. Have your say, make a contribution, and help change the profession through policy.

Interactive workshop led by Naomi Stead and Amanda Roan.

13.00–14.00 - LUNCH

14.00–15.25

What are the possible futures of architecture?

What contemporary architectural practices offer glimpses of architecture's future? In recent years architecture has faced the crisis of global financial restructuring and an accompanying revolt about the narrow limits of the profession's interests and skills. This panel explores the value of new knowledges, interdisciplinary work and diverse career pathways, expanding the public discussion about what architects do.

Panel discussion chaired by Karen Burns with Esther Charlesworth, Sibling, Paula McCarthy and Rory Hyde.

15.25–15.50 - AFTERNOON TEA

15.50–17.15

What is an architectural career?

How do we navigate career turning points and moments of transition? How can we strategise our careers while also responding effectively to surprises and contingencies that arise along the way?

Panel discussion chaired by Julie Willis with Emma Williamson, Manuelle Gautrand, Sara Stace, Kathrin Aste, Virginia San Fratello, Felicity Stewart and Elizabeth Watson Brown.

17.15–17.45

Wrap up

Lori Brown, Shelley Penn, Naomi Stead, Karen Burns and Rory Hyde.

17.45–18.45 - CLOSING DRINKS



LORI BROWN

Lori is involved in architectural practice, research and teaching. She works at the intersections of architecture, art, geography and women's studies and seeks to broaden the discourse and involvement of architecture in our world. Her work emerges from the belief that architecture can participate in and impact people's everyday lives. Focusing particularly on the relationships between architecture and social justice, she currently has an emphasis on gender and its impact on spatial relationships.



SHELLEY PENN

Shelley is an architect who contributes to architecture and the built environment through practice, advising, writing, teaching and advocacy. Shelley is currently the National President of the Australian Institute of Architects and the chair of the National Capital Authority.



BEN HEWETT

Ben is South Australian Government Architect and leads the Office for Design and Architecture SA. He provides strategic advice to government for major projects, programs and policy and advocates for the value of design by working across state and local government and with industry and academia. Ben has previously worked in both architectural practice and academia.



LEE HILLAM

Lee is a director of Sydney-based practice Dunn & Hillam Architects. The practice believes that the most effective team needs to have life outside the day-to-day production of architecture. They ensure that everyone leaves the office by 6 pm, takes all their holidays and often only works a four-day week.



ANN LAU

Ann is an associate director of the Melbourne and Sydney-based practice Hayball and an associate professor at the School of Architecture and Building, Deakin University.



BILL DOWZER

Bill Dowzer is BVN's New South Wales studio director. Prior to this he established and led BVN's Melbourne studio from 2000–05. Bill is a specialist in the design of new workplace and education environments.



MISTY WATERS

Misty is an associate director and joint practice manager at Bates Smart. Her role includes recruitment, staff management, marketing, new business, project resourcing and reviewing areas relating to the retention of women. Trained and registered as an architect, she spent her early career in a range of practices including the government architect's office and small to mid-sized private firms.



GILL MATTHEWSON

Gill Matthewson is an architect and academic. She is undertaking a PhD as part of the Equity and Diversity project at the University of Queensland. The PhD focuses on ethnographic research into a number of Australian architectural practices to study aspects of work culture.



ESTHER CHARLESWORTH

Esther is founding director of Architects without Frontiers (Australia), a design not-for-profit organisation that has undertaken over 20 projects in 12 countries for communities affected by disaster. Esther is an associate professor and an Australian Research Council Future Fellow at RMIT University.



SIBLING

Sibling is a multi-disciplinary design collective that works at the intersection of architecture, cultural analysis, communication and commerce to produce new and unexpected spatial outcomes with a social agenda. Sibling is represented at Transform by principals Qianyi Lim, Amelia Borg and Timothy Moore.



PAULA MCCARTHY

Paula is an architect and new-business manager for Ducon Construction in Melbourne. Paula's career includes consultancy in strategic spatial briefing, as well as work with architectural companies of all scales – as employee, director and management consultant.



RORY HYDE

Rory is an architect working across design, research, broadcasting and building. His PhD explored emerging models of practice enabled by new technologies. He is a co-host of The Architects radio show, which was presented in the Australian pavilion at the 2012 Venice Architecture Biennale. Rory's first book is Future Practice: Conversations from the Edge of Architecture.



EMMA WILLIAMSON

Emma is co-founder of CODA. For 10 years Emma combined practice and teaching as an academic at Curtin University. In 2006 Emma took on the role of practice director steering the growth of the practice from two to twenty people. She is also currently Chair of the Academic Advisory Board for the School of Architecture at Curtin and adjunct senior research fellow at Monash University.



MANUELLE GAUTRAND

Manuelle is the principal architect and director of Manuelle Gautrand Architecture, based in Paris. The practice's diverse portfolio includes cultural facilities (theatres, museums and cultural centres), office buildings, housing, commercial and leisure facilities. Manuelle is in Australia as a speaker at Material.



SARA STACE

Sara is currently Director of National Urban Policy in the Australian Government's Major Cities Unit. To date her career has included working in architectural practice, to managing an ASX-listed property investment portfolio.



KATHRIN ASTE

Kathrin is one of the founders of Innsbruck-based practice LAAC Architekten. LAAC is focused on contemporary architecture for urban and landscape contexts – particularly alpine infrastructures. Sites for their projects range from Innsbruck's medieval town centre to the mountains of Kazakhstan. Kathrin is in Australia as a speaker at Material.



ELIZABETH WATSON BROWN

Elizabeth is a design director of Architectus, a position she took up after 21 years directing Elizabeth Watson Brown Architects. She is an active participant in architecture and urban design discourse, and has had many public roles including being member of the Queensland Board for Urban Places, adjunct professor of architecture at the University of Queensland and a member of the Brisbane City Council Urban Design Advisory Panel.



VIRGINIA SAN FRATELLO

Virginia is an architect, artist and educator. She is a partner at Rael San Fratello and in its 3D printing research arm, Emerging Objects, based in Oakland, California. She is also assistant professor in Design at San Jose State University. Virginia is in Australia as a speaker at Material.



FELICITY STEWART

Felicity is a director of the new practice Stewart Hollenstein, a multidisciplinary design practice based in Sydney. Founded in 2010 Stewart Hollenstein was recently named winner of the Green Square Library and Plaza Design Competition. Felicity graduated with a Masters of Urban Design at Columbia University, New York in 2012.



NAOMI STEAD

Naomi Stead is a senior research fellow at ATCH at the University of Queensland and leads the research project Equity and Diversity in the Australian Architecture Profession: Women, work and leadership.



JUSTINE CLARK

Justine is an architectural editor and writer and an honorary senior research fellow at the University of Melbourne. She is editor of Parlour and a researcher on the Equity and Diversity project.



KAREN BURNS

Karen teaches architecture at the University of Melbourne. She is a researcher on the Equity and Diversity project and publishes widely on architecture, gender theory and feminism.



AMANDA ROAN

Amanda is a senior lecturer in management at the University of Queensland, and is a researcher on the Equity and Diversity project.



SANDRA KAJI-O'GRADY

Sandra will soon take up the position of Dean of Architecture and Head of School at the University of Queensland. She is a researcher on the Equity and Diversity project and is a Creative Director of Material, the National Conference of the Australian Institute of Architects.



JULIE WILLIS

Julie is professor of architecture and Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) at the University of Melbourne. She is a researcher on the Equity and Diversity project.

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convened by  
JUSTINE CLARK  
KAREN BURNS  
NAOMI STEAD