

## Parlour : Inc

Parlour has had a very busy start to our new life as an incorporated association.

### Relaunch

Parlour was relaunched as Parlour : Inc at a soiree at the new Melbourne School of Design building at the University of Melbourne.

This well-attended event was co-presented by the National Committee for Gender Equity (NCGE) of the Australian Institute of Architects.



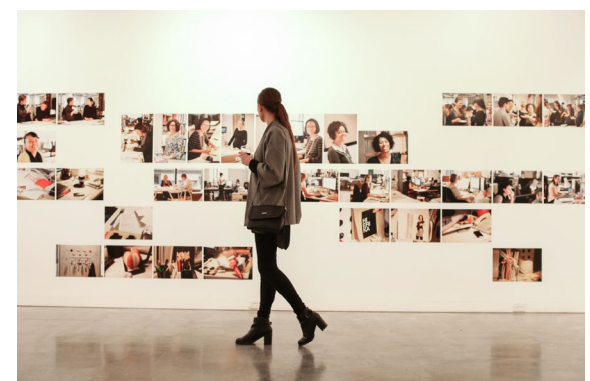
Photographs: Peter Bennetts.

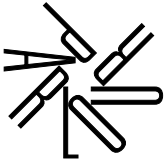
## Initiatives & impact – 2015

Parlour has been very active and visible since the relaunch. We have presented our work widely and developed new campaigns, initiatives and events. We have had a string emphasis on public awareness and engagement, which has been coupled with substantial behind-the-scenes development work, which is ongoing.

### Portraits of Practice

*Portraits of Practice*, showed at the Tin Sheds, University of Sydney, 10 July–11 September, 2015, and was very well received. In addition to events organised by the University of Sydney, various architectural practices used the exhibition as a space for events and workshops. A wide range of Australian practices also participated by submitting their own Portrait of Practice via Parlour's Instagram account.





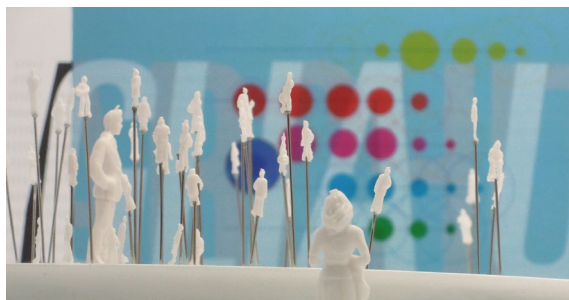
*Portraits of Practice* was curated by Naomi Stead, Justine Clark, Maryam Gusheh and Fiona Young. Typography was by Catherine Griffiths and the exhibition was project managed by Gill Matthewson. The exhibition may travel to other venues in Australia in 2016.

News of *Portraits of Practice* was widely distributed, and gained the following coverage:

- **Interview with Naomi Stead** on ABC Radio National
- **Review on Architecture & Design** by Deborah Singerman.

### **ParlourLIVE!**

Parlour was delighted to be shortlisted for the Australian Pavilion at the 2016 Venice Biennale, with the proposal *ParlourLIVE!*, which proposed that the pavilion become the site of active 'live' research into the current and future state of the profession. The bid process was a highly competitive and demanding. *ParlourLIVE!* was not ultimately successful, but the proposal generated a lot of interest and ideas developed will have an ongoing life in other Parlour work.



*ParlourLIVE!* was undertaken by Justine Clark, Naomi Stead, Maryam Gusheh, Fiona Young and Catherine Griffiths.

### **WikiD: Women, Wikipedia, Design**

Parlour is a partner in an international project to increase the representation of women architects on Wikipedia. A collaboration between Parlour, Architexx (New York) and n-ails (Berlin), this has seed funding from the Wikimedia Foundation.

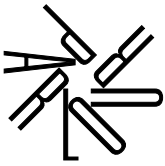
This has had a substantial impact. In March 2015 there were 10 entries for Australian women architects; at the time of writing there are 65 entries, and many other entries have been improved and linked to other entries and lists. Writing and editing workshops were held in Melbourne, Berlin and New York with more in train for 2016 and plans to extend to other cities.



Parlour developed the *WikiD Guide to Wikipedia Editing*, which is being used internationally. The Guides were written by Alysia Bennett, Justine Clark and Charity Edwards.

The project has garnered the following media coverage to date:

- Sian Johnson, "**Wikipedia boost for women architects**", *ArchitectureAU*, 23 November, 2015
- "**WikiD project helps increase presence of women architects on Wikipedia**", *Architecture & Design*, 24 November, 2015.
- "**Making sure women architects are on Wikipedia**", *The Real Estate Conversation*, 24 November, 2015.
- Caitlin Dover "**How Online Activism is Empowering Women in Architecture**", *Guggenheim Museum (NY) blog*, 6 Oct, 2015.
- Nathan Johnson, **WikiD writing workshop engraves women into architecture history on Wikipedia**, *Architecture & Design*
- "**Parlour: WikiD writing workshops**", *ArchitectureAU*, 11 Oct, 2015.
- "**Women Architects Deleted From Wikipedia**", *ArchitectureAU*, 7 April, 2015.
- Sian Johnson, "**Women Architects Receive \$US14,000 Wikipedia Grant**", *ArchitectureAU*, 7 May, 2015.



## **American Institute of Architects Women's Leadership Summit**

Justine Clark was invited to speak about Parlour at the American Institute of Architects' Women's Leadership Summit held in Seattle. She also participated in a discussion panel and facilitated a workshop with Rosa Sheng and Carole Wedge.

The presentation was very well received, and we have developed some very useful connections. It was gratifying to learn that Parlour's work was already quite well known in the US, and that American architectural practices are already using the Parlour Guides to Equitable Practice. Participating in the event has led to new connections and strengthened existing relationships.



Coverage of this includes:

- Sean David Burke, **"Carve Your Own Path and Other Takeaways From AIA WLS 2015"**, *The Architect*, 22 September, 2015.
- Rosa Sheng, **"AIA WLS Seattle 2015: Defining the Problem, Crafting Solutions"**, *Equity X Design*, 23 September, 2015.
- Amy Kalar, **"2015 AIA Women's Leadership Summit"**.
- Elyse Cocco, **List of resources mentioned at the 2015 AIA Women's Leadership Summit**

The social media impact is captured in two Storify collections:

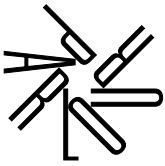
- **Recap of Day 1 – AIA WLS Seattle 2015**
- **Recap of Day 2 – AIA WLS Seattle 2015**

## **Public presentations**

Parlour has given many public presentations in 2015, to a wide variety of audiences in many different places. These include:

- Research presentation by Naomi Stead, GET Going NSW Chapter, launching the Male Champions of Change program, 18 March, 2015
- "Parlour", presentation by Justine Clark, DC Women in Architecture Series, Washington DC, 19 March, 2015
- "Parlour", by Karen Burns and Justine Clark, *Feminism and Architecture*, Parsons The New School for Design, New York, 4 April, 2015.
- "Parlour", lecture by Justine Clark to University of Melbourne professional practice students, 1 May, 2015.
- "Parlour", presentation by Justine Clark, Women in Architecture international seminar, Valencia, Spain. 22 May, 2015.
- "Parlour", chairing a forum by Justine Clark, New Architects Melbourne, 12 June, 2015.
- "Come into our Parlour", public talk by Justine Clark in the City Talks series, City Gallery, Wellington (New Zealand Institute of Architects and the City Gallery). 15 June, 2015.
- "Parlour", **interview with Karen Burns** on Architel, 22 July, 2015.
- "Parlour", presentation by Justine Clark, Women in Design, Design Tasmania, 24–25 July, Launceston, Tasmania.
- "Parlour", presentation by Justine Clark to SJB directors annual conference, 2 August, 2015.
- "Parlour", lecture by Justine Clark to RMIT professional practice students, 7 September, 2015.
- "Parlour", presentation by Justine Clark to Architects Registration Board of Victoria, 8 September, 2015.
- "Parlour", presentation by Justine Clark to the American Institute of Architects Women's Leadership Summit, Seattle, 18 September, 2015.
- "Parlour", presentation by Justine Clark to Equity by Design (formerly The Missing 32%), San Francisco, 25 September, 2015.
- Presentations by Naomi Stead and Gill Matthewson at *Architecture, Women Education Symposium*, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, October 8, 2015.
- Presentation by Karen Burns at *Engendering the Sustainable Development Agenda*, Istanbul Technical University, a conference funded by European Cooperation in Science and Technology.





### Parlour events

Parlour has organised a number of public lectures and discussion events. These include:

- “Women in Architecture: Future of Practice” panel discussion for the University of Sydney alumni, chaired by Justine Clark, 5 August, 2015.
- “Architecture, Activism and Community: From Matrix to muf (and beyond)”, Parlour lecture by Jos Boys, Melbourne School of Design, University of Melbourne, 13 October, 2015.
- “Women Transforming the City”, panel discussion presented by Parlour, M Pavilion, Melbourne, 15 October, 2015.
- UQ Research Dialogues, panel discussion with Naomi Stead, Gill Matthewson and Justine Clark, Museum of Brisbane, 20 October, 2015.



### General publications about Parlour and gender equity in architecture

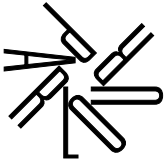
- Liza Power, “Architecture’s gender divide keeps glass ceiling on the industry”, *The Age*, 24 July, 2015.
- Liza Power, “Parlour’s architects offer advice for the women who follow”, *The Age*, 24 July, 2015.
- Amy Slattery, “Women in Architecture: Resources for Professional Growth”, The Burns and McDonnell Careers Blog, 14 Oct, 2014.
- Madeleine Dore, “Women Transforming the City” ArtsHub, 15 Oct, 2015.
- Rosa Sheng, “Parlour Guides to Equitable Practice”, Section Cut.
- Gill Matthewson, “Women architects in the Australian profession” *NAWIC Journal*.

### Scholarly outcomes

The research team behind Parlour continues to publish in the scholarly press. This is important for making long-term contributions to knowledge. Forthcoming outcomes, worked on in the period since April 2015, include:

- Karen Burns and Justine Clark, “Counting Women” in the book *Industries of Architecture* (forthcoming), edited by Katie Lloyd Thomas.
- Karen Burns, Justine Clark and Julie Willis, “Mapping the Invisible Salaried Woman Architect”, (forthcoming in the journal *Footprint*).
- Amanda Roan and Gill Matthewson, “Challenges and Change in the Architecture Profession: Demonstrating Uncertain Futures through the Struggle for Gender Equity”, forthcoming in *Professions Under Pressure*, edited by Adrian Wilkinson, Donald Hislop, Maree Boyle, and Christine Coupland. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Karen Burns and Justine Clark, “Grassroots Advocacy, Parlour and Grey Architectural Knowledge”, presented at Production Sites: Resituating the Culture of Architectural Knowledge, University of Sydney, Oct, 2015.
- Naomi Stead, “The Office: documentary photography, detail and the visual evidence of work life in architecture”, presented at Production Sites: Resituating the Culture of Architectural Knowledge, University of Sydney, Oct, 2015.
- Justine Clark, “Six Myths about Women in Architecture”, in *A Gendered Profession*, (forthcoming from RIBA Press).
- Karen Burns, “The All-or-Nothing Workplace: work and overwork in Australian architecture”, in *A Gendered Profession*, (forthcoming from RIBA Press).

The other very significant research outcome in this period is the completion of Gill Matthewson’s PhD, *Dimensions of Gender: women’s careers in the Australian architecture profession*.



## Awards

Parlour's work has been recognised through a number of awards this year:

- National Bates Smart Award for Architecture in the Media, Victorian Architecture Awards, 2015. (For the Parlour Guides to Equitable Practice.)
- Adrian Ashton Prize for Architectural Writing, New South Wales Architecture Awards, 2015.
- Marion Mahony Griffin Prize, New South Wales Architecture Awards, 2015. Awarded to Justine Clark for her body of work, including her work on Parlour.

Parlour was also shortlisted for the prestigious RIBA President's Prize for Research, for the Parlour Guides to Equitable Practice.



## Website & social media

The Parlour website is the hub of Parlour activity and continues to attract high number of readers and publishes a wide range of material from diverse authors.

The website is being developed to be responsive on mobile devices. We are taking this opportunity to refine navigation and other aspects of the user experience.

In the period January–November 2015, the Parlour website has been visited 33,155 times, by 20,810 users. This has involved 51,955 page views.

Of the users, 54% are from Australia, 15% from the United States, 4% from the United Kingdom and 3% from New Zealand. Other visitors come from 2116 cities in 136 countries.

The *Parlour Guides to Equitable Practice* were the most popular page on the site, followed by "Six Myths About Women in Architecture", and the *WikiD Guide to Wikipedia Editing*.

Parlour's twitter feed is now followed by 3,069 people, while the newer Instagram account has 392 followers.

