



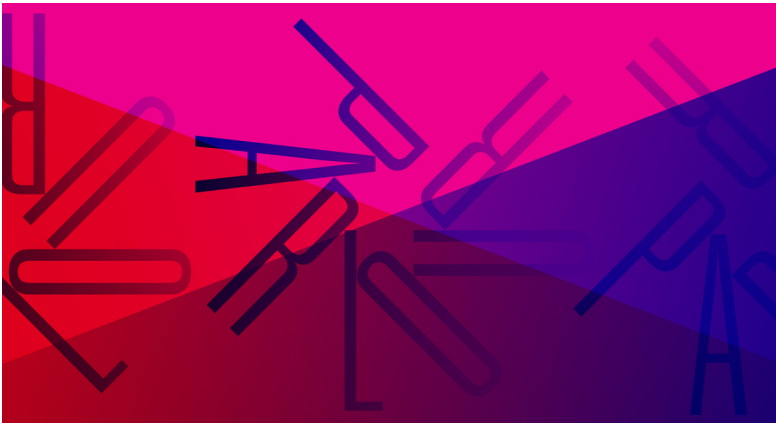
Parlour : Inc

Parlour had a very busy year in 2016. We've worked hard to extend our advocacy for gender equity in the profession, and support others working to the same end. We've made excellent progress, and there is more to come!

Initiatives & impact – 2016

Parlour continues to be highly visible and active. We have launched new initiatives and resources, and consolidated existing programs. We continue to present the work widely to both practitioner and scholarly audiences, in Australia and internationally. We are using our substantial reach to broaden the conversation and to help make space for an ever-wider range of voices.

Events and initiatives addressing equity in architecture are proliferating, organised by many and varied groups. This is a huge contrast to when Parlour started as a lone voice in 2012. We welcome and encourage this activity, and do everything we can to support it.



“In Australia, the web-based group Parlour: Women, Equity, Architecture is dedicated to promoting equality in design academia and practice.

...

These are just three examples of a broad-based and growing emphasis on social action in architecture practice. One challenge of the coming years will be to strengthen these efforts, which for the most part remain lean operations, dependent upon donations and grants and upon the sweat equity of their founders and volunteers. There is an urgent need for the major professional bodies to learn from, and support, the energy and ethos of such organizations.”

Recognition

We are delighted to see Parlour recognised in an influential essay by Jeremy Till, “**Reality in the Balance**,” published in the US-based *Places Journal*, January 2017.



Marion's List.

The new online register for women in the built environment was launched at the MPavilion in November 2016 with guest speakers Amy Mullins, director of the Women's Leadership Institute, and Karen Burns of Parlour.

The register is growing rapidly, and we already have anecdotal evidence that event organisers are using the list to ensure a diverse range of participants. Nonetheless, some women need to be actively encouraged to put themselves forward. We are maintaining an ongoing campaign to encourage participation, and setting up workshop events to help women write their own entries.



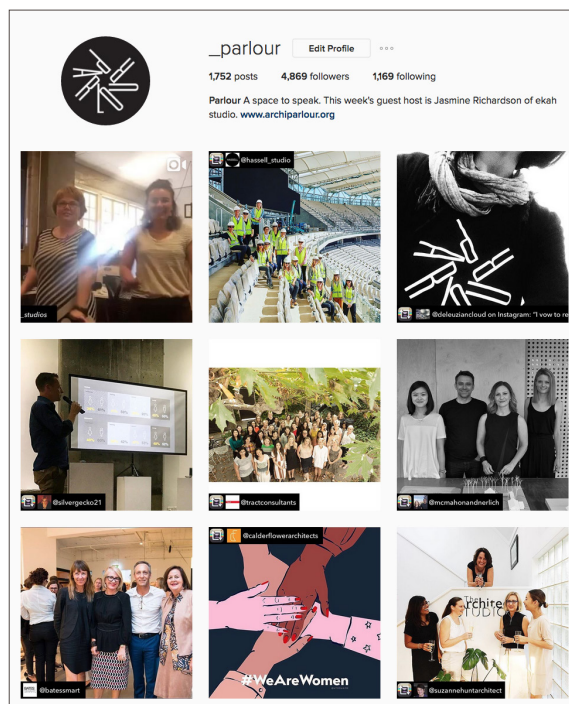
Seasonal Salon

The Parlour Seasonal Salon is a new initiative to bring women together in a convivial, casual environment. In particular, we aim to help build connections across generations and, over time, across the built environment disciplines.

Two salons have been held so far. The Spring Salon attracted a large crowd to the MPavilion, while the Summer Salon booked out in 24 hours. The Autumn Salon is scheduled for late March as part of Melbourne Design Week, and booked out two weeks in advance.

We are planning Salons in Hobart, Sydney and Brisbane, and will also pursue options in Adelaide and Perth.

The Parlour Salons are possible thanks to the wonderful support of Parlour Partner AWS.



Parlour Instagram

Every week we hand over our Instagram account to a different guest host. This has been a huge success and momentum continues to build. There have been over eighty guest hosts, and followers are increasing exponentially.

Instagram guest hosting is a very real instance of Parlour's 'Space to Speak' ethos, and provides an opportunity for a very wide range of people to comment publicly on many and varied topics. The visual nature of Instagram also works well for those who want to contribute but do not feel confident writing for the Parlour website.

Spreading the word

Parlour gives many public presentations to a wide variety of audiences in many different places. In 2016 these included:

International

- **Opening keynote panel, Architecture & Feminisms**

Naomi Stead, Gill Matthewson, Justine Clark and Karen Burns presented an invited keynote panel at Architecture & Feminisms, the annual conference of the Architectural Humanities Research Association (AHRA) in Stockholm. This was an important opportunity to present the work to the international academic community. The panel was very well received and new opportunities are opening up as a result. November 2016.



- **Powerful: Women Leading Design**

Justine Clark gave the opening keynote address at Powerful: Women Leading Design, a one-day symposium convened by the American Institute of Architects Los Angeles. October 2016.

- **EQxD: Metrics, Meaning & Matrices**

Justine Clark participated as an invited 'thought leader' at EQxD: Metrics, Meaning & Matrices symposium convened by the American Institute of Architects San Francisco. October 2016.

- **Yale SA Contemporary Architectural Discourse Colloquium**

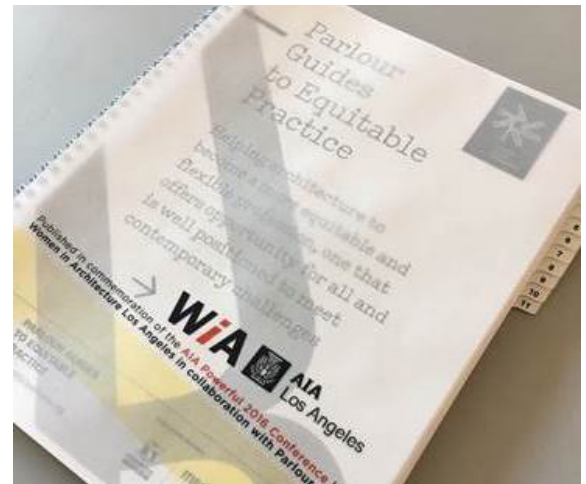
Karen Burns gave an invited presentation at the Yale School of Architecture as part of the YSA Contemporary Architectural Discourse Colloquium: Gender and Space. April 2016.

- **Parity Talks**

Justine Clark presented Parlour's work to the Parity symposium at ETH Zurich via Skype. March 2017.

Australia

- International Women's Day, Victorian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects, Naomi Stead, invited speaker. March 2017.
- International Women's Day breakfast, Elenberg Fraser, Gill Matthewson, invited speaker. March 2017.
- Breaking the Glass Ceiling, Karen Burns, invited panellist. March 2017.
- Panel discussion on gender equity, Karen Burns and Justine Clark, University of Melbourne. March 2017.
- 'Using Data to Drive Action', presentation by Gill Matthewson to Architects Accreditation Council of Australia. October 2016.
- Radio interview with Justine Clark about Parlour, Parallel Lines on RRR. April 2016.
- 'Expanding the Field', by Justine Clark, invited speaker at the International Women's Day Breakfast, NSW Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects. March 2016.
- 'A World Built by Men and Women', Gill Matthewson invited panellist (with Elizabeth Watson-Brown, Ingrid Richards and Christina Na-Heon Cho). Museum of Brisbane. March 2016.



Parlour events

Parlour's event program for 2016 focussed on developing the new and highly successful Parlour Seasonal Salons (discussed on page 2). The Parlour program also featured the following events.

- **Women Transforming the City**, associated with How Soon is Now?, the Australian Institute of Architects 2016 National Conference. April 2016.
- **Marion's List Launch**, MPavilion, Melbourne. November 2016.

Parlour is frequently invited to collaborate with other organisations on events. Over the last year Recent Parlour collaborations have included:

- **Queering Architecture?**, MADA XYX Lab, panel discussion at NGV International as part of Melbourne Design Week. March 2017.
- **Breaking the Glass Ceiling**, a panel discussion in collaboration with PROCESS. March 2017.
- **Working in Asia**, a discussion event organised by University of Queensland for the Asia Pacific Architecture Forum in Brisbane. March 2017.
- **Thriving Through Change**, National CPD Seminar from the Australian Institute of Architects, which explored how architects and practices can thrive in a fast-shifting environment. November 2016.



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, Architectx (New York) and n-ails (Berlin), this has seed funding from the Wikimedia Foundation.

After a strong start in 2015, the WikiD program continues, with further emphasis on spreading the word more widely and assisting other groups in establishing WikiD programs. We continue to run edit-a-thons, and in March 2017 were invited to run one at the National Gallery of Victoria as part of the NGV Art Book Fair.

There are now almost 70 entries on women in Australian architecture available on Wikipedia (up from 10 when the program started).

The *WikiD Guide to Wikipedia Editing* is being used internationally. IT has been very well received in the US, is recommended by Wikimedia Australia, and has been translated into German and Ukrainian.

In July 2016 Parlour presented the WikiD program to architectural historians and scholars at GOLD, the annual Society of Architectural Historians, Australia New Zealand conference. The aim was to encourage more participation from the scholarly community, and suggested that Wikipedia become part of assessment processes in history courses.

Parlour analysis and opinion

The Parlour team continues to publish analysis and commentary on current issues as they happen. Particularly influential pieces published on Parlour in the last year include:

- Gill Matthewson, 'Breaking News: women are not condiments', February 2017.
- Karen Burns, 'Women in the Street', January 2017.
- Karen Burns, 'Dear Artforum: Six Men Memorialise Zaha Hadid', August 2016.
- Gill Matthewson, 'Mind the Gap', March 2016.
- Gill Matthewson, 'Shock Horror Statistics', March 2016.

Expanding the conversation

Gender does not walk alone. Parlour's research and advocacy focuses on gender equity, but in doing so we have also raised many other issues and questions in relation to equity and diversity.

Having developed a substantial platform for discussion, we are now inviting contributions on a wide range of equity and diversity topics. We aim to spur important conversations and encourage further research. To date Parlour has published discussions of cultural diversity, class, queer identities and mental health.

- Naomi Stead and Nicole Kalms, 'Queering Architecture: Framing the conversation', February 2017.
- Byron Kinnaird, 'An Anxious Discipline', September 2016.
- Sam Perversi-Brooks, 'Class and Creed in Australian Architecture', July 2016.
- Sonia Sarangi, 'Who's Afraid of Ethnic Diversity?', July 2016.
- Yvonne Meng, 'Cultural Diversity in Architecture', June 2016.
- Gill Matthewson, 'Multiplying Diversity', May 2016.

Parlour Guides to Equitable Practice

The Parlour Guides to Equitable Practice continue to generate substantial interest in Australia and internationally.

Copies were made available to delegates at Powerful in Los Angeles, and we are in preliminary discussions about updating and distributing them in the US and elsewhere.





Advocating together

Parlour uses its extensive network to advocate in many ways, and also lends its weight and reach to initiatives being led by others, including the Australian Institute of Architects National Committee for Gender Equity.

Key activities that we have supported in 2016 include:

- **Gold Medal**

Parlour responded to ongoing concern about the low proportion of women honoured by the Australian Institute of Architects' Gold Medal by encouraging people to recommend nominations for the award. This drew a substantial response, which was collated and provided to the National Committee for Gender Equity. As a result two women were nominated for 2016, and there is now an excellent list of people to be nominated in coming years.

- **Women on juries**

The Victorian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects has made a concerted push to increase the number of women on award juries and serving as jury chairs. Parlour has supported this through the website and social media.

- **Women fellows**

Parlour supports efforts by the Australian Institute of Architects to increase the representation of women among the ranks of Fellows of the Australian Institute of Architects.

- **Fast track to registration**

Alerting the Parlour community to two new fast-track pathways from the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia to assist experienced practitioners to become registered.

Supporting other events

Parlour supports the burgeoning range of events organised by others to address equity issues, and provide a voice for women in architecture. These are publicised on the website and social media and through email updates to subscribers. In 2016 they included:

- Queensland Equity Forum
- Perspectives event series in Sydney
- IADV Cultural Competency Workshop
- Architects Without Frontiers
- *Anonymity* exhibition (on women in graphic design)

- Affordable Housing for Women discussion event

- (Sh)ark Tank, Sydney Architecture Festival

We also frequently offer advice (on request) about the framing, structure and make-up of events.

Through the Parlour Noticeboard we help publicise a wide range of initiatives and opportunities.

Scholarly publications

The research team behind Parlour continues to publish research work in the scholarly press. This is important for making long-term contributions to knowledge. The last year has been prolific in terms of academic publications. These include:

- Naomi Stead, Gill Matthewson, Justine Clark and Karen Burns, 'Parlour,' forthcoming in *Architecture and Culture*.
- Karen Burns and Justine Clark, 'Activist Scholarship, Participatory Media and Collaborative Architectural Research: Parlour, 2012–2015,' forthcoming in *Production Sites: Resituating the Culture of Architectural Knowledge*, edited by Sandra Loschke (Routledge 2016).
- Karen Burns and Justine Clark, 'Counting Women' in *Industries of Architecture*, edited by Katie Lloyd Thomas (Routledge 2016).
- Karen Burns, Justine Clark and Julie Willis, 'Mapping the Invisible Salaried Woman Architect', in *Footprint Delft Architecture Theory Journal*, vol 17.
- Justine Clark, 'Six Myths about Women in Architecture', in *A Gendered Profession* (RIBA Press, 2016).
- Karen Burns, 'The All-or-Nothing Workplace: work and overwork in Australian architecture', in *A Gendered Profession* (RIBA Press, 2016).
- Gill Matthewson, 'Working in Architecture: Conditions and Consequences for Women', in *BACKSTAGE: L'architettura Come Lavoro Concreto*, edited by Florencia Andreola, Mauro Sullam, Riccardo M Villa (Franco Angeli, 2016).



Website & social media data

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

In the period January–December 2016, the Parlour website has been visited 38,790 times, by 26,140 users. This has involved 94,661 page views.

Of the users, 62% are from Australia, 12% from the United States, 5% from the United Kingdom and 3% from New Zealand. Other visitors come from 2,245 cities in 141 countries.

Marion's List is the most popular page on the site, followed by the *Parlour Guides to Equitable Practice*.

Parlour's twitter feed now has 3,885 followers. Parlour Instagram has seen enormous growth, and now has 4,869 followers (up from 385 in 2015).

