# Design Speaks.

# The Architecture Symposium, Brisbane

Architecture, design and urbanism from the Asia Pacific

Friday 13 March 2020









ASIA PACIFIC ARCHITECTURE

















### Details.

### When

Friday 13 March 2020 8.30 am - 5.00 pm ()

#### Where

Auditorium 1 and Queensland Terrace, State Library of Queensland Stanley Place South Brisbane Queensland

### **Program Info**

Join us in Brisbane for The Architecture Symposium where an international line-up of speakers will present an eclectic mix of presentations exploring the challenges of living and designing in the Asian Century. A headline event of the 2020 Asia Pacific Architecture Festival, The Architecture Symposium will be addressing the festival's overarching theme of "Water" in environmental, contextual and poetic ways.

The myriad cultural attitudes to water in the Asia Pacific region, and the many ways our cities and communities are shaped by our understanding of water, will prompt thinking around how we can address what lies ahead for our threatened environment and build a sustainable future.

#### **Partners**

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#### PART O

Asia Pacific Architecture Festival

#### UNIVERSITY PARTNER

Abedian School of Architecture, Bond University

#### VENUE PARTNER

State Library of Queensland

#### HOTEL PARTNER

The Inchcolm By Ovolo

### Program.

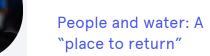
	<u></u>
9:00 am	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
	Georgia Birks, co-curator, Asia Pacific Architecture Festival
9:10 am	Opening comments from Katelin Butler, editorial director, Architecture Media
9:15 am	KEYNOTE: CRAFTSMANSHIP AND LOCAL ROOTS
	Realrich Sjarief, RAW Architecture (Jakarta, Indonesia)
9:55 am	KEYNOTE: PRACTISING IN A CHANGING LANDSCAPE
	Kotchakorn Voraakhom, Landprocess (Bangkok, Thailand)
10:35 am	Morning tea
11:00 am	KEYNOTE: PEOPLE AND WATER: A "PLACE TO RETURN"
	Takeshi Komada, Komada Architects' Office (Tokyo, Japan)
11:40 am	KEYNOTE: ARCHITECTURAL ACUPUNCTURE
	Xu Tiantian, DnA Design and Architecture (Beijing, China)
12:20 pm	KEYNOTE: BUILDING ON WATER
	Philip Cox, Cox Architecture (Sydney, Australia)
1:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm	KEYNOTE: WATER ALL AROUND US
	Erik L'Heureux, Pencil Office (Singapore)
2:40 pm	KEYNOTE: WATER AS CONTESTABLE SPACE
	Julie Stout, Mitchell Stout Dodd Architects / Urban Auckland (Auckland, New Zealand)
3:20 pm	KEYNOTE: BETWEEN THE WATERS
	Gurjit Singh Matharoo, Matharoo Associates (Ahmedabad, India)
4:00 pm	Closing comments from Katelin Butler, editorial director, Architecture Media
4:10 pm	Closing drinks
5:00 pm	Event concludes

# Practising in a changing landscape



Climate change has the biggest impact on densely populated delta cities that are sinking across the world like Tokyo, New York, London, New Orleans, Los Angeles, Shanghai and many more. Today, Bangkok, a city of 15 million people living, working and commuting on a shifting, muddy river delta, is sinking more than a centimetre every year, or four times faster than the rate of predicted sea level rise.

"Our way of living with water is reflected through architecture and landscape. Thais were once called amphibious. We lived both on land and water. But now our relationship with water has changed. Our modern city infrastructure no longer allows our amphibious nature to flourish." Kotchakorn discusses what we can do as architects practising in this changing landscape. "Aspirations in how the city can choose to address its threatened future while allowing new architecture with landscape strategies to emerge are what we need."





"People" and "water" are both constantly flowing and circulating. Like every stream has its source, each of us has our own place to return. In his presentation, Takeshi Komada examines the form of these sources and the way that they flow into streams. The source might be a pond or a lake. If so, people may recognize their neighbourhood as a "place to return," but if the source is just a single point in a spring what would it be then?

The velocity at which people flow is rising and the streams that they make are getting extremely complex. Our "place to return" might be isolated and connected directly to the very fast flow of the stream. Therefore, we may have to think of the springs that make small streams and a small gatherings of water.



# Architectural acupuncture



Xu Tiantian has initiated "Architectural Acupuncture" as a systematic and sustainable rural strategy in Songyang County to generate a new "rural self-confidence." With a minimal intervention approach, multifunctional public programs are introduced to different villages and rural region tailored to the complexity of respective cultural heritage and context. Applied with vernacular material and construction technique, architectural acupuncture integrates nature back to the villages, restoring their rural identity, as well as stimulating rural economic development.

Like acupuncture releases the trapped energy at various meridian points on the body, Architectural Acupuncture is an approach aimed at motivating and inspiring villages and communities to initiate their own self-regeneration and further development.



### **Building on water**

Presented by Philip Cox, Founding Partner, Cox Architecture



In this presentation, Philip Cox will explore the ways in which water inspires or is used as a design element in key architectural and urban design projects that span water and are built on water, including the National Maritime Museum of China and the Founder's Memorial in Singapore.



# Water as contestable space

Presented by Julie Stout,
Partner, Mitchell Stout Dodd Architects

Aotearoa/New Zealand is immersed in the Pacific. Water is our world; the connection between us all. However, for those in charge of developing our cities, water is to be controlled – drained away, filled in and monetized. For the last 180 years in Tamaki Makaurau/Auckland, the harbour edge has been up for grabs, as the city developed around its port. Now that situation is being challenged.

For the last 5 years Julie Stout has led a campaign that questioned the Ports of Auckland's right to even be in the centre of a rapidly growing central city area. She will discuss the historical cultural attitudes of both the M ori and colonizing Europeans to the water, and how an evolving cultural and environmental debate is influencing people's relationship to their city. As an architect and urbanist, Julie will discuss what opportunities the gradual transformation of this strategic space could have on the city and its harbour.



Presented by Gurjit Singh
Matharoo, Principal
Architect, Matharoo Associates

Indian culture ascribes rivers to goddesses, where taking a dip is symbolic of purifying the soul. Traditionally, in the more arid regions, rain is celebrated with song and dance as an essential respite from the scorching heat. Ancient storage systems in the form of stepwells, tanks and ghats dot the area, and collection is an important community activity. Besides providing easy access to water, they are important functional landmarks that vary from leisure to cremation.

Matharoo Associates functioned for over 20 years from a space overlooking the river Sabarmati in Ahmedabad. So strong was their bond with water, that when the time came to move to another part of the city, a swimming pool was placed along the entire length of their self-designed and built studio also named "Pool."

Trickling into Matharoo Associates' work – public buildings, residences and retreats – connections are established with waterbodies in a variety of ways, attempting to capture the aspirational value of water sometimes even in its absence.



### Water all around us

Presented by Erik
L'Heureux, Principal,
Pencil Office

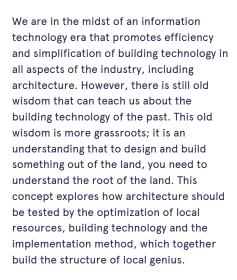
Water all around us will expand on designing for the hot and wet equator – a region where temperatures average above 27 degrees C, humidity levels exceed 75% and annual rainfall exceeds one metre or more in aggregate. Perennially pregnant with humidity and water vapour, and the gloss of seasonal monsoons over landscapes, the air is a thick medium that imbibes a spatial quality a physical presence that impacts design.

A series of projects will showcase how architecture then becomes a filter for the atmosphere – one that engages with it rather than replacing atmosphere with temperate, conditioned air. The projects advocate the need to reclaim architectural agency in productive, poetic and experiential ways to deal with the challenges of the saturated, densifying urban equator and the water all around us.



# Craftsmanship and local roots

Presented by Realrich Sjarief, Principal, RAW Architecture



This presentation explores the root and progression of the social structure that cultivates the building tradition, manifested in generations of traditional craftspeople. It is not limited to the debate of how we should preserve the form of modern architecture, but rather discusses the evolution of future architecture with the spirit of modern architecture by the introduction of a model of craftsmanship – a total adaptation of craftspeople, architect, builder and client into a holistic ecosystem.



# Design Speaks.

# Contact Us.

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