

Melbourne / Friday 31 July 2015

# Design Speaks:

## Housing Futures

### 2015 Program

A forum about new trajectories  
in residential architecture

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# Program

The inaugural Housing Futures forum will speculate on residential architecture across all scales, locations and types through three broad themes – the individual family home, apartment living, and future directions in aged, multigenerational and student housing.

The symposium will feature international and local keynote speakers, interwoven with panel discussions where audience participation is encouraged. The Housing Futures forum is co-located with the highly anticipated 2015 Houses Awards announcement.

**Venue:** Clemenger BBDO Auditorium,  
NGV International  
180 St Kilda Road, Melbourne

**Date:** Friday 31 July 2015

8.45 am	Attendee arrival		
9.00 am	Welcome from Katelyn Butler, Editor, <i>Houses</i> magazine		
9.15 am	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS 1</b>  <b>Kerstin Thompson</b> – “What lessons, if any, does the bespoke, one-off house offer for housing futures?” Principal, Kerstin Thompson Architects (Melbourne)	1.00 pm	and Director, Urban Informatics Research Lab; Professor in Interactive and Visual Design in the School of Design, Creative Industries Faculty at QUT) and <b>Shane Murray</b> (Foundation Professor of Architecture and Dean of the Faculty of Art and Design, Monash University)
10.00 am	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS 2</b>  <b>Paul Donegan</b> – “City limits: why Australia’s cities are broken and how we can fix them” Co-author of the Grattan Institute’s first book, <i>City Limits: Why Australia’s cities are broken and how we can fix them</i> (Melbourne)	2.15pm	Lunch break
10.45 am	Morning tea	3.00 pm	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS 4</b>  <b>Charles Renfro</b> – “Housing shapes the way we live and the cities we inhabit” Partner, Diller Scofidio + Renfro (New York City)
11.15 am	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS 3</b>  <b>Philip Thalis</b> – “Urban housing: architecture’s role in making our cities sustainable, equitable and liveable” Founding Principal, Hill Thalis Architecture + Urban Projects (Sydney)	4.00 pm	<b>MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION 2</b>  <b>Panellists:</b> <b>Charles Renfro</b> (Partner, Diller Scofidio + Renfro), <b>Kerstin Thompson</b> (Principal, Kerstin Thompson Architects), <b>Shelley Penn</b> (Director, Shelley Penn Architect; Past National President of the Australian Institute of Architects) and <b>Ben Hewett</b> (Director, Strategic Services NSW GAO; Adjunct Professor of Architecture at UTS)
12.00 pm	<b>MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION 1</b>  <b>Panellists:</b> <b>Philip Thalis</b> (Founding Principal, Hill Thalis Architecture + Urban Projects), <b>Eli Giannini</b> (Director, MGS Architects); <b>Marcus Foth</b> (Founder	4.10 pm	Closing comments from Cameron Bruhn, Editorial Director, Architecture Media
		5.00 pm	Closing drinks
			Event closes

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# Keynote Addresses

## "WHAT LESSONS, IF ANY, DOES THE BESPOKE, ONE-OFF HOUSE OFFER FOR HOUSING FUTURES?"

Presented by Kerstin Thompson, Principal, Kerstin Thompson Architects (Melbourne)

Kerstin Thompson will draw on the housing work of Kerstin Thompson Architects to demonstrate how the practice of residential architecture is an opportunity to develop new typologies responsive to the living preferences, and social and environmental imperatives of today. While there will always be a place for the architect as ensemblier, especially for the one-off home, Kerstin will argue that the architecture of the house is most instrumental at the level of typology as an envelope for living and in the establishment of relationships with place, neighbours and the street.

## "CITY LIMITS: WHY AUSTRALIA'S CITIES ARE BROKEN AND HOW WE CAN FIX THEM"

Presented by Paul Donegan, co-author of the Grattan Institute's first book, *City Limits: Why Australia's cities are broken and how we can fix them* (Melbourne)

The divide between where people live and work in Australian cities is growing. Most new jobs are being created close to city centres, while most population growth occurs in the outer suburbs. Relatively few new homes are being built in established suburbs, despite strong demand. The costs of this divide include heavy traffic congestion, long commute times and big compromises in family and social life. Paul Donegan will investigate how changes to government regulations and tax settings are a necessary first step to bridging this divide, and argue that the architecture profession has a critical role to play in making change a reality.

## "URBAN HOUSING: ARCHITECTURE'S ROLE IN MAKING OUR CITIES SUSTAINABLE, EQUITABLE AND LIVEABLE"

Presented by Philip Thalis, Founding Principal, Hill Thalis Architecture + Urban Projects (Sydney)

If the future of humankind is increasingly urban, then the future of inhabitation is likely to be expanded urban housing. Reprising housing models that extend at least as far back as the Romans, the apartment building will out of necessity become the dominant form of a new range of dwelling choices. Philip Thalis will investigate contradictions inherent to the form of the city and its housing – between design and economy, between quantities and qualities, between speculation and durability. He will explore how architecture's embrace of such issues will help determine the extent to which our cities are sustainable, equitable and liveable.

## "HOUSING SHAPES THE WAY WE LIVE AND THE CITIES WE INHABIT"

Presented by Charles Renfro, Partner, Diller Scofidio + Renfro, New York City, USA

Precis to come.

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# Keynote Speakers

## CHARLES RENFRO

### Diller Scofidio + Renfro (New York City)

Charles Renfro is a partner at Diller Scofidio + Renfro (DS+R), a 115-person interdisciplinary design studio that integrates architecture, the performing arts and the visual arts. Together with Elizabeth Diller and Ricardo Scofidio, he is intimately involved in the design of each of the studio's projects.

His work with DS+R has been exhibited worldwide at museums and institutions including the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Netherlands Architecture Institute, the Canadian Centre for Architecture, and the Centre Pompidou in France. Charles is a contributing editor of *Document Journal* and his writing has been published in *Bomb*, *OUT* and *A+U Magazine*. He is a board member of Spaceworks and Storefront for Art and Architecture, where he has been president of the board since 2011. In 2012, Charles was honored as a Rice University Distinguished Alumnus, making him one of the youngest alumni to ever receive this prestigious award. He is a recipient of the 2015 Texas Medal of the Arts Awards.



## KERSTIN THOMPSON

### Kerstin Thompson Architects (Melbourne)

Kerstin Thompson is principal of Kerstin Thompson Architects (KTA), a Melbourne-based architecture, landscape and urban design practice with projects in Australia and New Zealand. Kerstin is also Professor of Design in Architecture at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand, and Adjunct Professor at RMIT and Monash Universities in Melbourne. Her work has received numerous awards and local and international recognition through publication and exhibition. She has been a member of the Federal Government's Built Environment Industry Innovation Council Advisory Committee, was the creative director for the 2005 RAIA National Conference and a creative director for Australia's 2008 Venice Architecture Biennale exhibition. She is currently on the Office of the Victorian Government Architect's Design Review Panel.



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# Keynote Speakers

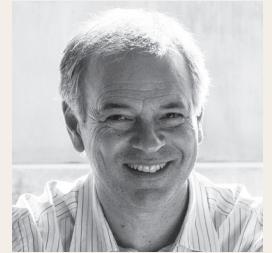
## PHILIP THALIS

### Founding Principal, Hill Thalis (Sydney)

Philip Thalis is a registered architect and principal of Hill Thalis Architecture + Urban Projects. Recognized for its design skills and independent standpoint, the practice has a core of twelve people plus collaborators, undertaking a diverse range of project types and sizes, balancing public and private clients.

Philip's advice and expertise have regularly been sought by government and private clients, and he is a past appointee to the Heritage Council of NSW and to the Urban Design Advisory Committee reporting to the Minister for Planning. He served for nine years as Trustee of the Historic Houses Trust of NSW. Philip has also sat on a number of design review panels and awards juries.

Philip actively promotes the culture of architecture and city making, combining practice with teaching, research, conference papers and publication, public lectures, architectural criticism and expert opinion. He has lectured at universities nationally and internationally, with a particular research focus on the history of Sydney's architecture and urban development, and the architecture of the city more generally.

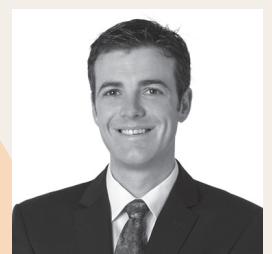


## PAUL DONEGAN

### Co-author of the Grattan Institute's first book, *City Limits: Why Australia's cities are broken and how we can fix them* (Melbourne)

Paul Donegan has helped governments tackle some of Australia's biggest social and economic challenges – as a Commonwealth and state public servant, ministerial adviser, and at the Grattan Institute. Paul is the co-author of the Grattan Institute's first book *City Limits: why Australia's cities are broken and how we can fix them*, published in 2015 by Melbourne University Press.

Paul has worked at the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Victorian Premier's department, and as the disability adviser to the responsible Commonwealth minister at the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.



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# Panellists

## ELI GIANNINI

### Director, MGS Architects (Melbourne)

Eli Giannini is director of MGS Architects. Over the past twenty-five years Eli has been responsible for the design direction at MGS and winning numerous industry awards for the practice, including the Australian Institute of Architects 2013 Frederick Romberg Award for Residential Architecture – Multiple Housing, for the McIntyre Drive Social Housing Project, Altona.

Eli brings to her work tenacity and passion for the craft of design, with a special interest in delivering housing within the social and affordable sectors of the industry and developing architectural typologies into project-specific responses. She has contributed to the profession as an RAIA national councillor and chapter president, and as chair of the Victorian Chapter Awards Task Force, the honours committee and the 2007 National Conference organizing committee. In 2008 she was made a Lifetime Fellow of the Australian Institute of Architects.



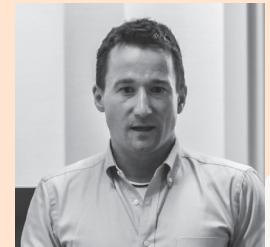
## MARCUS FOTH

### Founder and Director, Urban Informatics Research Lab; Professor in Interactive and Visual Design in the School of Design, Creative Industries Faculty at QUT (Brisbane)

Marcus Foth is founder and director of the Urban Informatics Research Lab, and Professor in Interactive and Visual Design in the School of Design, Creative Industries Faculty at Queensland University of Technology.

Marcus's research focuses on the relationships between people, place and technology. He leads a cross-disciplinary team that develops practical approaches to complex urban problems. He adopts human-computer interaction and design methodologies to build engagement around emerging issues facing our cities.

Marcus has received more than \$4 million in national competitive grants and industry funding. He received a Queensland Young Tall Poppy Science Award 2013, and was inducted by the planning, design and development website Planetizen to its list of the world's top twenty-five leading thinkers and innovators in urban planning and technology.



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# Panellists

## SHELLEY PENN

**Director, Shelley Penn Architect; Past National President of the Australian Institute of Architects (Melbourne)**

Shelley Penn is a Melbourne-based architect whose work includes strategic advice to the public and private sectors on achieving high-quality architectural and urban design for public places. Her practice has centred on residential projects.

Since 2000, Shelley has also focused on advancing public outcomes in the built environment through various roles within state, local and federal government, and through work with the private sector. She has held a number of significant positions, including 2012 National President of the Australian Institute of Architects, the inaugural Associate Victorian Government Architect from 2006 to 2010, deputy chair of the Heritage Council of Victoria from 2008 to 2012 and Chair of the National Capital Authority in 2014.

Shelley was named one of the Australian Financial Review/Westpac's "100 Women of Influence" in 2014.



## BEN HEWETT

**Director, Strategic Services NSW GAO; Adjunct Professor of Architecture at UTS (Sydney)**

Ben Hewett is the Director for Strategic Services in the NSW Government Architect's Office. In this role Ben leads the Office's strategic function, providing design advice across government and to Urban Growth NSW.

Ben was the inaugural South Australian Government Architect, operating in the role from 2010 to 2014. Concurrently, Ben was executive director of the Office for Design and Architecture SA, which implemented South Australia's highly regarded Design Review Program. Prior to this, Ben was executive director of the Integrated Design Commission, and director of "5000+", an Integrated Design Strategy for inner Adelaide. Led by the Commission, 5000+ was a national pilot project that saw collaboration between three tiers of government and industry and academia representatives, to develop a design-based vision for Adelaide.



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# Panellists

## SHANE MURRAY

**Foundation Professor of Architecture and Dean of the Faculty of Art and Design, Monash University (Melbourne)**

Shane Murray is Foundation Professor of Architecture and Dean of the Faculty of Art Design and Architecture at Monash University. He is an award-winning architect and leading academic in the field of architectural design. His buildings and theoretical projects have been extensively published and he has participated in numerous architectural exhibitions and forums lecturing on his work nationally and internationally.

Shane was artistic director of the architectural component of the inaugural Melbourne International Biennial and co-creative director of the Australian Pavilion in the 2006 Venice Biennale. He is the author of books and publications and has taught and conducted postgraduate research in architectural design with outstanding results for almost three decades.

Since 2002, Shane has been awarded research funding including a current Australian Research Council Linkage grant, as well as from The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, The Institute for Safety, Compensation and Recovery Research, and Cooperative Research Centres for projects encompassing affordable and sustainable mass housing models, transit-oriented urban design, mixed-used development typologies, and approaches to normalize the accommodation of ageing populations in their existing neighbourhoods. Shane was the 2012 recipient of the Australian Institute of Architects Neville Quarry Medal for services to architectural education.



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