

Melbourne Terrace Apartments

Address cr Franklin & Queen Streets, Melbourne 3182

Practice Katsalidis Architects (Nonda Katsalidis)

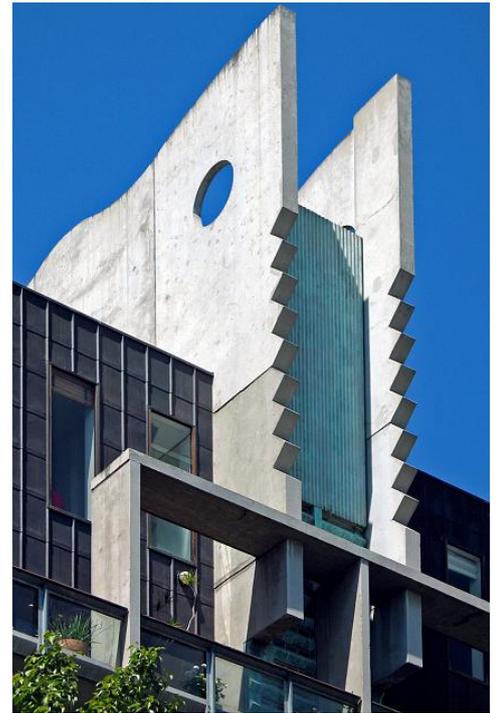
Designed 1994 Completed 1994

History & Description One of the first new apartment blocks to be constructed in central Melbourne in the early 1990s, it promoted the benefits of medium/high density city living, sparked a regeneration of its immediate locale adjacent to the Queen Victoria Market and provided a successful residential model for the city's redevelopment policies.

Katsalidis's design invokes exuberant decorative and formal effects to enrich the urban facade, using copper-etched vertical slabs, weathered copper cladding, mannered window surrounds, glass blocks, brutalist and expressive concrete forms often with serrated edges, and a highly articulated roof line.

Internally the large building bulk is divided into four discrete sections and each given a unique name, Equus, Mondo, Roma and Fortuna. This has the benefit of creating a more intimate experience for its inhabitants and also reduces the scale of the building's management and overheads. Peter Corlett's bold sculptures announce each of the building's entrances and highlight its baroque and playful qualities.

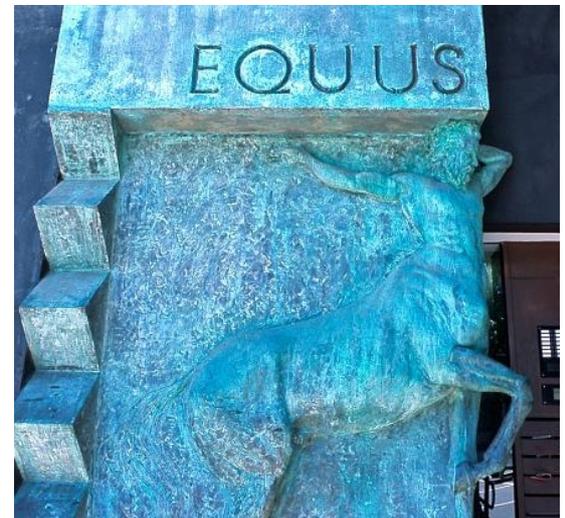
Melbourne Terrace Apartments is included in *Australian Architecture Now*, Thames and Hudson, London, 2000, pp. 200-205.



Detail at roof level. Photo by Peter Maltezos

Statement of Significance The building is significant as an early and outstanding example of the work of prominent architect Nonda Katsalidis, particularly as a precursor to his later designs for apartment blocks and larger scale work [Criteria N5]

It is also significant as an outstanding example a building informed by themes of urban consolidation, heritage and context, and the design traditions of layering, veneers, expressive composition and complex ideas of representation which were the predominant interests of the period 1980-98. [Criteria N1]



Entry sculpture. Photo by Peter Maltezos

Criteria Applicable N1 - Significant heritage value in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or period of design.

N5 – Having a special association with the life or works of an architect of significant importance in our history.



View of north elevation. Photo by Peter Maltezos



View of north west corner. Photo by Peter Maltezos