Student Architecture Awards 2020

Australian Institute of Architects NSW
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NSW Chapter President's Message

I am delighted to announce the winners of the 2020 NSW Student Architecture Awards, recognising the best student work completed last year at the four accredited schools of architecture in NSW.

The awards program from the Institute is one of the most rigorous and prestigious in the industry. Simply being shortlisted in the NSW Student Architecture Awards provides graduates and undergraduates with the recognition for design excellence that can be a stepping stone to an outstanding career.

Students should feel honoured to have been nominated and proud of their work, as it represents the excellence of student architecture for this past academic year and is an inspiration to keep on learning and refining skills.

Following the recent bushfires and floods the jury were inspired by the students’ approach to environment, regeneration and rejuvenation with many entries responding to those unique Australian challenges.

I’d like to thank our partners for their continued support of this important program, including our medal partners Mirvac Design and Bates Smart, and university prizes partners Crone Architects, fjmt and Jacobs.

A special thanks to all our jury members and the academic and administration staff of the University of Newcastle, the University of New South Wales, the University of Sydney and University of Technology Sydney.

Congratulations once again for your excellent work. I wish you all continued success in your future projects.

Kathlyn Loseby FRAIA
NSW Chapter President

2020 Jury

Michael Wiener
(Jury Chair)
Mirvac Design

Dr Angelique Edmonds
University of South Australia

Jonathon Claridge
Bates Smart

Kathlyn Loseby FRAIA
NSW Chapter President

Laura Cockburn
NSW Chapter Vice President

Tiffany Liew
Co-chair of the NSW Emerging Architects + Graduates Network
NSW Graduate Medal
A Place To Share Our Hands
Jincheng Jiang
The University of New South Wales

This thoughtful project resonated in its approach to the problem of connecting disparate people living in high density cities, often from diverse social and cultural backgrounds, where language barriers exist and preclude interaction, exacerbating the feeling of isolation.

The project looks beyond how we connect through language alone, exploring how communication and social interaction can be established through the process of sharing and observing the movements and activities of hands.

With careful placement of buildings and their openings, windows and framed views, the resolution of the intimate to progressively public spaces enables passive or introverted observation through to more socially extroverted and interactive performance spaces. Importantly, the placement of these urban rooms is connected to the surrounding context, responding to existing active edges, view corridors and movements across the site while also creating places of sanctuary from the ‘busyness’ of the city.

The jury was impressed by the narrative created with thoughtful diagrams, study models and drawings that were evocative of the concept and demonstrated a deep connection to the project, depth of rationale and research. This journey was fully realised in the well refined architectural expression of the buildings and urban spaces that provide a competent solution to the question of human connection and belonging in our cities.
Kalaluk is an ambitious project which presents the many benefits that meaningful engagement of the local Aboriginal community can have in understanding their histories and shaping their environments.

Impressively, this project involved extended student engagement with Tibby Quall of the Dangallaba Clan, Arnhem Land Elders including Dulcie and Daughter Rhonda, conservationist Graham Kirby and anthropologist Bill Day.

Kalaluk demonstrates that latent site narratives can be revealed through these important conversations with the local community and that architectural design processes have the potential to incorporate First Australians’ voices.

Beneath, Beyond is a rich and evocative graduate project which demonstrates the value of thorough research and analysis, not only of a site but of the broader cultural, social, political and historical environment within which the proposed development is to occur.

The project, located at Booderee National Park near Jervis Bay, has brought together the natural, the Indigenous and the nuclear history of the site successfully and seamlessly as a thought provoking journey through interlocking spaces evoking consideration of what was and contemplation of what could be.
Shucks presents an ambitious vision as ‘the world’s first Oyster remediation plant’, to transform Newcastle from a languishing coal port to a future Port of Service.

This vision is delivered through interventions of both spatial and environmental systems design, harnessed to work symbiotically with seasonally adjusted architectural form. Carapace shells from landfill transplant the foundations of an artificial reef, which in turn instigates the seasonal cycle of the plant.

Thoughtful planning of a sequence of natural processes in the spawning, nurturing and harvesting of oysters underpin the ecological services these activities provide, as oysters filter the water, cleanse the harbor of pollution, and once shucked the shells provide construction materials for anticipated development of the area.

The project demonstrates a mature approach to the brief, and a high standard of accountability with respect to the environmental footprint of the proposition.

The video communication of the scheme provided a compelling narrative sequence of process, grounded in significant contextual analysis and leveraging ecological processes attuned to seasonal circumstances.
NSW Undergraduate Commendation

Next Goal

Qing Yan
The University of Newcastle

This imaginative project seeks to re-engage the local community with an underutilised sports and recreational facility, while strengthening the physical connections across the city.

Set within the National Park Sportsground in Newcastle, the project proposes a hybrid typology of elevated pathways and programmed spaces, set above the floodplain and carefully arranged around the existing sports fields and pedestrian and bicycle paths that traverse the site.

Through the use of physical models, hand sketches and engaging cutaway sections, the proposal demonstrates a thoughtful exploration of ideas, integrating water management infrastructure, sports and recreational activities, and public spaces to create an engaging multilayered community facility.

NSW Undergraduate Commendation

Re-Framing Sofala

Jenny K Lin
The University of New South Wales

The project seeks to rejuvenate the historic town of Sofala with a new cultural facility. Composed of two main pavilions, the buildings form both a gateway to facilitate a gentle transitional experience for visitors and space for a town square for community gatherings and public events. It does this by understanding the village fabric, landscape and topography, weaving these elements into a highly resolved outcome.

The art gallery addresses the main street forming a built edge. Glazed walls front the natural realm engaging with the environment and opening to the landscape to bring nature into the facility. The tectonics, relationship to the natural environment as well as the character of the spaces are given life through the quality of the renderings and drawings.
NSW Architectural Communication Award

Stitches

Grace McLean
The University of Newcastle

Stitches proposes a new urban green metabolism in which waste and stormwater treatment are decentralised and integrated with their surrounding context. The outcome reconfigures the relationship between waste and society from an outdated linear throughput model to a more transparent, circular and coexistent model.

Given the challenge this proposition presents to accepted suburban centralised and ‘invisible’ waste water treatment systems, the communication of the proposition is vital to overcome public scepticism and potential resistance.

Responding to this challenge, the video presentation provided a compelling narrative of the ecological systems, using evocative imagery and strategic sequences, which demonstrate a mature approach utilising design as advocacy to raise awareness of the use and remediation of water in domestic living.

The decentralised system treats and disposes near the source while integrating public program. As such it highlights and reframes a public utility system process previously relegated ‘out of sight’, as a holistic ecological process to be witnessed and integrated within the daily life environment.

The insertion of public program provides the catalyst for engaging greater public awareness and daily interaction with sequences within waste water processing – ultimately highlighting the need for greater awareness and action to ensure sustainable water management.
The jury was unanimously impressed with this challenging and powerful provocation to reframe words through technology.

The strength of Or, Any, If, May: A Text of Two Cities lies in its advocacy that we acknowledge and address the extent to which the words contained within legislation are powerful delineators of boundary, deployed as technology.

The work analysed legislation, drew out specific potent recurrent terms and then presented a screenplay as a technical section of the city, to highlight and expose the manner in which words within policy and legislation, are applied in technical ways that underpin and constrain the deployment of spatial boundaries and the places of occupation they delineate.

This work challenges the expectation that technologies must always be considered and presented as drawings of systems and physical matter.

The highly innovative proposition illuminates that the structure and construction of text act alongside the technical resolution and detailing of legislation as powerful spatial forces imposing both opportunity and limitation, dependent upon their application.

The provocation challenges us all to reconsider the agency of legislation and policy in shaping our cities.
This project reimagines, reinvents and reinterprets one of Sydney’s most iconic public spaces – Circular Quay – in a challenging, dynamic and thought-provoking way. Located on the western side of the Quay at the site of the Overseas Passenger Terminal, the proposal’s conceptual underpinning and the resolution that flowed from it were particularly impressive.

Located opposite from the terminal, the high platform and grand stairs of the Sydney Opera House were designed with influence from Mayan pyramids, aiming to “free and raise buildings and people above everyday life”. Extending this narrative, ‘Immersion’ proposes an inverted monumental gesture – a playful counterpoint to a site seeming to call for an iconic object.

‘Immersion’ displays a progressive approach to the way people in this reimagined public domain would interact with and experience the natural environment, which they are unable to do so at present. It encourages a return of a largely privatised waterfront to the community by addressing the existing impediments to public access to the foreshore and harbour. ‘Immersion’ reflects the aims and purpose of the prize in expressing on a grand scale – with imagination and lyricism – the possibility of a reimagined space and the opportunities that flow from that. The jury is very pleased to award ‘Immersion’ the inaugural Brian Patrick Keirnan Prize for 2020.
Although we must strive to limit the impacts of climate change, there are some realities that may no longer be reversible. Carrington Living With Water presents a future in which we not only learn to adapt to these realities, but in which we learn to thrive.

The proposal takes the industrial suburb of Carrington and transforms its streets into a network of biodiverse waterways, and its warehouses into new housing typologies, storage for shared cars, or compelling artefacts within a verdant landscape.
Rafiq Azam Travel Bursary

Rafiq Azam Travel Bursary (RATB) was established in 2010 by architect Rafiq Azam and Bangladeshi Architects in Australia (BaA) to enable students to gain architecture experience in Bangladesh.

The bursary provides an excellent opportunity for Australian-based students to study under architect Rafiq Azam and his team in Bangladesh and visit local projects by renowned architects such as Louis Kahn, Paul Rudolf and Mazharul Islam.

Winners

Annie Murphy, The University of Newcastle

Samuel Jones, The University of New South Wales

Finalists

Antoine Portier, The University of Sydney

Layla Stanley, The University of Sydney
University Prizes

The University of New South Wales

Graduate of the Year (Bachelor's program)
Natalie Ho

Graduate of the Year (Master's program)
Jincheng Jiang

History & Theory Prize
Nailah Masagos Zulkifli

Construction & Practice Prize
Natalie Ho

The University of Newcastle

Graduate of the Year (Bachelor's program)
Jye Whyte

Graduate of the Year (Master's program)
Thomas Byard

History & Theory Prize
Emilie Winter

Construction & Practice Prize
Annie Murphy
University Prizes

The University of Sydney

Graduate of the Year (Bachelor’s program)
Rachel Liang

Graduate of the Year (Master’s program)
Xiaoxi Tan

History & Theory Prize
Alvin Hui

Construction & Practice Prize
Jake Boydell

University of Technology Sydney

Graduate of the Year (Bachelor’s program)
Ho Kyeong Kim

Graduate of the Year (Master’s program)
Grace Louise Dwyer

History & Theory Prize
Sarah Choo

Construction & Practice Prize
Farah Rehman

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Graduate Project

A Place To Share Our Hands

Jincheng Jiang
The University of New South Wales
Graduate Project

How Not To Die: A Guide to Student Wellness

Harry Joe Kealy
The University of New South Wales
Graduate Project

Learning in Complex-city

Tany Tan
The University of New South Wales
Graduate Project

Threshold Conditions: An Immigration Detention Centre

Samuel Jones
The University of New South Wales
Graduate Project

Waterloo Commons

Viswesh K Warrier
The University of New South Wales
Graduate Project

Along the Baaka

Bryce Lamers
The University of Newcastle
Graduate Project

Beneath, Beyond

Janani Premchand
The University of Newcastle
Graduate Project

Insight, In Mind

Annie Murphy
The University of Newcastle
Graduate Project

Kulaluk

Tom Byard
The University of Newcastle
Graduate Project

A Bricolage of Infrastructural Turned Museum Typologies

Karin Ke
The University of Sydney
Graduate Project

A Return to Nature: The Rejuvenation of the Pyrmont Incinerator

Layla Stanley
The University of Sydney
Graduate Project

Beyond Perspective

Tammy Xiaoxi Tan
The University of Sydney
Graduate Project

Immersion

Antoine Portier and David Cadena
The University of Sydney
Graduate Project

Aesthetic Atmospheres

Kevin Chuang, Enoch Chiu
and Chin Fai Chon
University of Technology Sydney
Graduate Project

Infectious Stains: Inhabiting the Algae factory

Jingjing Liu, Sajida El Sayed
and Joana Pericas Escale
University of Technology Sydney
Graduate Project

Or, Any, If, May: A Text of Two Cities

Dana Marjan
University of Technology Sydney
Graduate Project

Two Halves: Quality, Control

Jack Cooper & Luka Enstrom-Gibb
University of Technology Sydney
Undergraduate Project

Falling Leaves, Crouching Rocks

Zhirong Zhu
The University of New South Wales
Undergraduate Project

Re-Framing Sofala

Jenny K Lin
The University of New South Wales
Undergraduate Project

SAG: Sofala Art Gallery

Chuyi Song
The University of New South Wales
Undergraduate Project

Stair and Steps

Boyong Lu
The University of New South Wales
Undergraduate Project

The Perimeter: Urban Stage

Natalie Wing Sum Ho
The University of New South Wales
Undergraduate Project

Healing

Idayu Burhan
The University of Newcastle
Undergraduate Project

Next Goal

Qing Yan
The University of Newcastle
Undergraduate Project

Shucks: Oyster Remediation Plant

Patrick Green
The University of Newcastle
Undergraduate Project

Stitches

Grace McLean
The University of Newcastle
Undergraduate Project

Cube

Darrelyn Nguyen
The University of Sydney
Undergraduate Project

Episode D.

Leanne Letong Meng
The University of Sydney
Undergraduate Project

Fold
Rachel Liang
The University of Sydney
Undergraduate Project

Inhabited Topography

Maddie Gallagher
The University of Sydney
Undergraduate Project

Endless Eden

Lanping Sun, Xiang Yan and Runze Wang
University of Technology Sydney
Undergraduate Project

Fabricated Ecologies

Bridget Rosic and Marcela Dounis
University of Technology Sydney
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Leisure’s Generation

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The Pantry

Susannah Moore & Thomas Rogers
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