

# SEEKING RESONANCE: THE LIFE- ARCHITECTURE OF GREGORY BURGESS

15 September – 19 October

Melbourne School of Design  
Masson Road, University of Melbourne  
Parkville Campus, Parkville 3010

Free - no bookings necessary

Gallery hours:  
Monday to Saturday, 10am-4pm

Presented by the Melbourne School of Design, Robin Boyd Foundation and Avington Merino.

[msd.unimelb.edu.au/events/alumni-survey-series-greg-burgess](http://msd.unimelb.edu.au/events/alumni-survey-series-greg-burgess)

The Melbourne School of Design is proud to announce our last 2022 Dulux Gallery show, an Alumni Survey Series exhibition that explores connections between design, place and soul, Seeking Resonance: the life-architecture of Gregory Burgess.

For over 50 years, Greg Burgess has explored architecture as a way to move into a deep relationship with client, country, and purpose. He sees it as an inner and outer path to materialise spaces and buildings filled with meaning and spirit. The process is highly collaborative, relying on deep listening as well as being iterative, handmade, and experimental.

The resultant building – an animated, responsive presence rather than an object – emerges through the third space of encounter and, in turn, converses with sky, with country and with those who meet it.

For Greg, there is a correspondence between the seeking self and a building's capacity to gesture, speak and resonate. He sees inner work and connection of body, soul and spirit as key elements to enable creative presence. Life and work can then be filled with the drama of challenge and also open to generative, playful responsiveness.

Since the start of his practice in the 1970s, this work has been at odds with the prevailing trajectories of Australian architecture. These trajectories have, by and large, excised the supernatural world from iconic capital and thinly disguised bare-faced economics.

But this is not to say that this body of work lives off vague notions of sunlight struck on concrete, nor is it devoid of technical innovation.

Greg's work is particular to ideas of place, circumstance and community – both tangible and intangible. This exhibition evidences an architectural approach that materialises spirit and finds spirit in the material. Hence, it is an exhibition that should not be seen as a collection of retrospective objects in a gallery.

This exhibition is a snapshot across time, a tapestry created from a fluid and living archive, an archive that suggests a desire for new narratives in Australian architecture. An archive that, free of dogma and ego, demands attention.

The models, sketches, drawings and images in this exhibition are gifts and invocations that suggest new potentials in architecture.

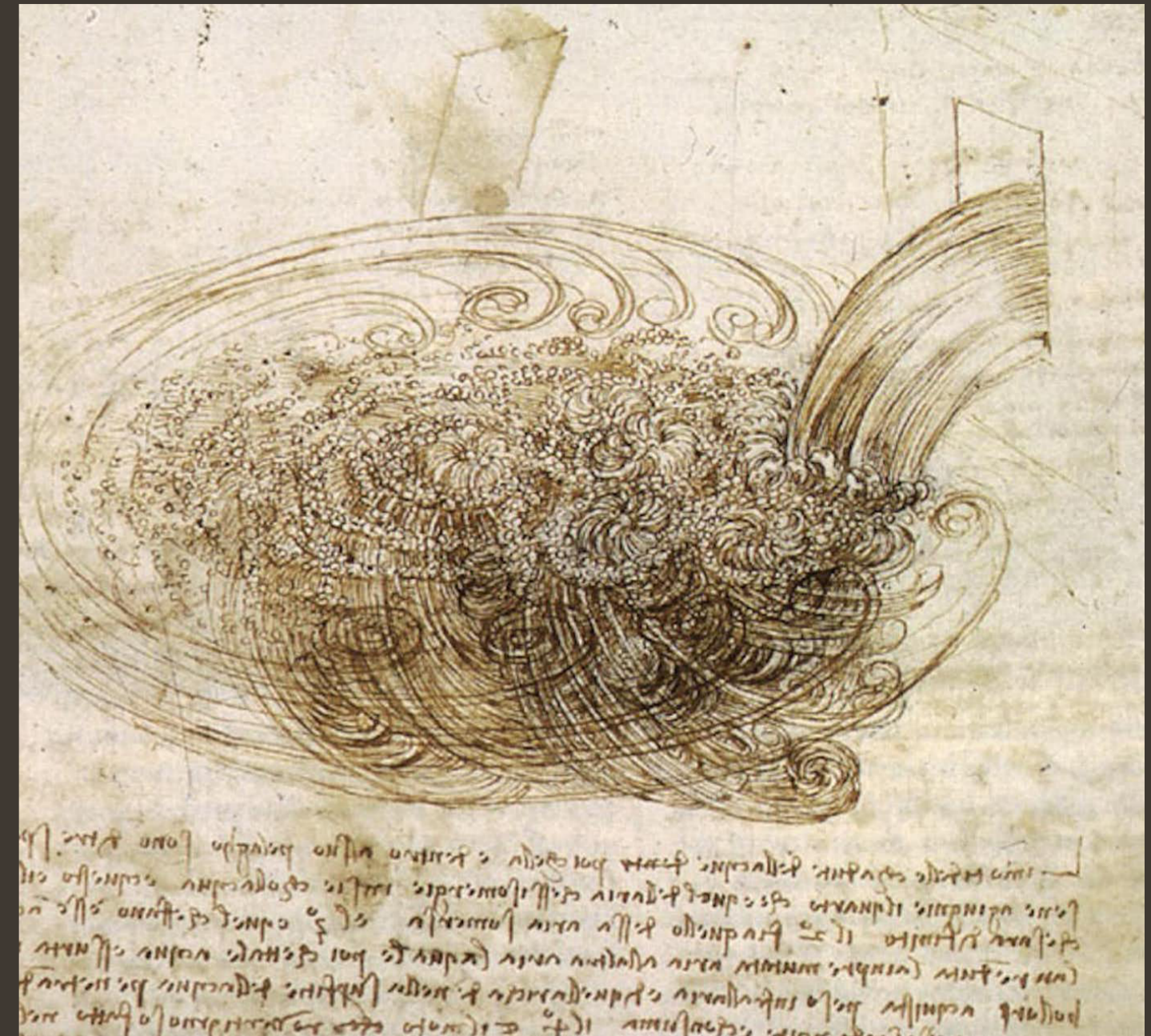
Such possibilities are all the more urgent at a time when architectural theory and practice appear exhausted in the face of crisis.

In offering up the gift of these different worlds, this is an exhibition that suggests how we might reclaim the world itself.

Greg Burgess  
Tanya Coburn  
Kirsten Day  
Peter Raisbeck

September, 2022

## EXHIBITION PARTNERS



Leonardo da Vinci, Studies of Turbulent Water, Royal Collection Trust/© His Majesty King Charles 2022



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS KNOWLEDGES

The University of Melbourne, established on the traditional land of the Kulin nation, is a community that aspires to participate in the creation of a diverse and harmonious nation. Our aim is to bring greater benefits to the Indigenous people of Australia through education and research, and to do so by involving Indigenous people in those endeavours.

On behalf of the University of Melbourne, the collaborators to this exhibition acknowledge:

- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the original inhabitants of the continent.
- Recognise their loss of land, children, health and kin, and the erosion of their languages, culture and lore and the manifold impacts of colonisation; and
- Australia will only become a mature nation when the past is acknowledged so that the present can be understood and the future confidently based on the mutual recognition of aspirations and rights.
- The University records its deep regrets for the injustices suffered by the Indigenous people of Australia as a result of European settlement.
- The University also acknowledges and sincerely regrets any past wrongs carried out in the name of the University which have caused distress to Indigenous Australians.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visitors are advised that the exhibition may contain images, names and voices

of people who have died.

More specifically, some of the projects presented here may have cultural sensitivity, such as images of people, artworks and other community contributions.

At the time, these projects were undertaken in a spirit of deep collaboration and with the appropriate permissions of that time. Greg Burgess Architects and the collaborators of this exhibition uphold the need to be sensitive to, and recognise, First Nations knowledge in contemporary architectural archives. It is thus important to acknowledge First Nations' knowledge and their indispensable contribution to the resulting projects in this exhibition.

The following councils or services may be contact points about the use of images from the projects featured in the exhibition, which include images of people and artwork, together, of course, with the sketches and notes of Greg Burgess Architects.

- Central Lands Council – Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre, 1990-1995
- Northern Lands Council – Yothu Yindi Garma Cultural Centre (unbuilt work), 2010
- First Nations Legal and Research services:
  - Deakin National Indigenous Knowledges Education Research Innovation (NIKERI) Institute, formerly Institute of Koorie Education, 2011
  - Brambuk Living Cultural Centre, Gariwerd, 1985-1990
  - Native Title Services NSW – Joulni Keeping Place, Lake Mungo, 2005.

## PUBLIC PROGRAM

7pm 21 September 2022

### IN CONVERSATION WITH GREG BURGESS

Featuring David Tacey (LaTrobe University), Kirsten Day and Peter Raisbeck (Melbourne School of Design)

B117 Theatre Basement, Glyn Davis Building Melbourne School of Design Masson Road, University of Melbourne Parkville Campus, Parkville 3010

Free – bookings recommended

12pm 29 September 2022

### GALLERY FLOOR TALK WITH GREG BURGESS

Dulux Gallery Ground Floor Glyn Davis Building Melbourne School of Design Masson Road, University of Melbourne Parkville Campus, Parkville 3010

Free – bookings recommended

12pm 12 October 2022

### GALLERY FLOOR TALK WITH GREG BURGESS

Dulux Gallery Ground Floor Glyn Davis Building Melbourne School of Design Masson Road, University of Melbourne Parkville Campus, Parkville 3010

Free – bookings recommended

Bookings via Eventbrite  
[www.eventbrite.com.au/o/melbourne-school-of-design-37111362723](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/melbourne-school-of-design-37111362723)

## GBA COLLABORATORS

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Adrian Stanic  
Alice Belamy  
Alissa Turner  
Alwyn Williams  
Andre Konarski  
Andrea Damarell  
Andrew White  
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Anne Butler  
Anne-Marie Walsh  
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Arturo Ruiz  
Ben Wrigley  
Benedikt Josef  
Bill DeBrun  
Bill Goodwin  
Bruce Kirkman  
Charles Salter  
Chien Mei Wong  
Chris Clinton  
Chris Palmer  
Chris Rodda  
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Sue Dugdale  
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Tom Duffy  
Tom Hubert  
Tony Green  
Tony Hampton  
Trevor Mein  
Viet Tuan Pham  
Volker Maegdefrou  
Wendy Li

William Goodwin  
Zoe Malinova

The communities and individual clients who contributed their understanding of place, country, culture, needs and aspirations to the design process

The consultant teams, builders and technical experts who helped realise these designs.

If you were involved with GBA and your name is not here, please let us know at [gba@gbarch.com.au](mailto:gba@gbarch.com.au).

For this exhibition

With appreciation for your inspiration, enthusiasm, creativity, expertise and persistence

Ahmad Abas  
David Leggett  
Dujana Kapisiz  
Emily Cox  
Guy Walker  
James Maguvin  
Jet Bakker  
John Ford  
Lyndsay Henderson  
Michaela Prunotto  
Monica Santoso  
Noel Henderson  
Norman Day  
Peter Schroeder  
Phil Muir  
Sizhen Wong  
James Neil  
Tim Isaacson  
Tobias Horrocks

Special collaborators  
Gabor Jakus  
Kirsten Day  
Peter Raisbeck  
Philippa Knack  
Sara Brocklesby  
Stephen Hennessy  
Tony Isaacson





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Stobus '95