

Nothing could have been better.

“Perfect ... there’s nothing that could have been better” Dr David Middleton, senior veterinarian at the Australian Wildlife Centre, Healesville

MvS Architects is a globally recognised, award-winning and widely published architectural practice based in Melbourne in its fifteenth year of practice.

We undertake a variety of project types, and have well developed expertise in delivering public buildings up to \$5m; have completed design and documentation on projects valued up to \$40m; and master-plans for projects over \$100m in value. Recent projects have focused on social and economic development through cultural heritage strategy, creating buildings with extensive interpretive content with environmental and ecological themes. Our buildings have been constructed in sensitive locations, have significant landscape components and have incorporated the highest level of sustainable design practice.

MvS Architects approach each project as a unique set of problems

and opportunities requiring a tailored and innovative approach. We work closely with our clients and consultants to find exemplary solutions that are not always obvious. The MvS Architects’ design methodology emphasises both extensive research and engagement with all project stakeholders. Our designs consistently surprise and delight our clients and their constituents.

MvS Architects has advanced capabilities in Computer Aided Design, Building Information Modelling and Digital Fabrication. We have an online office manual through which we administer procedures to assure quality and meet our obligations under the BCA, the OH&S, WorkSafe and DDA Acts. We hold Public Liability insurance of \$20m and Professional Indemnity insurance of \$5m.

MvS Architects has received awards from the Australian

Institute of Architects for the Victorian College of the Arts Centre for Ideas, Southbank in 2004, the Australian Wildlife Health Centre, Healesville Sanctuary in 2006, Wattle Avenue House, Mildura in 2012 and for Edithvale Seaford Wetlands Discovery Centre, Edithvale in 2012.

MvS Architects has twice been the recipient of the Premiers Design Award, 2008 for the Australian Wildlife Health Centre and second in 2012 for the Edithvale Seaford Wetlands Discovery Centre.

In 2015 the St Arnaud Street Museum, which we developed with Maudie Palmer AO, received a commendation for Community Engagement in the National Local Government awards and in the same year our project for the Alice Smith School, in conjunction with iPartnership.LCW, was awarded the PAM Category 13 Gold award for collaboration.

Public Buildings.

We have been in the business of designing public buildings since 2000 approaching each project as a unique set of problems and opportunities requiring a tailored and innovative approach. Amongst our public clients we count The Victorian College of the Arts at Melbourne University, Melbourne Water and Zoos Victoria. We have also conducted studies for Places

Victoria, the Department of Treasury and Finance, the Mildura Rural City Council, RMIT University and Deakin University. We work closely with our clients and consultants to find exemplary solutions that are not always obvious. Our design methodology emphasises both extensive research and engagement with all project stakeholders. Our designs consistently surprise and delight our clients and their constituents.



Centre for Ideas 2001

Containing library and teaching spaces around a circulation void this project connects the disparate schools of the Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne University. A unique architectural language was

developed to embody the ambitions of the college and create a new address for this famously successful pedagogy. Winner of the 2004 RAIA award for institutional architecture.



Australian Wildlife Centre 2006

Encapsulated within its zoomorphic facade this facility is arranged around a central public gallery space below a ventricle like ceiling. Here visitors can learn about Australian Wildlife species

and observing them under the veterinary care of Sanctuary's vets. Winner of the 2006 RAIA William Wardell Institutional Award and the 2008 Premier's Design Award for Cultural Architecture.



Edithvale Seaford Wetlands Centre 2012

Managed by Melbourne Water and sited in the RAMSAR listed Carrum Carrum wetlands, this project provides immersive educational material on wetlands while providing views of the flora and

fauna beyond. Winner of the 2012 AIA Public Architecture Award, the 2012 MBA Award for Sustainable Construction and the 2012 Premier's Design Award



Wattle Avenue House 2011

This is a building of and about Mildura. The addition is designed to validate the vernacular to which it attached and by which it is surrounded. Its occupants, Stefano de Peiri and family are the city's

most famous hosts. This is a public building in every sense, visited by many and continually attracting comments from local pundits. Winner of the 2012 AIA award for Residential Alts and Adds.

Urban Design.

Our work is underpinned by urban design. Our projects, large or small, are designed to improve their physical, environmental, demographic, cultural and economic context. In many instances this achieved through the vehicle of a specific urban design or master-planning

commission and we count as clients in this area Zoos Victoria, Melbourne Water, Places Victoria, The City of Geelong, Nakheel, TDIC, The Dehan Group, the Shengjing Group and the Department of Treasury and Finance.



Edithvale Masterplan 2004

This master-plan proposed a series of methods through which the public could gain direct experience of the RAMSAR listed Edithvale Seaford wetlands, the remaining portion of the Carrum Carrum

downs wetlands. The wetlands is managed by Melbourne Water who commissioned this master-plan to set in place the framework for better public access and understanding its flora and fauna.



Geelong Botanic Gardens 2010

This visitor precinct master-plan creates a strongly defined place of arrival to welcome visitors to the park and gardens and convey key information within an atmosphere that underscores the value of these

great public assets thus enhancing the gardens' strong community role and its primary role is to hold plant collections for the purposes of conservation, education, research and display.



Melbourne Docklands 2003

VicUrban, now Places Victoria, commissioned MvS to prepare urban design 'frameworks' visualising potential futures for Melbourne Docklands. Utilising three-dimensional visualisation

tools and urban design skills and the work was used to market precincts to potential developers and were also realised as physical models for public exhibition and comment.



Super Yacht City 2011

Two million square metres of luxury residential and marina development forty minutes fast train ride due east of Beijing and located in and around the mouth of the Tanghe river this project is comprised of

two iconic towers, a winter-garden mall, town houses, villas, luxury hotels, an international ferry terminal, a cultural centre and 1,000 marina berths.

Education.

We count amongst our clients in the educational sector the University of Melbourne, Deakin University, RMIT University and the Alice Smith School. Also our projects for Melbourne Water and Zoos Victoria perform non-curriculum based educational functions.

For a number of different project types we have addressed briefs containing complex mixes of public function, research facilities, teaching spaces and administrative offices all required to address the needs and ambitions of the university executive, facilities managers, colleges, departments and students to create cohesive learning and research environments.



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New Academic Street 2013

An new library, student services and public concourse form the heart of this extensive remake of RMIT's major Swanston Street building. Additional teaching and library spaces, flexible learning spaces,

facade upgrades, fluent circulation spaces and a wholly reinvented public realm will be key features of this major upgrade when it opens in 2015. Designed in conjunction with Lyons Architects and others.



Union Hub 2002

Containing a new Media Centre, Union facilities and the Student Information Hub this project was designed to provide for growth in student facilities and to improve linkages between the Bowen Street

and Swanston Street. This project will be superseded by the New Academic Street. Winner of the Australian Campus Manager's Association Award for best Facility Renovation, 2002.



Alice Smith School 2013

In conjunction with the KL firm iPartnership we have been engaged to rethink the masterplans of this school's primary and secondary campuses. The first stage of works include a new administrative

building, a science wing, a maths wing, an outdoor cafeteria, information centre, uniform shop, parent cafeteria and the re-planning of the morning drop-off areas. Due for completion in 2014.

Multi-Residential.

Since 2007 we have undertaken a series of projects of a residential nature. Our house for Stefano de Pieri and family picked up an architecture award and was featured on the 'Sacred Spaces' TV Series. We redesigned an apartment in, and the foyer of, the Hero

Apartments. Included here is also multiple-housing project which encapsulates some of what we learned during schematic design of the Swanston Square project for Grocon on 2008.



Datum Regalia

A Mixed used development in Shah Alam, Malaysia, layered with cultural motifs that defined an architectural language, key to driving the project and development branding. The ground level network

of lanes with island tenancies allowed for the program to be interspersed loosely across the site with vertical movement between podium and landscape. between private and public areas.



Swanston Square Student Housing

Sited between Melbourne University and RMIT University, this residential development was designed to appeal to a high demand for tertiary student accommodation and meeting Grocon's ambitious

sustainable design, social well-being and innovative design criteria. The project was wholly designed before the client sold the site to an alternate developer in mid 2014.



59a Bourke Street

Inspired by a recent trip to Tokyo we considered this an ample site and proposed a 21 apartment supported youth living complex to be funded by rental from a ground floor retail tenant and a 140m2 office above all

access by a lift to the rear of the site and resolves an eyesore in the street. This project addresses a shortage of housing for underprivileged youth in the Melbourne CBD and creates an enigmatic piece of architecture.



Curzon Street Housing 2009

The project embodies in an interest in the dependence of society on the behaviours of individuals within it. One third of the site is given over to publicly accessible space. The building's height of 14m is

defined by what can be comfortably accessed by stair. Two flights allow access to the first two levels above ground, with the upper level of duplexes having an internal stair to their upper bedrooms.

Commercial.

Our commercial clients include an airport development company, retail and commercial developers, government departments, retail chains, construction companies and an advertising company. In delivering services to them we create unique solutions to their

needs paying particular attention to their clients enabling us to tailor their products to their markets, their environments to well-being and productivity, and to create built assets that express their histories and strategic aspirations.



Hevea Tower

The aim of this project was to translate LGM's vision and its enterprising character into a building with lively and hospitable working conditions that would stimulate identity, efficiency and

collaboration. The 17 storey tower will function as the LGM Corporate Office comprising a day care nursery, police station, gym and a cafeteria. The building will perform as a one stop centre for the user.



CUB Building Three

This commercial office building was designed for a tenant on behalf of Grocon, the site's developer. The building is designed to maximise floor space within a 'T' shaped sectional planning envelope by

testing the limit of floor level extensions beyond the boundary line on the eastern edge of the site and by developing a construction methodology which allowed for large cantilevering of levels 3-10.



CUB Lobby

The lobby is defined by a series of stacked and varied recycled timber batons leading to a double height void which provides views to and from the public rooms on the mezzanine. The northern end

of the upper level incorporates an extensive internal winter-garden to capture the northern warmth for employees at and between work.



Atkar Showroom

About the product and of the product, the design puts the material through its paces in a dynamic interior that foregrounds the theatricality and diversity of the product in a small and function

space. Atkar signature acoustic panel with holes is treated as a base for creating patterns and images.

Retail.

Our retail experience ranges from single cafe in Melbourne's Docklands to the planning of a mega-mall on reclaimed land in a marina development in Qinduandao. Many of our educational projects now have retail components as did the mixed-use development that we prepared schematic design for on Swanston

Square for Grocon. Our work for the Sugar Station chain required the development of a robust design language to provide brand consistency over an eclectic set of locations while meeting the constraints of high traffic shopping.



Super Yacht City 2011

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iconic towers, a winter-garden mall, town houses, villas, luxury hotels, an international ferry terminal, a cultural centre and 1,000 marina berths.



Cafe Bourgeois 2010

This idealised three dimensional space imprints on the cafe walls an other worldly quality - a backdrop for glowing displays, the relentless warmth of the polished joinery end-grain and the resilient reception

of the rich Marmoleum colours underfoot while a gargantuan post-Riley op-art ripple swirls across two walls, up onto the roof and down across the floor, effecting a continuous architectural synthesis



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Sugar Station 2007-2011

These shops and kiosks are designed to work within the constraints of Westfield, GPT, and QIC retail developments while having distinct design details setting them apart from other kiosks. The

confectionary range is wide and the stores have complex joinery systems incorporating popcorn machines, ice-cream fridges, drinks fridges, pucker powder dispensers and candy-floss machines.

Hotels.

During the schematic design phase of the Swanton Square project in 2008 we undertook a rigorous investigation of planning of multi-unit accommodation for a boutique student hotel project that Grocon were developing. Prior to this we had collaborated with BAR Studios on a design for the ballroom and health club at the Bangkok Hilton. Jan van Schaik has reviewed hotels

for Inside Magazine which gave first hand exposure to some of the detailed design concerns of a high end hotel. On the back of this the bedroom we designed for the de Pieri family home was modelled around a hotel model. We have also secured the commission, yet to begin, for the design of a 5 star hotel in PJ Sentral in Kuala Lumpur in collaboration with a local Malaysian firm.



Millenium Hilton Club 2003

Designed in collaboration with BAR Studio the project includes expansive gym facilities and a yoga studio which expands from indoors to an outdoor aquatic stretch deck. Luxurious change rooms with

spa and sauna are complemented by an exclusive lounge for health club users and a climate controlled sanctuary café overlooking the hotel swimming pool and the Chao Praya River.



Millenium Hilton Hall 2003

Designed in collaboration with BAR Studio the fit-out of the 'function pavilion' in the low rise wing of the hotel focused on facilities for, conferences, balls and weddings. The ballroom space is designed with

a water theme. The hotel's riverside location suggested a ceiling of giant water lilies mirroring the constellation of large round tables beneath leaving a sense of a luxurious underwater garden.



Swanston Square 2007

Located on the corner of Swanston and Queensberry Streets at the northern end of Grocon's exciting new Swanston Square development, this building will provide the important Swanston Street address

to the project. During the concept design phase we investigated a number of different multiple-residential types, including a significant number of boutique student accommodation models.



Eco Hotel 2011

This 10,000 room eco hotel in Ji County takes the form of giant circle nestled into a scenic valley. Within are enclosed winter gardens, rivers and a transport network. A lookout tower provide a view of

the complex, and the great wall beyond. The brief was to come up with a design which allowed the commercial ambitions of the client and the ecological ethics of the local government to co-exist.

Art Spaces.

We have been working with artists and arts administrators at design and governance levels for over 12 years. Recently we have designed a series of exhibitions in collaboration with curators. Art occupies a necessarily privileged place in a gallery. To support this architecture must recede. However, through our

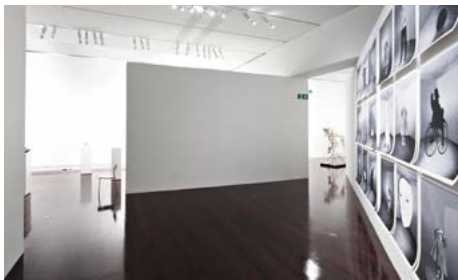
work with curators we have been developing ways of enhancing the themes and ambitions of curators and galleries in a more spatially explicit way but without disturbing the importance place that art occupies in our cultural institutions.



We used to talk about love at AGNSW 2012-13

Curated by Natasha Bullock this contemporary Australian photo media exhibition explores themes of love. Our proposal required re-configuring the Franco and Amina Belgiorno-nettis and Family

Contemporary Galleries, not altered since construction in the 1980s. Works included by Polly Borland, Eliza Hutchison, Paul Knight, Angelica Mesiti, David Noonan, David Rosetzky and others.



Parallel Collisions at AGSA 2012

Curated by Alexi Glass and Natasha Bullock for the 2012 Adelaide Bienale, our design spatially engaged with curatorial ambitions. Works included by Foster & Berean, Marco Fusinato, Daniel Crooks,

Shaun Gladwell, Ricky Swallow, Pat Brassington, Rob McLeish, Cook vs Max Pam, Tim Silver, Timothy Cook, Stephen Bram, Richard Bell, Rosemary Laing, Tom Nicholson, Jonathan Jones and others.



Star Voyager at ACMI 2011

Curated by Emma Mcrae and Sarah Tutttton this ticketed show explored themes of outer space in various mediums. Our design for the display of this large collection of objects and footage draws explicitly from the

motifs of space. Works included by Peter Hennessey, David Lamelas, Gene Roddenburry, Stanley Kubrik, Fritz Lanf, Georges Melie, Ridley Scott, and Danny Boyle.



DiSotM at Gertrude 2011

Curated by Alexi glass, Simon Maidement and Emily Cormack for the 2010 Melbourne Festival this exhibition was designed to comfortably display a large number of works in a small space.

Circulation was planned to frame the viewer as the viewed. Works included by Ulla von Brandenburg, Saskia Olde Wolbers, Bas Jan Ader, Mel O'Callaghan, Jeremy Blake and Joachim Koester.

Art Works.

We have been working with artists for over a decade. Paul Minifie is a member of the public art acquisition committee of RMIT University, Jan van Schaik was deputy chair of Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces for six years and is now the chair of Creative Spaces which curates and develops affordable space for the

creative industries in the City of Melbourne. Jan is also an advisor to Regional Arts Victoria's Small Town's Transformation project and a board member of Palimpsest, Mildura Art Biennale. Below are a few of the projects we've done with artists.



Overlogo 2003, with Lou Weis

7,000 play pen spheres which coalesced into a 1980's tram ticket. Yearning for a time when trams were patrolled by conductors who carried leather purses and ticket punchers OverLogo attempted to

'validate' the city by putting a dark and grimy laneway on the map. This was achieved in spectacular fashion in 2007 when Coporation Lane, its popularity accelerated by OverLogo, was renamed AC/DC Lane.



Over and Over 2009, with Julia Gorman

This public artwork, developed and documented for artist Julia Gorman, is the rear public face of the Esplanade Apartments in St Kilda by Becton. The work is an array of powder-coated steel

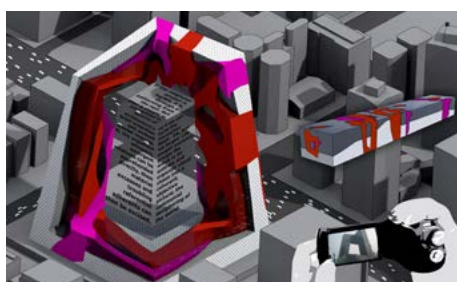
profiles extracted from photographs of ruined Grecian statues brought back life by vibrant powder coated colours. The figures give an optimistic sense of a crowd of individuals holding up the building.



Scandinavian Freestyle 2013, with Fiona Abicare

Developing a language of materiality in relation to the formal qualities and styles present, this foyer redesign for a building of 140+ residents is activated by natural light and spatial and material

interconnectivities. Fabric, hard plaster, custom built furniture and artworks were designed to enhance the experience of 'entry' and the functions of seating and mail retrieval.



Streaming Houses 2010

This project proposes engagement with an audience by correspondence with its experience of how things work in the world. It embodies an empathic relationship between the becoming of the architectural object,

and the becoming of the viewer, thus proposing an architecture found through emergence. Manifest as a series of images and objects the project was exhibited at the 2012 Beijing Art Biennale.

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