

MONUMENT ⁵⁷

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

GLOBAL ROAMING

ZAHA HADID

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2003
AUD\$16.45 [INC GST]
NZ\$17.50 [INC GST]
RMS\$29.90
PRINT POST APPROVED
PP 233867 00013

ISSN 1320-1115



9 771320 111004

SKIN DOCTORS LYONS IN KYNETON
URBAN COMPOSITION GRAHAM JAHN
TOUGH TOWN CONCRETE ART
GIFT WRAPPED BKK PRESENTS TOORAK
LONG WHITE CLOUD ARCHITECTS PATTERSON

CONTENTS ISSUE 57

SITE

- 018** UPFRONT
- 020** PROFILE Marcel Wanders
- 022** POSTCARD Berlin (Libeskind, Scharoun, Mies van der Rohe, Foster)
- 024** RENEWAL Green Square Town Centre, Sydney
- 026** SPACE Prada, Tokyo; Tilbury Hotel, Sydney; Hello Ticket AMIT, Rome
- 032** DESIGN Caravan Project, Katy Wallace, New Zealand; This Is A Magazine, Milan
- 036** EXHIBITION acmi {{ park }}, Melbourne; 20th Century Style: Furniture, Adelaide; Seasons: The Beauty Of Transience In Japanese Art, Sydney

FEATURES

- 042** THE FUTURIST Zaha Hadid has recently completed two more substantial buildings on different continents to wide critical acclaim
- 050** WORKING MODEL A new gallery/residence project in inner-city Sydney by Jahn Architects challenges the conventions of living and working
- 058** GIFT WRAPPED Recalling Boyd and Seidler houses of the 1950s and '60s, BKK has created a tailor-made residential solution for its clients
- 064** SKIN DOCTORS Lyons' Kyneton Hospital near Melbourne continues to develop its exploration of surface and expressive skin in an institutional context
- 072** REFLECTING THE TIMES The School of Education at ECU in WA embraces the institution's culture by expressing the academic spirit of the times
- 078** CLOUD FORMATION Gaining inspiration from the sky, New Zealand-based Architects Patterson's Cumulus evokes the land of the long white cloud
- 086** URBAN ARTEFACT Ruins of Ancient Rome found on a urban renewal site provide a rich design context for a new hotel by King & Roselli Architetti
- 092** BACK TO THE WALL Concrete walls make the ideal canvas for a group of artists in WA to comment on the role of art within the Fremantle community
- 096** YOUNG AT HEART The newborn Valencia Biennial in Spain upstages the staid Venice Biennale in Italy, making for a vibrant exhibition environment
- 100** SUSPENDED ANIMATION The new temporary pavilion by Oscar Neimeyer at the Serpentine Gallery in London appears to hang suspended in space

REVIEWS

- 104** CONFERENCE Beautiful Minds; Gerard Reinmuth reviews this year's RAA National Conference, curated by Creative Director Ian Moore
- 106** EXHIBITIONS Stephen Bram, Liberty Tower, Melbourne
- 108** BOOKS Steven Holl *Architect*; Alvar Aalto; *The Yokohama Project: FOA*; *Merz To Emigre And Beyond*
- 110** BATHING BEAUTIES MONUMENT showcases a selection of the best contemporary and classic bathroom hardware designs
- 112** CALENDAR
- 114** HINDSITE Martyn Hook interviews Jeffrey Kipnis, at the premiere of his film *A Constructive Madness* as part of the Melbourne International Film Festival

BEAUTIFUL MINDS

Leading the proceedings as Creative Director at this year's RAI National Conference, Engelen Moore's, Ian Moore delivered a well-crafted series of lectures and workshops from a diverse selection of emerging architects. MONUMENT contributor and local architect, Gerard Reinmuth gives an insight into the atmosphere of the event.

"Because of our different cultures, the word "nature" means completely different things to you and I ... therefore ... I do think that we can communicate with each other." Waro Kishi

THUS, JAPANESE ARCHITECT Waro Kishi dismissed a question on "nature" from a conference delegate and provided one of the few sparks of debate over two days of presentations and discussions about architecture at the 2003 RAI National Conference: Imagining Architecture held in Sydney, late May.

However, this was not a traditional 'industry event', where debate is eschewed as a rule and the only critical measure is the flow of wine and the networking of potential business opportunities. For although, debate was yet again avoided, this was not a reflection of weakness within the collection of speakers. Success, in this case, was measured by the level of optimism that such an inspired selection of speakers could create and the discussions that resulted between delegates, both during and after the event.

Imagining Architecture had a different ambience to the generic conference experience (with perhaps the exception of assorted professionals in their Sunday gear wearing brightly coloured registration tags). For this was the first time the RAI National Conference had been curated by a Creative Director. Ian Moore of Sydney-based practice Engelen Moore, was the person assigned the task of pulling off this first attempt at the new format. He did an admirable job, securing the future of the role for what I hope will be many years to come. Perhaps his only crime was in setting the bar so high for next year's CD, Kerstin Thomson of Kerstin Thompson Architects, Melbourne.

What was most interesting about this year's speakers' list, however, was that I suspect the final line-up was quite different from the CD's initial wish list (as with most conferences in the Southern Hemisphere). As I understand it, some of the "big names" confirmed their non-attendance as the date approached. Yet, Moore was able to respond with a final line-up comprised solely of "emerging architects" – an unusual and brave move even if forced by circumstance. The result was, in my view, a more vibrant and stimulating selection than earlier shortlists, providing one of the most interesting groups of architects to grace our shores for years.

The two days of talks unfolded in what was – in hindsight – an extremely logical order. University of

Melbourne Professor of Architecture (also editor and publisher of *UME*), Haig Beck, in an introduction, made the point that the first day's speakers exhibited a strong interest in structure and engineering as a foundation for their work. And that this might be the most significant strand to link these practitioners to Moore's own background and interests. In Christian Sumi's (of Swiss-based Burkhalter + Sumi Architekten) refined detailing, Wes Jones' (of United States-based Jones Partners Architecture) container constructions, New Zealander Chris Kelly's Architecture Workshop projects and Spanish architect Inaki Abalos' recycling plants, both engineering and architecture were dominant themes. Abalos presented the most interesting of the day's presentations, indicating how a young "avant-garde" practice could achieve commercial success via such a prosaic building type as the recycling plant.


It was this dominance of structure and detail on the first day that perhaps made the second day's talks significantly more interesting. As the day unfolded, "engineered" works gave way to humour, intuition and art. Kishi set the tone for this in the morning session, commencing his lecture with a delightful and humorous tour through Asian cities, illustrating architectural and urban issues of particular interest to him. And, in an interesting move, often using less than exceptional works to illustrate particular points. This attempt to cross the cultural divide between his own context and the local condition suggested a generous character who's work is imbued with a lightness of touch and character not at first apparent from images of taut steel constructions and internalised spaces.

London-based architect Adam Caruso of Caruso St John Architects expanded the boundaries further. Starting his talk with the presentation of a paper he had written comparing and contrasting Fountains Abbey in the United Kingdom and the Van Nelle Factory in Holland, he made some interesting connections across which to explore architectural practice. Poetry, circumstance and delight were uncovered as key drivers for structural and constructional concerns, as Caruso gradually unfolded the theme of Imagining Architecture to a new level.

Melbourne-based architect Sean Godsell provided some serious punctuation in the early afternoon, with a talk that exhibited – more than any other presentation – the power inherent in single-minded vision and the bloody-minded determination to implement it. Godsell's

presentation was a truly impressive effort, and, as the only 'local', he represented his country well.

The last presentation was by Rick Joy of Rick Joy Architects in the US. He perhaps provided the best pointer of any speaker as to the nature of a conference featuring young architects, all who were "emerging" and who were yet to truly pin down their argument. After an excellent presentation, showing a dozen or so beautifully conceived and well-crafted houses, Joy concluded with a comment that individual architectural expression was "dangerous". The fact that he did so while standing in front of a massive image of one of the most beautiful, most expressive projects presented over the two days – his Casa Jax in the Sonoran Desert, Arizona – exposed all that is interesting about being a young architect, and about hearing other young architects speak.

Joy's level of denial about his own work is a conceptual slippage that will be ironed out over time, as his presentation becomes smoother and more well oiled. And this was the privilege and joy of the conference – to hear exploratory presentation from practitioners still finding their way, while they have an agenda to talk about and as they are still 'imagining architecture'. 

Gerard Reinmuth is an architect, writer and Sydney-based partner of Reinmuth Blythe Balmforth TERROIR

- 01 Pro/Con Package Home project, Wes Jones
- 02 Wes Jones
- 03 Wood Pavilion, Burkhalter + Sumi Architekten
- 04 Peregrine Winery, Gibbston Valley, Chris Kelly
- 05 Chris Kelly
- 06 Environmental Education Centre, Tenerife, Inaki Abalos
- 07 Inaki Abalos
- 08 Hu-tong House, Waro Kishi
- 09 Waro Kishi
- 10 Walsall City Art Gallery, Caruso St John Architects
- 11 Carter/Tucker House, Sean Godsell
- 12 Sean Godsell
- 13 Casa Jax, Rick Joy

