

**Richard Blythe**

Dean and Professor of Architecture  
RMIT University  
School of Architecture and Design

**Professional Profile**

Dr Richard Blythe is Professor in Architecture and Dean, Architecture + Design at RMIT University, Australia and Visiting Research Professor, Queen's University, Belfast. He has achieved \$6.8M in research funding. In 2015 Richard received \$498,000 in funding from the Australian Office for Learning and Teaching (first tier Australian research funding) for the Design and Architecture Practice research grant (DAPr), a collaboration between 15 Australian Universities. From 2010 he has led the establishment of the RMIT Practice based Research PhD program in Europe and Asia and was the primary author and lead researcher for the successful 2013 €4M EU Marie Curie ITN grant ADAPT-r, a collaboration between RMIT and six European Universities. Richard is currently an Advisory Board Member for the Ashgate Publishing's Design Research in Architecture Series and a review editor for Routledge and the European on-line journal JAR. He has served as a member of the Australian Deans of the Built Environment Executive Committee. In 2011 he was the recipient of a prestigious Velux Professorial fellowship, Aarhus School of Architecture in Denmark. Richard was a founding director of the architecture practice Terroir and Company Director until 2012 and continues to contribute to the Terroir team.

Richard served as Chair of the Australian Institute of Architects National Education Committee from 2005-2011 and his most important achievements in that role were: leading the development and adoption of the AIA Research Policy; implementing and refining the AIA's Education Medal, now known as the Neville Quarry Architectural Education Prize. Richard's academic passion is creative practice, developing approaches to creative practice research and in building communities of creative practitioner researchers.

Prior to taking up his position at RMIT Richard lectured at the University of Tasmania for 14 years where he served as Deputy Head of the School of Architecture and was the Vice Chancellor's representative on the Tasmanian Government's Building and Construction Industries Council. During 2000-2001 Richard served as President of the Society of Architectural Historians Australia and New Zealand.

## Education

2009, Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Design/Practice-based Research, RMIT University  
 1998, Master of Architecture (Research), History of 20th Century Australian Architecture, University of Melbourne  
 1988, Bachelor of Architecture (BArch), Tasmania State Institute of Technology  
 1986, Bachelor of Environment Design, Tasmania State Institute of Technology

## Employment History

2012 October – present, Dean, School of Architecture and Design, RMIT University  
 July 2007 – September 2012, Head of School, Architecture and Design, RMIT University  
 1999 – 2012, Founding Director, Terroir Pty Ltd, Hobart, Sydney, Copenhagen  
 (Richard Blythe founded Terroir with Scott Balmforth and Gerard Reinmuth. Richard is still a co-owner and collaborator with the Terroir team)  
 January 2000 – June 2007, Deputy Head School of Architecture, University of Tasmania

## Industry/Academic Roles

### Current

Member, Design and Social Context College Executive, RMIT University  
 Member, ADAPT-r Executive Board, European Union Marie Curie Initial Training Network  
 Chair, Executive Board, Design and Art Practice Research Grant, Office of Learning and Teaching, Australian Government  
 Member, Australian Institute of Architects (AIA)  
 Registered Architect, Tasmania, Australia  
 Visiting Research Professor, Queen's University, Belfast  
 Advisory Board Member, Ashgate Publishing Design Research in Architecture Series  
 Review Editor, Routledge  
 Review Referee, Journal of Artistic Research, Europe  
 Reviewer, The Journal of Architecture, U.K

### Past

2011 - 2015 Executive Committee Member, Australian Deans of Built Environment and Design (ADBED)  
 2015 Panel member, Scientific Committee, *Creative Practice Conference: Making Research, Researching Making*, Aarhus School of Architecture, Denmark  
 2015 Panel member, University of Tasmania National Accreditation Visiting Panel, representing the Board of Architects of Tasmania  
 2013 - 2015 Member, Academic Board, RMIT University  
 2014 Panel member, Master of Architecture Reviews, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Industry/Academic Roles  
(cont.)

2011 – 2010 Chair Australian Learning and Teaching Council Discipline Scholar Advisory Panel – Architecture and ADBED representative on the Discipline Scholar appointment panel

2011, Velux Professorial Fellow, Aarhus School of Architecture, Denmark

2011 – 2005, Chair Australian Institute of Architects Education Committee

2009, Panel Member, AIA Neville Quarry Architectural Education Prize

2009 – 2005, Panel Member, AIA Student Prize for the Advancement of Architecture

2008, Panel member, Architecture Programme Review, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

2008, Adjunct Professor, School of Architecture and Design, University of Tasmania

2008 – 2005, Panel member, AIA National Lysaght Scholarship

2007 – 2006, Contributing editor, Architecture Australia

2007 – 2005, Panel member, AIA Architectural Education Prize

2007 – 2004 Chair AIA National Research Policy Implementation Sub-committee

2006, Chair AIA/AACA National Accreditation Panel, University of Auckland

2006, Chair AIA/AACA National Accreditation Panel, University of Technology Sydney

2006, Chair AIA Student Biennale

2006 – 1999 Chapter Councillor Tasmania, AIA

2004, Chair AIA/AACA National Accreditation Panel, University of Western Australia

2002, Chair AIA/AACA National Accreditation Panel, University of Newcastle

2001 – 2000, President, Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand

Theses

2009. Blythe, R. "A Terroir of Terroir (or a Brief History of Design-Places)." *RMIT University, Melbourne*. Doctor of Philosophy.

1998. Blythe, R. "Sydney Wallace Thomas Blythe 1905-1985, Architecture & Educator." *University of Melbourne*. Master of Architecture (Research).

## Grants

2013. Blythe, R., Verbeke, J., Pedersen, C. J., Heron, K., Zupančič, T., Valk, V. and Stuart, S. *Architecture, Design and Art Practice Training research (ADAPT-r)*, €4M EU Marie Curie ITN grant. European Commission.

2015. *Design and Architecture Practice research (DAP-r)*, \$498,000 grant. Australian Office for Learning and Teaching.

## Patents

Forthcoming. R. Blythe, P. Minifie, N. Williams, J. v. Schaik, S. Mitchell, A. Thomas, J. Burry and D. Prohasky. *Penumbra: A Façade Concept*. IP Australia.

## Book chapters

Forthcoming. "An Epistemology of Venturous Practice Research." J. B. Sequeira. UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Forthcoming. "Validation of Creative Works Outputs." Brussels.

2015. "The Design Studio: Some Constellational Aspects." In *Studio Futures*, edited by Bates, D., Mitsogianni, V., and Ramirez-Lovering, D., 109-124. Melbourne: Uro Publications.

2015. "RA 88: Knowledge and Design Practice Research." In *Perspectives on Architectural Design Research*, edited by Moloney, J., Smitheram, J. and Twose, S., 68-72. Germany: Spurbuchverlag.

2013. "Thinking about Architecture, Thinking about Architects: 2000-2008 Ideograms by Leon van Schaik Explained." In *Ideograms*, by Schaik, L. V., 99-100. Melbourne, Lyon Housemuseum.

2013. R. Blythe and L. V. Schaik. "What if Design Practice Matters?" In *Design Research in Architecture*, edited by Frazer, M., 53-69. UK: Ashgate.

2012. "Topological Errors in Creative Practice Research: Understanding the Reflective Hinge and the Reflective Gap." In *Good Practices Best Practices*, edited by Boutsen, D. Antwerp: EPO.

2011. "Thinking About Architecture Thinking About Architects." In *By Practice, By Invitation: Design Practice Research at RMIT*, by Schaik, L. V. and Johnson, A., 38-40. Melbourne: onepointsixone.

2007. "Architecture Models (Terroir)." In *Homo Faber: Modelling Ideas*, edited by Mina, A., Downton, P. and Fairley, A. Melbourne: Museum of Melbourne.

2007. R. Blythe, G. Reinmuth and S. Balmforth, "Terroir: Tolmans Hill House and Liverpool Crescent House." In *Living the Modern: Australian Architecture*, edited by Perren, C. and Ring, K. Germany: Hatje Cantz Verlag.

2007. "Modernism in Tasmania: Identity, Ground and the Cosmopolitan." In *Living the Modern: Australian Architecture*, edited by Perren, C. and Ring, K., 31-34. Berlin: Hatje Cantz.

2007. "Symposium Excerpt Part Three: On Complexity." In *Terroir: Cosmopolitan Ground*, by Balmforth, S. and Reinmuth, G. Sydney: DAB Documents.

2007. "Designing Ground." In *Terroir: Cosmopolitan Ground*, by Balmforth, S. and Reinmuth, G. Sydney: DAB Documents.

Book chapters (cont.)

2007. "On Models." In *Terroir: Cosmopolitan Ground*, by Balmforth, S. and Reinmuth, G., 164-165. Sydney: DAB Documents.

2006. "The Idea of Town: Structuring of City Space in a Nineteenth Century Colonial Town." In *The Geography of Law: Landscape, Identity and Regulation*, edited by Taylor, W., 125-136. London: Hart Publishing.

Journal articles

2011. "Glide: Design, Indeterminacy and the Specificity of the Contingent." *Journal of Artistic Research*. Accessed 31 March 2016. <https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/?weave=1077>

2000-2001. "The Architect's Mythical Sketch." *Architectural Review* 074 (Summer): 012-015.

2000-2001. "6=9." *Monument* 39 (December-January): 108.

2000. "Magic Realist Tendencies in Architecture?" *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Art* 1 (1): 92-104.

2000. "The Cataract Gorge Launceston: Wilderness and the Aesthetic Landscape." *Habitus*, Perth, Australia.

2000. "Then and Now South Bank: Life on the River Bank." *Architectural Review* 073: 082-087.

2000. "The Dressing and Re-Dressing of the Cataract Gorge Launceston." *Portraying Landscape*, Alexandria, USA.

1999. "Cultura Ecologica E Soglia Architecttonica." *L'Architettura Naturale* 4/99: 4-5.

1997. "Science Enthusiasts: A Threat to Beaux-Arts Architectural Education in Australia in the 1950's." *Fabrications* 8 (July): 117-128.

1996. "The Architecture of S. W. Blythe 1930-1950: Re-Assessing Early Modern Architecture in Hobart." *Fabrications* 7 (August): 99-112.

Conference papers

2014. "RA 88: Knowledge and Design Practice Research." Paper presented at the *Architectural Design Research Symposium* hosted by New Zealand Institute of Architects, in association with the Venice Biennale. Venice, Italy: 20-21 November.

2007. "Reflections on Reflecting: An Archaeology of Reflective Design Practice or Research in the Medium of Design." Paper presented at *RIBA Research Symposium*. London, UK: RIBA.

2004. "...an elegant system of marks..." in the work of terroir." Paper presented at *The Grimoire of Architecture: a symposium on the architectural drawing and the work of Marco Frascari*. Louise Laybourne Smith School of Architecture, University of South Australia.

2002. "Wilderness in the Garden: The Development of an English Garden Typology and its Influence on the Establishment of the Cataract Gorge Pak in the Antipodes." Paper presented at *Additions to Architectural History*, 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand (SAHANZ), Brisbane.

2001. "The Idea of Town." Paper presented at *In the Making: Architecture's Past*, 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of SAHANZ, Darwin.

Conference papers (cont.)

2000. "Wild Cities/Urbane Wilderness." Paper presented at *Formulation Fabrication: The Architecture of History*, 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of SAHANZ. Wellington, New Zealand.

1999. R. Blythe and R. Spence, R. (eds.). *Thresholds: Proceedings of the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of SAHANZ*, Launceston and Hobart.

1998. "Delusion or Delight? Robert Morris-Nunn and the Elastic Space of Memory." Paper presented at *FIRM(ness), commodity, DE-light? Questioning the Canons*, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of SAHANZ, Melbourne.

1997. "Monumental Change: The Post-War School Architecture of S. W. Blythe." Paper presented at *On What Grounds?* 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of SAHANZ, Adelaide.

1997. "Putting People Back in the Architectural Picture: A Prerequisite for a Sustainable Future." Paper presented at *Designing Eco Solutions*, Catalyst '97 Conference, Canberra.

1996. "Planning Education: The Establishment of the Diploma of Town Planning Course at the Hobart Technical College." Paper presented at *The Australian City – Future/Past*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian Planning History/Urban History Conference, Melbourne.

Exhibition catalogues

2014. "Caught Unawares." In *Augmented Australia – Regenerating Lost Architecture: 1914-2014*, edited by Goad, P., 130-133. Canberra: Australian Institute of Architects

Commissioned reports

2013. "Australian Institute of Architects v Tasmanian Heritage Council and D and S Barnett (2013), TASRMAPT 116," 24 Illawong Crescent, Taroona. *Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal*. Hobart, Tasmanian Government.

Design Awards

2011 *World Architecture Festival (WAF) Awards*, shortlisted in Future Projects category, Statens Naturhistoriske Museum (SNM)

2010 *Alan C Walker Award for Public Architecture*, Australian Institute of Architects' Tasmanian Architecture Awards, Makers Workshop

2008 *RAIA ACT Awards Urban Design Commendation*, Canberra, Commonwealth Place Amenities: Kiosks

2008 *RAIA Tasmanian Small Projects Architecture Award*, Fish349 Function Room

2008 *Commercial Interior Design Award (Best of State)*, Fish349 Function Room

2007 Hobart Waterfront International Design Competition. One of twenty eight schemes selected for exhibition from two hundred and twenty entries. Head Judges, Carme Pinos and Wiel Arets

2007 *Kenneth F. Brown Architecture Design Awards*, Honourable Mention, Peppermint Bay

2006 *Prague National Library Competition*, stage five final sixteen projects form over four hundred entries. Head Judge, Zaha Hadid

2006 *Tasmanian RAIA Awards*, Residential New Commendation, Liverpool Crescent House

2006 *Tasmanian RAIA Awards*, Interior Architecture Commendation, Fish349 Function Room

2006 *Australian National Interior Design Awards*, Emerging Practice Award

2006 *Australian National Interior Design Awards (Best of State)*, Commercial Interior Design, Fish 349 Function Room

## Design Awards (cont.)

- 2006 *Australian National Interior Design Awards (Best of State)*, Residential Interior Design, Liverpool Crescent House
- 2006 *Australian National Interior Design Awards (Best of State)*, Commendations, Colour in Residential Interior Design, Liverpool Crescent House
- 2006 *Australian National Interior Design Awards (Best of State)*, Commendations, Hospitality Interior Design, Fish 349 Function Room
- 2006 *IDEA Awards*, shortlisted for Residential Award, Liverpool Crescent House
- 2005 *Tasmanian RAIA Awards*, Commercial Award, Peppermint Bay
- 2005 *Tasmanian RAIA Awards*, Residential New Award, Tolman's Hill House
- 2005 *Australian Tourism Awards*, Best New Tourism Development, Peppermint Bay
- 2004 *Tasmanian RAIA Awards*, Interior Architecture commendation, Peppermint Bay =
- 2001 *Tasmanian RAIA Residential Award*, Tranmere House
- 2000 *Tasmanian RAIA Interiors Award*, Masonic Club Boutique Hotel

## Exhibitions

- 2015. Blythe, R., Minifie, P. and Williams, N. "The Penumbra Project." *The Smart Flexibility: Advanced Materials and Technologies*, RMIT Design Hub, Melbourne
- 2014. Blythe, R., Minifie, P. and Williams, N. "Penumbra - Facade Concepts Prototype." *The Future is Here*, Design Museum London and RMIT Design Hub
- 2010. Blythe, R., Reinmuth, G., Balmforth, S. *Building Blocks*. Färgfabriken, Stockholm
- 2009. Blythe, R., Reinmuth, G., Balmforth, S. "86-88 George Street (Sydney)," Et Øjeblik Copenhagen. Terroir was included in Copenhagen's contribution to the largest exhibition of architecture ever held in Denmark to mark World Architecture Day.
- 2009. Blythe, R., Reinmuth, G., Balmforth, S. *Portraits + Architecture*, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra. A collaboration with John Vella and Brett Boardman, Terroir was selected amongst a group of Australian architects to participate in the exhibition exploring contemporary Australian identity through creative process. Curated by Christopher Chapman. <http://www.portrait.gov.au/site1/team-terroir.html>
- 2009. Blythe, R., Reinmuth, G., Balmforth, S. *Leon van Schaik's Ideograms*, Dessa Gallery, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 23 March - 17April. An exhibition of Leon van Schaik's ideograms, one of which referenced Terroir. The exhibition traveled to Singapore, WOHA Gallery in September and London, the School of Architecture, University of Westminster in November. Richard was the author of the exhibition catalogue.
- 2008. Blythe, R., Reinmuth, G., Balmforth, S. *Venice Architecture Biennale, Australian pavilion*. Curated by Aaron Betsky, five Terroir models were selected to be exhibited in a display of 150.
- 2007. Blythe, R., Reinmuth, G., Balmforth, S., *Out from Under: Australian Architecture Now*, American Institute of Architects San Francisco chapter. Curated by Anthony Burke, this was an exhibition of young Australian Architects 'establishing unique new trajectories in design that combine innovative material and spatial research with high quality building.'
- 2007-2008. Blythe, R., Reinmuth, G., Balmforth, S. *Living the Modern\_Australian Architecture: On the Tradition and Transformation of Modern Architecture in Australia*, by Perren, C. and Ring, K. Deutsches Architektur Zentrum DAZ, Berlin, 12 September - 11 November 2007, and the Museum of Architecture Wroclaw, Poland, 8 February - 30 March

## Exhibitions (cont.)

2006. Blythe, R, Reinmuth, G, Balmforth, S, Second Nature Exhibition, Planning and Architecture Exhibition Centre, China, October 2006. Curated by Peter Davidson of LAB Architecture Studio, the exhibition featured the work of 9 Australian practices, of which Terroir was the only practice featured from NSW and Tasmania.

2005. Blythe, R, Reinmuth, G, Balmforth, S, AAA Young Architects Exhibition. Customs House, Sydney.

2005. Blythe, R, Reinmuth, G, Balmforth, S, Mare Nostrum, 2nd International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam, International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam Committee, Rotterdam.

2004. Blythe, R, Reinmuth, G, Balmforth, S, Venice Biennale of Architecture, Gollings Pidgeon, Venice Biennale Committee. Terroir selected as one of ten Australian practices working in the public realm to feature in Australia's contribution to the Biennale. Terroir was one of three young practices from Australia to be selected, while the remaining seven practices were well-established firms.

2004. Blythe, R, Reinmuth, G, Balmforth, S, Sharedrenovation, a collaborative exhibition with Simon Ancher and Jessica Ball, Cast Gallery, North Hobart, Tasmania.



Keynote lectures/talks

- 2016 "Prospect and Hercules: history, heritage and design", Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts, Tasmania Australia
- 2015 "PhD by Practice - a reflection on the RMIT University model of practice research", Queen's University, Belfast Ireland
- 2014. ADAPT-r: Practice Based PhD Model, FH Aachen University of Applied Sciences, Germany
- 2014. "Three Orders of Design Knowledge", Design Hub, RMIT University Melbourne, Australia
- 2014. "The Ticklish Subject of Architecture", School of Architecture, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
- 2014. "Methods," keynote lecture, ARbD'14 (Fourth International Conference on Architectural Research by Design), Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém CCB, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2013 "The Ticklish Subject of Architecture", School of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2013. "The Ticklish Subject of Architecture", IAAC, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2013. "Practice Based Research at RMIT", Sydney, Australia.
- 2012. "The RMIT Model for PhDs for Practitioners" Aalto University, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2012. "Practice Based Research at RMIT", Copenhagen University, Denmark.
- 2011. "Practice Based Research at RMIT", Tallin, Estonia.
- 2010. "Glide: Design, Indeterminacy and the Specificity of the Contingent", The Barlett School of Architecture, ULC, London, U.K
- 2009. "Design Research at RMIT", School of Architecture, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 2009. "Architecture Cubed or 3x3x?: Architecture and the Space of Architecturing", Faculty of Architecture, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2008. "Architecture + Philosophy Lecture Series", BMW Edge, Federation Square, Melbourne Australia
- 2008. "Ticking toys and surface twists: architecture of the cosmopolitan", School of Architecture, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
- 2007. "Terroir: Cosmopolitan Ground - the architectural projects of Terroir", Sint-Lucas Architecture Research Seminar, Brussels, Belgium
- 2007. "Reflections on reflecting: an archaeology of reflective design practice or research in the medium of design", RIBA Research Symposium, Royal Institute of British Architects, London
- 2007. "International Cities in a Cosmopolitan World: architectural projects by Terroir", Malaysia Institute of Architects, PAM International Speaker's Series, Kuala Lumpur

## PhD Completions

### Primary Supervisor

2016. Boyarsky, N. Boyarsky Murphy Architects (BMA). Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy

2015. van Schaik, J. Guess Who is Coming Together. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy

2014. Valk, V. Steadfast in Versatility: The substrate of a multi-modal practice. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy.

2014. Winkler, B. Holding the curve - an art practice investigation. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy.

2013. Hendrickx, A. Substantiating Displacement. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy.

2013. Van Den Berghe, J. Theatre of Operations, or: Construction Site as Architectural Design. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy.

2013. Fallon, H. Metarbitrariness? Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy.

### Associate Supervisor

2016. McGlade, J. The Epiphenomenal In Architecture and a Creative Sequence. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy

2015. Kovac, T. The State of the Art of Practice in Tom Kovac's Architecture of the Real and the Virtual. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy.

2012. Granberg, E. Design as Systems of Knowledge. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Doctor of Philosophy.

2010. Banney, M. The Practice of m3architecture: the Intellectual Framework. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Master of Architecture.

2010. Lavery, M. The Practice of m3architecture: the Social Context. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Master of Architecture.

2010. Christensen, M. The Practice of m3architecture: the Managerial Framework. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Master of Architecture.

2010. Vielle, B. The Practice of m3architecture: the Relationship between Architecture and Art Practice. Architecture and Design. Melbourne, RMIT. Master of Architecture.