NEW DEAN OF ALVA

Winthrop Professor Simon Anderson has been appointed to lead the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts (ALVA) as its Dean from 2010 to 2014. His appointment follows the completion of the term of Professor Clarissa Ball who held the position of Dean since 2005.

Key objectives during his appointment will be the roll out of the University’s New Courses 2012, the internationalisation of the Faculty and the creation of a significant academic-practitioner model of University tenure.

Simon Anderson has taught and practised architecture at The University of Western Australia (UWA) since 1989. He has: won University and national awards and citations for excellence in teaching; won awards, prizes and commendations for buildings and competition designs for residential, multi-residential, institutional and industrial buildings; curated major architectural exhibitions; exhibited buildings and projects internationally; written on contemporary Australian architecture; authored expert opinions; produced competition briefs; been elected councillor of the Australian Institute of Architects (AIA) for a decade. Additionally, he has numerous and frequently been a design awards juror, design competition judge, and professional journal editor and advisor. In 1990-1992 he co-ordinated a library aid program for Ho Chi Minh City University of Architecture, Vietnam.

More recently:

His work has been exhibited at the 10th and 11th International Architecture Exhibitions, La Biennale di Venezia 2006 and 2008.

In 2007, he won the architectural competition for a world’s best practice eco-resort at Ningaloo.

He won, with ALVA Winthrop Professor Geoffrey London, the 2007 AIA Sisalation Prize.

In 2007, Sir Roger Penrose of Oxford described his (with Hassell) 2004 Gravity Discovery Centre as the ‘best science (education) centre in the world’.

In January 2008 he was Artist in Residence at the Arthur & Yvonne Boyd Centre for Australian Art.

In 2008 he edited with Victorian Government Architect and Winthrop Professor Geoffrey London the volume Housing Australia published by AIA and

NEWS

>>Venice Biennale - The team of Assistant Professor Jon Tarry (UWA), Assistant Professor Rene Van Meeuwen (UWA) and Beth George (Curtin University), are shortlisted as part of the Australian 2010 exhibition. Their work, Speciation City, explores the potential of a multidisciplinary approach in greater urban contexts.

>>Anton Garcia-Abril - The Spanish architect is presenting his current and recent works, including the internationally acclaimed Hemeroscopium and Martemar Houses, at the second annual C+A TALKS’ 10 at The University of Western Australia on 22 March 2010. While at UWA, he will also present to fourth year architecture students at ALVA.

>>ALVA’s Indonesian partnership - Late last year, Indonesian art students from the Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) embarked on an intensive art program of cultural orientation and investigation at ALVA. The aim of the project, initiated by Assistant Professor Paul Trinidad, was to offer students from Indonesia and Australia an insight into different scholarly and social cultures, creative urges and outputs.

>>ALVA in India - Hosted by the School of Architecture at the Anna University, Chennai, ALVA students worked alongside Indian and Sri Lankan students earlier this year on a project coordinated by ALVA Assistant Professor Romesh Goonewardene.

>>Milan Studio - Coordinated by ALVA Lecturer Marco Vittino and hosted by the Politecnico di Milano, Bovisa, ALVA
accompanied by a national touring exhibition.

In 2009 he was awarded The President’s Award by AIA (WA) for his outstanding contribution and support to architecture.

In 2007, Architectural Review Australia conducted a survey that called for the nomination of projects that represent the highest achievements in Australian architecture from the past quarter of a century, and the nomination of individuals who have been a significant influence in Australian architecture in the last 25 years. Simon Anderson was one of only nine architects represented in both categories.

Current architectural commissions comprise five projects in development with five projects on site.

THE NEW PERTH WATERFRONT

Winthrop Professor Richard Weller is working with Ashton Raggatt McDougall, Roberts Day, the Department of Planning and Infrastructure and LandCorp on the masterplan for the New Perth Waterfront.

For decades there has been the sustained desire to make Perth a truly waterfront city. Ideas, competitions, citizen proposals and city and state government proposals have come and gone. Now there is a real determination to make it happen.

This masterplan aims at nothing less than the fulfilment of this dream - to bring Perth down to the water, to create a place both popular and dignified, a real people place expressing the special history and character of the city and the West Australian ethos.

As a rapidly emerging world city, Perth already has thriving pedestrian precincts but none with an experience of the river that gave Perth its bucolic and industrious beginning. The masterplan will give to Perth this new waterfront address, a gateway to the river. It will complement other civic precincts and give the city a new expression of its growing identity.

The public domain is developed from a simple conceptual idea that generates the potential for a rich, complex, malleable visual language for the scheme: an animated drop of water into the river generates a complex visual array of ripples, reflections and interference patterns.

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In the masterplan this is developed into opportunities for the promenade, with variable conditions of scale, material, pattern, soft/hard landscaping, form, levels and possible programme of the edge. This generator also formalises the location of a focal point in the water, in the form of the island.

ALVA IN ITALY

Assistant Professor Jon Tarry has designed a 5.8m high sculpture for the $755 million Al Bustan Complex in Abu Dhabi. The design is based on the concept of two grains of sand carefully balancing on top of each other, where, in that moment, the world is suspended.

In November 2009, Emiliano Roia, ALVA Assistant Professor and Director of MORQ*, was invited to give a lecture at the Faculty of Architecture at the Università IUAV di Venezia. He also presented at the Italian A.ID. Identità Dell’Architettura Italiana tra Costruzione e Ricerca conference at the Faculty of Architecture, Sapienza Università di Roma.

Emiliano spoke about MORQ* projects, design methodology and recent works from Italy and Western Australia. He also showed images of work completed by his UWA students and explained the methodology underpinning his teaching.

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The faceted folding planar sculpture rises from the ground as if weightless, yet centred. The artwork will be installed later this year.

AN EVERYDAY TRANSCIENCE

Later this month is the launch of a photographical book titled An Everyday Transience: The Urban Imaginary of Goldfields Photographer John Joseph Dwyer edited by ALVA Assistant Professor Philip Goldswain and Winthrop Professor William Taylor and published by UWA Press.

Centred around the Western Australian Goldfields from 1896 to 1917, a period of rapid change and growth, Dwyer's photographs document the rise and fall of towns during the gold rush. His revealing images of townscapes, industrial landscapes, machinery and people give a historic and honest perspective, not only of the Goldfields but also the experience of transience.

Through his camera lens Dwyer has poignantly captured the material, social and psychological reality of fast changing communities.

The book includes essays by ALVA staff, Bill Taylor, Philip Goldswain, Clarissa Ball and Geoffrey London.

An exhibition of Dwyer's photography, part of the FotoFreo 2010 program, runs from 21 March to 18 April 2010 in ALVA’s Cullity Gallery. (Gallery opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm & Sun 1pm-4pm.)

The book, An Everyday Transience can be purchased from the UWA Co-op Bookshop, Boffins, New Edition and all good book stores for $59.95.

year, Boomtown 2050 by Winthrop Professor Richard Weller has been shortlisted in the 58th Annual APA Book Design Awards 2010. The final winner will be announced in May.

>>Optimus - ALVA has produced a publication titled Optimus which showcases the work of fifteen of its best architecture and landscape architecture students from 2009. To purchase a copy of this book please contact Jenny Ferguson at ALVA.

EVENTS

>>Australian Institute of Architects - Winthrop Professor Richard Weller has been invited to speak at the 2010 National Architecture Conference extra/ordinary; 22-24 April, Sydney.

>>ALVARC7 - ALVARC is the twice yearly research conference of ALVA postgraduates and staff. Speaking this year about Italian architecture at the multi-national trading post in nineteenth century Tianjin, China is Maurizio Marinelli from the University of Bristol. ALVARC7 takes place in the Cullity Gallery on 16 April 2010.

>>FotoFreo 2010 - ALVA Assistant Professor Emiliano Roia is exhibiting his photographic works titled Uno Strano Sogno as part of this year’s FotoFreo 2010 Fringe Festival Exhibitions.

ALUMNI

>>ALVA Alumni are our graduates, Members of Senate, past students, past and present staff, those awarded honorary doctorates, exchange students, guest lecturers, corporate partners, bequesters, donors, volunteers, friends and supporters of the Faculty - please email your news to Angela Reimers so that it can be included in eALVA.