

# HIGHER LEARNING

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# PREFACE

Globally, high quality education is recognised as a fundamental building block of knowledge based economies. Dramatic changes in the structure and delivery of education have been driven by the onset of information technologies and by the embrace of social and collaborative learning. In what is a highly competitive sector, the need to attract the best and brightest staff and students has impelled a greater focus on the strengthening of identity and reputation through the provision of high quality physical environments for teaching and research. Leading universities seek to articulate their responsibilities to guide cultural change through enhancing the overall quality of their campuses and research precincts.

KIRK brings over twenty years of experience to bear on the complex issues raised by the design of educational and cultural facilities. Its expertise has been shaped by projects for leading, comprehensive and research-intensive universities involving the interrelationship between high quality teaching and the outcomes of research initiatives and findings.

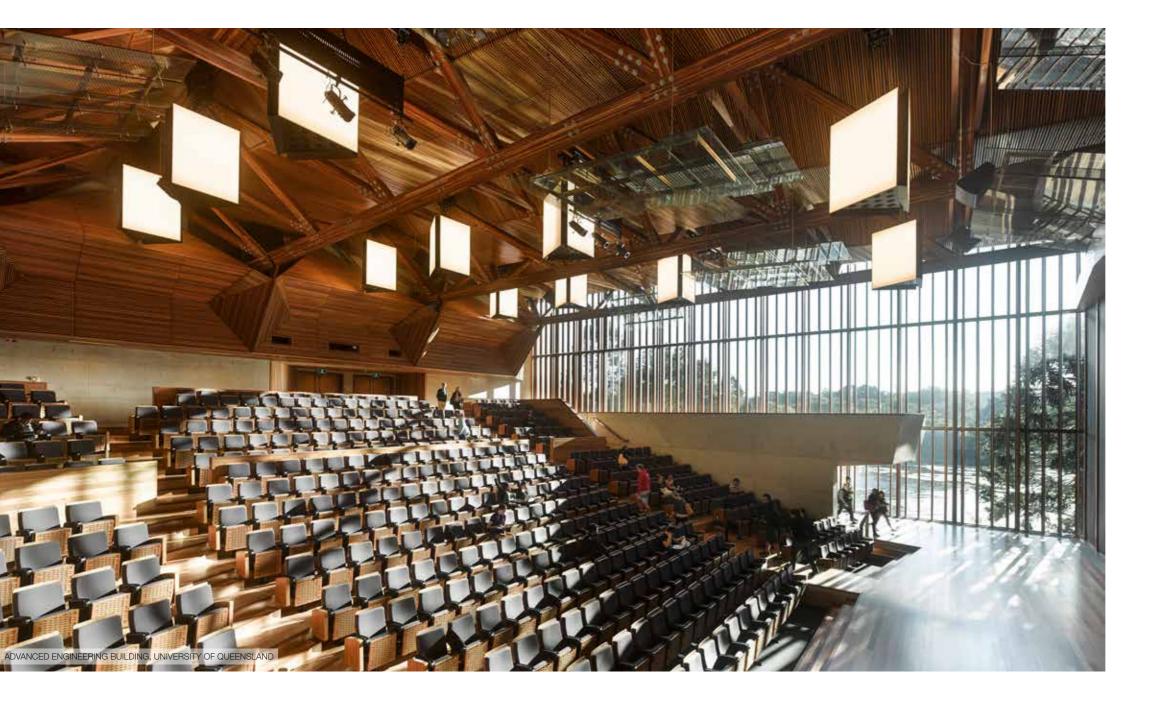
Universities and research institutions possess unique organisational frameworks and collegiate cultures. KIRK has developed open and inclusive consultation processes that involve all levels of the clients' decision and user group structures in the shaping and refinement of design proposals. Such consultation and collaboration has helped marshal more effective use of resources and the development of new forms of teaching, learning and research space.

Engaged dialogue throughout design development has helped to enhance the public spaces of sites and campus settings and to enable the resulting new facilities to strengthen the expression of the respective institution's mission and identity. The experience gained from major university projects has been deepened and extended by that acquired from related building types including learning hubs, studios, performance and cultural spaces – all offering opportunities for enriched spatial experience and the generation of innovative designs.

All projects have been underpinned by a fundamental commitment to the achievement of a high level of sustainability and environmental performance to minimise energy consumption and to best harness each project's particular physical and cultural context.

KIRK's corporate ambitions are to advance the mission of its clients through purposeful architectural outcomes – and to advance architecture.

KIRK's achievements can be measured by the generous appreciation and feedback given by clients and user groups and by the numerous awards received from the architectural profession. The receipt in 2014 of three top-ranking national architectural awards for the Advanced Engineering Building of the University of Queensland was unprecedented. Such recognition from peers provides a resounding affirmation of the achievement of a holistic architectural ethos embodying a comprehensive, innovative and adventurous response to the challenges and opportunities offered by each project.



Advocating, advancing & delivering sustainable design solutions.

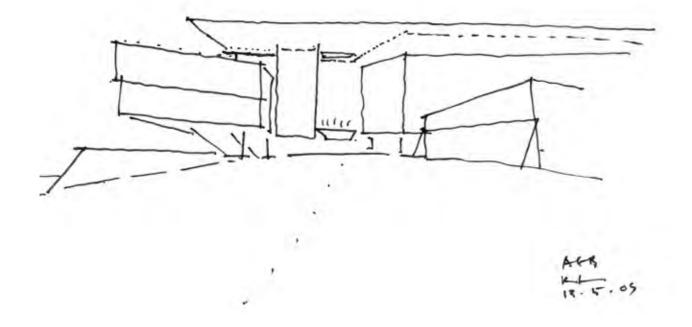
Environmental performative design creating scientifically driven designs.

# KIRK

Multiple studios using small, project focused teams.

A collaborative practice that supports, creates and explores.

Committed to making authentic buildings and places.



# KIRK was established in Brisbane, Australia in 1995 as Richard Kirk Architect. The practice has expertise in architecture, urban design and environmentally sustainable design, with studios in Brisbane and Kuala Lumpur.

KIRK has a great interest in the role that well made buildings play in the communities and environments they intend to serve.

With each project we work to make evocative places and buildings that are memorable and clearly legible in terms of how they are spatially organised and constructed.

The practice has a deep passion for developing construction methods and material knowledge to produce unique buildings that respond directly to each client, brief and circumstance.

KIRK's approach to client briefs is not only responsive but also pro-active. The diversity of projects within the practice has developed a robust design sensibility and process.

Each project has the same team leader for all phases which ensures the continual refinement of ideas and building quality and a single point of contact for the client. It is through our efforts in the planning process, attention to detail and an intimate approach during construction that fine architecture is made at every scale.

Current and recent projects range in values from \$0.2M to \$1B AUD. The diversity of projects include furniture, landscape, single residences, interior fitouts, university and school buildings, master planning, infrastructure and urban design.

KIRK utilises 3D CAD & BIM technology in each project to enable better outcomes through visualisation of our designs to clients, integration of building services and detailed design resolution.

All architectural services are produced within a Quality Assured process. KIRK has third-party certification in ISO9001.

# NTU LEARNING HUB (THE ARC) SINGAPORE

# A vibrant campus heart that promotes active social learning - a building that opens and embraces a revitalised landscape setting.

The Learning Hub is defined as a series of 'learning platforms' tuned to setting and place, allowing a multitude of futures in learning patterns, modes and technologies. Its open curves, translucency and permeability create a civic gesture at the campus North Spine, creating cross-campus links to the buildings around.

The design response transcends the cellular planning model and becomes a more effective open learning environment allowing NTU to move away from traditional, passive learning.



**PROGRAM** Lecture theatres, TEAL facilities, student hub and chillout zones, food and retail tenancies, workshop space.

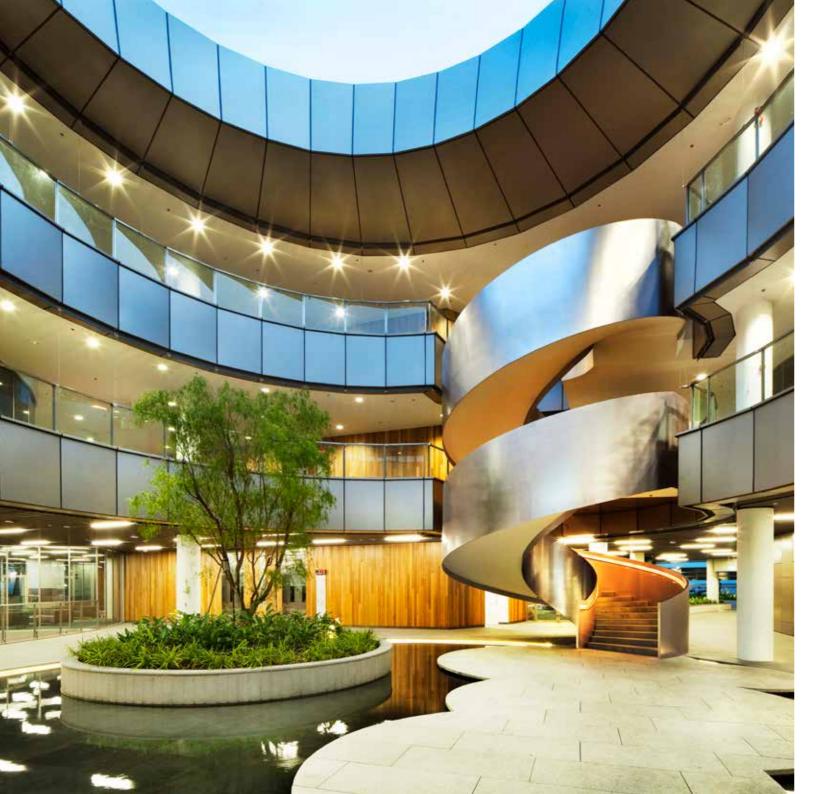
**CLIENT** Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

AREA 14,500m<sup>2</sup> GFA

COST \$43.5M SGD

**STATUS** Completed

\*Local Architects DCA Architects Pte Ltd









# **QUT CREATIVE INDUSTRIES PRECINCT 2** BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

# "The building needs no user manual, and as I suspected, the students will lead the culture in the spaces."

## Greg Jenkins

Head of Studies, School of Media, Entertainment and Creative Arts, QUT Creative Industries Faculty

CIP2 is a world class innovative creative industries facility, with twelve dedicated and inter-disciplinary studios for Dance, Music, Drama and Visual Arts. The building's key function as the new home for the creative disciplines was an opportunity to make a landmark facility for both University and community. The co-location of diverse creative disciplines provided an opportunity for the building to have a rich expression.

CIP2 is connected to the broader university and arts community via new digital technologies to facilitate the creation of an internationally networked hub of creative enterprise and cultural experience.

Re-purposed Heritage Listed buildings have been carefully restored and adjacent new works have been sensitively designed & sited.

KIRK's extensive experience with acoustic separation and structural isolation detailing is leveraged to stack the double height studio volumes vertically, maximising ground floor public and exhibition areas and provide transparency (through extensive glazing) into the dynamic dance, movement and music studios.

The CIP2 project has achieved a 5 star Green Star Design rating and is targeting a 5 star As-built rating.

**PROGRAM** Multi-purpose education facility comprising of teaching and learning spaces, office accommodation and specialist studios for the creative arts faculty (music, dance, drama and visual arts)

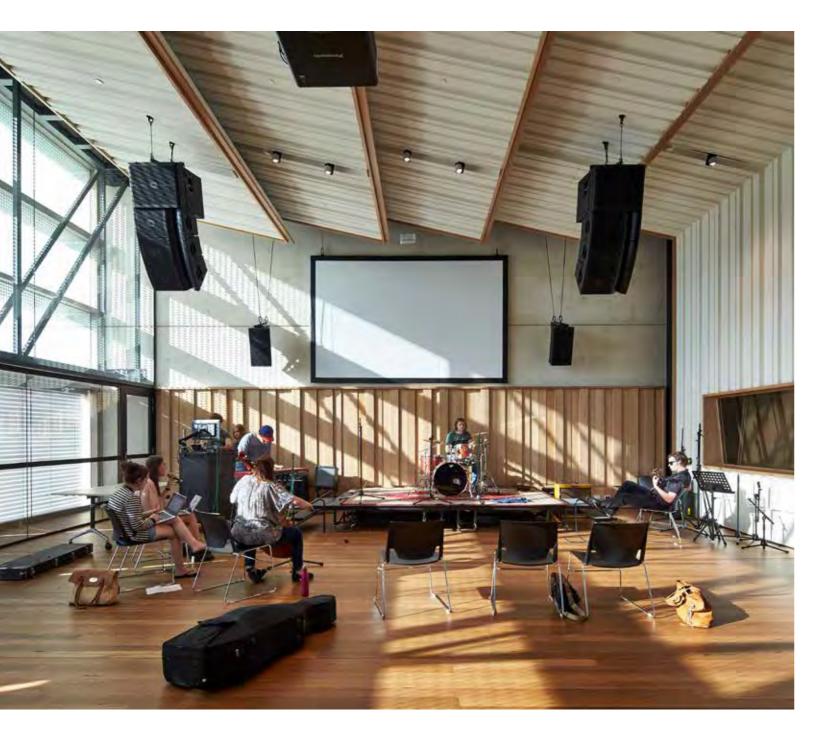
**CLIENT** Queensland University of Technology, Australia

**AREA** 12,000m<sup>2</sup>

COST \$71M AUD

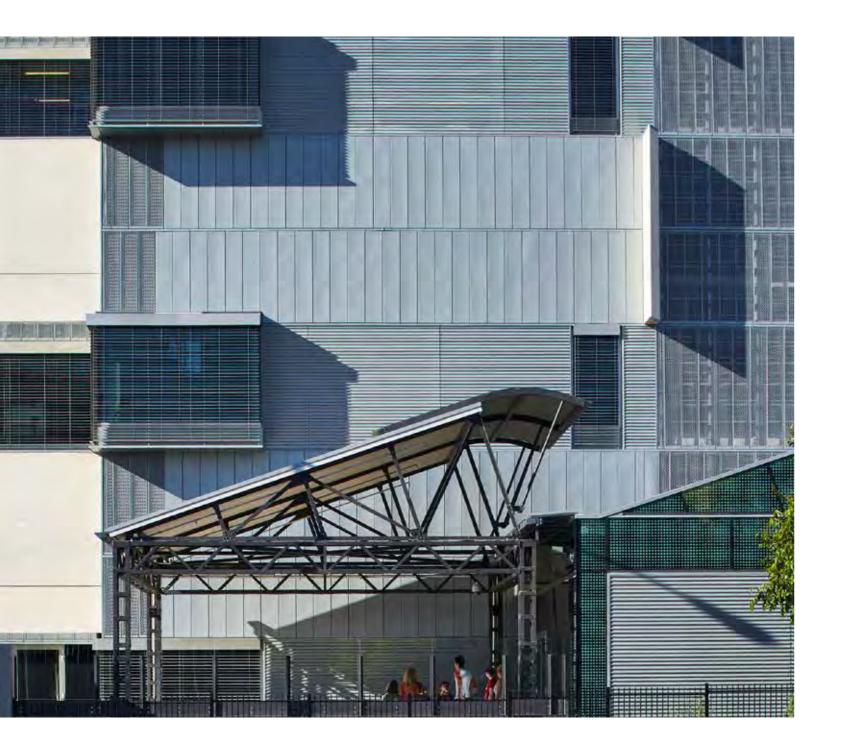
**STATUS** Completed

\*Project in joint venture with Hassell.













# **UQ ADVANCED ENGINEERING BUILDING** BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

# AEB establishes a new benchmark for sustainability and explores new possibilities for teaching and learning spaces in engineering disciplines.

The vision for the project was to create a building to celebrate, collaborate, create, learn, innovate and sustain, all within an integrated engineering landscape.

AEB is designed to stimulate innovation, education and awareness of advanced materials and manufacturing processes. The structure of the building is as open as possible, to allow a high level of visibility of processes and equipment to visitors and staff alike.

AEB is a 5 Star Green Star certified building, achieved through the use of simple systems, including a central atrium to introduce tempered air and light into the building, highly efficient façades, mixed mode ventilation, night purging and excellent daylight levels.

**PROGRAM** Research facilities, teaching spaces and office accommodation for the School of Civil Engineering and the Queensland Centre for Advanced Materials Processing and Manufacturing (AMPAM)

**CLIENT** University of Queensland, Australia

**AREA** 20,000m<sup>2</sup>

**COST** \$135M AUD

**STATUS** Completed

## **AWARDS**

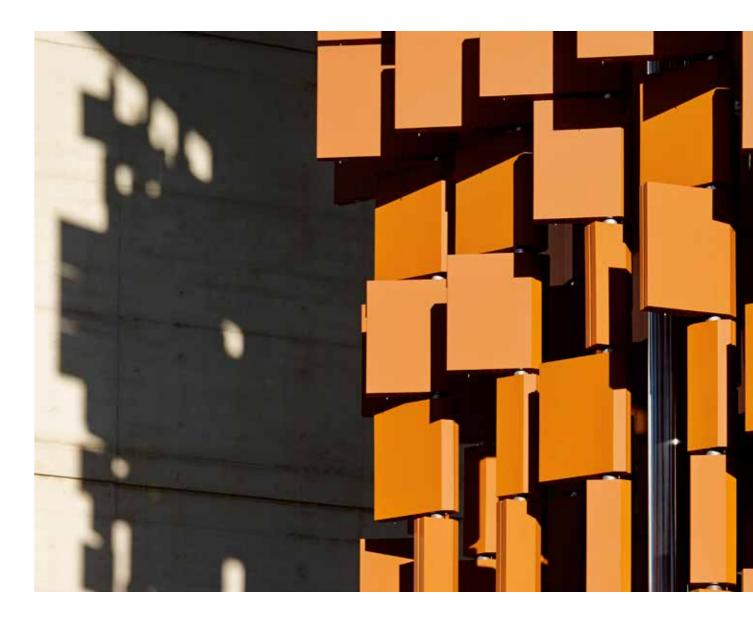
2014 AIA National Sir Zelman Cowen Award, Emil Sodersten Award, National Award for Sustainable Architecture

2014 AIA Qld FDG Stanley Award, GHM Addison Award, Harry Marks Award, John Dalton Award, Regional Commendation

2014 Australian Timber Design Awards for Engineered Timber, and Recycled Timber

\*Project in joint venture with Hassell.









FOURTH FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



FIFTH FLOOR





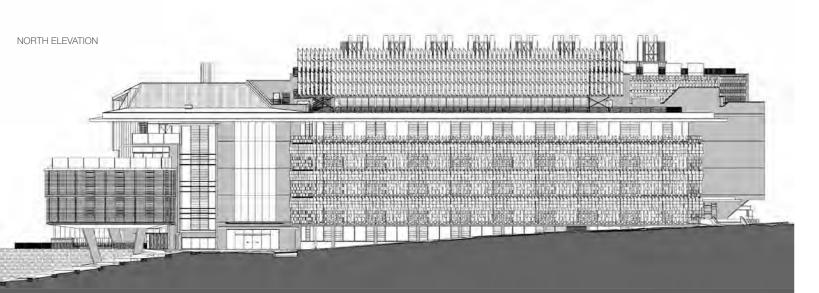
SIXTH FLOOR

AEB has challenged the traditional concept of the university workplace, with fewer closed cellular spaces and a central atrium that is the heart of the building. AEB has facilitated the transformation of engineering education through all aspects of research, postgraduate training and undergraduate education. The themes drawn from this potential are: a Working Building, a Transparent Building, an Expressive Building, an Interactive Building, a Flexible Building, a Sustainable Building.

The AEB is a benchmark for innovation in learning, research and collaboration spaces for engineering disciplines. The new

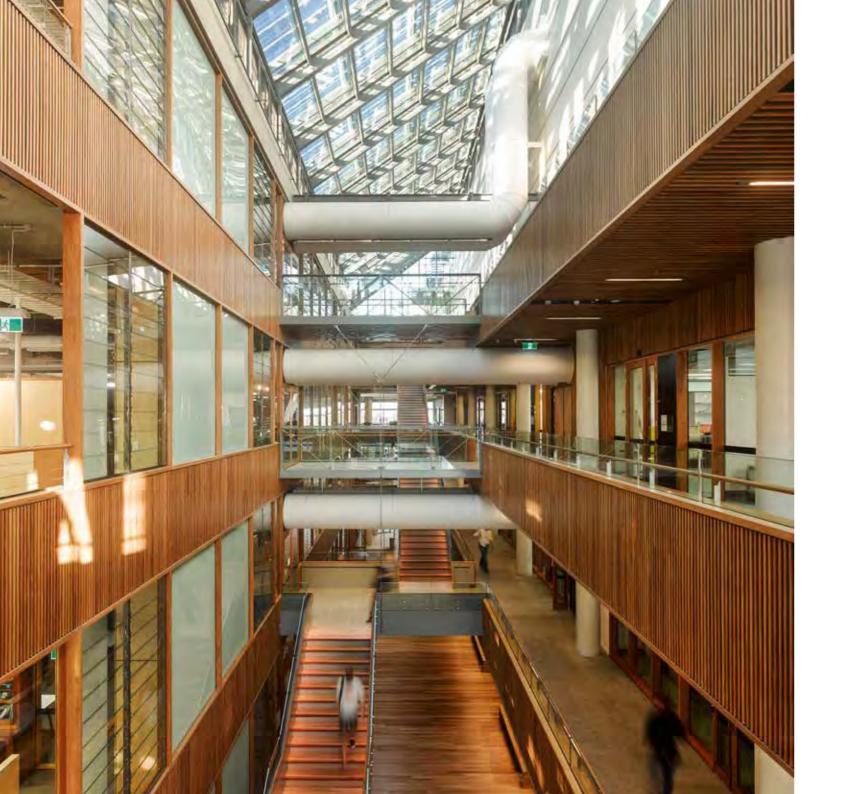
"The AEB is a great testing ground for students who have strong prospects of becoming leaders in the industry and society. They can look to the record of the many high-impact engineering alumni who precede them and have access to a building that doubles as a sustainable engineering tool."

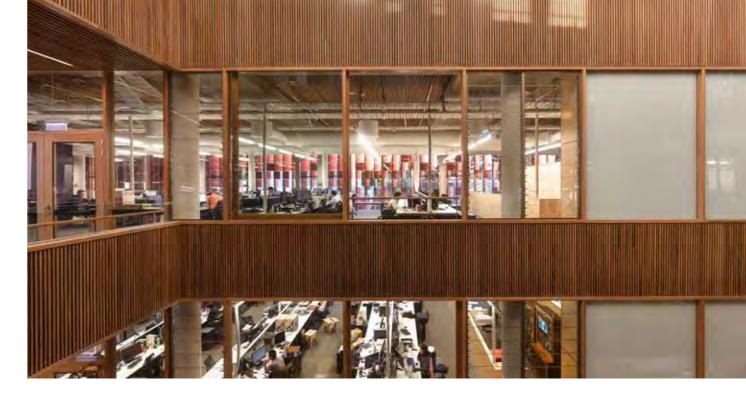
Profesor Peter Hoj Vice Chancellor and President of The University of Queensland



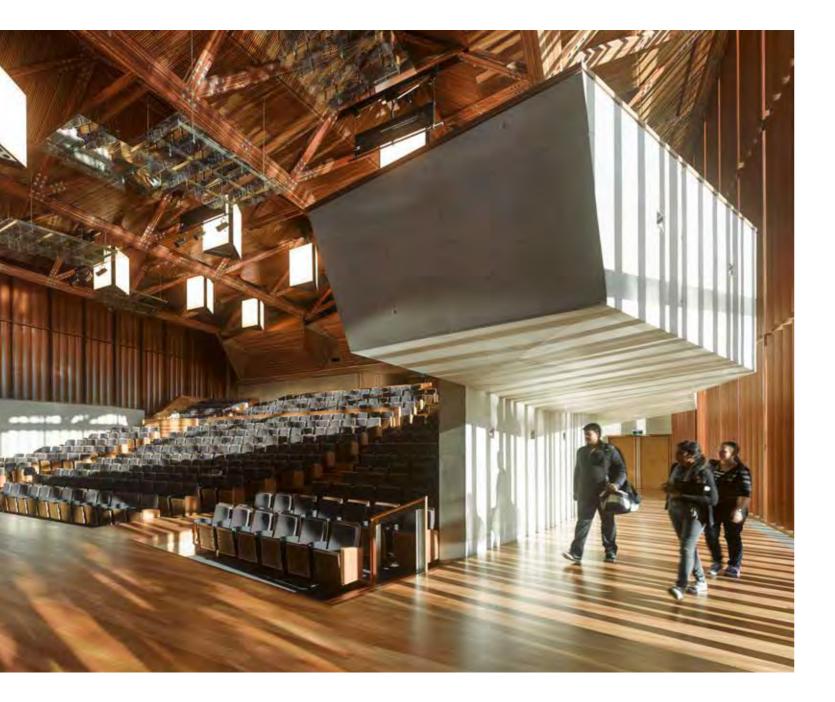
facility has generated a world class environment for the School, transforming the possibilities in research and education, and augmenting its reputation on an international stage.

The legacy of the project in terms of sustainability, is to demonstrate the potential for innovation beyond the defined limits of established targets, engage with renewable resources, and to promote under-utilised but inherently sustainable local industry. The inherent benefit of the self-finished materials is also their robustness and durability over time in order to meet that key requirement of a sustainable building - a long life.



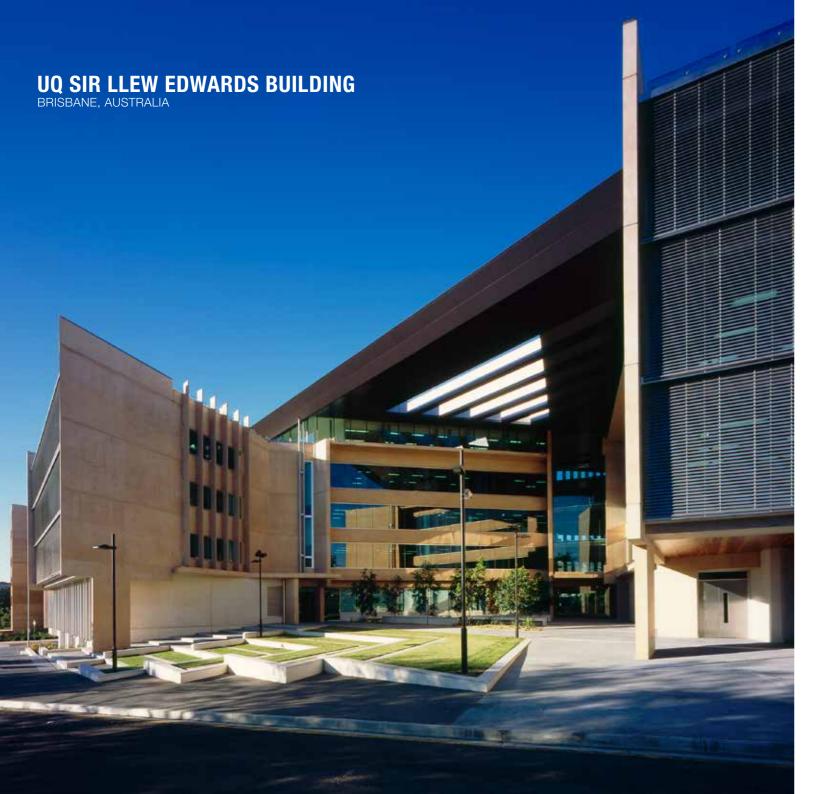












Forecourt.

The project responds to the site by addressing its largely landscaped setting and the surrounding buildings. The building's success lies in the manner in which it engages with the existing campus master plan and provides the University with a new building typology that exemplifies advances in the inclusion of Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) features in university buildings (natural day lighting, rainwater re-use and monitoring solar array).

PROGRAM Multi-purpose teaching rooms, lecture theatre, offices, breakout terraces, TEAL (Technology Enabled Active Learning) Environments.

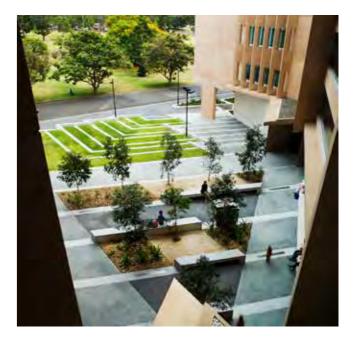


# The six storey multi-purpose teaching building for the International Language School occupies the most prominent site on Campus and overlooks the University

**CLIENT** University of Queensland, Australia **AREA** 10,000m<sup>2</sup> COST \$40M AUD **STATUS** Completed

## **AWARDS**

2009 RAIA QLD FDG Stanley Award for Public Architecture 2009 CCAA Public Domain Award 2009 RAIA QLD Regional Commendation 2008 IES Lighting Design Awards of Excellence





# NTU ACADEMIC BUILDING SOUTH SINGAPORE

...Knittng the site with the context...Form reflects the program...A ceremonial and symbolic heart for the campus...Creating a significant and memorable space...Make a permanent, breathable building...Bringing the landscape into the interior...A new benchmark in sustainability...

Our design for the Academic Building South (ABS) creates a world class and highly relevant education setting that provides a supportive, quality learning environment and enhanced student life opportunities fostering graduates who are resourceful and adaptable leaders, well versed in collaborative team learning.

There are communal gathering zones and activated circulation areas where chance encounters can lead to conversations and new ideas, critical to creating a vibrant sense of place and fulsome life on campus for students, staff and members of the community. The planning responds to the rising awareness that these in-between spaces are significant as non-formal learning places that promote learning beyond curriculum. Plenty of space for comfortable, flexible loose furniture, well-appointed communal hubs and seamless access to high speed Wi-Fi will create the sticky campus spaces that are fundamental to a vibrant and energetic student presence on campus.

Importantly we have endeavoured to make the building address its setting and respond to the very diverse building quality and formal aesthetic that creates its context. We do this by ensuring we create a series of memorable places around and within the building itself. The courtyard in particular is designed as a Great Room – this will be a unique space for students, staff and visitors to the campus to occupy and enjoy. **PROGRAM** Research facilities, teaching spaces and office accommodation for Post-graduate and Under-graduate Business programmes. Accommodation for World-class business-related research centres.

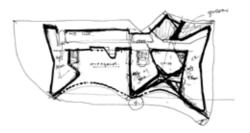
**CLIENT** Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

**AREA** 40,000m<sup>2</sup>

COST \$140M SGD

**STATUS** Proposed







# UQ LEARNING INNOVATION BUILDING BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

# A design that is sensitive to surrounding heritage buildings, pedestrian links and campus activity; resulting in a complex external form and transparent facades to display internal activities to the wider campus.

The site is located in a prominent precinct with the University if Queensland's St Lucia campus and is situated between existing heritage listed university buildings as part of the Great Court Complex.

The design process intentionally maintains and improves 'hidden' or secondary pedestrian links to surrounding spaces and buildings. The public courtyard space adds to an existing sequence of external spaces within the campus, including the Great Court.

A three-storey high void space links the horizontal floor plates vertically, improving the internal environment and contributing to the overall efficiency of the building.



**PROGRAM** Office space dedicated to the innovation of teaching and learning; audio-visual integrated landscape courtyards, and flexible seminar spaces.

**CLIENT** University of Queensland, Australia

**AREA** 2,250m<sup>2</sup>

COST \$12.5M AUD

**STATUS** Completed



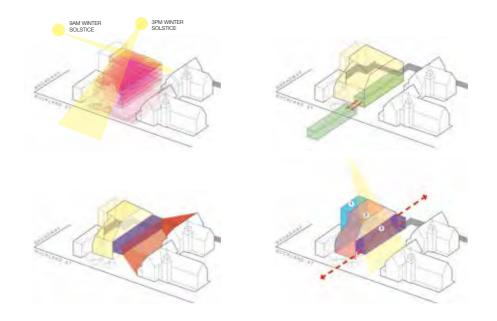
# UTS BLACKFRIARS PRECINCT RESEARCH BUILDING SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA



# A building that sits within it's landscape as if it's always belonged. Ensuring a prioritised ground plane, sympathetic scale and materials that reflect the surrounding heritage.

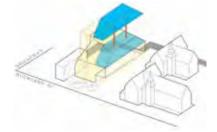
The vision for the Black Friars Precinct Research Building (BPRB) was to create a new industry hub that is both innovative and connected to the urban fabric in which it sits. As a leader in the community, this new building could further set UTS apart as a benchmark for connected, progressive and global Universities.

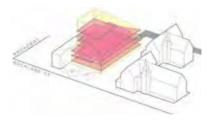
The new BPRB posed a challenge to integrate a 21st century building into what is a very cohesive, finely grained and historic educational site. The site is significant as a complete city block of 19th century buildings with a shared palette and fine grain articulated forms. A response was developed to this through a careful reading of the site's scale, form, materiality and spatial qualities.



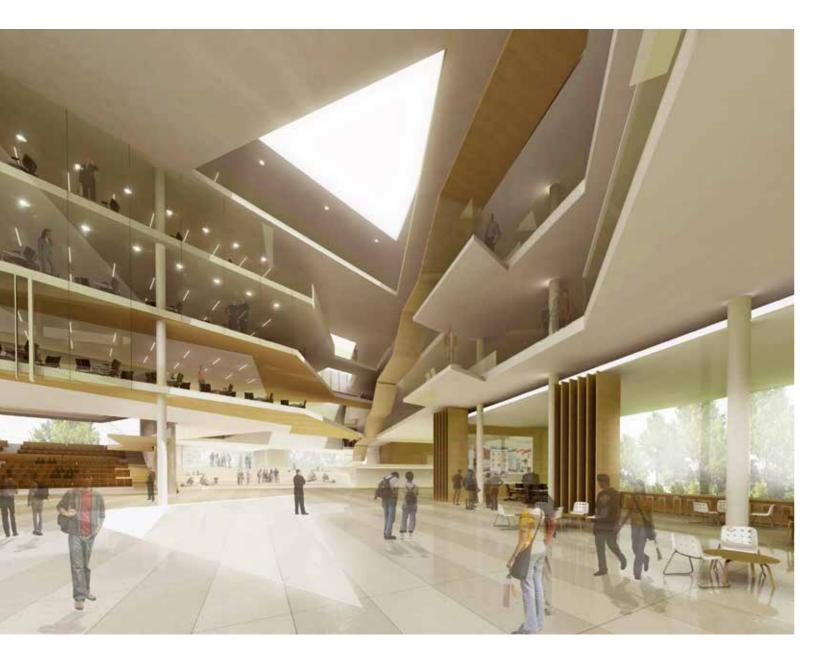
CLIENT University of Technology Sydney, Australia AREA 5,300m<sup>2</sup> GFA COST \$38m AUD STATUS Design Competition











# The new building will occupy a prominent site in the University forecourt and play a critical role in establishing a new identity for the Business School.

The new school will be an open, interactive and connected facility offering business knowledge leadership with global reach. The outward focus of the school will forge a culture of collaboration, effective and a place for sharing and engagement with the business community.

UQBS will be a 5 Star Green Star rated building, with ESD initiatives integral to the design including operable facade systems, mixed-mode ventilation, solar array and rainwater harvesting.



**PROGRAM** State-of-the-art facility showcasing the UQ Business School, world class teaching and learning environments for students, staff and industry leaders

**CLIENT** University of Queensland, Australia

**AREA** 16,400m<sup>2</sup>

COST \$100M AUD

**STATUS** Design

\*Project in joint venture with Hassell.

# ABC HEADQUARTERS BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA



# "Richard Kirk has concentrated a pronounced expression of the ABC's function and purpose in an emblematic crescendo of form and space ... "

Michael Keniger, Architecture Australia May/June 2013

The new ABC building achieves a stimulating and healthy work environment, able to change in line with the future demands of the ABC. The importance of ensuring a degree of flexibility and future proofing for the ABC reflects the unique requirements and needs of the deadline-driven media industry.

The prominent and public nature of the South Bank site is reflected in the buildings internal shared spaces which are open and transparent. The priority placed on such space reinforces the ABC's public ownership and promotes a sense of community within the building. These spaces also support informal interaction and collaboration among building users who would otherwise be spread and separated across the various floors and areas.

The project was awarded a 5 star Green Star by design rating and is targeting a 4.5 star NABERS as-built rating.



**PROGRAM** Cross-platform media production centre consisting of radio and TV studios, post-production facilities, online services, orchestra rehearsal hall, music practice studios, open plan office space and retail tenancies

**CLIENT** Australian Broadcasting Corporation

**AREA** 15.000m<sup>2</sup>

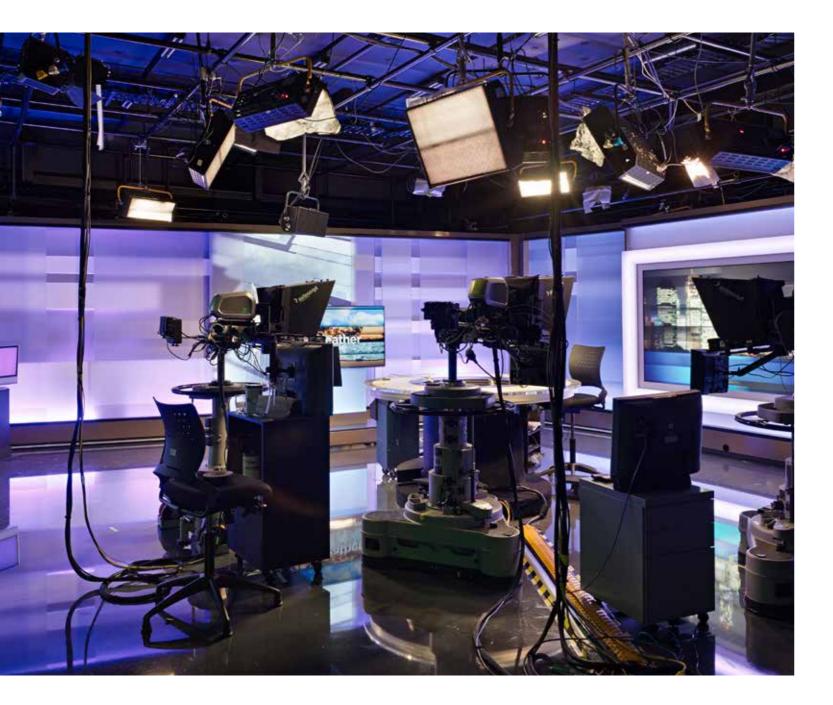
COST \$70M AUD

**STATUS** Completed

## AWARDS

2014 ASI QLD & NT Steel Excellence Awards - High Commendation for Steel Excellence in Clad Structures

2013 AIA Regional Commendation - Commercial Architecture









# **QUEENSLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

& Radio production studio for the ABC.

Virtual acoustic modelling resulted in the design of operable acoustic panelling (absorbers, and reflective and diffusing elements), fine-tuned by KIRK and acoustic engineer ARUP in an iterative process. Numerous design modes manipulate operable elements and allow the MPS to cater for a diverse range of orchestral music, as well as radio and television production.



# The purpose-built, 600m<sup>2</sup> Media Production Studio (MPS) functions uniquely as a rehearsal space for the Queensland Symphony Orchestra (QSO) and as a TV

PROGRAM 250-seat media production studio, music practice studios and post-production facilities

**CLIENT** ABC & Queensland Symphony Orchestra

AREA 600m<sup>2</sup>

**STATUS** Completed



# AIICS MULTI-PURPOSE HALL

BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA



# The expression of the efficient steel structure is deliberately simple and repetitive, supporting a large mono-pitched roof.

The AIICS Multi-Purpose Hall is a continuation of the new building work as part of KIRK's master plan and staging strategy for the school. In a prominent position near the school's entry, the hall provides a large naturally ventilated indoor space that adjoins numerous sheltered external spaces.

The materiality and structural concept is in keeping with the previous school buildings at AIICS by KIRK, with the primary steel structure expressed to reveal its careful detailing and structural efficiency. The structure is deliberately simple and repetitive, supporting a large mono-pitched roof. This skillion roof is a large rainwater catchment area which leads to rainwater tanks that provide landscape irrigation to the entire school.

**PROGRAM** Multi-purpose hall for indoor sports, assembly and school performances

CLIENT Aboriginal & Islander Independent Community School

AREA 945m<sup>2</sup>

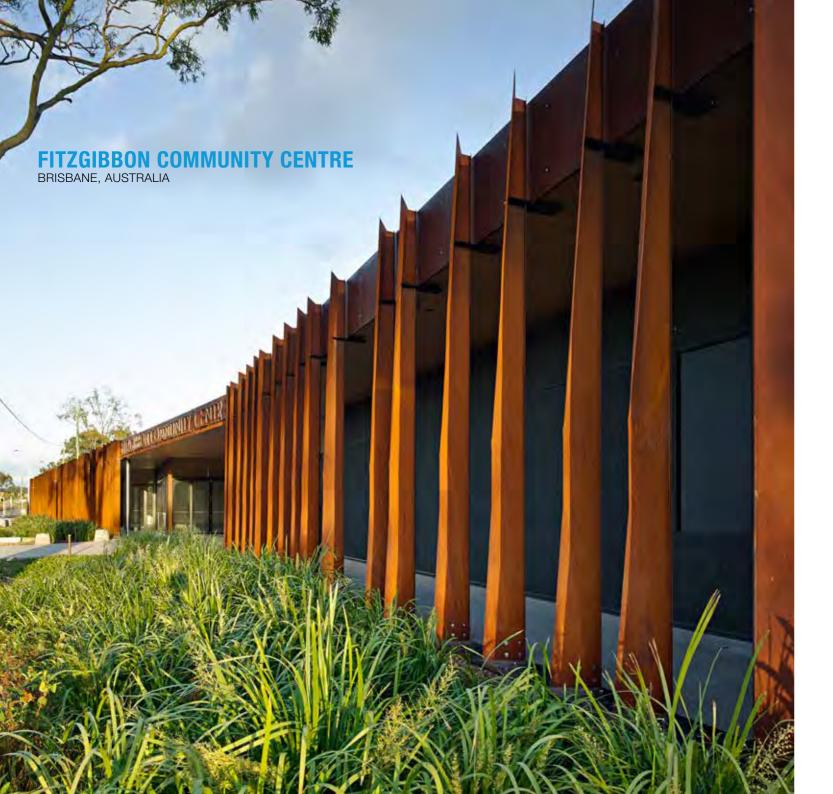
COST \$1.8M AUD

**STATUS** Completed

## **AWARDS**

2010 Australian Steel Institute Commendation Clad Structures Steel Design

2010 Australian Steel Institute QLD State Award Clad Structures Steel Design



poetry of cast-of materials"

Fitzgibbon Community Centre provides the new neighbourhood with a vibrant, active community hub within a typically Australian landscape setting.

Situated near regenerated bushland, the Centre redefines and redeems a relationship to the landscape in built form.

The 'heart' of the scheme is a large open covered space, which forms a gateway on the axis from the new commercial centre of Fitzgibbon to the bushland tracks and trails to the North. This gateway acts as a starting and finishing point for the trails, with essential amenities and a retail outlet.

The building addresses its street frontage without being sited on the street, with its facade line modified to incorporate existing trees on site. This in turn helps with the varied building program.

# "With an oxidised steel shell wrapping around a series of community gathering spaces, Richard Kirk has marked the importance of place while re-asserting the

Steel Profile 114 April 2013

PROGRAM Community Centre with offices, community kitchen and multipurpose spaces, allied health

**CLIENT** Urban Land Development Authority

**AREA** 600m<sup>2</sup>

COST \$2.9M AUD

**STATUS** Completed

## **AWARDS**

2015 AIA State Colorbond Award for Steel Architecture

2015 AIA Regional Commendation

2012 Australian Steel Institute National Award Clad Structures Steel Design

2012 Australian Steel Institute QLD State Award Clad Structures Steel Design



# NTU ACADEMIC BUILDING SINGAPORE

An open, interactive and connected facility. It establishes a new benchmark for sustainability in the Tropics by implementing a range of innovative strategies that can inspire and engage – it is a transformative building for engineering pedagogy.

The concept responds to the constrained courtyard site by a series of landscape filled internal voids. The voids provide a great sense of space but also improve the building's legibility by communicating its functions as a place for research, learning and workplace. The voids are lined by active spaces where informal meetings and gathering of researchers, students and visitors are encouraged to occur. The form of the voids change from level to level, maximizing daylight for both people and landscape while also promoting ventilation in mixed mode areas.

The introduction of natural light throughout and landscape within a series of connected, organically-shaped voids is the memorable quality of the building.

The ambition of the cascading of voids permits long horizontal and vertical views within the building that are dominated by landscape and natural light to overcome the internalized and land-locked site.

**PROGRAM** Workshops and laboratories for engineering students, offices, breakout spaces and car parks

**CLIENT** Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

**AREA** 29,000m<sup>2</sup>

**STATUS** Proposed

\*Local Architect: DCA Architects Pte Ltd



# The Anting School forms a major urban landmark and presents a significant opportunity to strengthen the town as a community.

The school is the heart of the public life of Anting and its success as a place for learning will directly contribute to the success of Anting as a community.

The layout of the school encourages social interaction, forges enduring relationships, stimulates the incidental exchange of ideas and fosters a high degree of teaching excellence.





**PROGRAM** Middle and Senior School, learning facilities, dormitories, sporting facilities, administration buildings and dining hall

**AREA** 34,000m<sup>2</sup>

**STATUS** Winning Competition Entry

# kirk

# **BRISBANE STUDIO**

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# KUALA LUMPUR STUDIO

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April 2018

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THANK YOU