

Help tell Australia's Housing Story

An academic partner invitation for the
2027 Venice Architecture Biennale



Australian
Institute of
Architects



Australian Government



The Australian Institute of Architects acknowledges First Nations peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands, waters, and skies of the continent now called Australia. We express our gratitude to their Elders and knowledge holders whose wisdom, actions and knowledge have kept culture alive. We recognise First Nations peoples as the first architects and builders. We appreciate their continuing work on Country from pre-invasion times to contemporary First Nations architects, and respect their rights to continue to care for Country.

The Australian Institute of Architects exists to advance the interests of members, their professional standards and contemporary practice, and to expand and advocate the value of architects and architecture to the sustainable growth of our communities, economy and culture.



The 2018 Nicholas Murcutt Award for Small Project Architecture, krakani lumi, Taylor and Hinds Architects with the Aboriginal Land Council, Tasmania, photographer Adam Gibson

The World's Leading Stage for Architecture

The 20th International Architecture Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia is the world's premier platform for architecture, bringing together leading architects, researchers, educators and cultural institutions from around the globe.

Held every two years in Venice, the Biennale provides a unique opportunity for countries to share ideas, showcase innovation and contribute to global conversations shaping the future of the built environment.

Australia's national exhibition, Lived In, will be presented from 8 May to 21 November 2027, with the Vernissage held on 6 and 7 May 2027, representing Australian architectural research and practice on the international stage. An Australian activation will follow in 2028, extending the exhibition's ideas and impact to audiences at home.



The 2027 Theme

The 20th International Architecture Exhibition, curated by Wang Shu and Lu Wenyu of Amateur Architecture Studio, is titled *Do Architecture – For the Possibility of Coexistence Facing a Real Reality*.

The theme proposes a vision of architecture that incorporates the past as a living matter of the present, returning architecture to its most essential role: building in direct relationship with people, place, materials and environment. It values architecture as a cultural, ethical and constructive act that responds to real conditions while imagining new possibilities for coexistence.

Lived In responds directly to this theme by revealing how Australian housing has evolved through careful responses to context, climate and culture, demonstrating architecture's lasting impact on everyday life.



Napier Street Apartments, Kerstin Thompson Architects, 2001, Melbourne, Australia, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country, photo Matthew Stanton

What is *Lived In*?

Expressions of Living to Inform Housing Today

Australia's presentation at the Venice Architecture Biennale will share an important and timely story about how Australians live, and how architecture can help shape better housing futures.

Lived In will bring this story to the international stage through an exhibition grounded in research, design, teaching and lived experience. Drawing on the Housing Atlas of Australia, the project will document and communicate significant examples of Australian multi-residential housing, connecting architectural knowledge with the realities of everyday life.

Universities have already played a central role in shaping this project through research-led teaching, housing expertise, student contribution and national collaboration. This invitation is for universities that wish to support the development, presentation and legacy of *Lived In* in Venice in 2027 and through its Australian activation in 2028.

Why Universities are essential

Your Institution Brings Expertise

Global impact

Elevate Australian housing on the international stage.

Research

Generate new knowledge to shape better housing.

Teaching

Embed real-world projects in learning.

Your Contribution Helps Achieve Impact

Exhibition

Shape a compelling Venice presentation.

Public

Drive conversations about housing, design and livability.

Students

Inspire the next generation of architects.

The Journey

From research to global stage and back home again.

- 1

Housing Atlas of Australia
National research documenting Australia’s multi-dwelling housing.
- 2

Research
Data, drawing, photography, film and lived experience.
- 3

Venice 2027
An exhibition at the 20th International Architecture Exhibition.
- 4

Australian presentation
The project returns home to Australian audiences.
- 5

Long-term legacy
Education, digital access and ongoing public impact.



Domain Park Apartments, Robin Boyd, 1962, Melbourne, Australia, Bunurong Boon Wurrung and the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country, photo Matthew Stanton

The Project & Creative Directors

Lived In will bring to life in Venice the built projects documented through the Housing Atlas of Australia.

Developed collaboratively by Kerstin Thompson AM LFRAIA of Kerstin Thompson Architects, Professor Maryam Gusheh, Associate Professor Lee-Anne Khor RAIA and Professor Louise Wright FRAIA of Monash Urban Lab at the Department of Architecture, Monash University, *Lived In* brings together research, practice and education to tell a national story of housing through drawings, data, photography, film and resident stories.



Kerstin Thompson

Founding Principal and Design Director of Kerstin Thompson Architects (KTA). RAIA Gold Medallist (2023); Adjunct Professor, RMIT & Monash.



Louise Wright

Practice Professor, Monash University; co-director, Monash Urban Lab; Director, Baracco+Wright Architects.



Lee-Anne Khor

Associate Professor, Monash University; co-director, Monash-AHURI Research Centre.



Maryam Gusheh

Professor, Monash University; co-director, Monash Urban Lab.

"Architecture has a critical role to play in these conversations, not only through design, but through the lessons embedded in the housing we already have."

Adam Haddow LFRAIA

Immediate Past President, RAIA

Cairo Apartments, Best Overend (Taylor, Soilleux & Overend), 1936, Melbourne, Australia, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country, photo Matthew Stanton

Partnership Opportunities

ACADEMIC PARTNER

\$5K – \$10K

- Recognition as an Academic Partner, providing stronger acknowledgement of the university's contribution.
- Acknowledgement in relevant Venice and Australian activation materials where appropriate, subject to final collateral, venue and program requirements.
- Opportunity to connect the project to teaching, research or public engagement activity, such as a studio, lecture, seminar, research showcase, student engagement activity or public talk, where feasible.
- Invitation to relevant project updates or briefings, providing closer connection to the project as the Venice exhibition and Australian activation develop.

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP PARTNER

\$10K+

- Recognition as an Academic Leadership Partner, positioning the university as a higher-level academic supporter of the project.
- Senior acknowledgement in relevant project materials where appropriate, providing more prominent recognition than lower levels, subject to final format and approvals.
- Opportunity to discuss strategic alignment with research, teaching, student engagement or public programming, allowing the university to explore how the project may connect with its academic priorities, research strengths or public impact agenda.
- Invitation to project briefings and relevant 2028 Australian activation opportunities, offering closer engagement with the project's Australian legacy, subject to final program design and availability.

Final recognition and engagement will be confirmed in line with the project schedule, venue requirements and available program opportunities.
All partnerships are tax deductible.

What's Included

Benefit	Academic Partner	Academic Leadership Partner
Recognition as a project supporter	✓	✓
Recognition in approved project communications	✓	✓
Approved content to share with students, staff and alumni	✓	✓
Project updates and communications	✓	✓
Enhanced recognition across project materials		✓
Strategic collaboration opportunities		✓
Invitation to project briefings		✓
Opportunity to engage with the 2028 Australian activation		✓

What Your Support Enables

Your university's contribution may help support:

- research translation from the Housing Atlas of Australia into public exhibition content
- film, video and resident storytelling
- architectural drawings, housing data and visual communication
- photography, archival research and documentation
- student and educator engagement
- digital access and public-facing resources
- public programs, talks or education activity
- the 2028 Australian activation
- the broader legacy of Australia's 2027 Venice presentation
- every academic contribution helps bring Australian housing research to an international audience and extend its impact with students, educators, practitioners and the public in Australia.

Join us as an Academic Partner

We invite universities to support *Lived In* and contribute to a national project that connects architectural education, research and public impact.

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Support *Lived In* through philanthropy

Philanthropic support for *Lived In* is facilitated through the Australian Institute of Architects Foundation.



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