

SUPER STUDIO

2022

02-09 JULY



Australian
Institute of
Architects

SONA

THEME	Sustainable and regenerative design; repairing communities through design.
PREAMBLE	<p>We are well versed in the urgencies that surround our current climate breakdown. With the clock well and truly ticking, living ‘sustainably’ is no longer enough. Our current environmental situation is so dire, that sustaining ourselves at the current rate of consumption simply cannot reverse the catastrophic effects of climate change. If our actions are to make any kind of impact, we must start to look beyond living sustainably and instead look at how we can reverse the destruction through regenerative design. In the built environment, this will mean surpassing ‘sustainable design’ in favour of ‘regenerative design’ thinking.</p> <p>Regenerative design thinking involves approaching design in an holistic manner, responding not only to best practice building principles, but addressing social and economic factors.</p> <p>While we have seen glimmers of hope for our environment through the empty streets of cities around the world, the events of the past two years have exposed tears and loose threads in our urban and social fabric. Different parts of the world have been seen as too crowded, or too disconnected; often both. Australia witnessed unprecedented relocation (for those who could afford it) from urban areas to sub-urban areas, depopulating city centres, markedly affecting traditional and familiar urban activities, while amplifying the shortfalls of our disconnected suburbs.</p> <p>These tears in our social fabric, this deterioration of community, must be addressed if we are to reconcile our approaches to sustainable development with our continued existence within the ecosystem.</p>
PROVOCATION	<p>Our imagination is exceptionally powerful. People’s ability to engage imagination in thought and behaviour is a key distinction to other living species that surround us. The question ‘What if...’ can creatively draw from individual and collective memories, to establish narrative, storytelling, and knowledge exchange between others. Imaginative processes have the ability to strengthen social ties, effectively guiding, influencing, and healing individuals, groups and communities. These narratives also shape how we interact with the world around us and our relationship with nature.</p> <p>Consider the narrative effects and associated environmental impacts of ‘the Australian Dream’, vs. that of ‘the Most Bike Friendly City in the World’. Both form a core part of a resident’s identity; both collectively steer the development of cities.</p> <p>As designers, we are charged to play a leading role in creating positive and impactful design responses. We have the ability to instigate and provoke. We can generate layers of solutions. Our approach celebrates process; both in design itself, but also the societal processes that design might bring about. Our aptitude for systems thinking allows us to imagine scalable solutions to address the unparalleled challenges of climate breakdown.</p>

PROGRAM

Big change can start small. Our identities are intimately tied to the narratives of our communities. These identities and our connection to place influence the ways that we think and act. Through design, we have the ability to intervene and steer these narratives toward constructive ends.

We challenge you to envision a future where we move beyond sustainability, where more connected communities are capable of reversing the damage we've inflicted upon our planet, and where design has the power to regenerate.

Select a familiar place and through the lens of regenerative design, propose a design response that has the capacity to positively impact its community.

1. Select a place that you consider 'home'; or a place that you know well or feel connected to, this is to be the site for your design response.
2. Consider what community might mean to this place. Have any events (social, political, environmental and economical) had an impact (positive or negative)? Consider what qualities make this community unique, and how these qualities might be harnessed to further regenerative opportunities.
3. Looking at your selected place through the lens of regenerative design, explore the hidden agency of place and embedded narratives. How can these be revealed to enhance connection to place?
4. Propose a design response to your selected place that has the capacity to bind, strengthen, or build community; ultimately having far reaching, regenerative implications.

The design response should be considered small in the sense that its size is disproportionate to its effect. Consider the proposal's wider implications and make an argument for the power of its subtle influences on other, unexpected areas.

The below are intended as a departure point for your design thinking. How can this thinking be deployed to benefit your community? Can a project be drawn from these relationships or frictions?

- a. Designers have the responsibility to celebrate diversity
- b. Nature nurtures communities / Communities nurture nature
- c. Grassroots action is key to wider positive change
- d. Collective thought is vital to solving shared issues
- e. Stories connect people to place / Every place has a story to tell
- f. Social fabric can be woven by design
- g. Custodians not consumers
- h. Buildings should be productive members of society

SUBMISSION & PRESENTATION

To be eligible to progress to the national level of judging, teams must fulfil both requirements below:

1. 5-minute presentation (face to face) to the state / territory jury on Saturday, 9 July.
2. Digital submission by 9.00am AEST, Saturday, 9 July 2022

Your digital submission must include:

- 2 x original images that best represent your concept
Accepted file types: PNG & JPG/JPEG
Size: 1080x1080px
- 1 x 200-word description of your concept
- All materials used in your 5 min presentation. The presentation style & type of materials used is open, It is each team's responsibility to decide what they need to support their presentation (materials must be less than 100MB and less than 5 min in length for recordings)

Important considerations for your digital submission:

- Materials submitted will be downloaded by the Super Studio coordinator in each state & territory and provided back to participants to be used for the presentation. There should be no additional materials used in the face-to-face presentations.
- Should your team progress to national judging, the materials you submit will be used by [the national jury](https://aiaforms.wufoo.com/forms/mhkhq5k1g8ppjt/) to determine the national winner.

SUBMIT HERE <https://aiaforms.wufoo.com/forms/mhkhq5k1g8ppjt/>

JUDGING CRITERIA

All submissions will be assessed on the following criteria:

1. Response to the Brief

The design proposition responds creatively to the theme of sustainability and regenerative design in the context of people, practice and place

2. Design Approach

The design proposition adopts a clear and identifiable approach.

3. Uniqueness and Innovation

The design proposition offers a unique and innovative vision to the challenge.

4. Sustainability and Regenerative Design

The design proposition promotes sustainability and regenerative design.

5. Communication and Expression of Submission Components

The design proposition is communicated and expressed clearly and concisely across all its conceptual, visual and written components.

KEY REFERENCE RESOURCE

Your Home – Australia’s guide to environmentally sustainable homes
www.yourhome.gov.au

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Super Studio Notepack, acumen.architecture.com.au/notepacks/student-sona/super-studio-2022/

Regenesis, www.regenesisgroup.com/

A New World: Surviving a Crisis, Rory Hyde, ArchitectureAU (2020),
www.architectureau.com/articles/a-new-world-surviving-a-crisis/

The Alibi of Temporary Architecture, Timothy Moore, Post- (2018)
www.post-post.co/writing/4-timothy-moore

Urban Think Tank, Caracas Metro Cable, Venezuela (2011)
www.archdaily.com/429744/metro-cable-caracas-urban-think-tank

MVRDV, Rotterdam Rooftop Walk, Netherlands (2022),
www.archdaily.com/982681/mvrdvs-rotterdam-rooftop-walk-has-opened-to-the-public

Rebar Group, Park(ing) Day, Global Event (2005 – Present),
www.myparkingday.org/

Turner.Works, Peckham Levels, United Kingdom (2017), www.turner.works/works/view/peckham-levels-2/

Ronald Rael & Virginia San Fratello, The Teeter Totter Wall, United States & Mexico (2019), www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2021/jan/19/pink-seesaws-across-us-mexico-border-named-design-of-the-year-2020

Circular Buildings Toolkit, ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/articles/circular-buildings-toolkit

Living Building Case Studies, living-future.org/programs-overview/

Research Gate, Shifting from ‘sustainability’ to regeneration,
www.researchgate.net/publication/233664065_Forum_Shifting_from_'sustainability'_to_regeneration

Methods of Biomimicry Design, toolbox.biomimicry.org/

Defining Regenerative Design: The Foundation to Systematic Understanding, Adoption and Practice, Plaves, Yaara, Paris Jacobs, and Emil E Jonsescu. 2022, www.hamessharley.com.au/files/documents/RD_Report_Defining_Regenerative_Design.pdf

Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS), www.nathers.gov.au/

DESIGN TALKS

The Design Talks are an opportunity to dive deeper into the themes of the brief, spark creativity and connect with design professionals and other students who are participating in Super Studio.

Introduction into regenerative design with Yaara Plaves

Monday, 4 July, 5.30pm AEST

Connect here: <https://architecture.zoom.us/j/89787992652>

This session will introduce the concept of regenerative design, take a look into the principles of the field, and provide the tools and a hands-on opportunity to incorporate regenerative design into practice.

Learn more: www.architecture.com.au/sona/superstudio#talks

Design Narratives with Mark Raggatt

Wednesday, 6 July, 5.30pm AEST

Connect here: <https://architecture.zoom.us/j/89787992652>

In this session Mark will discuss our historical connection to storytelling and its foundational connection to, mostly, western architectural influence. Mark will then lead the audience through our responsibility to ingrain first nation identity within our design narratives as a step toward social regeneration in Australia and how this may ultimately mean throwing out all of our architectural narrative foundations.

Learn more: www.architecture.com.au/sona/superstudio#talks

BRIEF WRITERS

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SPONSOR

SONA would like to acknowledge and thank [Your Home](#) for sponsoring Super Studio 2022.



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