

All About ARCHITECTURE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARCHITECTURE ASSOCIATION

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**TWILIGHT RESIDENTIAL TOURS
SYDNEY ARCHITECTURE FESTIVAL
ARCHITECTURE SCULPTURE TOUR**



Architecture in Focus:

**London's Aquatic Centre
Masdar City Update
Eliza Apartments**

President's Letter



On behalf of the Board of the AAA, I am delighted to announce the recent appointment of His Excellency, Mr Michael Bryce as Patron. An architect and long time member of the AAA, Mr Bryce has been a supporter of architecture and the arts for many years. His long and distinguished career has seen him work in the fields of architecture, graphic and interior design in Australia and overseas for clients including Harrods, San Pellegrino, FA Premier League, BNP, and the Eurostar train. (Read more on page 4.)

This issue we bring you two featured projects; one by Tony Owen partners for Ceerose - Eliza, the latest residential development for Sydney's CBD and from renowned architect, Zaha Hadid, the London Aquatic Centre, designed for the up-coming Olympic Games. When I visited London earlier this year I passed the Olympic Games site while travelling on the train. I look forward to going back to my home city and visiting the Games in 2012 and to see the final transformation. From all accounts it looks like it will be an amazing venue that will certainly put London in the spotlight - not only for sport but for architecture.

The AAA was formed in 2001 by a group of architects and other professionals who were passionate about promoting architecture to the wider community. Since its formation, the AAA has grown into a highly visible organisation with a dedicated group of volunteers who run the day-to-day administration of the Association and its weekly tour program. As well as the AAAs regular tours, there are also

a number of additional special interest tours including the new Twilight Residential Architecture Tour, the first of which was held last month in Balmain to which 35 visitors attended and joined together for dinner in the evening. It was a great way to spend a Saturday evening with like minded friends in one of Sydney's oldest and most charming suburbs.

Another of the Association's unique tours is the Sculpture of the City Architecture Experience. Developed by volunteer and tour leader, Vanessa Couzens this tour explores a number of Sydney's public art pieces and looks at how they contribute to the public realms and the way they relate to the surrounding architecture.

Additionally, the unique Residential Bus Tour explores the architecture of Castlecrag, a leafy suburb in Sydney's north developed by Walter Burley-Griffin and his partner, Marion Mahoney in the 1920s. Projects include houses by architects including Harry Seidler, Neeson Murcutt and Virginia Kerridge. This full day bus tour includes commentaries from many of the architects and includes lunch and coach travel.

All our tours are run by knowledgeable guides who will lead you on a journey of discovery; one which we hope you will take and which will deepen your appreciation and passion for architecture. We look forward to welcoming you.

Kate St James

Kate St James, FDIA

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On the cover: Eliza Apartments by Ceerose Developments
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Shape Shifter

by Barry Hyland

A curvaceous new architectural era of complex shapes and fluid geometrics spells an end to the box-like apartments of the past.

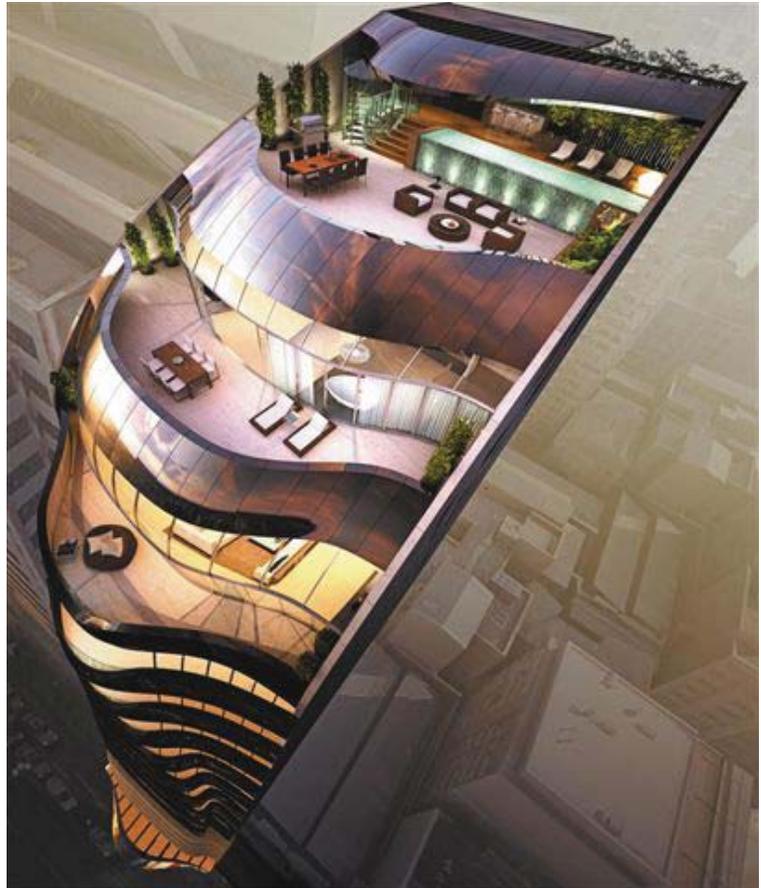
Spearheading the design revolution is a 17-level building destined for the heart of Sydney's CBD called Eliza, where every floor is a different shape and each apartment is bespoke. Located next door to the five-star Sheraton on the Park, Eliza will establish a new benchmark for Sydney architecture.

Eliza is the creation of Ceerose, the developer that spent much time studying Sydney's classical buildings and found that they were quite flamboyant for their era, just as Eliza will be. Eschewing the amorphous approach of most Sydney apartment buildings, Ceerose engaged avant-garde architect Tony Owen, whose digital designs are better known in the Middle East and Asia than in his home city. That should change, with Eliza destined to become a contemporary classic that shakes up prevailing design standards.

The form and fluidity of the building's design has been linked directly to important environmental factors, including at the rear a living "green screen"— a five-storey-high wall of evergreen climbing plants.

"There is uniformity to Sydney apartment developments that we wanted to avoid," said Edward Doueihi, managing director of Ceerose. "We are creating a building with an architectural point of difference that does justice to our landmark site in arguably Sydney's most beautiful street. We have no doubt that Eliza will be the finest residential development in the CBD and we hope it inspires others to think outside the box."

All apartments are palatial, with sinuous floor-to-ceiling windows optimising light, airflow and views

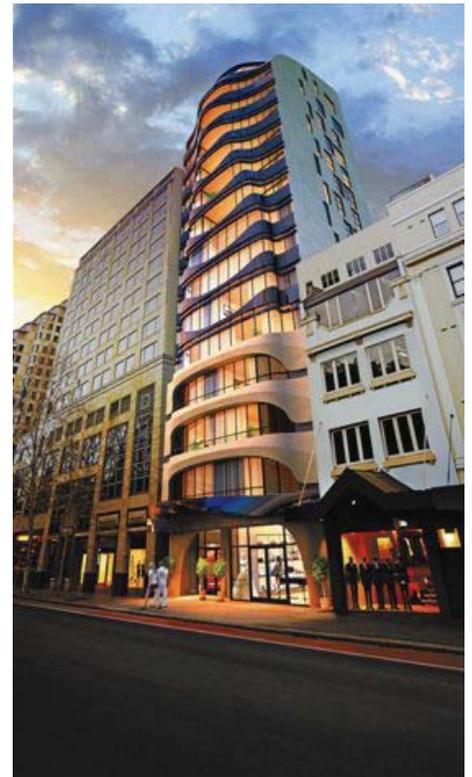


over emerald-green Hyde Park. Apartments on upper levels also gain excellent harbour views. "Eliza will be a world-class apartment building unlike anything ever built in Sydney," said Mr Doueihi. "It is in a culturally significant heritage precinct, so we are using traditional, precious materials but in a progressive way."

Jean-Paul Markopoulos of CBRE Residential, who is marketing the development, agrees. "Eliza will have a unique external character that will turn heads yet its interiors will be timeless, capturing the spirit and

sophistication of those grand New York buildings fronting Central Park," he said.

"Every apartment — even the half-floor ones — will be finished to the highest level of detail. Kitchens will have limestone floors, Calacatta marble benchtops, stainless-steel and marble splashbacks, an island bench and a walk-in pantry. The appliances are the finest money can buy, including a hand-crafted stove, oven, rangehood, dishwasher and microwave from Gaggenau. The fully integrated fridge will be from Liebherr,



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the double bowl sinks from Abey Quadrato and the tapware from Gessi Rettangolo.

“It offers an unmatched lifestyle in what is one of Sydney’s most culturally significant precincts. The penthouse uses the world’s finest materials and finishes in a technologically brilliant way and everything in the building is over-specified, including double glazing and acoustic innovations to ensure whisper-quiet interiors.”

Construction of Eliza is expected to start in December, with completion around mid-2012. And for those keen to see more, a marketing suite is being built right next door, within The Sheraton on the Park.

www.elizasydney.com