

MEDIA RELEASE

20 March 2015

TARRAWARRA
MUSEUM
OF ART

PHASE CHANGE: an interactive, interdisciplinary laboratory exploring the impact of global warming in the Yarra Valley.

TarraWarra Museum of Art has invited Charles Anderson (RMIT University/SAALA), Dylan Brady (studio505) and Michael Trudgeon (RMIT D-Lab/Crowd Productions) to work with their RMIT students in the North Gallery.

28 March 2015 – 8 June 2015



Photo: Redfish Bluefish Photographic

A working design laboratory focused on the changing nature of the environment in relation to TarraWarra Museum of Art and neighbouring TarraWarra Estate, as well as the Yarra Valley more broadly, will be conducted at the Museum, 28 March – 8 June 2015.

Led by design academics and students from RMIT, *Phase Change* will envision scenarios for sustainable and resilient futures.

Phase Change will engage directly with global warming and its ecological impacts at a local and regional scale, and work across a range of design disciplines and related practices.

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The laboratory will be spearheaded by Charles Anderson, landscape architect, artist and Senior Lecturer in the School of Architecture and Design at RMIT University.

Phase Change will take place in the North Gallery of TarraWarra Museum of Art, and on certain days Charles will be joined by Dylan Brady (studio505) and Michael Trudgeon (RMIT D-Lab/Crowd Productions), as well as 20 RMIT students. The design laboratory will evolve during the course of the exhibition. It will be a place for discussion, debate and lively interaction between the public and students and will generate a dynamic, participatory installation.

Significantly, the studio has the opportunity of working with Arup, an International Engineering company which will test and explore the potential of a new software tool in order to more rigorously model relationships between built form and future weather systems.

Sourcing recycled materials from the TarraWarra Estate and local waste stations and op shops, the students will create a 'performed installation'. They will study the typical energy flows and materials cycles of the valley in their thinking and production. They will work to envision a museum of the future in terms of sustainable design, production and practice. This pop up studio will be embedded in the museum for just over two months. The public is invited to engage with the participants, and there will be a feedback system, of the students' invention, that will invite comments.

The laboratory will culminate in a public forum on Sunday 31 May from 12noon to 5pm, where the participants and invited speakers from the fields of sustainable design, economics and Indigenous knowledge will debate issues highlighted by the project.

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Biography: Charles Anderson

Charles Anderson is a Landscape Architect and Artist with over thirty years experience making and exhibiting work in Australia and around the world. He has a distinguished reputation as an artist and designer, and has received numerous awards for his work, from both within and without the landscape architectural profession.

Anderson's research foregrounds the fertile character of collaborative, interdisciplinary, and process based modes of practice. Advocating new methods of approach and of attentiveness, and exploring new generative procedures, he argues that process thinking is not simply an operational stance, but an ethical position. Taking seriously the relationship between process thinking and place making Anderson's research advocates a mode of place making which, rather than reproduce planned environments as systems of control, configures place as a discursive contested meshwork of movement, encounter, and exchange.

Anderson is Senior Lecturer in the School of Architecture and Design at RMIT University where he is also leader of the *X-Field Research Group*, and a member of the *Speculative Architecture Laboratory* as well as the *Spatial Information Architecture Laboratory (SIAL)*. Anderson is founding director of *Stutterheim / Anderson Landscape Architecture (SAALA)*, an award winning design practice based in Melbourne, and is a registered member of the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects.

Biography: Dylan Brady

Dylan's experience covers a range of sectors including large scale public, government and community projects through to small scale art collaborations and residential projects. Dylan worked with Denton Corker Marshall for 3 years and worked on the Melbourne Exhibition Centre and Melbourne Museum. Dylan's intuition and passion for architecture has fused an artistic spirit with a practical technical knowledge. Dylan has considerable experience in the creation of aspirations and the design, detailing and management of the overwhelmingly broad and diversifying scope of the architecture profession in the 21st century.

After establishing studio505 in 2003, Dylan Brady partnered with Dirk Zimmermann and together they designed and completed the Australian Pavilion at the World Expo 2005 in Japan. After the completion of the pavilion, studio505 expanded into the south-east Asian and Chinese market. Dylan currently travels regularly throughout China and Hong Kong managing studio505 projects under design and construction, and spreading the aspirations and expertise of the studio in sustainable design and cultural architecture through South East Asia.

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Biography: Michael Trudgeon

Dr. Michael Trudgeon is the design director and a co-founder of Crowd Productions, founded in 1983 as a trans-disciplinary design practice, to research and explore the potential of new technologies and design approaches. Crowd Productions has small teams in both Melbourne and London with a structure based on the film-production house model.

Crowd's projects are delivered through collaboration with a network of designers, researchers, makers, custom fabricators and specialists. Crowd has focused on creating digitally enhanced environments for the cinema, health and entertainment industries and financial services sector. Recent projects include the design of flagship cinema complexes for Hoyts at Melbourne Central and at Blacktown in Sydney, digital cinema capsules for ACMI in Melbourne, a conversation-and-customer-focused retail banking design for NAB, a new streamlined retail environment for the RTA at Blacktown, modular health clinics for diabetes treatment and the re-imagining the Australia Post post office.

Other projects have included communication and exhibition projects for the International Institute for Industrial and Environmental Economics at Lund University, Sweden, for the 2000 World Expo in Frankfurt and exhibition installations for the Museum of Sydney at the Hyde Park Barracks Museum, including their 2000 Sydney Olympics exhibition.

Michael Trudgeon has taught from 1982 at RMIT University, Monash University, Swinburne and Melbourne University variously in architecture, interior design, industrial and communication design. He has a PhD from RMIT University (School of Architecture and Design), Bachelor's and Master's degrees in architecture from RMIT University and a Diploma of Fine Art from Philip Institute.

TARRAWARRA MUSEUM OF ART

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Melway ref: 277 B2

Opening Hours: Tuesday – Sunday, 11am to 5pm

Open all public holidays except Christmas day

Exhibition Admission: 28 March – 8 June 2015

Adults \$7.50; Seniors \$5.00;

Concession FREE including children 16 and under, students and pension card holders.

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