ARC Linkage Grant

Indigenous Placemaking in Central Melbourne: Representations, Practices and Creative Research
• Began in April 2010
• Funded for 3 years, @ $80,000/annum
• Partners:
  – Melbourne City Council (Indigenous Arts Program – contributing $20,000/year)
  – Reconciliation Victoria (in kind)
  – Victorian Traditional Owners Land Justice Group (in kind)
  – Money pays for research assistants, community consultation, symposium and exhibitions
Update on progress

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  • traditional owner representatives from around the state and invited speakers (architects, academics and curators) from USA, Noumea, New Zealand, NSW and Qld as well as Melbourne.
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  • 3 x studios (out of 10) on Indigenous Placemaking at 3 x scales and
    political contexts
  • Involved Aboriginal academics and architects in lecture series and design
    teaching
  • (In 1st semester, another Masters Design Studio to design an Indigenous
    Cultural Centre and Keeping Place on banks of Yarra, involved artist
    Clinton Nain, Janina, Liz Cavanagh and Gary Murray.)
• How does one give built form to a group that is characterised as much by cultural diversity as it is by common history?

   – An embassy of sorts for all 38 language groups on Wurrundjeri land?
Walpanumin John Logan. Author: Lilian Louise Pitt 1906
A new kind of mapping of place?

Dhudhurowa Baburra Kairra Bimbul
Possum Skin Cloak 2006
Artist: Ngarra Murray

http://www.antarvictoria.org.au
Urban Presence
Victorian communities

The community lacks a significant metropolitan presence.
The city needs to acknowledge their history.
Indigenous Cultural Centres in Australia

Design interpretation
Design process
Design Limitations
International Centres for Indigenous Culture:
In recent decades many new centres have been designed specifically to represent the interests of indigenous communities with reparation and reconciliation in mind.

- Museum of Anthropology, UBC, Vancouver
- Nk’ Mip Desert Cultural Centre (in-ka-meep) Osoyoos
- National Museum of the American Indian, Washington DC
- The Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Center, New Caledonia
- The Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, Quebec

A Home for Artefacts
A Home for People
Architecture OF/FOR indigenous communities

http://img.slate.com/media/1/123125/2079215/2093179/2111086/2111087/06_EX_Tjibaou.jpg
http://architecture.about.com/od/findphotos/ig/Jean-Nouvel/Quai-Branly-Museum.htm
Dialogic Processes

Museum of Anthropology, UBC, Vancouver

Nk’ Mip Desert Cultural Centre (in-ka-meepe) Osoyoos

National Museum of the American Indian, Washington DC

NMAI, George Gustav Heyes Ctr, New York City

Interviews 5-16 Nov 2009

Bruce Haden

Bill McLennan

Charlotte Sanders Stringam

Justin Estoque

Duane Blue Spruce