



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre
“a once in a civilisation shift”
GRLC vision of the new public library



Patti Manolis, Chief Executive Officer
Geelong Regional Library Corporation

Outline - will be covering:

Little bit about where I am from and then some information about the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre Project.

Acknowledge the architects – ARM Architects

Once in a civilization shift. This term was used by Glyn Moody technology researcher and writer to describe the digital revolution and its effects.

My use of it here might seem over the top but those of us working in this industry understand the massive societal and technological shifts that are occurring and to which we, as library leaders and practitioners, are responding.

Bill Thompson, independent journalist and technology commentator addressed a Big Issues Seminar at the State Library in 2009 and some statements he made at that time still resonate with me. They are not anything particularly new but they are nonetheless profound.

He spoke about public libraries as a triumph of enlightenment, about public libraries as creators, nurturers and transmitters of culture. He spoke of their importance in democratization of knowledge and empowerment of individuals and communities.

He said the following and I quote “Building a public library is an act of redistribution of intellectual capital that matters as much as the redistribution of wealth or the provision of social housing and public health services to the overall vitality of a society.”

Well I am very pleased to tell you that the City of Greater Geelong will soon be home to a world class, “once in a civilization shift” intellectual capital distributor – the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre.

Geelong Library and Heritage Centre Geelong (Djillong)

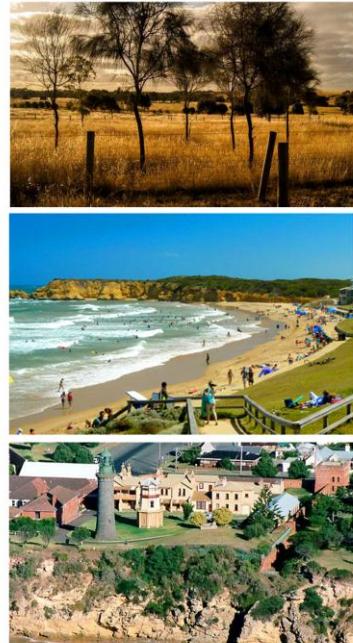


- A little about the Geelong and the region
- Located some 75 kms from the Melbourne CBD the municipality covers 1247m² comprising country, Coastal and suburban areas. Often characterised by the waterfront but there is lot more to Geelong.
- 2nd most populous City in Victoria and fifth in the nation with just under 220,000 people calling Geelong home.
- Port City, University / Student City with Deakin University's two campuses located on the Waterfront and in Waurn Ponds.
- Sheep and wool industry the mainstay for a long time followed by heavy industry including the Ford Motor company and Shell oil refinery
- Quite diverse in many ways and this diversity is both a strength and a challenge.
- The City boasts historic coastal settlements and fast growing urban areas (eg Armstrong Creek). There are relatively wealthy and prosperous neighbourhoods as well as those that are highly disadvantaged due to high levels of unemployment, low educational attainment levels and low average incomes. Five postcodes in Geelong City feature all too prominently in the ABS SEIFA index which measures disadvantage across Australia.
- Historically low levels of ethnic diversity are changing with new immigrants and refugees settling in the City and region.
- The Region is in the throes of transition from manufacturing and heavy industry to Knowledge and Service based industry City such as tourism, health, education.
- There's major economic focus on fostering industries that concentrate on innovation, knowledge and research eg biotechnology, advanced manufacturing and food processing, ICT
- Time is right and indeed overdue for major learning and cultural institutions such as the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Geelong (Djillong) and Region



In addition to the City of Greater Geelong, the region is comprised of the

- Borough of Queenscliffe,
- Surf Coast Shire and the
- Golden Plains Shire (where I live).
- 50,000 additional residents across the 3.

The Borough of Queenscliffe is a popular historic, coastal precinct with a permanent population of 3,300 which attracts large numbers of tourists each summer.

The Surf Coast Shire, located 120km from Melbourne in south-western Victoria, and 21km from Geelong, boasts a spectacular coastline and is a popular 'sea change' destination. With a population of 26,100, the shire is one of the fastest growing regional municipalities in the country.

The Golden Plains Shire with a population of just under 20,000 is situated between Geelong, Ballarat and Melbourne and includes rural and bush landscapes and historic gold mining towns, agriculture, small businesses. The main population centre is

Bannockburn which is attracting many young families, with many of the adults commuting to Geelong or Ballarat for employment and all secondary students currently having to leave the Borough to be educated – no secondary school.

Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Geelong Regional Library Corporation

- Regional population served = 270,000 and growing to 500,000 by 2050
- Geographic area served = 5,500 km²
- 16 libraries and 2 mobile libraries (4 new libraries opened in past 18 months)
- Operational Budget \$10.5m
- 123 staff (76 EFT)



Geelong Regional Library Corporation

Largest service in Victoria of 45 library services by number of libraries

- Regional population served = 270,000 and growing to 500,000 by 2050
- Geographic area we cover = 5,500 km²
- 16 libraries and 2 mobile libraries (4 new libraries opened in past 18 months)
- We operate libraries in shopping centres, leisure hubs, joint use with schools, with customer service centres.
- Operational Budget \$10.5m
- 123 staff (76 EFT) Divide that EFT across those services and the terrific range of online services available via our website, our extensive outreach program and management and admin and you can see clearly that we are very lean in terms of staffing but incredibly high performing ranking in the top 5 across key performance indicators for public libraries in Victoria. In fact in the most recent data available second highest number of visits and highest visits per staff member of all public libraries in the state in the State.
- Pictured are the more recently open libraries in Bannockburn, Lara, Waurn Ponds and Vines Road, Hamlyn Heights.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Geelong Regional Library Corporation

Annual activity

- 430,000 collection items
- Over 100,000 library members
- 2.7m loans;
- 1.6m physical visits
- 760,000 website visits
- 96,000 plus attendances to lifelong learning programs
- 190,000 plus hours internet computer access
- 110,000 plus wireless internet access sessions



Annual activity (Annual Report 2012/13)

- 430,000 collection items
- Over 100,000 library members (has grown 7% in past year) 2.7m loans of print collections; 120,000 loans of e-collections , databases and growing
- 1.6m physical visits (10% increase)
- 760,000 website visits 85,000 plus attendances to lifelong learning programs (40% increase)
- 190,000 plus hours internet computer access
- 110,000 plus wireless internet access sessions huge impact in addressing the digital and content divide.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Geelong Library

Geelong City Library opened August 1959



National Library of Australia

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National Library of Australia

nla.pic-vn3082726-v

Original Library was single storey.

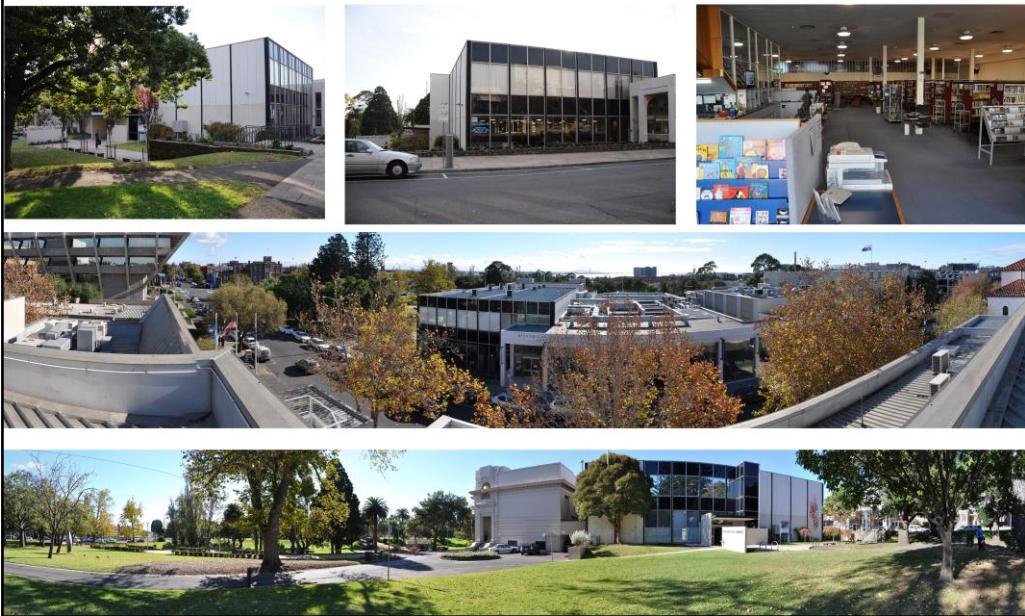
Opened in August 1959.

The Geelong Library service actually commenced way back in 1880s from a historic building in Moorabool Street.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Geelong Library and Geelong Heritage Centre



Current Geelong City Library

In terms of size it was about 700m² of usable public space.

Was great for 1959 but woefully inadequate for today and tomorrow.

Staffing 8 EFT.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Geelong Heritage Centre



Current Geelong Heritage Centre

Will be merging/integrating with GRLC.

Currently operate as separate entities and the Heritage Centre open 3 days per week.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Geelong Library



Current Geelong City Library.

A couple of months ago we had a formal closing ceremony. Marched out of the building to drums and turned off the lights for the final time.

Library now housed across the road in the building you see top left ground floor. Only 300m² but purpose built, cosy and nice.

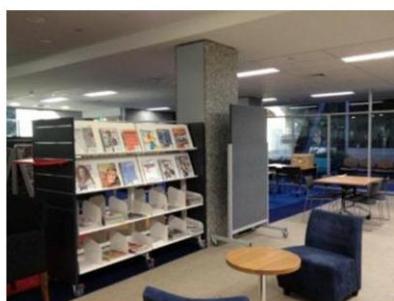
Great for navigation as only across the road.

Community will see new Library emerging across the road.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Geelong Library



Current Geelong City Library – temporary operating from the ground floor of the State Government Offices.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Spectacular setting



Aerial slide to demonstrate what a magnificent setting we have.

Located in Civic and Cultural Precinct.

We are very fortunate that the City of Greater Geelong Council committed to this \$45M project in recognition that public libraries are being reinvented.

A “once in a civilization shift”.

Surrounded by architecturally and culturally significant facilities and buildings including City Hall, Geelong Gallery and Geelong Performing Arts Centre.

Most significant is the setting adjacent to beautiful heritage Johnstone Park.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Design by ARM Architecture



Current plan / concept ARM ARCHITECTURE. Previous work includes National Museum of Australia, Melbourne Recital Centre, Melbourne Theatre Company, Hamer Hall. Corio Bay setting and views.

The vision in terms of broader outcomes:

- Significant cultural and learning institution in heart of city and cbd
- Iconic architecturally designed landmark that will make a statement / represent where Geelong is headed and what it values – learning and culture.
- Contribute to placemaking and urban socio-cultural regeneration eg central component of cbd revitalisation strategy.
- Anchor for cultural precinct in recognition that public libraries are the exemplar anchor institutions, generating by far the most activity and being the most socially inclusive of all cultural institutions.
- Major destination and attractor of visitors from within and outside the region (eg Seattle)
- A centre for discovery about Geelong and the Geelong Region - taking Geelong to the world and bringing the world to Geelong.
- Central library for a large network of smaller regional and neighbourhood libraries
- Last but not least For CBD resident and workers this will be their local Library / Community centre / community living room / Third space, the term penned by Ray Oldenburg in his book *the great good place*.

Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Features



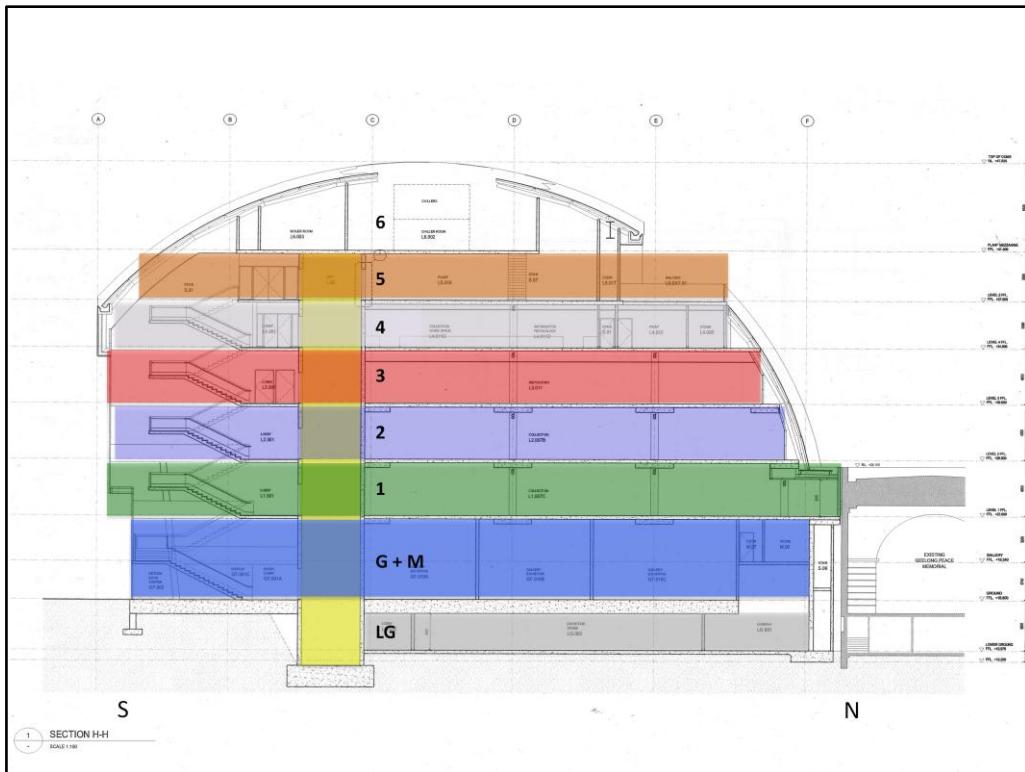
Features

- 120,000 collection items
- Exhibition and Display space
- Special collection - Arts based collection in recognition of its location in the cultural precinct and historical records, documents and some artefacts
- Children's space
- Youth space
- Meeting rooms and collaborative learning spaces
- Special collections
- Digital space / diverse offer of IT (will cover in more detail later)
- Café
- Opening October 2015
- 6,000m²

This new Library will enable us to deliver on the GRLC vision

A strong vibrant connected community

- Enriched by reading
- Empowered by learning
- Inspired by information and ideas.



Cross section shows the levels – 9 in total including plant at top.

Below ground – deliveries, electrical Station, Library Store, Gallery Store, etc

Ground Library entry, café, News Media Lounge Collection, Exhibition area, Returns Room, seating areas and mezzanine, Collection wall across ground and mezzanine levels

First Floor – Children's Exploration and Discovery zone, Youth Space.

Meeting/Workshop/Activity Room

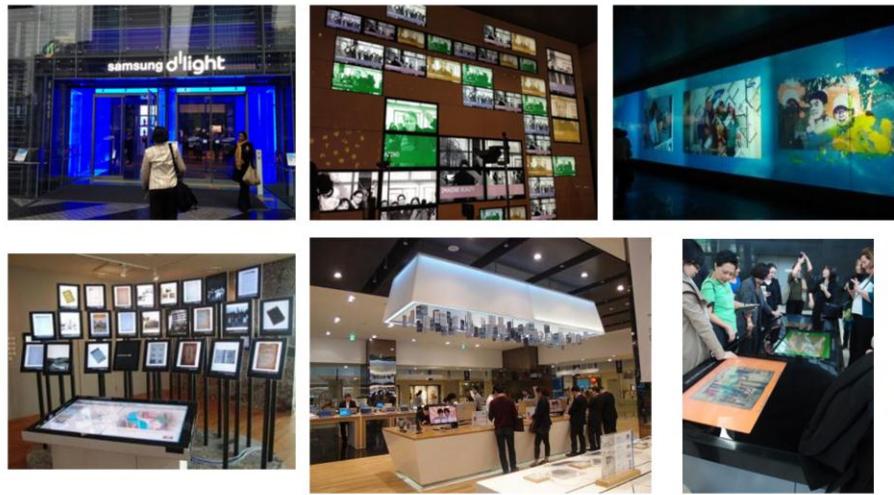
Second Floor – Collections, 5 meeting Rooms of various sizes, comfortable seating and study areas

Third Floor – Heritage Reading Room and Repository

Fourth Floor – Staff including Regional Headquarters

Fifth Floor – Events space for 300 people including balcony with views over the park and Corio Bay and some plant

Sixth Floor - Plant



I am going to take you through some of the inspirations for the project including interiors. I just wanted to highlight that a recent trip to South Korea is informing choices for IT.

IT currently not shown in architectural drawings. Final outcome will depend on budget which is challenged.

Samsung D'Light, Library, Seoul Metropolitan Library visited as part of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's INELI convening.

If I was to describe in a word what we will be striving to achieve and satisfy - it is MULTIPLICITY
 Multiplicity of services, devices, information sources, the way people like to work and IT in response to the digital revolution Some of the IT features will be:

- assistive technology such as screen readers and adaptive technology such as Tap-it
- Interactive Information kiosks on every level
- Mobile circulation – mobile circulation, inventory and member registration
- Large format display on Ground Floor “Video Wall”– visual exhibitions, news feeds, promotions, etc.
- Meeting rooms with Interactive whiteboard software, touchscreen overlay and Skype capabilities.
- Youth space will have 5 gaming consoles with 84 inch screens (or larger)
- iPads/tablets, Chrome books
- 50 fixed Touchscreen PCs
- 6 iMacs with high-end image and audio editing software
- Smart tables for reading digital content – Press display, Zinio
- Self-service loans, payments, scanning and printing facilities through RFID which we have already implemented throughout our network
- Possibly 3D printing
- Potentially Print on demand technology (community publishing)
- Fully equipped function rooms with high end audio-visual equipment

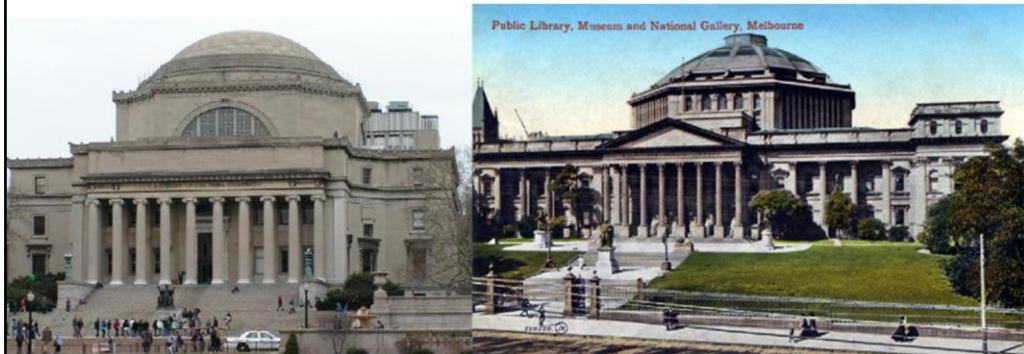
This is what planned but of course without the crystal ball will be adjusted depending on latest technologies closer to opening time.

Inspired by the concept from the Aarhus, Denmark Library team in planning their new library.
 Decision making at “Last responsible minute”



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Building Design inspirations



Looked at design in terms of recognising that there is a radical shift in library services and how they are to be delivered. At the same time wanted to pay respect, acknowledge and celebrate the history of libraries.

So now I will take you through some of the inspirations.

Inspired by and paying homage to domes of the world including the State Library of Victoria. Columbia University New York.



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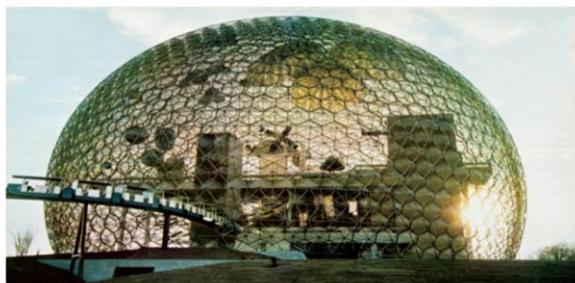
Building Design Inspirations



British Museum and State Library of Victoria



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre Building Design Inspirations



Geodesic Domes. Invented by Richard Buckminster was an American architect, systems theorist, author, designer, inventor, and futurist. Examples on screen.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre Building Design Inspirations

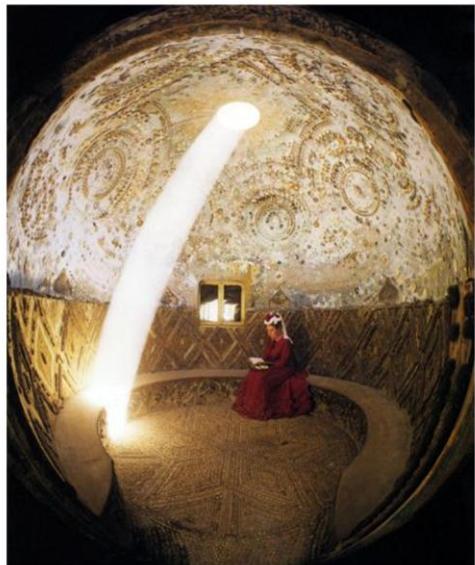
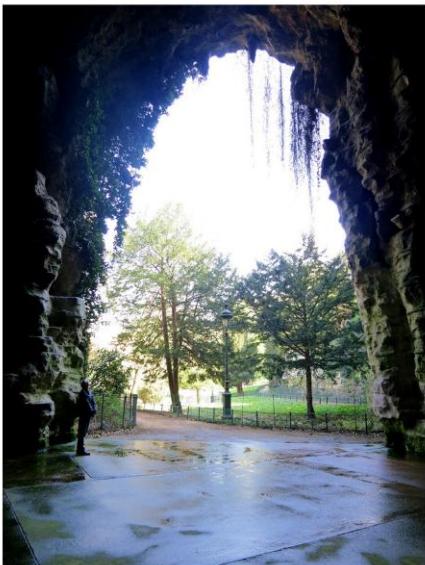


Tempio di Minerva Medica vicino à Porta Maggiore.
Piranesi inc.

Temple of the Medica a ruin of late imperial Rome.

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Building Design Inspirations



Grotto in Werribee Park Mansion.
Grotto of the Parc des Chaumont.



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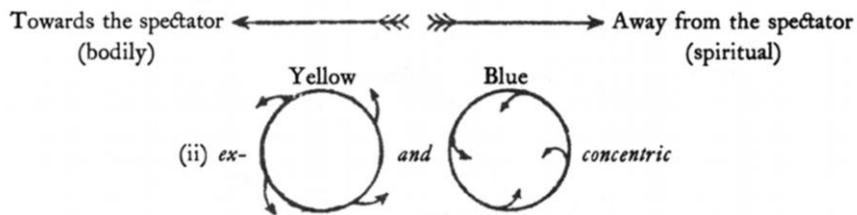
Will be the major landmark for the precinct. Out of this world design.

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Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

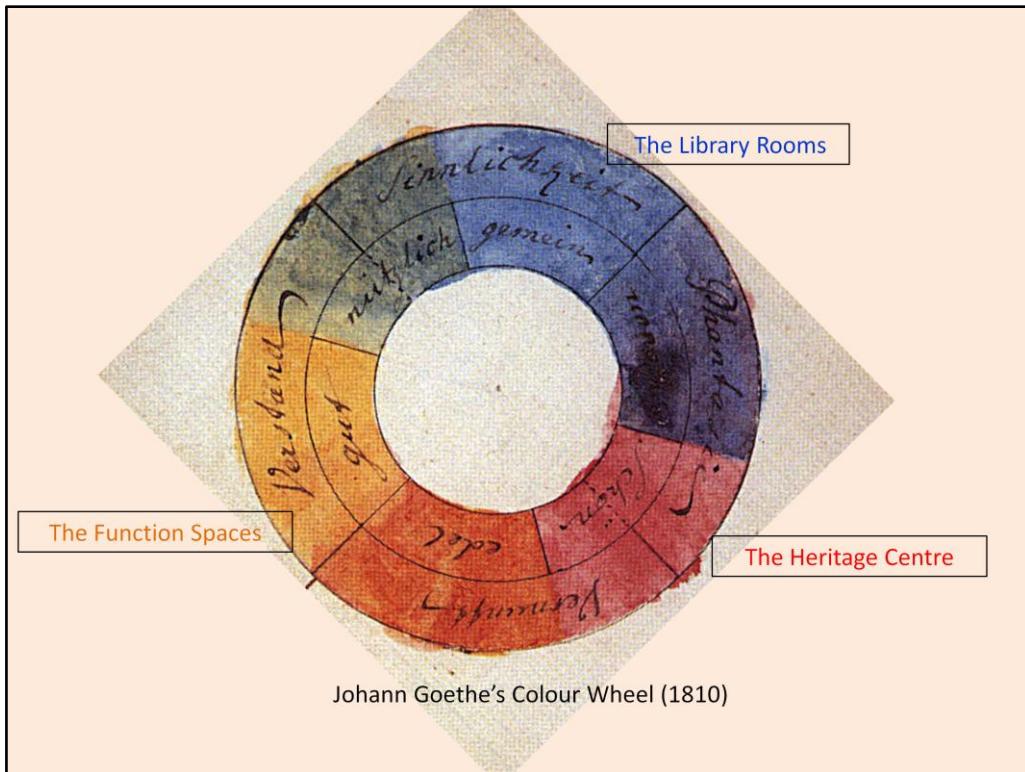
There are many theories of Colour and its effects and meanings

Vasily Kandinsky ("On the Spiritual in Art", 1914) believed that there were two fundamental colour modes – warm and cool; towards yellow and towards blue.....



Many colour theories attempt to explain or predict colour phenomenon with human response. It is possible that responses to colour are universal AND cultural.....

In terms of interior colour the architects have been inspired by Kandinsky's belief that there were two fundamental colour modes warm and cool and by Goethe's theory of colour.



Johann Goethe's Colour wheel

Library spaces in indigo shades, Heritage Reading Room in Red and Event space orange.

I really like that the library design is being influenced by thinkers, philosophers, poets, artists.



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Internal renderings



Ground Floor renderings featuring video wall above café entry and collection wall



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Internal Renderings



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Interior Colour



Yves Klein (Artist) Blue pictured

Blue is the colour of the sky and sea. It is often associated with depth and stability. It symbolizes trust, loyalty, wisdom, confidence, intelligence, faith, truth, and heaven. It has been the colour of divinity, royalty and virtue as in the robes of the Madonna. Blue is strongly associated with tranquillity and calmness. In heraldry, blue is used to symbolize piety and sincerity.

Blue is linked to consciousness and intellect. Blue is considered beneficial to the mind and body.

Dark blue is associated with depth, expertise, and stability.

Light blue is associated with health, healing, tranquillity, understanding, and softness.

Dark blue represents knowledge, power, integrity, and seriousness.

The colour of Corio Bay. Significant to Indigenous culture, post settlement history and a major attractor and source of pride for community today.

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Interior Colour

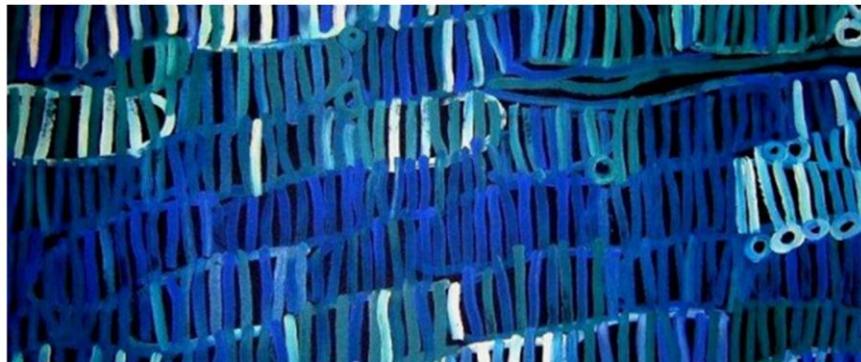


Matisse as colour inspiration

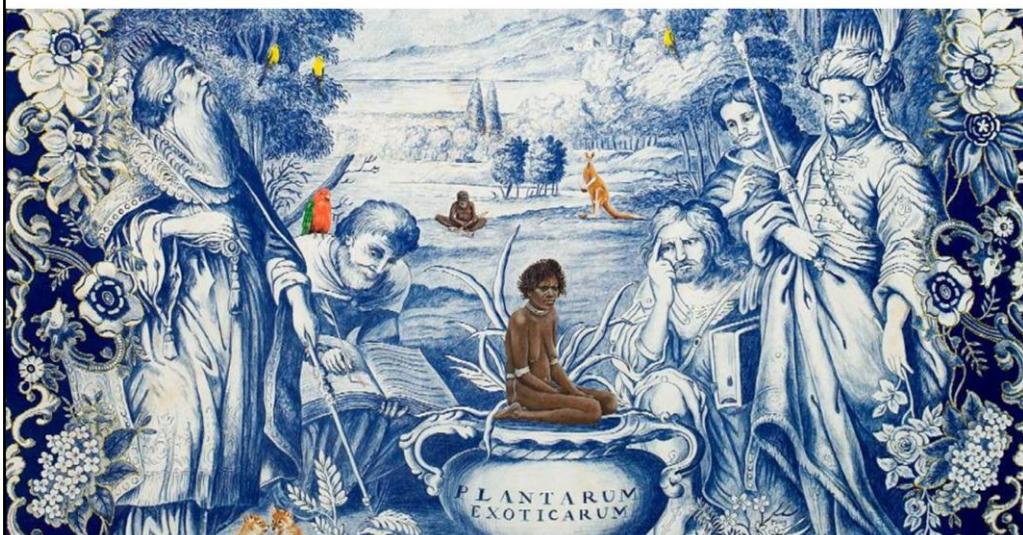


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Interior Colour



Blue and Green Body Painting by Aboriginal Artist Minnie Pwerle.

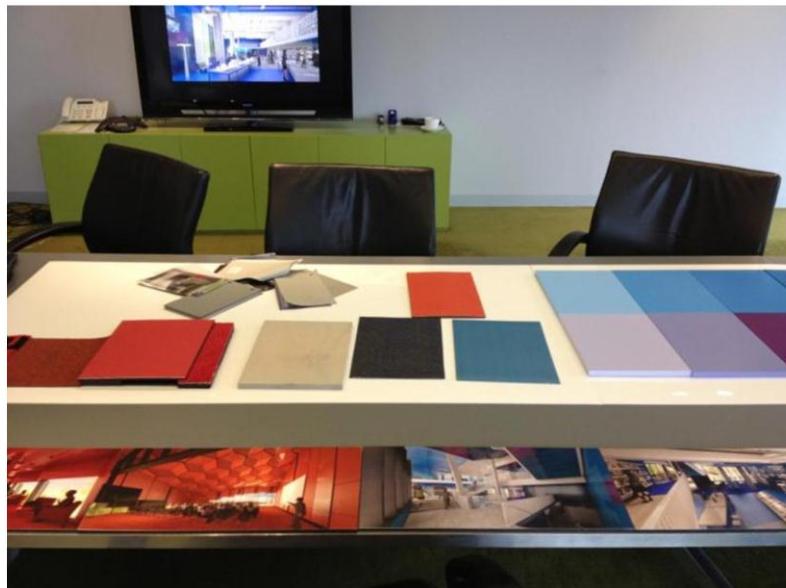


Reality of Myth by Danie Mellor Aboriginal Artist



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Interior Colour

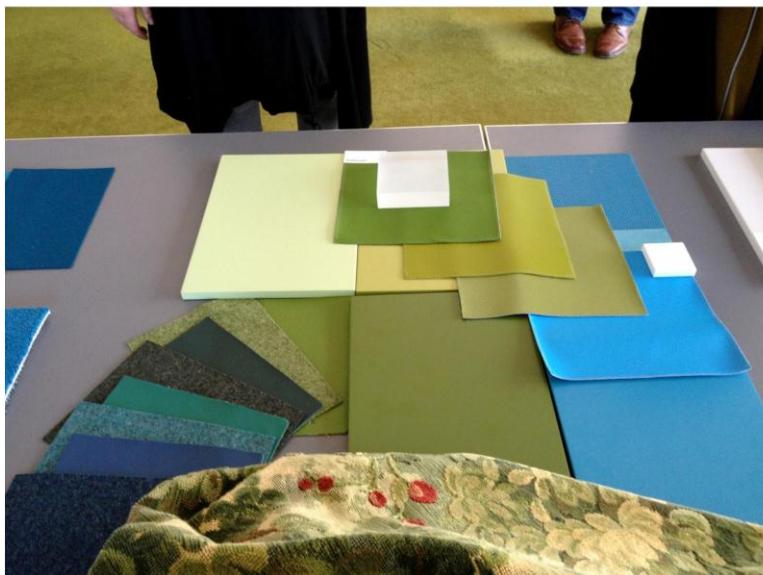


Colour samples.



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Interior Colour



Colour samples.



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Interior Colour



Colour samples.



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Interiors





Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Interiors



Collection wall to use limited ground floor space efficiently. Also a sort of homage to the classical library with a wall of books.



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Interiors





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Heritage Reading Room Inspirations



Matisse again

Heritage Centre colour inspiration



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Heritage Reading Room Inspirations

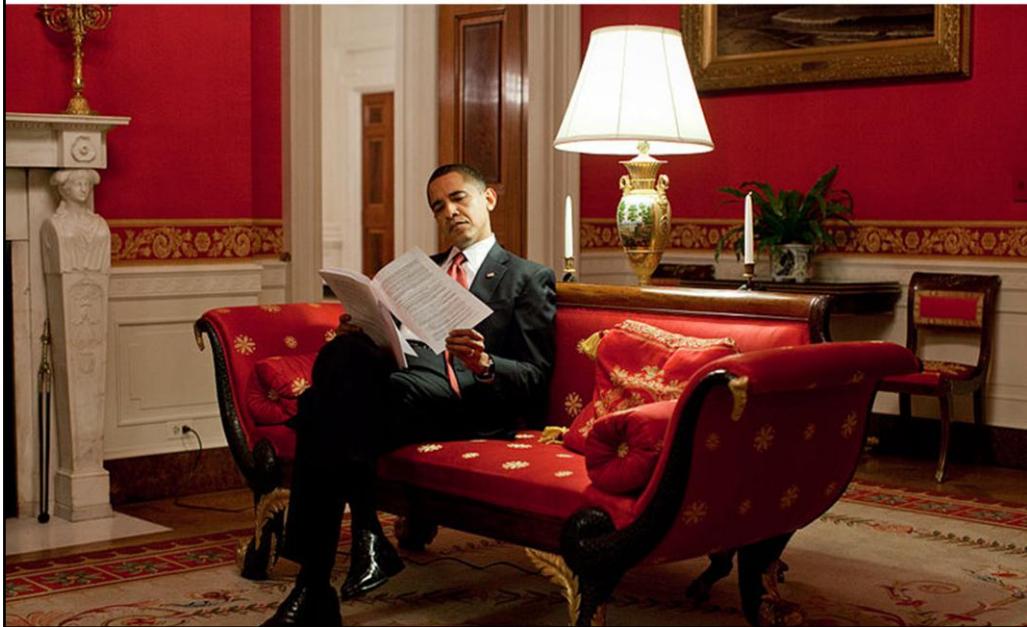


David Lynch as inspiration?



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Heritage Reading Room Inspirations



Obama's Reading Room.



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Heritage Reading Room samples



Obama's Reading Room.



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Heritage Reading Room



Heritage Centre Reading Room



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Heritage Reading Room



Heritage Centre Reading Room



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Event space inspirations



Mark Rothko painting *orange and yellow*

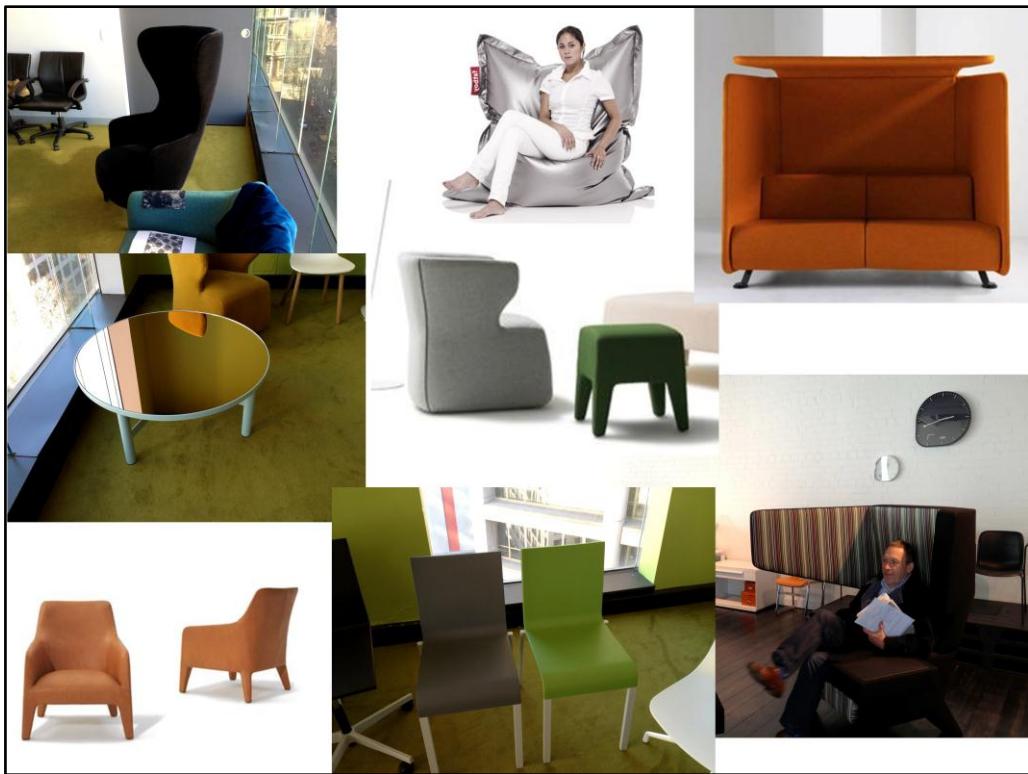


Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Event space



Flexible function space for up to 300 people
IT Video conferencing major events etc
Plating Kitchen
Balcony for 200.



Furniture will be high end in keeping with the magnificence of the building. No copies!



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Key Features

- Iconic dome design – reminiscent of great library reading rooms
- Anchor for the CBD cultural precinct – tourist attraction
- 5 Star Environmentally sustainable design
- Children's exploration and discovery zone
- Youth lounge
- Dedicated heritage centre including reading room and archival standard repository
- Headquarters and central library
- Café with terrace interacting with Johnstone Park
- Dedicated staff floor





Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Key Facts

- 6,000m² space
- 120,000 collection items
- 2km+ public archives and records 4th floor
- 4 library floors including a mezzanine
- 6 community meeting rooms
- New Technologies
- 300-seat function centre with 200 person capacity balcony
- \$45 million funding
- Demolition starts soon!
- Opening late 2015



Recap

Cutting edge landmark architecturally iconic library and heritage centre

In recognition that libraries are undergoing a radical shift and in fact reinvention

Significant cultural and learning institution befitting a major city

Looking forward to delivering exemplar services and spaces from Oct 2015 onwards.

Thanks For listening.



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

Thank you

More Information

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