

# MPAVILION

## ABOUT MPAVILION

MPavilion is Australia's leading architecture commission and design event held in Melbourne. Each year the [Naomi Milgrom Foundation](#) commissions a temporary pavilion from a leading international architect to house talks, workshops, performances and installations in the city oasis of the Queen Victoria Gardens. Built on collaborations, MPavilion is a step beyond the museum concept. It's a cultural laboratory and utopian space – a container of ideas and new civic space that encourages design debate and cultural exchange.

MPavilion's cross-disciplinary program brings together local and internationally celebrated practitioners and theorists from across fields of architecture, performance, fashion, science, art, technology and music – to undertake new collaborations, perform and present artistic works and engage in forward-thinking discussions around social and environmental change. MPavilion provides an inspiring community program as well as a public forum to discuss design's role in the creative city and issues of contemporary life and culture.

Major [partners](#) of MPavilion are the City of Melbourne, Victorian State Government through Creative Victoria, and RACV. MPavilion is also supported by a number of philanthropic foundations, cultural and educational institutions, and corporate partners.

## 2021 ARCHITECT – MAP STUDIO (VENICE)

In 2021, MPavilion welcomes international architecture, urbanism and design practice, [MAP studio \(Venice\)](#) as our designer. MAP studio—an architecture, urbanism and design practice based in Venice, Italy—is renowned for responding to existing sites in a way that is both sensitive and celebratory. It's an approach that will be especially poignant as MPavilion 2021 returns to its original home on Boon Wurrung land in the Queen Victoria Gardens.

A work more than two years in the making, MAP studio's MPavilion was originally slated for construction in 2020, with progress being postponed as the world responded to the COVID-19 crisis. But now, after wrapping our logistically flexible 2020 season, MPavilion can recommence work with MAP studio to bring its vision to fruition. Led by architects Francesco Magnani and Traudy Pelzel (from whose surnames the name MAP is derived), the studio will reignite the flame of global partnership at MPavilion with its joyful iteration of Melbourne's favourite cultural laboratory.

## ABOUT NAOMI MILGROM FOUNDATION

The [Naomi Milgrom Foundation](#) was founded in 2014, and its purpose is to enrich Australian cultural life by engaging new audiences with exceptional art, design and architecture. The Foundation, led by Naomi Milgrom AO, has become a model for public-private collaboration by enabling new projects with a focus on public, industry and education components.

MPavilion is the foundation's main project and is regarded as Australia's principal architecture commission. The [Living Cities Forum](#), its sister project, is an annual gathering of leading global architects and design innovators.

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## 2014 - 2019 ARCHITECTS

Australian architect [Sean Godsell](#) designed the inaugural MPavilion in 2014. The design was inspired by iconic outback sheds and verandas. Godsell's commission "A simple 12-metre by 12-metre steel structure with glazed roof and fully automated outer skin," opens and closes to echo the way plants respond to the sun.

MPavilion 2015 was designed by British architect [Amanda Levete of AL A](#). Widely seen as setting the agenda for architecture in the 21st century Levete used materials and technology developed for the aerospace industry to create a graceful "forest canopy" of five and three metre-wide translucent petals supported on slender four metre columns.

MPavilion 2016 was designed by [Bijoy Jain of Studio Mumbai](#) in India. The pavilion draws on traditional skills, local building techniques and limited resources — and is part of an international movement in handmade architecture using bamboo, stone, and rope to create an extraordinary summer pavilion.

The 2017 pavilion is the work of [OMA/ Rem Koolhaas & David Gianotten](#). MPavilion 2017 comprises a circular amphitheatre embraced by a hill of indigenous plants and covered by a huge floating roof structure. It's shaped by two tiered grandstands: one fixed, the other movable. The rotating grandstand allows interaction from all angles and for the pavilion to open up to the garden and broader cityscape.

Barcelona-based architect [Carne Pinós of Estudio Carne Pinós](#) was the 2018 architect. Inspired by Pinos' philosophy around inclusivity and universal connection the pavilion intersected horizontal and vertical form, with floating planes connecting the pavilion to the community, as well as the city's landscape.

Arguably Australia's most recognised architect, [Glen Murcutt](#) was the 2019 architect. Murcott's design relays his long standing interest in buildings that make efficient use of site and climatic conditions. Prioritising a view of the river and city skyline, the MPavilion consists of a climate responsive rectangular plan with steel frames supporting wing-like trusses covered in tensioned translucent fabric, resulting in a buoyant white roof that will be lit from within at night.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT

The architect for each pavilion is chosen by the Naomi Milgrom Foundation on the strength of their international profile and ability to encourage design debate and make a meaningful contribution to Australian creative industries.

At the end of each season the MPavilion is then gifted by the Foundation to the people of Victoria and relocated to a new permanent home to be engaged by the community. The Foundation has so far gifted five MPavilions. MPavilion 2019, designed by Glenn Murcutt AO, was gifted to the University of Melbourne and relocated to their University Square; MPavilion 2017, designed by Netherlands-based

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duo Rem Koolhaas and David Gianotten of OMA, can now be found on the grounds of Monash University's Clayton campus; MPavilion 2016, designed by Bijoy Jain of India's Studio Mumbai, is located at Melbourne Zoo; MPavilion 2015, designed by AL\_A, the studio of British architect Amanda Levete, has a permanent home in Melbourne's Docklands; and MPavilion 2014, designed by Australian architect Sean Godsell of Sean Godsell Architects, can be found at Melbourne's Hellenic Museum.

## ACCOLADES & AWARDS

In 2017 **Wallpaper\*** listed MPavilion as 'one of the top buildings that shaped culture' and in 2015, 'one of 15 installations that capture the global imagination'. **Designboom** listed MPavilion in the world's top 10 temporary structures for 2016 and 2015.

MPavilion 2014 won the **DETAIL PRIZE** in 2016 and the **Australian Institute of Architect's 2015 Victorian Architecture Award** for Small Project Architecture. The design was shortlisted for the **2014 World Architecture News (WAN) Award**, Temporary Spaces and the **Australian Institute of Architect's 2015 Victorian Architecture Award, Melbourne Prize**. MPavilion 2015 was also shortlisted for the **2015 World Architecture News Award**, Small Spaces. In 2016 it received a High Commendation in the Buildings and Structures Category at the **Victorian Engineering Excellence Awards** and was shortlisted by the UK's **Institution of Structural Engineers** for the Structural Awards. MPavilion 2017 won the Architecture Proposed award at the **Melbourne Design Awards** and was shortlisted at the **World Architecture Festival Small Spaces Award**.

MPavilion 2021 will open free to the public on **11 November 2021 until March 2022**

