Batmania

'The Real Batman'

Studio Outline
Batmania 'The Real Batman' is a design enquiry focused on a critique of public open space and sites of memorial or commemoration. The studio will explore/develop a possible relationship between the Urban Park and the Memorial as two examples of public space that exist within our cities. The studio asks students to explore the history of urban landscapes and to develop an attitude towards the notion of memorial. Students will be encouraged to consider and test their stance through a series of urban design responses to the site.

The proposed site for the studio is along the Northbank of the Yarra River from Flinders Street Station (Princess Bridge) to the new ANZ Building (Charles Grimes Bridge). Students will investigate the spaces along this linear site; Batman Park will be the initial departure point for students to consider how it connects to the city, to the river and the Northbank pedestrian promenade. Accordingly design propositions will be encouraged to extend beyond the confines of the immediate site.

Memorial and commemorative spaces have been defined through numerous architectural, landscape and art practices. Students will be encouraged to investigate a range of built and unbuilt precedents which explore the evolution of these types of spaces in terms of: Identity, Permanence, Legibility, Materiality, Cultural Relevance.

Classes: Tuesday 5.30 - 8.30pm + Friday 2.30 - 5.30pm

Sean van der Velden + Andrew Ridge