The design studio offers the chance to explore and experience the world’s largest metropolis through design. In addition to being the world’s largest most populated space, Tokyo has one of the world’s highest urban densities. In Tokyo, the amount of open space is 6% of the urban area; in Melbourne it is around 35%. In Tokyo persons have access to less than one square meter of open space on average, peak density is 13,650 persons per square kilometer. What are the consequences for (landscape) architectural design?
The experience of urban density and the almost complete lack of open space is a fundamental experience for every (landscape) architect. The personal experience of urban density and the limitations of space, as well as the observation of specific strategies of addressing the lack of space will enable students to develop design strategies specifically for small spaces in Tokyo.
In the tension between dense and void, the studio seeks to explore interventions in small vacant plots of land as a medium of experience and as generator for design.

The studio seeks to address the potential of the temporary within the fabric of Tokyo. Design perspectives that take intercultural understandings of space and appropriation into account will be the driver for Tokyo Void.
The studio design project will be to develop and design a temporary installation for a small vacant plot in Tokyo. Students will engage critically with environmental and cultural sustainability in the dichotomy of density and void, chaos and order, innovation and tradition.
The activities in the studio will include design interventions, mapping, recording, and explorative experiments through workshop and fieldwork. The studio is conducted in cooperation with the Urban Design laboratory of Associate Prof. Hiroshi OTA and a team of tutors of the University of Tokyo, Institute of Industrial Science (IIS).
The work will inform a design publication and will be linked to the Tokyo Void research project that is currently undertaken by researchers of The University of Tokyo, the University of Adelaide and RMIT University.

**Schedule**
**Semester 1 2010**
Design Studio Intensive
Landscape Architecture | Architecture | Interior Design

**Tokyo Studio** April 5-17 2010
Cost approx. 2000-2500$ (including airfare and accommodation)

Coordination
Dr. Marieluise Jonas
Expressions of interest/ questions
marieluise.jonas@rmit.edu.au

All potential participants have to submit a written statement of interest by February 23rd11am via email and be available for selection interviews on the 24th.