URBAN VOICES
Celebrating urban design in Australia

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The idea for this book arose from the publication of the 100th edition of Urban Design Forum, the quarterly publication initiated by a small group of enthusiasts in Melbourne in 1986. The intention is to celebrate that significant marker and urban design progress in Australia since that time.

Urban design in Australia is a work in progress. The intention for this publication is to provide a useful reference book, a resource that can assist future planning and design action in our cities and towns.

The past 25 years have seen radical changes in nearly all spheres of life in Australia, and the world. Think: climate change, population and household structure, immigration movements and urbanisation, as well as media and communications, finance, and governance.

Few people doubt that the challenges facing Australia (and the world) are immense and urgent, although there might be a desire in all of us to ignore the challenges and simply enjoy a happy and prosperous life.

What has energised the Editors (shared by the Authors in their own voices) is the contention and confidence that creative and skilled urban design has made a very important contribution in the past 25 years and, more importantly, will be a key tool in addressing the challenges ahead.

John Byrne, Bill Chandler and Bruce Eckberg, Editors
June 2013

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