

The Walls Around Us Student Competition

Issued 27 June 2022. Version 1.

Entrant Kit

Stage 1 Key Dates:

Competition Launch	Sunday 10 July 2022
Entries open	Friday 14 October 2022, 9 am AEST
Entries close	Monday 30 January 2023, 4 pm AEST

Stage 2 Key Dates (indicative):

Review by Jury	February 2023
Winner's announcement	March 2023
Exhibition of finalist entries	March 2023

The Competition key dates are subject to change by the Organisers.

Prize:

- Return economy airfare to attend the Biennale Architettura 2023.
- Vernissage and Brickworks Austral Bar pass.

Jury:

Eve Castle (QLD)
National Business Development Manager, Brickworks Building Products

Prof Philip Goad (VIC)
Redmond Barry Distinguished Professor and Chair of Architecture, University of Melbourne
Director, Robin Boyd Foundation

Simon Pandal PhD FRAIA (WA)
Principal, Simon Pandal Architect
Senior Lecturer, Architecture, School of Arts and Sciences, Fremantle, The University of Notre Dame Australia

Enquiries:

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Robin Boyd Foundation
www.robinboyd.org.au

Presented by the Robin Boyd Foundation and the Boyd Circle The Walls Around Us Student Competition is generously Sponsored by Brickworks Building Products.

The Walls Around Us Student Competition

Overview:

Some of the most interesting buildings are architects' own homes.

Robin Boyd made a beautiful and experimental home Boyd House II/Walsh Street for his family in South Yarra.

Boyd tested things.

There were very different issues and concerns in 1957, and the world is not the same in 2022. No doubt Boyd would design something different if he was alive today. This competition asks you to reflect on the interests and ideas of Boyd and his contribution to architecture through the lens of his own home.

We ask you to consider 'the walls around us' and design a new way to live on this site. We invite you to consider a proposition that speaks to our immediate concerns as a society, and we ask you that your design principally uses brickwork or blockwork in a way that demonstrates the unique qualities and possibilities of these materials.

Project Brief:

Participants are invited to submit their designs for a reimagined development of the Boyd House II/Walsh Street site at 290 Walsh Street, South Yarra VIC 3141. Entries must:

- Design a place to live.
- Demonstrate an exploration into the ideas and interests of Robin Boyd.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the experimental vision of Boyd House II/Walsh Street.
- Respond to the site and context of 290 Walsh Street, South Yarra VIC 3141.
- Incorporate a proposition relating to one or more of:
 - Caring for Country
 - Housing Affordability
 - Increased density
 - Reuse/repair/reimagine
 - Sustainability
- Be a minimum of two dwellings (there is no maximum).
- Be a maximum of three storeys.
- Should principally be constructed of brickwork or blockwork demonstrating the unique qualities and possibilities of the materials.

Evaluation Criteria:

The Jury will assess the merit of each Entry against the following Criteria:

1. Engagement with the ideas, vision, theories and research of Robin Boyd with particular focus on the Boyd House II/Walsh Street residence.
2. A proposal which provides a response to environmental, economic, social, and cultural issues through architecture.
3. Understanding and creative use of material qualities and possibilities provided by brickwork and blockwork.
4. A creative and viable response to the site and context of 290 Walsh Street, South Yarra VIC 3141.
5. Presentation, clarity and quality of graphics, text and submitted materials.

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Resources: [Asset Centre for Entrants](#)

Design Site:

Boyd House II, or **Walsh Street**, was designed by **Robin Boyd** for his family in 1957 and is an exemplar of modernist Australian architecture. Boyd used the opportunity to reject domestic convention and build an experimental house of programmatic and technical innovation and mastery.

[290 Walsh Street, South Yarra Victoria 3141.](#)

[Site plan and survey pdf.](#)

[Site plan and survey CAD.](#)

[Site photographs.](#)

[Walsh Street virtual tour.](#)

[Walsh Street existing drawing 1.](#)

[Walsh Street existing drawing 2.](#)

Suggested Reading:

[The Australian Ugliness](#), Robin Boyd.

[The Walls Around Us](#), Robin Boyd. Out of print - check your local or University Library.

[Spatial Continuity](#), Mauro Baracco and Louise Wright.

[Robin Boyd Late Works](#), Peter Raisbeck and Christine Phillips.

[Rewriting Architecture - 10+1 Actions for an Adaptive Architecture](#), Eds Floris Alkemade, Michiel van Iersel, Jarrik Ouburg and Mark Minkjan

[Building on Country](#), Alison Page and Paul Memmott

Brick and Blockwork:

[Brickworks Carbon Neutral Products.](#)

Brickworks is Australia's first brick and paver manufacturer to achieve not just one – but two – important Climate Active Product Certifications. The first certification was achieved in 2014, for Daniel Robertson Longford in Tasmania. All of Brickworks bricks manufactured here are made sustainably using low emissions biofuel. The second is a genuine industry first – a new opt-in program to specify and procure any clay brick or paver made in our Australian facilities as a carbon neutral product.

A carbon calculator has been developed for Brickworks by energy consultant, Energetics. The calculator estimates the carbon emissions generated from the entire life cycle of the brick – from extraction of clay, production of bricks, delivery to the customer, and end-of-life disposal. Carbon credits are purchased by Brickworks, from a carbon broker, to offset the calculated emissions from the life cycle of bricks.

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Preparing your Entry:

To be eligible, the Applicant must submit their Entry via the online form by 4.00 pm AEST Monday 30 January 2023.

Online form: <https://robinboyd.org.au/thewallsarounduscompetition/>

The online form will be accessible from 9 am Friday 14 October 2022.

To submit your Entry, you will need to have prepared the following information.

All Entry text must be in English.

Your panels must not include ANY information that may give away your identity.

Upon submitting your Entry you will receive a confirmation email.

Contact Information:

- Applicant name
- Applicant university, course, year of study (most recently undertaken)
- Applicant email
- Applicant mobile number
- Applicant address

Entry:

- Title of Entry
- How does your design demonstrate engagement with The Walls Around Us Student Project Brief? (Maximum 2000 characters/approx. 500 words)
- Short biography (Maximum 500 characters/approx. 50 words), written in the third person)

Support Materials:

The Walls Around Us Student Competition accepts Support Material as a single weblink to an online folder.

Please provide the following in your online folder:

- Maximum of four A2 sheets in portrait format. Each sheet is to be supplied as a single pdf (300 dpi, not exceeding 10 MB).
Sheets are to include as a minimum:
 - Plans, elevations and sections at maximum scale 1:100
 - One A2 sheet in each submission must be provided as a 'hero' panel in a poster format suitable for exhibition purposes. This selected panel should be number as Sheet 1 in the file name.

Support Material Guide:

- Please provide ONE link to a Google Drive or Dropbox folder containing ALL your Support Material and set sharing permissions to ANYONE WITH THE LINK CAN VIEW.
- Instructions for how to correctly set your sharing permissions for Google Drive: https://support.google.com/docs/answer/2494822-link_sharing
- Please ensure ALL files uploaded into this folder are saved with the Applicant name in the file name, for example: *Applicant Lastname_Applicant Firstname_The Walls Around Us-Sheet #.pdf*
- Please do NOT upload zipped files.

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Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Can I visit the Boyd House II/Walsh Street site?

Yes, individuals can book to attend our public Guided Tours.

Hosted by Robin Boyd Foundation volunteer guides, the tour presentation lasts approximately 45 minutes and is followed by an opportunity to explore the house, ask questions and take photos.

Our usual rate for this is \$28 per student.

Find out more and book your ticket [HERE](#).

Guided tours for university or private groups are available at request.

University and private groups can also opt to book a 20-minute site visit for which there will be no charge.

Guided Tour / Site Visit Enquiries:

Josephine Briginshaw

josephine@robinboyd.org.au

Engagement Manager

Robin Boyd Foundation

2. Can I enter as a group?

No, The Walls Around Us Student Competition is open only to individuals.

3. I graduated during 2022, can I still enter as a student?

Yes, the competition is open to any student enrolled during the 2022 year.

Please provide details of your latest year of study completed in your Entry.

4. Are you sure you want us to demolish Boyd House II/Walsh Street?

Imagine that the current house was never constructed and the site is empty, awaiting your new proposal.

5. Can I submit a physical model?

The competition will be judged on only the content of the A2 project panels noted in the Support Materials, no physical submissions (including models) will be accepted. We would however love to see some photographs of your models or 3D renders embedded within the panel submission.

6. I have further questions!

Please direct all further queries to:

Josephine Briginshaw

josephine@robinboyd.org.au

Engagement Manager

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Frequently Asked Questions will be updated online at:

<https://robinboyd.org.au/thewallsarounduscompetition/>