

Aotearoa Festival of Architecture 2026



Te Kāhui Whaihanga
New Zealand Institute of Architects

Auckland Branch
Tāmaki Makaurau - Te Tai Tokerau

Auckland

Tāmaki Makaurau +
Te Tai Tokerau

02-25 September

Architecture presentations,
exhibitions, tours & open
studios across the motu.



Go to nzia.co.nz to book





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Event Programme

The Road not Taken

Severin Soder opens the Architectus archive to reveal unseen concepts, discarded directions, and pivotal alternatives that shaped - and rivaled - the realized built work.
— **Wednesday 2nd Sept, 6pm, Objectspace, 13 Rose Road, Ponsonby**

in:situ 2026 + CAA General Assembly

Hosted in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland by the NZIA, the in:situ Conference is co-located with the 60th anniversary of the Commonwealth Association of Architects' General Assembly, connecting global architectural bodies and showcasing New Zealand's unique culture and design.
— **Tuesday 8th - Thursday 10th Sept, Aotea Centre.**

Opening: In the image of the city

Through photography and moving image, this exhibition documents the margins of our built environments to reveal how urban edges function as complex frontiers of resource, community, and ecology. Curated by Kathy Waghorn and Kim Paton.
— **Thursday 10th Sept, 6pm, Objectspace, 13 Rose Road, Ponsonby**

Open Studios

Ever wanted to go behind the scenes of an architecture studio to find out what architects do and how they do it? Join architects in their studios and talk to them about their work
— **Saturday 12th Sept, 10am - 2pm, See nzia.co.nz for locations across the city**

The Design Studio: Drawing Ideas, Making Architecture

This exhibition celebrates Unitec Architecture students by showcasing drawings and physical models as essential tools for architectural

inquiry, experimentation, and problem-solving.

— **Opening: Saturday 12 Sept 12pm-4pm**
— **Exhibition: Sunday 13 Sept, 10am-3pm**
— **ASC Architects, 17 Maidstone Street, Grey Lynn**

Ockham Lecture

Join us at Objectspace for an Ockham Lecture featuring guest speakers who will expand on the key themes of In the image of the city.
— **Wednesday 16th Sept, 6pm, Objectspace, 13 Rose Road, Ponsonby**

Nathan Homestead Pukepuke Tour

Auckland Council staff invite you on a heritage tour to explore the history, gardens, and recent refurbishments of this historic estate.
— **Friday 18th Sept, 11am, Nathan Homestead, 70 Hill Road Manurewa**

Fisher and Paykel Appliances Global Headquarters Tour

Co-hosted by DINZ and NZIA, this event offers afternoon of kōrero and wānanga, with guided tours of two key Fisher & Paykel Auckland locations to explore how architecture supports iconic brand identity.
— **Friday 18th Sept, 12pm, Fisher & Paykel Experience Centre and Global Headquarters**

Architect's Ain't Boring

This fast-paced evening invites Auckland architects to present 20 slides at 20 seconds each under the prompt "Don't be boring," celebrating the lighthearted and varied joys of the profession.
— **Friday 18th Sept, 6pm, Neon Theatre, University of Auckland, 22 Symonds Street**

Auckland Archi-Tours

Discover your city through behind the scenes tours of some of the most significant

works of architecture in Tāmaki Makaurau/ Auckland.

— **Saturday 12th and 19th Sept, go to nzia.co.nz for times and locations**

Futuna Lecture Series

The 2026 Futuna Lecture Series features Australian presenters Catherine Hunter and Nick Sissons, both collaborators with renowned architect Glenn Murcutt.
— **Saturday 19th Sept, 6:30pm, St Mary's Holy Trinity Parnell**

Futuna Trust Documentary

Two of Catherine's documentaries will be screened the day after the lecture.
— **Sunday 20th Sept, 6:30pm, Academy Cinemas, 44 Lorne Street, Auckland CBD**

Mapping Memories

Through drawing and collage, participants collaboratively combine personal memories of Auckland and beyond to map out a speculative, reimagined city.
— **Sunday 20th Sept, 2pm - 6pm, for more information, go to nzia.co.nz**

Using Our Past to Enhance Our Future: Recycling Buildings to Achieve Unique, Sustainable Outcomes

Robert Morris-Nunn will discuss how integrating prior structures and innovative timber design enriches new developments, highlighting his "storytelling" approach through dramatic yet inclusive architectural interventions
— **Monday 21st Sept, 6:30pm, Design Theatre University of Auckland, 22 Symonds Street**

Scope Creep – AI & Re-Invention

This panel examines how AI is transforming architectural

practice and education by reinventing tools, streamlining documentation workflows, and redefining entry-level roles for future architects.

— **Tuesday 22nd Sept, 6pm, Objectspace, 13 Rose Road, Ponsonby**

Weaving Connections

Co-hosted by Architecture + Women.NZ and Women in Urbanism Aotearoa, Weaving Connections brings together design and planning professionals to foster community, network, and discuss the future of inclusive cities.
— **Wednesday 23rd Sept, 5:30pm, Saint Alice, 1/204 Quay Street, Auckland CBD**

Bodies and Space in Architectural Drawing Book Launch

Bodies and Space in Architectural Drawing presents Marian Macken and Carl Douglas's exploration of architectural drawing as a full-scale, bodily, and temporal practice that reframes how space is conceived and inhabited.
— **Thursday 24th Sept, 6pm, Objectspace, 13 Rose Road, Ponsonby**

The Great Debate

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, The Great Debate returns to the School of Engineering's Neon Lecture Theatre with moderator Wallace Chapman and a lineup of notable past debaters, followed by the end-of-festival party.
— **Friday 25th Sept, 6pm, Neon Theatre University of Auckland, 22 Symonds Street**

Join in Auckland! See you there!

Go to nzia.co.nz to book tickets

