



peter elliot
architecture+
urban design

latrobe university visual arts centre

location view street bendigo victoria australia

status completed march 2005

client latrobe university

photography trevor mein

The Latrobe University Visual Arts Centre is located in the View Street Arts Precinct directly opposite the Bendigo Art Gallery and the Capital Theatre. The project will give the university an off campus presence within central Bendigo for the promotion of its visual arts program. This includes a small public gallery and lecture theatre as well as postgraduate artist studios, a print workshop and an artist-in-residence apartment. The venue will showcase the visual arts through lectures, displays and workshops as well as joint programs with the Bendigo Art Gallery.

The new building infills a section of established streetscape made up of one and two storey shops, cafes and a pub. The View Street frontage is composed of two (unequal) floating glass screens which acts as a veil to the main structure beyond. Artist, Robyn Burgess has produced a shimmering didactic image called "Future Cities", which fills the entire facade and brings

art to the street in a very dramatic way. Inside the spaces are arranged around a series of interlinked courtyards strung along a central circulation spine. Every internal space has a companion outdoor space, which produces a very dynamic and fluid spatial arrangement as you journey through the building.

"We are immensely proud of the Visual Arts Centre...and its wonderful inspired design..." Professor Lorraine Ling, Dean Faculty of Education & Director, Bendigo Campus 2006

"...the strength of the Visual Arts Centre is the clear architectural expression of revised notions of the educational institution and its engagement within the region..." AIA Regional Prize jury 2006

