In responding to the design brief for the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct and the opportunities it presents, we have assembled a design team representing the fields and competencies necessary to achieve the project’s aspirations to the highest degree.

This interdisciplinary team represents leaders and visionaries in their respective fields. Converging around this opportunity the fields of architecture, urban design, ecology, landscape, culture and engineering are represented and interspersed in a truly collaborative structure.

By engaging across disciplines around a driving desire to create an end user focused, ‘super green’ and inspiring precinct, the team benefits from a multiplicity of knowledge and perspectives to dream, create and deliver an integrated vision for the precinct.

We believe that through this interdisciplinary collaboration, we are truly greater than the sum of any given parts.
The re-development of Merewether Surf House - Newcastle seeks to reinvigorate the heart of Newcastle’s East End, the project seeks to connect and integrate the surrounding urban experience.

The development of the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Design Competition aims to enhance the identity of the emerging Commercial District to the North Western urban scale this development strives for this 891ha site is guiding the design of a field development.

The lobby area during a performance in the Merewether Surf House - Newcastle 80,000 sq ft venue.

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Activities Pavilion  The program is held within Pavilions, allowing multiple uses to overlap/share space

General organising principles for the cultural precinct:
1. Oasis of Tropical Australian Culture, an experiential and experimental community place
   The ramp is designed to provide a focus for community engagement and to become a place for community buildings with cultural plazas that support the everyday rhythms of life along with national and local cultural activities.

2. An aesthetically-fulfilling climate-responsive (bioclimatic) built form.
   The ramp’s sculptural form is designed with respect to the client’s requirement for a significant building in the region. The ‘viewing terrace’ gives panoramic views of the city and horizons that were not available previously.

3. A cultural emblematic and visually inspiring design
   A sandy colour will be used in the entire ramp to reflect the Gold Coast identity and to link cultural exploratory activities such as canopy walks, nature trails, heritage trails, outdoor movie screenings, and picnic areas into a seamless and singular experience.

4. A framework at innovation
   The design is an expression of elegance with comfortable spaces that are inviting to link cultural exploratory activities such as canopy walks, nature trails, heritage trails, outdoor movie screenings, and picnic areas into a seamless and singular experience.

5. A climate-responsive architectural design
   A climate-responsive design systemically tied to Queensland with passive low-energy systems such as evaporative-cooling, natural lighting, water sensitive urban design, bio-filtration and natural air circulation. Key expressions of this include the openings on the ramp that bring natural daylight and allow air circulation throughout the site.

6. Articulated and accessible public realms
   Four outdoor public realms; one at the entrance plaza, another directly below the ramp which serves as thematic shade garden, a third in the form of a plaza at the artificial beach and a fourth, the look out point at the East of the site. An ‘eco-bridge’ is proposed at the north of the site to reconnect the site with the ecology of the locality and form a greater Eco infrastructure.

7. An eco and deep green design as a ‘living system’
   The design has a continuous green ecological nexus throughout the site. Beyond exceeding LEED Platinum and Green Building Code ratings, we design an innovative vegetated green ‘eco-infrastructure’ that enhances the locality’s overall biodiversity, lowered heat island effect, and internally enhances the Bioplia benefits to the building’s users.

Narrative Response to The Brief

City of Gold Coast
Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Design Competition

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Golden Coast Cultural Precinct Design Competition

The Artscape weaves together artistic and botanical elements within the broader cultural landscape.

**Artscape Formal Program**
- Amphitheatre
- Seating
- Canopy walk
- Virtual Garden
- Media Hub
- Movie screenings on mist curtain
- Sculpture Garden
- Art installation
- Great terrace

**Artscape Informal Program**
- Interior program opens out onto ramp creating interaction and a vibrant setting.

**Programs: Events - Multiple**
- Multiple events can be located throughout the precinct, either singularly or simultaneously.

**Artscape Programs: Large Event**
- Large events such as The Big Day Out, Marathon, Eisteddfods, Good Vibrations Festival are facilitated by natural amphitheatre qualities of the ramp.
The Living Art Centre program is situated throughout the cultural landscape as multi-functional shared facilities, reducing required floor space. The Museum program is situated throughout the cultural landscape as multi-functional shared facilities, reducing required floor space.