

Michael Rayner AM

BArch(Hons1) (UNSW), LFRAIA, FTSE, RIBA, BOAQ, NSWARB
Director

BlightRayner



Contact

michael.rayner@blightrayner.com.au

Education

Bachelor of Architecture (Honours 1),
University of New South Wales, 1980

Memberships & Affiliations

Member of the Order
of Australia (AM)
Australian Academy of Technological
Sciences + Engineering Fellow
Australian Institute of
Architects Life Fellow
Royal Institute of British
Architects Associate

Registration

Board of Architects of QLD,
Registration No. 2495
NSW Architects Registration
Board, No. 4348

Current Positions

Adjunct Professor in Architecture,
University of Queensland
Adjunct Professor in Architecture,
Griffith University
Brisbane City Council Urban
Futures Board Member
Queensland Urban Design
+ Places Panel Member
Property Industry Foundation
QLD Board Member

Background

Michael Rayner is a Director of Blight Rayner Architecture formed in 2016. He was previously Principal Director of Cox Rayner Architects which he established in Brisbane in 1990. In both capacities, Michael has contributed widely to the urban design quality of Queensland, and he has been integral in the creation of major international public buildings such as the National Maritime Museum of China in Tianjin and the Helix Pedestrian Bridge in Singapore.

Michael is a Life Fellow of the Australian Institute of Architects and a Fellow of the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. In 2011, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for services to architecture and urban design in Australia, and to the Queensland community. He has been an Adjunct Professor in Architecture at the University of Queensland since 2009, and an Adjunct Professor in Architecture at Griffith University since 2014.

Education

Michael graduated with First Class Honours from the University of NSW in 1980, his final year thesis winning the Building Science Forum of Australia National Architecture Thesis Medal. While at Philip Cox and Partners in Sydney, he was awarded the Australian Institute of Architects Byera Hadley Travelling Scholarship and the Australian Institute of Architects ACI Travelling Scholarship.

Professional

Michael is a Past President of the Australian Institute of Architects Queensland Chapter (2000-02). He has served on several Queensland Government Boards and Councils, including the Premier's Smart State Council (2006-12), Queensland Design Council (2009-12) and Queensland Creative Industries Leadership Group (2004-12). He was a representative of the Health sector at the Australian Government's Ideas Summit in Canberra in 2008, and a Councillor of the Australian Business Arts Foundation (1997-2011). He is currently a member of the Brisbane Lord Mayor's Urban Futures Board and the Queensland Government's Urban Design Advisory Panel.

Industry Leadership

Michael was one of three Creative Directors of the Australian Institute of Architects National Conference in Brisbane in 2012. He was the Awards Director for the Queensland Architecture Awards in the same year. He has been a National Councillor of the Australian Institute of Architects, and has participated in numerous panels fostering improved design delivery processes.

Michael is a long term Board member of the Property Industry Foundation which provides housing for Queensland's homeless youth and victims of domestic violence.

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New Performing Arts Venue, South Bank



National Rugby Training Centre, Ballymore



South Bank South Master Plan



The Marian Centre, Brigidine College



Mary's Place, Dalby

Architecture

While Principal Director of Cox Rayner Architects, Michael played a significant design role in the design of many of Queensland's public, arts, educational, commercial and infrastructure projects. They include the Kurilpa and Goodwill Pedestrian Bridges, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane Magistrates Court, One One One Eagle Street, Griffith University's Sir Samuel Griffith Centre and its campus revitalisation, and the flood-resilient Brisbane Ferry Terminals. In regional Queensland, his projects include Thuringowa Riverway and the Flinders Street Revitalisation in Townsville, Cairns Convention Centre, Artspace Mackay and Griffith University Health Centre on the Gold Coast. Michael's current projects include the New Performing Arts Venue at QPAC in South Bank and the National Rugby Training Centre at Ballymore in Brisbane.

Urban Design

Michael has equally contributed through master planning and urban design to Queensland urban environments. They include, while at Cox Rayner, Griffith University's Nathan and Gold Coast Campuses, the Newstead-Teneriffe Urban Waterfront in Brisbane, the Queensland Cultural Centre Millennium Arts Precinct, and Cairns Cityport. Internationally his Cox Rayner master plans have won several international competitions - including Singapore's Marina Bay, the Singapore Management University and Yichang and Ningbo City Centres in China.

Michael is currently master planner for the Ballymore multi-sports precinct in Brisbane and for South Bank's Maritime Museum Precinct.

Pro-Bono

Michael has at any one time a project being undertaken pro-bono for organisations with important causes. They have included the Youngcare Foundation, Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum in Winton, and the Many Shades Orphanage in Tanzania. He is currently designing a housing complex at Logan for young victims of domestic violence on behalf of the Property Industry Foundation and Lady Musgrave Trust.

Public Engagement

Michael has delivered several significant public speeches over thirty years, including at the FIDIC International Engineering Convention in Switzerland in 2001, at the Mikhail Gorbachev-led Earth Dialogues Forum in Brisbane in 2011, and for the Australian Embassy in Beijing under the title 'Australia-Living on the Edge' in 2018. He has spoken at the Victorian Art Gallery, the Gallery of Modern Art Brisbane, the State Library of Queensland, and the Queensland Performing Arts Centre, and given many television and radio interviews. He delivered the Planning Institute of Australia's Keeble Lecture in 2019. In 2023, Michael presented a strategy for revitalising the Brisbane City Centre to the Property Council of Australia's Be Bold conference and the UDIA's Queensland Developers Conference leading up to the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Awards

Michael led his previous firm to 7 World Architecture Festival Awards, and has twice won the Australia Award for Urban Design. In 2010, he won First Prize in the Architecture category of the London International Creative Competition. He has led or was integral to projects that have been awarded 5 National Australian Institute of Architects Awards and more than 30 Australian Institute of Architects named Queensland Awards.

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Projects Won in International Competition

New Performing Arts Venue, QPAC,
South Bank Brisbane, 2018
National Maritime Museum of
China*, Tianjin, 2013
Helix Pedestrian Bridge*, Singapore, 2010
Singapore Management University
Headquarters*, Singapore, 2006
Marina Bay Master Plan*, Singapore, 2000
Yichang City Centre Master Plan*, China, 2000
Singapore EXPO*, Singapore, 1999

Major Publications & Papers

2023 'Brisbane's Green Corridors'
for Brisbane City Council
2019 Keeble Lecture, Planning Institute
2014 "From the Ground Up: 20 Stories
of a Life in Architecture", Uro Media
2011 "Creating Healthy Communities" Qld
Government Smart State Council,
2008 "Queensland Design Industries Strategy",
Qld Government Smart State Council
2007 "Smart Cities: Rethinking the City Centre",
Qld Government Smart State Council

Major Speaking Subjects

Australia: Living on the Edge
Influences of Modern Art on Modern
Architecture 1915-2015
Creative and Knowledge Cities
Structure, Craft, Art and Nature in Architecture
Integration of engineering and architecture
Duality in architecture

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Adjunct Professor in Architecture,
University of Queensland
Adjunct Professor in Architecture,
Griffith University
Brisbane City Council Urban
Futures Board Member
Queensland Urban Design +
Places Panel Member
Property Industry Foundation
QLD Board Member
Juror, World Architecture Festival Awards 2023

Past Positions

World Architecture Festival Awards
Super Jury, Singapore, 2014
Creative Director, Australian Institute of
Architects National Convention, Brisbane, 2012
Queensland Architecture State
Awards Director, 2012
University of Queensland Engineering
Architecture and IT Board, 2010-13
Queensland Government Board
of Urban Places, 2009-13
Queensland Design Council, 2010-13
Brisbane City Council Urban
Futures Board, 2008-12
Brisbane City Council Independent
Design and Advisory Panel, 2008-12
Australian Business Arts
Foundation Council, 2007-12
Queensland Premier's Smart
State Council, 2006-11
Queensland Premier's Business
Roundtable, 2009-11
Queensland Government Population Growth
Summit Organising Committee, 2010
Creative Industries Leadership Group,
Queensland Government, 2004-2010
Australian Government 2020 Ideas
Summit, Canberra, 2008
President Australian Institute of
Architects Queensland, 2000-2002

* Undertaken when working at Cox Architecture t/a Cox Rayner.

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Selected Projects - Blight Rayner

Cultural & Community

New Performing Arts Venue (with Jayson Blight), QPAC, South Bank, Brisbane, 2023
Mary's Place, (Dalby Town Square), Dalby, Western Downs, 2023
Townsville Concert Hall Business Case & Reference Design, 2022
Old Queensland Museum Revitalisation Strategy, Bowen Hills, Brisbane, 2019, 2022
Cavill Avenue and Esplanade Revitalisation Plan, Surfers Paradise, 2022
Bundaberg Regional Cultural Precinct Master Plan, 2021
South Bank Southern Gateway Precinct Master Plan, South Bank, Brisbane, 2020
Ipswich Convention and Entertainment Centre (ICEC) Business Case Design, Ipswich Showgrounds, 2020
North Australian Arts Precinct Master Plan, Townsville, 2024

Education

Griffith University Nathan Campus Spatial Plan, 2023
The Marian Centre, Brigidine College, Indooroopilly, Brisbane, 2020
Griffith University Logan Campus Master Plan, Meadowbrook, Logan, 2020

Sport

Griffith University Nathan Campus Health and Wellbeing Centre, Brisbane 2023
Logan Indoor Sports Centre Reference Design, Brisbane, 2023
Queensland Harness Centre Norwell, Queensland, 2023
Sunshine Coast Sports Centre Master Plan, 2023
Sunshine Coast Indoor Sports Centre Reference Design, 2023
National Rugby Training Centre (NRTC), Ballymore, Herston, Brisbane, 2023
New Eastern Stand, Ballymore, 2023

Ballymore Redevelopment Master Plan, Ballymore, 2022

Queensland Tennis Centre, Stage 2, Tennyson, Brisbane, 2020

Residential

Lady Musgrave Trust Housing for single mothers and children, 2023

Commercial

St Patrick's Church Office Development, Morgan Street, Fortitude Valley, 2023
St Stephen's Cathedral Precinct Office Tower, Brisbane, 2023
340 Queen Street Office Redevelopment, Brisbane, 2023
60 Queen Street Office Redevelopment, 2023
30 North Terrace Office & University Building, Adelaide, 2023
385-419 Macarthur Avenue, Northshore Hamilton, Brisbane, 2022

Selected Past Projects - Cox Rayner Architects

Cultural & Community

National Maritime Museum of China (with Jayson Blight), Tianjin, 2013–2016
Waltzing Matilda Museum (with Casey Vallance), Winton, 2008–2012
Australian Age Of Dinosaurs Museum (with Casey Vallance), Winton, 2008–2012
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Stage 2 (BCEC on Grey), South Brisbane, 2007–2012
Cairns Cultural (Entertainment) Precinct, 2011
Flinders Street Revitalisation, Townsville, 2011
Ipswich Justice Precinct, Ipswich, 2009
Thuringowa Riverway, Townsville, 2008
Cairns Esplanade Lagoons, 2004
Brisbane Magistrates Court, Brisbane CBD, 2004
Artspace Mackay, Mackay, 2001–2002
Museum Of Tropical Queensland, Townsville, 2001
Judith Wright Centre For The Contemporary Arts, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane, 2001
Brisbane Powerhouse Centre For The Live Arts (with City Design), New Farm, 2000
North Lakes Community Centre, Brisbane, 2000
Cairns Convention Centre, Cairns, 1996–2000
Singapore Expo, Singapore, 1999
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, South Brisbane, 1995

Education & Health

Griffith University Red Zones, Nathan & Gold Coast Campuses, 2015
Ian O'Connor Building (Formerly G40 Health Centre), Griffith University Gold Coast Campus, 2013
UQ Oral Health Centre, Herston, Brisbane, 2014
Sir Samuel Griffith Centre, Griffith University, Nathan Campus, Brisbane, 2012
Singapore Management University Headquarters, Singapore, 2006
All Hallows' School, Brisbane, 2003–2006
Princess Alexandra Hospital Redevelopment, Woolloongabba, Brisbane, 2001

Commercial

One One One Eagle Street (with Jayson Blight), Brisbane CBD, 2012
400 George Street, Brisbane CBD, 2009
SW1, South Bank, Brisbane, 2005–2009
Y&R Group House (Formerly Abigroup House), South Bank, Brisbane, 2006–2008
Singapore Management University HQ, 2006

Connections

Brisbane Post-Flood Ferry Terminals, 2011–2015
New Farm Riverwalk, Brisbane, 2011–2014
West End Ferry Terminal, Brisbane, 2008–2012
Helix Pedestrian Bridge, Singapore, 2010
Kurilpa Pedestrian Bridge, Brisbane CBD, 2009
Macintosh Island Pedestrian Bridge, Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast, 2007
Goodwill Pedestrian Bridge, Brisbane CBD, 2001

Masterplanning

Cairns Cityport Master Plan, Cairns, 2014
Griffith University Nathan Campus Master Plan & Revitalisation, 2013
Griffith University Gold Coast Campus Revitalisation, 2012
Thuringowa Riverway Master Plan, Townsville, 2008
River City Arena Master Plan, Brisbane, 2008
SW1 Mixed-Use Precinct Master Plan, South Bank, Brisbane, 2008
South Bank Institute of Technology Master Plan, South Bank, Brisbane, 2008
Smart Cities: Rethinking The City Centre Strategy, Brisbane, 2007
Millennium Arts Master Plan, Queensland Cultural Centre, Brisbane, 2002
Marina Bay Master Plan, Singapore, 2000
Yichang City Centre Master Plan, China, 2000
Newstead–Teneriffe Urban Renewal Master Plan, Brisbane, 2000
Newstead River Park Master Plan, Brisbane, 2000

Residential

Hill End House, Ryan Street, Hill End 2011