

Lunchtime series

*Provocations and Inspirations*

After the Crisis: a new Australian Dream?

**Professor Anthony Burke FRAIA**

Professor of Architecture, University of Technology Sydney

**Date:** Tuesday 21 October 2025  
12:15 pm for a 12:30 start.  
Finishes 2:00 pm.

**Venue:** Union University and Schools Club, 25 Bent Street, Sydney (corner of Bent and Phillip Streets)

**Registration:** Registration at [this link](#) is required **before 2.00 pm on Thursday, 16 October 2025**. Numbers are limited.

**Cost:** \$75 (RSNSW or UUSC members); \$85 (non-members/guests). *A warm meal and wine will be served for lunch.*

**Dress:** Smart business casual (jacket preferred). **No denim.**

After the Crisis: a new Australian Dream?

The housing crisis in Australia has been well reported. The impact of cost-of-living increases, interest rates and mortgage stress, the growing wage to home price disparity and, ultimately, homelessness are being felt across all demographics of an increasingly agitated electorate. Yet, while we all feel the growing instability and anxiety surrounding of our most sacred of institutions, the family home, the implications of the crisis for Australia remain spectacularly unclear, almost too difficult to consider.

While government and economists have distilled the issue down to simple and politically palatable issues of supply and demand, the cultural implications of our rapidly disappearing 'Australian Dream' and what might replace it, are much bigger than a balanced ledger and subsidised cheap builds on the green field peripheries of our major cities can fix.

Knowing that the solutions we implement today will have lasting implications for generations to come, this complex problem of how we will create homes for future generations of Australians and indeed what we will come to think of as a home in 2050 demands both careful and creative thinking. Arguably, this critical moment is nothing less than the biggest reshaping of our way of life in Australia since the Second World War.

So, a crisis, yes, but could this be an opportunity to rebalance our way of life with our Australian values? Join Professor Anthony Burke for this thought-provoking analysis of where we are, and where we're heading as Australia grapples with a reimagining of the Australian dream.

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## About the Speaker



Professor Anthony Burke is an internationally recognized academic and television presenter, who bridges contemporary architectural practice, education and public media. Currently Professor of Architecture at the University of Technology Sydney, Burke brings infectious enthusiasm to exploring how architecture and design shape our daily lives.

Burke is widely known as the host of *Grand Designs Australia* and *Restoration Australia* and co-host of *Grand Designs Transformations* on ABC. In 2025, he was part of producing *Culture by Design* with ABC Asia and now hosts *The Home Front* on ABC Radio National. His engaging presentation style has made architectural design accessible to mainstream Australian audiences, with *Grand Designs Australia* receiving an ACTAA award in 2025 and Logie nominations.

A graduate of Columbia University and UNSW (first-class honors), Burke served as Assistant Professor at UC Berkeley from 2002-2007 before returning to Australia. At UTS, he held leadership roles including Head of Architecture and Associate Dean International, and has held visiting professor positions at Beijing Institute of Technology and Institut Teknologi Bandung.

In 2012, Burke served as co-creative director for the Australian Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale and directed the architecture symposium celebrating the Sydney Opera House's 40th anniversary.