

Dissents and Dispositions
Conference of the Law, Literature and Humanities
Association of Australasia
City of Melbourne: La Trobe Law School and Melbourne Law School
12-14 December 2017

Stream Call for Papers

Stream: Public Art, Public Law?

Part of the urban streetscape, public art in its various guises can often be simply walked past and overlooked; as Robert Musil declares, 'there is nothing in this world as invisible as a monument'. This stream intends to draw scholarly attention back on to the aesthetic and legal dimensions of public art – the installations and placed material objects – which are designed to carry the stories of a city.

We invite contributions in the spirit of cross-disciplinary humanities and legal research to open up a dialogue exploring how the 'public' nature of art expresses, represses, subverts or simply ignores the 'public' nature of law. We are interested in whether public art in its various guises can be a method of dissent (or assent) enabling legal relations in a city to take a material form. Also relevant is the way public art can shape the disposition of the viewer, as well as its site in urban space – its character, its ethos – and whether that can shift over time.

We welcome scholars to explore these questions and many others from diverse disciplines such as public art, jurisprudence, art history, visual cultures, history, Indigenous studies, geography, memory studies, cultural studies, architecture, criminology and any other interested areas.

Please submit panels or individual proposals or expressions of other ideas by 30 June 2017 (noting your interest in the Public Art Public Law Stream) to the general conference submission email address: llhaaconference@gmail.com

Proposals should consist of a short abstract (max. 250 words) and a short author bio.

Any queries, please contact the stream organisers:

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