



HELMET
Melbourne, Australia

Helmet is a new gateway between Melbourne's northern and eastern suburbs and entry marker for the Museum of Modern Art at Heide. It is a synthesis of landscape and sculpture that attempts to engage with its physical site, cultural context and other theoretical concerns. It takes the form of a faceted landform, unfolding out of which are black steel and rubber elements; sculptural abstractions of Sidney Nolan's abstracted pictorial treatment of Ned Kelly's headpiece and armour. In Nolan's paintings the iconic flat black abstracted helmet generates a dramatic presence that contrasts with the surrounding landscape. Our design process translated these two-dimensional visual devices into a three-dimensional experience of place, marking the space of transition that is the function of the gateway. The long, thin, proportions of the slot deny the conventional landscape framing device and invites the viewer to reconsider their position within the landscape.

Designers: Cassandra Chilton + Tanya Court

Photography Credit: John Gollings courtesy of the Museum of Modern Art at Heide

Cassandra Chilton is a landscape architect and jewellery maker. She is a Senior Associate at HASSELL and has over fourteen years' experience as a Landscape Architect, working on a diverse range of public, streetscape, commercial, residential and urban design projects and has delivered a number of award winning projects. Her art practice is split between contemporary jewellery and public installation/site specific landscape installations that mediate between the scale of landscape and jewellery, focusing on issues of context, embodiment, occupation and materiality.



landscape architecture 1997

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