

SANDBOX STUDIO

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LET'S UNLEASH
YOUR VISION.
LET'S
CO_CREATE.

We are Sandbox Studio, a co-creative architecture studio.

So what's a co-creative architecture studio - another buzzword? Not really, 'cause we take you - the client - seriously...we respect your design aesthetic, your tastes, your desires! We invite you to co-design with us. Don't worry, we do all the hard work, but we sit with you over a coffee and get your imagination going. We engage you in conversations and exercises (our trade secret) which help reveal to you and us what you really want. We know it's our job to come up with ideas and concepts and do all the architectural work, but we think it's also our job to discover what's in the back of your mind and empower your creativity. The result of such a collaborative process is something really special!



Fundamental House Annangrove NSW

New Build

About 40 Kilometres north west of Sydney is the lush, green site for one of our newest projects. This home is quite modest in size, but has been designed to open up to the landscape to create a feeling of space. The floor plan consists of two pavilions surrounding a central courtyard. With the use of simple yet robust materials, the dwelling takes on an industrial aesthetic externally, while the use of natural timber creates warmth internally.



Industrial-Zen Dulwich Hill NSW

Alterations & Additions

Raw materials, natural light and a feeling of openness have been the driving forces behind this proposal. Working closely alongside the builder and client, we stayed true to these ideas as the project evolved.



Tongue & Groove Lilyfield NSW

Alterations & Additions

A recent single-storey renovation, where the aim was to 'refresh' the tired weatherboard cottage. Streamlined approval via Complying Development.



Flourish House
Clovelly NSW
Alterations & Additions

A contemporary design and build project in Sydney's beachside suburb of Clovelly. Following an extensive design process and approval with Randwick Council, we worked closely alongside the builder and client to complete this truly collaborative project.



Maison Famille
Marrickville NSW
Alterations & Additions

A double height void above the living area allows natural light to reach deep into the heart of this Marrickville family home, while also providing a sense of space and drama. Privacy, light and family were key factors during the design process alongside the owners, a young professional couple.



Elevate
Northwood NSW
Alterations & Additions

A bold, contemporary design, responding to a steeply sloping site in Sydney's Lower North Shore, with expansive views of the Lane Cove Bushland Park.

ABOUT US



Luke Carter

Director | Architect
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Luke's inspiration comes from his travels; the architecture of Rome, Milan, Turin, Venice, adaptive re-use of spaces in New York and London, natural beauty of Sydney Harbour, and small-footprint living in Scandinavia. Luke has worked on a diverse range of projects, including some interesting public buildings, such as a 'sound shell' in a park! Some words that have been used to describe his work are: 'raw', 'rhythmic', 'angular' and 'fluid'. He is especially interested in sustainability and utilising recycled materials, and creating beautiful, timeless buildings.

Dain McClure-Thomas

Director | Architect
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Having lived in three continents, Dain has experienced the impact of culture on architecture in varied contexts. Dain's work is often described as clean, simplified, and streamlined - a result of painstaking fine tuning. Dain doesn't shy away from playing with many ideas and carries an ongoing loop of experimentation and refinement throughout the design process. He cares about the 'integrity of place', and engagement through texture, materiality and light. His attention to fine detail underpinned by strong technical know-how results in a space that is a joy to be in, and simply oozes quality.

Mukesh Vanjani

Director | Practice Manager
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Mukesh is a generalist with a background in business management, strategy, economics, design thinking, philosophy and recently completed a Masters in positive psychology. He is passionate about contemporary art (also dabbles in making some) and architecture. Mukesh takes care of the studio administration to help the team function optimally and do stunning work. He takes the lead on competitions that we partake in such as the Adelaide Creative Community Hub (where we won an award) and Sydney Affordable Housing design competition.

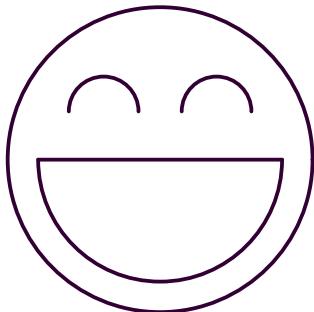
SERVICES

- Design, documentation, council liaison of new residences - dual occupancies - townhouses - apartments - studios - granny flats.
- Design, documentation, council liaison of renovations, alterations & additions as well as extensions
- Heritage design
- Interior fit-outs
- Interior design, specification, detailing
- Furniture and lighting design
- Landscape design
- Site analysis report
- Sustainability consulting
- Architectural drafting
- Boutique shop design

FAQS

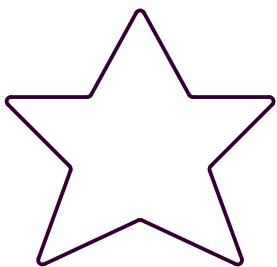
- a) What's your style? Our style is 'diverse'. We like to get involved with clients with various tastes, from inner-city-chic to Hampton, and everything in between. The goal is to do purposeful work. If the inhabitants derive meaning out of living in the space we designed, we consider our work to be successful. Frankly, if we had to work on the same style all the time, it'd drive us crazy!
- b) What are your fees like? Our fees are packaged to offer 3 options - A (1 scheme), B (2 schemes), C (3-4 schemes). That way, we always find an option suitable to most clients and circumstances. Not only does a good design add value to the property but truly enriches the living experience of the inhabitants.
- c) What's the first step? Let's set a meeting, and take it from there.
- d) Do we need to pay for this meeting? No way. It's on us :) We appreciate you considering Sandbox Studio for your project.

OUR VALUES



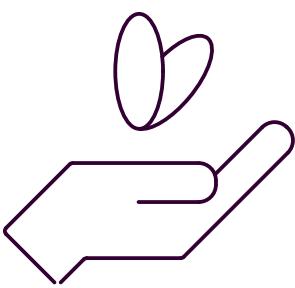
Quality By Design

The built environment is an important part of our everyday lives - it has an effect on how we engage with our surroundings through our five senses. We seek to improve these aspects through strong principles and by accentuating the available positives of the site.



Wellbeing

Our everyday engagement with the built environment has a direct effect on our psychology and mindset. Sound, colour, natural light, natural ventilation, vegetation - they all play a role in creating a space conducive to wellbeing. We aim to create such spaces.



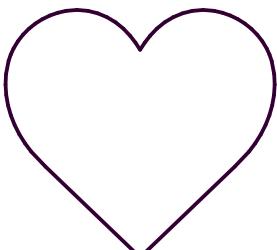
Sustainability

Sustainability is of great importance in our current climate, therefore we give it serious consideration. It is through smart design - renewable materials, adaptable configuration, passive heating & cooling and utilising alternative energy sources - that we achieve this goal.



Client Satisfaction

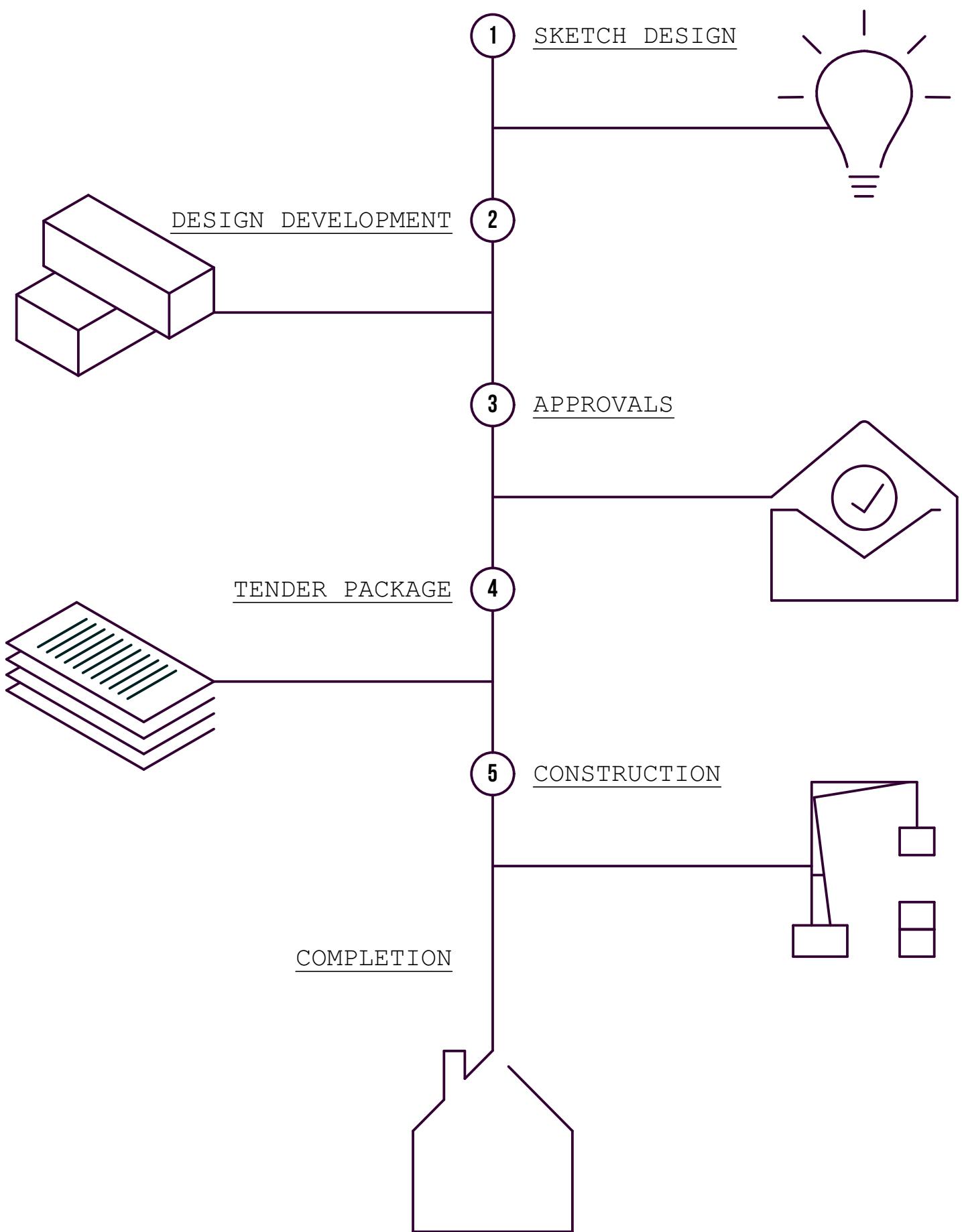
Our goal is to exceed client expectation without exception, and we are only too happy to go above & beyond to accomplish this.



Passion

Architecture is art. We love drawing upon our playfulness to amplify our creativity. What else can be said about passion; we hope our work speaks for itself. In the words of Tinker Hatfield (celebrated NIKE shoe designer), "A basic design is always functional, but a great one will say something."

OUR PROCESS



When you hire us; you have complete autonomy as to how many stages of the below process you might like us to be involved in. This gives you the freedom to have a bespoke experience and stay in control of the process. Just remember, the first meeting is on us :)

First meeting - Where the co-creation journey begins

We meet. You get to know us. We ask you lots of questions, and that gets our imagination going already. We get you involved by engaging in exercises (our trade secret) that help us explore the purpose of the project.

1

Sketch Design - Where the magic happens

Thanks to our research orientation, this is where the magic happens. We endeavour to get a deep understanding of you (to ascertain what it is that you really would love), your property (levels, contours, vegetation, title boundaries, site survey, sewer diagram etc) and the neighbourhood (to help investigate your council regulations and any restrictions, if any).

This stage is at the core of the project and therefore of utmost importance in our practice. After much work, we present to you the concept(s), and await your comments.

2

Design Development - The scheme comes to life

At this stage, our aim is to give you a clear image of the design, after revisions and comments from you. We do this through 3D visualisation (including animation) to aid in communication of the plans, elevation, form, materials, aesthetics, mood/feel of the design.

3

Approvals - Taking the hassle out of it

Whether it is a development application (DA) or complying development certificate (CDC) - fast track approval process for straightforward developments - we take the hassle out of it. We offer pre-application consulting, liaison with other professionals such as structural/hydraulic/civil engineers to ensure the necessary details are coordinated with the architectural drawings. We follow the application process through with the Council/Certifier to help you towards a favourable outcome. We engage in intelligent negotiation with the authorities, as necessary.

4

Tender Package - The finer details that make it or break it

After receiving DA/CDC approval, it's time to complete the tender package. This includes detailed architectural construction drawings, specification of materials/appliances/lighting, and a detailed interior design/joinery package. During this stage, we assist you to incorporate your specific requirements for your home. These documents are then used to tender with builders, so as to get an apples-to-apples comparison of building costs. We'll help you through this process, and assist you to select a preferred builder.

5

Construction - #Peaceofmind

You can expect regular updates, transparency and responsiveness. A construction certificate must be sought prior to commencement of construction works. An independent certifier is engaged to review and assess the documentation against 'Development Consent' from council and construction standards. They also undertake site inspections during the build. To assist the builder with any queries they may have, we regularly attend the site meetings and keep you posted. This ensures a seamless realisation of the design through to completion.

