

## MEDIA RELEASE

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# Global Spotlight to Shine on Hobart Waterfront

### International Jury to Select Winning Design Ideas for Area Around City Hall

An international design competition to uncover new ideas for the Hobart Waterfront will see Tasmania's most innovative designers compete against the world's best .

The Premier of Tasmania Paul Lennon today launched the Hobart Waterfront International Design Competition, seeking visionary ideas for the area between Theatre Royal and Sullivans Cove.

Entries will be judged by an international jury, including two architects renowned worldwide for their work on complex waterfront projects: Carme Pinos, of Spain, and Wiel Arets, of The Netherlands.

The competition closes on 1 December 2006 and all entries will be put on public display at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery in January and February 2007.

Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority Chief Executive Jeff Gilmore said the prize pool is \$160,000, with \$10,000 for the winning student entry.

"Everything will be considered – nothing is off limits," Mr Gilmore said.

"We're looking for great ideas and world-class concepts for this magnificent site, from architects, urban planners, landscape architects and engineers everywhere – within Tasmania and Australia, as well as overseas."

The competition area includes landmark sites such as the Wapping Corner (the vacant land next to Theatre Royal), City Hall, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Dunn Place, Franklin Wharf and Kings Pier Marina.

Mr Gilmore said he expects the architectural and design community to embrace the competition.

"The competition allows the complexity of the site to be explored to its fullest, with opportunities to link our past to our future.

"We are proud of our waterfront and rightly so. It is a world-class blend of maritime heritage, working port, business hub and cultural heart. An international competition shows we have the confidence to take our message to the world."

Mr Gilmore said he expects entrants to use leading-edge materials and techniques, adhering to world-class sustainable development standards.

“The creative challenge is to embrace the area’s rich history and design a contemporary cultural hub to revitalise the space.

“Entrants will need to protect and enhance what is uniquely Tasmanian about the waterfront while letting their imaginations soar to improve this under-utilised connection between the city centre and the waterfront.

“Once the entries are in, the jury will analyse them and tell us which ones are the best. Then it will be over to the people of Tasmania to view, wonder, discuss and argue about the results.”

In the competition brief, entrants are asked to consider and acknowledge the structure and scale of Hobart and explain how their ideas will reinvent the area to:

- create a major focus for Hobart that enriches the cultural life of the city with new activities, buildings and spaces (both commercial and public);
- create effective and innovative connections between the city centre and Sullivans Cove;
- interpret and embrace the Cove’s rich cultural heritage; and
- attract and extend activity across Sullivans Cove.

The Chair of the jury is Geoffrey London, the Government Architect of Western Australia and Professor of Architecture at the University of Western Australia. Professor London is also a Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne and a Life Fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects. Other members of the jury are Melbourne-based landscape architect Dr Catherin Bull and Professor Daryl Le Grew, of Hobart.

Providing specialist help in organising the competition is internationally respected Competition Adviser, Professor Tom Heneghan, from the University of Sydney.

“Hobart is a remarkable city framed by the dramatic scale of Mount Wellington and the broad Derwent Estuary,” Professor Heneghan said.

“Like all port cities around the world, Hobart is facing the pressures of change. But, unlike other places, Hobart has a real understanding that its city must simultaneously embrace both the opportunities of its future and the heritage of its past.

“The challenge has gone out to the designers of the world and to the people of Hobart and Tasmania, to be part of the creation of the city’s future.”

For the competition brief and further information, please visit [www.hwidc.tas.gov.au](http://www.hwidc.tas.gov.au).

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## About the Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority

The Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority is the planning authority responsible for protecting, enhancing and developing Sullivans Cove and surrounding areas. The Authority aims to preserve the unique qualities of the Hobart Waterfront, which defines the identity, vitality and image of the Tasmanian people.

### Media Enquiries

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## The Jury

**Geoffrey London, Perth, Western Australia (Chair)** – Professor Geoffrey London is the Government Architect of Western Australia. He is also the Professor of Architecture at the University of Western Australia and a past Dean, Head of School and Professional Fellow at the University of Melbourne. He is a past Chair of the Committee of Heads of Architecture Schools of Australasia, a past President of the Western Australian Chapter of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA), and a Life Fellow of the RAIA. Prof London has served on, and acted as Chair of numerous architectural competition and design award juries.

**Carme Pinos, Spain** – Carme Pinos graduated as an architect at the ETSAB in Barcelona in 1979. In 1991, after an eight-year partnership with Enric Miralles, she set up her own studio and has worked on major projects both in Spain and internationally, including Station Park in Palma de Mallorca, La Serra High School in Mollerusa, Juan Aparicio Waterfront in Torrevieja and the Pedestrian Bridge in Petrer. Carme Pinos combines her architectural practice with teaching, and has been guest professor at Columbia University in New York, Harvard University Graduate School of Design and l'Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale in Lausanne.

**Wiel Arets, The Netherlands** – Wiel Arets graduated from the TU Eindhoven in 1983 and in the following year established Wiel Arets Architect and Associates. He has held a number of academic positions. From 1986 to 1989 he taught at the Architectural Academies of Amsterdam and Rotterdam; from 1988 to 1992 he was Diplom Unit Master at the Architectural Association London; and from 1991 to 1994 he was Visiting Professor at Columbia University and Cooper Union in New York. He has also taught at the HAK in Vienna and the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen. In 2000 he held the Mies van der Rohe Chair at the ETSAB Barcelona and from 1995 to 2002 he was Dean of the Berlage Institute Rotterdam. Since 2001 Wiel has held the Berlage chair at the Technical University Delft and until 2004 he was director of the Berlage PhD program.

**Catherin Bull, Melbourne** – Catherin Bull is the Elisabeth Murdoch Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Melbourne where she is Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, and also heads the Landscape Architecture Program. Her research interests include the challenges of planning and design for open space in the 21st century city, particularly in the Asian region. She has chaired and served on many design review panels and juries across Australia and continues to advise government and industry nationally on open space and urban design matters.

**Daryl Le Grew, Hobart, Tasmania** – Professor Daryl Le Grew is Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania, a position he has held since January 2003. He has a Masters degree in Architecture from the University of Melbourne and is a registered architect in Victoria. He is a Life Fellow and former Council Member of the Museum of Victoria. Prior to his Tasmanian appointment, Daryl Le Grew was Vice-Chancellor at Canterbury University in New Zealand. In Tasmania, he has published in the areas of flexible learning and environmental education and has continuing pro bono consultations in major public architectural projects in Australia.