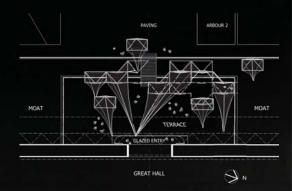


Roy Grounds was radical in his integration of cultural form-making with modernism. The NGV moats, vast façades, oversized eaves and formal geometric treatment are reminiscent of western medieval and east Asian architecture. Digital design technologies are at the forefront of contemporary architectural aesthetics which include the corruption of formal order via distortion, co-existence of iterations, contradictions and ambiguity. While the original building was documented by hand, the proposal has been designed using 3D modelling programs which allowed testing and manipulation of the latent geometric logic in the original façade, digital documentation and pattern making of the forms.

3.2m is the dimension between each original façade concrete tetrahedron, the mass and scale is impressive yet inaccessible to gallery visitors. The proposal imaginatively transports the geometry to the visitor. Investigation revealed a latent volume, the negative space between each tetrahedron. This void has been tessellated and modulated in 3D digital software to uncover form and structural potential. A structural lattice based on the void is made visible in several locations to show the internal structural systems of the work. Installed over the lattice are skins of PVC which define form, mass and void in the proposal.

Sited on the terrace, located in the western moat, the proposal is adjacent to the building enabling dynamic audience engagement with the concepts at play in the work. Views from the Grollo Equiset Garden towards the façade are significant for the proposal to be seen in context with the whole western façade, equally important is the view from inside the Great Hall. Activation of the threshold with the physical gathering of audience under shade is an important link between the garden and interior of the Great Hall. The broader garden area is available for events and activities during the summer.







The proposed fabrication system is lightweight aluminium framing with coloured non-flammable PVC skins which are tightened under the effect of heat. Innovative fabrication company Barrisol Ryan Australia has reviewed the constructability and suitability of the system to the location, six-month time-frame as well as providing a budget estimate,

and have expressed interest in being the construction partner for the proposal. A structural engineer has reviewed the system and identified the requirement of dead weight, and junctions of the aluminium framing to be as rigid as possible. Post-installation the aluminium framing and PVC skin can all be recycled.

