

SNAPSHOT

Acclaimed director Guy Ritchie directed the new campaign for the new H&M David Beckham Bodywear line. The tongue-in-cheek campaign casts Beckham as an action hero and sees him being chased through the streets of Beverly Hills clad only in, what else, his boxer shorts. Ritchie likened the experience to "directing a short film" and Beckham hopes that "everyone has as much fun watching the film as I had making it". The full campaign debuts worldwide on Feb 6.

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BY ELAINE LAU



Intelligent design

Internationally acclaimed Australian architect Gregory Burgess on the principles of good architecture and the projects that defined his career

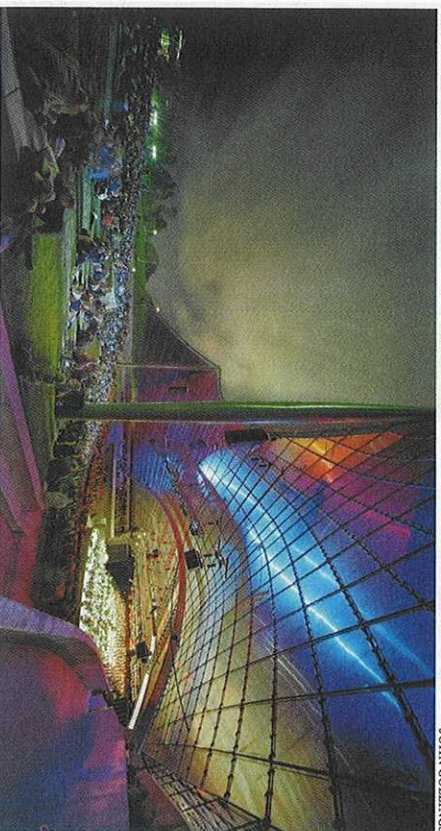
Gregory Burgess, one of Australia's most celebrated architects, has an inherent curiosity and interest in people. This was what drove him to architecture as a young man – that and the fact that he liked "making things" and "playing with light and shadow".

He explains, "I came to architecture through an interest in people rather than architecture. I'm interested in what makes people tick, the complexity of their lives, the transformative journey of life ... Like working with communities and individuals in delving deeper into their reasons for doing things and wanting things. I'm interested in the dialogue and in helping people define their vision, identify their real needs rather than their wants and find a resonance with the deeper aspects of life rather than just lifestyle."

The internationally acclaimed, multi-award-winning architect was in town recently as a speaker of the Shalini Ganendra Fine Art Vision Culture Lecture series. Burgess, who turns 68 this year, was born in Newcastle, England, but studied architecture at the University of Melbourne. In 1972, he established his own practice in Melbourne – Gregory Burgess Architects – which celebrated its 40th anniversary last year.

Over the course of his illustrious career, Burgess has designed a wide range of buildings, from performing arts centres and community buildings to houses, schools and places of worship. His culturally sensitive designs and innovative buildings are "rich with messages about nature, materials and the fundamentals of dwelling, human interaction and public space", said the jury of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects in 2004 when it awarded him the Gold Medal for Architecture, Australia's most prestigious architectural prize.

The Sidney Myer Music Bowl



JOHN GOLLIINGS



PATRICK GOH/THE EDGE

Some of Burgess' best-known projects include Melbourne's Catholic Theological College, the Box Hill Community Arts Centre, the Eihnam Library and Community Centre, the Horscham Church of St Michael and St John and the refurbishment of the Sidney Myer Music Bowl in Melbourne, which is one of five Australian buildings listed on the international register of Significant 20th Century Buildings.

Burgess is also internationally recognised for his work with and for the Indigenous people of Australia, such as the Uluru Kata-Tjuta Cultural Centre in the Northern Territory, designed in collaboration with the Mutitjulu community in the World Heritage-listed Uluru National Park, and the Brambuk Aboriginal Cultural Centre in the Grampians, a collaborative design for five aboriginal communities.

When asked to define what is good design and architecture, the soft-spoken man gives a wonderfully comprehensive answer: "Good design

is an authentic expression of place and people, the spirit of place and spirit of the community. It is a work of care in relation to the future of the planet in the responsible use of materials. It doesn't have to be overly technical, although technology is very much a part of how we work as architects. But often intelligent, passive design, like just working with the sun or with natural ventilation, is how a lot of issues can be creatively or intelligently dealt with – the use of simple devices or just being awake to the path of the sun and air flow.

"Good architecture is also very human in its responses to its context and reciprocity with the place ... Designing and constructing a building is a real opportunity for self-reflection and self-expression, but also for going beyond that to what's important in life in terms of values.

Lifestyle and comfort is one thing but there are so many serious issues to consider in terms of waste and consumer indulgence, sustainable issues. Identifying what you really need rather than just

