

**JULIAN RAXWORTHY
(INTEGRATED) FRAMEWORK FOR PhD – PERFORMANCE
SPECIFICATION**

John, you are going to hate this, because I know Shane would.

Some kind of premise:

- Landscape architecture is a unique design discipline, a hybrid of the natural sciences and architecture (the liberal arts)
- This allows it to engage with space and form in a manner similar to architecture, but differently
- Difference may reside in time and other relationships to a broad surface with diverse occupations & formal configurations – the social, the political.
- This is a different conjunction of science / arts dialectic, that is still formal & “aesthetic”,
- LA regards form in a different sense – choreography.

The PhD:

- This doctorate will:
 - Be a landscape architecture thesis relating directly to the canon
 - Develop a new operative definition of landscape architecture,
 - Comprise a deconstructive consideration of the root of the discipline, most notably its relation to the natural science and architecture.
 - Consider this definition in relation to other disciplines in a way to expand this definition into a new methodology & model of LA practice
 - Be argued through a formal critique of the work of a range of LA schools
(eg Polders, McHargians, Hargreaves, Behaviouralists, Versailles, Bush Regeneration)
as well as through the discussion of other hybrid disciplines
(eg Psychiatry, Social Work, Project Management)
 - Finally propose a possible method of testing and implementation for this new model.

A PROJECT

- **This project will end with an application in LA practice, in a conventional sense**
- **Utilisation of integrated scholarship model (multi-tasking)**
- **Continuation of some aspects of the “research through design” / “by project” (RMIT) model**

With a range of components, including:

- **PhD - core theoretical underpinning of project (centre) (Disciplinary definitions and development of a framework conceptually and pragmatically for new type of LA practice) (McHarg – Scientific LA) + (Venturi – “Comp & Cont in Arch”) POLEMIC**
- **Design Studio’s – Consultancy / case-studies / collaborations (Social Work & LA) (Place Management)**
- **History – Thematic bias / student research (Landscape process design schools)**
- **Writing (scholarly & journalistic) – critiques / investigations (of the above)**
- **SIA (Spatial Information Architecture) – Representational / visual language studios (Process models / databases)**
- **Research – RMIT small grants for science / tech research case-studies (Ecology / Horticultural)**
- **Application – ASPECT**