

PUBLIC DOMAIN AWARDS 2013

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN CONCRETE TO ENHANCE THE PUBLIC DOMAIN









Harry's Park,

Milsons Point, NSW

Client - Ms Penelope Seidler
Architect (and entry) - Harry Seidler and Associates
Artist - Fine Art Services
Principal Contractor - Gil Williams
Principal Engineer - Birzulis Associates
Specialist Concrete Subcontractor - Mardini Constructions
Main Concrete Supplier - Holcim Australia

Harry's Park is a public bequest by Penelope Seidler in memory of her late husband, the renowned architect Harry. It sits atop a cliff adjoining the Seidler offices and overlooking Luna Park, with panoramic views across Sydney Harbour.

The Park celebrates a palette of forms, materials, textures and contrasts common to Harry's work.

Straight, textured grey off-form concrete screen walls, a reference to the materiality of the adjoining offices, define the edges of the Park. Benches of white insitu off-form concrete are placed in unison.

In contrast, a curved, smooth, white, off-form concrete feature wall, slotted to frame the magnificent views, regulates the Harbour edge. The lintel to this curved element sails beyond the wall, triumphantly defying gravity.

Continuous curved off-form insitu concrete bench seating complements this wall.

It was inevitable that concrete, a material that Harry most favoured, was extensively used in this park. Only the plasticity of concrete could have achieved this spectacular, sculptural result.

Judges Comments

Similar forms, elements and finishes to the adjoining Harry Seidler buildings compliment and recall a fabulous architect. The sculptural concrete forms capture the harbour views within an elegant framework. Illuminated at night, the plastic concrete forms come to life. he Park has been welcomed as a valuable addition to the Sydney Harbour public domain.