

# STEALING FIRE

The Kulin people tell of a story of how fire was brought to humankind. Waang, ancestral deity and protector of the waterways, is responsible for stealing the jealously guarded secret of fire and making it available for all to use. Waang takes the form of a crow, one of the most clever and intelligent birds of the animal kingdom. STEALING FIRE honors this legend by, once again, stealing fire from the light of the sun and gifting it, in the form of electricity, to the community of St. Kilda.



Previous to European settlement, the ecology of the area surrounding Port Phillip Bay was that of a dry coastal complex. Gently rolling sand dunes vegetated with native coastal saltbush, spinifex, and coastal tea-tree provided the framework for a diverse ecosystem. We propose that historical condition be reimagined and restored by the implementation of built hillocks vegetated with a native planting scheme. The gently undulating ground plane, along with tree canopies and vegetated edges, create both visual and experiential interest by constructing the illusion of a larger space and by providing sequences of partially enclosed intimate spaces, along with larger more open spaces, to be explored and enjoyed.