COOK'S TOUR Even third-rate buildings have positive attributes, second cities are more loose-limbed than self-satisfied capitals and eccentricities provide the key to a city. Such is the world-view of architect and educator Peter Cook. One of the founders of influential '60s architectural group Archigram, whose vision for futuristic cities finally got built (at last in part) some 40 years later in Graz, Austria. Dubbed the "friendly alien", the Kunsthau's effect on Graz is comparable to Frank Gehry's Guggenheim in Bilbao. Cook is currently working on a building for Bond University and is in Melbourne for workshops and a free lecture at Melbourne University. He will discuss his ideas on "anti-cities" and "anti-houses", and how vegetation merges with architecture, as seen in his Taiwan Tower that's based on the growing of algae in layers of droplets.

Dean's lecture, Carrillo Gantner Theatre, Sidney Myer Asia Centre, February 21 - 7pm. Register: eventbrite.com.au

POLISH POLISH Inventive, idiosyncratic - regularly surreal - illustrations and photomontages established Polish design as a powerful creative force in the postwar period. Led by designers such as Henryk Tomaszewski, Jozef Mroszczyk and Jan Lenica, Polish posters entered a golden age in the 1950s and '60s. A rich collection of these ground-breaking designs is on display for the first time at the Potter Gallery. Some 70 posters advertising films, theatre and opera between 1952 and 1984 have been selected from the Potter's collection of more than 400 Polish posters. These works represent a major component of its Gerard Herbst Poster Collection, the largest in Australia and internationally one of the three major public collections, according to curator Joanna Bosse. Polish Poster Art 1952-1984, until May 26, Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne, Swanston Street. art-museum.unimelb.edu.au