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I welcome the project but I have concerns about some aspects of the design.

CENTRAL STATION

The stop at Central will mean many more passengers using the station. Even without the project, the general increase in rail travel that TfNSW expect will lead to severe congestion at Central in peak hours. For people like me in their 70s, peak hours at Central are already something to avoid if you can. The metro design seems not to adequately increase either the capacity of the station or the improvement of passenger access and amenities.

The design for Martin Place station will transform the existing station and improve station access. Is it not possible to do likewise at Central?

A temporary pedestrian bridge may be necessary, but is it not possible to provide a permanent structure with lifts instead?

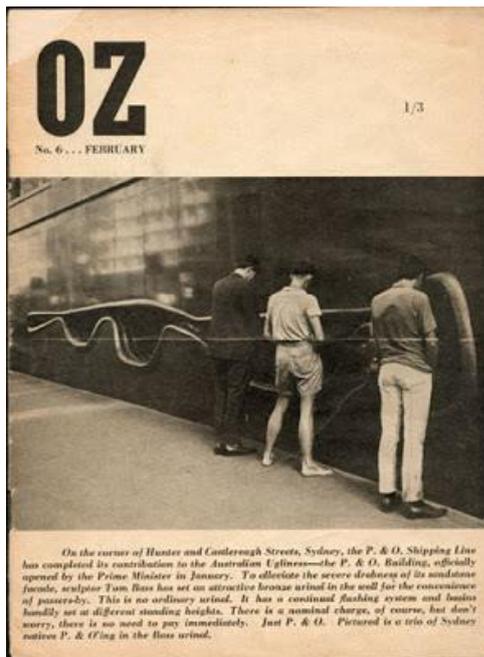
TOM BASS SCULPTURE: 55 HUNTER ST (“P&O FOUNTAIN”)

TfNSW should accept responsibility for finding a suitable new location for the Tom Bass sculpture at 55 Hunter Street, also known as the P&O Fountain.



The wall fountain was completed in 1963.

In February 1964 Richard Neville and two other editors published the following cover on Issue No 6 of Oz:



The wording underneath the picture read:

On the corner of Hunter and Castlereagh Streets, Sydney, the P. & O. Shipping Line has completed its contribution to the Australian Ugliness—the P & O Building, officially opened by the Prime Minister in January. To alleviate the severe drabness of its sandstone façade, sculptor Tom Bass has set an attractive bronze urinal in the wall for the convenience of passers-by. This is no ordinary urinal. It has a continual flushing system and basins handily set at different standing heights. There is a nominal charge, of course, but don't worry, there is no need to pay immediately. Just P. & O. Pictured is a trio of Sydney natives P. & O'ing in the Bass urinal.

Despite sculptor Tom Bass testifying on their behalf, the magistrates found them guilty of obscenity and sentenced them to 3-6 months imprisonment with hard labour “for obscenity and encouraging public urination”. Subsequent similar obscenity trials in London that Richard Neville faced make this event culturally significant.

The EIS proposes that the city council find an alternative site for the sculpture. This is not easy, because Tom Bass designed it for the sloping site. TfNSW should re-install the sculpture either where it is now or on the Martin Place station façade, see the EIS artist's impression below.



Possible place to re-locate Tom Bass sculpture