



## New Zealand Institute of Architects Incorporated

### **Buildings with character, colour and strong sense of public purpose win Canterbury Architecture Awards**

Thirty-two buildings have received Canterbury Architecture Awards at an event held in Christchurch. Among the winners are new libraries and community places, forward-looking learning environments, restored pieces of important cultural heritage and several houses that reinforce Canterbury's strong tradition for high quality residential architecture.

- **Information under strict embargo until: 9pm, Thursday 6 June**
- **Download awards galleries: [High res gallery](#) or [Low res gallery](#)**
- **Please credit photographers according to the list at the end of this release**

"It's been an impressive year for buildings with important social roles to play," said awards jury convenor Andrew Watson.

"From Christchurch's new library and the heritage Arts Centre, through smaller libraries and community buildings in Dunsandel, Leeston and Woolston, it has been inspiring to visit buildings so successfully designed around the needs of people and well-integrated into their communities."

Tūranga, Christchurch's new central library designed by Architectus and Denmark's Schmidt Hammer Lassen, received awards for public and interior architecture.

"The building shows the potential of a library to be more than just a repository for books," the jury said. "Its connectivity – with people, place and culture – is exemplified by the staggered atrium and incredible staircase, which is a social space for gathering, reading and resting."

The high quality restoration of Christchurch Arts Centre's DA and CE Buildings has won Warren and Mahoney Architects awards in the heritage and public architecture categories.

"Few buildings say 'Christchurch' like the Gothic Revival Arts Centre," the jury said. "Warren and Mahoney has restored these important buildings to public use in ways that are warmer, stronger and more accessible."

The Rose Historic Chapel, once critically earthquake-damaged, has been exactly restored in an "inspirational" way. The building's heritage award is the result of the "passionate commitment by Pearson Architects and the contractor to rebuild an important piece of Christchurch heritage".

The Christchurch Outpatients Building designed by CCM Architects, Jacobs and DestraVis, won a public architecture award. It is a "great outcome for the city", the jury said, as well as "a resolutely cheerful landmark" on Riccarton Ave.

Smaller-scale community buildings also received public architecture awards.

The jury “delighted in the contrasts” evident at the new Oxford Terrace Baptist Church designed by Andrew Barrie Lab. The building replaces the heavy-masonry Baptist Tabernacle destroyed in the earthquakes and is centred on a communal courtyard.

“While the architect’s hand is evident, it is not dominant proving that there can be great richness in economy,” the jury said.

Architecture Workshop’s replacement Lakeside Soldiers Memorial Hall in Leeston is a “beautifully composed, rhythmic series of experiences that clearly establish a sense of place”, the jury said, and the Woolston Community Library designed by Ignite Services, MAP Architects, Citycare Property and TM Consultants was described as a “clever piece of urban architecture that combines civic space with community hall and library to inject new life into Woolston’s main street”. The jury described Dunsandel’s new multi-purpose community hall, designed by Studio106 Architect and Babylon Gardens, to be “new source of pride” for the town.

The sole planning and urban design award went to The Terrace, designed by Jasmx & NH Architects, a “world-class network of character laneways and sophisticated buildings”, the jury said.

Two University of Canterbury buildings – the Ernest Rutherford Building, designed by Jasmx, and Rehua, on UC’s Ilam Campus, designed by Athfield Architects – won twin education and interior awards.

“Together, they show how tertiary education environments are becoming collaborative, technologically sophisticated environments where learning can take place seemingly anywhere,” jury convenor Andrew Watson said.

Athfield Architects won another double with commercial and interior awards for Waterfront House. The Lyttelton Port building “blends offices with staff common areas with a generosity akin to civic space”, the jury said.

The Billens Building, designed by AE Architects, is a replacement for a 1906 building that “suffered earthquake damage in the 2011 ‘shakes’ before being finished off by arson in 2012”. In awarding a commercial architecture award, the jury said: “Critical to the building’s success is the inter-weaving back into the urban fabric, achieved by making a big nod to the past while embracing the future through materials that respond to the realities of building in an earthquake zone.”

The third commercial architecture award went to Warren and Mahoney Architect’s Awly Building, “a distinct yet contextual piece of city making with an architectural ‘fitness’ that all buildings should strive for”.

## **Housing Awards**

Canterbury’s strong tradition for high quality and inventive residential architecture was reinforced this year. Seven housing awards, two alterations and additions awards, and three multi-unit awards were conferred. The awards, with one exception, were won by different practices, indicating a broad skill base in this type of architecture.

Warren and Mahoney Architects received its fourth and fifth awards for One Central – “rigorously designed terrace houses in Christchurch’s residential East Frame that raise the bar for quality medium-density residential architecture in the city”, and Desmond House – a “large family home, with a strongly geometric, low-slung form, sits like a shadow on the Merivale riverbank”.

The two other multi-unit award winners sit at the other end of the size scale. Chen Anselmi Units by Bull O’Sullivan Architecture is “small but perfectly formed – it throws down the gauntlet for suburban multi-unit living”, the jury said. On Madras Street, two comfortable dwellings by Coll Architecture are “simple and compact, yet still packing punch”.

The two Housing Alterations and Additions winners show exceptional imagination and craft the jury said.

“Laden with slick details and a rich material palette,” Menzies POP! is a 1940s concrete house “transformed well beyond its former glory” by its architect-owners from Architects’ Creative.

RTA Studio’s black-steel-clad gabled extension to a Victorian workers’ cottage on Abberley Crescent “fairly barrels along almost the entire length of the southern boundary of a long narrow site,” the jury said. “It is an exciting piece of work, set against a recycled brick wall that brings warmth and a sense of history to the slick new addition.”

Borrmeister Architects’ Red Rock House received a housing award for the way it is “bound to place through clever design, impeccable materiality and appropriate scale”. The jury was impressed by a large, Thornycroft Street, Fendalton house designed by Nott Architects that was “cleverly broken down into bite-sized pieces – the landscape, critical to success, weaves in and out of courtyards, flowing from street to stream boundary”. Three Sixty Architecture’s design of a CBD-fringe townhouse on Peterborough Street is a “handsome solution to central city residential intensification”, the jury said.

A gabled form and strong relationship with the landscape earned a Governors Bay House by First Light Studio a housing award. The Cashmere house designed by JHA is an ideal backdrop for family life. “From ‘tree house’ mezzanine through to the phone-booth nook, the interior is a child-focused delight – practical, durable and charming.”

Showing that good things can come in large packages, the jury awarded a housing award to a “palatial pad” on Clyde Road designed by Sheppard & Rout Architects. Good things also come in small packages, too, as shown by the “utterly delightful” New Brighton RSA Billiards Room, a Small Project Architecture award winner for Bull O’Sullivan Architecture.

“Despite the limited budget, no detail was left unconsidered, with beautiful light fittings, custom-made by the architects, nooks for elbows to lean or drinks to be placed, and even an ocular window to allow the setting sun to track across the space.”

The Enduring Architecture category of the Canterbury Architecture Awards celebrates buildings more than 25 years old that have stood up well to the tests of time.

Messervy House, designed by Alan Mitchener, is “a special house”, the jury said. “At the end of a quiet cul-de-sac, in a pocket of what must be the city’s highest concentration of homes in the

Christchurch Style, Allan Mitchener's 1964 design stands apart. Messervy House is highly imaginative and full of surprises and bespoke details."

The Canterbury Architecture Awards are part of the nationwide New Zealand Architecture Awards programme run by the New Zealand Institute of Architects. Through the awards, the NZIA aims to show why good architecture matters in the ongoing development of New Zealand's cities, towns and communities.

The awards jury, led by Andrew Watson, include Auckland architect Jessica Barter, Christchurch architect Hamish Shaw, and Luke Porter, a Christchurch-based landscape architect.

For more information, images of all winning projects, or to arrange an interview with jury convenor Andrew Watson, please contact:

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### **All winners – 2019 Canterbury Architecture Awards**

#### Commercial Architecture

Billens Building, 177 High St, Christchurch  
A E Architects  
Photo: Tom Worters

Waterfront House, 37-39 Gladstone Quay, Lyttelton  
Athfield Architects  
Photo: Simon Devitt

Awly Building, 287-293 Durham Street, Christchurch  
Warren and Mahoney Architects  
Photo: Baptiste Marconnet

#### Education

The Ernest Rutherford Building, University of Canterbury, 20 Kirkwood Ave, Upper Riccarton, Christchurch  
Jasmax, DJRD Architects and Royal Associates Architects  
Photo: Dennis Radermacher

University of Canterbury, Rehua, Cnr Arts / Forestry Road, University of Canterbury, Ilam, Christchurch  
Athfield Architects  
Photo: Simon Devitt

#### Heritage

Rose Historic Chapel, 866 Colombo Street Christchurch  
Dave Pearson Architects  
Photo: Sarah Rowlands

The Arts Centre of Christchurch: DA and CE Buildings, 2 Worcester Blvd, Christchurch  
Warren and Mahoney Architects  
Photo: Sarah Rowlands

### Housing

Red Rock House, Sumner, Christchurch by Borrmeister Architects.  
Photo: Sarah Rowlands

Thornycroft Street, Fendalton, Christchurch by C Nott Architects.  
Photo: Lumo Photography

Governors Bay House by First Light Studio.  
Photo: Jason Mann

Cashmere House, Christchurch, by JHA.  
Photo: Sarah Rowlands

Clyde Rd House, Christchurch, by Sheppard & Rout Architects.  
Photo: Anthony Turnham

141 Peterborough Street, Christchurch, by Three Sixty Architecture.  
Photo: Simon Devitt

Desmond House, Merivale, Christchurch, Warren and Mahoney Architects.  
Photo: Simon Wilson

### Housing - Alterations and Additions

Menzies POP! Sumner, Christchurch, by Architects Creative. Photo: Charlotte Clements

Abberley Crescent House, Christchurch, by RTA Studio. Photo: Patrick Reynolds

### Housing Multi-unit

Chen Anselmi Units, Sydenham, Christchurch by Bull O'Sullivan Architecture.  
Photo: Sou Muy Ly

Madras Street, Christchurch, by Coll Architecture.  
Photo: Stephen Goodenough

One Central, Corner of Hereford Street and Latimer Square, by Warren and Mahoney Architects.  
Photo: Simon Wilson

### Interior

Tūranga, 60 Cathedral Square, Christchurch  
Architectus and Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects  
Photo: Adam Mørk

University of Canterbury, Rehua, Cnr Arts / Forestry Road, University of Canterbury, Ilam,  
Christchurch by Athfield Architects. Photo: Simon Devitt

Waterfront House, 37-39 Gladstone Quay, Lyttelton by Athfield Architects. Photo: Simon Devitt

The Ernest Rutherford Building, University of Canterbury, 20 Kirkwood Ave, Upper Riccarton,  
Christchurch by Jasmox, DJRD Architects and Royal Associates Architects. Photo: Dennis  
Radermacher

### Planning & Urban Design

The Terrace, Oxford Terrace, Christchurch by Jasmox & NH Architects (Roger Nelson).  
Photo: David Straight

### Public Architecture

Oxford Terrace Baptist Church, 288 Oxford Terrace, Christchurch by Andrew Barrie Lab.  
Photo: Jamie Armstrong

Lakeside Soldiers Memorial Hall, 164 Harts Road, Leeston, Canterbury by Architecture Workshop.  
Photo: Duncan Shaw-Brown

Tūranga, 60 Cathedral Square, Christchurch Central, Christchurch by Architectus and Schmidt  
Hammer Lassen Architects. Photo: Adam Mørk

Christchurch Outpatients Building, 2 Oxford Terrace, Christchurch by CCM Architects, Jacobs  
(Brisbane) and Destravis in association. Photo: Sarah Rowlands

Woolston Community Library, 689 Ferry Rd, Woolston, Christchurch by Ignite Services, MAP  
Architects, Citycare Property and TM Consultants in association. Photo: Stephen Goodenough

Dunsandel Community Center, Cnr Tramway and Leeston Dunsandel Roads, Dunsandel by  
Studio106 Architect and Babylon Gardens. Photo: Simon Devitt

The Arts Centre of Christchurch: DA and CE Buildings, 2 Worcester Blvd, Christchurch by Warren  
and Mahoney Architects. Photo: Sarah Rowlands

### Small Project Architecture

New Brighton RSA Billiards Room, 21 Mafeking St, New Brighton, Christchurch by Bull O'Sullivan  
Architecture. Photo: Sou Muy Ly

Messervy House (1964), Ilam, Christchurch by Alan Mitchener, Architect. Photo: Samuel Hartnett

