



Region's architectural designs singled out

Innovative works from three Nelson architectural designers have been recognised at the 2015 Resene Architectural Design Awards.

The annual awards held on Friday evening celebrated the most creative and aesthetic designs in the country, with the four regional awards going to Nelson-based designers.

Tony Karsten of Karsten Architectural Design received two awards for his work on a Kaiteriteri bach and a Mount St house.

The three-bedroom holiday bach in Kaiteriteri was built on the hills in dense kanuka trees. It was awarded best residential compact new home up to 150 square metres. Judges said Karsten was sensitive to a difficult landscape, which was sloped with bush.

Karsten's three-bedroom Mount St home was jointly awarded best residential new home between 150sqm and 300sqm. The house, in central Nelson, was also on a steep slope. Its design aimed to replicate a tree house, with surrounding views of both sea and the city.

The judges described it as "elegantly detailed" with a clear and simple overall form.

George Hilgeholt of AWE2010 Ltd was also awarded the best regional new home between 150sqm and 300sqm for his work on Hilgeholt House.

The home is a modern retirement home, which was "future-proofed for accessibility". Judges commended the design's "brave proposition" by bringing simple forms "together in complex relationships".

The blue-toned office of Cehpas Property Management, designed by David Todd of David Todd Ltd was also commended by judges. Todd was awarded the Resene Colour in Design award. This recognised his work on what was a "tired" space in need of modernisation. The blue colour in the firm's logo was used as an accent on the floor and walls.

Architectural Designers New Zealand chief executive officer Astrid Anderson said the Nelson-based designs were a "feast for the eye" which captured the natural landscape and relaxed lifestyle.

The winners are eligible for national titles.



Work by Nelson architectural designers Tony Karsten, top and bottom left, George Hilgeholt, top right and David Todd, bottom right have won regional design awards.