

Christchurch's award-winning homes - take a peek

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Kennedy's Bush house designed by Robert Weir.

Harmony in Redcliffs, a sense of theatre in Halswell and primal elements in Kennedy's Bush.

These were the clinching features of the winning homes at the Canterbury-Westland Architectural Design Awards held in Christchurch on Friday night.

Four Christchurch houses, a town house complex and a factory took the honours in the contest. Run annually by Architectural Designers New Zealand (ADNZ) and Resene, it recognises the work of architectural designers and is separate from the Institute of Architects' and the Master Builders' award programmes.



A Nic Curragh-designed Halswell home "[plays] on the classic European farm barn conversion".

Announcing the winners, ADNZ chief executive Astrid Andersen described Canterbury as "a fascinating region for designers to have the pleasure of working in".

"It is exciting, innovative, emerging, transitional and quite complex."

Sharing the award for homes over 300 square metres were a house on the lower slopes of Kennedy's Bush described as "a bold and striking contemporary home" and a large family home in Halswell described by the judges as "very highly polished and well resolved".

The Kennedy's Bush house took advantage of "stunning views" and included precast concrete facade panels providing "a raw, strong and primal base element for the home", judges said. It was designed by Robert Weir.

Its co-winner in Halswell, designed by Craig South, had a strong gable form with two structures joined by a glazed link.

"Spatial relationships engender a rewarding sense of theatre," said the judges.

The 150sqm to 300sqm category was won by another Halswell home, designed by Nic Curragh. The house was "a play on the classic European farm barn conversion", and combined large hardwood beams with exposed steelwork, raw concrete and bespoke joinery units. It comprised "a well balanced and eclectic selection of natural materials", the judges said.

Smallest of all was a home in Moncks Spur, Redcliffs, which took the under 150sqm category award. A rebuild of a quake-damaged 1920s bungalow, the house drew on

"harmonious balance of materials and form", and was labelled a "very clever twist on a well understood architectural type". It was also designed by Curragh.

The multi-unit award was won by apartments in Matipo St, Riccarton. Designed by Mitchell Coll and aimed at student residents, the eight townhouses have five ensuite bedrooms each and share living spaces.

A new Scarborough hill home won the interior design award, for a kitchen designed by Sue Jackson.

Woolston premises designed for Elastomer Products EPL Ltd by Cymon Allfrey took the commercial award. The building's factory area was described as "well considered as a working environment, particularly in terms of the quality of light playing out in this large space".

The Christchurch winners will be eligible for national awards to be announced in October.

- Stuff