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Cool barn

New Zealand's young designers are proving they can be inventive while working within limited budgets.

A BLACK BARN that is also a home took out the supreme prize in the National ADNZ Resene Architectural Award 2014.

Designed by Tane Cox of Red Architecture, the house project *Modern Barn Form* is located in rural Whatawhata in the Waikato. It comprises two structures, one housing the living and sleeping areas, while the other is the garage.

Tane Cox says he loves projects that begin with an idea and grow into a design that embraces an idea.

'It's a home that the client has been stoked with, and although modest in appearance, the two black barn structures are hard to miss when it reveals itself as you wind round a quiet country road,' said Cox.

'The house won't be everyone's idea of perfect, but I think the approach to the design is an important aspect that everyone can take on board whether they want to spend a little or a lot.

'To me, there's nothing worse than a house that's designed around a grand entrance or a certain new cladding material or a style or feature that is not fitting for the environment.

'Designs that are simple and fit their context will always, in my opinion, achieve their architectural responsibility.'

ADNZ General Manager Astrid Andersen said Tane Cox's work is an exciting glimpse of where young designers are taking home building in New Zealand.

'In particular, it demonstrates how young designers are proving inventiveness and good design is possible with a limited budget.

'It is such a cool, ingenious and economical design. To be able to take something as simple as a barn structure and use that as the basis for such an astonishing design form is a testament to the skill and ability of Tane.'

Other category winners were:

- Pippin Stow-Wright of F3 Design for SiloStay, Akaroa - commercial interior

- David Maurice of Ltd Architecture for Duncansby Road, Auckland - residential compact new home up to 150 m² award
- Kris Wilson of Design House Architecture for the Norton house, Coromandel - residential alterations and additions
- Chris Wheeler of Hierarchy for his design SoYo, Christchurch - Resene Colour in Design award
- Greg Young of Life Style Architecture for Marina Point, Fiji - international entry, joint winner of residential interiors
- Gary Todd of Gary Todd Architecture for Il Viaggio, Queenstown - residential new home over 300 m²
- Brent Alexander of the Design Studio for the Heritage View Townhouses, Dunedin - residential multi-unit dwelling
- Darryl Church of Darryl Church Architecture for Redwood Visitors' Centre public toilets, Rotorua - commercial/industrial. ◀