



‘Very ordinary house’ has a stunning makeover

It may be called “Shades of Grey House” but this complete transformation of a small basic Nelson house is anything but bland.

Local architectural designer Tony Karsten won the Residential Alterations and Additions Architectural Design Award and Resene Colour in Design Award for the project in the 2017 Nelson Marlborough Regional ADNZ | Resene Architectural Design Awards.

ADNZ CEO Astrid Andersen said she was impressed to see a “very ordinary house” transformed into an award-winning dwelling.

“This design demonstrates care and attention,” she said. “The result is an edgy, contemporary home, which makes use of all available space.”

The judges admired how the removal of all existing walls on the ground floor had created generous, open-plan living. “The ground floor is connected to an outdoor living

space primed for the afternoon sun, and the concrete paving is set up to hold the heat. Secondary compositional devices – screens, balustrades, gates and the like – subtly gesture to the building’s context.”

On the Resene Colour in Design Award, the judges commented on the neutral grey palette, which complemented the different layers and showcased timber as a feature.

The project utilised fibreglass mesh – more commonly used for walkways on fishing boats – to create privacy screens on windows, which shield the house from the busy street.

Tony Karsten described the project as a team effort. He worked closely with interior designer and homeowner Ana Stevenson.



Shades of Grey House