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Christchurch designers scoop prizes



Weir Walker Architecture

"Variations of texture provided by the inspired selection and application of glass, concrete, copper and stack-bonded block make this outstanding entry faithfully represent the business of the client..."

Christchurch designers did themselves proud at the ADNZ/Resene 2008 National Design Awards, which were announced at a gala dinner recently.

Eight of the 15 award categories up for grabs were won by designers from four Christchurch practices – Jackson and Jackson, Stanley-Joblin Allfrey, Darren O'Neil Architecture and Weir Walker Architecture.

Cymon Allfrey from Stanley-Joblin & Allfrey took out the first of the Christchurch practice's three awards by winning the Residential Multi-Unit Dwelling category. His design for the Wilton Close apartments responded to the need for a high-density, low-rise apartment complex providing an entry-level home for the inner-city dweller. Allfrey's design was a contemporary interpretation of the stately Palladian-style Wilton House in Wiltshire, with the main body of the building wrapping around a courtyard in a Mannerist form.

Cymon Allfrey's Wilton Close project also won the Resene Colour award, described by the judging panel as "The total package – interior and exterior – beautifully presented."

The third category won by a designer from Stanley-Joblin & Allfrey was for the First Time Entrant award, which was taken out by awards rookie Craig South for Brown House in Christchurch. Its careful detailing and good spatial design caught the attention of the judging panel, which noted: "A grand entrance and attention to technical detail creates an excellent example of the modern style."

After three finalist placings in last year's awards, Sue Jackson from Jackson & Jackson Architectural Design in



Darryn Oneil - Distinctive design

Christchurch stepped it up a notch, winning two awards for her entry, Belleview house. The remodelled 1970s hillside home on Mt Pleasant took out the Residential Interiors and the Kitchen categories.

The judges commended Sue Jackson's consistent attention to minimalist detailing and said the "subtle selection of materials and colour completes a superb interior makeover."

Jason Walker from Christchurch's Weir Walker Architecture won the first of two awards for his practice, taking out the Commercial Interiors category for his fit-out for Hawkins Construction new Addington warehouse/office development. Commenting on his winning design, the judges said: "Variations of texture provided by the inspired selection and application of glass, concrete, copper and stack-bonded block make this outstanding entry faithfully represent the business of the client. Clever lighting completes the striking design."



Jackson & Jackson Architectural Design



Stanley-Joblin & Allfrey

Robert Weirs and Jason Walker's second win was in the Special Projects category for the three-dimensional presentation drawings they created for the 12-storey Club Tower in Christchurch. The project, set to be the first five-star rated Green Star building in the South Island, will incorporate numerous ESD features.

This year's James Hardie-sponsored Distinctive Design award went to Darren O'Neil from O'Neil Architecture in Christchurch for his Quarry Hill design.

The judges commended O'Neil's design and use of materials for this project.

"This is a fantastic large home built on a difficult site. The mix of the two main materials helps to create a harmonious design, while the layered effect seems to cleverly mask its large bulk."