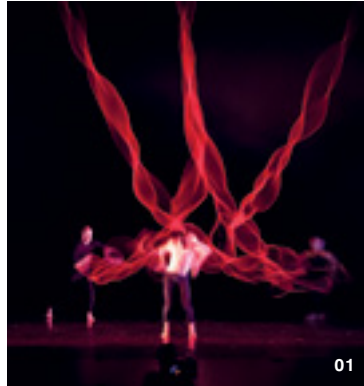


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WINNING INTERIORS

The winners of the 2015 Interior Awards were announced last month, with the Supreme Award given to José Gutierrez for an imaginative and seemingly effortless design for a consumer demand agency in Auckland's Britomart precinct.



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On 17 June at St Matthew-in-the-City church in Auckland City, the winners of the 2015 Interior Awards were announced. This popular event, now in its fourth year, drew a record number of more than 300 people, who also turned up to mingle and enjoy fine wine and coffee/gin cocktails, enhanced by digital mapping projections onto St Matthew's heritage architectural interior.

On the night, real cash prizes were served up in suitcases to the winners: \$6,000 for the Supreme Award winner, \$1,500 for the winning Emerging Design Professional and \$1,000 for the new student winner. The judges were: Cecile Bonnifait of Wellington-based practice Bonnifait + Giesen – Atelierworkshop; Andrew Barrie, Professor of Design at The University of Auckland's School of Architecture and Planning; Emily Priest of Cheshire Architects; Andrew Tu'inukuafu from Creative Spaces; and Federico Monsalve, editor of *Interior* magazine.

The judges made their decisions after two days of watching finalists' presentations, which were also streamed live via architecturenow.co.nz and watched by more than 3,000 people.

The Supreme and Workplace (over 1,000m²) awards were given to José Gutierrez's Auckland-based architectural studio for his imaginative and seemingly effortless design for TRA, a consumer demand agency in Auckland's Britomart precinct. The scheme retains the gritty patina of the original heritage building and successfully transforms it with a futuristic

sci-fi ambience. There are plenty of 'wow' moments, such as the dramatic 7m-high steel screen in reception, which helps to resolve this sprawling industrial space. Lighting, mirrors and a restricted palette of materials accentuate the materiality and insert spatial drama into the heritage space, which includes an interview room separated by one-way mirrors.

The award for Emerging Design Professional went to Meg Rowntree of Jasmox, who was described by the judges as imbuing "a diverse range of projects with a sense of clarity and level-headedness" and as someone who "brings a strong sense of leadership and collaboration to her projects".

The Retail award was won by The Shelter in Auckland, by Pennant and Triumph, a former commercial laundry building reconfigured into a comfortable, gallery-like retail space, described as a "forward-thinking space: a tapestry of beautifully crafted elements housed within a simple gabled interior".

In the Hospitality category, Loretta cafe in Wellington by Parsonson Architects won the top honour for possessing "a true affinity to pre-existing features and the site's need for light and warmth". The kitchen becomes "an integral part of its interior" rather than being relegated "to the far end of the narrow space".

In the Workplace (over 1,000m²) category, CUSTANCE's Fisher & Paykel Design Centre in Auckland took first prize. The project was described by the judges as a daunting task to reuse adaptively "a mammoth workplace" that now "offers clarity and comfort, and effortlessly fosters the collaboration

desired by its users... (it) deftly navigates between function and intelligent design".

Christchurch Botanic Gardens Visitors Centre by Patterson Associates won the fiercely contested Civic award. The judges stated: "It is a glowing gem... beautifully crafted geometries create moody, ethereal spaces of dappled light and wondrous detail, allowing the building's skin and interior to become one."

Studio Carolina Izzo's conservation of the painted dome ceiling in the Isaac Theatre Royal, Christchurch, took home the Craftsmanship award, for demonstrating "the full range of the conservator's skills" and incorporating boat-building methods to "bridge the gap between the old ceiling and its new iteration".

Rawstone Studio won the Installation award for an imaginative stage design for MOKO, whereby the interior "becomes an invisible protagonist", a "face manipulated by the pulling and release of ropes, by the tautness and looseness of fabric and the various images projected onto them".

The inaugural Student award went to Raimana Jones from The University of Auckland for his 'Architecture of Coexistence: Regenerating Royal Oak through Urban Acupuncture', an "exemplary" intervention of "beautifully researched and formed spaces" on a poorly developed corner of the Super City.

Read the full judges' citations on architecturenow.co.nz

01 Installation award winner: MOKO stage set by Rawstone Studio.

02 Hospitality award winner: Loretta cafe, Wellington, by Parsonson Architects.

03 Craftsmanship award winner: painted dome ceiling conservation in Isaac Theatre Royal, Christchurch, by Studio Carolina Izzo.

04 Retail award winner: The Shelter, Ponsonby, Auckland, by Pennant & Triumph.

05 The Supreme Award winner and Workplace (up to 1,000m²) award winner: TRA, Britomart, Auckland, by José Gutierrez.

06 Workplace (over 1,000m²) award winner: Fisher & Paykel Design Centre, Auckland, by CUSTANCE.

07 Student award winner: Raimana Jones (The University of Auckland) – 'Architecture of Coexistence: Regenerating Royal Oak through Urban Acupuncture'.

08 The Emerging Design Professional award winner: Meg Rowntree from Jasmox – Air New Zealand Regional Lounge, Christchurch.

09 Civic award winner: Christchurch Botanic Gardens Visitors Centre by Patterson Associates.

Photography: Dan Mace (01), Jeff Brass (02), Paolo Mastina (03), Jeremy Toth (04 and 06), Emma Smales (09), Simon Wilson (06), Stephen Goodenough (08)
Rendering: Raimana Jones (07).