



## New Zealand Institute of Architects Incorporated

### **Stuart Gardyne receives architecture's Gold Medal**

The New Zealand Institute of Architects has conferred its premier individual honour, the Gold Medal for career achievement, on Stuart Gardyne, a director of the Wellington firm architecture+.

The Gold Medal is the highest level of professional recognition a New Zealand architect can attain. For Gardyne, it acknowledges an accomplished career during which he has achieved consistently high standards for and with his clients.

In awarding the Gold Medal, the Institute of Architects noted Gardyne's generosity - to architecture as a profession as well as the wider public realm.

"Stuart has become an architectural leader as well as an excellent designer, and the profession he so admirably represents has benefited enormously from his collegiality, intelligence and integrity."

"He has become a place maker, and his city is profiting from his understanding of its people and its patterns, his sympathy for cultural aspirations and his knowledge of commercial realities, his willingness to test a brief and his eagerness to challenge himself."

Tommy Honey, New Zealand architecture critic and commentator, described Gardyne as a thoughtful and astute architect who has made a significant contribution to the city of Wellington.

"I've always found Stuart to be an extremely generous person...his commitment to the city - to Wellington - is extraordinary. I think the City Gallery is an example of him giving his architecture to the people of Wellington."

Gardyne, whose work spans residential and commercial projects of all scales, first made a name for himself in the early 1990s with the significant conversion of Wellington Public Library into City Gallery Wellington. He would return to the Gallery in 2006 to design a distinctive extension. Clad in a 'rusted' metal skin, the extension respects the proportions of the original building while meeting the requirements of a modern public art gallery. In the coming years, Gardyne will begin a third stage of work that will better integrate the building with Civic Square.

A born and bred Wellingtonian, Gardyne through his architecture has helped shape the city and its surrounds for close to four decades. Significant projects include the Pataka-Porirua Museum of Arts and Culture, Morrison's Bush Cabin and Ponatahi House in the Wairarapa, the Hutt City administration building, the acclaimed Conservation House and Spark Central in the city and, on the waterfront, the Te Wharewaka o Pōneke-Te Raukura.

Gardyne grew up in a suburb populated with architecturally designed houses - Wilton, in Wellington

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- and knew he wanted to be an architect from the time he started secondary school at Wellington College. His first job out of architecture school was with the architecture firm Structon Group, where he quickly rose through the ranks to become a director after just five years.

In the late 1980s, Gardyne established the practice architecture+, where he continues to make a name for himself with buildings that respect the people who occupy them and the landscape, whether urban, rural or natural, that surrounds them.

The New Zealand Architecture Awards were held at the Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum on October 30.

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A portrait photograph of Stuart Gardyne, the NZIA Gold Medal citation, and high-resolution, rights-cleared photographs of selected architecture+ buildings (high-res and low-res) can be [downloaded here](#).