

2015 Emerging Architect Prize

Congratulations to Nic Brunsdon, the 2015 National Emerging Architect Prize Winner!



2015 NATIONAL EMERGING ARCHITECT PRIZE WINNER

NIC BRUNSDON

WA

NATIONAL JURY

David Karotkin (Chair)
Jacqui Connor
Andrew Burns
Kellie Moore

The jury was particularly challenged in assessing the 2015 Emerging Architect Prize. The calibre of the candidates and the diversity of their contributions to the profession and the community gave the jury good reason to be optimistic about the future of the profession.

This year, the jury has awarded Nic Brunsdon for his entrepreneurial application of his skills as an architect in order to demonstrate the value that design can generate for the community.

After graduating from Curtin University in 2004 with honours, Brunsdon worked in Victoria and the United Arab Emirates before returning to live and practise in Western Australia. In addition to teaching at the University of Western Australia and Curtin University, Brunsdon has established architecture practice Post- and not-for-profit organization Spacemarket (both co-founded with Beth George). Spacemarket is an urban program that pairs empty urban spaces with potential tenants. Since its establishment in 2011, the innovative program has identified, re-imagined and reinvigorated otherwise forgotten spaces in key urban locations in the Perth and Fremantle CBDs. In the process, Spacemarket has engaged the community in a dialogue about the future of the city and has encouraged the public to explore and appreciate the attributes of our existing spaces, buildings and urban settings. Spacemarket's interventions, often sponsored directly by Brunsdon, demonstrate how design-led thinking can create opportunity and value where conventional thought did not. This is a powerful message that has captured the imagination of city leaders, politicians, property owners and the public.

Brunsdon is a WA Chapter Councillor, a supporting contributor to Open House Perth, a state architecture award winner and an active advocate through public and conference presentations. His diverse and innovative contribution to the profession is inspiring and makes him a worthy recipient of the 2015 Emerging Architect Prize.

2015 CHAPTER EMERGING ARCHITECT PRIZE WINNERS:

ACT: Rob Henry

NSW: Shaun Carter

NT: Rossi Kourounis

QLD: Kim Baber

SA: Matt Davis

TAS: Peter Booth

VIC: Melissa Bright

WA: Nic Brunsdon

2015 ACT Emerging Architect Prize Winner

ROB HENRY

The Emerging Architect Prize is presented in recognition of an individual's contribution to architectural practice, education, design excellence and community involvement. This year the Prize attracted submissions of excellent quality, illustrating an impressive breadth of knowledge and commitment to the profession amongst our contending emerging architects. Their careers so far have delivered planning, design, and procurement processes as aid to formative South Pacific nations; the promotion of architecture throughout Canberra's Centenary; and dedicated professional service to community groups and not-for-profit organisations through practice and education. The 2014 Emerging Architect Prize therefore celebrates the contribution and accomplishments of all of the contending architects. The jury commends the diverse range of involvement and achievements of each of the contending architects, and encourages their continued pursuits.

The recipient of the 2014 Emerging Architect Prize is Rob Henry. Rob graduated from the University of Canberra with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Environmental Design, and a Bachelor of Architecture (Honours) in 2006. Rob has made a substantial contribution to the profession of architecture through committee involvements, community work, and in an education and mentoring capacity. His design and project work is of an exemplary and award-winning standard, in both an individual capacity and in the contributions he has made to his employers.

Rob is an enthusiastic and conscientious individual who enjoys contributing to all areas of practice and education. He is an active member of the Australian Institute of Architects and is involved in various national and local chapter committees including Chapter Council, Education Committee, Small Practice Group, Gender Equity Committee, and chair of the

Emerging Architects and Graduates Network Committee. He has been a jury member and chair of various Awards and competitions including the ACT Chapter AIA Awards. Rob also lends his time as organizer and speaker at a variety of Institute initiatives such as Parlour, Women in Architecture, and SONA, illustrating his ability to represent the profession on a number of platforms.

Rob specifically allocates time towards pro-bono work for not-for-profit organisations. He is a member of Architecture for Humanity, which undertakes projects focused on creating better futures using design. He is currently involved in pro-bono design services for Home Canberra- an independent living housing village for people with mental illness; as well as for Diversity ACT giving design and planning advice for accommodation facilities for LGBT youth; and for Hartley Lifecare providing inclusive design and disability advice on current projects for people with complex disabilities.

Rob has had continued involvement in education through voluntary tutoring and guest lecturing roles at both the University of Canberra and the Canberra Institute of Technology in the fields of design and sustainability. He has also shown personal initiative in education through the many mentoring roles he has created and contributed to as a member of the Institute.

The jury commends Rob's leadership and advocacy work, and recognizes his far reaching involvement, and the resounding positive impacts this has had on the profession and the community. Rob shows great potential to continue this contribution throughout his career. The jury is delighted to announce Rob Henry as the deserving recipient of the Emerging Architect Prize for 2014.

2015 NSW Emerging Architect Prize Winner

SHAUN CARTER

The Emerging Architect Prize recognises an individual emerging architect or an architectural collaboration's contribution to architectural practice, education, design excellence and community involvement which advances the profession's role in the public arena. Shaun Carter's notable achievements and contributions to the architectural profession are considered an outstanding exemplar of a professional deserving of this prize. Established in 2004, Shaun's practice Carterwilliamson Architects provides ongoing education, notably through inter-office tutelage and critique. In addition to many years of tutoring and course coordination within NSW universities, Shaun employs a dialogue of education and guidance within the studio model of his practice. Shaun is an active contributor to the evolving architectural discourse through his roles in the NSW Chapter; notably as a Chapter Councillor and Chair of the Editorial Committee as well as a committee member of the Gender Equity and CPD Committees. In addition, Shaun's contributions to architectural culture expand beyond his involvement in practice and education; through his role as co-convenor of the Inner West Architects Network, and his involvement in the curated model exhibition "Model Practice" for the 2013 Sydney Architecture Festival. The excellence of Shaun's work has been recognised through a number of awards programs including the NSW Architecture Awards, with Cowshed House awarded both an 2013 NSW Residential

Architecture – Houses (Alteration & Additions) Award and a Sustainable Architecture Award. Shaun is an excellent ambassador for advancement of the architectural profession within the public arena. He engages with architectural discourse on a multifaceted level, and the jury looks forward to following his progress as an emerging architect.

2015 NT Emerging Architect Prize Winner

ROSSI KOUROUNIS

Rossi Kourounis is the 2014 recipient of the NT emerging architect prize in recognition of his commitment to assist architectural students & graduates in a mentoring capacity. He has provided a valuable resource to young architecture professionals in the growing Darwin architectural community by conducting a number of student tutor sessions and assisting graduates in becoming registered architects. His professional leadership is commendably highlighted through the establishment of his emerging practice, Rossi Architects & his contribution to various activities conducted by the institute, culminating in being elected a Chapter Councillor in 2014.

2015 QLD Emerging Architect Prize Winner

KIM BABER

The Queensland Jury has unanimously selected Kim Baber as the State winner for the Emerging Architect Prize for 2015. The Jury has judged Baber's outstanding contribution to architecture through leadership within the profession, to be representative of who Emerging Architects aspire to be.

Kim has demonstrated the highest standard of excellence in architectural practice through his extensive experience in, and collaboration with, respected architectural firms. Also within his own company, Baber Studio, Kim's sophisticated design work has been recognised at state and national level. His work is of the highest calibre and certainly of an international standard.

Kim has demonstrated his passionate commitment to ongoing research and education through his involvement with lecturing and tutoring at University of Queensland.

It is without hesitation we award Kim Baber as the Queensland Emerging Architect, his efforts and contributions to the profession and broader field of design exemplifies a true leader of future Australian architecture.

2015 SA Emerging Architect Prize Winner

MATT DAVIS

The Emerging Architect Prize recognises new members of the profession who have made a substantial contribution to architecture in South Australia.

The jury congratulates Matt Davis as this year's recipient of the Emerging Architect Prize.

After graduating from the University of Adelaide in 1999 with first class honours, in 2000 Matt furthered his education at Columbia University, New York at the acclaimed Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

Matt's started his career with local architecture practice Flightpath Architects, later moving to London to gain experience at Landmark Architecture then Allies + Morrison Architects. In 2002 he returned to Australia and established himself as Associate Director and Design Leader at Bates Smart Sydney. During his 4 year tenure at Bates Smart, Matt was involved in a number of highly regarded projects. Most notably, his role in the awarded 420 George Street Sydney. On returning to Adelaide and establishing his own architectural practice with his wife Sally Davis, aptly named Davis & Davis Architects.

Whilst pursuing a career in private practise that has earned Matt continuing respect from his peers – he has at the same time conducted an equally successful career as an educator – beginning back in the late 90's as a tutor, guest lecturer and in his current capacity as Lecturer in Architectural Design at UniSA. Matt's abilities as an educator are equally highly regarded by his peers and students – achieving higher satisfaction ratings than National benchmarks for his teaching performance and as a result turning out some of the most distinguished architecture graduates in Australia.

To an already distinguished career in private practise and education, for the past few years Matt has contributed to the profession of architecture at a government level as well – being involved in as Design Leader for the 5000+ project run by the Integrated Design Commission up to his current post as Principal Urban Designer with Renewal SA. Here Matt has established a reputation as a world class contributor to forward thinking design and its impact on our communities, his ability to communicate the importance and value of this world view to other government stakeholders and for the (not always) easy job of keeping these goals at the forefront of policy decisions in South Australia.

To date Matt has made a noteworthy contribution in Academia, Education, Private Practice, and Government. An talented and well regarded architect in his own right, a valued educator (by his peers and students), a mentor, a leader and a forward thinking and devoted advocate for the role of architecture and design in Australia's communities.

A highly accomplished and multi-talented architect and educator, Matt's contribution has not only benefited and will benefit the projects he is involved, but is influencing quality outcomes for the next generation of designers and policy makers alike.

As the recipient of this prize, Matt's dedication, influence and breadth of experience across all facets of practising architecture is recognised.

2015 TAS Emerging Architect Prize Winner

PETER BOOTH

The Emerging Architect Prize recognises the outstanding contribution to architectural practice, education, design excellence and the community made by an architect within 15 years of receiving their degree. This time frame alone highlights the complexities and dedication it takes to develop into a well-rounded, skilled practitioner.

This year, the jury is delighted to recognise Peter Booth for his holistic and committed approach to the development of professional education and demonstrative skills in the practice of architecture, all achieved in a relatively short but full career to date.

In 2013, Peter's practice Booth&Watts received a Tasmanian Architecture Award commendation in the Residential (Alterations and Additions) category, for his Harrington House project, as well as winning over the public, picking up the People's Choice Prize for the same building.

Peter's contribution to architectural research in the field of computation and digital fabrication is evidenced by an extensive list of published works, as well as invitations to participate in various national and international research forums. He is also committed to architectural education through his development of and ongoing involvement in the niche area of digital fabrication and emerging technologies at the University of Tasmania's School of Architecture.

Peter has been an active and engaged member of the Institute's Tasmanian Chapter since 2003, fostering events such as Pictures in the Pub, helping organise the Institute's States of Mind National Student Conference and furthering professional development as a member of various committees.

Peter has shown leadership in the digital advancement of architecture and technology, while also demonstrating in practice the positive contribution architecture can make to our built environment, making him a worthy recipient of this year's Emerging Architect Prize.

2015 VIC Emerging Architect Prize Winner

MELISSA BRIGHT

Melissa Bright has been awarded the 2014 Victorian Emerging Architect Prize. She has distinguished herself with an excellent body of built work at MAKE Architecture since her registration in 2006. Melissa has taught extensively at RMIT since 2001 and provided pro bono services to Westgate Park through the 'Architects for Peace Pro Bono Service'. She has also contributed to lectures and forums and been an active contributor to the profession in leadership roles. The judging panel was particularly impressed by Melissa's consistently original and crafted built work.