PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

THE ALAN C WALKER AWARD FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE







Bridgewater Linc and Child and Family Centre

Liminal Architecture

The Bridgewater LINC and Child and Family Centre is exemplary in demonstrating the synergy possible when different facilities are drawn together under a single roof – in this instance, a library, Service Tasmania shopfront, and child and family centre. An exhaustive community consultation process has engendered local ownership, and the completed project has truly been a catalyst for social connectedness in what is a demographically disadvantaged municipality. The architecture supports a well-developed brief driven by an ambitious public client.

The folded building form sits within an undulating topography, its brick exterior resonating beautifully with the brick suburban context that it looks onto. The handling of scale is masterful, creating both a strong civic quality and a domestic friendliness. The construction and detailing are appropriately robust. Varied and delightful spaces have been created internally with a restrained material and colour palette. The spaces relate easily and the wayfinding is intuitive. The building is a successful workplace, and has become a genuine community focus – its facilities are well-patronised with the largest increase in LINC membership in the state since its opening.

Photographer: Jonathan Wherrett / VOS Construction & Joinery Pty Ltd – builder / Gandy and Roberts – structural consultant / Inspiring Places – landscape consultant / JMG – services consultant / Stehel Consultants – quantity surveyor / Lee Tyers Building Surveyors – building surveyor

PRIZES

EMERGING ARCHITECT PRIZE

Peta Heffernan

The Emerging Architect Prize recognises the contribution to architectural practice, leadership, design excellence and the general community by an architect in the early stages of their career. This year, the jury is delighted to recognise the substantial contribution of Peta Heffernan to both architectural dialogue and practice within Tasmania.

Peta has built up a commendable range of architectural experience as a design and project architect, which has led to her position as a director of a multidisciplinary design practice, Liminal Studio. She is actively involved in the Australian Institute of Architects, not only through the donation of her time to organising events, but also through participation on the Chapter Council and other committees. Furthermore, she is actively involved in the wider arts community; her work with various arts groups and her role on the Tasmanian Creative Industries Council help to actively promote the value of design and a culture of design thinking.

In her endeavour to promote architecture to the masses, Peta has involved her businesses, Liminal Studio and Liminal Spaces, with collaborative works, exhibitions and cultural events that provide opportunities for an ongoing wider public engagement with the arts.

It is evident that Peta is already a leader within the design community and will continue to be so in the future.

