

## MEDIA RELEASE

9 May 2025

### AUSTRALIA'S MOST INNOVATIVE NEW RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE REVEALED

**The 2025 Houses Awards shortlist is filled with captivating home design inspiration and a new category to recognise the growing importance of small project architecture**

More than 150 of Australia's most inspired new homes have been unveiled in the 2025 Houses Awards shortlist, teeming with intelligent, innovative and sustainable contemporary residential architecture from the country's foremost designers. These designers, recognised in this year's Houses Awards, are true innovators, pushing the boundaries of home functionality and showcasing skilful architectural responses to the increasingly complex environmental, economic and contextual challenges we face in an uncertain world.

The full list of these exceptional homes can be viewed on the [Houses Awards website](https://www.housesawards.com.au) (and in the pages below of this media release).

The homes in the Awards are pioneering new ideas in residential architecture, expanding the possibilities of what the twenty-first-century "Australian home" can be. Houses magazine editor and Houses Awards jury chair Alexa Kempton explained that many homes in this year's shortlist ascribed to *"the radical idea of doing less."*

*"Many of this year's shortlisted homes show us that we should be designing smarter, rather than bigger. Increasingly, we see architects telling clients, 'You don't need more space – you need better design.' The jury observed modestly scaled new houses as well as clever interventions to existing homes, and applauded this continued emphasis on responsible residential design."*

*"Postwar apartments, beach shacks, project homes – these familiar housing types are often ripe for formulaic updates. But in this year's shortlisted homes, the jury observed something bolder: inventive, out-of-the-box transformations that celebrate Australia's existing housing stock. These projects prove you don't need to demolish to make something remarkable from the homes already found in our suburbs."*

*"This year's shortlist also saw housing designed not just for growing families, but for the full spectrum of Australian life. The jury saw many homes that respond to the demographic diversity in contemporary Australia, encompassing downsizers, sole occupants and those who want to age in place."*

Recognising the changing ways that Australians are living and, consequently, the diversity of residential briefs that architects and designers are responding to, this year, the Houses Awards has introduced an all-new Small Project category, recognising the innovation and impact of small-scale residential builds such as granny flats, studios, workshops, pergolas and pool houses. Projects in this new category relate to a larger, primary dwelling but stand separate as an independent building project. While the shortlisted projects in this category demonstrate inventive solutions for contemporary residential design on a smaller scale, they greatly enrich how their occupants live and present an equal level of thought and innovation to their larger counterparts.

The Houses Awards categories for 2025 are:

- New House Under 200 Square Metres
- New House Over 200 Square Metres
- House Alteration and Addition Under 200 Square Metres
- House Alteration and Addition Over 200 Square Metres

- Apartment or Unit
- Small Project (new category)
- Sustainability
- House in a Heritage Context
- Emerging Architecture Practice
- Australian House of the Year

The shortlist for this year's Awards was selected by a panel of jurors featuring Australia's most visionary architects (including previous winners of the Houses Awards) and two specialist advisors, who provided expertise in the sustainability and heritage categories. The 2025 jury includes:

- John Ellway, John Ellway Architect
- Polly Harbison, principal, Polly Harbison Design
- Dimmity Walker, director, Spaceagency Architects
- John Wardle, founder, Wardle
- Alexa Kempton (jury chair) editor, *Houses* magazine, Architecture Media
- Louise Honman (heritage advisor), built heritage specialist
- Pippa Soccio (sustainability advisor), senior research scientist in building monitoring, CSIRO

The eventual winners of the 2025 Houses Awards will be announced at a gala event at the State Library of NSW on Friday, 1 August, with projects awarded across nine categories. One home from these nine categories is awarded the premier title of Australian House of the Year. Each award category offers a \$1,000 cash prize, and the winner of the Australian House of the Year will receive a \$5,000 cash prize.

After the awards ceremony, the eventual winners and commendations will be announced online on Saturday, 2 August 2025, across Architecture Media's online platforms. A full report of the winners will also be published in the August issue of *Houses*.

The shortlist (listed on the following pages) is also detailed on the [Houses Awards website](https://www.housesawards.com.au).

**For further media information, please contact Houses Awards publicist, Adam Valentine:**  
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## SHORTLISTED PROJECTS

### **New House Under 200m2**

Copper Ribbon House - Dunn Hillam Architecture and Urban Design (NSW)

Greybox - Welsh and Major (NSW)

High Tide House - Ware Architects (NSW)

Merewether Gully House - Anthrosite (NSW)

Morning Bay House - Casey Brown Architecture (NSW)

Ochre House - MyMyMy Architecture (NSW)

Practice Ground - Trias (NSW)

Wombarra House - Mark Spence Architect (NSW)

Gold Creek - Steendijk in collaboration with Glenn Murcutt (QLD)

Spring Beach House - Scale Architecture (TAS)

Wolfe House - Rosevear Stephenson (TAS)

Huon Creek House - Akimbo Architecture (VIC)

Mornington House - Foomann Architects (VIC)

Otway Beach House - Kerstin Thompson Architects (VIC)

Parkside - Austin Maynard Architects (VIC)

Roseburn - NTF Architecture (VIC)

Sawmill Treehouse - Robbie Walker (VIC)

She Sells Sea Shells - Multiplicity (VIC)

Hinderwell Street House - MDC Architects (WA)

Injidup Springs House - Whispering Smith (WA)

### **New House Over 200m2**

Batten House - Ben Walker Architects (ACT)

Bondi House - Nick Kent Design (NSW)

Casa C - Adriano Pupilli Architects (NSW)

Clifton House - Anthony Gill Architects (NSW)

Earth by the River - Luigi Rosselli Architects (NSW)

Holocene House - C Plus C Architects and Builders (NSW)

Mango Lane House - DFJ Architects (NSW)

New Castle - Anthony St John Parsons (NSW)

Patonga House - Casey Brown Architecture (NSW)

Perch House - PH Plus Architects (NSW)

## **New House Over 200m2 (cont.)**

Table Top House - Pleysier Perkins (NSW)  
Terra Firma - Luigi Rosselli Architects (NSW)  
Throsby House - Curious Practice (NSW)  
Airlie Beach House - Glyde Bautovich (QLD)  
Couldrey House - Alexandra Buchanan Architecture (QLD)  
Floating Gable House - Phorm Architecture and Design (QLD)  
Hedges Residence - B.E. Architecture (QLD)  
Kanagawa - Joe Adsett Architects (QLD)  
Lyrebird - Sparks Architects (QLD)  
One Mooloomba - Paul Butterworth Architect (QLD)  
Nebraska - Lara Maesele (TAS)  
Anglesea House - Eckersley Architects (VIC)  
Coastal House - Rob Kennon Architects (VIC)  
Coppin Residence - Piccolo Architecture (VIC)  
Erskine Street Residence - B.E. Architecture (VIC)  
Fishharven - Neil Architecture (VIC)  
Hawthorn House - Cheah Saw Architecture (VIC)  
Hedge and Arbour House - Studio Bright (VIC)  
Home Pavilion - MRTN Architects (VIC)  
Horizon House - InForm in partnership with Pleysier Perkins (VIC)  
House on a Hill - Leeton Pointon Architects and Allison Pye Interiors (VIC)  
Howqua River Lodge - Rob Mills Architecture & Interiors (VIC)  
Kross House - Figr Architecture Studio (VIC)  
Marraweeney - Tom Robertson Architects (VIC)  
Mount Martha House - Victoria Merrett Architects (VIC)  
Orrong Park House - Clare Cousins Architects (VIC)  
Shady Creek - MRTN Architects (VIC)  
Tea House - Krisna Cheung Architects (VIC)  
Terrace House - Rob Kennon Architects (VIC)  
Two Parts House - Sonelo Architects (VIC)  
Vasey Pavilions - Ellul Architecture (VIC)  
Warrandyte House - Figureground Architecture (VIC)  
Broome Street House - Philip Stejskal Architecture (WA)  
Henville Street House - Philip Stejskal Architecture (WA)

## **New House Over 200m2 (cont.)**

Karijini House - Gritt Studio (WA)

Rapid Close House - Philip Stejskal Architecture (WA)

## **House Alteration & Addition Under 200m2**

Babylon House - Casey Brown Architecture (NSW)

Bondi Breeze - Panov Scott (NSW)

Brunswick Heads House - Fraser Mudge Architects (NSW)

Cake House - Alexander Symes Architect (NSW)

House in Erskineville - Architect George (NSW)

House in Surry Hills II - Architect George (NSW)

House in Surry Hills III - Architect George (NSW)

Hugo's House - Ian Moore Architects (NSW)

Maryville Heirloom House - Anthrosite (NSW)

Mr Robin and Mrs Rose - Brcar Morony Architecture (NSW)

Newlyn House - Downie North (NSW)

Re-wild House - Bastian Architecture (NSW)

St Peters House 1 - Kreis Grennan Architecture (NSW)

Tree House - Retallack Thompson (NSW)

Quadrant House - Kieron Gait Architects (QLD)

Tighty Whitey - Maytree Studios (QLD)

Toowong Towers - Alcorn Middleton (QLD)

West End House - Zuzana and Nicholas (QLD)

West End Shadehouse - Vokes and Peters (QLD)

Coles Bay House - Anchor Architecture Office (TAS)

Pedder Street - Bence Mulcahy (TAS)

194 Moor - Hola Projects (VIC)

A House to Gather - Sibling Architecture (VIC)

Bluestone House - Ellul Architecture (VIC)

Carlton Cottage - Lovell Burton Architecture (VIC)

Coburg House - Card (VIC)

Kew Residence - Heliotope Architecture (VIC)

Magic - Wowowa Architecture (VIC)

Mess Hall - Architecture architecture (VIC)



## **House Alteration & Addition Under 200m2 (cont.)**

North Melbourne Terrace - Birthisel Wittingslow Architects (VIC)

Northcote House No. 3 - Ancher Architecture Office and Pipkorn Kilpatrick (VIC)

## **House Alteration & Addition Over 200m2**

Alba - Studio Plus Three (NSW)

Balmain East House - Studio Johnston (NSW)

Cloaked House - Trias (NSW)

Headland House - Richards Stanisich (NSW)

Hidden: A Cryptic Estate - Luigi Rosselli Architects (NSW)

House in Stanmore - Sam Crawford Architects (NSW)

New Line House - Studio Prineas (NSW)

Rainbow House - Virginia Kerridge Architect (NSW)

Tamarama House - Billy Maynard Architects (NSW)

The Alhambra - Architectural Projects (NSW)

Turramurra House - Rich Carr Architects (NSW)

Waverley House - Sam Crawford Architects (NSW)

Woollahra Village House - Tobias Partners (NSW)

Zulaikha Laurence, Tree Change House - Studio Zawa (NSW)

Balmoral Hillside House - Kieron Gait Architects (QLD)

Binnun Homestead - Alexandra Buchanan Architecture (QLD)

Kent - Alexandra Buchanan Architecture (QLD)

Flame Tree House - Architects Ink (SA)

Bryant Street Residence - Freadman White (VIC)

Carcassonne - FMD Architects (VIC)

Clarke - Austin Maynard Architects (VIC)

Fringe Dweller - Mihaly Slocombe Architects (VIC)

Gable House - Folk Architects with Studio Doherty (VIC)

Goodwin House - Olaver Architecture (VIC)

Harvest House - Cera Stribley (VIC)

Hopetoun Residence - Freadman White (VIC)

Marianne House - Victoria Merrett Architects (VIC)

Ormond House - Telha Clarke (VIC)

Oval House - Topology Studio (VIC)

Park Street House - Michael Ong Design Office (VIC)

## **House Alteration & Addition Over 200m2 (cont.)**

Plane Tree House - Birthisel Wittingslow Architects (VIC)

Williamstown House - Adam Kane Architects (VIC)

Yarraville Peak - Weaver and Co Architects (VIC)

## **Apartment or Unit**

Apartment in a Terrace House - Miles Thorp Architects (NSW)

Horizon Apartment - Brad Swartz Architects (NSW)

Inner City Apartment - Virginia Kerridge Architect (NSW)

Montage Apartment - Studio Prineas (NSW)

Onslow Gardens Apartment - Youssofzay Hart (NSW)

Paperbark Apartments - TKD Architects (NSW)

Portman Terraces - Smart Design Studio (NSW)

A Verdant Vow - PSC Design (QLD)

Blok Three Sisters - Blok Modular and Vokes and Peters (QLD)

69B Mitchell St - C. Kairouz Architects (VIC)

Brighton Apartment - Matyas Architects and Interiors (VIC)

Caringal: A Flat for an Artist - Ellul Architecture (VIC)

Echo 1 - C Street Projects with Neil Architecture (VIC)

Newburgh Light House - Splinter Society Architecture (VIC)

Parkville Apartment - Healy Ryan Architects (VIC)

Should I Stay or Should I Go - Multiplicity (VIC)

Smith Street Residence - Freadman White (VIC)

Tanner Street Residence - Field Office Architecture (VIC)

## **Small Project (new category)**

Cal Somni - We Are Blankslate (NSW)

Cheltenham - Nelson Thomas Landscape Architects (NSW)

J-Pod - Maxwell and Page Architects (NSW)

Princes Studio - Curious Practice (NSW)

Totoro's Pool - Walless Architecture (NSW)

Window, Window, Window - Panov Scott (NSW)

Kenmore Pavilion - Card (QLD)

Mountain House - Breathe (VIC)

Studio Uno - Mihaly Slocombe Architects (VIC)

## **Small Project (cont.)**

The Apple House - Sally Draper Architects (VIC)

Den Place - Whispering Smith (WA)

## **Sustainability**

Cake House - Alexander Symes Architect (NSW)

Cloaked House - Trias (NSW)

Copper Ribbon House - Dunn Hillam Architecture and Urban Design (NSW)

Holocene House - C Plus C Architects and Builders (NSW)

Practice Ground - Trias (NSW)

Sapling - Anderson Architecture (NSW)

Zulaikha Laurence, Tree Change House - Studio Zawa (NSW)

Lyrebird - Sparks Architects (QLD)

Wolfe House - Rosevear Stephenson (TAS)

Anglesea House - Eckersley Architects (VIC)

Carlton Cottage - Lovell Burton Architecture (VIC)

Coburg House - Card (VIC)

Howqua River Lodge - Rob Mills Architecture and Interiors (VIC)

Hinderwell Street House - MDC Architects (WA)

Injidup Springs House - Whispering Smith (WA)

Rapid Close House - Philip Stejskal Architecture (WA)

## **House in a Heritage Context**

Hidden: A Cryptic Estate - Luigi Rosselli Architects (NSW)

Newlyn House - Downie North (NSW)

Woollahra Village House - Tobias Partners (NSW)

Bluestone House - Ellul Architecture (VIC)

Bryant Street Residence - Freadman White (VIC)

Caringal: A Flat for an Artist - Ellul Architecture (VIC)

Coburg House - Card (VIC)

Gable House - Folk Architects with Studio Doherty (VIC)

Goodwin House - Olaver Architecture (VIC)

Mess Hall - Architecture architecture (VIC)

North Melbourne Terrace - Birthisel Wittingslow Architects (VIC)

Terrace House - Rob Kennon Architects (VIC)



## House in a Heritage Context (cont.)

Williamstown House - Adam Kane Architects (VIC)

Yarraville Peak - Weaver and Co Architects (VIC)

## Emerging Architecture Practice

Card (VIC)

Ellul Architecture (VIC)

Victoria Merrett Architects (VIC)

**-ENDS-**

*Houses is Australia's leading residential architecture magazine for designers and their clients. Houses presents inspiring residential projects by Australia's best architects and designers. These projects reveal the way that a house, through occupation, becomes a home – the architectural ideas, and the people and products behind them. Houses includes extensive pictorial coverage and engaging stories together with floor plans and detailed lists of the products used. It is the only residential architecture publication to carry endorsements from both the Australian Institute of Architects and the Design Institute of Australia.*

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