

Commendation

RESIDENTIAL DESIGN:
ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS: OVER \$500K CONSTRUCTION COST



The pool zone integrates a sauna and concealed outdoor shower within the dynamic ribbon canopy.

Designer: EME Design Pty Ltd

Phone: (03) 9523 1514

Web: www.emedesign.com.au

Builder: Robert Rolls, First Impression Projects

Photographer: Scott Haskins

Ribbon House

This Armadale project was considered a close second for this award, such that the judges considered it worthy of a commendation. A major factor in this design was to create an addition to an existing heritage building without detracting from its original qualities. It's clear to see that this is exactly what has been achieved with the new works; predominately to the rear of the building, connecting seamlessly whilst providing an exciting and liveable new modern space. The open fireplace acts as the connection point between the new and old, and yet is not out of place in either. The kitchen has clean lines, and the extensive use of timber throughout the addition unites the general feel. The ultra-modern rear façade and ribbon canopy tie in well with the old lines. An open and dynamic entertainment area, including a pool zone completes the package.

Layered views down from the second storey into the kitchen and gallery space show the stunning use of timber throughout.



Winner

HERITAGE CONSERVATION PROJECT –
RESIDENTIAL



First floor floating timber box with low energy recessed lighting contributes to a strong connection with the deck.



The front facade prior to renovation with its distinctive Arts & Crafts semi-circular portico.



The respectfully refurbished entry atrium, with the introduction of built-in seating and storage, now doubles as a reading or living room.



The ribbon element boldly outlines the two-storey addition, emphasising the clever articulation of the forms.

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The designer is to be commended for this bold solution to the problem of altering and adding to a house of considerable heritage significance. The existing Arts and Crafts house was designed by a leading proponent of that style and is rich in detail, with an unusual semi-circular portico dominating the front elevation. Typical Arts and Crafts details prevail throughout, including the slatted timber eaves lining, from which the designer has taken a cue for this inspired design. A ribbon of natural timber ties the existing fabric and the addition together, ensuring that awkward junctions between old and new fabric are avoided. The ribbon element boldly outlines the two-storey component, emphasising the clever articulation of the forms. The old and new are thus effectively connected with minimal intrusion upon the significant fabric.

The interest created by the forms is carried through to the interior planning and detailing with sculptural timber elements assisting in defining spaces and providing visual interest. The transition from old to new has been ably addressed to ensure that important areas of the existing interior are retained in an integrated plan.

The approach taken by the designer is one that all too often finds little or no support from local authorities – the two storey addition, while leaving the existing roof form largely intact, is not completely concealed behind it, and is dramatically contemporary in form. Yet the addition in no way compromises the significant fabric and, in fact, will most likely ensure its survival by upgrading it to meet the demands of modern living. In this way, the design sets a positive precedent for heritage conservation projects.