

ARCHITECTURE AUSTRALIA

MAR/APR 11

Australian Achievement
in Architecture Awards
Institute Gold Medallist
Graeme Gunn

Kerry Hill Architects'
State Theatre Centre
Scale Architecture's
outdoor learning area

BVN's Brain &
Research Inst
ARM returns
Gehry at UTS



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AAAA

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Janet Holmes à Court
— Leadership in Sustainability
Prize: Healthabitat
— Emerging Architects Prize:
Marcus White
— Student Prize for the
advancement of architecture:
Daniel Brookes
— Bluescope Glenn Murcutt
Student Prize: Sam Bresnahan
— Dulux Study Tour:
Carly Barrett, Christina Cho
Yuri Dillon, Jefa Greenaway
and Brendan Murray

COVER
Detail of Barondah,
Nelson's Inlet, 1969,
by Gold Medal winner
Graeme Gunn.
Photograph Peter
Bennetts.

THIS PAGE
Perth's State Theatre
Centre, by Kerry Hill
Architects. Photograph
Robert Frith.

PRESIDENT'S PRIZE

Janet Holmes à Court



Jury
Karl Fender

Jury Citation — Over the years, the Institute has received strong support from an array of illustrious people outside the profession, individuals who, convinced of the real value of architecture to society, have been prepared to act publicly as powerful advocates for the discipline. The President's Prize celebrates such exemplary contribution to the advancement of architecture.

This year we honour Janet Holmes à Court. We were fortunate to have her accept the position of Australian commissioner for the Venice Architecture Biennale. She took on the role with an astute vigour and quickly became

the public face of the biennale for Australia.

Holmes à Court studied at the University of Western Australia, majoring in organic chemistry and, later, she became pro-chancellor of that university. She maintains an interest in medical research and the arts.

She is known to many as the distinguished Australian who chairs one of Australia's largest private companies, Heytesbury, and the John Holland Group. She also chairs

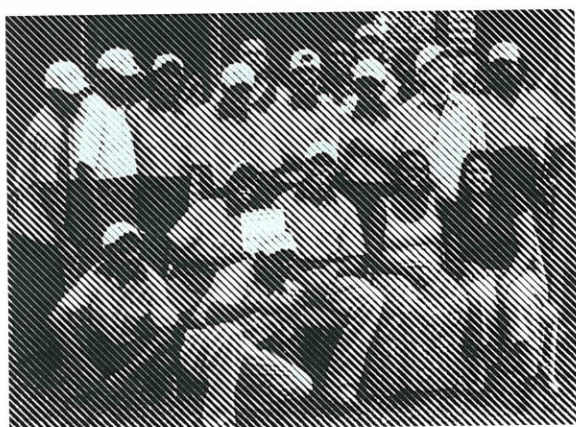
the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, the Australian Children's Television Foundation and the Urban Design Centre of WA. She is a commissioner of Tourism Western Australia, a board director of Vision 2020 Australia, a governor of Sony Foundation Australia and a board member of the Rio Tinto WA Future Fund. She was made an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO) in 1995 and promoted to a Companion of the Order (AC) in 2007. The National Trust of Australia has included her on its list of 100 Australian Living Treasures.

Holmes à Court is an ideal commissioner for the Venice Architecture Biennale. As the envoy, advocate, fundraiser and adviser, she brought humour, energy, candour and a straightforward, no-nonsense intelligence which she combined with a broad cultural knowledge. She encouraged and cajoled, presented and persuaded – all for architecture. In Venice, she was the perfect host, the perfect traveller, the perfect palazzo mate, the commissioner for whom nothing was too difficult.

It is our privilege to recognize Holmes à Court's contribution to the Australian presence at the Venice Architecture Biennale of 2010 and to welcome, hugely, her willingness to act again in this role for the 2012 Biennale.
Geoffrey London

LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABILITY PRIZE

Healthabitat



Jury
Karl Fender
Peter Scott
Tone Wheeler
Tony Arnel

Jury Citation — Healthabitat is directed by architect Paul Pholeros AM, thoracic physician Dr Paul Torzillo AM, and anthropologist and public and environmental health officer Stephan Rainow. Healthabitat was established with the primary aim of improving the

health of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by improving their living environment. It is a not-for-profit organization, with each partner contributing their professional skills to various projects as needed.

In 1974 Pholeros, together with three other architecture students, took a double-decker bus on a tour of Australia. What he saw, in both the privations of our Indigenous population and the elegance and simplicity of vernacular

design, has been brought together in his architectural work, in particular the Housing for Health program of the last twenty-five years. Gathering a large team of health and architectural specialists, the Healthabitat team has set out a system of simple designs and technologies that can dramatically improve the life of Aboriginal groups, literally "sustaining people". Based on extensive research, the Housing for Health program is able to engage with local communities, working with them to identify the key issues that need to be addressed to improve individual and group health, including healthy living practices and simple technological change. They have improved over seven thousand houses in 180 project locations around Australia, improving the lives of over forty thousand Indigenous people, and the approach is now being used overseas.

Team — Paul Pholeros, Paul Torzillo, Stephan Rainow, Adrian Welke, Greg Norman, Justine Hill, Bill Mansell, Tony Davies, John Shiel, Christian Tietz, Andy Irvine, Tim Short, Tim Sowerbutts, Mike O'Brien, Dave Ferrall, Paul Williamson, Karin Richards, Jeff Standen, Geoff Barker.

Leadership in Sustainability Prize 2011

I was working with a young Aboriginal man on a Housing for Health project recently and at lunchtime he asked

"What are you ...plumber, electrician or carpenter?"

When I said that I was an architect

He asked "What do they do?"

I tried to explain that we design buildings, think about the people who'll use them, where buildings are built and with what materials.

He nodded and went back to work.

A couple of days later he came up to me again and said quietly

"What architects do is make houses a little bit better for the people who live in them...and that's a good job"

I accept this prize on his behalf and also a very large team that includes;

930 aboriginal and Islander people

60 trade teams

40 team leaders

20 managers that include engineers, environmental health experts, statistician and even some architects

and I better not forget the teams in Nepal and New York city.

It is a grim irony that the work you as a profession have just acknowledged with this prize will stop nationally in June.

The 3 year old national \$5.5 billion Indigenous housing promise has been compromised by a crude numbers game; the targets being how many new houses are built and how many existing houses upgraded. This dumb count has become the political measure of success, rather than how well houses work.

After 26 years of work, Healthabitat will stick to the young Aboriginal worker's definition of good work – "making houses a little bit better for the people who live in them".

We think sustaining people's lives is a measure of success that cannot be compromised.

Thanks from the whole team to the AIA and profession.

We hope you can help us continue the Housing for Health work.