

HOME

Misho's modular marvel

HOUSE

Jarrad Bevan



DEAS that architect Misho Vasiljevich had considered for his own home inspired the design of a house at Premaydena for one of his clients.

The house was a nominee in last month's Tasmanian Architecture Awards small project category.

Misho, director of Misho + Associates, said lightness, simple modular proportions, screening and layering inspired the house design.

He said to address the issue of cold, salty wind, the house is "a box within a box".

And to address the clients' request for two bedrooms and ensuites that were separated from the living area, the house is also "a box beside a box".

"The modular boxes within and beside each other is a simple yet highly successful planning system," Misho said.

"Areas can be easily closed off if unused and light is gained passively, even when the external panels are closed on a bright but windy day, by a set of broad clerestory windows, on the long axis.

"The application of boxes within and beside each other generates a series of elegant living spaces that provide respite from the external elements and opportunities to re-engage with daily rituals."

All timber used in the house was plantation-grown hardwood.

The house is highly visible due to its external orange metal panels, which reflect the orange lichen on the boulders at Roaring Beach.

Misho said his clients, who escape to Premaydena from interstate, needed a house that could be totally or partially closed down for security reasons and which would exclude



the cold north-easterly wind. He said external red and orange galvanised steel panels, with baked paint finish, slide open to reveal a sheltered veranda.

"Inside, two aligned 'boxes' are contained within timber screens," Misho said.

"The double skin, steel and timber with verandah air-space between, contribute to an insulation rating of R8.

"Windows align perfectly with the parted panels and minimal internal ornamentation allows the residents to muse on the shifting clouds or geometric patterns of light cast on

the veranda when the panels are closed on a bright, windy day.

"Thermally broken aluminium double-glazed windows, 2000mm eaves and solar gain also generate this extremely high rating.

"Water is harvested to three 10,000-litre tanks and an Envirocycle grey/black water system irrigates re-vegetation planting around the house."

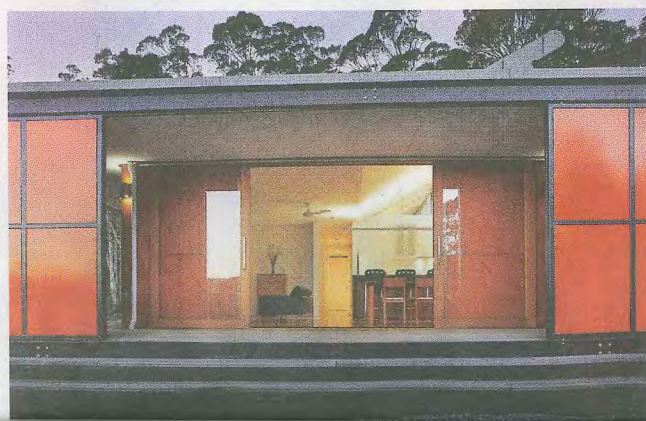
He said the home's design was also well suited for visitors.

To minimise maintenance and energy costs, an evacuated solar tube hot-water system

works efficiently, even in winter and in low solar intensity. Brightgreen LED lights were used throughout and the roof is zinc, with 450mm stainless steel gutters.

"Zinc is a material that ages well with time, is maintenance-free and 100 per cent recyclable, and has a very high fire rating, which is necessary in such a remote area," Misho said.

Anyone interested in putting their own home up for consideration for house of the week can email jarrad.bevan@news.com.au





CLEAN AND SPACIOUS: Left, the open plan lounge, kitchen and dining room of the Premaydena home designed by Misho Vasiljevich; above, the bathroom; and below, red and orange galvanised steel panels make for an eye-catching exterior. Pictures: PETER WHYTE



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