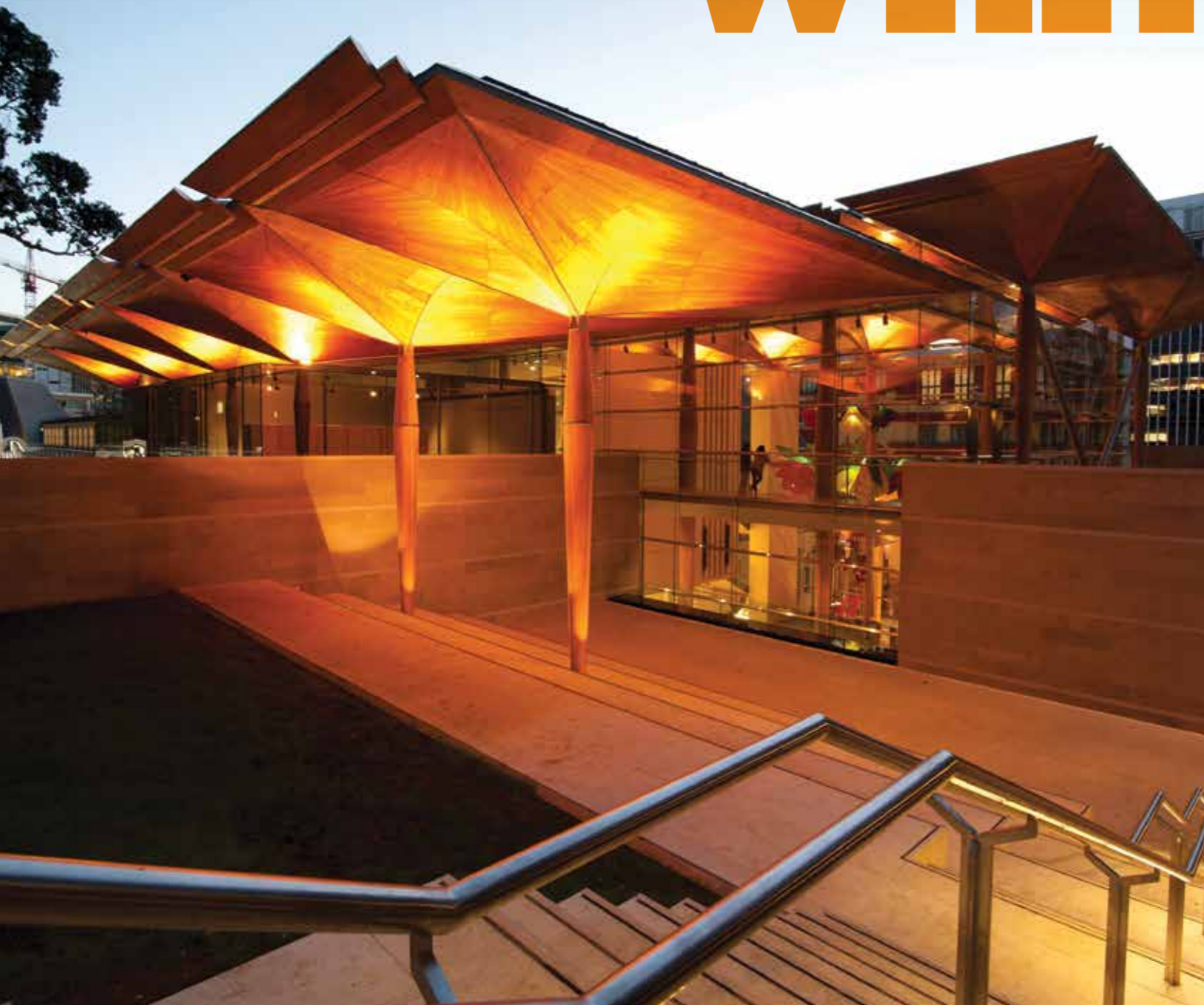


# Blending with



# the old the new



Since its official opening on the 3rd September 2011, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki of Auckland, New Zealand, has won 23 awards. The most recent and possibly most prestigious, was awarded in October 2013 at the World Architecture Festival (WAF) in Singapore. The building, which brings together new form architecture and the original architecture of heritage buildings through restoration and adaptation, not only won World Building of the Year at this year's event, but it also took first prize in its respective category - 'Completed Buildings - Culture'.



During construction, care was taken to ensure local materials were used wherever possible. The building includes a system of 'tree-like' canopies, constructed of wood from the indigenous kauri tree and columns of the same material, standing up to 15 metres (49.2 feet) in height, connected to kauri 'pods' to form the canopies. These canopies cover the forecourt, atrium and gallery areas and appear to hover over the stone walls and terraces, promoting a natural feel within the space.

Care has been taken to preserve heritage elements whilst introducing new and exciting methods of architectural design and building. The importance of providing a space that could cater to all needs was vital. The gallery is made up of multiple exhibition spaces, which are diverse in nature; they include fixed and

flexible spaces as well as formal and informal areas, heritage-rich and contemporary spaces amongst others.

In 2013, for the third consecutive year, AkzoNobel was asked to supply high performance protective coatings to the recipient building of the World Building of the Year award. A coatings system comprising of Interzinc® 42, Intergard® 251 and Interthane® 990 was used to coat structural steel.

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki Director Rhana Devenport said, "**The unwavering attention to detail from all those involved in the project, including AkzoNobel, was maintained throughout the entire project from design to finish. This professionalism was crucial in achieving such an outstanding and remarkably beautiful result.**"

AkzoNobel's Area Sales Manager in New Zealand said of the selection of International® passive fire protection solution which was also supplied, "Interchar® 963 was chosen for Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki for a number of reasons. Not only does it possess an extensive track record showing proven performance, but it is also optimised to provide fire resistance for structural steel work for up to 60 minutes." Suitable for use with a range of topcoat finishes, Interchar 963 also ensured that aesthetics did not need to be compromised, which was vital on a project where the use of the building is centered around the look and feel of what lies within it.