

Church of the Resurrection, Keysborough, 1975-76.



PHOTOGRAPHY JOHN GOLLINGS

SAVAGE AND SCARLET

CONRAD HAMANN

IT HAD TO COME EVENTUALLY: the Institute Gold Medal. Peter Corrigan – and the office of Edmond and Corrigan – hold too important a place in Australian architectural culture not to be recognized at this level, and the award of this medal comes exactly twenty years after Edmond and Corrigan won the ACI Award for the most significant contribution to architectural theory in Australia. Maggie Edmond has been a Life Fellow of the RAIA for some years, and the work of the practice cannot be seen without recognizing her contribution to it at every level. Peter Corrigan has been visiting professor and lecturer at Harvard, Yale, and Turin Polytechnic. Edmond and Corrigan have worked with Daniel Libeskind, MSJ, Clive Lucas, Demaines, the NCD, the government architect of Victoria, the Australian Opera, the Berlin Komische Oper and more. There are at least 100 articles and several books published on Edmond and Corrigan, including Winsome Callister's compilation of their writing and addresses. Philip Drew wrote on Peter Corrigan for Muriel Emmanuel's *Contemporary Architects of 1980*. The Athan house (1986-8) is in David Dunster's *Key Buildings of the Twentieth Century*, Phaidon's *Twentieth Century Houses* and is included in the twentieth edition of Banister Fletcher's *A History of Architecture*. Edmond and Corrigan have participated in invited exhibitions in Boston and Singapore, at the Venice Biennale, the Paris Biennale, and the Third Triennial of World Architecture at Belgrade. Since 1980, hardly a survey of Australian architecture has been thought complete without a discussion of Edmond and Corrigan, and the work has been published in the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Sweden. There has been, over 27 years, an extraordinary sequence of trainees through the office. A legion of students have come through Peter Corrigan's RMIT studios and his courses in Australian architecture and modern architectural history. He has had a profound effect on the direction and character of architectural teaching at RMIT, and is widely seen as having a crucial role in shaping Australian architectural culture – especially in Melbourne.

This all came with time, although Peter Corrigan was well known internationally by 1981. The Edmond and Corrigan path was never going to be easy, nor was it ever going to be within a given mainstream or a line of established strength. David Saunders sensed this in Corrigan's student work, arguing in 1964 that his architecture was both singular and, as in T. S. Elliot's perceived tradition of "difficult" poetry, complex and