

## Passion Delivers Award Winning Pool Oasis

Richard Bellemo Landscapes has every reason to celebrate with their most recent pool landscape design taking out the 'Best Concrete Natural Pool 2006' award at the Swimming Pool and Spa Association (SPASA) Annual Awards night.



Constructed by Cantwell Pools to the meticulous design brief of Richard Bellemo, the pool and landscape is now the centrepiece of a Templestowe property set in a quiet court location among the native Eucalypts.

Purposely designed to blend in with the unique style of the house and existing native garden, the pool and surrounding landscape had to meet a broad range of criteria all on a sloped block with limited access.

“The clients wanted their new pool and garden to blend in with the existing native landscape and also compliment the unique design of their award-winning home,” said Richard Bellemo Landscapes Director, Richard Bellemo.

“It certainly was a challenging project but a result that I am very proud of. For my pool design to be honoured at the SPASA awards is extra special because of the hard work that went into creating this native billabong in the suburbs.”

Held each year to showcase excellence in the swimming pool and spa industry, the prestigious SPASA Awards promote achievement in design, construction, innovation and professionalism across all sectors of the industry.

Delivering one award for each category, judges awarded a High Commendation to Cantwell Pools for 'Best Natural Pool 2006' taking the honours in a hotly contested category.

Owners of the award-winning pool landscape were looking to transform their Templestowe backyard where a small dam had been built to collect water run-off. Specialising in creating landscapes that imitate nature, Richard Bellemo was asked to make better use of the owner's backyard space and create a pool and garden that looked like it always belonged.



“As you enter the property from the top, the new landscape feels as if you are walking into a billabong oasis,” said Mr Bellemo.

“I wanted to recreate a complete native creek system with dry creek bed flowing into a series of native ponds which visually flows into the pool. We used an incredible amount of granite rock and dry stone walls to create an amphitheatre design showcasing the pool and spa.”

Bordered by dry stone walls and mounded garden beds lined with moss and native grasses, the pool blends perfectly with the natural environment. Sculptured rock, earth-toned paving and a board walk separating the native ponds and swimming pool complete an astonishing landscape picture bound to give the owners' years of relaxation in their own native oasis.

Richard Bellemo Landscapes is a Melbourne-based Landscape and Horticulture Design and Construction business which began in 2002. Specialising in creating landscapes that imitate nature, owner Richard Bellemo draws inspiration from natural environments experienced both around Australia and overseas.

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