Richard Leplastrier
Richard Leplastrier is an Australian Architect and inspirational teacher and lives modestly with his family in a beautifully crafted home he designed overlooking Pittwater, North of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Richard grew up in Perth, Hobart and Sydney and studied architecture at the University of Sydney. He worked for Jørn Utzon from 1964 to 1966 and spent 18 months in Kyoto studying traditional Japanese architecture with Professor Masuda Tomoya and later worked with Professor Kenzo Tange.

Through nearly 30 years of practice he has been fascinated by the origins of human settlement and the ‘essentials’ of living. His unique contribution to architecture was recognised by the award of the RAIA Gold Medal 1999. He has been an inspiring teacher and is visiting Professor at Newcastle School of Architecture NSW and is a regular contributor to the ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA Masterclass programmes alongside Glenn Murcutt, Peter Stutchbury, Lyndsay Johnson, Brit Andresen and Ian Athfield. His work and methodology continue to have a significant impact on many younger architects.

In 1996 he received the New South Wales Royal Australian Institute of Architects ‘Special Jury Award’. He was awarded the Royal Australian Institute of Architects Gold Medal in 1999 and in 2004 was awarded the Spirit Of Nature Wood Architecture Award. In 2009, he was awarded the Dreyer Foundation Prize of Honour 2009 for his commitment to sustainability.

“It is not possible to summarise Richard Leplastrier’s contribution to architecture because it extends beyond the built work. He is an educator, craftsperson, facilitator and inspiration to all who meet him.”

(Peter Stutchbury, Architecture Australia, Melbourne, RAIA, Vol.88, No.1, Jan/Feb 1999, p.58)