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AIA/LA PAYS HOMAGE TO THE NEXUS BETWEEN FOOD AND DESIGN Presenting the 2007 Restaurant Design Awards Competition



Los Angeles, CA (July 9, 2007) - The American Institute of Architects/Los Angeles Chapter (AIA/LA) proudly announces the 3rd annual Restaurant Design Awards Competition. The competition, which honors excellence in restaurant design, is open to all individuals and practices (both restaurant owners and architects/designers) for projects located in the greater Los Angeles area and to Los Angeles area individuals and practices with projects located within or outside the greater Los Angeles area. This year the distinguished jury panel includes: leading architect and interior designer **Josh Schweitzer** of Schweitzer BIM; acclaimed graphic designer **Hillary Jaye** of Sussman/Prejza & Company, Inc.; chef and restaurateur extraordinaire **Nancy Silverton**; and Publisher of the newly re-launched *FORM Magazine* **Ann Gray**, FAIA.

Continuing the tradition that the AIA/LA inaugurated last year, the competition will incorporate a People's Choice Award allowing all Angelenos and appreciators of fine food and high design to vote for their favorite nominees. The public can cast their votes online at www.aialosangeles.org. Last year, the People yielded over 1000 votes. This year, the AIA/LA hopes to elicit an even stronger response.

“The RDAs continue to gather momentum with each year,” said Carlo Caccavale, Hon. AIA/LA, Associate Director of the AIA/LA. “With the amazing slate of talented judges that we have on-board this year, we can’t wait to see who enters the competition. We see the RDAs as a unique opportunity to celebrate the nexus between fine food and high design - something that everyone can appreciate. It will certainly be a fight to the finish.”

Recognizing that good design stems from a cohesive overall vision, down to the most minute of details, all the projects will be evaluated on the basis of several elements ranging from the design and floor plan to functionality and collateral materials (ie. menus, napkins, etc.).

Registrations must be received prior to 4pm on August 24th and all submission materials are due on September 24th. Winners will be announced on the second night of the Mobius LA Expo on Thursday, October 25th at a special Restaurant Design Awards reception.

The winners of last year’s Jury competition included:

| RESTAURANT | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Venue | Design |
| Cut | Richard Meier + Partners Architects |
| Houston’s (Santa Monica) | Frederick Fisher + Partners |

| CAFÉ/BAR/LOUNGE | |
|--|---|
| Venue | Design |
| Sprinkles Cupcakes | Andrea Lenardin Madden |
| Westfield Century City Dining Terrace | Westfield Design and Rios Clementi Hale Studios |
| (Wide) Band Nomadic Café | Griffin Enright Architects |

The winners of last year’s People’s Choice Award competition included:

| RESTAURANT | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Venue | Design |
| Stack | Graft, LLC HLW International |

| CAFÉ/BAR/LOUNGE | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Venue | Design |
| Sprinkles Cupcakes | Andrea Lenardin Madden |

About AIA/LA

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) is the voice of the architecture profession, dedicated to serving and empowering its members through advocacy, educational and outreach programs as well as educating the public on the value and importance of architecture. AIA/Los Angeles is a not-for-profit professional membership association.

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