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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A TASTE OF GREAT DESIGN ANNOUNCING THE DEBUT OF THE AIA/LA RESTAURANT DESIGN AWARDS

Los Angeles, CA (March 2005) – Good design like good food can be sublime, and Los Angeles’s thriving restaurant design scene guarantees that diners are often as awed by the venue as they are by what’s on their plates. The American Institute of Architects Los Angeles Chapter (AIA/LA) is pleased to announce the first-ever **Los Angeles Restaurant DESIGN Awards**, an annual competition that honors stellar design in the restaurant arena. The Awards are open to all individuals and practices (both restaurant owners and architects/designers) for projects located in the greater Los Angeles area, and to LA individuals and practices for projects located within or outside the greater LA area. Submissions will be evaluated strictly on the architecture and design merits of the restaurant.

The esteemed, inaugural jury for the Awards includes restaurant critic Jonathan Gold, designer Barbara Lazaroff of Imagining Interior Design, architect Steven Ehrlich of Stephen Ehrlich Architects, graphic artist Sean Adams of Adams Morioka, and Michael McCarthy.

Key Restaurant Design Award Dates

March 25	Call for Entry
May 20	Submissions Deadline
May 31	Jury Decisions
June 1	Nominee notification
June 23	Winners to be announced at Awards Ceremony at Boffi Los Angeles in Santa Monica

“The AIA/LA has long recognized the stellar work of its members in the commercial and residential worlds,” says Carlo Caccavale, Director of Special Events at the AIA/LA. “We felt that it was time, given Los Angeles’s world-class restaurant scene, to draw attention to the fine work in this category as well.”

Competing restaurants will be judged on the function, ambience and visual impact of the venue – be it upscale, family-oriented or fast food. Applicants are asked to submit a CD with images of the restaurant, a photo of the floor plan, relevant drawings and up to five original examples of graphic material (e.g. logo, signage, business cards, menu, etc.). Additional criteria include: Restaurant must have been completed in the last four years (since January 1, 2001); and the restaurant must be, or have been, open to the public. If the restaurant is no longer in operation, the designer/firm may still submit the venue.

About the AIA/Los Angeles

The American Institute of Architects/Los Angeles (www.aialosangeles.org) provides leadership in improving the built environment. AIA/Los Angeles is a not-for-profit professional membership association. Phone: 213.639.0777. Email: info@aialosangeles.org.

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