



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Haily Zaki
Clifford Public Relations
323.966.4600 x 102
haily.zaki@cliffordpr.com

...AND THE NOMINEES FOR THE 2006 RDAs ARE...

The American Institute of Architects/Los Angeles Announces 2006 Restaurant Design Awards Finalists and Opens Voting for the First Annual People's Choice Award



Cut



Katsuya



Sprinkles



Opaline



Houston's Santa



(Wide) Band Nomadic

Los Angeles, CA (October 25, 2006) - The American Institute of Architects/Los Angeles Chapter (AIA/LA) is pleased to announce the nominees for the 2nd annual Restaurant Design Awards (RDAs). After hours of careful deliberation and intense debate, the distinguished jury panel has selected the top nine finalists: 6 in the Restaurant Category and 3 in the Café/Bar/Lounge Category. This year the jury included Hagy Belzberg (Belzberg Architects, and recipient of the 2005 RDA), Edie Cohen (Deputy Editor, *Interior Design*), Heather John (Senior Editor, *Bon Appetit*), and Sean Adams (Graphic Designer, Adams Morioka). Taking into consideration that the esteemed jury of design luminaries may see things through different eyes, the AIA/Los Angeles is incorporating a People's Choice Award into the competition this year. Now that the nominees have been announced, the AIA/Los Angeles is calling on all Los Angeles revelers and nightlife cognoscenti to vote on their favorite nosh spots, watering holes, and preferred places to see and be seen. The winners of the 2006

RDA's and the popular recipient of the first annual People's Choice Award will be announced and honored at the RDA's Ceremony on **Thursday, November 16, 2006** to be hosted by Arclinea in the Pacific Design Center.

Understanding that Los Angeles is more than a mecca for fine dining, but also a haven for chic late night diversions, the AIA/LA opened up the competition this year to outstanding bars, clubs, and lounges. "We received an outstanding array of submissions," said Carlo Caccavale, Associate Director of the AIA/LA. "And it was certainly not an easy decision to narrow the field down to nine finalists."

"From the elegant to the experimental, we were pleased with the caliber and creativity of the projects," said *Interior Design* Deputy Editor Edie Cohen. The submissions "ingeniously paired good design with delectable cuisine to create truly memorable experiences," agreed *Bon Appétit* Senior Editor Heather John. "The bar continues to be raised with each year," noted architect and 2005 RDA's Winner Hagy Belzberg. The designs were completely satisfying "both on a cerebral and gastronomical level" agreed Graphic Designer Sean Adams.

The 9 finalists include:

RESTAURANT	
Venue	Design
Cut	Richard Meier + Partners Architects
Houston's (Santa Monica)	Frederick Fisher + Partners
Katsuya	Philippe Starck Network / House + Robertson Architects, Inc.
Lucky Devil's	John Friedmann Alice Kimm Architects
Opaline	Nicholas Budd Dutton
Stack	Graft, LLC

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	Griffen Enright Architects

Members of the public can go to www.aialosangeles.org to cast their vote online for the People's Choice Award. The deadline to cast votes for the People's Choice Award is **Thursday, November 9, 2006.**

About AIA/LA and the RDAs

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. The Restaurant Design Awards (RDAs) honor excellence in restaurant design. The competition is open to all individuals and practices (both restaurant owners and architects/designers) for projects located in the greater Los Angeles area. Submissions are accepted in two main categories: restaurants and café/bar/lounges.

#