# OMMERCIAI An ITP Business Publication october Vol. 11 Issue 10

The essential guide for Middle East interior design professionals

# ARDS

SEE WHAT IT TAKES TO BECOME AN INTERIOR DESIGN SUPERSTAR



# CID Awards 2015

### THE NINTH CID AWARDS BROUGHT TOGETHER MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED PROFESSIONALS FROM THE MIDDLE EAST'S DESIGN COMMUNITY TO REWARD THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS PROJECTS AND TALENTED INDIVIDUALS ACROSS THE REGION

ecent triumphs in design fabric of the Middle East were celebrated at the JW Marriot Marquis in Dubai during the ninth Commercial Interior Design awards. Individuals, companies and projects which are enriching the urban environment were all recognised before an appreciative audience of professionals.

The growth of the region as an innovator in the field of design was reflected in a record number of nominations received across the 16 categories. From Khalifa University in Abu Dhabi to the Al Bait Hotel in Sharjah, this year's entries represent the progress of the interior design industry.

The awards covered the whole spectrum of commercial interiors, from the public sector to

office, hospitality to retail. They also focused on recognising the people who shaped the projects with categories such as Behind the Scenes, Young Interior Designer of the Year and Interior Designer of the Year.

Godwin Austen Johnson (GAJ) picked up an impressive three awards this year — Interior Design Firm of the Year, Interior Design of the Year: Hotels and International Project of the Year, which was a new category introduced this time around.

Other big winners on the night included LW Design Group, which took home Interior Design of the Year: Bars & Clubs and Interior Design of the Year: Food & Beverage, as well as new and rapidly-growing Kahler Design which won Interior Design of the Year: Office and Interior Design of the Year: Public Sector. Last year we introduced Boutique Interior Design Firm of the Year, which aims at recognising talented teams of less than 20. For the second year in a row, this award was given to Bishop Design.

The Interior Designer of the Year was awarded to Maliha Nishat, associate design director of Design Worldwide Partnership (DWP).

After obtaining a degree at The American University in Dubai, Nishat started her professional career in Dubai and very quickly grew to specialise in hospitality design.

In the last 15 years, she has built up an impressive portfolio of work and her projects include the Doubletree by Hilton at Bay Square, The W Hotel Residences and the luxury One Zabeel Residences.





Andre Meyerhans, head of Andre C. Meyerhans Architects

# The judging panel



Hani Fallaha, designer and partner at LOCI Architects+Design



Laura Bielecki, senior interior design manager at Ellington



Linda Merieau, executive director of Association of Professional Interior Designers (APID)



Maria Mortera, professor at the College of Architect, Art and Design at the American University of Sharjah



**Matteo Bianchi,** director of Matteo Bianchi Studio



**Rue Kothari,** fair director of Downtown Design



Sergio Padula, technical director at iGuzzini

Interior design

MARINA

CC It is always an honour to be recognised by the industry. There is so much happening in this region, so to be picked out of so many different and great projects is fantastic.

Interiordesign





## Interior Design of the Year: Bars & Clubs Winner: Pan Asian Restaurant, LW Design

he winner of the Interior Design of the Year: Bars & Clubs award for 2015 went to Pan Asian Restaurant located in Moscow, Russia's capital city. Designed by LW Design, Pan Asian Restaurant illustrates decaying imperial grandeur accented with a decadent Asian edge. Housing a rich and carefully curated collection of diverse design elements, this space, according to designers, becomes a destination experience.

Pia Sen, interior designer at LW Design, said: "It is always an honour to be recognised by the industry. There is so much happening in this region, so to be picked out of so many different and great projects is fantastic." Judges hailed this project for its successful holistic approach, beautiful visuals and presentation that clearly demonstrates the concept. Judges also noted that this project perfectly translated the blend of colour and material and showed "an understanding of lighting, colour theory, drama and durability".

Commenting on the judges' decision to award this specific project, Gina Munro, concept creator at LW Design Group said that Pan Asian restaurant is chic, intimate and mysterious and that attention to detailing was something that might have influenced judges' final decision.

Munro said: "This was our first project that we have done in Moscow,

so the first challenge was trying to understand the cultural differences and the country in which we haven't worked before. The concept is focused on taking traditional aspects of Russian architecture and putting it into a more contemporary setting."

Highly commended went to Bishop Design LLC for its work on Cle Dubai Restaurant & Lounge. The judges said that the project was visually stimulating and delivered, "a unique and glitzy interior with bold FF&E choices." This category featured some of the event's toughest competition, with companies like Bishop Design, Studio Bruno Guelaff and Bluehaus Group submitting great work, but ultimately Munro's Pan Asian took home the medal.

### **Highly Commended**

Cle Dubai Restaurant & Lounge by Bishop Design LLC

### Shortlisted

Aristocrats by Studio Bruno Guelaff

Iris Rooftop Lounge by Suzanne Nsar

Pier Chic Pods by Bluehaus Group

Saraya Aqaba by MMAC Design