

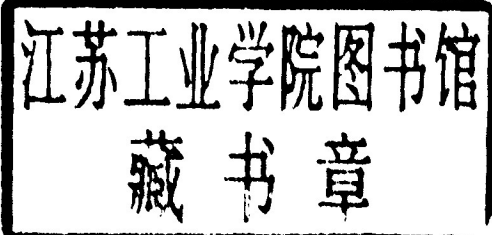
HOTEL DESIGN

INTERNATIONAL PORTFOLIO OF THE FINEST CONTEMPORARY DESIGNS



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Rockport Publishers • Rockport, Massachusetts

BOOK DEVELOPMENT AND EDITORIAL

ROSALIE M. GRATTAROTI

BOOK DESIGN

LAURA HERRMANN

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

SARA DAY

COVER DESIGN

SARA DAY

PRODUCTION MANAGER

BARBARA STATES

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

PAT O'MALEY

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First published in the United States of America by:
Rockport Publishers, Inc.
146 Granite Street
Rockport, Massachusetts 01966
Fax: (508)546-7141

Distributed to the book trade in the United States by:
Consortium Book Sales and Distribution
1045 Westgate Drive
Saint Paul, MN 55114-0165
1-800-283-3572

ISBN 1-56496-221-0

5 7 9 10 8 6 4

Printed in Hong Kong

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THE HOTEL AS GLOBAL VILLAGE

By Justin Henderson

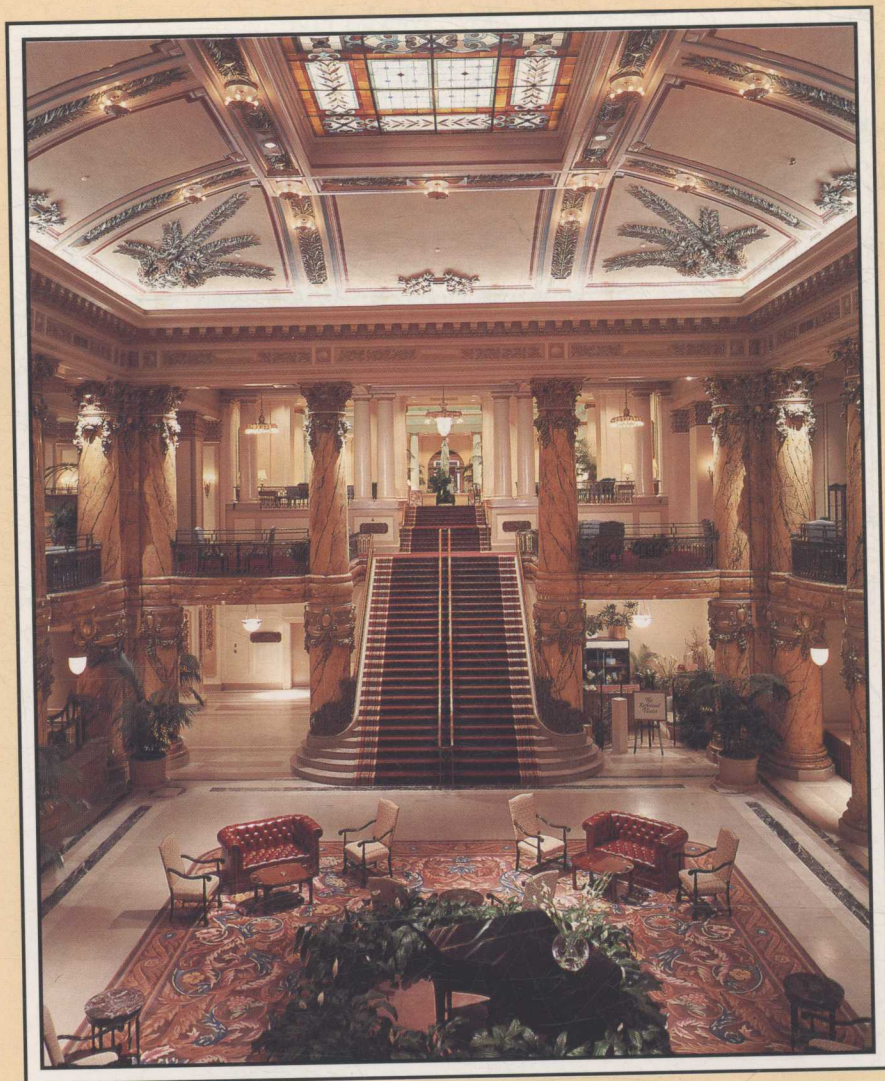
In the last ten years the hotel business came of age as a multi-national global entity. To one carefully observing from the sidelines (I've been writing on hotel design for most of those ten years) it appears as if hotel developers—of chains, groups, franchises, and independents alike—finally have tuned in to the elements that add up

to success in the brave new world of international hospitality. Perhaps the most critical of those elements is design, for all kinds of reasons—most of which pertain to the increasing sophistication, and therefore raised expectations, of contemporary travelers. Whether a beautiful hotel on every beach in the world is a sign of progress is debatable, but there is little doubt that an ecologically sensitive low-rise building, incorporating motifs drawn from local architectural styles, is, in most contexts, preferable to an urban-style high rise casting long shadows across the beach.

This respect for context and scale is emblematic of a general trend, in which architects and designers have tuned in to the more modest, culturally-sensitive imperatives of the 1990s, and instituted honest style and real substance. Which is not to deny the luxurious or the fantastic as critical elements: world-class cities

demand world-class luxury hotels, and likewise there is perhaps no more theatrical, fantasy-laden architectural confection than a resort hotel, say, in close proximity to an international theme park. The point is appropriateness—in the city, elegant, traditional style fits—but not everybody wants to put on a tie for dinner in a beach front resort.

Linking old and new, local village with global village, region with region and nation with nation, are the new hotels of the world, some of which are showcased on these pages. The architects and designers who have created these properties are engaged in the invention of a new international style of hospitality design—one which sustains a high level of comfort and technology to attract the tourists of the west, but which does so without abandoning or ignoring the indigenous cultures of host nations or regions. The pursuit of Western-style comfort should not turn every hotel into a theme park



decorated with the trappings of place but lacking the unique substance of that place. The real challenge—and it has been met in many of the hotels featured here—is to give the tourist the comfort level they expect in an

honest cultural context. Likewise, in the urban business hotel, the much-traveled international businessperson would rather deal with the familiar instead of the unknown—but, again, it is the responsibility—and what a wonderful opportunity!—of the designer and developer to utilize local artifacts, fabrics, foods, and style, without making the traveler pay too much of a price for a touch of authenticity.

Our featured properties, from Korea to Bophthatswana, from Kirkland, Washington to West Palm Beach, Florida, demonstrate that designers around the world have responded to the demands of short-term vacationers, heavily-traveled businessmen, meeting planners, and conventioners with hotel designs that manage to play to every segment of an increasingly diverse market. Diverse, and as I mentioned before, sophisticated. This sophistication—the international traveler's heightened awareness of the architectural and interior design styles of a dozen different cultures—is a gift the hotel architects and designers have given to today's travelers, who have become knowledgeable in the art and design of the countries to which they travel simply by paying attention to the furniture, crafts, and works of art that have been integrated into these hotels. And so, in addition to the rich, honest regionalism which inspires the architecture of many of these hotels, designers can make reference to Venice in Florida, or Rome in California, or Greece in Australia, and know that guests will feel utterly at home in the lobbies and restaurants and gathering places in their hotels, transplanted thousands of miles and hundreds of years by visual reference, but connected, by fax, phone, and the ubiquitous CNN, to the present-day world.

Another big step has been the introduction of one or more restaurants designed for both guests and non-guests, particularly in urban hotels. In addition to establishing another outlet for design creativity—one which permits the designer to stray, in many cases, from the general motifs of the hotel interior into exploring other themes—these new hotel restaurants have liberated guests from the often-boring and almost always uninspired designs (and menus) of the old-style standard hotel coffee shop. Now, diversity is the key, as architects

build in separate street entrances for restaurants, and designers employ historical, regional, international, and other sources as inspiration for food service outlets ranging from three meal coffee shops to four star high end dining rooms that actually attract non-guests in for meals.

The visual evidence on these pages richly demonstrates another important aspect of contemporary hotel design: the guest room. These days, guest rooms are actually designed with specific attention to the comfort of —The Guest! Amazing what a little competition can do! Hotels haven't always had non-smoking floors, or concierge levels with private check-in, or in-room fax lines and computer outlets. From richer fabrics on beds and furniture, to multiple telephones, marble bathrooms, ample closets and built-in hair dryers, the hotel rooms of the 1990s—as is vividly illustrated herein—are wonderfully comfortable places, sanctuaries for the traveler in search of peace, solitude, and a place to relax—or work, if work needs doing.

The next wave of exciting hotels will be opening. I venture to predict, in a host of new markets: the Pacific Rim will continue to expand to meet the demands of the new multi-national marketplace with urban properties in prospering cities as well as resorts dotting the literally thousands of islands out there; South America and Africa will emerge as vacation destinations for those sophisticates who feel they have already covered Europe and the Pacific; and finally, there is Eastern Europe and Russia. With all their difficulties, those countries are rich in culture and history, and have much to offer. Look for all the major international hotel groups to expand into all those markets, as well as continually upgrading and opening properties in the more predictable regions of the United States and Europe. Wherever new hotels open, in order to succeed they will have to meet the high standards of architecture and design which have been established over the last few years by the designers whose work is featured in these pages.

—Justin Henderson

A resident of Seattle, Washington, Justin Henderson is a Senior Editor with Interiors magazine, and has been writing about hotel and restaurant design since 1984.

FISHER ISLAND CLUBHOUSE
Fisher Island, Florida
An old airplane hangar from the original Vanderbilt estate on Fisher Island was converted into the luxurious yet functional Spa Internazionale.



Photographer: Mark Surliff

FISHER ISLAND CLUBHOUSE
Fisher Island, Florida
The historical character of the original facade was successfully preserved at the Spa Internazionale while the interior was transformed with rich, new materials and unique amenities.



Photographer: Mark Surliff



Photographer: Seth Benson

SHERATON BAL HARBOUR
Bal Harbour, Florida
An exciting new concept, a "Marketessen," was created for this hotel.

CAROLE KORN INTERIORS, INC.

622 Banyan Trail, Boca Raton, Florida 33431
 407/997-2888, Fax: 407/997-2297

CAROLE KORN INTERIORS

Carole Korn Interiors has been creating award-winning designs for the hospitality industry for more than 20 years. In the past year alone, Carole Korn Interiors earned more than 40 prestigious awards for design excellence. The firm, which has been ranked as one of the top ten interior design firms in the United States, was honored with Gold Key Awards from the American Hotel & Motel Association in three of the past five years. As a 50-member, \$50 million-a-year firm, Carole Korn Interiors has the talent and experience to ensure that each job is completed on time and within budget. From lobbies to restaurants, guest rooms to ballrooms, Carole Korn Interiors consistently produces outstanding designs that increase revenues while appealing to guests. Recently, Carole Korn Interiors completed the \$22 million renovation of the Sheraton Bal Harbour in Bal Harbour, Florida. Other clients include Hilton, Ramada, and The Registry Hotels. Carole Korn, president and founder of Carole Korn Interiors, is one of only 4 interior designers in the United States to have earned the designation of Master Hotel Supplier.

**PALM BEACH
AIRPORT HILTON**
West Palm Beach, Florida
*The private dining room was
given an eclectic design, making
it appropriate for business
meetings or parties.*



Photographer: Todd Dyess



Photographer: Todd Dyess

PALM BEACH AIRPORT HILTON
West Palm Beach, Florida
*The lobby was designed for guests to
relax and feel at home.*



SHERATON BAL HARBOUR
Bal Harbour, Florida

The columns at the entrance to the Garden Cafe are designed to create a casual, inviting, and dramatic atmosphere.

Photographer: Seth Benson



SHERATON BAL HARBOUR
Bal Harbour, Florida

Instead of a typical hotel coffee shop, a Garden Cafe concept with a versatile buffet line was created. The restaurant serves guests equally well for breakfast or for lunch and, with the addition of tablecloths and candles, for a casual dinner.

Photographer: Seth Benson



SHERATON BAL HARBOUR
Bal Harbour, Florida

The Bar and Grille features an exhibition kitchen where steaks and seafood are prepared to order in full view of the guests. The woodplank flooring is perfect for dancing and offers the option of additional cocktail or dining space.

Photographer: Seth Benson

FISHER ISLAND CLUBHOUSE

Fisher Island, Florida

Mahogany, leather and verde marble combine to create an upscale bar that appeals to the international guests and residents of Fisher Island.



Photographer: Dan Foret



FISHER ISLAND CLUBHOUSE
Fisher Island, Florida

For continental dining, an elegant dining room was created.

Photographer: Seth Benson

Current and Recent Projects

Four Seasons Wailea Resort
Wailea, Maui, Hawaii

The Four Seasons Biltmore
Santa Barbara, California

Alpha Izu Resort & Spa
Izu, Japan

Alpha Venetian Resort
Gold Coast, Australia

Thanos Hotel at Polis
Island of Cyprus

The Hapuna Beach Hotel
Island of Hawaii

Los Angeles Airport Hilton
and Towers
Los Angeles, California

The Hyatt Irvine
Irvine, California

Marina Center Marriott
Singapore



DORAL TELLURIDE
Telluride, Colorado



**THE PENINSULA
BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL**
Beverly Hills, California

THE OCEAN GRAND HOTEL
Palm Beach, Florida

JAMES NORTHCUTT ASSOCIATES

717 North La Cienega Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90069
310/659-8595. Fax: 310/659-7120

JAMES NORTHCUTT ASSOCIATES

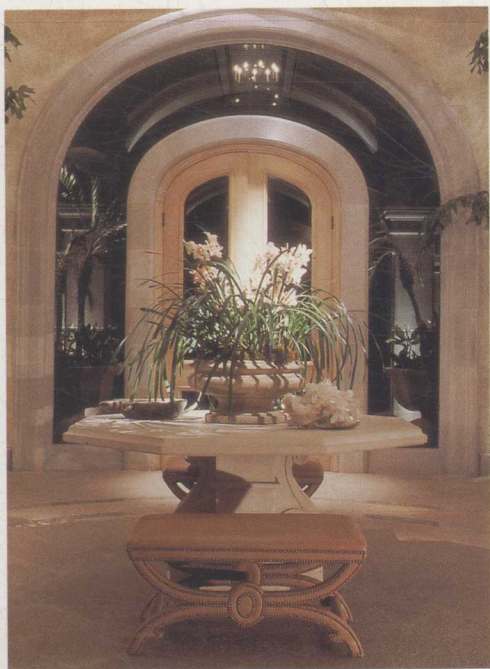


A skillful attention to structure, furnishings and details has brought international acclaim to James Northcutt Associates' approach to hotel, resort and country club design. Every project undertaken by the firm is done so with the intention of elevating hotel design to a higher level of excellence, in a style that is both unique and appropriate to the project and environment. Augmenting the practice's diverse experience in architecture and interior design is a scrupulous and creative eye for detail, including a harmonious blending of traditional and contemporary furnishings, the use of distinctive artwork as focal points, and the strategic use of lighting. Providing the client with a total design concept extends even to the coordination of interior plantscape, china, crystal, flatware, graphics, menus and uniforms. The result is invariably an environment with an understated elegance that has become the signature style of James Northcutt Associates.



THE PENINSULA
BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL
Beverly Hills, California





— LAS MISIONES GOLF
AND COUNTRY CLUB
Monterrey, Mexico

SURF AND SAND
Laguna Beach, California



THE WILSHIRE
Los Angeles, California



THE OCEAN GRAND HOTEL
Palm Beach, Florida



SURF AND SAND
Laguna Beach, California



BRYSON HOTEL
Melbourne, Australia
*Influenced by its location
in the heart of Melbourne's
Arts and Theatre district, is
a typical guest room.*



BRYSON HOTEL
Melbourne, Australia
*The foyer of the 366-room
hotel recreates the ambience
of a classic, refined Victorian
gentlemen's club.*

PACIFIC DESIGN GROUP

Australia

Sydney:

343 Pacific Highway
CROWS NEST NSW 2065
612 / 929-0922. Fax: 612 / 923-2558

Gold Coast:

Suite 7 2-4 Elliot Street
Bundall QLD 4217
075 / 38-4499. Fax 075 / 38-3847

Jakarta:

Suite 09/05, Wisma Bank Dharmala
Jl Jend Sudirman Kav 28
Jakarta 12910
6221 / 521-2138 / 9. Fax: 6221 / 521-2126

Hong Kong:

1701 Hennessy House
313 Hennessy Road
Wanchai, Hong Kong
852 / 834-7404. Fax: 852 / 834-5675

Fiji:

PO Box 14465
73 Gordon Street
Suva
679 / 303-858. Fax: 679 / 303-868

PACIFIC DESIGN GROUP

Pacific Design Group is a dynamic design team servicing the hospitality industry, giving their clients personalized attention and excellence of product. The Group brings to every project professional experience in master planning, architecture, interior design and technical operations. ☐ Senior Management involvement in over 300 hospitality projects worldwide adds value to the client's investment through experienced and innovative design. They advance projects by bringing together their valuable network of owners, operators, developers, financiers and contractors. ☐ At Pacific Design Group, an integrated team approach produces creative results that are innovative, rational and cost effective, to satisfy their client's needs and aspirations. Those clients include ITT Sheraton, Hilton International, Radisson Hotels, Accor, Marriott Hotels, Holiday Inns, Rydges Hotel Group, Century Hotels, and many local and regional operators. ☐ Pacific Design Group has two offices in Australia with a network of regional offices in Hong Kong, Singapore, Jakarta, Fiji, Micronesia, and New Zealand. Successful projects for the firm's clients have been completed throughout the Australian, Asian and Pacific region.

HILTON HOTEL Melbourne, Australia

The grand stair offers a graceful transition between public floors and acts as a visual focal point in the reception area.



**CAPITAL HOTEL
Sydney, Australia**

*A typical guest room in
this 225-room hotel uses
traditional design with
contemporary fabric colours.*



**PLAZA HOTEL AND THE PIER
Cairns, Australia**

*Australian native timbers and colours
are used throughout the 220-room
hotel, including the executive lounge.*



**RADISSON CENTURY HOTEL
Sydney, Australia**

*The lobby lounge of this 291-room hotel
stretches along the contemporary, radiating
form of the ground floor.*