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HIRSCH BEDNER DESIGNS FOUR SEASONS HOTEL MACAU, COTAI STRIP®, AN OASIS WITHIN THE BUSTLING GAMING MECCA

Hong Kong, January 22, 2009 - HBA/Hirsch Bedner Associates blended Portuguese and Chinese influences to capture the traditional Macanese culture in the recently opened Four Seasons Hotel Macau, Cotai Strip® in Southern China. The Hotel is a jewel amidst Asia's Las Vegas, as the Cotai Strip® has become known. It offers a retreat from the bustling action going on at the nearby Cotai Strip® CotaiExpo™ and The Venetian® Macau Resort Hotel, home to the largest casino in the world.

Four Seasons Hotel Macau, Cotai Strip® is part of a mixed-use lifestyle and entertainment complex, comprising serviced apartments, high-end shopping mall, a boutique-sized casino, fine dining and other entertainment options. The Hotel features 360 rooms, 84 suites, meeting space, a spa, swimming pools, fitness center and yoga studio, all in keeping with Four Seasons high standards of modern comfort and class. Contemporary design mixes with old world ornamentation with Oriental accents, vibrant colors, lush brocades and jewel tones, reminiscent of the days when the city was a major trading center for Portuguese silks and ceramics between China, Japan, India and Europe.

"No other hotel encapsulates the Macanese culture like Four Seasons," said Tracie Co, senior designer from the firm's Hong Kong office. "This design and style is being done for the first time to show off the rich culture and history of Macau."

Inspired by the beautiful, ornate colonial architecture that makes Macau distinct, HBA/Hirsch Bedner Associates utilized a residential approach in the design and style of interiors that blends seamlessly with the building's architectural style. The back wall of the reception desk, for example, is framed by a replica of 18th century tiles, traditionally blue and white, complete with motifs that date back to the trends of that period.

"We mixed historic furniture, art, Chinese decorative textiles and European grandeur throughout the property to evoke a subtle but classic sense of place, whether in the guestrooms or in the public spaces," said Paulo Dias, a senior designer on the project.

Textiles and etchings of the city streets akin to those found in the ancient markets of Macau were hung in the guestrooms and a Ming Dynasty-style console and carpets added to the classic look. As a colorful and visual contrast to the warm but neutral palette and white limestone walls in the lobby, decorative art pieces were incorporated, including framed 17th Century Portuguese textile with original embroidery and several Coromandel screens, designed in China for the European market.

Drawing influence from an old Colonial Portuguese house, the hotel has features throughout that evoke the sense of a grand residence. "The lobby lounge was designed to function like the living room of a Colonial Portuguese house, complete with a fireplace, Portuguese lanterns, ceiling fans and bamboo floor," Dias said. "The Chinese lacquer screens date back to the 18th century and demonstrate China's influence on trade and design."

The design team spent considerable time researching the Macanese culture and Portuguese architectural influences as well combing through local markets and antique shops. "Just like a person collects one-of-a-kind antiques for their home we also wanted to choose pieces that added to the authenticity of our design," said Co. "The public spaces also feature little corners of

surprises, such as a stunning Bamboo Chinese 19th Century console, which is prominently placed in the flow space.”

Six oversized Portuguese inspired lanterns, custom-made in China, are 1.8 meter in height and convey original craftsmanship and artistry, through their texture and details. A carpet inspired from an original Portuguese 15th Century arraiolos (needle-point tapestry rungs) found in a Lisbon museum serves as a focal point in the large rotunda, which is framed by two grand staircases that meet in the center of the lobby and lead to the second level ballroom and entertainment space.

Four Seasons Hotel Macau, Cotai Strip® features exciting restaurant and bar options from cocktails in the Window Restaurants to fine cigars, wine and spirits in the Bar Azul, a jewelbox-sized space with lacquered blue wall covering, blue velvet drapes and one striking wall finished in iridescent sea-shell abalone. Glass columns with custom Chinese cloud patterns and Asian chinoiserie black and gold wall coverings create a dramatic look in Zi Yat Heen, the fine dining Chinese and Dim Sum restaurant. The Hotel’s small casino features European details, Chinese trellises and other touches to create a theatrical presentation and atmosphere.

HBA Design Team: Ilija Karlusic, Alicia Loo, Tracie Co, and Paulo Dias.

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About HBA/Hirsch Bedner Associates

As a global leader in hospitality interior design, HBA/Hirsch Bedner Associates is credited with revolutionizing the design industry. Since it was founded in 1964, the company has continually set design trends, pushing boundaries and injecting fresh ideas in to some of the world’s most prestigious and well-known addresses.

HBA/Hirsch Bedner Associates has successfully completed over 900 projects in 80 countries worldwide. More than 70 percent of its current project list is located in Pacific Rim countries, including many hotels with the world’s premier brands such as Mandarin Oriental, Shangri-La, Ritz-Carlton, Four Seasons and others.

HBA/Hirsch Bedner Associates prides itself on its unrivalled knowledge of the cultural, financial, geographical and programmatic requirements involved in design projects, and applies that knowledge to all of its projects, ranging from world-class hotels and resorts to individual boutique hotels, spas, casinos, cruise ships and private residences.

HBA employs more than 450 design professionals in 13 offices worldwide: Los Angeles, Atlanta, San Francisco, London, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Tokyo, Singapore, Brisbane, Melbourne, New Delhi, Dubai, and Manila. HBA attributes its achievements to its fundamental values of research and sensitivity to the needs of its markets.

For more information about HBA/Hirsch Bedner Associates, please visit the company’s website at www.hbadesign.com.

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