



For Immediate Release ...

April 21, 2023

ADAC & VERANDA ANNOUNCE WINNERS OF THE 2023 SOUTHEAST DESIGNERS AND ARCHITECT OF THE YEAR AWARDS

ATLANTA: Last night, Thursday, April 20, the 2023 Southeast Designers and Architect of the Year Awards (SEDY) were presented by ADAC (Atlanta Decorative Arts Center) and VERANDA to firms and individuals from across the Southeast who exemplify the highest level of talent in the categories of architecture, contract design, and residential design. Reviewed by a celebrated group of judges, winners were picked from a group of 26 regional finalists spanning five states and were announced at a private gala at Flourish to wrap up ADAC's spring market, DESIGN ADAC.

The 2023 Southeast Designers and Architect of the Year winners include the following:

CATEGORY	FIRM
Architect	Chris Reebals of Christopher Architecture & Interiors <i>Birmingham, AL</i>
Contract Design	Square Feet Studio <i>Atlanta, GA</i>
Residential Design	Bronwyn Ford of Pursley Dixon Ford Interior Design <i>Charlotte, NC</i>

"Our 2023 winners represent extraordinary design across the entire Southeast and for the second time in the history of the awards, they each hail from a different major city in our region," said Katie Miner, ADAC General Manager. "It's exciting to see how all have continued to refine their craft over the years. Both Pursley Dixon Ford Interior Design and Christopher Architecture & Interiors have consistently been finalists in their respective categories and are first-time winners this year, while Square Feet Studio takes home their second win this year with one prior in 2014. It's wonderful to see how these firms consistently transcend expectations, ultimately raising the bar for future candidates."



(Left to Right: Christopher Architecture & Interiors, Square Feet Studio, and Pursley Dixon Ford Interior Design)

This year's esteemed finalists and winners were selected by a decorated team of top industry individuals, including **Steele Marcoux** Editor-In-Chief of Veranda, **John Ike** Architect and Founder of Ike Baker Velten, and interior designer and Woodard CEO **Jean Liu**. Remarks from the judges regarding the finalists are included below:

"This firm's work is clearly rooted in traditional forms and influence, yet it breaks the mold with its use of scale, material and rhythm. With thoughtful floor plans and site plans, these projects are exemplary reflections of how we want to live today. The result is work that feels exciting, original, and beautifully livable," recalls judge Steele Marcoux of Christopher Architecture & Interiors.

"These three projects covered a range of types, and a mastery of mood making. The spa is soft, soothing, and welcoming, utilizing a monochromatic palette and relying on texture, form and lighting to convey a feeling," added judge John Ike describing Square Feet Studio.

Jean Liu concludes by describing Pursley Dixon Ford Interior Design stating, “The projects from this submission teem with elegance and sophistication. Each home is finished in a manner that elevates both the architecture and landscape, all the while effortlessly reflecting the lifestyle and interests of each homeowner. From the soothing material palette to furnishings, these interiors were a visual delight.”

Additional photos of projects and interviews with the 2023 winners are available upon request.

ABOUT CHRISTOPHER ARCHITECTURE & INTERIORS: Before founding Christopher Architecture & Interiors in 2002, Chris Reebals attended Auburn University where he studied architecture. Upon graduation, Reebals worked as a lead designer and project architect where he formed a passion for design while learning from some of the profession’s most acclaimed designers. Reebals took a hiatus from architecture during which he worked in vocational ministry with students and young adults, serving as a regional minister to high-security prisons and designing for inner city housing projects. As the President and Principal Architect of Christopher Architecture & Interiors, Reebals has grown the firm from one to over fifty professionals. Today, Christopher AI is a nationally recognized, multi-disciplined firm. Serving clients with a collaborative methodology has established Christopher AI as a premier luxury design firm completing projects all over the country.

ABOUT SQUARE FEET STUDIO: Square Feet Studio was founded in 2001 by John and Vivian Bencich in Atlanta. Recent and repeat clients include Emory University and Georgia Tech, developers Allen Morris, Paces Properties, and Selig Enterprises, and notable chefs Linton Hopkins, Ryan Smith, and Jarrett Stieber. The studio’s mission is to connect creative design strategies with everyday life to empower their clients. They use a design logic that is accessible and impactful, to help strengthen and better our world for future generations. Their work has been featured in a variety of publications including Atlanta Homes & Lifestyles, Hospitality Design, and Wallpaper.

ABOUT PURSLEY DIXON FORD INTERIOR DESIGN: Pursley Dixon Ford Interior Design is a full-service interior design firm specializing in custom residential work. Founded on the simple thought that beauty matters, the firm strives to create spaces that evoke an emotional response and are as beautiful and unique as the people who occupy them. Ever mindful of appropriate materials and thoughtful craftsmanship, their designs strive for authenticity and timelessness while valuing the simplicity and understated elegance of our lives. Their work can be found throughout the country, including North Carolina, Wyoming, Colorado, Vermont, Florida, Maryland, and South Carolina. They have been featured in numerous publications including Veranda, Traditional Home, Connecticut Cottages & Gardens, House Beautiful, Charlotte HOME Design + Decor, and Beautiful Kitchens & Baths. In 2021, the firm was honored to receive the National LUXE Red Award for Classic/Traditional Interior Design.

ABOUT ADAC: Built 60 years ago by renowned architect and developer John Portman in the prestigious Buckhead community of Atlanta, ADAC (Atlanta Decorative Arts Center) is a community-focused, nationally recognized leader in the world of interior design and home fashion, serving as the essential one-stop shopping resource for interior designers, architects, and builders. In November 2018, ADAC was acquired by International Market Centers (IMC) and parent company Blackstone, the world’s largest operator of premier showroom space for the furnishings, home décor and gift industries. The ADAC campus consists of ADAC and ADAC WEST with more than 550,000 square feet with over 25 design offices and more than 65 showrooms offering 1,200 of the industry’s finest product lines including furniture, fabric, rugs, lighting, accessories, floor and wall coverings, antiques, fine art and framing, kitchens, bath, tile and stone, and home theater products. Likewise, ADAC’s extensive services include custom designs such as framing, electronic systems, faux finishing, and draperies. To learn more, visit www.adacatlanta.com. Follow along on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Media Contact: Tara Murphy | 360 Media, Inc. | 404-577-8686 | tara@360media.net

###