

# best in show



**Our HD Awards issue** is always an exciting one for the HD team as it's a culmination of months of work—from submissions (more than 640 projects and nearly 330 product entries), to the judging process (two days and eight judges), an awards ceremony (400 people in New York), and finally, the issue, where we get to showcase the genius represented in this year's finalists.

I've asked our managing editor, Alissa Ponchione, who tirelessly manages the process, to share some insights: "I'm an avid awards show watcher, so to say I look forward to our own HD Awards would be an understatement (no Oscars faux pas on



our watch, I promise). It's the caliber of talent that helped to cultivate the buzziness around our awards for the past 13 years. This year, of course, was no exception.

We called upon an esteemed and very opinionated (luckily for us) panel of judges made up of talented designers and industry experts (you'll see some of their projects in these very pages) to narrow down these submissions—no easy feat but one they handled through careful deliberation and thoughtfulness. From our projects, we have an impressive group from all over the world—Sanya; Amsterdam; the Maldives; Charleston, South Carolina; Zimbabwe; Bogotá; and Oklahoma City, to name a few. And in products, next-level innovation

and craftsmanship is celebrated from a coustical panels controlled through your smartphone to 3D-printed LED light fix tures.

So much goes into developing, planning, and crafting these projects and products, and we couldn't be more excited to honor them. They truly are the stalwarts of what great design can and should be."

Speaking of great design, in these pages we also honor our newest Wave of the Future class—those who are young enough to be considered visionary but tested enough to be accomplished. Some are past HD Awards finalists, some are present, and others have caught our attention through publishing their various standout projects. Together they are a group who has mastered the difficult task of layered, soulful, enviable spaces—from restaurants in California and Poland (our cover shot) to lifestyle hotels throughout the world—that challenge the status quo and offer truly memorable experiences. We hope you enjoy getting to know them as much as we did.

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# holts café yorkdale

## **Toronto**

Photography by MICHAEL GRAYDON



- 1. Framed in white metal and textured glass, the 1,830-square-foot Holts Café Yorkdale's standout feature is a simple greenhouse room with lush plants overhead and wide-plank oak floors that soften the space.
- 2. A display cart welcomes diners at the entrance of the restaurant, located inside luxury department store Holt Renfrew.
- 3+4. Teal walls balance the white furnishings, wood shelving, and porcelain pendant lights, while eyecatching artwork adds drama to the dining







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