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issue



Women of Influence

launch of ArquitectonicaInteriors, an interior design practice; Laurinda Spear Products, offering more than 150 design products; and ArquitectonicaGEO, a landscape architecture practice focusing on environmental land planning and design. (Tempo Miami Hotel shown.)



"Laurinda has given the community intellectual, romantic, and graceful designs throughout her career," says her sister, New York-based architect Alison Spear. "Her new found interest in landscape architecture now brings full scope to the projects by melding buildings with their landscapes. In my mind, Laurinda's most salient design talent is her sensitivity to community and her sense of community service served through the profession."



Ilse Crawford

Founder
Studio Ilse
London

Ilse Crawford's 20-year career has touched almost every facet of the international design world. She started the department of man and well being at design academy Eindhoven; was founding editor of *Elle Decoration*; introduced Swarovski to a new market as concept creator of Swarovski Crystal Palace; raised the bar on branding and concept

development for the likes of the Soho House Group (Soho House New York shown); dabbled in product design (lighting, seating, and champagne glasses); and made inspiring designs for hotels like the Grand Hotel Stockholm and Kranzbach Spa Hotel.

"Ilse has built an impressive portfolio of clients and her thought-provoking interior designs have earned her the highest recognition and praise," says the Grand Hotel's Filip Odelius. "Since opening Matsalen and Matbaren [restaurants], the Grand Hotel has received international recognition. There is no doubt that this is augmented by the beautiful and dramatic interiors created by Ilse."



Denise Korn

Principal and Owner
Korn Design
Boston

Since 1992, Denise Korn and her namesake brand design and strategy firm have been helping prestigious clients like Daniel Boulud, LXR, Sage Restaurant Group, and Ritz-Carlton create complete experiences through brand strategy, signage, graphics, print and marketing materials, and packaging. And people are taking notice: last year, she took home a James Beard Award for Outstanding Graphics for the Corner Office in Denver, and this year she received another nomination for Mercat a la Planxa in Chicago. But Korn's reach goes beyond branding: she founded Youth Design, a summer mentorship program that links inner city high school students with paid design internships.

(Graphics for DBGB in New York shown.)

"She is a force of nature," says David Ashen, principal, d-ash design. "Denise is not shy and never is hesitant to express her point of view and her point of view is usually formed from her rich experience in hospitality and her high level of creativity. She doesn't have a huge ego, and therefore, is a great creative collaborator. I find that her input enriches our work and that I get a lot of inspiration from her work."



Celeste Fierro

Senior Vice President of Operations
The One Group
New York

After making her mark as one of the preeminent event planners in New York, Celeste Fierro partnered with Erica Cohen to open restaurant and lounge One Little West 12th in 2004 in the Meatpacking District. (It's new incarnation, the Collective, shown.) Since then, she has helped turn one venue into the One Group, a nightlife powerhouse operating or partnering with 20 venues, with more concepts in the works in Las Vegas, Atlanta, and Chicago.

"Celeste is one of the finest operators in the business," says Michael Achenbaum, president of the Gansevoort Hotel Group. "Her understanding of the daily operations issues combined with her marketing and design sense are a rare combination. Generally you don't have talents in three areas. Her skills in combination with the One Group's infrastructure leaves her in a position to influence the restaurant and nightlife industry for years to come."