

Shangri-La Beijing, China World Tower



Photos: Jimmy Cohrsson

Styling the interiors of Shangri-La's flagship 5-star hotel and luxurious office spaces in Beijing's tallest building, the iconic new China World Tower, confronted interior designers HBA with a soaring challenge.

With 81 floors and 330-metres above ground, the China World Trade Centre commands panorama views over the historic city centre.

"Key features were the 200 intimate rooms," HBA principal Ilija Karlusic said. "The amazing panorama was used to maximum effect by re-organising layouts ensuring views from the bed, lounge and desk.

"But as they are so high up in the building, we also wanted to cocoon guests, to give them a sense of security. The answer was a wraparound feature from the floor, across the ceiling to the other side of the room, literally cocooning the space," added Paulo Dias, HBA Hong Kong's associate director on the project.

Adding some complexity to the challenge was the tapered design of the building, by SOM architects, making the bedrooms space smaller the further up the building.

Corridor details were also important for this project, making each of the 50 sq m club-style rooms "feel special" with individual entrances having a distinctive feature and foyer welcoming guests.

The overall design philosophy was in line with the Shangri-La brand, in opulent, warm golds and reds with the signature mahogany and rich woodwork. But still, a key challenge was merging the opulent interiors with the contemporary exterior and its detailed façade – essentially "making the interiors work with the outside."

A 'pièce de résistance' in the lobby is a dramatic 100,000 tiger-eye wall feature made from semi-precious stones.

completion August, 2010

designers Ilijia Karlusic & Paulo Dias



Business centre



The grand ballroom



Meeting room



Grand premier room







Waldorf Astoria Shanghai

he exquisite English Renaissance-style building was constructed in 1910 and opened as the now-legendary Shanghai Club.

One of the finest architectural gems along Shanghai's waterfront promenade, the whitewashed façade of the new Waldorf Astoria Shanghai on the Bund is adorned with Palladium columns, intricate gables and a pair of sculpted rooftop cupolas.

The interiors – including the original Sicilian marble columns and stained glass imported from Birmingham, England – have been painstakingly restored through extensive use of archived photographs and records.

HBA's renovation of this historic and prestigious social club will continue the Shanghai Club's legacy of refined indulgence, while equipping the building with the luxury amenities demanded by today's discerning traveler.

The new hotel comprises 271 rooms across two buildings. The charming heritage building is connected via a courtyard to a modern tower bordered by Sichuan Road and the design encompasses both buildings including the lobby lounge, guest and meeting rooms, restaurants and bars, as well as the swimming pool, health club and spa.

Waldorf Astoria On The Bund Shanghai is the first hotel in Asia for Hilton's prestigious luxury brand.

completion October, 2010

designers Ian Carr and Connie Puar



Ballroom – evening view



Suite bedroom – evening view



Suite bathroom



The long bar



Pelhams dining – open kitchen view

Hotel Indigo Shanghai on the Bund





The philosophy behind the Hotel Indigo brand is to offer boutique-style hotels infused with local inspiration so guests feel connected to the local neighbourhood and community. To fulfil this vision at the Asian flagship, HBA's concept was to create a "personality all its own" for the 180-room hotel, including 21 River View Suites and two spacious Garden Terrace Suites.

HBA developed an eclectic and harmonious design linked to the neighbouring Huangpu River, and the element that ties it to the neighborhood most intimately, Shiliupu Dock, now know as Pier 16. This dock was the gateway through which Shanghai grew, as a shipping and trade centre, and entry point for thousands of European expatriates who led Shanghai's development as a global city.

The lobby entrance is among the most striking and dramatic in Shanghai, reflecting Hotel Indigo's position on the river and the brand's commitment to nature, recyclables and ecologically sensitive design.

Strong elemental materials are chosen to render the lobby: raw steel, concrete, exposed brick, and polished plaster – suggesting this gallery space has been repurposed from a wharf-side waterfront loft. The open cell, cast concrete ceiling enhances this effect, studded with lighting that changes colours throughout the day.

As in the lobby, the guestroom palette is the natural tone of exposed Shanghai gray brick, distressed gray paneling, and polished plaster walls, a canvas against which shines colorful and lively carpets.

The sense of an older Shanghai is in eclectic and whimsical artifacts and furniture: with Chinese lanterns, authentic furniture, ceramic pieces and antiques. The canopy bed, an original design, was inspired by traditional Chinese wedding beds, but reinterpreted though a contemporary lens.

Oversized bathrooms have a glass wall framed in polished steel, looking out onto the river. They feature an open wet area, where a minimalist vanity topped with rectangular porcelain basins gives a contemporary feel, as does the freestanding tub, which is a sleek and modern.

HOTEL interior design and fitting-out







QuayMeSpace2Reception



completion November, 2010

designers Andrew Moore and Julian Coombs





Meeting room

Four Seasons Hotel, Macau

The new mixed-use lifestyle and entertainment complex features hotel, serviced apartments, high-end shopping mall, a boutique-sized casino, fine dining and other entertainment options.

Inspired by the ancient Portuguese history of Macau and the predominant Chinese culture in the enclave, HBA has blended distinctive design influences from both to create a stunning new hotel. The hotel is a jewel amidst Asia's Las Vegas, as the Cotai Strip has become known.



Lobby



Mainpool with facade

Drawing influence from an old Colonial Portuguese house, the hotel has features throughout that evoke as 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. The Chinese lacquer screens date back to the 18th century and demonstrate China's influence on trade and design.

Six oversized Portuguese-inspired custommade lanterns are 1.8 meter in height and convey original craftsmanship and artistry, through their texture and details. A carpet inspired by an original Portuguese 15th Century arraiolos (needle-point tapestry rug) 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.

Inspired by the beautiful, ornate colonial architecture that makes Macau so distinct, HBA utilized a residential approach in the design of the interiors that blend seamlessly with the building's architectural style.

The back wall of the reception desk, for example, is framed by a replica of 18th century traditional Portuguese blue and white tiles.

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 pallet and white limestone walls in the lobby, decorative art pieces include a framed 17th Century Portuguese textile with original embroidery and several Coromandel screens, designed in China for the European market.

The design team spent considerable time researching the Macanese culture and Portuguese architectural influences as well as combing through local markets and antique shops. One of their finds includes a stunning Bamboo Chinese 19th Century console, which they placed prominently in the public space corridor.

completion August, 2008

designers Ilija Karlusic, Alicia Loo, Tracie Co, and Paulo Dias



Bar Azul



Lobby lounge



Peony ballroom



Zi Yat Heen



Belcancao



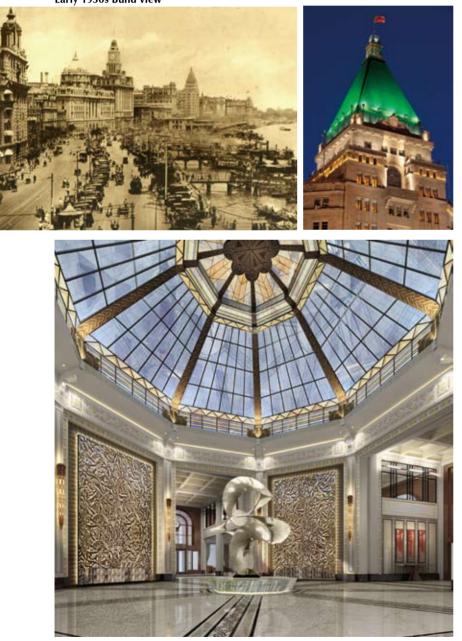
Deluxe Room Double

Fairmont Peace Hotel, Shanghai

The newly revitalized Fairmont Peace Hotel Shanghai offers approximately 256 deluxe guestrooms and suites. A selection of six restaurants and lounges will include the endeared Jazz Bar, Deli Cafe and a lobby lounge on the ground floor, a mezzanine-level sushi, wine and cigar bar, and a heritage Chinese restaurant and the Peace Grill Restaurant on the eighth floor.

This level also hosts the Peace Hall, with

Early 1930s Bund view



Rendering atrium

its famed sprung-timber dance floor, plus several meeting rooms and an expansive outdoor terrace. A low-rise extension added to the rear of the hotel will house some guestrooms, plus a sky-lit swimming pool and spa.

The famous 'Nine Nations Suites' will remain a feature of the new hotel: four of these (Indian, English, Chinese and American) will be preserved from the old Peace Hotel, while the French, Italian, Spanish, Japanese and German suites will be redesigned in keeping with their original concepts.

A Presidential Suite will occupy the 10thfloor penthouse where the hotel's flamboyant creator and former owner, Victor Sassoon, once lived.

HBA's design for the Fairmont Peace Hotel recalls Shanghai's renowned artdeco heritage, combined with streamlined furnishings and state-of-the-art in-room facilities.

The ground floor, which was originally designed as a luxury shopping arcade, is returned to its classic crucifix floor-plan, with revolving entrance doors on all four sides of the hotel.

The splendid octagonal glass skylight and an entire mezzanine level – which had been covered up for decades with gypsum board – are being revealed once more. Custompatterned stone mosaic floors echo the hotel's original deco-style tiling.

A soft "buff and blue-grey" color scheme enhances the hotel's original intricate cornices and coffers. Refurbished copper balustrades and light fixtures are complemented by antique bronze and polished nickel. Authentic period styling also includes grey-vein marble accented with rich Noir St Laurent dark marble borders and walnut burl grain wood paneling that were popular during Shanghai's 1930s art deco heyday.

Behind the scenes, many hidden innovations will add contemporary comforts to the guest experience. The mechanical and electrical systems, including air ventilation, plumbing and heating, are completely overhauled and concealed as befits a contemporary five-star hotel.



completion July 2010

designers Ian Carr, Connie Puar and Paula O'Callaghan





Rendering jazz bar

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