

Costa Appoints Distinguished Design Team For The Realization Of The Interior Spaces Of The New Ships

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The team will create the exclusive interior design inspired by "Italy's Finest" for the Italian company's two new ships, to be delivered in 2019 and 2021.

Genoa, 30 September 2016 – Costa Cruises has selected four leading design firms to create the interior spaces of the two new 180,000-ton ships that are scheduled to be delivered in 2019 and 2021. Jeffrey Beers International, Dordoni Architetti, Partner Ship Design and Rockwell Group were selected for the unique challenge of creating state-of-the-art interior design for a cruise ship.

The layout for the ships will reflect comments and suggestions from Costa Guests and will include a more efficient use of the ships' spaces, creating an enhanced onboard experience.

"We are fortunate to bring together such distinguished professionals for our next-generation ship," said Neil Palomba, President of Costa Cruises. "Italy's finest" concept represents the roots and the identity of Costa Cruises. It deals with the best things that our Country has to offer: passion, quality, hospitality and, of course, style. We think that we were able to create an unparalleled mix of different experiences mostly coming from an unconventional approach for the ship design. I am confident that our designers will be able to create a unique style for our new ships that will help us to offer our guests unforgettable and pleasant holiday experiences."

Each of the chosen firms has a breadth of experience in the international hospitality design sector and is well-versed in design for projects like hotels, restaurants and public spaces. The team will have the objective of crafting an innovative new design concept that will build on the history and tradition of the brand with a bespoke realization of the 'Italy's Finest' philosophy. Both ships will represent the best that Italy has to offer, a claim reinforced by the presence of an Italian footprint in the design team. As Creative Director, renowned designer Adam D. Tihany will oversee the development of the design and branding of the new ships. This unparalleled pool of talent will lead the brand to a new interior design vision and a cruise ship concept that has never been seen before.

"The theme 'Italy's Finest' is an authentic celebration of Italian design, culture and spirit," said Tihany. "The team of outstanding architects and designers we invited to be a part of this project bring a level of innovation and passion that will no doubt capture the essence of the new Costa brand."

AWK, a sister company of Partner Ship Design, will serve as Coordinating Architect, working closely with the Meyer Turku Shipyard and the design teams. Partner Ship Design will head the design of two restaurants and several bars including the new "I Bacari" bar as well as passenger sun decks and pool areas.

Jeffrey Beers International will bring experience, vision, and architectural precision to the creation of The Casino and to multiple restaurants, bars, and lounges. Each venue will uniquely celebrate Italian art, culture, and craftsmanship.

The new layout and interiors of all the ships' cabins, as well as the corridors and the staircases, will be developed by Dordoni Architetti, which will give each of these elements a unique touch of novel, innovative, and sophisticated Italian design. The firm will also lead the design of the gym and the Japanese restaurant.

With its vast experience in the field of hospitality design, Rockwell Group will create innovative, distinctive designs for several areas on the ship. The firm's unique contribution to the project include a three-story atrium that will feature a

café, bars and a performance space; several restaurants and bars; a theater and nightclub; beach club and pool; a shorex office and gallery; and kids and teens areas.

The new Costa ships will be the first in the cruise industry (together with the two new ships previously announced for Aida Cruises, the German brand of Costa Group, and with the three new ships recently commissioned by Carnival Cruise Line – two ships - and P&O Cruises – one ship) to be powered at sea by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). They will be built by Meyer shipyard in Turku, Finland. Each will exceed 180,000 gross tonnage, offering more than 2,600 passenger cabins for a total of 6,600 passengers onboard.

About Tihany Design

Internationally renowned hospitality designer Adam D. Tihany has created luxurious and innovative hotel and dining interiors at some of the most iconic properties around the globe. His sophisticated, often groundbreaking, designs are custom-tailored to fit the vision of the client and stay true to their location. Setting his sights on the seas, Tihany most recently brought his visionary design concepts to the new wave of Holland America and Seabourn vessels.

About **Dordoni Architetti**

Dordoni Architetti is an architectural studio founded in Milan by Rodolfo Dordoni, Alessandro Acerbi and Luca Zaniboni. The Studio embodies the so celebrated and renowned Italian concept of bespoken design with unique and customized solutions through a deep research oriented to spatial configuration, careful selection of materials and details definition. It has a sound experience in architectural planning and interior design in diverse areas, focusing on the residential field.

About Partner Ship Design

The name Partner Ship Design is the synonym for water, ships and creativity. The company was founded in 1991 by Kai Bunge and Siegfried Schindler in the port city of Hamburg, Germany. From its start, Partner Ship Design is specialized in projects for the cruise industry, in which it is one of the leading firms providing architecture, design services and interiors for ships of companies as AIDA, Costa Cruises and Carnival Cruise Line, in addition to the concepts delivered for sailing boats and riverboats. Their services ranges from the development of general layouts (GAP) to interior design and supervision. With a team of 50 creative and well-trained designers, they create unique, high quality interiors and emotional atmospheres custom designed for each individual project.

About Rockwell Group

Rockwell Group is an interdisciplinary architecture and design firm that emphasizes innovation and thought leadership in every project. With offices in New York, Madrid and Shanghai, the 250-person firm uses theater, technology and finely-wrought craft to create extraordinary experiences and built environments across the globe. Projects include the New York EDITION hotel, the global expansion of Nobu restaurants and hotels, the Westin Palace in Madrid, W hotels worldwide, the TED Talks Theater in Vancouver, OMNIA nightclubs worldwide, TAO Downtown in New York, the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, and set designs for the 81st and 82nd Academy Awards and more than 20 Broadway shows, including the Tony Award-winning set design for *She Loves Me*.

About Jeffrey Beers International

Jeffrey Beers International (JBI) is a full-service design studio with an award-winning portfolio of projects spanning a variety of categories. Founded by Jeffrey Beers in 1986, JBI represents the culmination of its founder's rich artistic and cultural background, sophisticated urban sensibilities, and standout design skills. The result is a dynamic and diverse company whose team consists of architects, interior designers, painters, sculptors and graphic designers in order to bring a mix of unique perspectives to every project. With a level of taste respected and called upon by notable chefs like Daniel Boulud, and developers like Silverstein Properties, to projects with venerated hospitality brands like One&Only, The Waldorf Astoria, and Fontainebleau. As the firm extends beyond restaurants, hotels and multifamily developments, it is leveraging this expertise to revolutionize other spheres of design as well.

For more information:

Costa Cruises

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