

in the spotlight

Elaine Cecconi and Anna Simone of Cecconi Simone Inc. won an Award of Excellence for the "X" The Condominium Model Suite.



2007 Arido Awards Of Excellence

Honouring Ontario's top interior designers

The Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO) announced the winners of its 23rd annual Awards of Excellence, which were held during a gala dinner at the Direct Energy Centre as part of IIDEX/NeoCon Canada.

The prestigious award program, honouring creativity and professional achievement in the province's interior design industry, recognized 26 entries in 12 different categories. All told, there were two Projects of the Year, four Awards of Excellence and 21 Awards of Merit.

Judged by nine esteemed representatives from business, media and design, each entry was judged on its own merit and on the specific circumstances under which it was completed. In their submissions, entrants were asked to consider existing design elements, budget and project objectives, strategies employed, overall creativity, examples of project results, and sustainability and collaborative elements.

This year's show revealed a shifting emphasis on the redesign of public spaces, as the majority of awards were from commercial and retail-based sectors. The focus on retail was demonstrated by **Diego Burdi** of **burdifilek design** who won five awards in total: three **Awards of Merit** for spectacular luxury retail designs in Holt Renfrew; an **Award of Excellence** for his work in Capezio; as well as the coveted **Project of the Year** for his design of the retail and tasting areas of Stratus Winery.

Carol Smith of **SGH Design Partners** won an **Award of Excellence** for the subtle branding and natural elements found in the reception area, boardroom and salon of the marketing centre of hair care creator Ojon.

Residential projects were well represented. Taking top honours were **Anna Simone** and **Elaine Cecconi** who earned an **Award of Excellence** for their sleek Model Suite for the "X" The Condominium Sales Centre for **Great Gulf Homes**.

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