

BLINK'S KEY ROLE IN REGENT REBIRTH APPLAUDED AS FLAGSHIP PHUKET RESORT PICKS UP TOP INTERIOR DESIGN AWARD

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BANGKOK, THAILAND - BLINK Design Group has been honoured at the prestigious 2014 Asia-Pacific Hotel Awards in the Best Hotel Interior, Thailand category for its benchmark-setting work on the recently opened Regent Phuket Cape Panwa.

BLINK founder and Senior Creative Director Clint Nagata said he was delighted to receive the Highly Commended award, the latest addition to a growing list of gongs netted by the flagship Phuket resort created as the first serious statement of intent from the legendary Asian luxury hotel brand as part of its rebirth.



Timeless lines, contemporary spirit and an ever-present echo of the past are evoked by BLINK's deft touch. For high res image please click **here**.

"It's always nice to be recognised for good work, and this is certainly one of the most prestigious and credible awards in this part of the world, so we say thank you and will do our best to continue to set standards, question orthodoxies and push boundaries," Mr Nagata said.

Regent Hotels and Resorts President Ralf Ohletz Count von Plettenberg added: "BLINK's award is fully deserved. Regent Phuket was the first property to be launched as we set about the rebirth of Regent, one of the great hospitality brands. It was essential to set the tone and find the right bespoke luxury design language for the group.



"We feel this has been achieved and we are pleased to be working with BLINK on other projects in a spirit of understanding and creativity. We share the same commitment to hotel design inspired by and evolving out of a sense of place and a deep understanding of the location's culture and design vernacular.

"I'm pleased to say we make natural partners. I congratulate Clint and his team on this fine achievement and look forward to great things ahead."

The award recognises BLINK's timeless tropical modern design melded with a subtle sense of cultural heritage, lending Regent Phuket Cape



Subtle accents from Phuket's cultural and design vernacular pervade the resort. For high resolution version, please click <u>here</u>.

Panwa an understated elegance suffused with a genuine sense of place yet avoiding cliché. This was achieved in BLINK's trademark manner: deep-dive research into the location, history and design vernacular of the project, coupled with the power of instinct and a brainstorming process where all ideas are heard.

Last year, BLINK won the Silver Award in the Hotel Space category at the 2013 Asia Pacific Interior Design Awards (APIDA) for its work on Regent Phuket Cape Panwa. The USD42 million Regent Phuket Cape Panwa also received distinction as a finalist in the Best Resort category at the prestigious 33rd annual Gold Key Awards for Excellence in Hospitality Design last year.

International Hotel Awards chairman Stuart Shield congratulated BLINK on its achievement, adding that the awards were created to recognise excellence in the hotel and property industries worldwide.

BLINK has been an important force behind the rebirth of Regent Hotels, with work continuing across three other Regent hotels in Bali and Taipei – as well as on the new Regent Place brand in Xi'an, China.

Mr Nagata said the award was a credit not just to BLINK's team but also to the vision of the Regent Hotel Group, "outstanding partners we are honoured to be working with."

"Our goal was to create a timeless modern tropical luxury resort that had a sense of a beachside residence," he said. "After all, the guests are coming to Phuket, not just a Regent resort, and it was essential for us to ensure that this experience was communicated to them and enhanced by their stay."

Mr Nagata said creating a true and tangible sense of place by incorporating local arts and traditions inspired the interior design.



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A shaft of sunlight unleashes a subtle symphony of golden notes and a modicum of 'magic hour' when viewed through the prism of BLINK's design. For high res image please click **here**.

Notes to Editors:

Blink Design Group (BLINK) has reinvented the traditional service model to offer clients an integrated stay from check-in to check-out. BLINK's end-to-end suite of services includes interior, building and brand design. Founded by Clint Nagata in 2006 and operating out of Bangkok, Singapore, New Delhi and Shanghai, the company designs luxury hotels, resorts, restaurants, clubs, spas, and residences for leading global brands. Believing each project is a platform to achieve something extraordinary, BLINK draws on the instincts and intelligence of its inspired team to create icons of design in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

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