



For Immediate Release...

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## CLINTON SMITH, VICTORIA HAGAN & THOMAS A. KLIGERMAN SELECT 14 FINALISTS FOR ADAC'S 2018 SOUTHEAST DESIGNERS AND ARCHITECT OF THE YEAR AWARDS

**ATLANTA** – In anticipation of the 2018 Southeast Designers and Architect of the Year Awards, ADAC is proud to reveal this year's finalists. Entries represented eight states within ADAC's 10-state region, with firms located in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. This year's 14 finalists are recognized innovators that exemplify the highest level of talent in the categories of residential design, contract design, and architecture in the Southeast. Finalists were selected by a panel of three acclaimed judges including Editor in Chief of *VERANDA* **Clinton Smith**; interior designer **Victoria Hagan**, and architect **Thomas A. Kligerman**. Winners will be announced at a private gala on Thursday, April 26.

"This year all of the finalists' work beautifully integrate architecture and interiors to create spaces that are amazing experiences," said Katie Miner, General Manager of ADAC. "Each of them truly embodies the theme of this spring's DESIGN ADAC, "innovation of expression," and are energizing the world of design in the Southeast and beyond. Every year we're honored and excited to see more and more submissions coming in from top talent; we look forward to recognizing all of these incredibly talented firms and individuals at a reception that is open to all at ADAC on April 25<sup>th</sup> and at a private gala on April 26<sup>th</sup>."

"Year after year, the entries for the Southeast Designers and Architect of the Year Awards continue to inspire," said **Clinton Smith**, Editor in Chief of *VERANDA* magazine. "The buildings and interiors created by practitioners from the area have a profound influence on how we live and work today—not only in this region, but also in the entire country. As a judge, it's evident that the work being done in the southeast continues to raise the bar for the entire design community."

The 2018 Southeast Designers and Architect of the Year Awards coincides with ADAC's annual spring market week, DESIGN ADAC, which is co-sponsored by *VERANDA* and will take place April 24 – April 26. All are welcome to join ADAC, *VERANDA*, and Jim Thompson to meet and celebrate the 2018 finalists in Suite 304 at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25.

### 2018 Southeast Designers and Architect of the Year Finalists include:

- **Residential Design Finalists**
  - Barbara Westbrook of Westbrook Interiors | *Atlanta, GA*
  - Dana Wolter Interiors | *Mountain Brook, AL*
  - Melanie Turner of Melanie Turner Interiors | *Atlanta, GA*
  - Robert Brown Interior Design | *Atlanta, GA*
  - Tammy Connor Interior Design | *Charleston, SC & Birmingham, AL*
- **Contract Design Finalists**
  - Betsy Berry of B. Berry Interiors | *Charleston, SC*
  - Elizabeth Ingram Studio | *Atlanta, GA*
  - Smith Hanes of Smith Hanes Design | *Atlanta, GA*
  - Vivian and John Bencich of Square Feet Studio | *Atlanta, GA*
- **Architect Finalists**
  - Bill Ingram Architect | *Atlanta, GA*
  - Chris Reebals of Christopher Architecture and Interiors | *Birmingham, AL*
  - D. Stanley Dixon Architect | *Atlanta, GA*
  - Jim Strickland & Andrew Cogar of Historical Concepts | *Atlanta, GA*
  - Summerour & Associates Architects | *Atlanta, GA*

Media interested in attending the finalist meet-and-greet can RSVP [here](#). For a full schedule of DESIGN ADAC events, as well as information about the reception, visit: [www.adacatlanta.com/design-adac](http://www.adacatlanta.com/design-adac).

### About the 2018 Judges:

**Clinton Smith**, *Editor in Chief of VERANDA*

Clinton Smith is an award-winning journalist who has been covering the fields of interior design, style, architecture, travel, and other luxury lifestyle topics for more than 15 years. During his time at *VERANDA*, the magazine has become the ultimate sourcebook for those on a quest for the best, showcasing the finest in decorating, outdoor living, fine jewelry, flowers, and entertaining.

**Victoria Hagan, Interior Designer**

Victoria Hagan is an award-winning designer whose work reflects the New American Classic — a modern sense of luxury that is fresh, restrained and iconic. She has been celebrated for her intelligent integration of architecture and interior design. Based in New York City, her 26-person firm works on luxury residences throughout the country, providing a full range of interior design services, all bearing her signature classic American style.

**Thomas A. Kligerman, Architect**

Thomas A. Kligerman is a co-founder of Ike Kligerman Barkley, where the architecture and interior departments work throughout history and across styles, always seeking to synthesize the traditional and the contemporary. Thomas was raised in Connecticut and New Mexico, and spent years in France and England as a student. These experiences sparked his interest in the rich history of domestic architecture, gardens and landscapes.

**ABOUT ADAC:**

ADAC is a community-focused, nationally-recognized leader in the world of interior design and home fashion, built over 50 years ago by renowned architect and developer John Portman. For a half-century it has served as the essential one-stop shopping resource for interior designers, architects, and builders. The ADAC campus consists of 550,000 square feet with over 60 showrooms offering 1,200 of the industry's finest product lines including furniture, fabric, rugs, lighting, accessories, floor and wall coverings, antiques, fine art and framing, kitchens, bath, tile and stone, and home theater products. Likewise, ADAC's extensive services include custom designs such as framing, electronic systems, faux-finishing, and draperies. In addition, signature industry presentations, celebrity and media events, educational programs and networking opportunities held throughout the year make ADAC truly a one-of-a-kind, design destination. To learn more, visit [www.adacatlanta.com](http://www.adacatlanta.com) and follow along on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#). For upcoming events, visit [www.adacatlanta.com/events](http://www.adacatlanta.com/events).

**About VERANDA**

*VERANDA* ([www.veranda.com](http://www.veranda.com)) is one of the world's most exquisitely produced interior design magazines, reaching an audience of 1.5 million (MPA February 2017). It is the unparalleled source for luxury living, featuring the finest in home decoration, style, jewelry, travel, culture and more. Every issue celebrates the art of living well by giving its readers entrée to the most fascinating people, places and things in style today. Follow @VERANDAmag on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#) and [Twitter](#). Hearst Magazines, a unit of Hearst, is one of the nation's largest diversified media and information companies. Hearst Magazines' print and digital assets collectively reach more than 128 million readers and site visitors each month, or 53 percent of all adults in the U.S.; nearly two-thirds of all women and 69 percent of all millennial women. (source: comScore/MRI 9-16/S16).

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