



Twelve tasty projects selected as finalists of the AIAA's 2018 Restaurant Design Awards



By [Mackenzie Goldberg](#)

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Finalist in the Restaurant Category: Dekkadance & Sora, Los Angeles, CA. Designed by: AC Martin. Photo: Eric Laignel

Done well, [restaurant design](#) can be transformative and transportive, and can even make the food actually taste better. It is one of the most important factors of the dining experience, playing a key role in customer satisfaction and ultimately, the success of a restaurant.

Every year, the [AIAA](#) honors the vital role good interior design plays in the world of dining, distinguishing designers who take the restaurant typology up a notch with their [Restaurant Design Awards](#). Now in its 14th year, the jury has narrowed the competition pool down to 12 finalists in three categories — 'Restaurant', 'Cafe/Bars', and 'Lounge/Nightclub'.

From a modern, upscale Mexican restaurant dressed in light wood surfaces to a Cuban-inspired cafe whose design incorporates antique coffee artifacts, the 2018 finalists represent some of the year's most striking designs. Get a glimpse right below. A public vote for the 2018 RDA People's Choice Award Winners is also now open here: <http://conta.cc/2u92Zib> (To share with friends, please copy link directly)

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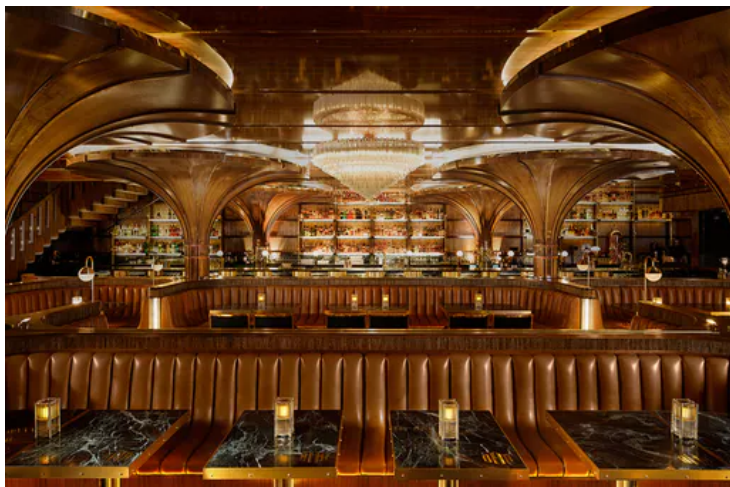
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Asian Live, InterContinental Seoul COEX Hotel, Seoul, Korea. Designed by: CallisonRTKL. Photo: Yum Seung Hoon



ATX Cocina, Austin, TX. Designed by: Michael Hsu Office of Architecture. Photo: Casey Dunn



Born & Raised, San Diego, CA. Designed by: BASILE Studio. Photo: Robert Benson



Campfire, Carlsbad, CA. Interior Designed by: Bells + Whistles, Architect: Aero Collective.
Photo: Lyudmila Zotova



Frida Restaurant, Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. Designed by: Ezequiel Farca + Cristina Grappin.
Photo: Jaime Navarro



PAUSA Bar & Cookery, San Mateo, CA. Designed by: CCS Architecture. Photo: Paul Dyer

Cafe/Bars Category: