



victoria ⊕ albert®

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VICTORIA + ALBERT'S 2018 INTERNATIONAL DESIGN AWARDS WINNER IS ANNOUNCED AT SALONE DEL MOBILE!



(Ladson, SC – April 27, 2018) Victoria + Albert Baths are delighted to announce the winner of the 2018 International Design Awards: Brisbane-based interior designer and architect Renee Popovic. Responding to the call that invited designers to create a 3 x 3m boutique hotel bathroom that “inspires, relaxes and reinvigorates the guest”, Popovic fought off competition from over 140 interior designers and architects from around the world to see her bathroom recreated at the world-famous Salone del Mobile in Milan.

Popovic was invited on an all-expenses-paid trip to Milan for the unveiling of the winning bathroom, which was recreated to scale at Salone del Mobile, using imitation materials. The award was presented during a cocktail reception at Victoria + Albert's exhibition stand at Salone del Mobile, where guests were invited to meet the designer and explore the bathroom.

The boutique hotel bathroom is inspired by natural beauty and is carefully planned to lead guests on a journey to tranquility. The organic material of the ENGLISHCAST® Vetralla 2 freestanding bath and Drayton 40 basins are complemented with honed marble, seamless limewash render, Terrazzo and brushed brass accents. The Polished Nickel Florin collection was used in the design, including the Florin 20 shower, Florin 26 bath mixer and Florin 11 basin mixer. Clever “pods” contained a toilet and shower. The judges commended the original layout and use of curves within a square space. They considered the design “retro-future” and perfectly fitting for a boutique hotel.

“My design approach is based on formal principles, but with a modern twist”, Popovic said of her interior design ethos. “I was faced with a relatively compact space, so felt it was important to utilise symmetry to create a coherent bathroom.

“I also chose to mix modern and traditional elements in the bathroom, opting for a modern bath with more traditional basins. Adding the Stone Gray exterior paint finish to the products was also an important detail. I was particularly inspired by the call for boutique hotel design as it gives the designer the chance to create something truly unique that the guest wouldn't usually experience at home. I'm absolutely delighted to see my design come to life at Salone del Mobile.”



Renee Popovic, 2018 International Design Awards winner

Marketing Director Jonathan Carter commented “We’ve been amazed to see the caliber of entries this year; it just keeps getting better. Renee’s design was truly original and it sparked a lot of conversations at Salone del Mobile about the nature of compact space design and how innovative interiors can shape a guest’s experience in a boutique hotel. It was a pleasure to welcome Renee to Milan and to celebrate the best of global design.”

Three highly commended entries were also highlighted at Salone del Mobile; Marie-Claire Holden and Jessica Tosh of Australian design company Cottee Architects’ “Luxe Boutique” scheme; Brazilian designer Carina Fontes’ serene modern bathroom, and Latvian designer Guljnara Hasanshina’s unique “Kaleidoscope” experience.

About Victoria + Albert

For over 20 years, global brand Victoria + Albert has achieved a worldwide reputation for creating beautiful baths, basins, furniture and faucets. The ultimate statement in quality and sophisticated style, their award-winning collections are packed with inspirational designs made from 100% ENGLISHCAST®, a unique blend of Volcanic Limestone™ and high performance resins. Naturally white, each tub is individually hand-finished by craftsmen and tested by IAPMO to UPC and cUPC standards with a 25-year limited consumer warranty.

Recipients of the prestigious RED DOT Award for their Amiata tub along with a Chicago Athenaeum GOOD DESIGN Award for their Pescadero, Napoli and ionian tubs, Victoria + Albert raises the bar on exceptional product design. Adored by consumers across the globe, and featured in distinguished five-star hospitality projects, Victoria + Albert sets the trend in bathing. The company is an avid supporter of the architectural and design community and sponsor of continuing education courses throughout North America. For more information about Victoria + Albert’s products, visit vandabaths.com or call 1-800-421-7189.



The winning space features the Vetralla 2 in the center of the layout, flanked by two symmetrical circular vanities, featuring the Drayton 40