

check in

## Harrison to lead architecture & construction for Marriott International

BETHESDA, MD—Ronald Harrison has been appointed global officer of architecture and construction for Marriott International, Inc. effective April 1. He succeeds A. Bradford Bryan, executive vp, architecture and construction, who is retiring.

Harrison is a 28-year veteran of Marriott, most recently serving as senior vp of full-service domestic design and project manager of the architecture and construction



**Ron Harrison**  
Marriott International

division. In his new role, he will oversee the company's global architecture and interior design, construction management, estimating, finance, procurement services and corporate facilities.

Bryan first joined Marriott in 1980 and has been at his current post since 1996, during which the size of the company's portfolio has tripled. He also played a pivotal role in Marriott International's headquarters achieving LEED Gold certification.

## La Cave debuts at Wynn Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS—La Cave, a new luxury wine lounge, has opened in the Wynn Las Vegas hotel here. Designed by Chicago-based 555 International, the 4,000-square-foot lounge features three different environments.

The first, The Cave, boasts cobblewood oak flooring, custom chairs and tables with brass legs, and reflective tiles with LED lighting. The Main Dining Room features cement tile as well as custom walnut wood furniture. Finally, the Garden Room mimics an oversized living room with mismatched tables and chairs, a main wall lined with plants, custom lanterns and burlap panels.



*The Garden Room in La Cave at Wynn Las Vegas.*

## Industry veteran launches HB Architectural Lighting



**Howard Baldinger**  
HB Architectural Lighting

BRONX, NY—Howard Baldinger has launched HB Architectural Lighting, a new manufacturer of custom decorative lighting fixtures.

Continuing his family's 117-year tradition of lighting manufacturing, the U.S.-based facility focuses on large and small scale custom architectural lighting fixtures for hospitality, commercial and residential projects.

Recent projects for HB Architectural Lighting include, The Peabody Orlando, The Ritz-Carlton Toronto and the Windsor Court Hotel.

## Mondrian SoHo to open this Spring



*The Mondrian SoHo will debut in New York on March 1.*

NEW YORK—Morgans Hotel Group and Cape Advisors, Inc. will open the Mondrian SoHo here on March 1. The third property under the Mondrian brand, the hotel was designed by Benjamin Noriega-Ortiz, who also designed the Mondrian Los Angeles.

With a style inspired by the 1946 French film, *La Belle et la Bette*, the lobby of the Mondrian SoHo features a French powder-blue color palette, pale oak floors and furniture custom-designed by Noriega-Ortiz. The hotel will also offer a signature restaurant, Imperial No. 9, designed with a bar of white-washed oak and cream stone, a garden building with an oversized glass sculpture by artist Beth Lipman and natural plants.

The Mondrian SoHo houses 270 guestrooms, including four suites and a 1,170-square-foot penthouse. Again taking cues from the film, the rooms feature dramatic mirrors, chrome nightstands and desks, 10-foot ceilings and custom fixtures.

## Gettys, BLU form alliance for Middle East expansion

CHICAGO—Hospitality design and procurement firm Gettys, based here, has formed a partnership with Saudi Arabia-based architecture and interior design firm, BLU.

The Gettys|BLU alliance includes value-driven design, architecture and procurement services that are tailored to the hospitality industry in the Middle East and North Africa.

"We are proud to be partnering with BLU, whose team brings a portfolio of impressive projects along with on-the-ground operational expertise that will help us more effectively adapt our global experience to the specific needs of the hospitality industry in this vital region," said Andrew Fay, president and co-founder, Gettys.



## Esposito named editor of Hotel Business DESIGN

EAST SETAUKET, NY—Lauren Esposito has been promoted to Editor of Hotel Business DESIGN®. She continues to report to James (Jay) Schultz, senior vp, ICD Hospitality Group.

Since joining ICD Publications, parent company of HOTEL BUSINESS® and Hotel Business DESIGN®, in 2005, Esposito has helped take Hotel Business DESIGN® (formerly New Look magazine) from a quarterly supplement within HOTEL BUSINESS® to a stand-alone BPA-Audited magazine that is published six times a year.

In addition, she has helped raise the profile of the magazine and give it more of a business focus through enhanced coverage of

the hospitality design industry, leading executive roundtables and hosting educational seminars at industry events.

"Lauren has played an integral part in developing Hotel Business DESIGN®'s overall vision of reporting on hospitality design from more of a business perspective," said Schultz. "Lauren's deep relationships and experience within both the hospitality business and design communities have prepared her to lead HBD to new heights."

In addition to her new role, Esposito will continue to also serve as Associate Editor of HOTEL BUSINESS®, where she has covered the hospitality industry for the past six years.



**Lauren Esposito**