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Contact:

Trish Donnally
Communications
Perkins Eastman
115 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10003
+1.202.212.6074

t.donnally@perkinseastman.com

news@perkinseastman.com

www.perkinseastman.com

INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING ARCHITECT SEAN HUANG JOINS PERKINS EASTMAN

With his deep knowledge of the Middle East and North Africa, Huang will be based in Dubai

New York, NY (July 7, 2016) Sean Huang AIA, LEED AP, who recently joined Perkins Eastman as a Principal, brings an exceptional depth of experience in international healthcare design, master planning, large scale/mixed use, science and technology, higher education, primary and secondary education, and other practice areas to the award-winning, international architecture and design firm. Mr. Huang is based in the Perkins Eastman office in Dubai. Prior to joining Perkins Eastman, Mr. Huang was Design Principal and Board Member of KMD Architects, where he recently grew and led the firm's Middle East practice.

"One of the main things that attracted me to Perkins Eastman is the firm's design ethos of creating architecture that serves humanity, within a stable, diverse, and dynamic business platform," Mr. Huang said. "Perkins Eastman is about creating value for society and clients and improving the human condition."

"The caliber and diversity of projects Sean Huang brings in his portfolio are stellar. He has led major projects in North America, South America, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. With his proven talent, leadership, and experience, Sean will be an asset to Perkins Eastman. He will be an important addition to our leadership as we continue to expand our international practice," said Brad Perkins FAIA, MRAIC, AICP, Co-founder and Chairman of Perkins Eastman.

Among the many significant projects Mr. Huang has led over the years, three emerge as highlights. The **Ford Field** mixed-use development in Detroit, Michigan, the 750,000 SF, 65,000-seat Detroit Lions stadium complex, which included a 200-key hotel, retail, offices, restaurants, and entertainment facilities, is the first integrated mixed-use stadium in the National Football League. Mr. Huang particularly enjoyed this challenge because, "The idea of a stadium development acting as a catalyst of urban renewal was very positive. We were revitalizing a derelict part of Detroit and creating a new typology that didn't exist in the past. We created a vibrant, mixed-use development that created year-round value beyond just sports," he said.

Of the **MD Anderson Cancer Center** in Houston, Texas, a 750,000 SF Ambulatory Care Cancer Center that provides outpatient services with clinics, a research center, an imaging center, and patient support spaces, Mr. Huang noted, "We were trying to rethink healthcare from the perspective of the emotional needs of people. Cancer touches everyone, so we were looking at

and trying to get an understanding of the psychological aspects and using an ‘emotional mapping’ approach to choreograph how patients, families, and practitioners could interact with the architecture to address the various emotional needs concurrently with the functional needs.”

Regarding the **Al Maarefa University and Teaching Hospital**, a recent project Mr. Huang led in Ad Diriyah, Saudi Arabia, he said, “Research has shown that more than half of learning comes outside of the classroom.” He noted that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia “is trying to create a knowledge society, relying on dramatic changes to the educational system away from a rote learning approach and more into a culture of inquiry. Our strategy for the design was to focus on creating greater interaction of student, faculty, and the public. One of the key areas was in expanding the non-programmed areas for public education on wellness and preventative care related to diabetes, which is a major concern for the Kingdom.”

Mr. Huang, who holds a Bachelor of Architecture from California Polytechnic State University in Pomona, California, is a frequent guest speaker at events such as the Leaders in MENA Design Forum in Dubai, where he was a panelist discussing “Emerging Design Trends of the Middle East” last fall. A registered architect, licensed in California, Mr. Huang is a member of the American Institute of Architects; the Society of Engineers: United Arab Emirates; and has in the past been an active speaker at events with the National Organization of Industrial and Office Properties; the Urban Land Institute; and the Society of College and University Planners. He has been honored with international awards including the Best Middle East Future Hospital Award, where he was a Finalist for his work on KSA MOH300-Bed Hospital in Hospital Build 2015. Earlier in his career, Mr. Huang won an AIA Design-Build Merit Award for the MD Anderson Cancer Center. He also earned an AIA Michigan Honor Award for Ford Field Detroit and an Orange County AIA Merit award for the COS Science Center.

About Perkins Eastman

Perkins Eastman is among the top design and architecture firms in the world. With almost 1,000 employees in 15 locations around the globe, Perkins Eastman practices at every scale of the built environment. From niche buildings to complex projects that enrich whole communities, the firm’s portfolio reflects a dedication to progressive and inventive design that enhances the quality of the human experience. The firm’s portfolio includes high-end residential, commercial, hotels, retail, office buildings, and corporate interiors, to schools, hospitals, museums, senior living, and public sector facilities. Perkins Eastman provides award-winning design through its offices in North America (New York, NY; Boston, MA; Charlotte, NC; Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; Los Angeles, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; San Francisco, CA; Stamford, CT; Toronto, Canada; and Washington, DC); South America (Guayaquil, Ecuador); Middle East and North Africa (Dubai, UAE); and Asia (Mumbai, India, and Shanghai, China).

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