

Cheng Concrete Circle of Distinction Design Challenge Winners

Cheng Concrete awarded Best in Show in its fifth annual Circle of Distinction Design Challenge to Keelin Kennedy and her Chicago-based firm, Barefoot Design.

Kennedy won for her “Carder Table,” a dining-room tabletop that features a ribbon of sassafras wood running through the center of the concrete.

At an awards announcement held at the 2009 World of Concrete show in Las Vegas, Cheng Concrete founder Fu-Tung Cheng praised the piece’s simplicity and beauty. “The craftsmanship is very elegant,” he said. “It’s letting the natural element come out. And the concrete is actually just acting as a foil for the log. It’s not trying to dominate it. It’s not trying to supplant it. It’s yielding to the wood. It’s such a nice contradiction — it’s almost like stone and wood. It reminds me of how the Japanese use wood and meld it with stone for foundation work and such.”

Cheng was one of three judges of the contest, along with interior designers MaryJo Camp, CKD, CBD, CID, and Lilley Yee, CKD, CBD, CID, ASID. The panel awarded Best in Category and Honorable Mention distinctions in 12 categories.



Each qualifying entrant in the contest was a member of the Cheng Concrete Exchange, a resource group for concrete countertop crafters. There were 143 entries in this year’s contest.

www.chengconcrete.com

www.concreteexchange.com



“Best in Category” Winners

Best of Show:

Keelin Kennedy, Barefoot Design, Chicago, Ill. — Dining room table for 10



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"Best in Category" Winners



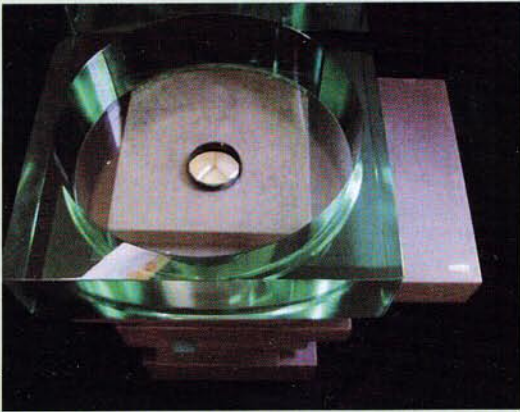
Fireplace:

Eric Pottle, Surfaceworks AZ, Peoria, Ariz. — Sand-colored floating hearth with toe kick



"Funk"-tional feature:

Steve Silberman and Tommy Cook, Absolute ConcreteWorks LLC, Poulsbo, Wash. — Hayvaz Project/countertops and backsplash for kitchen/espreso bar



Sculpture:

Ian Wyndlow, Liquid Stone Studios, Ladysmith, B.C. — Cubes for sink base, with gaps for lighting and plumbing



Furniture:

Michael Littlefield, Melange Studio, Kennebunk, Maine — Chair with formed concrete base and fitted piece of lucite on back



Bath:

Jack Cooper, Jax Custom Surfaces Inc., Cardiff-by-the-Sea, Calif. — Bath including double-basin vanity counter and shower panels



Exterior/Outdoor:

Seth Ernsdorf, Ernsdorf Design Inc., Los Angeles, Calif. — Outdoor coffee table/fire table with pebble and sand striation and vanilla bean finish



Integral Sink:

John Newbold, Newbold Stone Architectural Concrete, Austin, Texas — Minimalist white sink with integrated towel holder



Decorative Finish:

Sean Dunston, Concrete Jungle Design, Colorado Springs, Colo. — Kitchen countertop with river of "creamsicle" colors



Functional Feature:

Sean Dunston, Concrete Jungle Design, Colorado Springs, Colo. — Concrete stairs with decorative texture for slip resistance



Commercial/Retail:

Gabriela Sanchez-Vegas, Concreative4, Miami, Fla. — Countertop for information desk at Dolphin Mall, Miami, Fla.



Interior Kitchen:

Sean Dunston, Concrete Jungle Design, Colorado Springs, Colo. — Kitchen pieces (total weight: 3,775 pounds)



Water Feature:

Randy Rand, Concrete Artisans, Milford, Maine — Waterfall effect in sink