

PRESS RELEASE

The Virtual Global RLI Awards 2020 – An experience like no other!

Held virtually on 3rd September 2020, Retail and Leisure International's Fifteenth Global RLI Awards in association with Sands Retail, provided a unique evening that recognised and celebrated the most visionary and innovative retail and leisure concepts from across the globe.

In these unusual times, RLI decided there was no better way to showcase the best of the best in the industry to key global sector leaders than to allow them to watch it from the comfort of their computer, laptop or mobile screen.

The ceremony began with a countdown and an RLI video highlighting extracts from previous awards in Dubai, London and Los Angeles over the last four years, as anticipation started to build before presenter Lucy Alexander and RLI Publisher Jayne Rafter took to the stage. Some viewers engaged their senses and viewed Jayne's introductory speech in advance of the event utilising the very latest in AR technology, for those who were unable to join in the immersive experience we played a video of the same speech ensuring everyone had the opportunity to engage in a similar experience.

In her opening speech, RLI Publisher Jayne Rafter said: "The phrase "Necessity is the mother of invention" has never been more apt - Retail will reinvent itself once again and we will look back on Covid-19 as a catalyst for some of the biggest changes the world will go through, the birth of big ideas and innovations and tonight, we will honour the most visionary and innovative retail and leisure concepts from across the globe. The retail and leisure industry is exciting, dynamic and innovative, and the awards pay tribute to those companies that continue to push the boundaries; who are not afraid of the challenges that they are presented with; and who refuse to settle for anything but the very best."

Continues...

And the winners are...

RLI Future Project

Sponsored by umdasch The Store Makers Winner: Gemdale Xinshi Road Development, Suzhou, China Highly Commended: Xi'an Nan-Fei-Hong Phase 2 Mixed-Use Development, Xi'an, China

RLI Most Anticipated Opening 2020

Sponsored by U.S. Polo Assn. Winner: Zijing Paradise Walk, Hangzhou, China Highly Commended: Silicon Central, Dubai, UAE

RLI Most Innovative Retail and Entertainment Project

Sponsored by Necsum Trison Winner: Jewel Changi Airport, Singapore Highly Commended: Funan, Singapore

RLI International Shopping Centre

Sponsored by MK Illumination Winner: Raffles City Chongqing, China Highly Commended: City Centre Almaza, Cairo, Egypt

RLI Best Placemaking Scheme

Winner: Fosun Xi'an Dahua 1935, Xi'an, China Highly Commended: The Galleria Al Maryah Island, Abu Dhabi, UAE

RLI Shopping & Outlet Centre Renovation

Winner: Bilkent Center, Ankara, Turkey Highly Commended: Ashford Designer Outlet, Kent, UK

RLI Most Innovative Marketing Campaign

Sponsored by REIT Innovations Winner: Holly Nichols Highly Commended: Sands Macao Fashion Week 2019 – Sands Shoppes Macao

RLI Global Retailer

Sponsored by Sands Retail Winner: 361° Highly Commended: U.S. Polo Assn.

RLI Emerging Market Retailer

Winner: Greyder Highly Commended: U.S. Polo Assn. Continues...

RLI Leisure & Hospitality Group Winner: KidZania Highly Commended: Battlekart Innovative Leisure Franchise

RLI Most Innovative F&B Concept Sponsored by ECE Winner: Boxpark Highly Commended: Classic Pizza Restaurant

RLI Developer Sponsored by Design International Winner: ADG Group Highly Commended: Marakez

RLI Designer Winner: Design International Highly Commended: BSBG

RLI Interior Excellence Winner: Samsung KX, London, UK by Portview Fit-out Highly Commended: Harrods Dining Hall, London, UK by umdasch The Store Makers

RLI Rising Star Winner: Baraka Retail Group Highly Commended: Lindex

RLI Special Recognition Award for Technology in Innovation *Presented by RLI* **Awarded to Necsum Trison for X-Madrid**

'Save the date', Thursday 27th May for the 2021 edition of our annual Global RLI Awards which will follow RLI Connect Global 2021 on the 25th and 26th of May. The location and further details will be announced soon.

For more information about the Global RLI Awards 2021 and RLI Connect Global Deal-Making events, please contact the RLI Events Team on +44 (0)1706 212200, email <u>jayne.rafter@rli.uk.com</u> or alternatively visit <u>www.rli.uk.com</u>