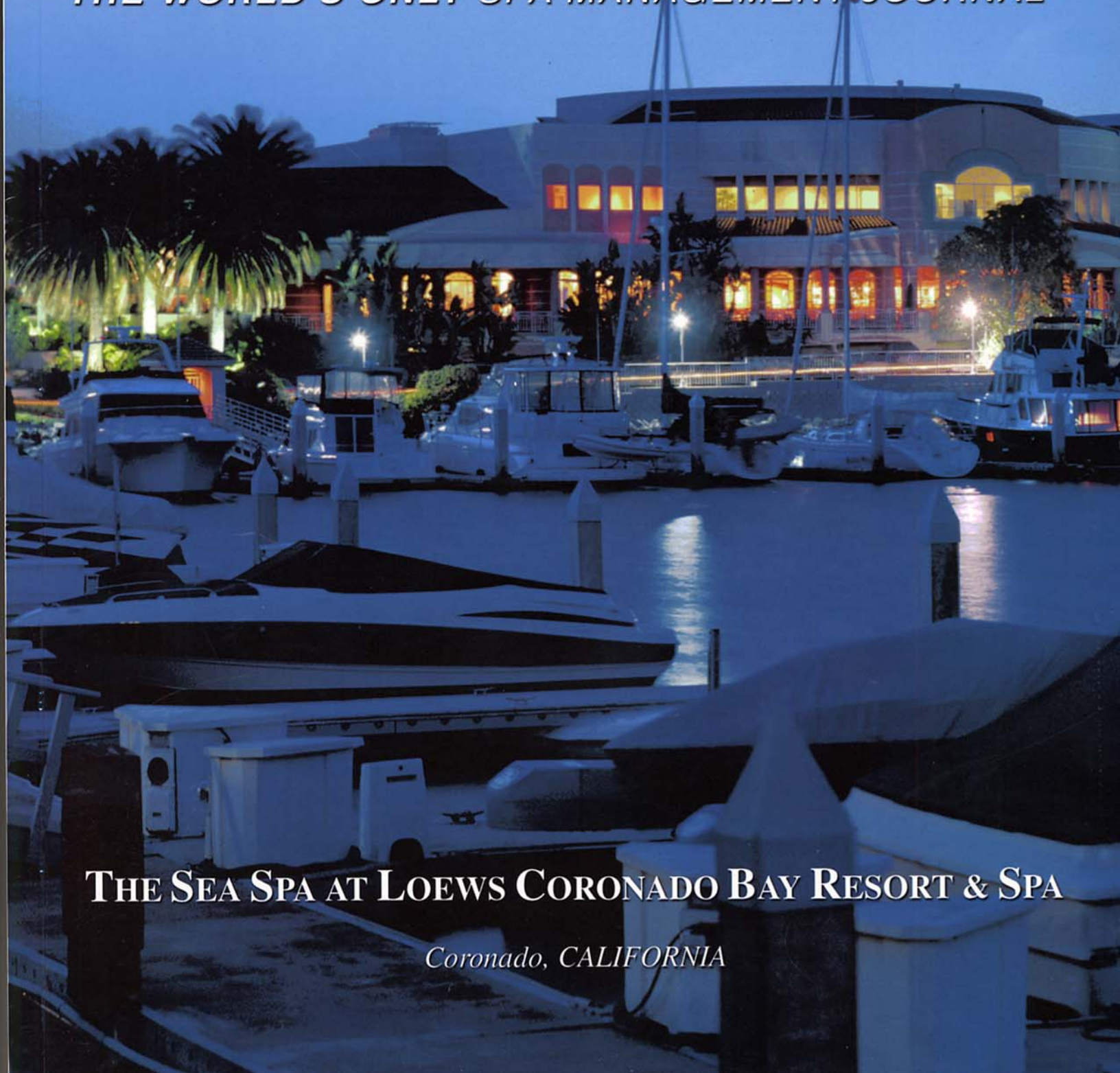




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**THE SEA SPA AT LOEWS CORONADO BAY RESORT & SPA**

*Coronado, CALIFORNIA*

*Robert D. Henry Architects is a New York-based, full-service firm offering planning, architecture, and interior design including specialty lighting and furniture design. Henry received an M.Arch. degree from Columbia University, and lectures internationally to the spa industry. The diverse practice includes residential and hospitality with a focus on spa design and eco-sensitive resort projects.*

# Orient Retreat Spa Calms Taiwanese City Life

Robert D. Henry Designs Flagship Day Spa



Until recently, sitting at the apex of this sprawling suburb was a razed corner lot shadowed by the façades of its mid-rise neighbors. Armed with his international reputation for designing luminous, tranquil spas, Robert D. Henry, AIA, has

transformed the site to host the Orient Retreat Spa, a new day spa, which will be introduced to this growing cosmopolitan city by the end of the year. Henry—who has created many successful destination spas throughout the world, including the Mar-a-Lago Club in Palm Beach with Donald Trump, the Spa at Le Reve in Las Vegas for Steve

## BOTH EAST & WEST WELL-BEING PHILOSOPHIES

Wynn, and the Amelia Island Plantation Spa in Florida—is crafting a 7,000-square-foot flagship spa for Taiwan's largest Spa group, the Orient Retreat. Directed by Shenyn Wang, Asia's premiere spa entrepreneur, the Orient Retreat has 17 spas throughout North America and Asia. For 15 years, the Orient Retreat has specialized in offering treatments that are designed to suit the physical and spiritual needs of sophisticated, metropolitan city-dwellers. The Orient Retreat Spa's concept integrates both East and West well-being philosophies with treatments that focus on stress-relief, personal care, mind/body wellness, and relaxation. Such treatments include massage therapies, facial care, aromatherapy, hydrotherapy, slimming/firming programs, and the signature spa treatment—Healing Flower Remedy with Chinese massage practices.

The flagship location—90 minutes outside of Taipei—will glow under Henry's trademark approach to creating warm, contemplative spaces that engage the five senses. The two-story, L-shaped building, which has a warm buff limestone and glass exterior, will house a full-service spa, salon, café, and retail space. The second floor's monolithic limestone façade floats over the first level's delicate glass enclosure. In the semi-private courtyard, a garden features exotic flowers and indigenous trees, which will perfume the area with fresh, stimulating fragrances.

The limestone courtyard acts as a transition space for guests, providing a peaceful, natural environment as they come in through the Spa's entrance. Rolling 60 feet through the center of the

courtyard are two parallel recessed water elements that glitter with azure blue mosaic tile. In between is a floating island where guests can linger around café tables, which spill out from the interior eatery.

A longer, 90-foot water element cuts across the courtyard in an east-west direction. Fifteen water columns fill the center of the longer water element and shoot streams of dancing water high into the air. Two wooden bridges glide over the water elements, serving as walkways for guests.

The breezy, modern courtyard, which is decidedly simple with clean lines, is accentuated by rich teak wood elements. The expansive wooden plank entry door offsets the transparency of the water and glass. The bridges, handrails, and window mullions are also finished in warm, teak wood.

The first floor's glass enclosure and the bright, airy interior allow indoor guests to experience the sensation of being outdoors. The café, reception area, Orient Retreat Spa retail store, and women's lounge are carefully configured on the first level, surrounded by glass. Visitors have full views of the spectacular outdoor garden and water elements. The second floor features a variety of treatment rooms, a relaxation room, and a hair salon.

Local redwood finishes accentuate the interior features and mosaic tiles cover the showers and other areas that are likely to be dampened. The earthy, minimalist interiors are complemented with warm, indigenous materials, providing a peaceful setting for the busy professionals who create the bulk of Orient Retreat Spa's clientele.