

Grand Hyatt Dalian, China

Words: Celia Chu Design

Located on the coastline towering over a white sandy beach, the Grand Hyatt Dalian offers unobstructed views of the skyline and a visceral connection to the sea through its glass façade. The facilities offered from level 42 to level 44 are the dining area, the club and the party room, which have been schematically designed by Celia Chu Design and Associates to emulate the interior of a luxurious beach mansion.

"Every time we look out through the window we experience a performance of illumination and shadow manifested purely by natural light". Celia Chu

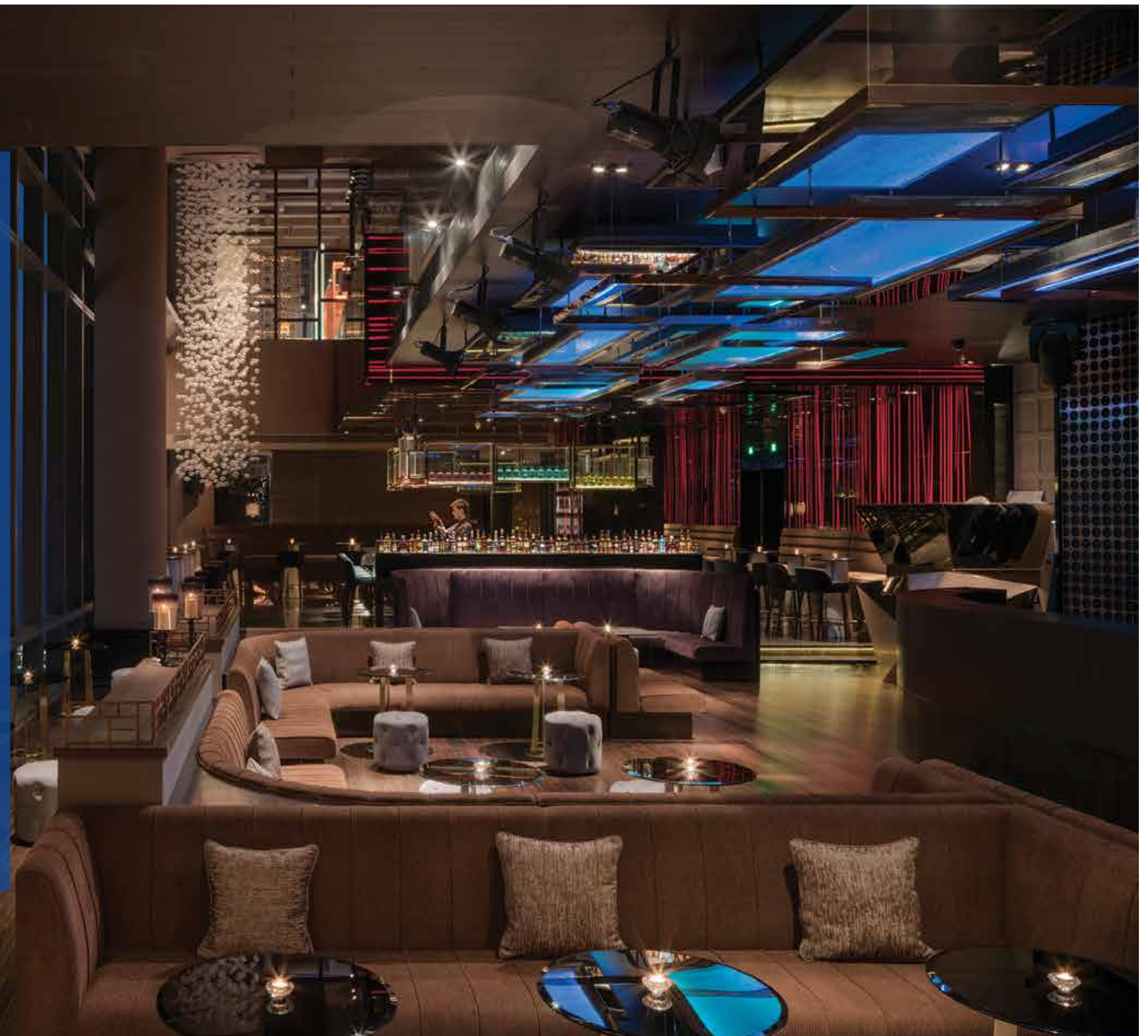
In this hotel restaurant, at the pinnacle of the building, we have created a statement design feature, to complement the view of Dalian harbour: a lively dining room of the rich woods, subtle leathers blending with the delicate artwork and sculptural bespoke staircase. In order to break down the soaring atrium, a decidedly residential scale

has been introduced and thus smaller zones of interest were created.

Dalian's own culture is also at play, an amalgamation of the past and the present can be seen in the articulation of contrasting design elements including the eye catching coffee brown stainless steel panel in the space, reflecting the culture of the place.

Dining Area/Chinese Restaurant (Level 42)

During the daylight hours hotel visitors are greeted with a view the ocean as far as the





eye can see. At night, the view is purely internal with the restaurant kitchen offering unobstructed views of the chefs at work. The suspended Chinese window screen patterns are layered throughout the space creating a fresh modern reinterpretation. The increase of depth and extrusion of the window pattern screen results in a three dimensional casing that enhances the overall visual complexity. Its reflective quality makes it capable of displaying a series of unpredictable expressions from

dawn till dusk. Without losing touch with the sky and beach, a purple swatch is used to create a buoyant atmosphere in the dining area. In addition an orange swatch is also used to bring out the cozy sensation of laidback oriental interior.

With different size variations, the iconic Chinese bowls are arranged as decorative elements on the wall. Taking an artistic approach, the bowls are coated in gold, making the dining area an energetic and

lively place to dine in. The concept of visual clarity and transparency can once again be seen in the dining area with mesmerizing illusionary art. Metal white horses flow through the walls bending our perception of the physical space. As a final polish, the decorative tiles offer a rich context in the stylish environment.

Club (Level 43)

Through thoughtful arrangement of furniture and the juxtapositioning of colours and materials, the club gives



an overall feeling of a sensuous space. The seating here is more tightly arranged - creating the intimate atmosphere of a night club. The black and red acrylic intensify the senses and amplify the viewers' psychological stimulation. The contour lines at the entrance suggest a vibrant energy flow and movement through the space. In addition, gemstones are used as an important component to bring out the perception of luxe and taste at the bar. As a final touch, the latest technology of stage lighting and speaker systems are available for live bands to enhance their performance. The backstage is a calmer zone enclosed by acoustic panels for those who prefer to converse quietly.

Party Room (Level 44)

The internal circulation connecting the club and the party room is the spiral staircase. As



the exclusive symbol for luxury mansions, the spiral staircase enables hotel guests to exit the space with lasting unforgettable memory. The theme for the party room on the upper level is champagne - a symbol to commemorate joyous occasions. A lighting fixture in the shape of bubbles is suspended from the double-height ceiling to visually connect the upper and lower floors. It metaphorically suggests the overflow of joy and abundance in the party room.

Celia Chu & Associates
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DESIGN



“When a passionate romance reaches its destination: a celebration of the holy matrimony takes place inside a chapel and the odyssey of love is just like the journey when a budding seed unfurls into a full bloom.”



White Rose Wedding Chapel at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Fukuoka, Japan

Most Japanese wedding houses are located in rural sites but this one is totally different. It is in an urban site cramped in between two buildings. The design concept developed out of the need to add a natural sensation to the site because nature and romance are always linked to the Japanese concept of wedding

The ingeniousness of the design is in its approach, as a means to illicit emotional response of the guests attending the ceremony. Celia said the first idea was very direct; the wedding house is a flower while later in development it evolved into a more delicate and symbolic form. It is said that the flowering process from budding to blossom is a complete analogy of a wedding from acquaintance to marriage.

On arrival, the guests are met with green archways that are reminiscent of an enchanting garden, and once through the oversized doors, a soaring chapel appears with rows of sinuous white lacquer arches that leads the focus onto the main feature wall: an alter composed of a wall of blooming white roses. The soft natural light filters through the windows casts an ethereal shimmer that marks the perfect setting for an elegant wedding.

Seating up to 120 the chapel is lit by lighting designed by Lighting Designer-Tracy Peng. The most touching moment of lighting is when you step on the aisle of white roses where a decorated canopy distills natural light from a skylight landing on the floor with a changing and fantastic light quality that gives every married couple an unforgettable impression.

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