



When Tim Headington, CEO of Headington Oil, opened the Joule Hotel in 2008, he was a pioneer in the revitalization of downtown Dallas. Now, after a two-year expansion, he is upping the ante again, adding 29 suites, three penthouses, an 8,000-square-foot subterranean spa by ESPA, new event space, restaurant CBD Provisions, and an expanded lobby with eight retail outlets by TENOVERSIX. "It's an interesting project in that it's a local developer who believes in this part of town, who has invested a lot of money, and has stuck with it," explains New York-based Adam D. Tihany, who handled the hotel's original design and the majority of the transformation, save for the retail, CBD, and part of the lobby. "He's really doing significant transformation of downtown Dallas, breathing new life into the area."

1+2. Two views of the Joule's new contemporary multilevel penthouse suites, outfitted in mirrors, bold colors, and sleek finishes.



The expansion incorporates a number of new construction elements including a three-story building linking five existing historic buildings, explains Deborah Lloyd Forrest, principal of Dallas-based ForrestPerkins, the project's design architect and architect of record. A marble-clad, glass-enclosed elevator connects the three levels and "provides a unique and dynamic feature on the Main Street façade," Forrest says. "The main challenge was to assemble a disparate group of historic buildings and find a way to link and repurpose them so that the end result was a cohesive whole. This was an extremely complex problem to solve with fire rating issues, level changes, and contrasting historic and contemporary architectural styles from several eras, including the Art Deco period."

Guests returning to the hotel will immediately notice a difference entering the reconfigured lobby. A sparkling, custom stainless steel light fixture that references the grid plan of Dallas' business district tops and mimics the geometry of Tihany's new burnt orange reception desk. Behind it, a gallery-like corridor displays original, handmade mosaics, which Headington saved from destruction as their original home, the Mercantile Building, was demoed for apartment buildings. Some \$2 million later (the cost to remove, store, and restore), 73 pieces are showcased throughout the hotel. "Showing part of the history of Dallas here in downtown was part and parcel of the experience. It's the old meeting the new," Tihany says.

The hallway leads to the spa by ESPA—now the company's U.S.

- 3. Three freestanding pour sculptures" of dripping bronze line one wall of the vitality pool at the ESPA spa.
- 4. The spa's lobby, which Tihany says has a 1950s feel, is inspired by the Neiman Marcus building next door.
- 5. The penthouse suites boast many architectural features, such as glassed-in bathrooms.
- 6. Because the lobby still features a massive rotating gear—which represents Texas as a source of fuel—from the original design, the designers created a stainless steel skeletal grid structure and light fixture over the reception desk to avoid overwhleming the space with another substantial piece.







flagship. Gifted with a skylight-filled high ceiling in the historical building and as a nod to the Renaissance Revival original Neiman Marcus building next door, the spa's travertine walled arrival is "airy, with a feeling of the 1950s," says Tihany. But as guests descend into the lower level spa, the atmosphere becomes moody and serene, as the designers exploited the low ceilinged, cave-like space with an abundant use of wood, seductive lighting, luxurious and masculine materials, upholstered wall panels, and blue-gray tiles. Tihany points to the vitality pool as a standout, where standing in nooks along one wall, three panels of dripping bronze by artist Anthony Pearson make a dramatic statement.

Bold design continues in the three penthouses, two of which span three stories. "They are not shy," Tihany says. "The design is sexy, edgy, clean, and contemporary." Straying from much decoration, mirrors, which "bring the city into the apartment"; monochromatic finishes; varying "in your face" color palettes-Yves Klein blue and gold, garnet and plum, and lime, silver, and burgundy; artwork by Tihany's son Bram dubbed "To the Center of the Earth" that celebrates exploration of the universe (mineral formations, drilling equipment) through various mediums; and architectural gestures such as glassed-in bathrooms and glowing glass staircases create a true urban experience. Says Tihany: "You feel like you are walking high in the city." hd

The Joule Dallas

**Headington Companies** 

Consilient Hospitality Architecture Firm

ForrestPerkins, Dallas

Architecture Project Team

Deborah Lloyd Forrest, Lawrence Adams, Jerry Flemons, Tanh Nguyen, Amanda Allen Sandburg, Yajaira Arenas, Rose Adams, Elsie James Kuruvilla, and Emily Woods

Interior Design Firm

Tihany Design, New York Interior Design Project Team

Adam D. Tihany, Gisselle Ceniza, Diane Hang Nguyen, Agata Kowalska, Marco Barone, and Alessia Genova

Historical Architect

**Architexas** 

Historical Architect Project Team

Craig Melde, Jay Firsching, Eduardo Churquina, Jose Reyes, and Brandon Burris

Food Service Consultant

Ricca Newmark Design

Contractor **Balfour Beatty** 

Purchasing Firm

Benjamin West

Consultants

ESPA International and Runyon Fine Arts, Inc.

Engineering

**Blum Consulting Engineers** (MEP) and L.A. Fuess Partners (structural)

Lang Lighting Design, Inc.

Penthouse Kitchens

Poggenpohl

Landscape Architecture La Terra Studio

CORRIDOR AND LOBBY

Ceilina Fixture Alger-Triton

Reception Counter

Galaxy Glass & Stone

Fadini Borghi

Sigma Marble

Woodhaus

Millard Sheets and Mosaic

Studios

**Bradford Products** 

Flooring and Rugs

Stone Source and ICE International

Wallcoverings

NY Stone Manhattan, Sigma Marble, and Maya Romanoff

Galaxy Glass

Furniture

Dedon, Arteriors, Jane Hamley Wells, and Eric Brand

Dedar Milano, Brochier, Great Plains, and Donghia

Accessories

Plantation and Quiltcraft

**Anthony Pearson** 

PENTHOUSE SUITE

Glass Stair Treads lockimo

Flooring and Rugs

Sigma Marble, Wilson Office Interiors, and Sacco Carpet

Valley Forge Fabrics, Gretchen Bellinger, Dedar Milano, Romo, Yoma Textiles, Samuel & Sons, Pollack Associates, Edelman Leather, Holly Hunt, Larsen, Carnegie, Innovations, Maharam, and **Nobilis** 

Furniture

Eric Brand, Hellman-Chang, Storgio Ventura, Inc., Molteni&C, Viccarbe, and Design Within Reach

Lighting

Usona, Otylight, and **iWORKS** 

Michelle Kaptur from Kittrell/Riffkind, Roche Bobois, TASCHEN, Speranza Design Gallery, Quiltcraft, and Plantation

Sigma Marble, Dornbracht, and Hansgrohe

**Bram Tihany** 

Galaxy Glass and Woodhaus