

MALIBU SURFSIDE NEWS

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Malibu resident's firm designs new World Surf League headquarters

Staff Report

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Malibu resident Kevin Cozen (left) – president of design/build firm Classical Progression, Inc. – poses with Chris Payne, CFO of World Surf League, at the Feb. 11. celebration opening of World Surf League headquarters.



Pictured is an interior space of the World Surf League. Photos Courtesy Undine Prohl



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Design/build firm Classical Progression, Inc. – founded by Malibu resident Kevin Cozen – completed on Feb. 11, the world headquarters of the World Surf League, formerly known as the Association of Surfing Professionals.

Just steps from the surf in Santa Monica, the newly renovated, vintage bow-truss warehouse boasts business and creative office space for 50, a fully-equipped professional sound stage for its on-site broadcasting of worldwide competitions, a café with beer on tap, a game room with 24-hour live, surf video footage, and an on-site gym, complete with his and her locker rooms, all designed in a sophisticated surfer vibe. Professional surfers are welcome.

The cafe is a spacious, open space for employees and surfers to congregate.

“Classical Progression transformed a non-descript 10,000-square-foot space into a hub for the professional surfing world,” Cozen said.

Collectors’ surfboards, including one used by Duke, the father of modern surfing, lean unassumingly against white gallery walls beneath the original, exposed bow-truss ceilings. Cozen restored the original concrete floors.

Beneath a group of suspended surfboards is an open work area with executive offices along the perimeter.

Organic, reclaimed materials are used throughout. Indeed, the most eye-catching element is an undulating spine, finished with aged mahogany wine-barrel staves, that meanders through the space. As you follow the wave-like form, you are gently nudged into dedicated environments for filming, editing, socializing, exercising and conducting

meetings, along with the essential offices for creative and business departments.

Cozen claims that this wall, the most impressive aspect of the design, was actually his solution to the greatest design challenge. “The entrance was to be located at the inside corner of the building’s L-shaped plan, which would have made for a sharp and uncomfortable transition from one side of the building to the other,” says Cozen. “Our solution was to create a three-dimensional curving wall that would manipulate circulation throughout the space, separate public and private areas, and represent the movement of the ocean.”

Cozen is known for incorporating soulful, reclaimed materials into his projects, which he believes enhances the character of a space. A vintage bar from the 1920’s became the café centerpiece; oversized vintage doors from one of Bob Hope’s estates have been repurposed as the game room entrance; and the CEO’s sliding entrance door rolls on skateboard wheels.

Chris Payne, CFO of World Surf League, said, “Classical Progression instantly understood our company’s culture and created an inspiring and comfortable environment for us to conduct business and enjoy our days at the office.”

Classical Progression: is a design-build firm based in Santa Monica.

Classical Progression, Inc. is known for deftly fusing recycled materials, architectural antiques and today’s innovative technologies and building techniques into modern settings, creating environments possessed of a timeless feeling, regardless of size, location and function.

The firm’s portfolio ranges from offices for the World Surf League and headquarters for Seven For All Mankind (the premium denim brand), to restaurants and nightclubs such as Voyeur Nightclub and The Third Stop, and an array of luxury residences in Malibu, Beverly Hills and the Hollywood Hills.

See more at: <http://www.malibusurfsidenews.com/malibu-resident%E2%80%99s-firm-designs-new-world-surf-league-headquarters#sthash.3pX3QNKM.dpuf>