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### **TRAHAN ARCHITECTS HIRES BRIAN RICHTER AS DIGITAL VISUALIZATION LEADER AND “VINCENT” YEE FOO LAI AS DESIGNER IN ITS NEW YORK STUDIO**

**New Orleans, LA/New York, NY-** Trahan Architects, an award-winning global architecture firm founded by Victor F. “Trey” Trahan, III, FAIA, announced that it has hired Brian Richter as the digital visualization leader and “Vincent” Yee Foo Lai as a designer in its New York City Studio.

Richter has over 10 years of experience in the architecture world. After several years contributing to award-winning architecture in New York City and Los Angeles on countless projects, he rejoined his alma mater as a visiting assistant professor of architecture at the University of Kentucky. There, he coordinated the redevelopment of the first-year undergraduate and digital media curricula, and his research and creative scholarship focused on the merging of conceptual design principles and advanced practices and technique—both physical and digital.

“Brian has an extraordinary skill set that advances our digital practice to unprecedented levels,” said Kevin Thomas, managing principal of the New York Studio. “He articulates and validates ideas through materiality and uses tools of artistry, concept and expression to showcase our designs.”

Richter said, “Trahan Architects’ ambition, philosophy and extraordinary portfolio have always resonated with me from afar. I had the opportunity to listen to a lecture given by Trey and I immediately connected with the work. I am grateful for the opportunity to join Trahan Architects and share my research and experience in architecture, design and digital methodologies.”

Lai, a Singaporean, born and raised in Malaysia, believes meaningful design oscillates between the vernacular and modern, presenting a sense of familiarity with a twist of novelty. He brings experience with high profile institutional projects, community pavilion and mixed-use developments from his previous work at Adjaye Associates. He holds an M.Arch from UC Berkeley and a BA in Architecture from NUS Singapore, where he received the AkzoNobel Gold Medal for Distinction in Architectural Design.

Thomas said, “Vincent’s achievements in speculative global public housing revitalization projects and community centric projects exemplify his strength to design with empathy. We believe Vincent’s ability to work in fast paced environments with his

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high collaborative spirit, inquisitive mind and innate capacity to care for people will be an exciting addition to our diverse team of designers.”

Lai said, “I am attracted to the phenomenological quality and calmness in all Trahan Architects’ projects. All the spaces created by Trahan elevate our sensibilities to the place and time, encouraging contemplation in our built environment which is increasingly in the state of flux. I am excited to join this talented team to grow and continue to build the amazing Trahan brand.”

Trahan Architects is a multi-disciplinary firm with projects that include the renovation of the Caesars Superdome in New Orleans, La. and the Coca-Cola Stage at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Ga. Trahan Architects is ranked the number one design firm by Architect 50, the annual ranking by Architect Magazine, the official publication of the American Institute of Architects which topped the list by buildings “dramatic, sumptuous and well-detailed projects.”

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