



**DRAFT – NOT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Editor’s Note: Several renderings are available at this [link](#).

### **Valencia Group’s Texican Court Slated for Fall 2018 Opening**

*Construction underway on Texas-style hotel in Irving's Las Colinas Urban Center*

**IRVING, TEXAS (April , 2018)** – Texican Court, a perfect pairing of modern convenience and traditional comfort in a unique blend of the past and present, is slated to open in fall 2018. Influenced by classic Spaghetti Western films, the Texas-style boutique hotel across from the Irving Convention Center and Toyota Music Factory will include 152 retro-inspired rooms and 3,500 square feet of indoor meeting and event space.

On the exterior, the hotel will feature Spanish mission-style architecture with a subtle layer of Texas flair. The Texican Court’s three distinct courtyards, circular-styled pool, grove of trees, outdoor fire pits, restaurant, live music and more will create a premier destination for Dallas-Fort Worth-area residents, vacationers and business travelers.

“We wanted to bring the theme song from the Spaghetti Western film, ‘The Good, The Bad and The Ugly,’ to life through the design of this hotel,” said Valencia Group President Doyle A. Graham, Jr. “When you listen to the song, you can envision the larger-than-life vistas filled with dramatic backdrops and excitement, and we captured the essence of the tension, and drama characterized by this song in the walls of this hotel to create a captivating experience for our guests.”

In remembrance of the region’s history, the hotel’s name includes “Texican,” which originated as a word used to identify soldiers in Texas during the time of the war for Independence. This unique mixture of Anglo and Hispanic settlers carved out a Republic and developed a culture that is alive and well today.

Valencia Group collaborated with Rottet Studio, an international architecture and design firm, on the development of Texican Court.

“The hotel is predominately stucco and plaster buildings but layered in the more Anglo typologies of wood and steel construction in the interior spaces,” said Lauren Rottet, president of Rottet Studio. This Spanish mission-style architecture with a subtle layer of Texas will make it uniquely Texican architecture and provide a rich setting for people to escape their everyday lives.”

### **The Reception Area**

The public spaces will be defined by three, single-story buildings, much like a Mexican Hacienda built by the ranchers that settled the region. The outdoor reception area will welcome guests as they arrive at the entry motor court through a stone and steel arch. This shady, circular drive will be the main approach for guests to check in at the central, white stucco building that features a contrasting, heavily shaded loggia and open-air atrium. The interior atrium, including a central reflecting pool, will add an important element of drama to the space to represent the feeling induced by the beginning of the song. This quiet but dramatic entrance is intended to strip away the modern world as the story of the hotel unfolds.

Once inside, the limestone-lined space will have an expansive reception area with high ceilings, opposed by an adjacent low and dark tequila bar. Both spaces, while surrounded by the traditional form of the building architecture, will have fun, modern influences to provide further contrast and add depth to the storyline. The reception space will be accented by a leather-wrapped reception desk and a terracotta feature wall scattered with succulents and available merchandise. Bi-folding steel windows will open the reception to the atrium on fair weather days. Additionally, coffee or tequila will be available from the tequila bar - a simple bar clad in reclaimed wood from a barn, concrete, sunset-colored tiles, and a galvanized metal top. A small fireplace at the end of the bar will tie the area together and offer a cozy place to close out the night.

### **Little Chapel**

From the reception building, guests will enter Little Chapel, a meeting area influenced by the design of Spanish missions like the Alamo and other small chapels scattered across Texas. The architecture of the building will be simplified into a more modern silhouette with deep, recessed entrances and windows that lead to the high, wood-clad ceilings defined by steel and timber trusses.

## **The Courtyards**

The hotel's attention to detail will carry over to the three distinct courtyards: Il Buono, Il Brutto, Il Cattivo, translated as, the "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly." These courtyards will have their own theme and setting as the backdrop of the drama within them, encouraging guests to explore and discover each space as they unfold.

"The Good" will be the largest central courtyard directly off the interior side of the reception building. "The Bad" will be the courtyard that supports the bar and the meeting hall. This courtyard functions as an event space with a grove of trees that define a canopy of shade above this decomposed granite courtyard with a large wood burning firepit built into a masonry and plaster garden wall on one side and the activity of the restaurant bar on the other. The last courtyard, "The Ugly," is a quieter area that houses a large fireplace at one end of a terracotta plaza for additional event space. Each of these three courtyards are shaped by the backdrop of Spanish mission-style architecture and are all accessed by tree-lined walkways that obstruct a single view to tell the entire story.

## **Two Mules Cantina**

The hotel's restaurant, Two Mules Cantina, is inspired by another Spaghetti Western and will be open to hotel guests and the surrounding community. When entering the stucco building from the street, patrons will be greeted by a grand, two-story-high space surrounded by glass partitions at the front and back and large clerestory windows on either side. With a large fireplace and the central bar as a backdrop, guests will be able to settle in for an enjoyable dining experience.

Two, low heavy arches will guide guests to opposing wings – one with space for dining and the other with space for a live band and expanded bar services. Bringing the outside in, Two Mules Cantina will open to "The Ugly" courtyard and outdoor festivities as well as to a separate, exterior courtyard that will serve the restaurant/bar or be leased as event space for the adjacent Meeting Hall. This exterior courtyard, defined by a low limestone wall and overhead festival lights, will hint toward the activity on the interior of the hotel while providing a necessary buffer to the actual hotel patrons.

## **Guest Buildings**

The guest buildings will be three stories with shady, wood-framed verandas that overlook the activity in the courtyards and encourage guests to interact and share experiences with their neighbors.

To complement the inviting, lively outdoor features, guest rooms will evoke a sense of home and provide a comfortable environment for patrons. The most common room type will be in the typical "Courts" style, with living space at the entry to the courtyard, the bed in the center and the bathroom in the back of the room. The bathroom will be accented by a barn door at the entrance and include atypical natural lighting from windows facing the street. The room itself will incorporate Texican style and be characterized by natural materials and custom furniture designed by Rottet Studio. The furniture will be made from raw steel and lightly finished wood wrapped with distressed leather. Defining light fixtures, inspired by ceramic electrical insulators, will capture the origins of the technology that tamed the west. Freestanding wardrobes will introduce a tailored quality to the guest experience and provide a well-defined space for guests to unpack. One distinguishing piece of furniture in the room, the sofa is inspired by pickup bench seats from the Mexican word "el troca" (pickup truck) and are wrapped with fabric inspired from traditional Mexican saddle blankets.

#### **ABOUT VALENCIA GROUP**

Houston-based Valencia Group is a fully integrated hospitality company that provides management, development, branding and repositioning services for independent, full-service hotels owned by the company, in addition to third parties. Exceptional service, style and location have become brand trademarks. Earning both national and international recognition for their distinctive designs, amenities and settings, Valencia Group properties are destinations and gathering places within their respective communities, some further benefitting from and enriching their space within the cultural heart of a city. The company continues to forge a niche with hotels that anchor and add value to urban, mixed-use environments, which further support or enhance the guest experience with superior residential, restaurant, retail and office components. The Valencia Group portfolio currently includes the Valencia brands: Hotel Valencia Santana Row in San Jose, CA and Hotel Valencia Riverwalk in San Antonio, TX. The Sorella brand includes Hotel Sorella CITYCENTRE in Houston, TX by developer Midway. Other brands include Midway and Valencia Group's The George™ in College Station, TX and Midway's Hotel Alessandra in Houston, TX. The Court concept brands include Lone Star Court in Austin, TX, Cavalry Court in College Station, TX and Texican Court, coming soon to Irving, TX. For more information, please visit [www.valenciagroup.com](http://www.valenciagroup.com)

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