

# CHANINTR LIVING

*Fall 2016*





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*Fall 2016*

At Chanintr Living we are always impressed by the impact spaces and places have on people, whether it be that feeling you get of being taken away to this ideal French Brasserie that doesn't exist and is completely recreated when you dine at Balthazar, or, something even more important like the discovery of the earthen walls of Venice and the effect that they have had in transforming the work and life of the master finisher, Pierre Bonnefille.

In this issue we decided to explore this deeper by both looking at people and places that make a difference in their cities as well as asking 13 creative minds that intersect the world of art and commerce to share with us the places that have made an impact on their lives, that they love and bring them joy or inspiration. We are very thankful for their contribution and sharing with us their personal and intimate experiences as we are pretty certain you will feel the same.

Maybe for a moment this Sunday... it may inspire you to reflect on the thought and encourage you to bookmark that moment or place in your life as well!

Happy searching,

*Chanintr*

Chanintr Sirisant

## CHANINTR LIVING

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## Let there be Lighting

Chanintr Living Lighting provides signature designer lighting including chandeliers, wall sconces, pendants, outdoor lighting and table lamps and includes designs from Alexa Hampton, Baker, Barbara Barry, Suzanne Kasler, and Thomas O'Brien.

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LIGHTING

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BANGKOK

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**MAHA  
NAXHON**

Name of Condominium: MahaNakhon Condominium; Developer: Pace Project One Co., Ltd. and/or Pace Project Two Co., Ltd. and/or Pace Project Three Co., Ltd.; Chief Executive Officer: Mr. Sorapoj Techakraisri; Registered Capital: 200,000,000 Baht, 200,000,000 Baht and 100,000,000 Baht respectively (100% paid-up); Registered Address: No. 87/2, CRC Tower, All Seasons Place, 45th Floor, Wireless Road, Pathumwan, Lumpini, Bangkok; Condominium Registration No. 5/2559; Site Location: Naradhiwas Rajanagarindra Road, Sathorn, Bangkok; MahaNakhon Condominium is a part of the MahaNakhon Project which is located on title deed number(s) 519, 2777, 41427, 41428, 43314, 52609, 3126, 52477, 52478, 53187 and 4301; MahaNakhon Condominium Area (approx.) 7 Rai - Ngarn 753 Squire Wah; Land and building are encumbered with Siam Commercial Bank Public Company Limited and Tisco Public Company Limited; MahaNakhon Condominium consists of 72 floors and 387 units which shall be used for residential and commercial purposes; Common expenses and taxes shall be paid by unit owners under the condominium law; the advertisement pictures are actual or simulated. Images and specifications may be subject to change, and the Developer reserves the right to make adjustments as a result of changes to regulations or laws at time of construction; and/or, inconsistencies arising from illustrations or artist impressions which shall serve only as indications for general concepts of the project.

The Ritz-Carlton Residences, Bangkok are a part of MahaNakhon condominium which is being developed by the developer, PACE Project One Co., Ltd. and/or PACE Project Two Co., Ltd. and/or PACE Project Three Co., Ltd. and not by the The Ritz-Carlton Hotel company, L.L.C. or its affiliates ("Ritz-Carlton"). Ritz-Carlton has not confirmed the accuracy of any of the statements or representations made herein, and Ritz-Carlton is not part of or an agent for the developer and has not acted as broker, finder or agent in connection with the sale of The Ritz-Carlton Residences, Bangkok.





Image of MahaNakhon taken in May 2016









PHOTO COURTESY OF LES TERRASSES DE COMPORTA

## A Very Place of My Own

WE HAVE ASKED 13 INDIVIDUALS WHOSE LIVES ARE INTERTWINED IN THE WORLD OF CREATIVITY, DESIGN AND THE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT THEM TO SHARE WITH US THEIR VERY OWN SPECIAL PLACES, WHERE THEY FIND HAPPINESS, INSPIRATION AND PEACE.

A few hours south of Lisbon is the idyllic coastline of the Alentejo region. This stretch remains almost untouched by development, exudes natural charm, and is bathed in beautiful light and gentle warmth.

Sitting on a hill above the village of Melides, (which itself is the perfect European village with a master butcher selling the best Secreto Iberico, a wonderful vegetable market and two fish stalls – what more could you want!) is **Les Terrasses de Comporta** which overlooks rice fields and is nestled with the cork oaks, resting majestically within beautifully landscaped lawns. The buildings, designed by Portuguese architect Manuel Aires Mateus, are perched around the landscape and even though they are created from cast concrete, they sit at ease due to their unique reference to the shape and proportion that relates to the traditional huts in this part of Portugal.

The space feels calm, open yet cosy, refreshing and changes magically throughout the day and night as the light changes. The silhouettes formed are truly wonderful and the place offers wondrous vistas which change regularly. The use of angles on both horizontal and vertical surfaces create rooms which have been layered with furniture, based on comfort, liveability, conversation and socialising.

I have chosen this series of buildings as vacationing here gave me an insight into this style of living, with a very unique style of architecture. The beauty instantly sends you into a state of relaxation. The location, landscape, and culture are charming and engaging, and when I visit here I leave with new thoughts, new ideas, fresh inspiration and ultimately re-charged.

Simon Rawlings

Simon Rawlings is the Creative Director of David Collins Studio in London since 2007 and is ultimately responsible for the overall creative output of the studio.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUZANNE KASLER

As a designer your own home is the place to create what has always been in your thoughts. My travels and inspirations from France were essential in establishing a European sensibility. So I created an **exterior room and carriage house** that reflects this concept.

It begins with the view from the kitchen, looking through the steel casement windows, reminiscent of those you may find in a chic French farmhouse. They lead your eye directly out to the covered loggia, designed around the fireplace, so one can linger out there for hours. The dining table and antique chairs were placed on the pea gravel so when you are in the space it reminds you of being in Paris. Hawthorne trees lead you to the carriage house with painted French doors, a stone floor and a separate guest quarters on the second floor. I never imagined how treasured a space it would become.

We've hosted countless friends, family, designers, architects, writers...people from all aspects of my life. The special connections and depth of the relationships that have come from sharing this guest space continues to surprise me. There is something very intimate and enjoyable about staying in one's guest room. Hosting someone at your home, whether for dinner on the terrace or a stay in the guest room, creates lasting friendships and memories, and that is why this exterior room and carriage house have become the favorite part of our home.

#### Suzanne Kasler

Atlanta-based Suzanne Kasler brings her knowledge of architecture, decorative arts and antiques to her design work. Her classic interiors have been featured in *Architectural Digest*, *Elle Decor*, *House Beautiful* and *Veranda*.



They say that travel is the great educator – a statement on which I could not agree more.

There is something so enriching about experiencing various cultures first hand, of meeting its people, eating the local cuisine, and viewing its art and architecture in its contextual landscapes, that simply cannot be replicated in a photographic image.

Whilst, collectively, so many of the varied places that I have been fortunate to explore around the world have combined to influence, perhaps subconsciously, my own design language, one place that I find continuously inspiring is the **Louisiana Museum of Modern Art**. For me it is one of the most beautiful galleries anywhere in the world.

Located on a vast lawned landscape that falls gently towards the waters edge along the Danish coastline in the town of Humlebæk, the museum is reached either by car or by train from the centre of Copenhagen. Arriving at a very Scandinavian classical residential building that was once the core of the museum, the gallery buildings themselves, a display of discrete Danish modern architecture, hug and sink into the landscape, gradually cascading themselves down to the edge of the coast. A mixture of natural face brick, timber and glass, the warm modernist structures designed initially in the late 1950's by Jorgen Bo and Vilhelm Wohlert are built outwards on either side of the original villa. Staged extensions to the buildings since that era, and ongoing renovations, are done with the original design integrity in mind and a sensitivity that is one of the cornerstones of great Danish design.

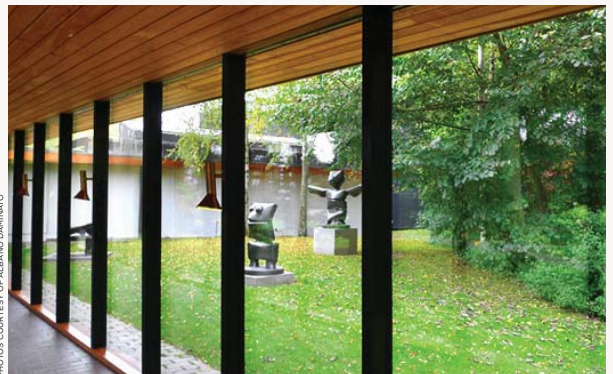
On a clear day the views across the water towards the Swedish coast are nothing but beautiful. Modernist sculptures by Calder, Moore and Cucchi are dotted around the gardens, inspiring gallery visitors to constantly cross the boundaries of inside and out. Clear glass walled spaces between galleries allow orchestrated views out to the garden, lake and sea.

In between viewing exhibitions (either their permanent collection of pivotal modern art, or one of their stellar temporary shows) there is nothing better than escaping to the café set on the waters edge. Walls of glass open up in summer whilst in winter fires burn and candles are lit throughout the various spaces that make up the restaurant.

My wish is always to return here, regularly.

#### Albano Daminato

Italian/Australian architect and designer, Albano Daminato has called Asia home for the last 20 years. With clients from Europe, Asia and beyond, each one (the Aman resorts included) is individually tailored through his meticulous eye for detail and a sensitivity to the geographic location.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALBANO DAMINATO



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETER SALLICK

My favorite place is on board my sailboat **Sounder**. She is a Hinckley SW 42 built in Maine in 1991 and cared for and loved by me for the past 9 years.

To understand the significance of Sounder, you have to know that my favorite book growing up was *The Boy Who Sailed Around the World Alone* by Robin Lee Graham. That book inspired me to learn to sail, enabled me to convince my parents to buy a boat, and allowed me to dream of one day owning my own special sailboat.

When I am on Sounder, I truly marvel at the combination of sailing performance, intense detail and craftsmanship, and overall beauty. Everything works and everything looks amazing. I love her lines as we approach from the launch and the polish of her varnished teak on the topsides and throughout the entire interior. She is great on a day sail off her mooring in Connecticut, but what I really look forward to are cruises where my wife and I get to experience her as our perfect little home, stripped of all the fuss of a big house and offering just what we need.

Peter Sallick

Peter Sallick serves as the Creative Director and CEO of Waterworks. Through his strong design sensibility and passion for quality materials, he has established Waterworks to be the luxury brand of bath furniture and fixtures.





PHOTO COURTESY OF DURESTON SAYLOR

When I was 9 years old my elementary school took my class on their first field trip to **The National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.** I remember waiting in the large rotunda of the gallery for the arrival of our tour guide. As I gazed up at this massive dome and the large marble columns that circled the room, I was overwhelmed with a strange sense of connection. I remember thinking, "I could live here!" and telling my parents about this amazing building as soon as I got home.

Over the many years since, each time I return to this gallery, I reconnect to this beautiful example of classical architecture. As a child I did not realize what this connection meant, nor was I aware that these early moments had begun to build a foundation that would propel me into a life focused on the evolution of classical style.

### Thomas Pheasant

Thomas Pheasant is internationally recognized for his 30 years of creating interiors. His diverse accomplishments have been widely published in the most prestigious architectural and interior design magazines around the world. In 2005, he was honored by Architectural Digest US with the distinction "Dean of American Design".



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREGG BUCHBINDER

**Cherry Cove** is a harbor toward the west end of Santa Catalina Island, one of California's Channel Islands. Cherry Cove is a world away, but only 38 kilometers away from my home southwest of Los Angeles.

Cherry Cove is part of the "Two Harbors," a 'town' with dirt roads and one store that sells camping food and serves big double ice cream cones. Every morning we hike the hilly trails and I always want to go to the next highest peak and the next. That's all the entertainment there is – Oh! except in the evening we drink Buffalo Milks at Doug's Harbor Reef outdoor bar.

Swimming is great. The water is sparkling blue and clear and you can see the orange Garibaldi fish. We snorkel around Ship Rock, and I've seen eels, octopus, rays, and occasionally a shark. As we head home we'll see dolphins, sea lions, and even whales. There is no question, I'm happiest in Cherry Cove.

### Gregg Buchbinder

Gregg Buchbinder is the CEO of Emeco, the manufacturer of the iconic Navy Chair and has brought famous designers like Philippe Starck, Nendo and Jasper Morrison to create collections for Emeco.

The **house from my childhood** is a mix and match between the past and the present. The contemporary cohabit with our ancestor's furniture. The books and the photos make us dream.

It seems that even in the moments of solitude, we can still hear the laughter and we revisit our happy memories.

A family house is a source of life. The birds sing while stealing our figs. The smell of the scrub embalms our space. A little slice of paradise. An interlude where everything is always fine and one comes here to recharge. A perfect source of inspiration for the collections to come.

### Frederic Perigot

The creative mind behind the chic eponymous brand, Paris-based Frederic Perigot has made Perigot luxury hardware a household name. His products are currently distributed in special shops and department stores worldwide.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FREDERIC PERIGOT

My favourite place is **Chin Mee Chin Confectionery**, an old bakery in the neighborhood that both my husband and I grew up in. The repertoire of pastries has not changed much for as long as I can remember. They were among the first Western-style bakeries which served cupcakes, cream cones, custard pies, sausage rolls and still make these delectable delights with the same recipes. Wedding couples marrying in the Catholic church next door would cater their sugary cakes at the reception and in April, you can pre-order hotcross buns for Easter.

It is not a fancy place at all, in fact it does not even have air-conditioning and you eat off chipped melamine plates and mismatched crockery. The ladies who work there are a little hard of hearing now and you have to shout your order to them. It does not keep up with any current trends, you certainly will not find cronuts here! But that is precisely why I like it. It is authentic, it does not pretend to be what it is not. In fact it is so unfashionable, it has now become trendy with the hipsters.

It has become a tradition to visit the bakery on my birthday and take a photo of me with their old style calendar in the background. In fact, we took some of our wedding portraits in the bakery. Needless to say the aunties were thrilled.

In a fast paced society like Singapore, where some form of redevelopment is always going on, a place like Chin Mee Chin Confectionery is very comforting.

#### Stephanie Fong

Stephanie Fong is the owner of FOST Gallery in Singapore. She has steadily built-up a reputation as one of Singapore's premier contemporary art gallerists, representing some of the country's heavy weight artists. FOST Gallery has been listed in Blouin Artinfo's list of "500 Best Galleries Worldwide".



PHOTO COURTESY OF @WILLOWVILLEAT

One of the moments which definitely changed my eye and so my work was the discovery of **Venice**. My work is a response to the resonances of the Venetian spirit.

In this city, built on and from mud, I pursue this imperceptible battle against time. I capture its stigmata on the mineral material of the facades. The technique of applying colored coatings to walls has been used in the area around the Mediterranean basin for 4,000 years. But how can one grasp light and a wall texture that vibrate beneath a ray of sunlight. I seek out the coarseness, the irregularity, the mark, the rust and the mould, everything that testifies to alterations of material and color.

In a perpetual dialogue between inspiration and creation, I invent my own chromatic palette inspired by the observation of this kind of landscape - natural or architectural - and of its transformations, to create a score with pigments, minerals and other elements, which superimposed, mixed, drawn and exalted, will be transformed into a unique and original work.

#### Pierre Bonnefille

Dubbed as 'the French Alchemist of Colors', Pierre Bonnefille has created polychromatic composition wall murals and unique pieces of handmade furniture for noted interior projects with renowned architects and designers like Christian Liaigre, Kengo Kuma and David Collins Studio.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIERRE BONNEFILLE





PHOTO COURTESY OF ØIVIND SLAATTO

In the Norwegian mountains, 3 hours away from Lillehammer by ski, is a **simple cottage** without neither internet, A/C, electricity nor proper water system, but with something much more precious - silence and peace.

The view from the cottage is beautiful - hundreds of kilometres of trees, mountains and clouds. During the night, the stars and the moon are the only lights - they give so much light that you don't need any artificial lighting - especially when the snow is reflecting the light. The air is crispy and clear - during summer you smell the herbs and wild flowers - it's very refreshing.

During winter, everything is dominated by snow. Everything is white. All colors are present in white - and when getting used to it you'll discover amazing colors all around you changing during the day - all found in white.

The silence up there can be loud. I have been there on my own a few times when it was so silent that I could hear my heart beats. You become so small and suddenly you understand how tiny your footprint is in history, in nature, in the universe.

Find things to burn, maintain the fire and melt the snow for water... there is no time for stupid imaginary problems - in the mountains, everything becomes essential.

The cottage was built by my great-grandmother when she was young. She was a very strong and special woman with an opinion about everything and was never afraid of sharing, no matter how controversial it might have been. I could write an entire book about her but that's another story...

Now I'm just thankful that she gave me the opportunity to fall in love with all the snow and silence.

Øivind Slaatto

Danish designer Øivind Slaatto graduated from the Danish Design School and studied music at the Royal Danish Academy of Music. His collaborations include designing products for Bang & Olufsen, Louis Poulsen and Le Klint.



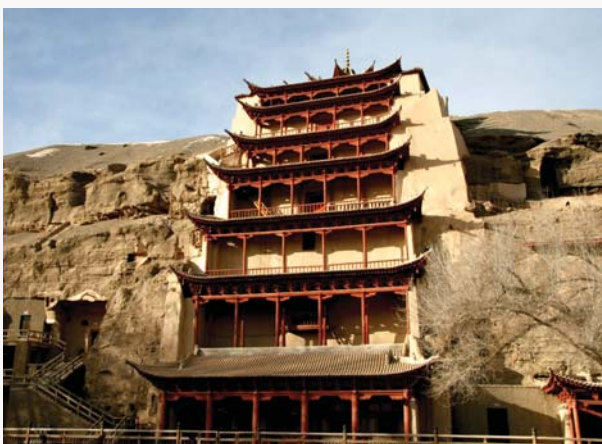
In 1988, my husband and I purchased a **small house on the Hudson River** just north of New York City. The property had good bones but needed a total makeover. Renovating this house became our passion project, hobby and personal treasure hunt.

Trips to Paris were spent photographing brass hardware and noting the proportions of lintels and mullion details in doors and windows. In Italy I visited local marble quarries looking for specific color hues and textures. We sourced Tasmanian oak for the floor. Plasterers from Ireland cast walls with curved corners

and baseboards. The sum total of all these small details made a big difference. Curved plaster walls sound different. Brushed nickel feels different. Sunlight that falls into a room through antique glass looks different. The feeling within a truly hand-crafted space, whether that's a French-Urban-Southwest-Shaker cottage or the Sagrada Família cannot be expressed in words but only experienced.

**Leslie Smolan**

Leslie Smolan, a Founding Partner of Carbone Smolan Agency in New York, is a strategist and designer known for her relentless pursuit of timeless beauty.



**Dunhuang**, a desert town in China's Gansu province, occupies a special place in my inspirations – magical because of its network of 492 Buddhist caves that recorded in murals a continuous history of kingdoms and beliefs in that region for more than 1,500 years. A famous monk Xuanzang passed through Dunhuang, bringing Buddhist scriptures from India to China. Multi-language sutras, paintings, and written histories were stored in a hidden library there, only to be discovered in 1907 and removed by British archaeologist Aurel Stein. Thus began a story of dispersal of Dunhuang treasures among many countries whose museums house them in national collections.

Dunhuang desert has vast, beautiful sand dunes, ever-changing by sweeping winds. With some vegetation and rivers, it is an oasis where ancient trading caravans and pilgrims would stop to rest and worship. I felt peaceful there, where I heard the sound of silence – a call for meditation and deep contemplations.

**Shane Suvikapakornkul**

Owner of Serindia Gallery and Hardcover: The Art Book Shop in Bangkok, Shane Suvikapakornkul has built multiple ventures in publishing, art and design. He also consults on branding and publishing services.





One of my favorite places in the world is the **Dia Beacon Art Foundation** in New York. The space, located just over an hour and a half or so outside of Manhattan, contains some of the most epic artworks in a private collection and was founded by collectors Philippa de Menil, Heiner Friedrich, and Helen Winkle in 1974.

To me, this space served as a great reminder of how important it is for private art collections to be made accessible to the public and how amazing projects can come of collaborations and shared passions. The scale of the Richard Serra works for example, engulfs visitors and encourages a level of contemplation that smaller scale works are not able to achieve. Having an architectural background definitely makes me more biased towards three-dimensional works!

The Dia Beacon was brought to life with a mission to “help artists achieve visionary projects that might not otherwise be realized because of scale or scope...Today, Dia is a constellation of sites, from the iconic permanent, site-specific artworks and installations in New York, the American West and Germany; to an exhibition program that has commissioned dozens of breakthrough projects; to the vast galleries of Dia:Beacon; and finally the programs of education and public engagement.”

A must-see for anyone ever interested in art, history and architecture!

Talenia Phua Gajardo

Based in Singapore, Talenia Phua Gajardo is the founder and director of The Artling - an online art gallery and consultancy featuring top talents in Asian Contemporary Art. She also developed Luxglove, an online marketplace for new and pre-owned luxury goods.

# A Perfect 10

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Familiarity plays a big role in our lives and the places we select to frequent and live. Without realizing it, I always end up staying at the Bowery Hotel in the East Village near where I went to school as a kid and to university as a young adult. There is a certain level of comfort and warmth that comes from being in the hood you got your first job or spent days reading in the park.

I have always noticed the architecture of the East Village, those tall yet traditional loft buildings of the early 19th and 20th centuries that compete for attention from those that run from Houston to 8th st. on Broadway or those running along Lafayette over into Cooper Union and St. Marks Place. They all seem to be built during this transition between the more traditional low rise brownstones of New York and the skyscrapers that now fill Midtown. The facades compete for attention and vary from brick to ceramics and terra-cotta all with interesting penthouses that make you wonder what life would have been like living in one that was newly built.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SELLDORF ARCHITECTS



On a recent visit, heading to breakfast at Lafayette, I noticed the installation of a beautiful terra-cotta facade on a new building that was coming up at the corner of Bond and Lafayette. It made me think that whoever designed this building is sensitive to pick a material that is familiar with the buildings in the area but yet very current in its outlook. To me, this level of thoughtfulness in design is most important and outweighs the brand value of a starchitects' individual signature style which is so common nowadays.

It was no surprise after a little research, I realized that it was the work of one of my favorite architects, Annabelle Selldorf. She is one of those architects that does not impose her style upon you but when you experience one of her buildings, it somehow touches you and you never forget it. There is subtle modernity that is at once deep and also elegant. I first experienced her work years ago when I visited the newly renovated Neue Gallery and was taken by the respect for the past yet the new

perspective she introduced there. Other favorite works of hers are the David Zwirner Gallery on 20th St. and The Mesa at Amangiri.

10 Bond St. is a small building of just 11 residences with a total size of just 3,158 sqm. In terms of exclusivity that is just shy of owning your own brownstone but with the added benefits of a full-time concierge, a fitness center, package room, refrigerated storage, bike storage, storage units and a landscaped sunken garden courtyard. The best thing is that the building fits right into the neighborhood comfortable amongst the likes of Herzog & de Meuron as well as the more historic traditional gents on Lafayette.





PHOTO COURTESY OF PACE DEVELOPMENT



# The Making of MahaNakhon

The vision thing is a heavy burden. It makes for a constantly high cortisol level, much needed single malt sessions and a never ending travel schedule. People who have it find it difficult to kick, worse than any addiction, it is in every breath and flows through every vein occupying every last cell in your being. Early on others see it as a kid with big impossible dreams, later on people are lost in the alternate reality and just can't imagine what could be next. This is the story of Ying and the making of the MahaNakhon.

I still remember all the doubters who said it was a fantasy project that would never see the light of day, that it would never get funded, that no one would ever buy a then leasehold property at these prices and when it started to be built, that it will end up as another vacant building left to decay in the Bangkok skyline. Others doubted the location and the architecture.

Every imaginable form of criticism was thrown at this project and Sorapoj Techakraisri, CEO of PACE Development, or as most of us known him as Khun Ying. Not challenging enough, the country was in political turmoil which made any business tough but attempting to construct the tallest building in Thailand while protests were going on outside was a real moonshot.

The project program itself was never for the faint hearted: a 314-meter mixed-use structure spanning a total of 135,000 square meters encompassing 209 Ritz-Carlton Residences, a 155 room The Edition Bangkok hotel, a Sky Observation Deck and Bar and the next door MahaNakhon CUBE retail building all on a 9-rai (3.6 acres) now freehold plot of land. Everything was to be designed and executed to the highest international standards.

It is this vision, this belief that against all odds if I build the best, they will come. And come they have. Today, in late August 2016, the building has topped off, 70% of the residences have been sold, MahaNakhon CUBE has been opened for over a year with the flagship location of DEAN & DELUCA, L'Atelier de Joël Robuchon and Morimoto all operational. Some residences have been handed over already and the rest will take place later in the year. As if all of this wasn't enough, during the last 3 years PACE has gone public, Nimit Langsuan was launched and sold out in two weeks, Mahasamutr in Hua Hin has successfully launched and the other little thing, PACE has acquired DEAN & DELUCA worldwide.

What has most impressed me is the calm demeanor and determination that Khun Ying has shown over these years. It is rare to hear him complain or blame others for the situation around him. But it is with steely resolve that you see him quietly and continuously pursue his ultimate goal. Even about his competitors he never says anything bad as I assume in his view they are not competitors. He seems to be only competing with himself.

At the end of the day, the MahaNakhon will be a landmark of the great city of Bangkok, exactly as intended, delighting both visitors and residents alike and the vision of Khun Ying will stand tall in the city skyline and his proudest day will come when he tells his son that this is what his father has built.

# Rhythms and Rhimes



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE HALL, HEDRICH-BLESSING

‘UPON ENTERING ITS  
CRAFTED INNER COURT,  
THE BUILDING IS  
REVEALED MUCH LIKE  
A POETRY READING.’

Sometimes, jet lag does have its benefits.

We were wide awake in the wee hours waiting for the sun to rise and our favorite breakfast place to open. We decided to take a walk around the River North area towards Gold Coast, just to enjoy a quiet morning and views of the skyline that Chicago is so known for. The temperature in June was perfect and the city was lush with green leaves and flowers of all sorts.

At the corner of Superior and Dearborn stood calmly the subtle and inviting Poetry Foundation. We immediately sensed this was something special to be discovered. The complex is comprised of a building in dialogue with a neatly-maintained garden like an urban sanctuary.

Designed by John Ronan Architects, a Chicago-based firm, the garden space is created through erosion of an implied volume as described by the L-Shape property boundary of the site, resulting in a relationship where the building spaces interlock with the exterior spaces of the garden. In this manner, the garden is implied as another ‘room’ of the building, and part of the building’s slowly-unfolding spatial sequence, which is revealed space by space as a poem is revealed, line by line.





Its library with the double height ceiling that borders the garden literally announces that you have entered into a literary environment. Inside, an exhibition gallery connects the library to the poetry reading room where poets read their work to an audience against the backdrop of the zen-like garden. The second floor is dedicated to the foundation administration and office of the Poetry magazine. The staff are still able to enjoy the views of the garden from above. It is also environmentally sustainable and built to comply with the US Green Building Council's Silver Level LEED Rating System.

The building is conceived of as a series of material layers - zinc, glass and wood. The outer layer of zinc cladding becomes perforated where it borders the garden, allowing visual access to the garden from the street. Inside the zinc screen wall serves to internalize the garden experience and provide a sense of removal. The black color of the oxidized zinc connotes seriousness and authority, while lending the building an enigmatic and mysterious quality, befitting a building devoted to the art form of poetry.

In 2012, John Ronan received an honor award from the American Institute of Architects for the Poetry Foundation project as the jury explained it "This building unfolds as it is experienced and is sublime in its stillness and detailing. From the street, one is seduced by its secrecy and, upon entering its crafted inner court, the project is revealed much like a poetry reading."

# The Guide of What and Where to Buy

## Patera

Design by Øivind Slaatto

*Louis Poulsen*

Patera is intended to serve as a modern chandelier – a light that unifies the space and makes any room a more human place to spend time in. The ball-shaped pendant floats like a majestic focal point in the room, spreading light in all directions. At first glance, it seems to be just a white, perforated ball, but closer inspection reveals its detailed design featuring a host of circles, angles and holes.

From Baht 43,000



## Egyptian Stool

Design by Ole Wanscher

*Carl Hansen & Son*

Ole Wanscher drew his inspiration from Ancient Egypt and Thebes when designing The Egyptian Folding Chair. It's a folding chair that exudes dignity and power, and the construction and finish are outstanding. The seat is made of saddle leather. In the folded position, the seat folds down into the chair.

Baht 59,500



# Creed Large Armchair

Design by Rodolfo Dordoni

*Minotti*

The Creed Large armchair – with its generous proportions and enveloping lines – has a molded structural shell with flexible interior layer. The back of the armchair rests on a sophisticated curved metal support with a glossy light bronze painted finish, while the front of the Creed Large chair sits on legs made of solid Sucupira wood with stained Mink color finish.

Baht 170,000



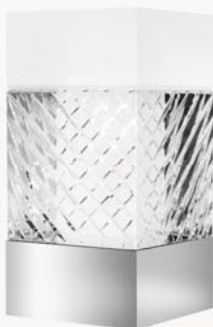
# Quartz

Design by Etienne Gounot and Eric Jahnke

*Saint-Louis*

When asked to design this unique Quartz lamp in Saint-Louis crystal, the Ozono designers did not hesitate to revolutionize it, giving it a cubic form, cutting and partially sandblasting it. No one can determine the source of the light emanating from this solid cube of crystal.

From Baht 145,000



# Village Armchair

Design by Jasper Morrison

*Kettal*

A chair for all outdoor situations, from village house to grand café. The lightweight aluminium structure allows easy handling while the neutral language of its form takes nothing away from the scenery. This chair pays respect to the long standing codes of metal stacking outdoor chairs while gently refreshing the look.

Baht 23,000



# Black and White Environmental Enrichment Panel

Design by Alexander Girard

*Herman Miller*

This decorative silkscreen was created in 1972 to personalize and add an element of “aesthetic functionalism” to the installation of Action Office environments. Unlike Girard’s printed textiles, the panels consist of single stand-alone images that range from abstract patterns to figurative pictograms. Playful and bold, the Environmental Enrichment Panel (W47” H58”) serves as the exclamation point at the end of Girard’s long tenure with Herman Miller.

Baht 73,800



# Grounded Accent Table

The Kara Mann Collection

*Baker*

With its earthy, grounded attitude and relaxed glamour, Kara Mann’s signature design style strikes a balance of edgy and attainable. Inspired by stackable objects, this table mixes earthy woods, a metal band, and posh lacquer.

Baht 30,800



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PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGEL BORRERO CUBERO

## The Competition

How could 5 renowned architects compete for a small project in a secluded location that no one knew existed? The answer lies in this fascinating documentary that exposes the ugly truth about working at prestigious design firms.

In late 2008, Andorra, a tiny country in the Pyrenees tucked between France and Spain called out for a 'pitch' of their national museum. Architecture firms, some with Pritzker prize awards including Norman Foster, Zaha Hadid, Jean Nouvel, and Frank Gehry immediately jumped in and submitted their proposals. One of the rules is to allow the cameramen to film and document how they worked behind closed doors.

The audience will see how these architects struggle and intensely strategize to beat the competition while their associates and interns worked around the clock during those sleepless 90 days. Some dramatic scenes happened at Jean Nouvel's studio where he cursed and yelled at his staff. The late Zaha Hadid was kept away from the camera through the advice of her PR consultant. Sir Norman Foster later dropped out halfway knowing this would eventually only tarnish his reputation.

The presentations to the jury happened in one day close to the election time in Andorra, becoming a hot topic in the country. Of the 4 remaining firms, 3 showed up to make personal presentations with different personalities, characters, strategies and showmanship. For instance, Frank Gehry had difficulties answering the question about construction costs when asked by an Andorran authority.

But does the jury have the last word or is it the film critics?

The Competition opened at the Architecture Film Festival Rotterdam (AFFR) and has been selected to be screened at many film festivals around the world such as the Vancouver International Film Festival. It also received an Architecture Dissemination Award at the XIII Spanish Biennale of Architecture.

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY ANGEL BORRERO CUBERO, DVD RELEASE AND FILM DOWNLOADS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN LATE OCTOBER. CHECK [THECOMPETITIONMOVIE.COM](http://THECOMPETITIONMOVIE.COM) FOR SCREENING LOCATIONS.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF BILL BENSLEY

## Escapism

In hospitality design few could match the prolific work of Bill Bensley and his Bensley Design Studio. Since 1989 he has designed more than two hundred properties in more than 30 countries around the world, from remote resorts to spectacular palaces and intimate private residences. *ESCAPISM* Volume 1, yes, volume one in a series to come, is only a first glimpse of his imaginative worlds and showcases the talents of his team of more than 150 architects and interior designers in his studio.

His signature is unmistakable — lush, detailed, lively, playful, even downright seductive. He brought fun and wonder in the wildest of imaginations. From the Royal Istana in Malaysia, a private beach house in Phuket, the renowned Siam Hotel, to his latest the InterContinental Danang in Vietnam, *ESCAPISM* Volume 1 features more than 600 pages of vivid photographs in large format from twenty six projects over the last two decades. Forewords from his colleagues, friends, and intimate descriptions of the ideas behind his creations make this volume a most invaluable reference of its kind.

As wild as his works seem, Bill Bensley is Harvard-educated in urban design and landscape. Many properties he designed earned numerous prestigious awards. *ESCAPISM* shows his profound contributions in hospitality designs, and transports the readers to where they may have never imagined to be.

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