

INTERIOR DESIGN[®]

MARCH
2009

on fire!

Hey, you never know. We asked these designers, "Where did your last unexpected inspiration come from?"

"My 6-year-old daughter's lost-button collection. Buttons capture the essence of good design. They're noticed only when one is broken or missing. If they do their job right, no one notices at all."

—Adam Weintraub of Koko Architecture + Design

"Our young staff's optimism. These tough economic times continually challenge us to grow in our thinking."

—Amy Shakespeare of Redtop Architects

"A window on a subway train. It inspired the frame of my table for Bernhardt Design's latest Global Edition, which launches in April at the Salone Internazionale del Mobile in Milan."

—Marc Thorpe of Third Eye Studios NYC

"Snooping at a friend's party, where I saw a red silk-covered jewelry box, beautifully proportioned, in the bathroom. I returned to the gathering, thinking how the box would affect my future furniture designs, maybe an ottoman with lots of storage."

—Kathryn Waltzer of Kathryn Waltzer Interior Design

"A heartfelt compliment from one of our first corporate clients about why they continue to hire us. It reminded us why we've enjoyed our work and ourselves for all these years."

—Tom Marquardt of Design Collaboratives

Q Next: For our office issue, tell us: "If you could have any view from your desk, what would motivate you most?"

E-mail us at q@interiordesign.net.

DESIGNwire TREND



Birds of a Feather

The housing crisis clearly hasn't overtaken the bird community yet, as human designers move into the market in real estate for their fine feathered friends. For Scandinavian avians, there's Jesper Møller Hansen and Dorthe Weis's white-painted steel Folding Birdhouse for the MoMA Design Store. Similar in materials, steel and aluminum, but very different in style is Georgios Maridakis's limited-edition Seraphine cage, inspired by the gardens of Versailles. The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene would probably never allow a real bird into Sweetiepie, a child-centric eatery, but a 9-foot-tall brass cage nevertheless stands near the marble counter. Following the oversize theme, artist Kum Chi Keung elongated a traditional Chinese bamboo birdhouse to create *Space for Lease*, a 33-foot-tall rocket shooting up through the Hong Kong Arts Centre atrium until June 30. Talk about flying high.

From top: Kum Chi Keung's bamboo *Space for Lease* rises 33 feet in the atrium of the Hong Kong Arts Centre. The brass birdcage at New York restaurant Sweetiepie. Jesper Møller Hansen and Dorthe Weis's painted steel Folding Birdhouse. Georgios Maridakis's Seraphine in steel and aluminum. French vintage birdcages installed by Studio B Design at the Miami Beach hotel W South Beach, opening in May. ➤

