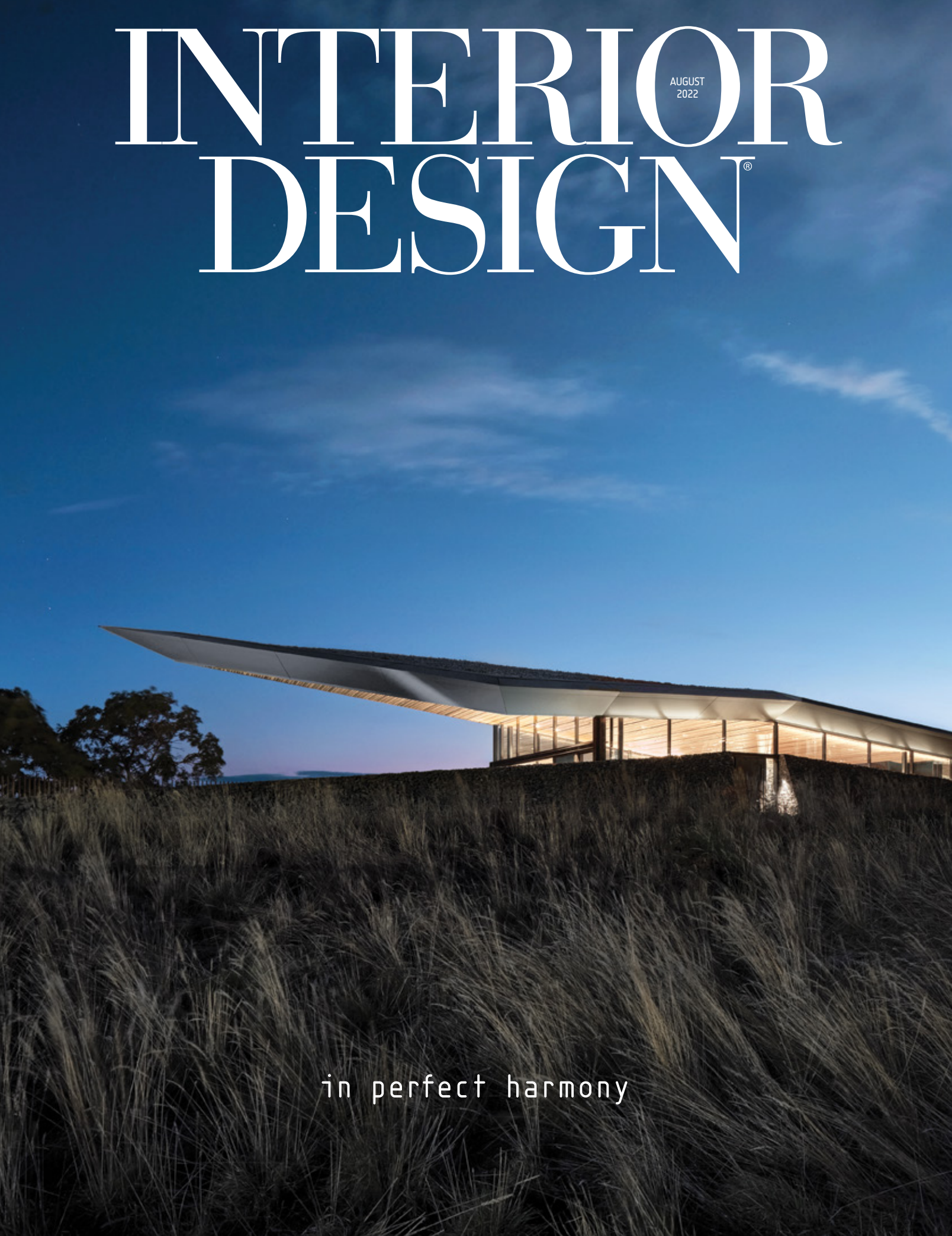


# INTERIOR DESIGN<sup>®</sup>

AUGUST  
2022



in perfect harmony



# WALKthrough

firm: dutch east design site: new haven, connecticut



## Overnight With Breuer

*In the lobby of the Hotel Marcel New Haven, Tapestry Collection by Hilton, a conversion of a 1970 office building by Marcel Breuer, handmade terra-cotta wall tiles in a Bauhaus-inspired relief are arrayed in an alternating pattern. ➤*

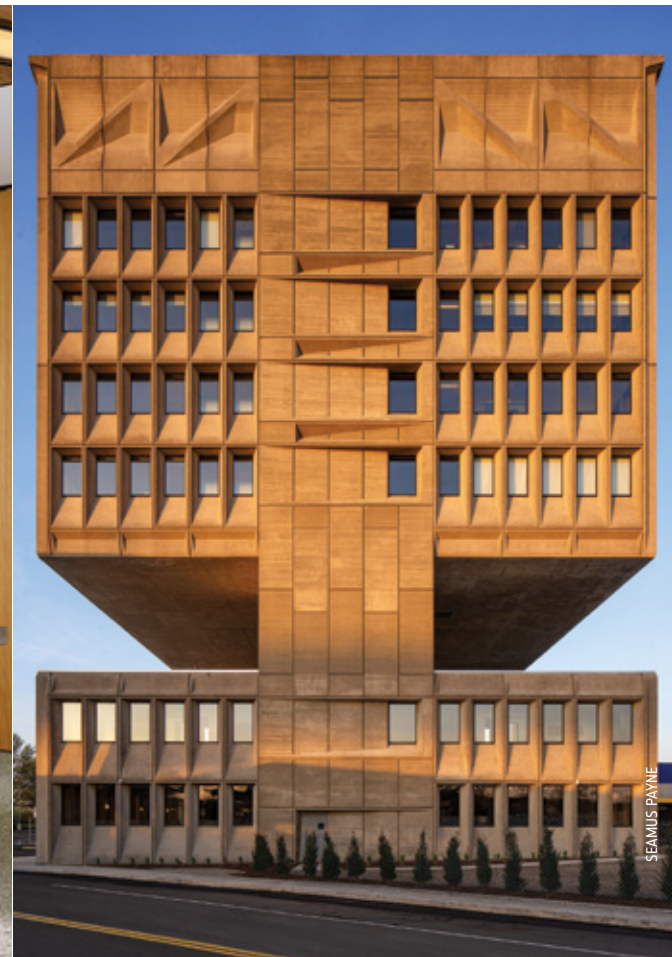


**WALK**through

*Clockwise from top left: Jens Risom armchairs furnish the lobby lounge. Anni Albers–inspired art by Cory Siegler hangs above the custom platform bed and vinyl-upholstered headboard in a guest room. Selma stools by Origins 1971 line the quartz-topped bar at BLDG, the hotel's restaurant. Joining Celia Johnson's painting in the pre-function space is seating, ceiling fixture, console, and rug all custom by Dutch*



*East Design. The concrete building had been the Armstrong Rubber Company headquarters and is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The pre-function area also features a historic Breuer granite desk, which stands on porcelain floor tile.*



**Marcel Breuer's 1970 Connecticut headquarters** for Armstrong Rubber Company has re-emerged as the Hotel Marcel New Haven, Tapestry Collection by Hilton. A skillful reinterpretation of the nine-level, 110,000-square-foot icon of concrete brutalism by Dutch East Design and architect-developer Bruce Becker of Becker + Becker resulted in 165 rooms for the former IKEA–owned property that's listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is now one of fewer than a dozen LEED Platinum–certified hotels in the country.

Dutch East partners Dieter Cartwright, Larah Moravek, and William Oberlin were keen to tap into the Breuer energy—up to a point. “We chose not to be nostalgic,” Cartwright begins. “It was important for us to write a new chapter.” Moravek adds, “We wanted to create a soft underbelly to the strong exoskeleton.” That strategy begins in the lobby, with walls enriched by handmade terra-cotta tiles that warm up the large, column-free space. The palette for the rooms, the restaurant named BLDG,

and the 7,000 square feet of event space is unified by “walnut and maple, concrete grays and caramels,” notes Moravek, for a muted feel.

In BLDG, a quartz-topped bar with wood accents is topped by a perforated canopy powder-coated bronze—subtle shades of the feeling of suspension in the overall structure. Some of the housing for overhead lighting was reclaimed from the original building site and used there, too. “It’s a fun, little detail that ties into the history,” Oberlin says.

In the rooms, headboards are covered in toffee-colored vinyl. The custom metal-framed desks with painted-glass tops all get a Breuer Cesca chair, to hit the heritage note soundly. But Anni Albers–designed patterns in grays and blues introduce a burst of vim. Like Breuer, the pioneering textile artist was once a Bauhaus teacher, and later lived near New Haven with her Yale University professor husband and artist Josef. “Anni was an inspiration for all the art,” says Moravek of the rooms’ wall hangings by Brooklyn-based Cory Siegler and other pieces in the hotel. ➤





which are predominantly by female makers and curated by Becker's wife, artist Kraemer Sims Becker.

That forward spin on the past epitomizes the Dutch East approach. "We weren't looking to create a museum to Breuer," Oberlin says. "It was to create a new typology in the original design that was unexpected." —**Ted Loos**

**FROM FRONT** CLÉ TILE: WALL TILE (LOBBY). **THROUGH DESIGN WITHIN REACH:** BLUE ARMCHAIRS (LOUNGE). **RBW:** SCONCES. **DESIGNTEX:** BROWN CHAIR FABRIC. **ORIGINS 1971:** BROWN CHAIRS (LOUNGE), STOOLS, CHAIRS (RESTAURANT). **LILY JACK:** CUSTOM SOFAS (LOUNGE), CUSTOM ARMCHAIR, CUSTOM OTTOMAN, CUSTOM SLEEPER SOFA (GUEST ROOMS), CUSTOM BANQUETTE (RESTAURANT). **ERICA SHAMROCK TEXTILES:** SOFA FABRIC (LOUNGE), CHAIR FABRIC (RESTAURANT). **CIX:** CUSTOM SIDE TABLES (LOUNGE), CUSTOM CONSOLE (PRE-FUNCTION). **HB LIGHTING:** CUSTOM HEADBOARD SCONCES (GUEST ROOM). **KNOLLTEXTILES:** HEADBOARD UPHOLSTERY. **TNT:** CUSTOM BED, CUSTOM HEADBOARD, CUSTOM CREDENZA. **ARC-COM:** OTTOMAN FABRIC, CHAIR FABRIC. **REFELT:** WALLCOVERING

(RESTAURANT). **MAHARAM:** STOOL FABRIC (RESTAURANT), SLEEPER SOFA FABRIC (GUEST ROOM). **ELA:** CUSTOM CEILING FIXTURE (PRE-FUNCTION). **LIGHT ENGINE:** CUSTOM SOFFIT. **BURROW:** BAR CART (GUEST ROOM). **ARTICLE:** SIDE TABLE. **KNOLL:** TASK CHAIR, TASK CHAIR FABRIC (CORNER ROOM). **AFM:** CUSTOM NIGHTSTAND. **POWER SHADES:** WINDOW TREATMENTS. **THROUGHOUT** **JAMIE STERN RUGS:** CUSTOM RUGS. **DURKAN:** CUSTOM CARPET. **STONE SOURCE:** COLUMN TILE, FLOOR TILE. **BLADES GOWEN:** LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT. **FOCUS LIGHTING:** LIGHTING CONSULTANT. **KRAEMER BECKER:** ART CONSULTANT. **GNCB CONSULTING ENGINEERS:** STRUCTURAL ENGINEER. **LN CONSULTING:** MEP. **MILLWORK ONE;** STICKLEY: WOODWORK. **CONSIGLI:** GENERAL CONTRACTOR.

*Clockwise from top left: Part of the 165-key hotel property is a separate structure containing 7,000 square feet of event space that had formerly housed mechanicals. Sleeper sofas and ottomans are also custom. A corner room shows off Breuer's deep window wells, which have been newly wrapped in stained maple, and, behind the bed, his Cesca task chair covered in an Albers fabric.*

## WALK through

