

WORKshop

issue 08
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*creative
commercial space
+ concept*



IN A DIFFERENT PROFESSIONAL MANNER

- ACXT STIMULATES A NEW MODEL DISTINCT FROM THE ONES THAT ARE ON OFFER.

GALAXY SOHO

- ZAHA HADID MADE A COMPOSITION OF FOUR CONTINUOUS, FLOWING VOLUMES A NEW URBAN LANDMARK FOR BEIJING.

MACALISTER MANSION

- MINISTRY OF DESIGN TURNED A 100-YEAR-OLD HISTORIC MANSION INTO A CONTEMPORARY FAIRYTALE.

STARBUCKS ESPRESSO JOURNEY

- NENDO DESIGNED A POP-UP STARBUCKS SHOP TO BE LIKE A LIBRARY.



ZHOUSHUANG BLOSSOM HILL BOUTIQUE HOTEL

_Dariel Studio

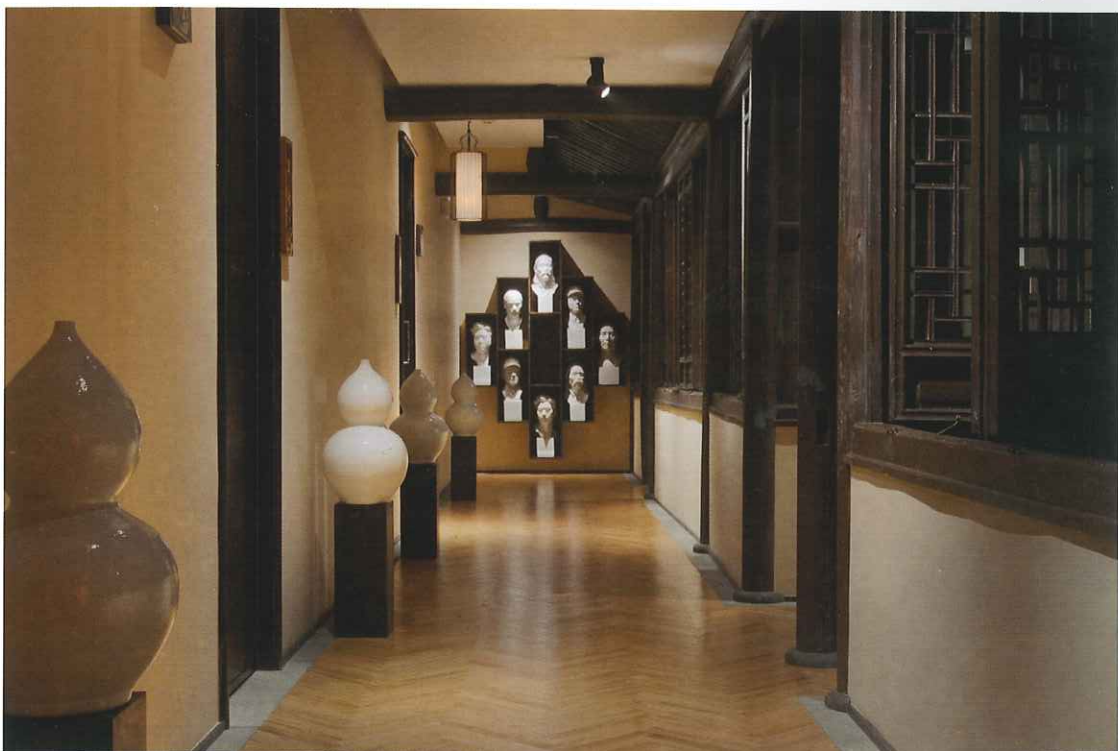
HOTEL

Design_ Dariel Studio

Photography_ Derryck Menere

Country_ China

Client_ Blossom Hill



Zhouzhuang Blossom Hill Boutique Hotel is located in Zhouzhuang, a water town of Southern China positioned 1.5 hours away from Shanghai. The ancient town, known as the 'Venice of the Orient', has a history of more than 900 years and still retains the style and pattern of its ancient village.

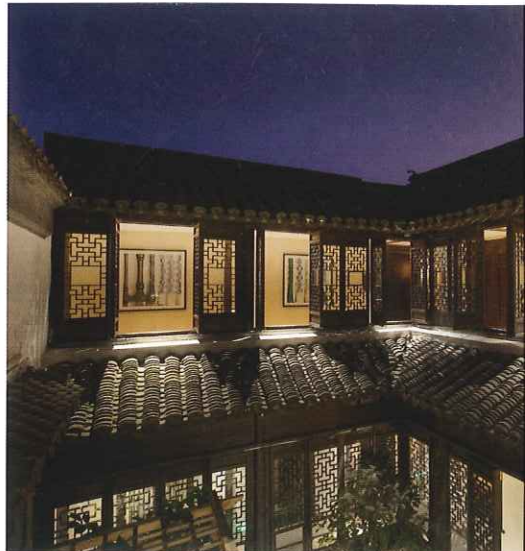
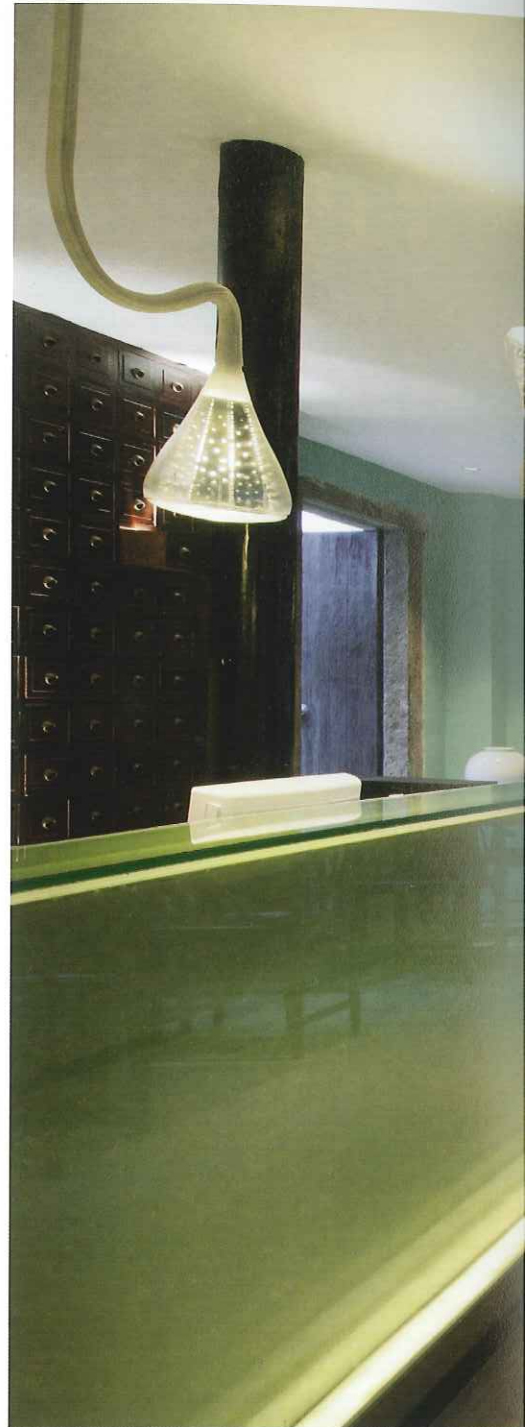
This hotel is a renovation of three old separate Ming-dynasty style buildings. Dariel Studio has reconstructed and transformed them into a twenty-suite heritage hotel. The renovation aims to restore the initial spatial unity of the building, while also to preserve the

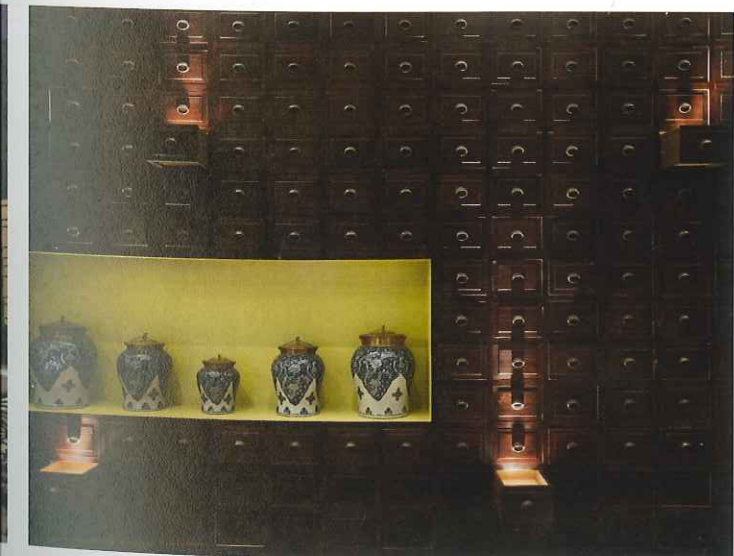
architectural heritage.

In order to apply the feeling of history and Chinese culture, designer Thomas Dariel created the 'one sensory travel through the seasons' concept for this boutique hotel. The inspiration comes from the 24 seasons from the Chinese traditional solar calendar. In ancient China, the solar year is divided into 24 terms according to Chinese traditional farming habits, with each term corresponding to the sun's particular position. ➤



To protect the building's heritage and local culture, every old decoration, window frame, stone, and tile was carefully collected and noted before renovation.







First, the rooms are divided into four seasonal areas and are displayed according to their sun exposure and natural light intensity during the day. Thus, these rooms symbolise the four seasons. From light yellow or bright orange, to deep purple, the subtle choice of colours represents the atmosphere and characteristics of each season. Each room is named after a flower based on one season, such as blossom, lotus, sweet olive and cymbidium. All the materials were reused to preserve the aspects of cultural tradition. For the ones that could not be reused, Darie! Studio reproduced them with the same pattern to retain the

Ming-dynasty style.

The project is a perfect combination of Chinese traditional culture and Western modern luxury. The library contains a fireplace and a baby-grand piano that not only make one feel warm, but also portrays a calm and comfortable atmosphere similar to traditional Parisian salons — a space where one would spend all day reading or thinking. In the restaurant that indicates 'solstice of summer and winter', the apparent colour contrast of the repainted Chinese Ming-style chairs set beside the bar with typical French pattern ceramic indicates the opposite seasons. <

