

WHITNEY BIENNIAL PREVIEW • WOLFF ON JANN WENNER'S 'US'

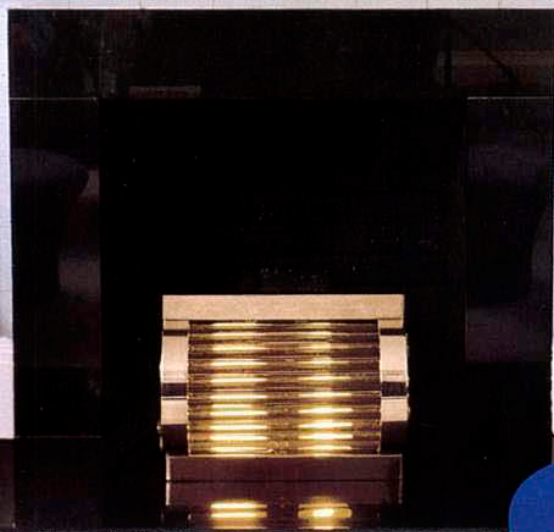
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@ HOME DESIGN

5 INTERNET INNOVATORS WITH DAZZLING DOMAINS

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Marcia Kilgore
and Thierry Boué
blissworld.com

It's shocking to think that the Bliss-spa impresarios (and happily married couple) Marcia Kilgore and Thierry Boué used to call a conventional Prospect Park brownstone home. Today, they live in the yin to that apartment's yang: a 3,500-square-foot loft with a 360-degree view in DUMBO's recently refurbished Clocktower Building. All of Blissworld uses the SoHo architecture firm UT: It was they who masterminded the company's new Kubrickian spa in the millennial-Deco LVMH building. Here at the Clocktower, UT's Heidar Sadeki and partner Clarissa Richardson were inspired by Palladio's Villa Rotunda, a sixteenth-century pleasure palace on the outskirts of Venice; from the villa's center, there are unobstructed views in four directions. The Villa Rotunda relegated everything to its corners, but UT has done the exact opposite here, crafting four islands containing rooms and built-ins; no interior wall meets the ceiling. In Kilgore and Boué's loft, the rolling hills of the Veneto have been replaced by the Statue of Liberty, Wall Street, and the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges. The owners didn't want to kill the view, but they do, occasionally, lower all the shades. "It can get a bit overwhelming," Kilgore admits.

Photographed by
Paul Warchol



Mr. and Mrs. Bridge Boué decided this Plexiglas table was wasted in his office. It's an Yves Klein original; curator Natalie Karg managed to hook him up with one. The sofa is Jasper Morrison for Cappellini Modern Age. Donghia curtains could work at the Waldorf; the idea was to frame the views with fabric that wouldn't distract. Every window has a light-diffusing Mecho shade: "I knew that this much light was going to fade everything anyway," Kilgore says, defending the mainly white-to-taupe palette. The custom leopard throw was stitched by Rosita Ramos.





Built-ins to last UT's blue entertainment unit fills the space between wall and column and plays off the azure Tibetan-lamb ottoman. There are furry benches like these in Bliss spas, and more will dot the loft in the future. "I love the fuzzy things," says Kilgore. "They show a sense of humor. I think too many places run the risk of looking overdesigned." The child-size lamp is by Marcel Wanders, from Cappellini. A Plexiglas painting by Brooklyn artist Ben Snead (whose studio is downstairs from Bliss's headquarters) sits atop a B&B Italia credenza; built-in closets are on the other side. A Palazzetti leather sofa and Modernica ottoman are brownstone leftovers, as is the Eames molded-plywood coffee table.





Enter the matrix When Kilgore gets off the elevator, a light goes on in the graphite-hued Venetian-plaster corridor (shooting off to the right), thanks to a motion detector. Boué's photograph gallery (pictured) is the spine of the apartment, funneling visitors from the living room to a modest guest suite. Left, Kilgore says she likes the flow of light and energy through the space. "Even though I live here," her husband confides, "I still walk in every day and say, 'Wow!'"

**Marcia Kilgore
and Thierry Boué**
Blissworld.com

How will the Internet change the home? MK: By making it easier to accomplish tasks that otherwise require no creativity, personality, or originality. (Can anyone admit that the best use of his or her time is going out and picking up toilet paper?)

Our computers MK: A graphite iMac and two matching Sony VAIOs for when we're on the road.

Online grocery list MK: A ton of Pellegrino, Evian water, fruit, and soy milk. Thierry has just discovered NetGrocer and had about a million packages of paper towels delivered. Online ordering is okay for nonperishable stuff, but I, for one, want to see the bananas I'm buying before I'm stuck with them.

Best computer chair MK: Herman Miller's "Aeron" chair.

Please invent for the home TB: A self-cleaning kitchen.

TV and stereo systems we own TB: A Sony flat-screen TV; our stereo is a mix of Joseph Audio speakers, a California Lab CD player, a Velodyne subwoofer and an Adcom amplifier and pre-amplifier.

Dream electronic purchase TB: A plasma HDTV.

Virtual art, pro or con? TB: Art textures and shapes cannot yet be reproduced in a realistic holographic perspective.

What we most look forward to doing with the new technology TB: Playing.

Cooliest new tech product TB: People who travel a lot usually have those Ericsson blue world phones, which have one number and people can call you from anywhere in the world and it works. But now Motorola's come up with a new very small world phone that is half the size of the old one.

Coveted appliance TB: A global-positioning system (GPS) for my Mercedes; you can just punch in an address and it will take you there.

A restaurant we could live in TB: The Four Seasons.



Long unwinding road Opposite, Kilgore calls the bathroom one of the most important rooms in the house, but she hasn't had much time to relax in her poured-concrete tub (from Get Real Surfaces). "It's a little like being in Italy," she says. "There's more authenticity to it than a porcelain tub. Very rarely have I found a tub I like." The window, which actually faces into a hallway, is fitted with electroglass—a flick of the switch turns it from translucent to transparent. The fixtures are Dornbracht. Above, one thing Kilgore and Boué didn't want was a sprawling master suite; this one is just 250 square feet. "The bedroom is for sleeping," she says. "I dread bedrooms where there's a TV in front of the bed and everyone piles on top to watch." The wenge headboard by B&B Italia has hinges; satiny "Ellipse" curtains are from IDS Corporation; the Mecho shades here are motorized and operate on a remote control. Linens are by Calvin Klein Home.

