

INTERIOR DESIGN[®]

NOVEMBER
2009



room with a view



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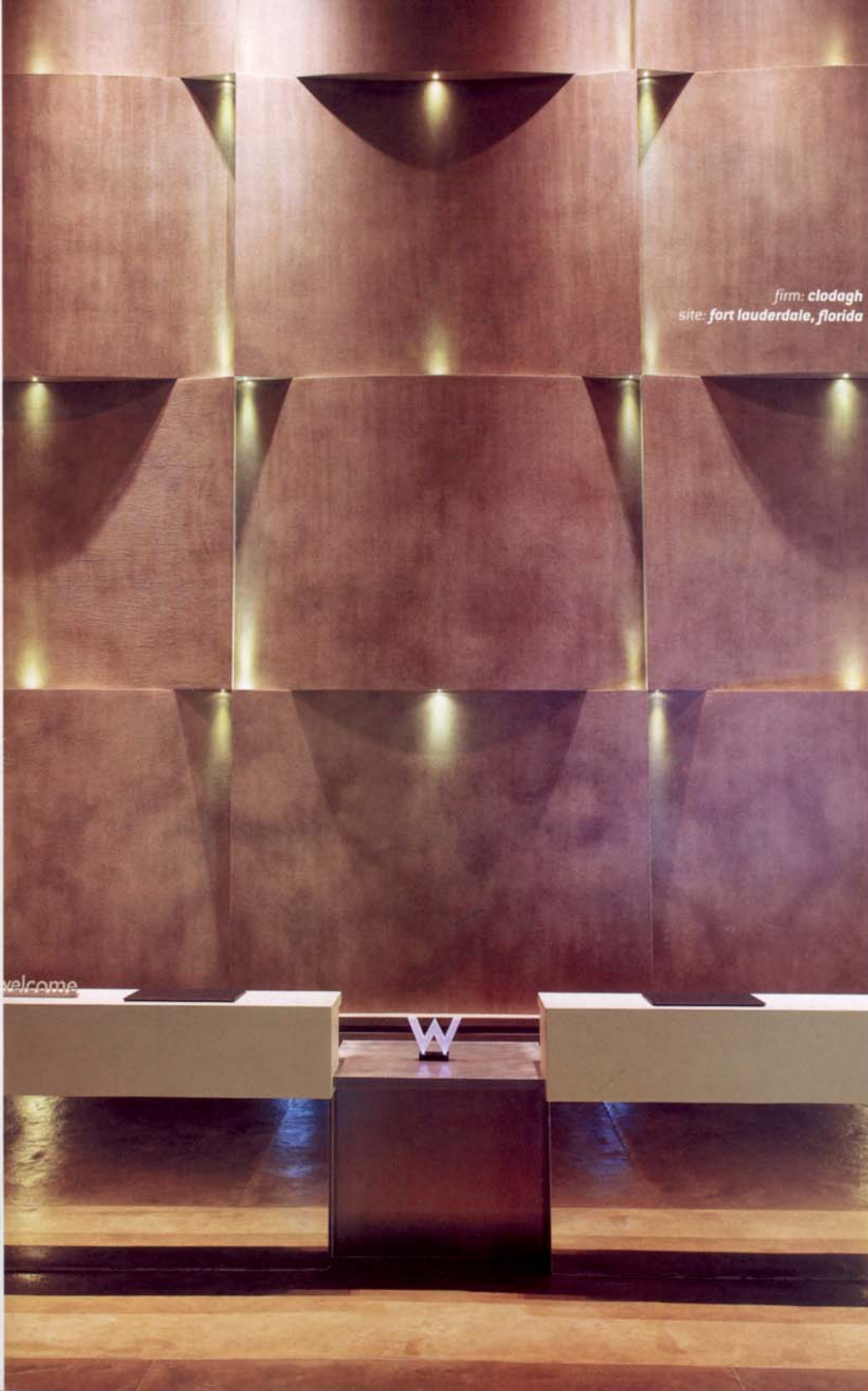
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PHOTO: MICHAEL GOODMAN/ISTOCKPHOTO.COM



welcome

firm: clodagh
site: fort lauderdale, florida

sun, sand, and style

It's a double debut for Clodagh. Florida's W Fort Lauderdale is the *Interior Design* Hall of Fame member's first W and her first big hotel, period. Big it is. Two 23-story towers, new construction by Adache Group Architects, house 171 apartments in addition to the hotel proper's 517 standard rooms, 18 suites, three lounges run by the Gerber Group, a Bliss spa, a restaurant, and 18,000 square feet of event space and meeting rooms—the latter, she says, with “drop-dead Atlantic views.” Aside from the restaurant and spa, her firm designed every interior, involving 3,400 pieces of custom furniture, and ➤

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From top: The W Fort Lauderdale reception desk centers on a stainless-steel cube that's lower than the flanking Corian counters to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act; LEDs light the custom composite panels behind. A vinyl letter emblazons a window in the lobby.

MICHAEL GOODMAN FOR INTERIOR DESIGN



Clockwise from top left: Custom-printed vinyl covers the ceilings in the 38 corridors. In the bar Whiskey Blue, Tom Dixon pendant globes hang among 2,000 brass rods embedded with fiber optics. A stairway enclosed in acrylic descends through the water of the swimming pool.

Opposite, from top: Suites' custom furnishings include a table veneered with driftwood. In the billiard room, ceiling panels are laser-cut stainless steel.



worked on the outside, too. "Materials are a big story," she continues. Concrete flooring resembles brushed sand. Simulated concrete rises 28 feet in a "woven" wall behind the reception desk, which combines Corian, mirror, and stainless steel. Sand and sea colors also play a major role.

She says she made it her mission to give people "something beautiful everywhere they go." Plant walls scent the entry with jasmine. On the main terrace, cast-concrete alligators offer themselves as seating. And ceilings get unexpected attention. Note the 2,000 brass rods suspended overhead at Whiskey Blue, >



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BALLAD - onyx



SOUL - sterling



BERBER - mica



BEDOUIN - zinc

liz clauborne COLLECTION

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ULU - opal

Circle 95

BHANGRA - bazaar

agate

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Terence Main's alligator seating and Elena Colombo's fire bowl share the main terrace.

the billiard room's laser-cut stainless steel, and the corridors' vinyl printed with the image of a swimmer's silhouette.

Clodagh coined a special mantra for this project: "God is in the wows." Even guest rooms have their own knockout moment. The closet doors open to a jolt of bougainvillea pink.

—Edie Cohen

FROM FRONT DuPONT: DESK COUNTER MATERIAL (RECEPTION), TOM DIXON: PENDANT FIXTURES (BAR), FURNITURE JOINT: CUSTOM BANQUETTES, MAJILITE: BANQUETTE UPHOLSTERY (BAR, BILLIARD ROOM), AMUNEAL MANUFACTURING: CUSTOM STOOLS (BAR), TABLES (EXTERIOR), FIELD WORKS: CUSTOM CHAISES (EXTERIOR), ACADEMY AWNINGS: UMBRELLAS, FLEETWOOD FINE FURNITURE: CUSTOM TABLE, HEADBOARD (SUITE), VITALIA SOFA DESIGN: CUSTOM SOFA, ARTEMIDE: SCONCE, MATTED: CUSTOM BED LINENS, ANDREW MORGAN COLLECTION: CUSTOM THROW, GAME ROOM CONCEPTS: TABLES (BILLIARD ROOM), COLOMBO CONSTRUCTION: FIRE BOWL (EXTERIOR), THROUGH DESIGN WITHIN REACH: LAMPS, THROUGHOUT WITKIN HULTS: LANDSCAPING CONSULTANT, JENKINS & CHARLAND: STRUCTURAL ENGINEER, STEVEN FELLER P.E.: MEP, DCES: CIVIL ENGINEER, C.M. CONSULTING: GENERAL CONTRACTOR.

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