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»» **PRODUCING THE SPRING.05 ISSUE** of *to the trade* has been a rich and rewarding experience—a journey into the future, a discovery of the past, a peeling back of the layers. And what a privilege it has been to work with and learn from so many fascinating and talented design professionals—a wonderfully diverse group in background, influence and discipline.

On the following pages you'll have an insider's view of today's most compelling projects, products and the people behind them. Whether the subject is builder Lidia Wusatowska bringing a Frank Lloyd Wright masterpiece to life for the first time or designer Thomas Pheasant's latest creations for Baker or architect Peter Marino's new Chanel Tokyo tower, everyone in this magazine has at least one thing in common—a passion for and commitment to his or her craft. In his *ttt* interview, the venerable Orlando Diaz-Azcuy captures this sense of purpose beautifully when he says, "It's perfection and purity that drive me. Perfectionism drives me crazy because there is always some degree of compromise to do with money, time, reality." A sentiment we can all relate to.

The value of thoughtful design, quality and innovation—a sensibility often passed down from generation to generation and pushed to the limit with an almost obsessive drive—is kept alive by you, the members of the trade. And when asked what this "future of design" that we are constantly predicting holds, Deborah Berke, architect and professor of architecture at Yale University, simply replies, "We will continue to use all materials made available to us, including the next new thing, whether it be Kevlar or transparent concrete." Now that is something to contemplate.

We hope this issue of *ttt* will be of great use and that you'll be just as inspired reading it as we were producing it. As Diaz-Azcuy says, "You must keep creating, exploring new ideas, taking risks."

To curiosity,

Mary

Mary Barthelme Abel
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