

DESIGN IN FOCUS

hinge

Vol.160

HK\$50

RMB50

S \$10

INCL.GST

US \$8

EATING IT UP.

Our Annual
F & B Feast

HINGE MAGAZINE — opening doors on the world of architecture and interiors
24/F, Empire Land Commercial Centre, 81-85 Lockhart Road, Wanchai, HK. www.hinge.hk
For advertising enquiries, call (852) 2520-2468 or simply email hinge@hinge.hk

ISSN 1543-781-5
9 771561 781004

David Chan...
Sustainable building in Hong Kong

Light fantastic...
Calatrava's Jerusalem bridge

Greg Girard...
China through a lens





There's something about dining and views that makes them go together naturally, and Lucier, with its wonderful panoramas of the city's Willamette River, is proof. In fact, the view was the jumping-off point for the restaurant's designers, who loved the conjunction of nature and urban environment visible from the space. Diners enter a low-slung vestibule which is clad in black leather panels. The eye is then lead on into the main dining space by abstract swimmers etched on to the surface of a limestone wall at the end of the passage. A 30cm-deep 'graffiti' mural wall, handcrafted and carved in Corian, separates the lounge from the dining room. The lounge area is in darker tones compared with the dining room, and has black-and-red leather club seating and a 10m-long communal table for socialising before, or after dinner. Always present is the spectacular view of Mount Hood on a clear day.

Miniature glass bridges lead to the dining areas, where the scale ramps up. Tones shift to amber, bronze and beige across materials such as silk, wood, leather and mohair. Local artworks are displayed in glass vitrines. Circling the dining room is an illuminated canal lined in mosaic tiles, while overhead a flock of dramatic, custom-designed lighting fixtures roam across the ceiling like sheep. These are fashioned from bronze rods of various sizes, simulating the forms and shapes of the water outside. The reference (like the canal) might seem too literal, but the lamps actually achieve sufficient abstraction to work on their own. Lucier states its own sophistication from the get-go, but it flirts with the edge of 'too much'. There are moments, such as with the green glass bridges, when materials seem to want a bit more breathing room. But overall the large scale of the spaces rescues it, producing a kind of indulgent celebration.

Lucier – Portland

Alvarez + Brock Design



Photography by William Vazquez (Visual Waves Inc.)