

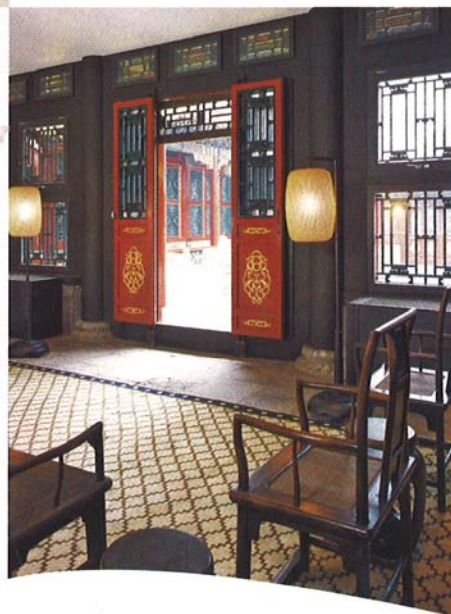
INTERIOR DESIGN[®]

DECEMBER
2006

Best of
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TSAO & MCKOWN ARCHITECTS,

JIANFU PALACE GARDEN, BEIJING



“These six buildings in the Forbidden City had lain in ruins for 77 years”

While Herzog & de Meuron constructs its stadium for the 2008 summer Olympic Games, *Interior Design* Hall of Fame members Calvin Tsao and Zack McKown spent two and a half years restoring and renovating six buildings in the Jianfu Palace Garden part of the Forbidden City. Built in 1740 by Emperor Qianlong, what's now a private reception and conference venue for the Palace Museum had lain in ruins for 77 years until the China Heritage Fund initiated the project. Exterior authenticity was paramount; artisans came out of retirement to train 100 younger workers in traditional crafts such as decorative painting and woodworking. Interiors, meanwhile, are contemporary compositions of walnut millwork, exposed pine ceilings, and fluorescent cove lighting.

—Annie Block →

PROJECT TEAM: LULIN CHEN; JONATHAN HOOVER; PAUL LEE; NISHA PATEL; RICHARD RHODES.



CHENG SHOUJUN/COURTESY OF THE CHINA HERITAGE FUND