DESIGN VISIONARIES



The Sydney Modernists (photographed in the proverbial white box) champion clean, modern interiors with rigorous attention to quality and detail. Such is the growing awareness of their skills that property developers are using these designers as a label to brand their projects. Pictured clockwise from centre: David Katon and Iain Halliday of Burley Katon Halliday, create interiors to which the cognoscenti flock, from Darley Street Thai and Paramount to the new Summit, and Salt. "I'm bored with evangelist architects," says Halliday, "I'm more interested in glamour and in having a bit of fun." Katon and Halliday create "modern interiors that people feel comfortable in. All our work has the same integrity with a clarity of planning that is client-specific. That's our strength." The sparsely beautiful houses and commercial spaces designed by Tina Engelen and Ian Moore, of Engelen Moore, have brought their names into the public eye. "We are building for the 21st century, not the 19th," says architect Moore. "Space, light and ventilation are fundamental – what they are clothed in is not so critical." Now the partnership is entering the new millennium with a series of major projects, including apartment buildings of up to 140 units. After 30 years at the leading edge of contemporary interior design, New Yorkborn George Freedman continues to address the creation of striking and expressive interiors with enthusiasm and delight. "The thing that preoccupies me more than anything else is the processional element," he says. "The event of moving through space and the division of public and private so the owner has a total sense of privacy and the visitor a total sense of welcome." Now in partnership with long-time associate Ralph Rembel, Freedman says "our clients come to us because of the level of our detail and the precision of our design". /PB. Photograph: Arunas.