



“Design & Ethics”

Orlando Diaz-Azcuy

4:30 pm, Friday, March 5, 2010

San Francisco Design Center Galleria Atrium

We are extremely pleased to be able to bring you this rare opportunity to hear this world-renowned designer speak. “Orlando is a designer’s designer in terms of his cross-discipline education, prestigious projects, award-winning product designs, longevity in the profession and singular influence on contemporary interior design. He has had a most illustrious career. And, he remains both an inspiration and a mentor to so many emerging designers and established professionals.”*

One of the most well-respected and prolific designers, Orlando’s elegantly composed rooms speak volumes for his spare, intelligent, and disciplined touch. His interiors combine a modernist approach of architecturally clean lines and urbane sensibility with smart flashes of bold color. Regarded by professionals as a “dean of interior design” and a pioneer of minimalist design since the early 1980s, Diaz-Azcuy has been an epic if under-recognized influence to all those interested in interior architecture and design.

Orlando Diaz-Azcuy founded his firm, Orlando Diaz-Azcuy Designs, in 1987, after working for more than twelve years as design principal for Gensler, the international architectural firm.

In addition to an impressive design portfolio of private residences around the world, Diaz-Azcuy’s firm has completed designs for apartments in New York, a beach house on Long Island, the spa at Hong Kong’s Peninsula Hotel, the chic members-only Intermezzo lounge at the San Francisco Opera house, law offices in London, investment banking centers, and hotels in Japan and Thailand.

Diaz-Azcuy himself has designed highly successful furniture, lighting and textiles for McGuire, Steelcase, Stow Davis, Schumacher, Hickory Business Furniture, Boyd Lighting and Pallas Textiles.

He has taught summer courses at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design.

Orlando was born in Cuba and earned a degree in architecture from the Catholic University in Washington, DC. He later obtained two more Masters in Landscape Architecture and City and Regional Planning from the University of California, Berkeley. He received an honorary doctorate from Academy of Art University, San Francisco, this past May. He has also received both an honorary doctorate from the International Fine Arts College of Miami, and an IBD Star Award for his achievements in the design profession, in 1987.

* Marlene Farrell, Director of School of Interior Architecture & Design, Academy of Art University, San Francisco