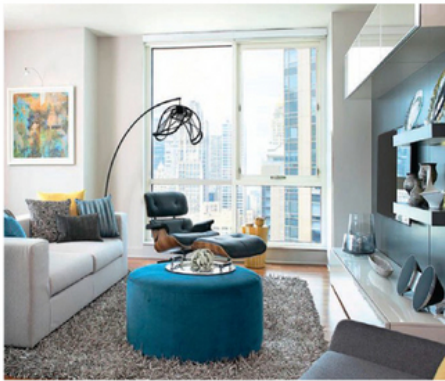


Interior Design Firm:
Mia Rao Design

In addition to a playfully colorful San Diego loft project and an early-1900s Victorian home collab with residential starchitect Kathryn Quinn, interior designer Mia Rao's Mag Mile high-rise condo redo (below) just wrapped. Giving us a taste of the timeless-meets-"ta-da!" vibe she has been serving up since 2001, the "modern Italian furniture, clean lines and artistic accents create a multi-functional space with maximum comfort," says Rao.



CAT'S MIA RAO One of the designer's recent urban schemes



FOLIO FILE Vertu's TD Ameritrade office project in the Loop

Architecture: **Vertu Architects**

For almost 20 years, Vertu Architecture + Design has participated in projects ranging from commercial interiors and architecture to private residences, temporary installations and theoretical proposals—the last of which put them on our radar this past summer. Principal Architect Joel Huffman was selected to present his exhibit, *A New Architecture: Harmonic Morphology*, at the 13th Venice Architecture Biennale, one of the most significant architectural events worldwide. Only five architects were invited to represent the United States out of 56 participants. Kudos to you, Vertu!

INTERIOR DESIGN FIRM IMAGE COURTESY OF MIA RAO DESIGN; ARCHITECTURE FIRM IMAGE COURTESY OF VERTU ARCHITECTS; NEW ON THE SCENE IMAGE COURTESY OF DW DESIGN WORKSHOP

New On The Scene:
DW Design Workshop

DW Design Workshop (DWDW) was formed in Chicago in October 2010. "My goal is to create a modern interior design agency that is not about one 'rockstar,'" says De Shun Wang, founder and principal, "but rather a brand of talented individuals with similar aesthetic points of view and cross-cultural sensitivities." The multidisciplinary design firm specializes in architectural interior design and planning. Projects include the Mon Ami Jewelry Store in the Loop (pictured at right), George the Salon in River North and INK Ice Cream store in JungLi City, Taiwan, with the last two making the cut in the new book *The Best of Hospitality Architecture and Design* by *Interior Design* magazine.

ON DISPLAY The Mon Ami Jewelry store, a DW project in the Loop.

