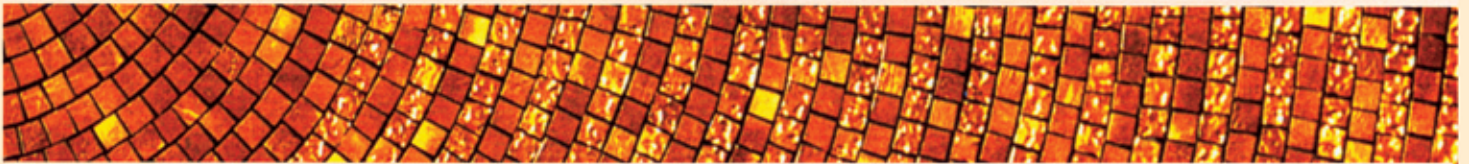


By Madeleine Peck



illusive transcendent

IMPLICATIONS OF COLOR IN ARCHITECTURE



“Color, it is not descriptive but evocative—always symbolic. It is the end and not the means. It exists for the caress and for the intoxication of the eye...” ~ LE CORBUSIER

“We all need to play more and find more joy in what we do...” ~ CYNTHIA WALBURN

bringing it all together

The environment changes the way humans physically respond to it. From the obvious to the almost imperceptible, the physical places we live and work in impact our bodies and our minds.

Though the above isn't a radical statement, it does go to the heart of a new articulation of these thoughts. For the most part, architects are aware of this. But it might be that the rest of us are finally catching on that wellness doesn't just mean the spa or resorts, that it can be integrated into day-to-day living and working.

This might seem like an instinctual knowledge, something that is immediately addressed in workspaces and homes

across the country. But for many people it isn't. How common is it for American workers to arrive at their job each day, wander through a maze of grey cubes to find their own neutral workstation. Not exactly inspiring.

However, one doctor is working to change that—at least within his own practice. Dr. Arun Gulani has transformed his office space from an anonymous slot in a medical office park into an operating theatre quite literally. Gulani is known the world over for his revolutionary Lasik surgeries and is often likened to an artist for his skill.

So when he relocated to his current office suite, he decided to utilize his space in a manner designed to showcase his skill as a surgeon while putting his patients at ease. “This is where I would want to come, and how I would want to be treated,” says Gulani from the comfort of a petite waiting/recovery area. The interior office space, designed by Arcon, is delineated with undulating curvilinear walls, tones of deep blue, and a window into the operating room that was designed to echo a Roman amphitheater. He also commissioned a piece of art from Jacksonville painter Susanne Schuenke entitled *Shaping the Future...The Art of Vision Surgery*.

“Because I approach eye surgery as an art, I want my office to be the same. [I want it] to be personal and soothing, to represent Lasik at its highest form,” says Gulani. In adopting this stance, he is doing exactly what some of the hospitals in the area have begun to do, that is create a space that doesn't add additional stressors to the patient(s) and their families.

