

METROPOLIS

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Spa Culture Gets Clinical
New Economy/New Workspace
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Inside the Fishbowl

Tucker Viemeister joins the digital age. Can the world's last industrial designer make Razorfish swim?



FIRM/CITY: Cho Slade Architecture, New York, NY
EDUCATION: Minsuk Cho: Bachelor of Architecture and Engineering, Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea; Master of Architecture, Columbia University
 James Slade: Bachelor of Architecture, Cornell University; Master of Architecture, Columbia University
SITE CHARACTERISTICS: The house is part of the "Illang Mural Museum Complex Masterplan," which includes two museums, a workspace for large-scale mural painting, a maintenance building, and a traditional Korean house with a prayer room and a pavilion for guests. The complex sits on a steep, forested, seven-acre site rising about 98 feet above a rural agricultural valley. Cho Slade designed the house, and a Korean firm designed the other buildings.
CLIENT: Painter and scholar Illang (Jong-Sang Lee)
PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION: Single-family house for a painter and his wife, including guest quarters, a library, a studio, and an archive for small-scale paintings. The interior arrangement creates distinct living and work spaces, emphasizing privacy and solitude by use of the site's natural elements: trees, views, and a seasonal stream that runs beneath the house.
COMMENTS: The house and museum project is a private/public partnership. "It's a unique situation," says Cho. "South Korea is going through this big decentralization process, so every small region is all of a sudden turning into a municipal government, and they need strong cultural institutions to generate identities." The idea for this museum complex came from Illang (Jong-Sang Lee), a well-known painter and scholar. The museum will house his personal art collection, which includes his own paintings as well as traditional Korean murals. "The project was his idea," Cho explains, "but it coincided with the city of Ansong's interest in housing a prestigious cultural institution, so Ansong offered him a site and part of the construction costs." Grading and an access road are completed, but construction awaits a funding agreement between Illang and the city of Ansong.

This page: courtesy Cho Slade Architecture. Opposite: courtesy Julia Czerniak