

# Wallpaper\*

OCTOBER 2008

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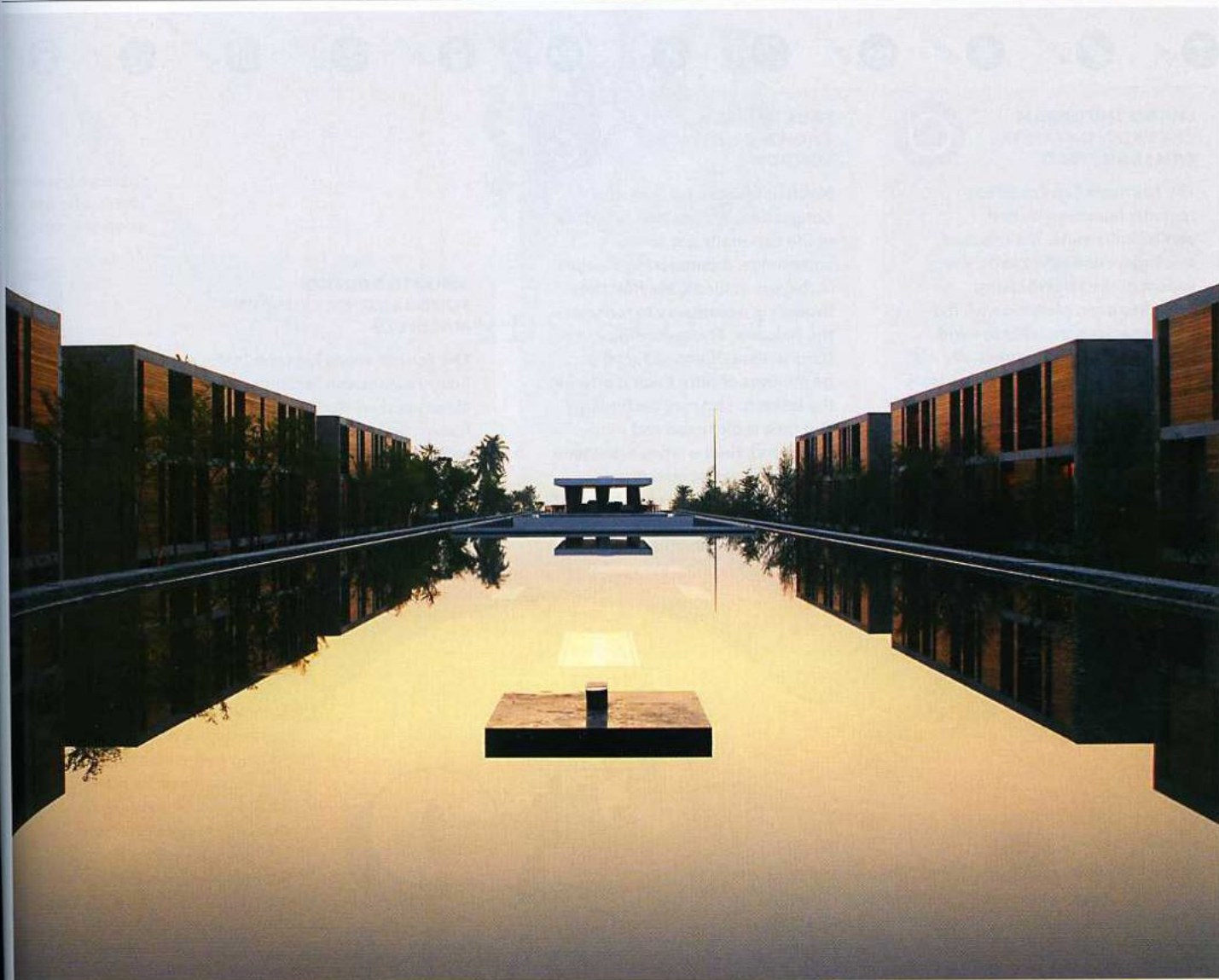
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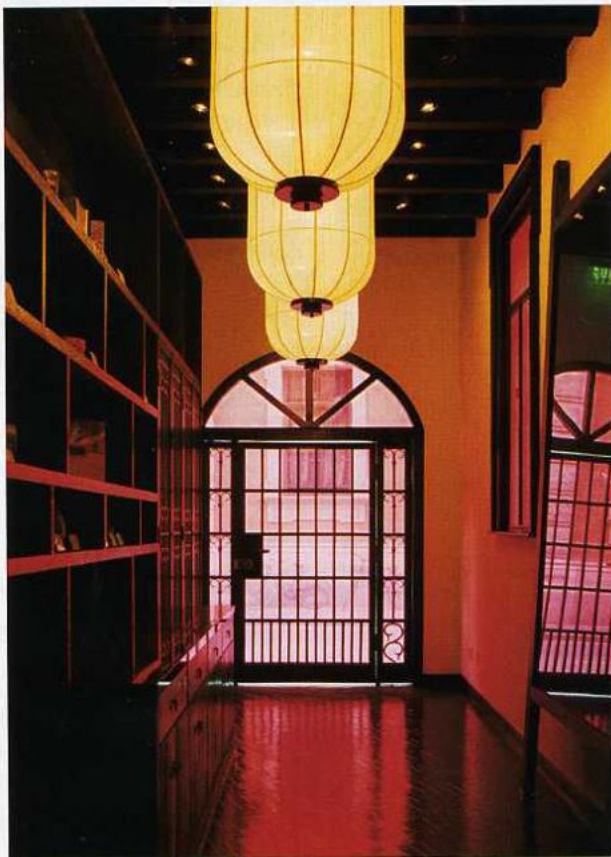
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**DETOX ▲****Spa Alila, Cha-Am, Thailand**

One of Asia's leading architects, Thai-based Duangrit Bunnag, was brought in to design the Alila group's latest resort, the Alila Cha-Am on the north-west coast of the Gulf of Thailand. And he's done a fine job. From the grand marble entrance stairway to the sublime rooftop reflecting pool (pictured), this tropical getaway uses a palette of wood, limestone and subtle marble finishes to create a distinctly contemporary look. The spa continues the clean aesthetic with a dedicated Thai massage room that has ambient lighting and a thermal pool that is very Siamese Zen. And if you fancy detoxing alfresco, stylish wood and metal cabanas on the beach mean you can enjoy a treatment – from reflexology to Indian head massages and body wraps – as you gaze out to sea. Alternatively, you can head to the Chill Pool where, under the night sky, specially created evening spa treatments are administered on relaxation decks flanking the swimming pool – which is conveniently located next to the bar, The Red. **Rob McKeown**

115 Moo 7, Tambol Bangkao, Amphur Cha-am, Petchaburi, tel: 66.32 709555, [www.alllahotels.com](http://www.alllahotels.com). Rates: from \$165

**+ RETOX ◀****Lan Club, Shanghai**

After the success of Chinese restaurateur Zhang Lan's Philippe Starck-designed Lan Club in Beijing, a Shanghai outpost was all but inevitable. Located in a renovated Beaux-Arts building a block away from Shanghai's Bund waterfront, the club, in contrast to the Beijing venue – which is a sprawling, single-floor rabbit warren of private rooms – is a four-storey flagship; the interior quirks of the French designer are dispensed with in favour of the more strait-laced approach of Patrick Gilles and Dorothee Boissier, the French duo who masterminded Buddakan in New York with Christian Liaigre. Inside, the regal yet fun Chinese-meets-French-colonial interiors contain a multifaceted pleasure palace. There's a Chinese restaurant on the first two floors and a suite of private social rooms on the third floor. The fourth floor contains a French restaurant – helmed by Michelin-starred Belgian chef Yves Mattagne, who holds court over the gorgeous dining room, decorated with Baccarat chandeliers – and a tea room with a lush wall of plants reaching to the skylights. **Andrew Yang**  
102 Guangdong Lu, Shanghai, tel: 86.21 6323 8029, [www.southbeautygroup.com](http://www.southbeautygroup.com)