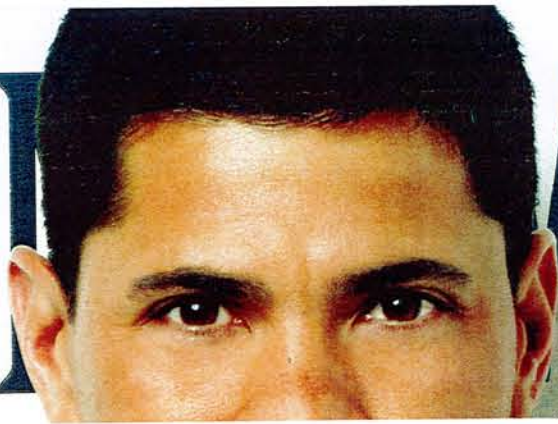


BOSTON COMMON



David Hacin in the lobby he designed for FP3 using the former factory's original beams for the walls.



Swiss Simplicity

Architect David Hacin polishes Boston spaces to a smooth, contemporary finish.

By Courtney Kasianowicz

DAVID HACIN FIRST DEVELOPED his deep appreciation of contemporary design while at his father's Switzerland-based architecture firm. Now the head of his own firm, Hacin+Associates, located in the South End, he draws on his early exposure to modern influences to construct compelling exteriors and interiors for some of Boston's most memorable spaces, including Fort Point Channel's newest condominium complex, FP3.

"I practically grew up in my father's office, so architecture came to be second nature for me," Hacin says. These beginnings shaped not only his distinctive style but also his approach to preservation projects such as FP3. "Europeans are confident in adding a contemporary layer to their cities that goes along with the historic one. Honoring traditional elements while updating to a contemporary function makes buildings relevant to the 21st century, but still rich and exciting." For FP3 Hacin renovated two former wool warehouses and constructed a third with a complementary façade while expertly capping off the entire structure with three strikingly modern top floors. He also designed the sleek interiors of the residential units, which, like his private homes, apartments and lofts, showcase an urbanity that remains welcoming and earthy. Hacin also won top restoration awards for a Newport firehouse-turned-sustainable home that generates all its own energy.

Hacin believes that the key to his success is adding something unpredictable. Unexpected elements like contemporary artwork in a traditional interior or well-worn antiques in a chic-modern loft, he finds, can really add personality, history or humor. "People are interested in creating a mix of new and old, high and low. It yields unique and satisfying results, with lots of individual character." 112 Shawmut Ave., Studio 5A, 617-426-0077; hacin.com

The Lake dresser from BDDW in graphite lacquer with a claro walnut front
"The craftsmanship that goes into each piece produced by BDDW is extraordinary, and it's all American-made. This piece is unexpectedly tactile. The oil-rubbed wood feels warm and soft, while the cool lacquer adds contrast." bddw.com

