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SOUTHEAST ASIA

MARCH 2010

Style & Design SPECIAL

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***20**

Insider tips
from top
designers

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PLUS: ASIA'S MOST EXCLUSIVE DEALS

The Art of Shopping

It's hard to escape malls in Asia, but Hong Kong's newly opened **K11** (18 Hanoi Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong; 852/3118-8070; k11concepts.com) seeks to add something extra to retail. Scattered throughout the six-story, 31,600-square-meter space is a permanent collection of 13 artworks—ranging from murals to installations—by prominent local artists such as Danny Lee, Kum Chi Keung and Man Yi Fung. Among the most striking is “Diary of Clouds”—a set of 68 panels with a cloud pattern etched on them by *shui mo* master Tony Ng—and Kum's “Shadow,” a flock of pixelated-looking birds carrying handbags in their beaks. In addition to the collection are one-off exhibitions displayed in windows between stores. Up next: a free iPhone app with details on each piece and more K11 “art malls” planned for Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chengdu.

—ALEX FREW MCMILLAN



TREND



HOTELS



Clockwise from top: Alila Villas Soori; The Waterhouse; Sekeping Tenggara.

New Design Hotels in Asia

● **SEKEPING TENGGIRI KUALA LUMPUR** Created by cutting-edge design firm Seksan, the two-level renovated 1970's bungalow features exposed-brick walls, vertical gardens and recycled doors. Scattered throughout this seven-room guesthouse are original artworks by local talent: make sure to check out the adjacent art gallery. Guests share a small kitchen, indoor-outdoor dining and lounge areas, and the affections of two rescue dogs. A 15-minute walk leads to the area's boutique-, café- and bar-rich lanes. 48 Jln Tenggara, Bangsar; 60-17/207-5977; tenggiri.com; doubles from RM200.—ROBYN ECKHARDT

● **THE WATERHOUSE AT SOUTH BUND SHANGHAI** Under the guidance of cutting-edge Singaporean hotelier Loh Lik Peng, Shanghai design darlings Lyndon Neri and Rossana Hu have transformed a vintage 1930's building into a stylish hotel that's set to open this month. Original details like metal window frames and brick walls and floors were left intact, while the 19 stripped-down rooms feature vintage furniture. The roof, meanwhile, has been converted into a sleek bar with views of the revitalized South Bund area. Maojiayuan Lu 1-3, Huangpu district; 86-21/6080-2988; waterhouseshanghai.com; rates not available as of press time.—JENNIFER CHEN

● **ALILA VILLAS SOORI BALI** Ecological high-mindedness blends with streamlined design at this recently opened Green Globe-certified resort. Singapore-based architects SCDA make generous use of locally sourced volcanic rock and timber as well as sculptures and carvings by Balinese artists. Inside the 48 neutral-and-gray-hued villas, interiors are designed to enhance natural breezes, making air conditioning optional. Book a reflexology massage at the spa, where dark terrazzo floors and specially made terracotta tiles create a temple-like tranquility. Banjar Dukuh, Desa Kelating, Kerambitan, Tabanan; 62/811-385-8521; alilahotels.com; villas from US\$600.—J.C.