

Vol.34

indesignlive.com
August 2008

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McDermott wanted the design to reflect Bonnie's femininity and elegance

THE LIGHT VAULT

Lighting designer Ruth McDermott has joined forces with design consultant Bonnie Gokson, creating a bold new lighting statement in Hong Kong's spectacular new Seva Restaurant.

The Seva (pronounced 'savour') Restaurant, overlooks the Hong Kong harbour and is four restaurants in one. Designed by Tsao and McKown Architects from New York, together with owner Bonnie Gokson and Team HC from Hong Kong, Seva takes residence in the penthouse of the Princess Building shopping mall and benefits from 360° views.

Lighting designer Ruth McDermott had created a small lighting installation for the home of design consultant Bonnie Gokson. Bonnie wanted to re-create some of its warmth in her new restaurant in Hong Kong, but on a much larger scale. McDermott was asked to design a lighting installation in the 'Harbour Side' restaurant, distinguished by its high, vaulted ceiling.

The space meant scale was important and McDermott named the work 'Light Vault'. The installation consists of 154 (900 x 500mm) screens, each backed by an LED light box. The screens are made from industrial-grade spun polyester, manufactured in Sydney and embossed by Warringah Plastics.

They are printed in an ivory colour and embossed with a design McDermott has named 'Tendrils'. "I wanted something bolder than I had done before," says McDermott. "I also wanted it to have delicacy and detail, like tracery on a stained glass window, or even a vine over a greenhouse. It is the same screen repeated and the design runs as a repeat in all directions."

McDermott adds that she "also wanted the design to reflect the femininity and elegance of Bonnie herself".

The result is a bold, but elegant cathedral space filled with light and complementing the mixed palette of beige, grey and charcoal at floor level.

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