

# INSPIREDESIGN

innovative vision for today's hotel

“  
AS A PERSON WHO LOVES LAKE CULTURE  
AND IS ATTRACTED TO CLASSIC ARCHITECTURE,  
LAKE COMO IS THE PERFECT COMBINATION.”

—THOM FILICIA



# COOL

New & Noteworthy

Whether gathering in the lobby to shoot some pool with your friends or other guests, or sitting outside on a beautiful night, mesmerized by a warm fire and a beautiful sculpture, here are some interesting items to inspire your design. For guests who prefer some private, rather than public, time: Consider a fun, inventive—and slightly inconspicuous—way to stock their favorite whiskey and bourbon, right in the comfort of their room.



## CUING UP DESIGN

Pool tables are perfect items to keep everyone involved while enjoying a drink in the lounge or beside the rooftop pool. Billiards by Brandt has created custom-designed games for the likes of The Rolling Stones, The Fontainebleau Miami, athletes and various TV shows and films. Whether it's restoring a legendary classic dating back to 1875, or creating a shark-tank table that opens on jet-plane hydraulics to feed a "pool shark," the company produces all items, cradle to grave, under owner Dan Brandt's direction and supervision. Known for being tenacious about providing quality in craftsmanship and service, Brandt, himself, is the point of contact for all transactions. "Billiard tables are not only art, but also can showcase art," he said.



## PRIMAL INSTINCTS

Elena Colombo, owner of Brooklyn-based Fire Features, is inspired by fire, and our desire to gather around a warm, lighted place to share experiences. The pieces she creates are based on nature and functionality. "Nature because all of my vessels are influenced by the shapes and patterns that exist in the natural world: sticks, bark, rocks, birds, flowers, etc.," she said. "Functionality because I am not a sculptor creating 'art for art's sake.' I am an industrial designer creating decorative gas appliances that have to work safely and efficiently. This brings engineering, physics, thermodynamics, electronics and occupational design into one object that also has to look good. It is the tension and synergy between these two that make a piece a success."



## HIDE THE HOOCH

The Speakeasy Vault from Metal Art of Wisconsin allows you to keep your liquor handy but hidden. The vault is the latest addition to the company's concealment furniture range, and is made from oiled wood. The piece includes CNC-cut glass and bottle holders on the lower tray, and is topped with a 16-gauge steel American Flag. Each Speakeasy Vault is available with standard keyed locks, RFID readers, or a new, high-tech biometric scanner that can store up to 20 fingerprints. "My inspiration was a need for a patriotic, yet secure, place to secure my moonshine," said Shane Henderson, owner of the company. "Whatever you decide to store will be safely hidden behind Old Glory. The unit is available in either 2-ft. or 4-ft. sizes."