

INTERIOR DESIGN

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IBD. INTERIOR DESIGN COMPETITION WINNERS

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or curved cut-outs in overhead planes, also unexpected side exhibits tucked into odd corners, squared or rounded niches. Some of these combine bona fide and faked elements, as in the recessed display of chopper/blender/grater atop a cupboard with bogus drawers defined by back-lit acrylic (the storage section below is for real). The self-explanatory Great Hall of Refrigerators, circular in shape, has at its centerpiece another plaster sculpture, this one posing as vintage eponym. Then there is the neon tube emanating from a frying pan—this in the full but phoney assemblage of a kitchen

dating back to days long passed—and curling, like smoke, upward and right through the soffit. From there the light streak snakes along the ceiling of passage and end-curve, then slithers along the other side to complete, in serpentine pattern (see cover), the full traffic circuit near the reception desk. As for the swirl/grid/geometric design of the railing at one of two conference rooms, Ms. Lucas explains its design provenance with an off-hand “It’s just part of our frolic.”

Needless to say the Best in Competition-ranked installation provides a lot more than diversion. Matte finishes of painted backgrounds show off displayed chrome/glass appliances to best advantage. Door and window openings expand the range of sight lines. Gray-coated wall elevations rise to 8-ft. heights, leaving three feet above for exposed ductwork, sprinklers and trusses that have been painted out in midnight blue.

Below: Reception desk adjoins make-believe kitchen constructed of plaster feigning outmoded appliances. Rising from mock frying pan is a neon tube going through soffit and continuing, in varying patterns, along ceilings topping elliptical display passage (see also cover). A separate neon strip parallels the black-painted rails of the custom light fixture.

