

The Best of the Bay

2004's American Institute of Architects' San Francisco Design Awards



The American Institute of Architects' San Francisco chapter has long been the nexus for the best designs emerging from the Bay Area. This year's prestigious 2004 AIASF Design award is marked by two events: a renewed association between AIASF and the Chronicle Magazine as sponsor, and an even greater level of design virtuosity among the 180 entries.

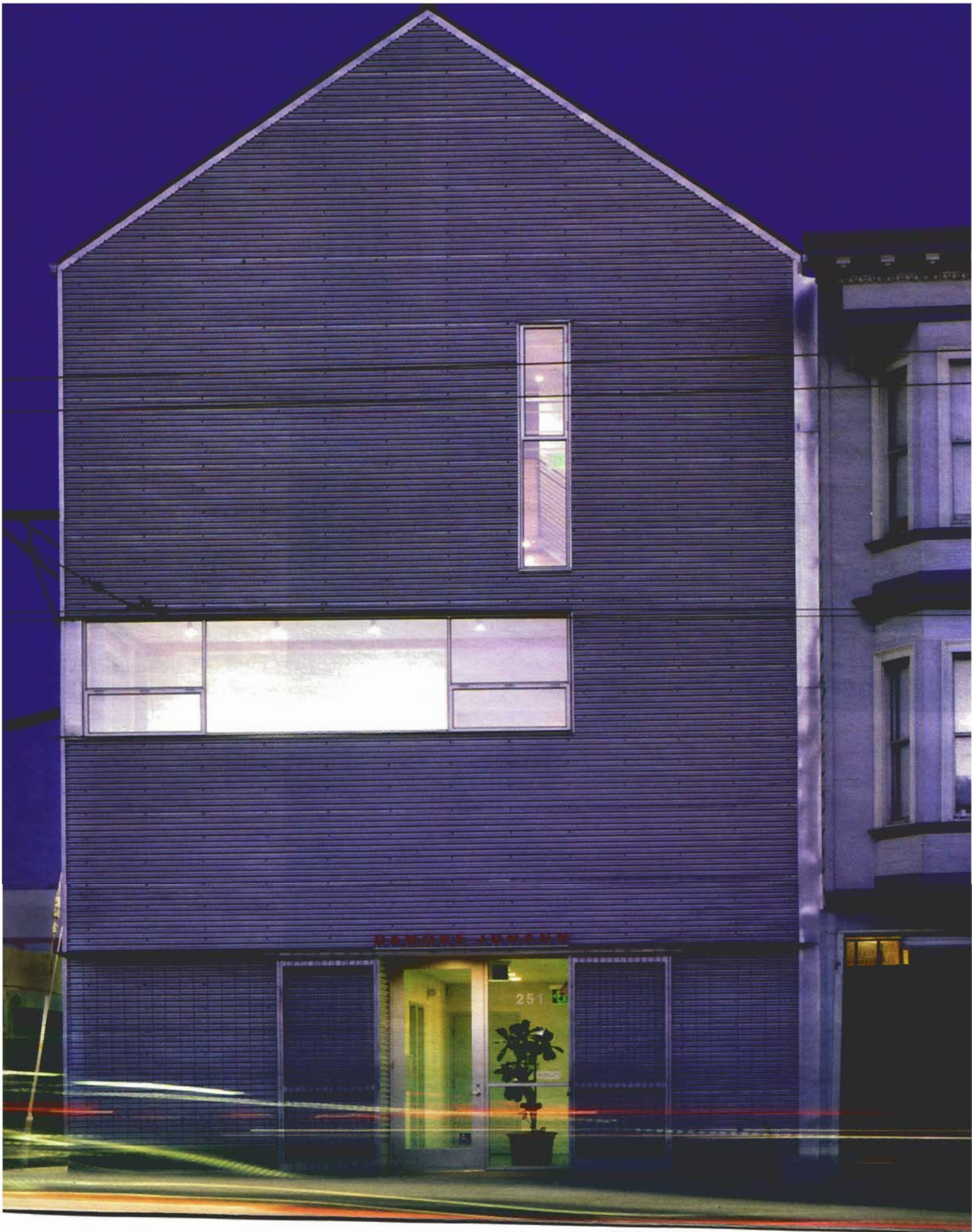
In part, the bounty of projects is due to heightened building and designing activity in San Francisco and its environs during boom economic times in the late 1990s. Buildings and interiors conceived then were completed after 2000. Twenty-one refreshingly modern and eco-conscious winners — Bay Area projects with metal, wood, stone and plaster — were picked by four distinct juries for each award category: Excellence in Design, Green, Urban and Unbuilt. In addition, AIASF has awarded three special achievement prizes for valued contributions to architecture at large. This time, expect some unexpected names in the roster of winners presented on the following pages.

1 251 South Van Ness / Micro Office, San Francisco Architect Pfau Architecture Ltd.

Excellence in Design Award / Architecture

The new home of Damore Johann (a branding and graphic design business) and Mark Johann Photography was designed from the inside out as an "integrated workplace environment," according to the architects. The 6,000-square-foot, three-story building — in contrast to the monochromatic, galvalume-clad exterior that matches its semi-industrial neighborhood — has a richly textured residential-style interior comprising inexpensive but colorful materials: painted fiber board, polished concrete and translucent screens. Expansive windows facing north optimize city views and bring in balanced daylight throughout the building. The jury admired the design's sense of play, its precision craftsmanship and its use of a traditional pitched-roof form — tweaked here to be elegantly modern.

251 South Van Ness / Micro Office, San Francisco. Design Team: Peter Pfau (principal in charge), David Yama (project designer and project manager), Michael Young, Caroline Cassavoy (design team) **Structural Engineering:** Murphy Burr Curry Inc. **Electrical Engineering:** Susanna Van Leuven **Lighting:** Revolver Design **Contractor:** Malpas and Baker **Custom Casework:** Thomas Jameson **Photography:** Tim Griffith Photo, David Wakely



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