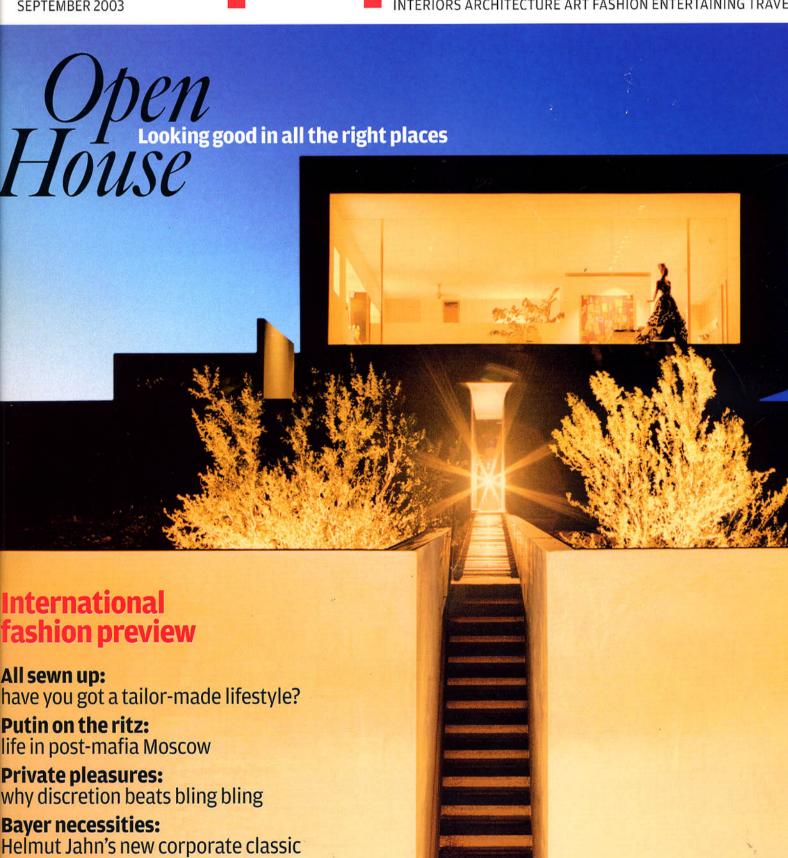
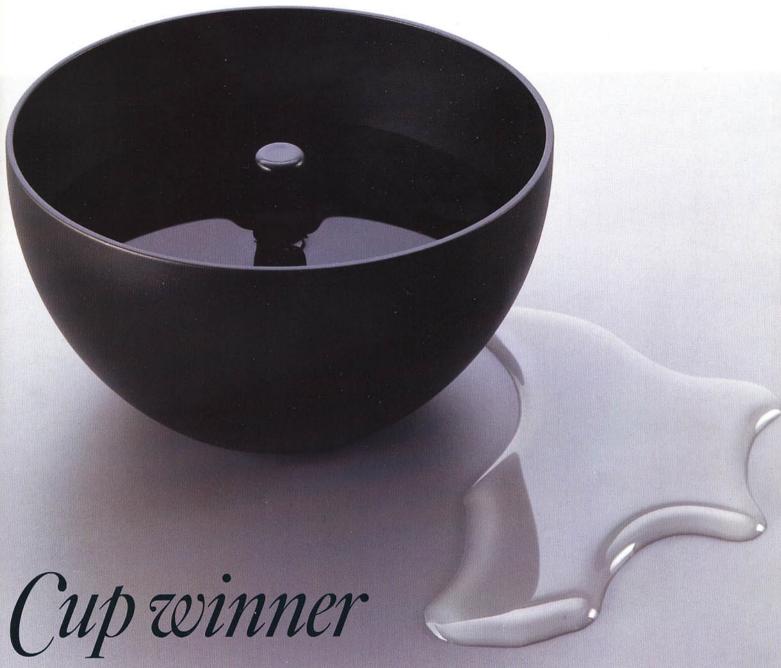
Wallpaper SEPTEMBER 2003

NTERIORS ARCHITECTURE ART FASHION ENTERTAINING TRAVEL



AOL Keyword: Wallpaper Magazine



Inspired by the essence of Finlandia Vodka - pure, authentic and refreshing - Greek Cypriot designer Michael Anastassiades combines innovative thinking with elegant forms to create the 'Dirty Trick' drinking vessel

In response to the brief outlined in Wallpaper* 59 – to create an object in the spirit of Finlandia Vodka – our first designer, Michael Anastassiades, produced a piece that is simple, unique and contemporary.

Anastassiades values the personality of an object over its practicality and hence his pieces are more sophisticated than they appear at first. For his 'Dirty Trick' drinking vessel, his proposal was to reintroduce an ancient invention used to moderate the greedy drinker. Greek 'trick vases' were designed to deceive or amuse the unwary while consuming alcohol. The vases came in various shapes and their form often concealed the elaborate internal construction.

The 'Dirty Trick' cup functions as a drinking



Inspired by Ancient Greek 'trick vases', Michael Anastassiades introduces his 'Dirty Trick' cup for Finlandia Vodka

vessel as long as it is filled to a specific level. This level is not obvious from the cup's appearance. If, however, it is filled beyond that level, then the entire contents of the cup empties from a small hole in the base. The design is said to be an invention of Pythagoras, intended to teach equal sharing among his students.

Anastassiades' method of creating pieces that respond directly to the user's behaviour is epitomised in his 'Dirty Trick' cup. It captures the essence of Finlandia Vodka through its fresh, original thinking and intrinsic character. In his own words: 'Nothing is new. I like using technology, but my approach is not to make things more complicated or novel or loud. Interesting objects can exist subtly, too.'

