

HIGH LIFE

EXCLUSIVE THE SPECTACULAR RISE & FALL OF
'AMERICA'S BARYSHNIKOV' BY JORDAN LEVIN

elevate

from DOUGLAS ELLIMAN DEVELOPMENT MARKETING | SUMMER/FALL 2015

Victoria Beckham's Ready

The British superstar finally shows us what she really, really wants is fashion legitimacy. What's Victoria's secret?

FERN MALLIS investigates.

(WHO BETTER?)

"I read every single review, and as much as people say, 'I don't care what they say,' I think they're lying. You do care."

Kathleen Robertson
David Ansen **Gigi Hadid**
PATRICK McMULLAN
PRINCE PIERRE CASTRAGHI
Sarah Jessica Parker
SUSANNE BARTSCH
Tony Okungbowa
Kendall Jenner **RISKO**
ORIBE Cara Delevingne
KEVIN SESSUMS **Jason Binn**



These 6 Buildings Make The **GRADE**

By Thomas Hickey and Edward Yedid

As a kid traveling the world with his parents, architect Thomas Hickey was always looking up at the buildings. "When I was eight, I saw a drawing that my cousin, who was in architecture school at the time, was working on. It was a picture of Fallingwater. I thought it was the coolest thing in the world. I thought, what an amazing thing to be able to do."

Hickey's business partner, interior designer Edward Yedid, stumbled into his own field more organically. "I have a love of beautiful things," he says. "I've always surrounded myself with beautiful things." That passion eventually led Yedid to Parsons School of Design, where he met a professor, Thomas Hickey.

Together, the two now head up GRADE, a high-end, progressive New York City-based architecture and design firm with a contemporary feel and a holistic motto: Take the inside of the work as seriously as the outside. The duo apply their aesthetic—"a result of innate desires for clean, organized and calm solutions," they say—to myriad projects (private dwellings, restaurants, high-end condos) and for all sorts of clients (W Hotels, Donna Karan). Next up? Both Hickey and Yedid are equally animated when discussing their newest endeavor, a luxe residential tower which, if all goes well, will soar over Boston Common in the heart of Beantown.

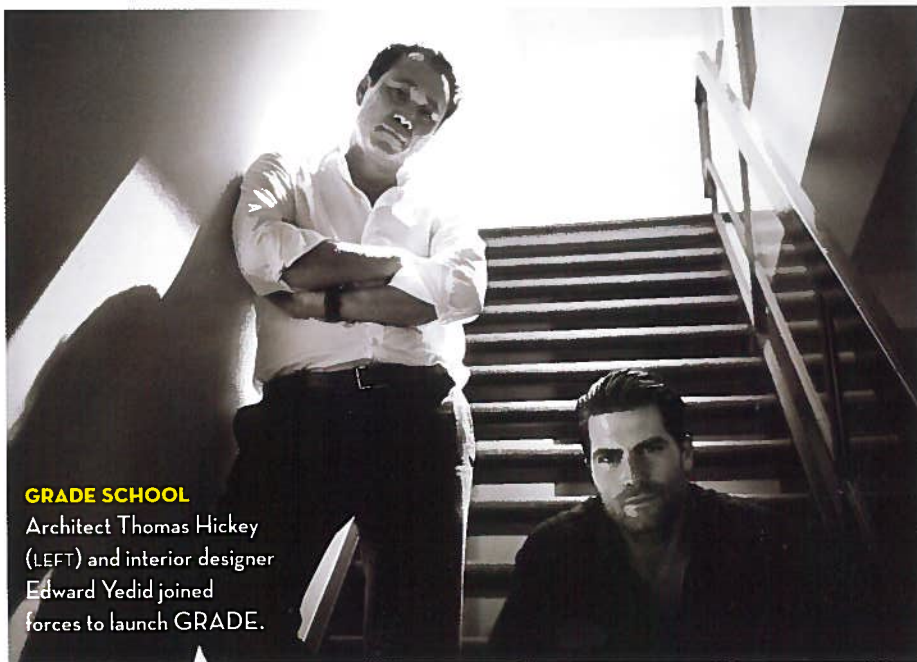
With an eye to historical, modern and contemporary structures, the GRADE Men reveal the six buildings that serve as their global muses.

—REBECCA HARDIMAN

1 HAGIA SOPHIA, ISTANBUL

The Hagia Sophia reflects the dynamic vibrancy of Istanbul, which we were lucky to visit for a project. Inside, the detailing is so intricate, with imagery

depicting different scenes of the time. And the mosaic work is incredible! The Hagia Sophia is a great example of a holistic approach—all aspects of the design inform one another.



GRADE SCHOOL

Architect Thomas Hickey (LEFT) and interior designer Edward Yedid joined forces to launch GRADE.

2 LOUIS VUITTON FLAGSHIP STORE, NEW YORK CITY

This is something very special. We both have so much respect for the designer, Peter Marino. He's an artist first and an architect second. With this tremendous project, Marino created a space that is memorable and iconic and not expected. He was able to take a brand, really determine what people find so attractive about that brand, and express it on the outside of the building. This really changed what it means to have a flagship store.

3 JOHN PAWSON HOUSE, LOS ANGELES

It's all about calm, clutter-free design here—cleanliness, clarity, elegance. Everything is stripped down to the bare minimum. And there's a seamless merging of indoor and outdoor spaces. Pawson used as few materials as possible, and the result is a timeless piece of modern design. It's all about the editing. Everything here is here for a reason.

4 THE DUOMO, FLORENCE

The Duomo is special in the way you happen upon it. Everything is what you expect and then, all of a sudden, you turn a corner and you have this massive structure! It's actually calming to us that something so heavy, so monumental, was even built—it's unbelievable that architect Filippo Brunelleschi could design and shape the dome without any supports beneath it. The fact that they were able to say, "We're going to do this project" inspires us, makes us believe that whatever you can imagine is possible.

5 THE BARCELONA PAVILION, BARCELONA

There's an idyllic balance here between the modern, geometrical design and the curving contrast of the surrounding city. Mies van der Rohe, who designed the Pavilion, is one of our favorites. He was of the "less-is-more" school, and that's generally our approach to things too. Mies made sure each element of the design had a very strong presence. He was thinking about every single moment that a person is moving through that space.

6 MAISON DE VERRE, PARIS

This was a collaboration between architect Bernard Bijvoet, interior designer Pierre Chareau and craftsman Louis Dabnet, and the result is a stunning juxtaposition of their individual aesthetics. The house has a lot of raw steel and metal, but its furnishings are really soft, so they complement each other.