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The World of Architecture & Design

1 "Design is a must," thought Christel und Otto Meyer as they established their company Cat-Interiors last year. This innovative firm's stylish collection of furniture and objects for cats can be easily combined with modern interior settings. 2 Since its opening in 1995, the Dämman lighthouse in Kalmar-sund, Sweden, has become one of the country's finest exclusive hotels. Located on the strait between the island of Öland and the southern Swedish mainland, the Water-Hotel boasts 13 rooms, including its renowned wedding suite, a modern Spa, a restaurant, a bar and, last but not least, unforgettable views of the sea. 3 The Museion,

and a glass façade that opens onto the surrounding countryside and draws visitors into its unique interiors. Accordingly, the new building represents an innovative place accessible to all who are interested in art and architecture alike. 4 See-through concrete? Since Aron Losconci, a Hungarian engineer, devised a process whereby glass fibres are mixed with crushed stone, cement and water, translucent concrete has seen the light of day. As hard as normal concrete but capable of transmitting light, LiTraCon ("light transmitting concrete") has only one main drawback: one cubic metre of it currently costs one thousand times the price of normal concrete! 5 The world's first Gucci Café has just opened up in Milan in Gucci's new accessories boutique. A selection of coffees, teas and chocolates, including the house special, handmade pralines featuring the brand's logo, are on offer.



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