

Continued from page 188

areas of the lobby. A simple mantel and neutral color scheme provide a necessarily quiet framework for the furnishings, sculptures and art.

Rooms with a Gallery View

A different tack was needed for the guestrooms that were, as Nicholson termed the previous style, "very clean-lined-chilly." To warm the space up, crown molding was added.

Regency-style wallpaper and highly textured fabrics like the bark cloth cotton also helped give the rooms a warmer feel. Finally, cool pastels were replaced by jewel tones.

Henderson dispensed with the typically busy patterning used for guestroom fabrics and carpets, utilizing instead a light palette of solids. Also, bathrooms became more residential with the addition of large vanity sinks and oval mirrors. Flooring went from standard ceramic tiles to large-scaled limestone porcelain tiles. These details visually enlarged the guestrooms to create the modern feel of a master suite.

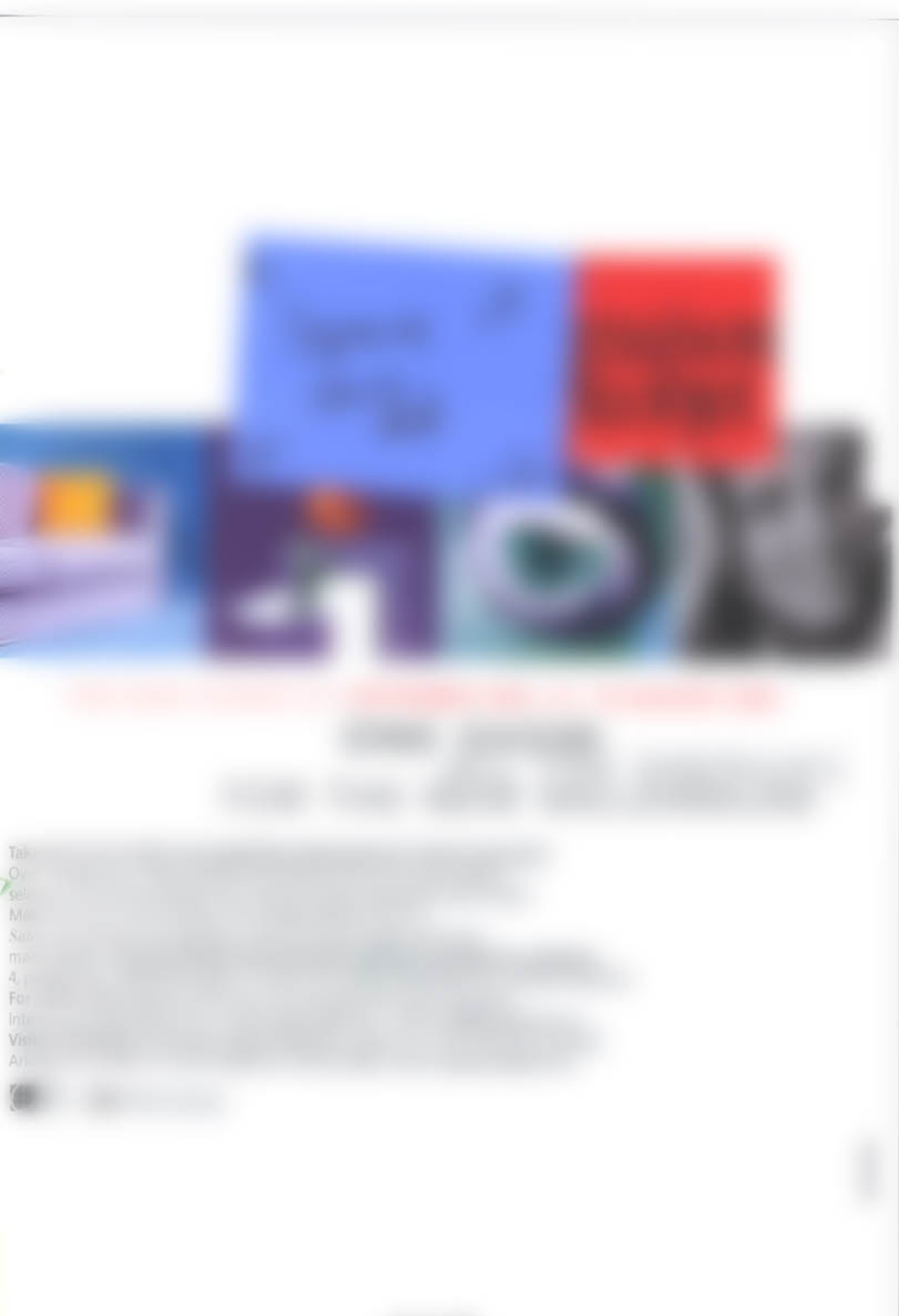
Although art was a driving force behind the design in all the guestrooms, it is the primary focal point of the 54 guestrooms and suites on the Gallery Floors. Vancouver galleries collaborated with the hotel's management and design team to create these showcase rooms. Using original artwork, the designers tried to capture each room's personality. For the four one-bedroom Artist Suites, the furnishings and carpeting were specially designed around inspirations from the artwork.

Making a Good Thing Better

One of the most challenging aspects of the redesign was the renovation of O'Doul's, an award-winning restaurant and a favorite among locals. Relating to Vancouver's coastal setting, the restaurant is evocative of a bygone era. A massive sepia-toned twin hemisphere map draws the eye upward toward the ceiling instead of outward across the restaurant.

"The decision to have the restaurant and bar in the same room was right for the relaxed atmosphere we wanted to create. The mahogany bar is obviously the focal point," says Nicholson.

The Vintage Gallery is a witty turn on the hotel's theme. Form and function merge in a wall-long wine rack featuring more than 1,500 bottles of the hotel's private reserve. This private, clubby space opens up sales opportunities for small high-end functions of up to 20 people, private tastings and other "gourmet activities." 🍷



Talk
Over
sell
Mile
Sail
ma
4, p
For
Int
Vint
Art