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APRIL 2011 RS 100

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ECO BEAT

Hot on the trail of travelling architect Matthew Hofmann.



ANCHORED BY: GRETCHEN FERRAO | PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY HOFARC



ARCHITECT
MATTHEW HOFMANN

MATTHEW HOFMANN'S APPROACH TO design explores the relationship between form, context and materiality. A strong elemental approach that can be partly credited to a childhood well spent in the mountains of Mammoth, California, and partly to his constant endeavour to work with thoughtful and progressive clients. With a bachelor's degree from California Polytechnic State University, the LEED-certified architect's starting point for any project is clear: sustainability. As he elaborates, "Design must blur the distinction of interior and exterior space by listening to the influence of site and context." After a four-year stint with a mid-size, Santa Barbara-based architectural firm, Matthew opened

Hofmann Architecture (HofArc), a multi-faceted architectural design build practice with offices in Santa Barbara and San Diego, California. What put the firm on the **Better Interiors** radar was a vintage 1978 Airstream that Matthew now calls home... and office! With its original, polished and restored exteriors, the trailer boasts of bamboo countertops, table and flooring, and recycled glass tiles in the bathroom. Faced with a tight area of 158 sq ft, space planning and multi-functionality was of essence. The dining area, for instance, can be converted to a guest bed or media centre/lounge!

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