

AD 100 is an international guide profiling outstanding and talented designers and architects from around the world. Architectural Digest publishes this list one every five years. The gifted designer being honored is Mr. Tom Allardyce.

Mr. Allardyce and his partner, Illya Hendrix, founded their design firm in Los Angeles in 1980. For the past twenty years, they have specialized in residential estates. Their innovative designs for architectural structures, their customized interior surfaces, and their choice of exquisite antique furnishings have earned them numerous awards and published features of their projects both in national and international magazines. Their most recent endeavor has been the creation of their own live of furniture and accessories. Their firm employs a full-time support staff to provide quality craftsmanship for each project.

The firm's international clientele is varied and includes notable names from the entertainment and business industries. They take pride in their ability to incorporate into the design the preferences and individual style of each of their clients. This enables the client to make an easy transition when their home is completed. Mr. Hendrix and Mr. Allardyce travel frequently to Europe with their clients in search of the unusual and fine furnishings and objects to create and complement the classic and timeless style that is their trademark.

It is with this outstanding achievement, Mr. Speaker, that I offer this tribute in honor of Tom and his contribution to the international community of architecture and interior design.

THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL DIALOGUE IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, last December President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan was in Washington, D.C. for the annual meeting of the U.S.-Kazakhstan Joint Commission. The purpose of these meetings, which are alternately held in the United States and Kazakhstan, is to promote economic and political cooperation between our two countries. Among other things, the U.S. side regularly presses the government of Kazakhstan to improve its human rights record and undertake economic and political reform.

I understand that U.S. officials pressed the Kazakhstani side especially hard this year, because of the sham parliamentary elections held last October, heightened corruption, and an acceleration of abusive action taken against opponents of President Nazarbayev's increasingly repressive government. In an apparent move to blunt U.S. pressure during the upcoming Joint Commission meeting, President Nazarbayev issued a statement on November 4, 1999 indicating his willingness to cooperate with the opposition in Kazakhstan. He also stated he would welcome the return of former Prime Minister Akhezan Kazhegeldin, the exiled leader of the main opposition party.

On November 19, Mr. Kazhegeldin responded to President Nazarbayev by calling for a "national dialogue" to examine ways to advance democracy, economic development and national reconciliation in Kazakhstan.

Similar national dialogues have met with success in Poland, South Africa and Nicaragua. Mr. Kazhegeldin pointed out that convening a national dialogue would be an ideal way to initiate cooperation between the opposition and the government.

However, President Nazarbayev has reacted with stony silence to Mr. Kazhegeldin's proposal. Moreover, Mr. Nazarbayev has reneged on a pledge he made in November to ship oil through the proposed Baku-Ceyhan pipeline, and continues to refuse to settle investment disputes with foreign companies that have lost millions of dollars because the government failed to honor its commitments. Mr. Nazarbayev also arranged to have a "kangaroo court" convict an opposition leader for having the temerity to criticize Nazarbayev's government. Finally, and this is very troubling, an investigation and trial have failed to find anyone to blame for the delivery last year of 40 MIG fighter aircraft from Kazakhstan to North Korea.

Mr. Speaker, the Administration needs to stop turning the other cheek every time Mr. Nazarbayev commits an outrage. The cause of freedom and democracy will continue to backslide in Kazakhstan unless the Administration voices its strong support for a national dialogue similar to the one proposed by former Prime Minister Kazhegeldin. At the very least, the government of Kazakhstan should make one hour a week of state-controlled television available for use by the opposition. The U.S., for its part, should assist the democratic opposition by providing printing presses to replace those that have been confiscated by the government. It is time to stand up for democracy in Kazakhstan and to stop coddling dictators like Nazarbayev.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit an article into the RECORD from the Washington Times that speaks volumes about the situation in Kazakhstan today.

[From the Washington Times, Dec. 20; 1999]
DINING WITH DICTATORS—WHITE HOUSE FETES
KAZAKH PRESIDENT

(By Thomas B. Evans, Jr.)

For some inexplicable reason the president of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, has been invited to visit Washington this month by the Clinton-Gore administration.

Mr. Nazarbayev is the same dictator who over the past eight years has created a monopoly of riches for himself, his family and carefully selected friends. He has also lured many investors to his country and then pilaged their assets for himself, his family and a few cronies. Knowledgeable sources say that he is the eighth richest man in the world. This, in a country where the per capita income is well below the poverty level.

Mr. Nazarbayev is the same person who promised Vice President Gore a year ago that he would permit a fair and free presidential election in January 1999 and then rigged the disqualification of his main opponent, thereby eliminating any chance of defeat and ensuring the perpetuation of his corrupt regime. Mr. Nazarbayev is also the same person who has had \$85 million in ill-gotten gains frozen by the judiciary in Switzerland. Mr. Nazarbayev is the same individual who ordered the destruction of printing presses used to print newspapers questioning his policies.

And Mr. Nazarbayev's record on human rights is anything but outstanding. There is, quite simply, no freedom of the press, no independent judiciary and no freedom of assembly that could threaten Mr. Nazarbayev's one-man one-family rule in Kazakhstan.

In spite of all the above, Kazakhstan still receives millions of dollars in foreign assistance from U.S. taxpayers and hundreds of millions more indirectly through the Export-Import Bank and international financial institutions in which the United States is a major contributor. Is it not just about time that we let dictators like Mr. Nazarbayev know that we are not going to accept this type of behavior? Is it not past time for us to be taken as fools who don't care about how a country's ruler treats his people and foreign investors? Is Kazakhstan's oil so important to us that we would sacrifice basic principles by inviting dictators to dine with our president and vice president? Don't we ever learn lessons from past mistakes? Doesn't anyone in the administration remember how in Indonesia President Suharto's greed, nepotism and general misrule led to his downfall and plunged the country into near chaos? Tolerance of corrupt rule does not contribute to stability. In fact, quite the opposite is true. Have we also learned nothing by cozying up to Victor Chernomyrdin in Russia? Certainly, none of these examples are ancient history.

Surely, this administration does not want to assist in the perpetuation of a regime in Kazakhstan that is the antithesis of all that we stand for as Americans. Both the president and vice president should make it unmistakably clear that the status quo in Kazakhstan is unacceptable.

On Nov. 17, former Prime Minister Akhezan Kazhegeldin, who was prevented from running against Mr. Nazarbayev last January and now heads the leading opposition party (although living in exile in Western Europe), proposed that a national dialogue be launched with a view toward reforming the political and economic system in Kazakhstan and holding free and fair presidential and parliamentary elections. Similar national dialogues were successful in Poland and South Africa, and convening one for Kazakhstan could set the pattern for reform throughout the former Soviet republics of Central Asia. Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore should emphasize to Mr. Nazarbayev that close cooperation between our two countries depends on his agreement to participate in a national dialogue. They should also insist that in order for a national dialogue to be credible, it must be held outside Kazakhstan and should be organized and monitored with the assistance of respected organizations such as the Council of Europe or the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore should make support for political and economic reform the centerpiece of their discussions with Mr. Nazarbayev. That is the very least this administration should do at this point, and that is not an unreasonable expectation on the part of the United States.

A PROCLAMATION COMMENDING CHRISTOPHER J. BARRETT ON HIS PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF MAJOR IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following to my colleagues:

Whereas, Christopher J. Barrett was recently promoted to the rank of Major in the United States Army; and,

Whereas, Christopher J. Barrett has served as a Military Police Officer in the United

States army for eleven years and has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to the preservation of the United States of America; and,

Whereas, in 1991 Christopher J. Barrett served his country in Operation Desert Storm during the Gulf War and the citizens of the United States of America owe Major Barrett a great deal of gratitude for his undying loyalty and dedication to our country; and,

Whereas, the Members of Congress, with a real sense of gratitude and pride, join me in commending Major Christopher J. Barrett on his recent promotion in Major in the United States Army.

HONORING ROBERT M. EPPLEY

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert M. Eppley for his many years of service to Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Eppley is currently Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for Middlesex Township, Pennsylvania. He was first elected supervisor of Middlesex Township in 1963. Prior to that, he spent three years as supervisor in East Pennsboro Township. His service in both townships qualifies Mr. Eppley as one of the most senior municipal officials in Cumberland County.

Mr. Eppley has served through eight Presidential administrations and has never missed an opportunity to vote since being qualified to do so. While a Cumberland County committeeman, he served on the County Committee's Finance and Executive Committees and guided Middlesex Township from a farming community of 1,900 people to its present status as a transportation center for the eastern United States. As a committee member and a lifelong public servant, he has dedicated his life to serving our country by bettering our government and political process.

Mr. Eppley has been a Sergeant-at-Arms of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, a Deacon of St. Matthew's United Church of Christ, and a Deputy District Commander and County Commander for the American Legion. He is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Mechanicsburg Men's Club, and a charter member of the Enola's Sportsman Club. Mr. Eppley is also a veteran of World War II, having served as a corporal in the Army.

If every precinct had a committeeman that is as involved and dedicated as Bob Eppley, rest assured more Americans would be involved in the electoral and political process. Mr. Speaker, I salute Robert M. Eppley for his lifetime of public service to Cumberland County and his many years of dedication to the betterment of our community.

THE CHANGING FACE OF
AMERICA'S FINANCIAL SUCCESS

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, women are changing the face of America's financial success.

Today, there are nearly 8.5 million women-owned businesses in the United States, and they are increasing in number, range, diversity, and earning power. As their companies expand, women business owners employ 18.5 million individuals and produces \$3.1 trillion in sales.

Since 1994, the Republican-led Congress has diligently worked on behalf of women business owners. We have instituted a variety of reforms from achieving a balanced budget and modernizing financial services, to easing the burden of unnecessary regulation and taxation. In this new century, we must do everything we can to keep the economy growing and enable women to keep more of their hard-earned dollars.

I would like to take the opportunity to submit an insightful interview, conducted by the Center for International Private Enterprise in their magazine *Economic Reform Today*, highlighting the positive contributions of women-owned businesses to the U.S. economy.

BUSINESSWOMEN IN THE MAINSTREAM

ERT: In recent years, the US and a few other industrial nations have seen very impressive growth in the number of women-owned firms. What do you think is the reason for this rapid increase, and what impact is it having on the US economy?

Mr. DONOHUE: It's very true that the number of women-owned firms has increased phenomenally. In 1997, the US Small Business Administration (SBA) found that women owned 8.5 million small businesses in this country—that's one in every three small businesses! Together, they employ more than 23.8 million people and generate up to \$3.1 trillion in sales.

There are many reasons why there has been such a rapid expansion in the number of women in business. First of all, women in general are increasingly better educated than they were a few decades ago. According to the US Department of Commerce, in 1970 only 8% of women completed college, compared with 14% of men. By 1990, that number had risen to 17.6% (compared with 23% of men). Women's educational attainment increased by 4.8% while men's rose by only 2.8%.

In addition to being better prepared, women are also delaying marriage and childbearing in order to enter the workplace—a trend that started in the 1970's. The percent of never-married females ages 20 to 29 rose, in average, by 11.4% between 1980 and 1990. This helped power an increase in productivity from which we are benefiting today.

The impact of these twin social trends has been to increase the influence of women in business—particularly small business. For many women, owning a business and setting their own schedules has been a way for them to reconcile their personal and career goals. Between 1987 and 1996, the number of women-owned businesses grew 78%—and, according to the National Foundation of Women Business Owners, women are starting businesses at twice the rate of men. As a result of this incredible productivity and activity, women-owned firms now employ more people than do the Fortune 500 companies!

ERT: The US Chamber has seen a significant increase in women-owned businesses as a segment of its membership in recent years. Has this changed the organization in any way?

Mr. DONOHUE: In recent years, the US Chamber has approached this positive situation in two ways. First, we have worked hard to provide resources for businesswomen. For example, throughout 1999 the Chamber is co-sponsoring three national satellite con-

ferences designed to help women entrepreneurs develop winning small business strategies.

These conferences are intended to present women business owners with an excellent opportunity to grow and learn from fellow entrepreneurs and to share their knowledge and experience with colleagues. These conference programs also include a question-and-answer session with the studio audience and call-in participants. Co-sponsors of the series include Edward Jones, the US Small Business Administration, the Small Business Development Center Program, IBM, the American Business Women's Association, and Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE).

We have already held two conferences. The first was held May 17, 1999 and offered "Practical Tips for Today and Tomorrow." It featured Jay Conrad Levinson, author of *Guerilla Marketing: Secrets for Making Big Profits from Your Small Business* and Flori Roberts, an ethnic cosmetic pioneer who now runs motivational seminars. The second satellite conference was held August 30 and focused on how to expand a business. The third in the series—on financing for stability and growth—is set for November 2.

Networking opportunities and new resources have always been a key reason that women have joined the Chamber. But let's face it—whether you're a male business owner or a female business owner, you're still going to have the same interests and concerns when it comes right down to it.

You're still going to worry about high taxes, health care mandates and onerous workplace and environmental regulations that cost business well over \$700 billion every year. We understand this, and we fight for all of our members' interests before the US Congress, regulatory agencies, in the courts—and in the court of public opinion. And in our view, that's the main reason why women-owned businesses—and indeed, all of our business members—join together with us.

ERT: How can women business leaders help to shape public policy, and what is the role of public policy in promoting the involvement of women in business?

Mr. DONOHUE: Most women business leaders are so busy running their businesses that they have little time for public policy. But the most important public policy effort that women business leaders can make is to recognize that their interests lie in protecting and improving our system of free enterprise. Taxes, health care mandates and regulations impact every business, and it's important for women—and their male counterparts—to recognize this.

My advice to businesswomen in this country is to get involved. Join your local and state chambers of commerce. Become a member of the US Chamber of Commerce! Find examples of other women who have successfully fought for business and emulate them—for example, the Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is Carol Ball, the Publisher and CEO of Ball Publishing Company of Greenville, Ohio. She is a tough, ardent advocate for a pro-business agenda, and we are lucky to have her on board.

When it comes to promoting women in business, I believe that the US government ought to do two things. First, through agencies like the Small Business Administration, it should provide information and act as a clearinghouse for different resources that would be beneficial to women.

Second, I believe that the federal government should create a better climate for enterprise creation. From serious regulatory reform to better bankruptcy laws, pro-business policies will help all business owners,