Related Articles

- The Ones to Watch
- ML Recommends: October 2006
- ML Recommends: September 2007
- ML Recommends: May/June 2007
- ML Recommends: March/April 2007

To inspire an entire generation of architects to be more sensitive than I have been or will ever be to the needs of our growing society. To enhance every person's life with a shelter that not only protects them, but nurtures their soul. To educate people about energy flow in the environment and how to harness it in our structures to promote well-being and happiness for all. To changing the way we live in—and look at—the West.

**Tommy Hein**

- Clients come to you for...Our willingness to obsessively revise and refine each project. I am never attached to any idea that does not meet all of a project's goals. I welcome a process that pushes me beyond my comfort zone and forces me to reassess any design at any time. We continuously innovate on all our projects and look for opportunities to take artistic risks. This is what makes our projects unique. Clients are also drawn to my thirst for timelessness. My goal is to do things that stand the test of time, so I follow processes and premises that can exist in any time. I work with natural materials, which have much less tendency to date themselves.

- **You're really excited about...** My next project—a home at Sunnyside Ranch near Telluride—with an enlightened client. The building site is unbelievable: 360-degree views on an elevated land peninsula facing due south. The design is rich with our local vernacular and maintains a deep connection to the environment. Detailing includes crafted timber and metal work, custom windows, operable glass walls, and extensively landscaped water features and fire elements. The placement of glass, steel and wood accentuates and enhances this special location, embracing the outside and bringing it inside.

- **Your dream project is...** To see our federal laws change to require homes to produce as much energy as they consume. This would really encourage interesting solutions.

- **Your design process is...** To inspire an entire generation of architects to be more sensitive than I have been or will ever be to the needs of our growing society. To enhance every person's life with a shelter that not only protects them, but nurtures their soul. To educate people about energy flow in the environment and how to harness it in our structures to promote well-being and happiness for all. To changing the way we live in—and look at—the West.

**VITAL**

Tommy Hein, Tommy Hein Architects, Telluride, CO, (970) 728-1220, tommyhein.com