

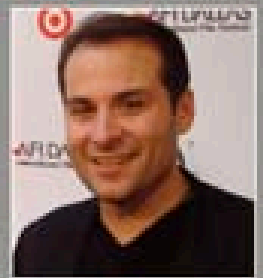
NEWS ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS DINING NIGHTLIFE

# THE TIMES BEVERLY HILLS

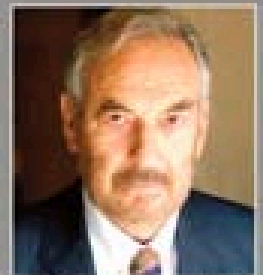
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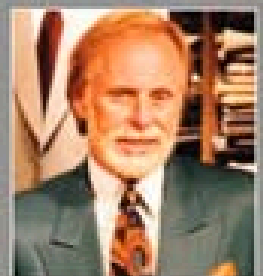
STEVEN SAWALICH



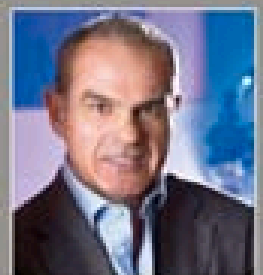
ERIC WEISSMANN



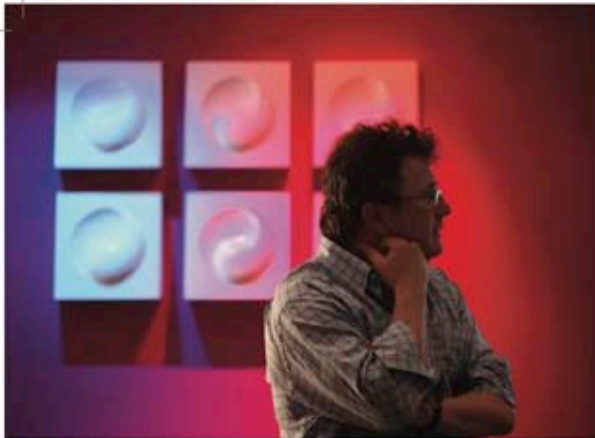
DR. VLADIMIR GRIGORYANTS



GREG CHAPMAN



DR. RENATO CALABRIA



## The Genius of Lighting Designer Bruce Munro

Bruce Munro's exhibit, 'Contemplating the Void' is at the Guggenheim New York, February 12th—April 28th. It celebrates 50 years of the iconic Frank Lloyd Wright building, particularly the rotunda; the 'Void' Contributors Anish Kapoor, Zaha Hadid, Campana Brothers, Rachel Whiteread.

Toyo Ito architects, among 200 artists/designers/ architects are displayed in a salon-style installation. Munro's piece 'Beacon' a 12-sided steel structure with illuminated panels was designed for the centre of the rotunda. Illuminated by a honey-comb matrix of Fiber Optic mirrored lenses, it rises 60 feet towards the domed roof. Inspired by New York sky-scrapers, 'Beacon' is a building within a building, casting and reflecting light over the spiralling rotunda and shown as a large design document. His works have been exhibited at the V&A (Victoria & Albert Museum) in London, and Eden Project in Cornwall. What one might refer as 'lighting fixtures' Munro makes them into art; the focal point of the area.

"I do not have a recipe. I'm very instinctive," says Munro. "I simply feel I know how to make a space 'sing' when it comes to light. It's a natural process for me, like breathing and I love a challenge. I feel I was born an artist; I felt at home with paints since I can remember (but I'm a very bad painter). I worked out at 18 that all my favorite artists were essentially painting light. I use light as my paint, and it's something I love doing. I respond to the space I am in; some spaces are more inspirational than others. The trick is to learn from ones weaknesses. Creatively, I have only just begun. I have spent the last number of years building up a small team of artisans who can deliver a spectrum of lighting ideas in a business-like way. I am now ready to be let off my leash! I also had to learn to communicate with my clients in a business-like way. I earned quickly that good communication is key to success in every aspect of the creative process. I respect my clients; especially the ones that give me a free rein; light costs money...their money! It's a symbiotic process, a bit like life.

A renowned lighting designer as well, he is the creator of bespoke chandeliers and other lights. His designs light Britain's premiere family residences and upscale holiday homes in Barbados, Scotland, and Portugal. His clients are high profile sportsmen, chefs and celebrities. Commercial projects include chandeliers for Babington House (of the Soho House group, L.A. outpost in West Hollywood), and Liberty and Harvey Nichols department stores in London. He worked with Preston Bailey on a huge society wedding on Treasure Island, designing 23 grand fibre optic chandeliers. In 2009, he made a huge 'Mega Snowball' chandelier for an apartment in the exclusive new I.M. Pei designed Centurion Building in New York and his fibre optic 'Anemone Chandelier' is at W Downtown hotel, in New York, a project he worked with Graft Architects, based in L.A. and Berlin, who work with the Make it Right foundation in New Orleans. His projects are larger than life and very challenging. Talks now are to create a piece for the San Diego airport; a prototype was seen in Francis Ford Coppola's literary magazine, All-Story.

"Challenging projects now are the CD Sea; an installation of One Million cds in a field over two days. In the future installations at Salisbury Cathedral Water-Towers (for the Cloister) and Light Shower (for the Nave). Exciting ideas are in the pipeline... I just simply need opportunities to realize them. This is my passion. Passion inspires the need to do these things. With me it's not a question of 'if' but 'when'. I am prepared to wait for the right opportunities to come along."

Profiles on Munro have been featured in: Interior Design Magazine, Landscape Architecture Magazine, Public Art Review, UCE Magazine and The Daily Beast online among many others.

