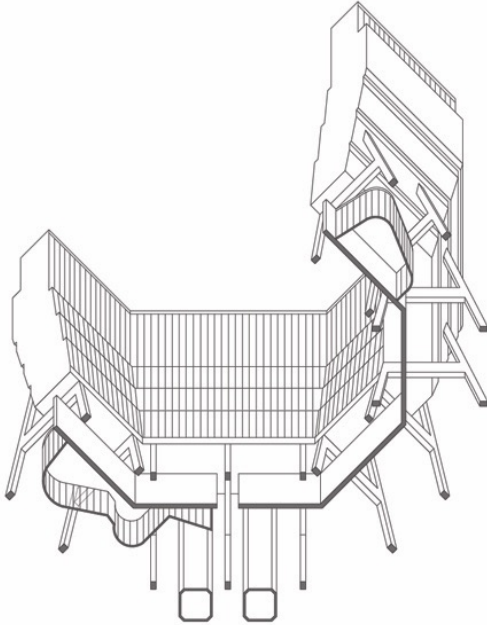


Theme Statement • Oz Journal

Volume 40, *Authenticity*

I fought violently for the autonomy of architecture. It's a very passive, weak profession where people deliver a service. You want a blue door, you get a blue door. You want it to look neo-Spanish, you get neo-Spanish. Architecture with any authenticity represents resistance. Resistance is a good thing.

—Thom Mayne



Many artists and designers sacrifice their authenticity to fulfill the expectations of their clients and others. While financial security is fundamental, great architects and artists maintain their vision.

Why fight for your vision when many others are “successful” by merely fulfilling expectations? How do you convince people of this vision especially when it does not parallel theirs?

Authenticity is not compromising on ideas, and the contributors to *Oz 40* have been identified as professionals who have refused to give up.