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Design Institute of San Diego Newsletter **FALL 2003**



SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI



The calming blue and serene setting of Merja's design for an optometry office seems to calm the fears of what could be a stressful setting. The mural with its interesting 'vision' theme is in itself a feast for the eyes and the well-lit quote on the wall that says "Vision is a precious gift that should never be neglected" creates its own lovely optical effect. The space is clean and well organized with enough interest to keep the viewer involved but not overwhelmed, all in all a pure visual delight.

Merja Brouelette didn't waste any time starting her own interior design business. This 2002 graduate of DI has already accumulated a nice-sized client base and has done both residential and small business. The optometry office, shown here, was one of her very first projects and a very successful one at that. As Merja puts it, "the client was very pleased" and what better gauge of success is there than hearing that.

When asked about her experience at DI and specifically which classes best prepared her for her present profession, Merja's list was quite extensive. For her, quick sketch, rendering, drafting, materials, business practices and color have all helped in her day to day design practice. As she relayed to us, "I will continue to refer back to what I was taught and to my notebooks". Good advice for all up-and-coming interior designers and a good reason to hang on to all your old books and notebooks. Thanks for the update Merja, we look forward to hearing and *seeing* more.

