



Wiggins of TPG: Mission in life not merely to survive, but to thrive

October 27, 2014 - Spotlights

Name: Mavis Wiggins

Title: Design Director, Associate Principal

Company Name: TPG Architecture LLP

Years in Commercial Real Estate: (Corporate Interiors/Architecture) 32

In the last 12 months, which project, transaction, honor or accomplishment are you most proud of and why?

We recently completed a project in the Seagram Building for a private equity firm. It was particularly rewarding for me as my early exposure to the design world was very centered on the International Style of architecture. After studying every aspect of it I never had the opportunity to work in that building until now. Mies devised a system so compelling and powerful the end result looked like a modern version of a Mies, Johnson & Wiggins collaboration!

What were your biggest fears when you started out in your profession?

I didn't want to fail, so I developed the confidence to believe in myself. To believe that my influence, my design direction could have a positive impact on how people experience their workplace. After a few successful outcomes there was no looking back.

Who are three women- living or dead - that you would like to have drinks with and why?

Charlotte Perriand's contribution to Le Corbusier's studio was tremendous. She had the courage to persevere when women were not encouraged to do so. My fourth grade teacher Mrs. Anderson, who never let a day go by without encouraging her little girls to go forth with determination and passion. Maya Angelou, from whom I continually learn about life: "My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style." What more is there?

What is your favorite quote?

ME, WE by Mohammed Ali at a commencement address at Harvard University, Spring of 1975

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