



aniel Romualdez was born and raised in the Philippine capital of Manila, a place where family expectations still carry a good deal of weight. His mother and his father, a diplomat, wanted their son to go into banking. He was more interested in houses. "I would look at my mom's magazines—all the designers had flocks of Lalanne sheep inside their homes," he recalls wistfully, referring to the fluffy and highly collectible sculptures by artist François-Xavier Lalanne. Romualdez was sent to boarding school in the U.S. and later attended Yale, where he was encouraged to study economics. He even worked briefly on Wall Street, but the experience only fueled his creative urges. After earning a master's degree from Columbia's School of Architecture and working in the offices of Thierry Despont and Robert A.M. Stern, he opened his own practice. Since 1993 he has been dreaming up chic and sophisticated residences for just the sort of client who would appreciate Lalanne sheep. →



In the living room, a Romualdez-designed sofa and daybed, both upholstered in a raw silk, are grouped with vintage acrylic armchairs by Paul Rudolph; the painting on the far wall is by Sarah Morris, and the white sculpture is by Alessandro Twombly. **Below left:** Romualdez on the terrace steps.



