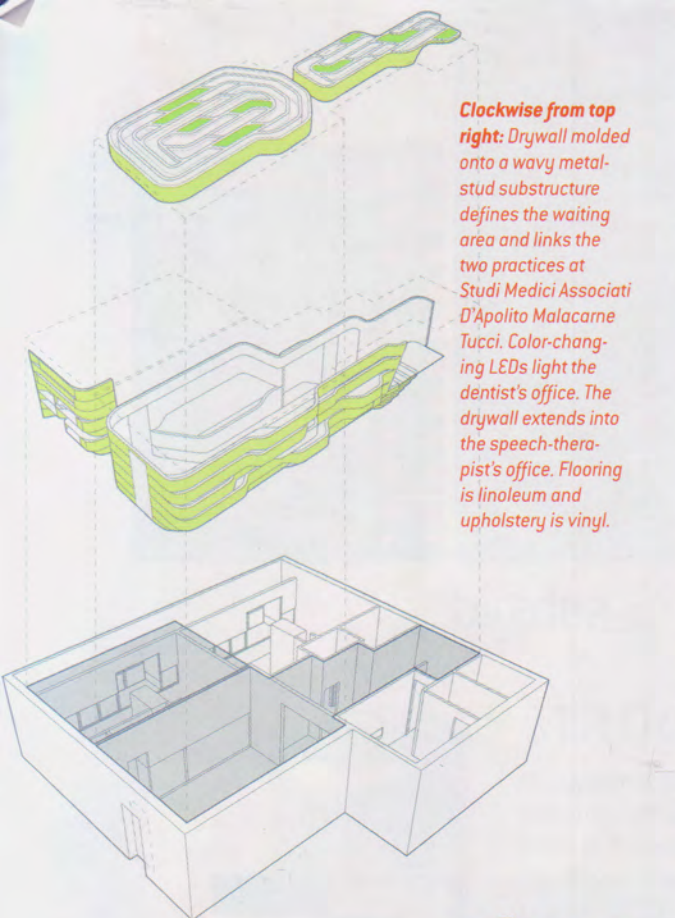




# INTERIOR DESIGN<sup>®</sup>

MARCH  
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**Clockwise from top right:** Drywall molded onto a wavy metal-stud substructure defines the waiting area and links the two practices at Studi Medici Associati D'Apolito Malacarne Tucci. Color-changing LEDs light the dentist's office. The drywall extends into the speech-therapist's office. Flooring is linoleum and upholstery is vinyl.

firms: **steve e. blatz, architect;**  
**antonio pio saracino**  
site: **rome**

## play a duet



## bigidea 30



**It makes perfect sense:** a pediatric-dental practice teaming up with a children's speech therapist. But how to unite the two Rome businesses functionally and stylistically? Such was the challenge Studi Medici Associati D'Apolito Malacarne Tucci posed to Steve E. Blatz, Architect, and Antonio Pio Saracino. The team's response is most apparent in the waiting area, where "a system of ribbons creates an all-around spatial experience," Saracino says. Said ribbons are actually thin layers of drywall, which were moistened on-site, so they could be molded over a wavy substructure to form inviting benches, shelving, stairs, and even the ceiling. Green, the color both practices chose as their brand identity, provides further unity, appearing in the upholstery and coves, the desk in the speech-therapist's office, and the LEDs lighting the dentist's office. —Annie Block