

**THOMAS O'BRIEN,
KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

The Merchandise Mart International Antiques Fair in Chicago, Illinois, will kick off with a keynote address by Thomas O'Brien, interior and home furnishings designer, "American Modern: My Inspirations for Classic Style, from Modern to Traditional," at 10 a.m. on April 30.

In his presentation, O'Brien will discuss his design philosophy and his new book *American Modern*, a survey of seven of his most influential projects ranging from traditional to modern in style. As the founder and president of Aero Studios, O'Brien has a traditional-to-modern design philosophy that translates cool notions of Modernism into an easy and generous array of modern styles. Attendees are asked to RSVP for O'Brien's keynote address on line at (www.merchandise-martantiques.com).

The Merchandise Mart International Antiques Fair will host more than 100 dealers of antiques and fine art, April 30-May 3, as part of Artropolis, Chicago's citywide celebration of art, antiques, and culture. It will be located on the eighth floor of The Merchandise Mart and will open with the popular preview night, benefiting the Women's Board of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, at 5:30 p.m. on April 29. Tickets start at \$150 and are available on line.

Tickets to the Merchandise Mart International Antiques Fair are \$15 for students; \$20 general admission; and \$25 for a multi-day pass. Tickets also provide admission to Artropolis, featuring Art Chicago, one of the leading modern and contemporary art fairs in the world, and NEXT, an invitational exhibition of emerging art.

For more information or to RSVP by phone, call (800) 677-6278.

