



# ENTER A WORLD OF LUMINOUS RADIANCE...

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**BROKIS®  
STORYLINE**

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## “NOTHING’S IMPOSSIBLE; NEVER SAY IT CAN’T BE DONE.”

Entrepreneur Jan Rabell is one of the most dynamic figures in the Czech Republic’s glassmaking industry. Born in Prague in 1965 to a Puerto Rican father and a Czech mother, he grew up in his father’s homeland, later returning to Prague to pursue a master’s degree in economics. He went on to hold various managing director posts in the field of finance and banking. In 1997, he purchased the ailing Janštejn Glassworks and set about restoring its prestige and competitiveness primarily by introducing unconventional glassblowing techniques and production technologies. In 2006, he founded the family-run premium glass lighting brand BROKIS, quickly developing it into one of the most important players in the market and exporting its products around the world. Mr Rabell’s charisma, energy, and innovative vision continue to propel BROKIS and Janštejn Glassworks steadily forward.



# PRESERVING THE BOHEMIAN GLASSBLOWING TRADITION

BROKIS – a synthesis of exquisite design, superior quality, and the skill of master artisans continuing the centuries-old Bohemian glassmaking tradition. BROKIS lighting collections have achieved international acclaim by combining handblown glass with other refined materials, such as handcrafted wood and metal, in bold compositions that push the boundaries not only of contemporary lighting design but of the technologies applied in production. The family-run premium brand works with select designers from around the world and operates its own historical glassworks southeast of Prague.

Each BROKIS light is a genuine original, a functional work of art as captivating by day as it is by night. BROKIS is the brainchild of successful Czech entrepreneur Jan Rabell. In 2006, he founded the brand as a platform to revitalize and elevate Bohemian glassmaking to new heights and preserve generations of knowledge and craftsmanship. Nearly ten years prior, in 1997, he acquired the ailing Janštejn Glassworks, which was established at the start of the 19th century approximately 140 kilometres southeast of Prague.

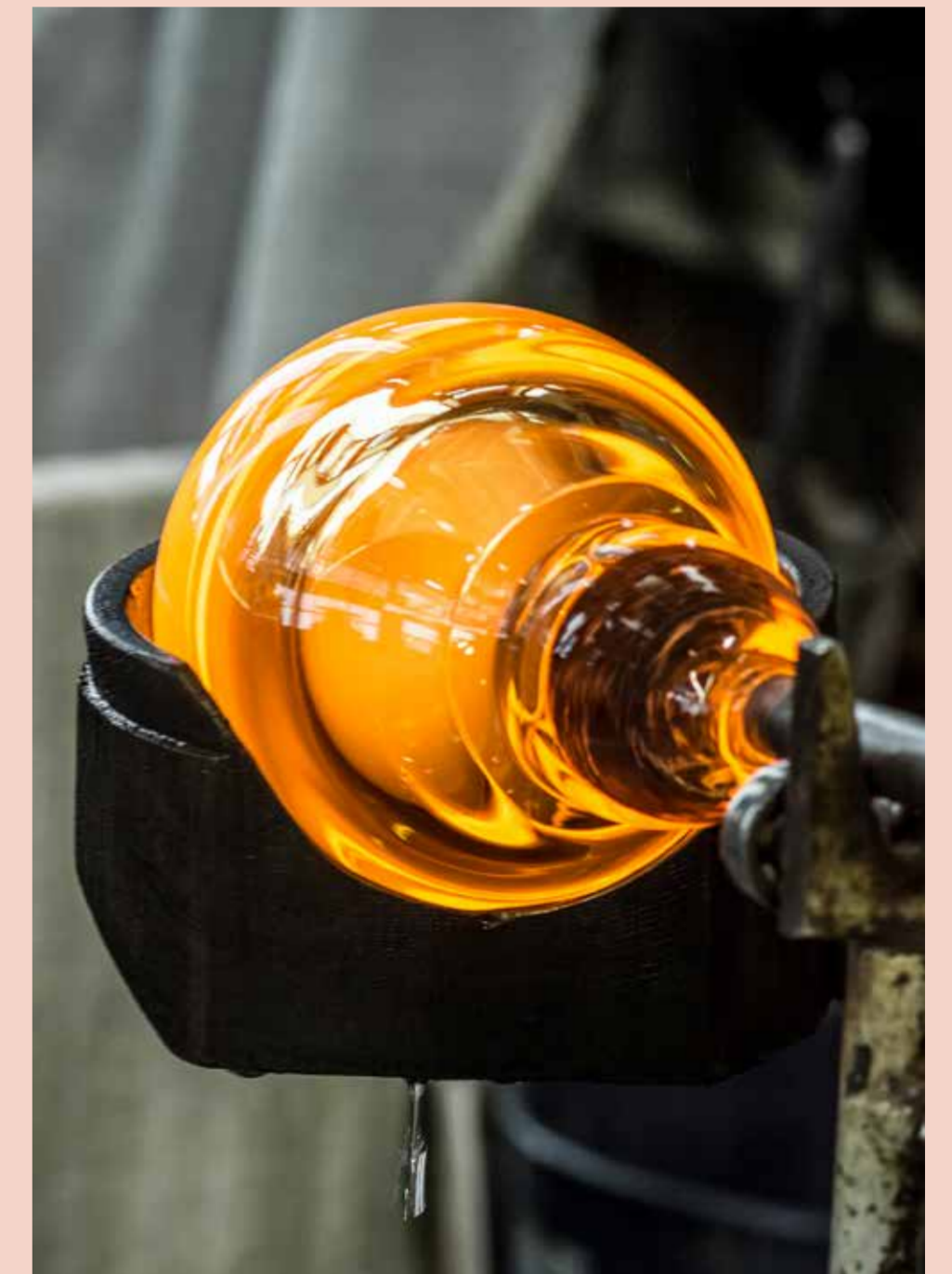
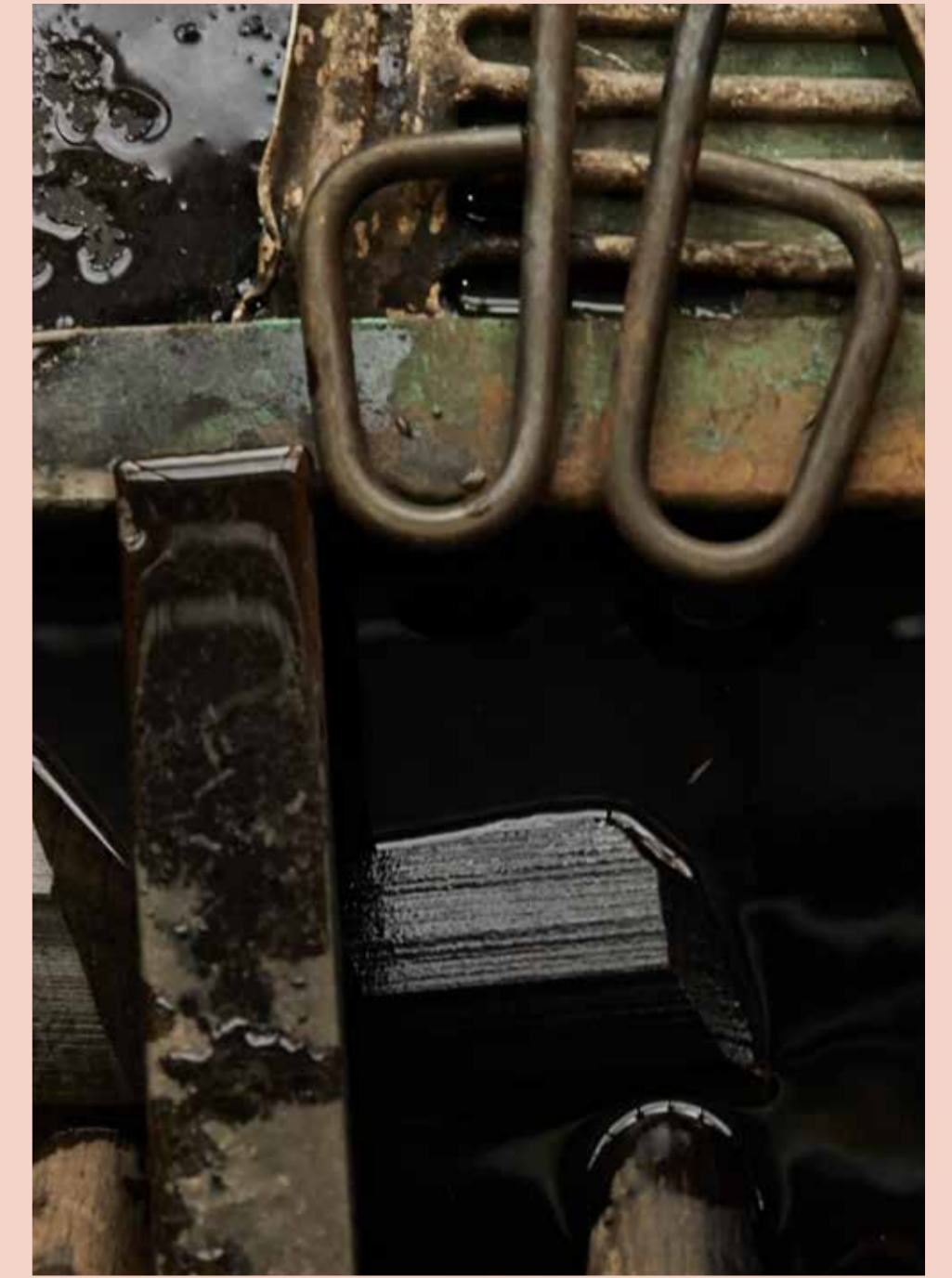
Demand for traditional products had declined significantly, many of the glassmakers were growing old and leaving, and time-honoured technologies and techniques were at risk of being lost. Mr. Rabell's vision was to restore the factory to its former prestige and ensure that the ages-old Bohemian glassmaking tradition endured into the 21st century.

With BROKIS, Jan Rabell created a lighting brand offering entirely different products than those previously produced at Janštejn Glassworks. Several new Italian-style furnaces were built, and production techniques were refined. Some, such as grinding and glass painting, were discontinued, and others were revived, like glassblowing using optic moulds and traditional hotshop techniques. Original and nearly forgotten formulas for manufacturing coloured glass were reinstated and are now characteristic of the BROKIS brand.

BROKIS has firmly established itself as a leading innovator in glass lighting. For example, the complex technology applied in manufacturing the Night Birds collection, which consists of imposing yet elegant curved glass silhouettes of birds in various phases of flight, required two years of experimentation to perfect.

BROKIS is constantly developing new technologies for its lights in order to offer consistent industry-leading quality and innovation throughout its global product portfolio, such as with a special original connector, the sustainable material called BROKISGLASS, and TRIMLESS, a sleek new system for hanging pendent lights from lowered drywall ceilings.

BROKIS also maintains a strong online presence through a series of innovative initiatives, such as BROKIS VIRTUAL PROJECTS and the unique MyBrokis application. In January of 2022, BROKIS launched a website within Janštejn Glass Group (JGG). Today, BROKIS and Janštejn Glassworks employ more than 100 people and enjoy a unique symbiosis that has allowed BROKIS to establish sales operations in 120 countries and regularly showcase its renowned lighting collections at the world's top design shows.





## 01

### EUROLUCE 2023

*It was a real honour for us to present our latest creations and to experience EuroLuce 2023 with you at our booth, which spanned 300 m<sup>2</sup> of floorspace and was conceived by the design duo of VRTIŠKA & ŽÁK. It was the biggest in the history of our brand.*

*At our booth, guests had an opportunity to see 12 collections making their international exhibition debut. In total, there were more than 20 radiant lighting collections to see at EuroLuce 2023.*



## 02

### RABELL FAMILY

*The Rabell family has been continuing the Bohemian glassmaking tradition since 1997. Together, they present their remarkable hand-made glass products to the entire world.*



## 03

### NEW HALL

*A new hall was officially opened in 2023. With a capacity of 500 pallet spaces, it will shorten production times as well as delivery of our lighting collections to you.*



## 06

### LUCIE & BROKIS - A JOURNEY THROUGH LIGHT AND SPACE

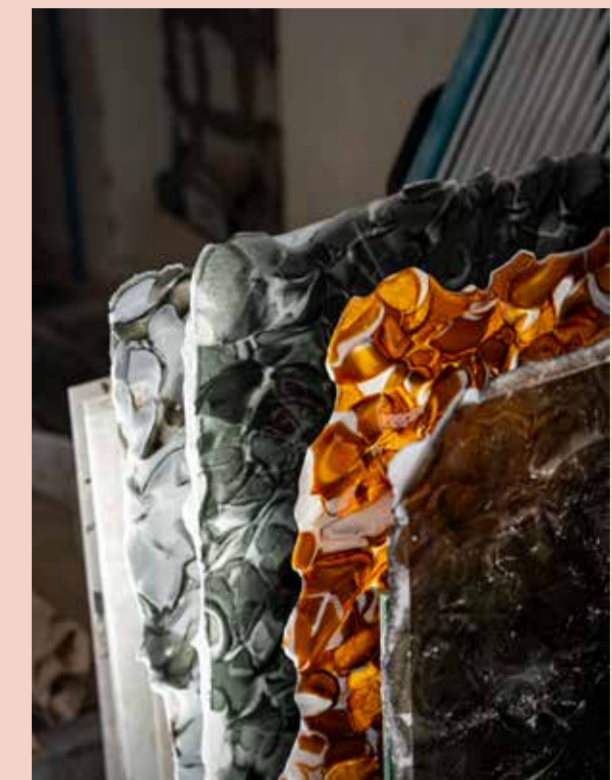
*Lucie Koldova has been setting a clear creative direction and shaping the vision of our company since 2013. In that time, she has designed more than 19 lighting collections for BROKIS.*



## 07

### AWARDS

*In its short existence, BROKIS has succeeded in winning a number of prestigious international awards underscoring the overall quality and craftsmanship of our products.*



## 08

### BROKISGLASS

*BROKISGLASS is a product of the ecological manufacturing practices of Janštejn Glassworks and BROKIS, whose close collaboration has given rise to a unique new material made of glass shards. BROKISGLASS adds an exciting new dimension and aesthetic to glass.*

*The material is ideal for use in architecture, construction, interior design, and product design.*



## 04

### HOTEL PERK

*Following a remarkable transformation, the functionalistic landmark Hotel Perk has reopened in the northeastern Czech city of Šumperk. The modern interior was designed by BROKIS art director Lucie Koldova and her studio. A playscape of light and subtle shadows that accentuate the building's clean lines are complemented by BROKIS lighting collections.*

## 05

### TRIMLESS

*BROKIS is constantly developing new technologies for its lights and offers unsurpassed quality and innovation across its entire global product portfolio.*



## A NEW CHAPTER

BROKIS tells the story of these magnificent homes and how the lights change and take on different identities depending on the time, from pure design during the day to magical atmosphere from dusk onwards.



## About the photo shoot

When Jan and André Rabell asked me to shoot the new BROKIS catalogue, I immediately thought about how best to arrange the lights to show their incredible versatility and highlight all their inherent facets without changing their soul.

I imagined the lights in completely different situations and looked for ways to show the end consumer that each of them can be used in both traditional and modern, contemporary interiors simply by changing the finish, the colour of the glass, the kind of metal, or simply an electrical wire. It was a challenge to conceive this project and to portray, in a very natural way, how one and the same model of light can exist in different situations almost as if it were a custom design.

I immediately began looking for suitable locations. This is an essential aspect of any such project, since the right setting provides the necessary balance. I wanted to tell the story of these magnificent homes and how the lights change and take on different identities depending on the time, from pure design during the day to magical atmosphere from dusk onwards.

It was a complex challenge. I had to identify very different homes with the potential to give a range of styles. My intent was to create an exquisite setting for each light and convey a sense of sophisticated elegance. There needed to be genuine charm and, above all, the right ambience, something BROKIS clients could relate to and perhaps even want to try imitating in their own homes.

Regardless of the venue, be it a private residence, a hotel, a restaurant, or a studio, the first thing that a photographer must assess is the quality of the light as provided by natural conditions during the day and then, from dusk, by the carefully positioned lights, which must fulfil both a utilitarian function and a purely aesthetic one. After all, a light has three purposes: to furnish, to decorate, and to illuminate.

While visiting the locations, I imagined the placement of the lights with regard to their colour, size, and type. I approached this project as a real interior design project, not merely a photographic idea. I worked as if the owner of each house had commissioned me to create an honest design. I thought about how the house would be even more beautiful with the lights in it. It was a bit like thinking about a beautiful woman, one with an excellent sense of style and high fashion who I can embellish with unique and extraordinary accessories to achieve even more shine and glamour. Lights are fundamental elements inside a home, and it's very important to devote attention to them just like a sofa or a dining table or a kitchen. If you're wrong about the light, it spoils the whole atmosphere. I'm convinced of this, and that's why I was very happy to collaborate with BROKIS on this project.

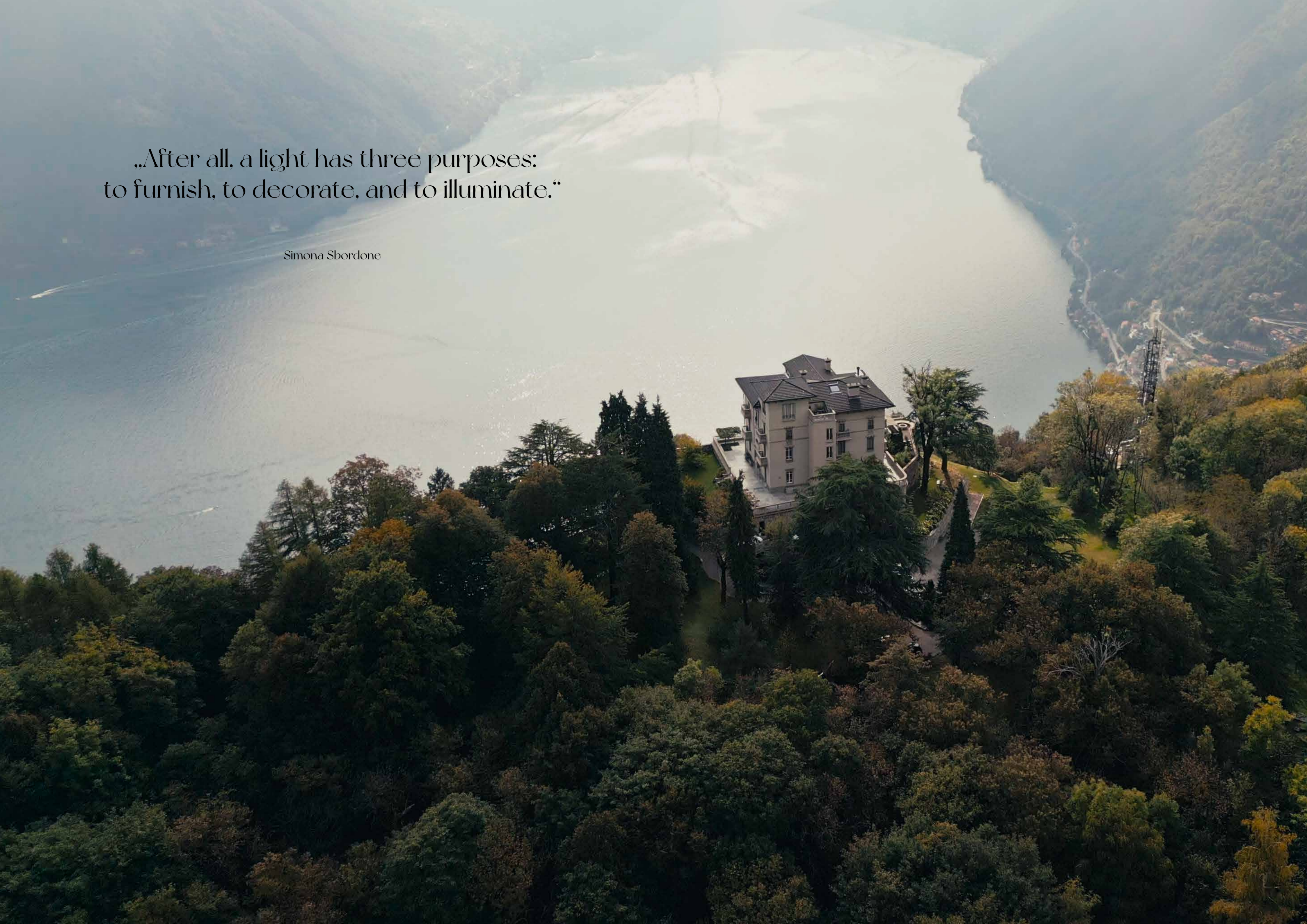
Simona Sbordone

*BROKIS Storyline  
art direction and styling*

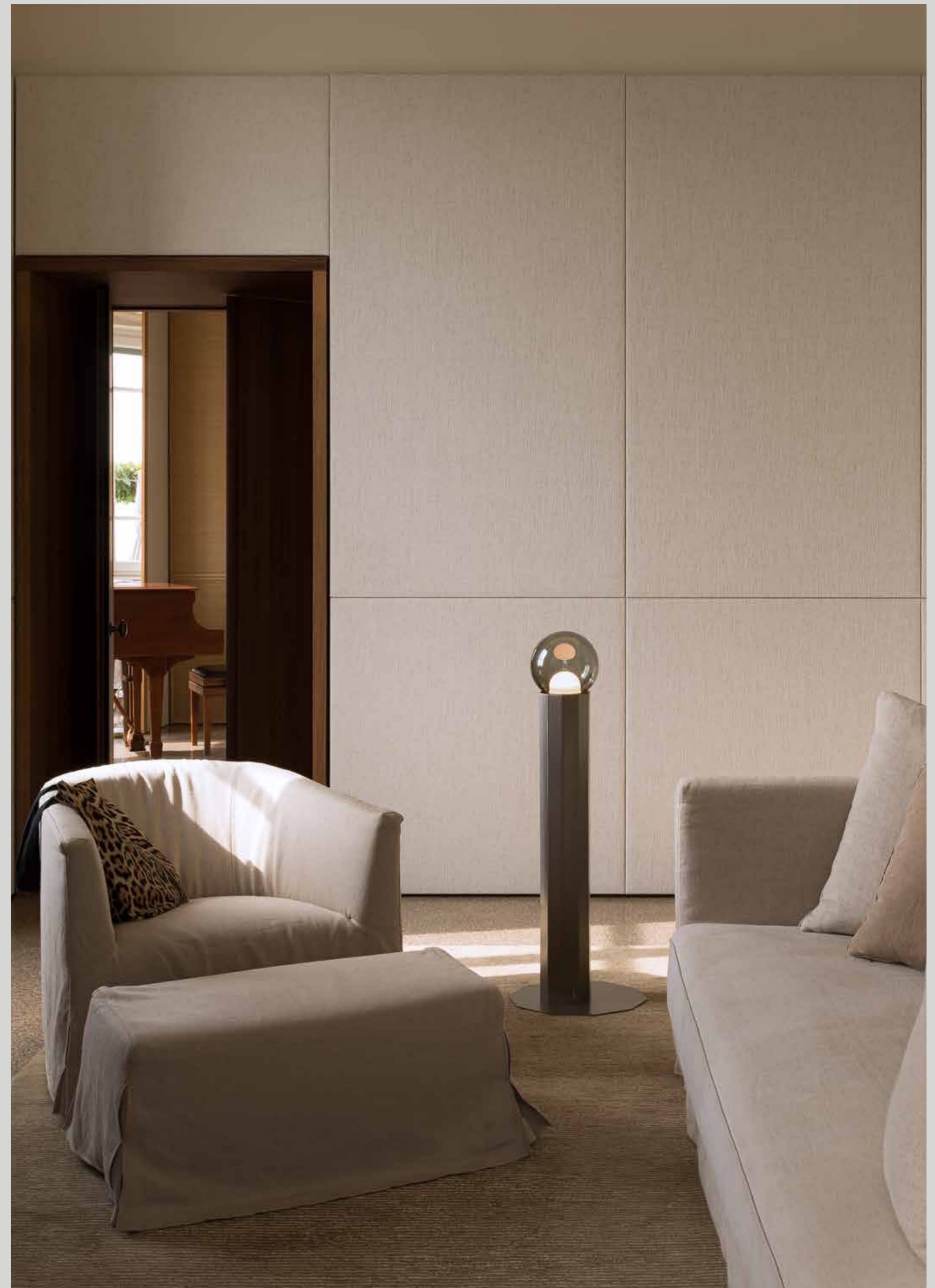


„After all, a light has three purposes:  
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Simona Sbordone









**BIG ONE** *This large-format light with matte core by designer Lucie Koldova embodies a gentle poetry, simplicity, purity, and balanced proportions.*

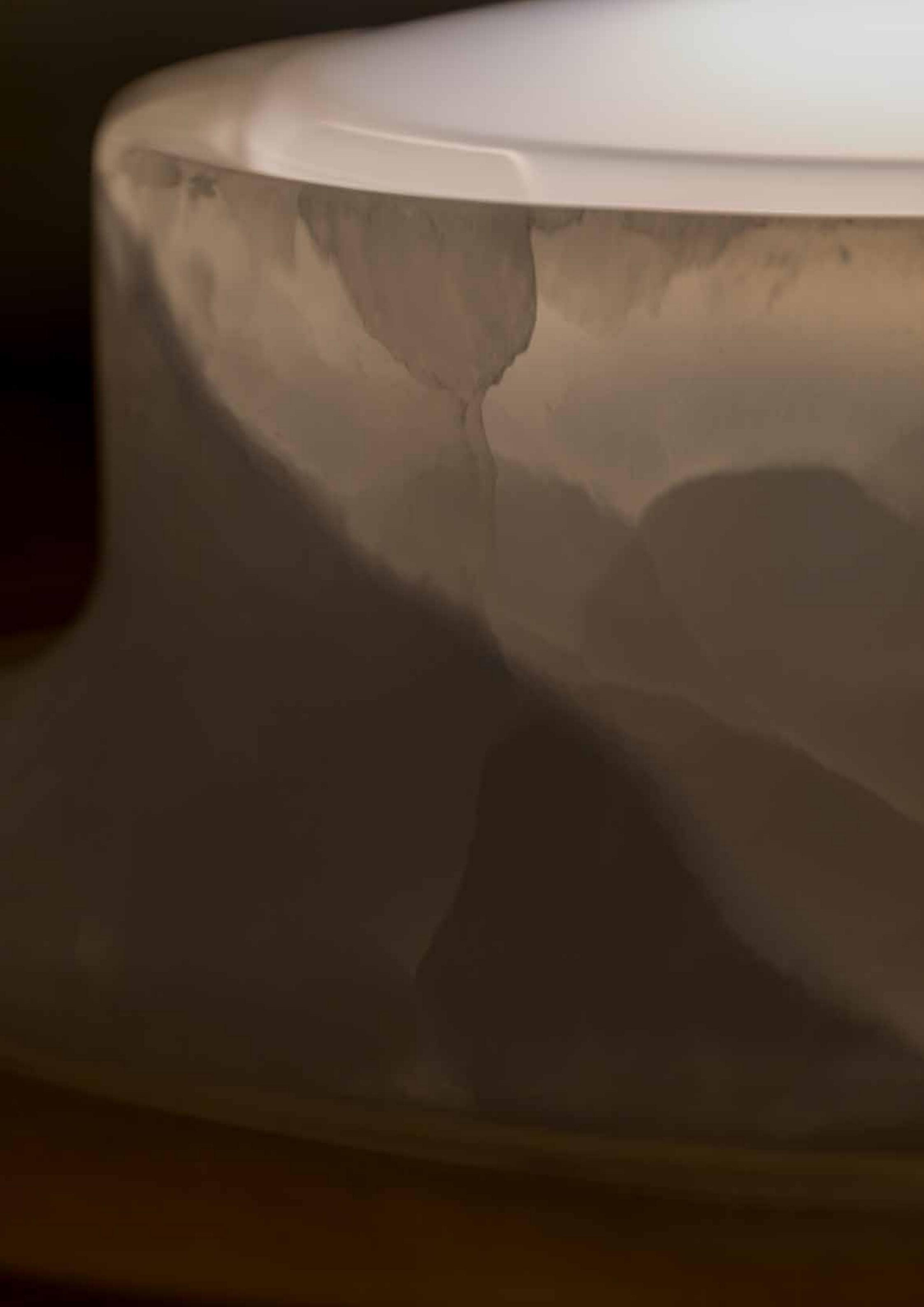




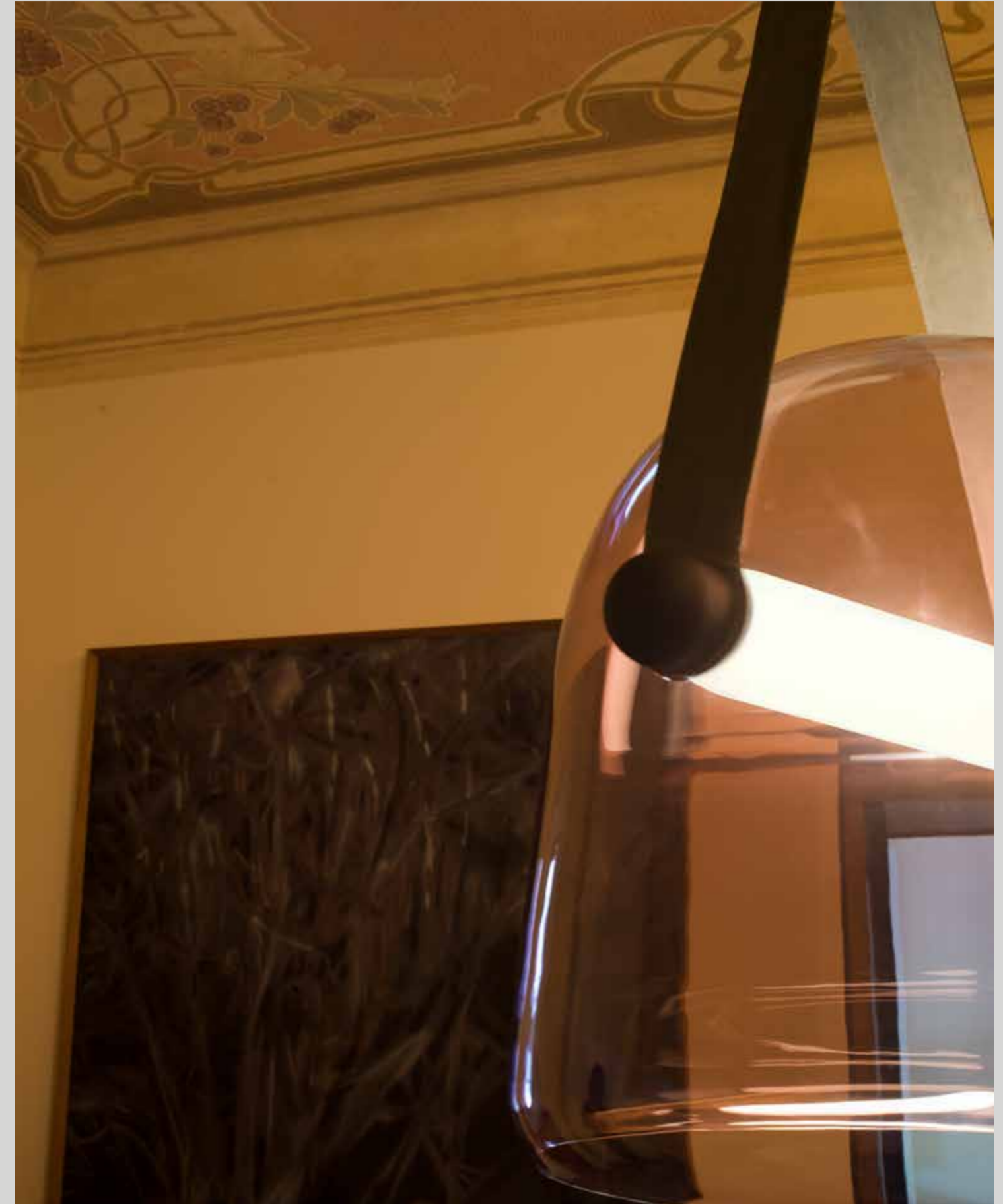
The first location is Villa Peduzzi, an amazing home from the 1920s with an incredible view of Lake Como, a world-famous destination loved by the jet set from east to west. The villa is furnished with great taste, with special attention to materials and details, and it immediately struck me as the top candidate. For instance, putting the Muffins lights in the pool house in an extraordinary sunset scene was one of the most beloved shots for me. For this villa, I chose textures of light woods and a warm colour palette of brown and amber, with a touch of orange and a touch of pink, or light purple, such as with the Mona pendant, whose glass was the same shade as the ceiling fresco. The house has amazing historicity, so it was very inspiring to work there with BROKIS lights.







The lights must fulfil both a utilitarian function and a purely aesthetic one.



The **Mona** collection is based on the concept of penetrating forms. The light source boldly traverses the ample volume of smooth handblown glass to reveal the thrilling tension inherent in the design. The collection's essence, however, lies in its unconventional construction and refined combination of materials.







The collection comprises metal components in combination with handblown glass. Branches come in five basic sizes, while there are three sizes of shades in matte light rose, triplex opal, or smoke glass. The collection also offers an impressive floor light and intimate table lights. Elegant and precise in craftsmanship all the way down to the smallest detail, Ivy is a high-tech lighting concept ideally suited to project and residential applications. In household settings, for example, a single graceful branch can be hung above a dining table, or multiple branches can be used to create a curtain of light. The organic Ivy collection has many forms and rightfully holds its place in the realm of artistic, bespoke lighting solutions.



## KNOT







A very important aspect are outdoor settings. Outdoor lights play an important role in certain types of homes, and it's interesting to see how indoor and outdoor lights coexist perfectly despite having different shapes and finishes. With its wide variety of collections, BROKIS makes it possible to create a nearly endless variety of stunning, sleek combinations.





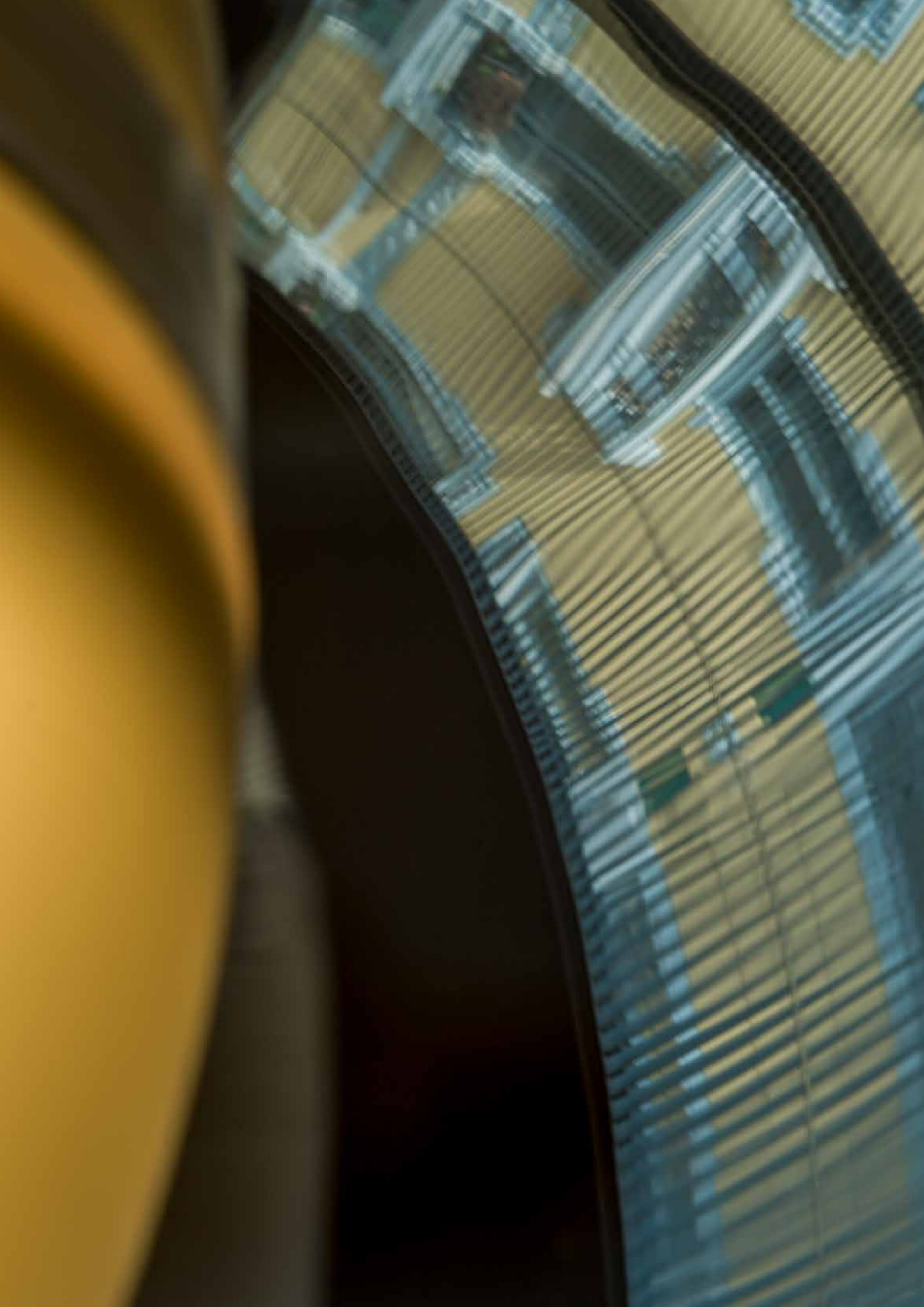
## MUFFINS

The sublimity of the design lies in the masterful combination of delicately contoured glass and solid wood. The lights, featuring a billowing glass shade set in a handcrafted wood base together with a naked filament bulb, breathe new life into any space and elicit a festive ambience.



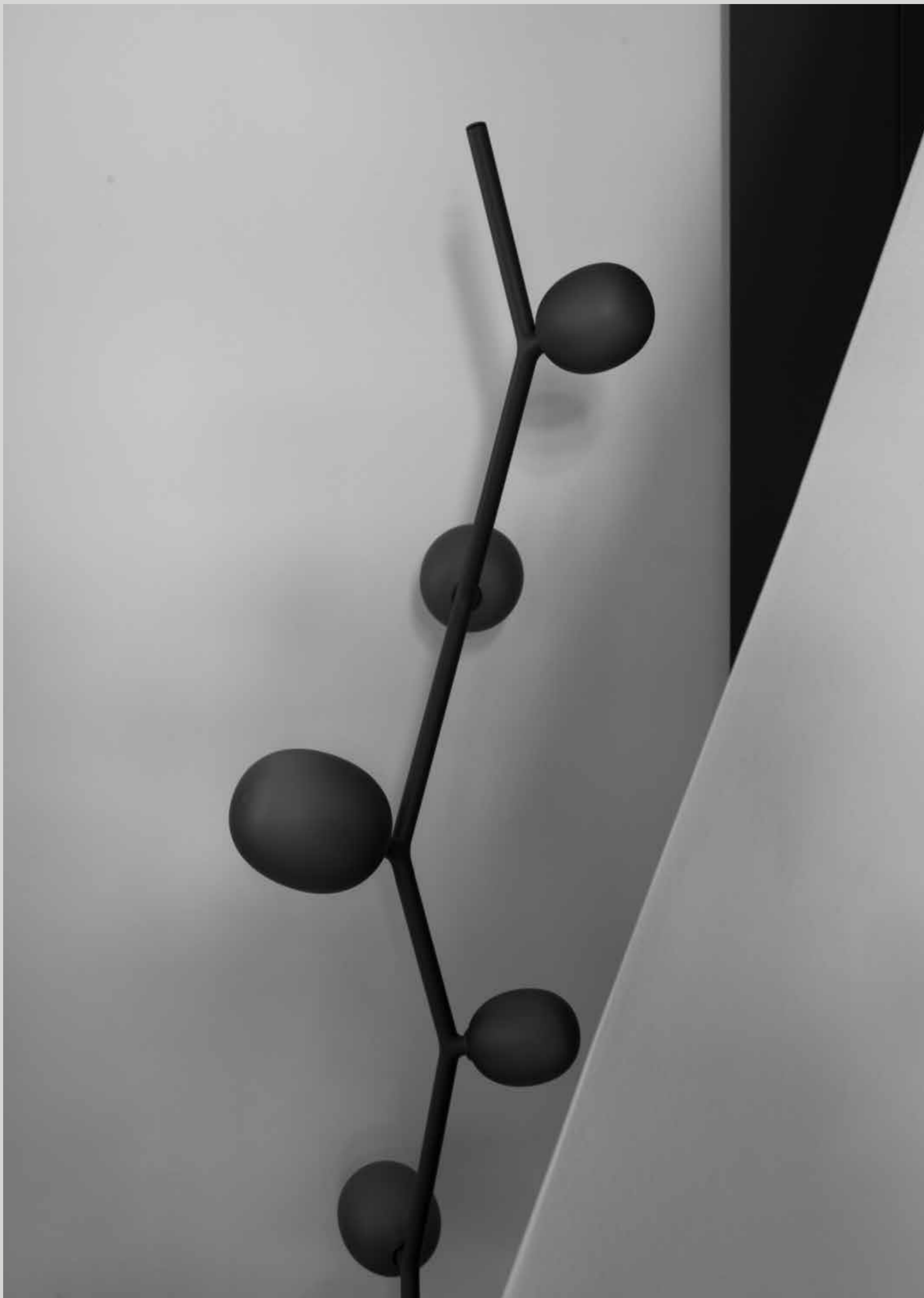






Each of the BROKIS lights is a designer object with its own unique characteristics, and it was amazing to be able to photograph them and develop an appreciation for the attention to detail and workmanship that goes into them. They truly are as beautiful during the day when they're switched off as they are at night when you turn them on. In that sense, they really augment the intrinsic beauty of the house.











The Milanese apartment with delabrè walls and minimal architectural interventions, furnished with pieces of historical design, such as a table that once belonged to Carlo Botta, is a classic expression of the bourgeois houses of this city and its sober style. Here, I opted for black and white Muffins, yellow Balloons, and a variant of Trottola with its blueish-grey luminance. The location blended modernity and vintage in a single style.





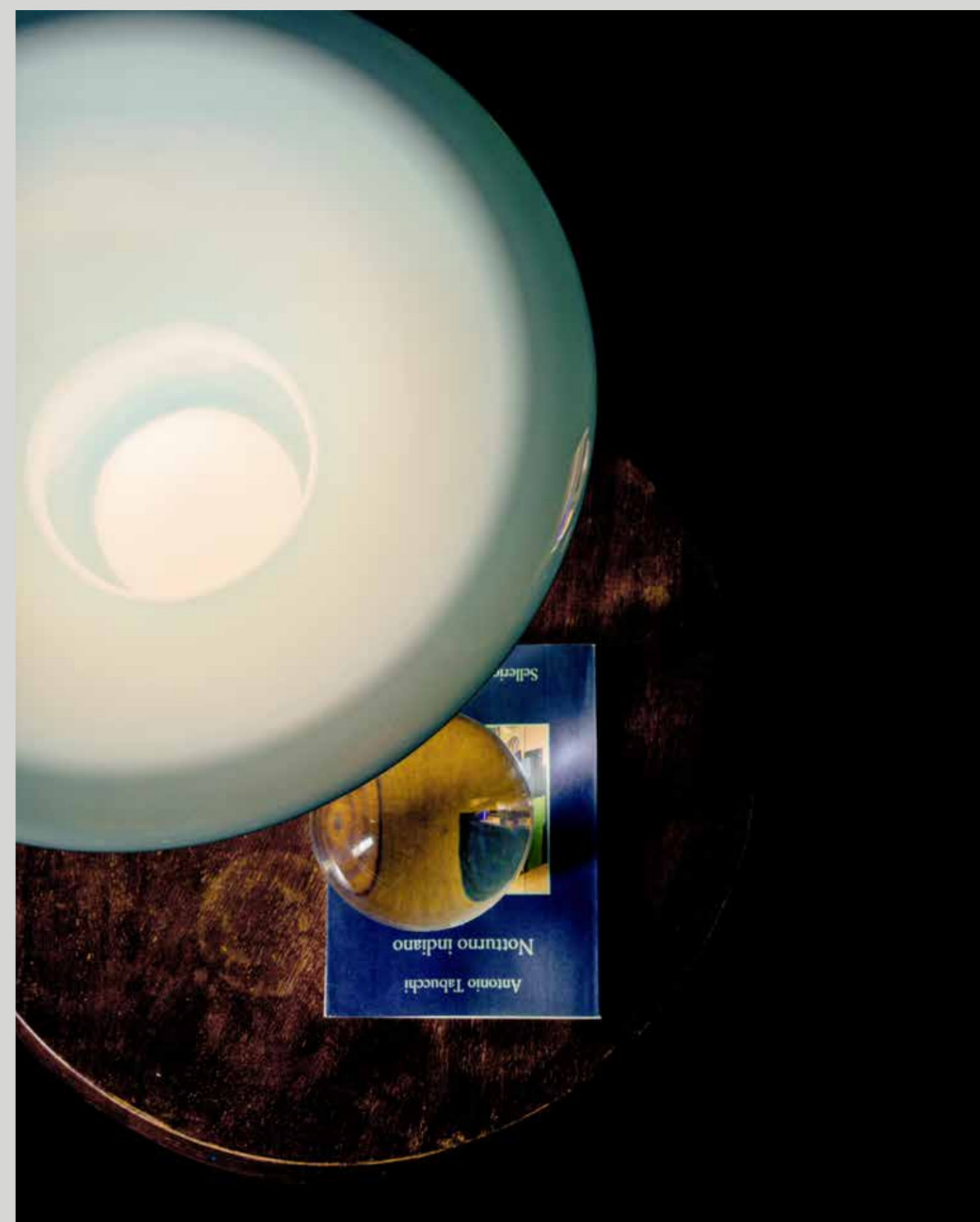
























For the location in Stresa, because its architecture contrasted incredibly with the first one and had the potential to arouse completely different sensations. Furthermore, it's the type of house you might imagine on the canals of Miami Beach or in Beverly Hills or in Japan. It has an absolutely transcendent architecture.

This was an all-white location, which to me represented light, so the lights I chose were also white, though some, such as Prisma, had a golden finish. I wanted to show the lights in their most minimal guise without the added value of colour, accentuating rather the transparency and the tones that best matched the design of each light.



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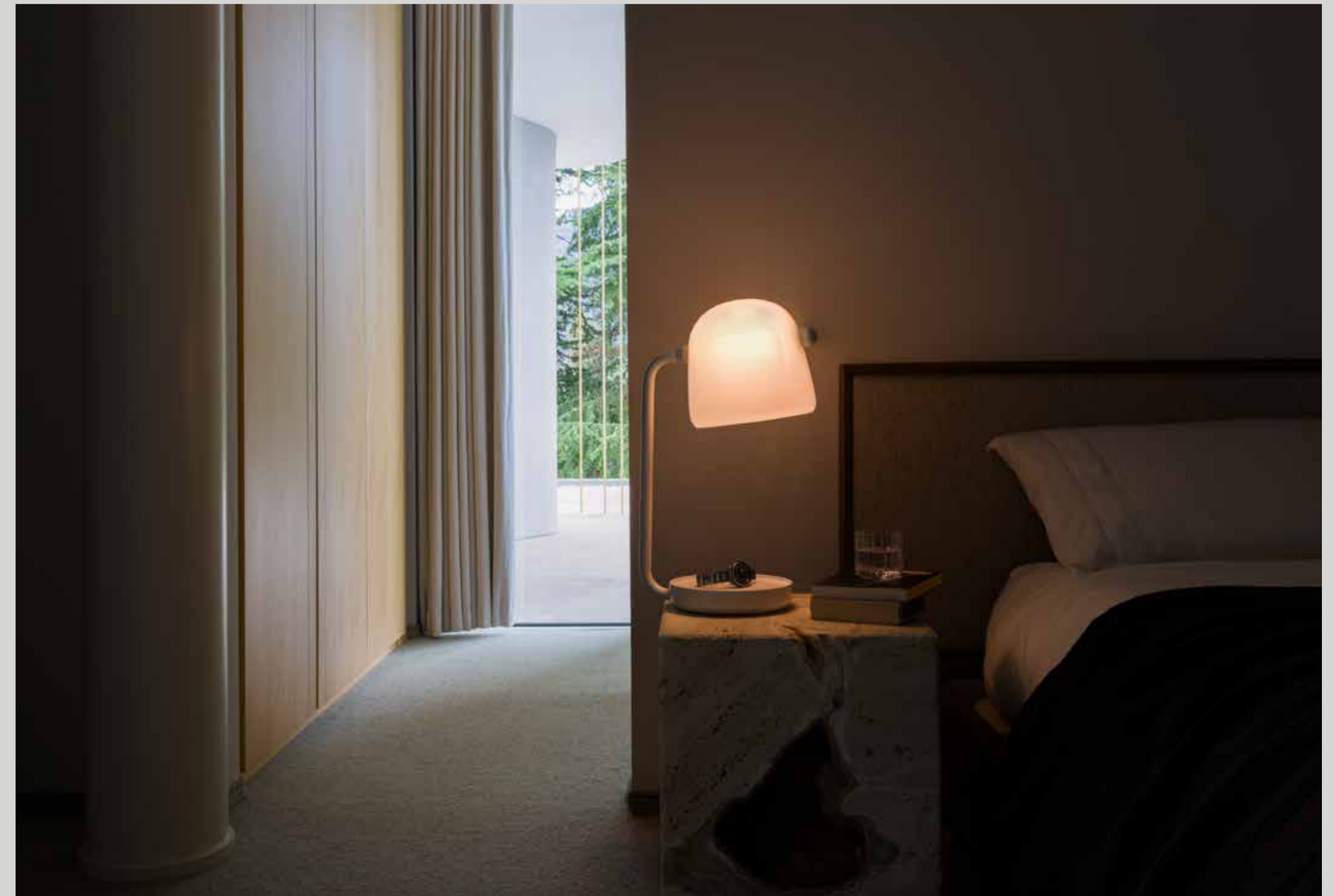






Trottola is a collection of pendent and table lights whose shape elicits memories of a popular childhood toy – the spinning top. As if by magic, the semi-transparent object comes to life with a gentle glow to reveal a fascinating playscape of shapes and shadows in the interior.



















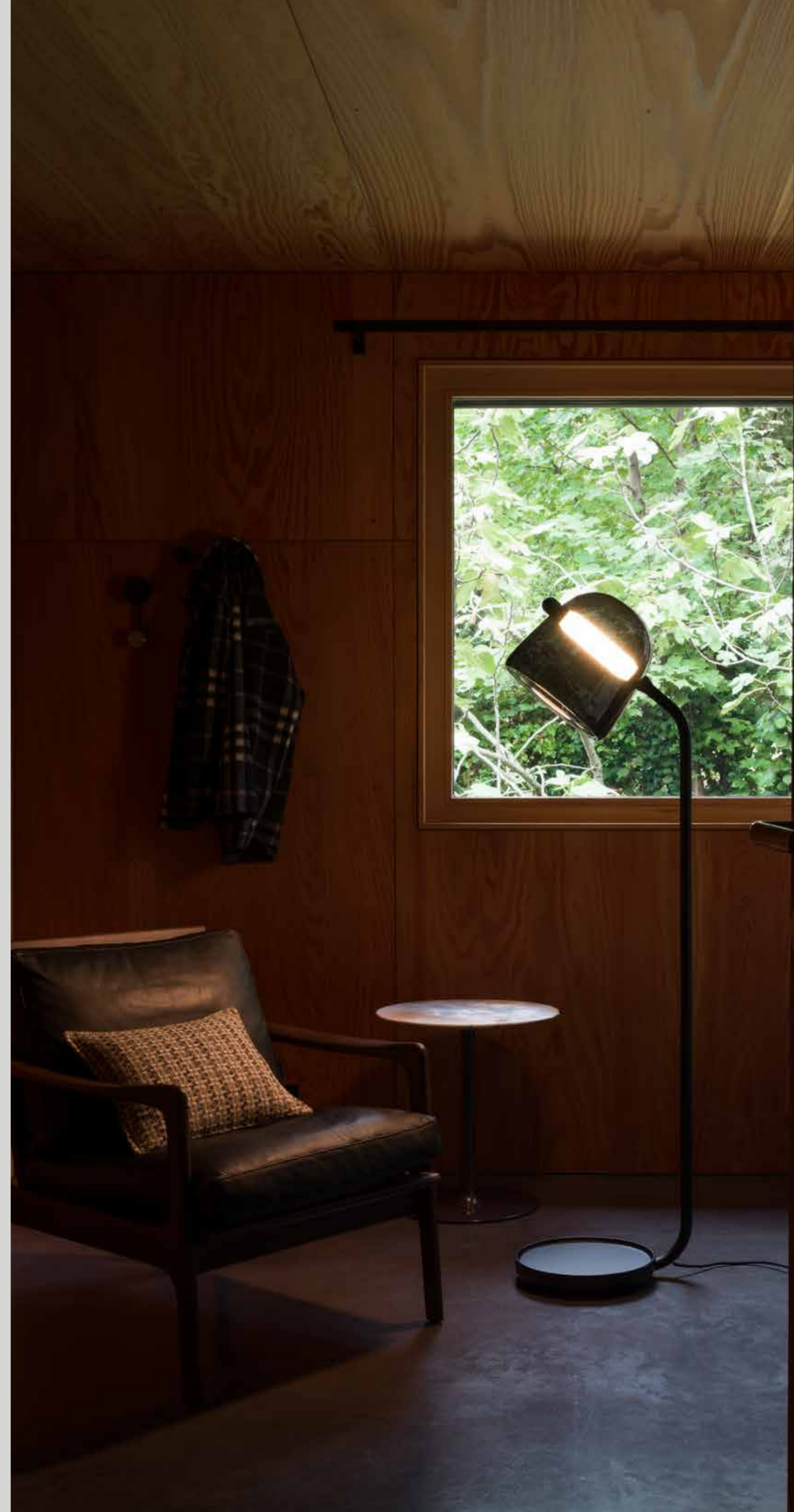








Lights are fundamental elements inside a home, and it's very important to devote attention to them just like a sofa or a dining table or a kitchen.





In the house on Lake Geneva, the Corten House, there was an additional element to the story. In contrast to the total white, this charming house made entirely of wood with a 1960s decor caught my attention. I imagined a flock of black Night Birds. Mostly, I wanted black lights that gave a completely different ambience from the previous ones, and the seduction of the

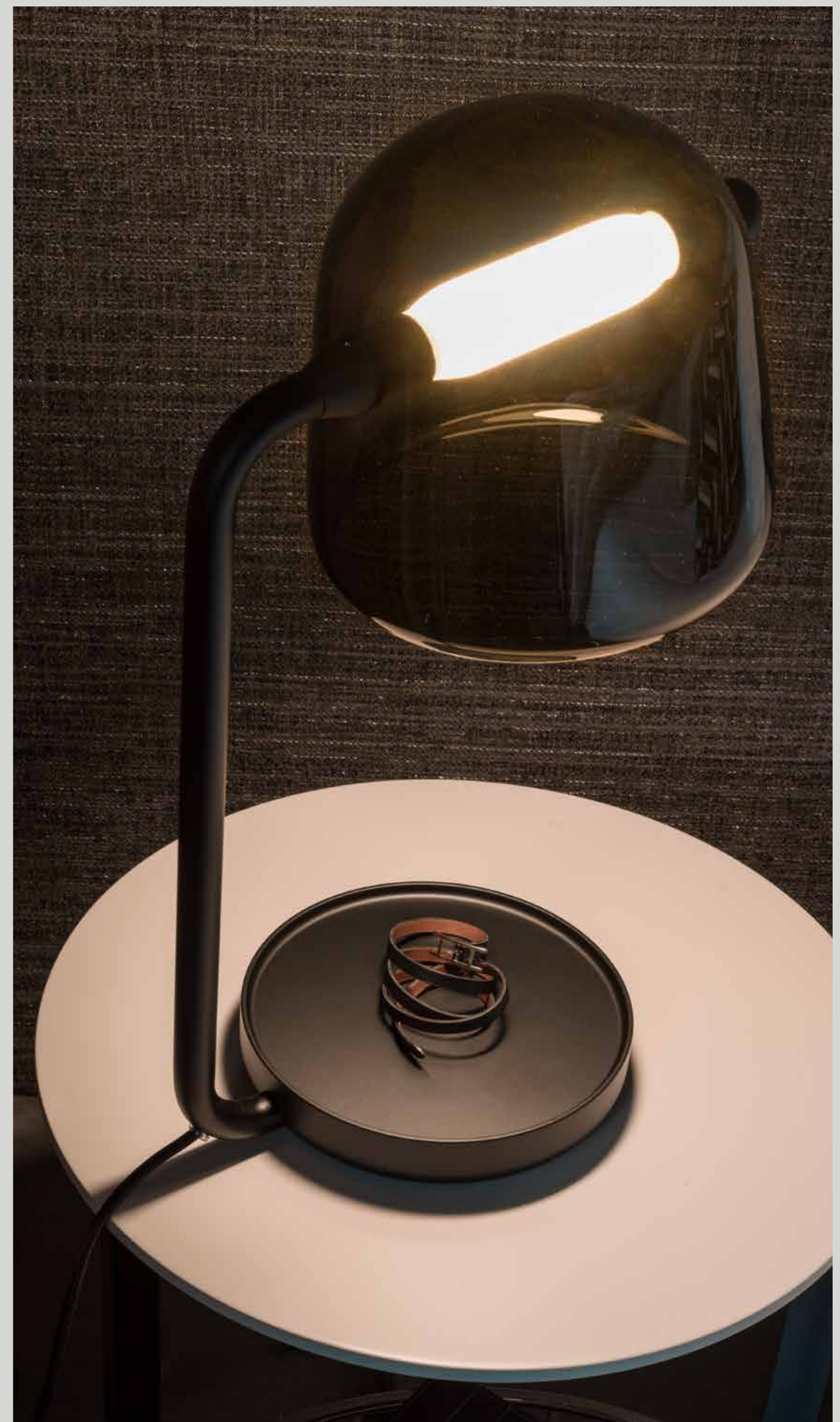
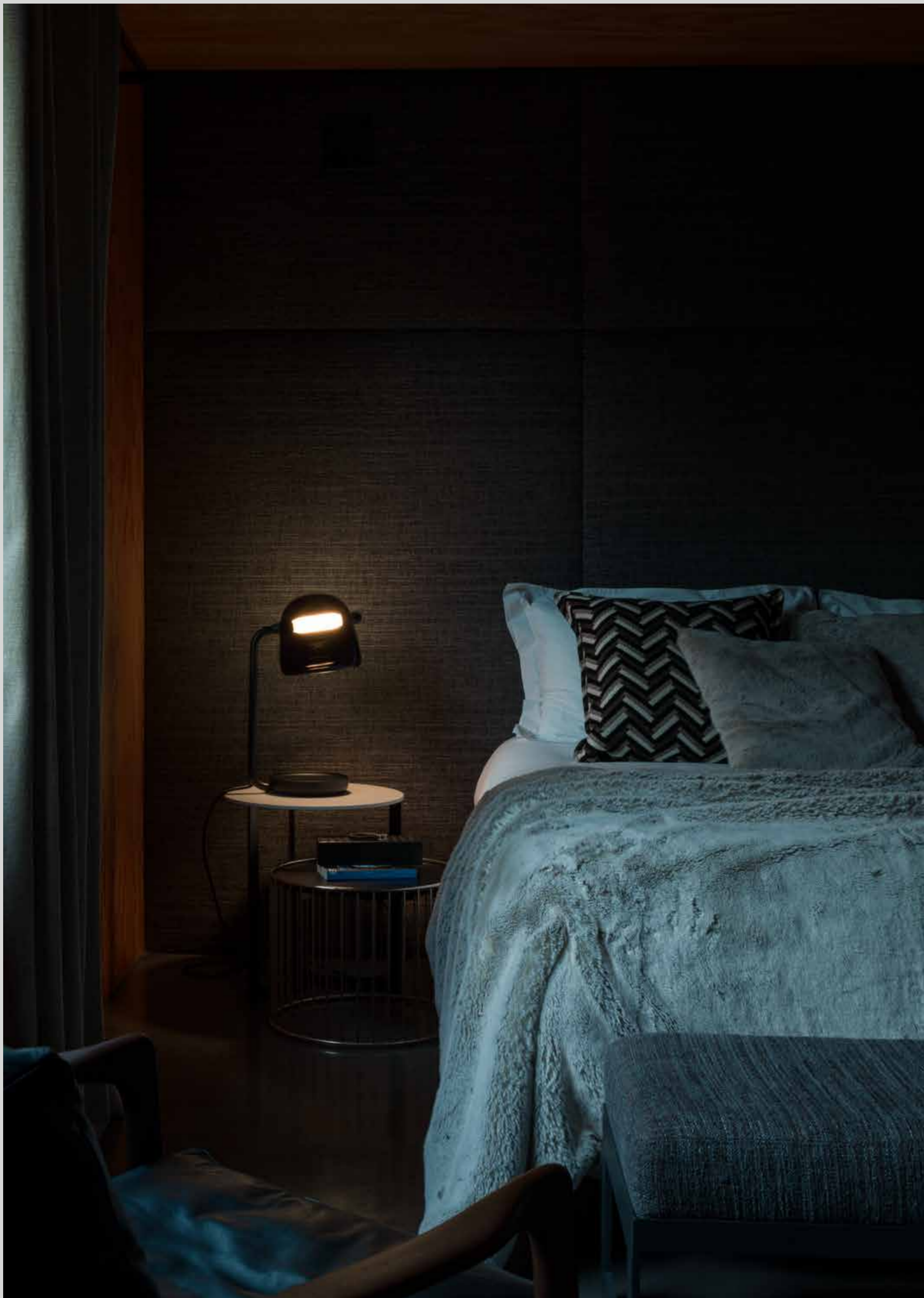
last photo of Bonbori on the pier filled my heart with joy, because it was precisely there that I saw the realization of a project that I'd worked hard to develop. The entire team enjoyed the beautiful vibe, and within each of us there was a desire to do a good job and show the enthusiasm with which we approached our work.







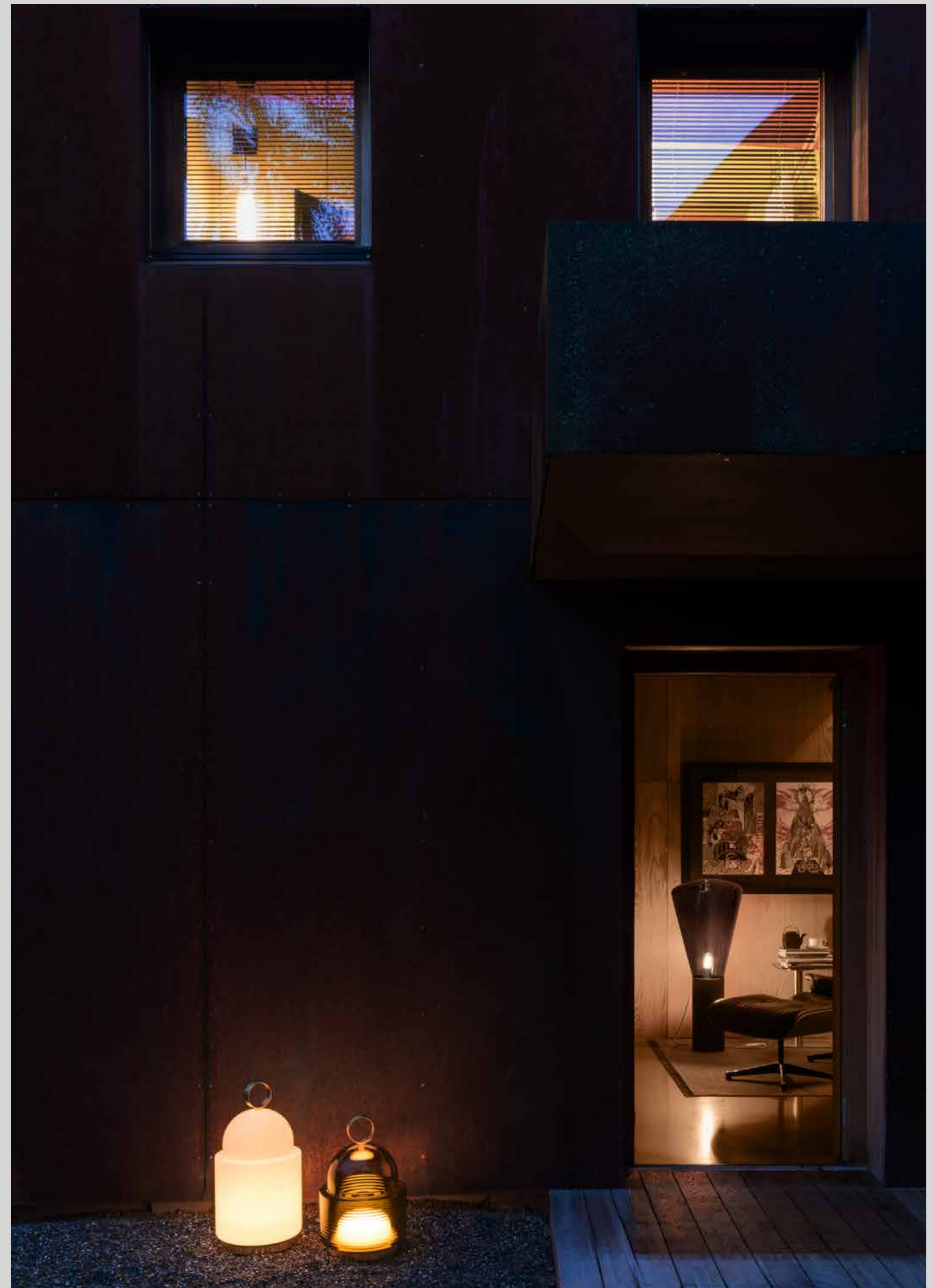




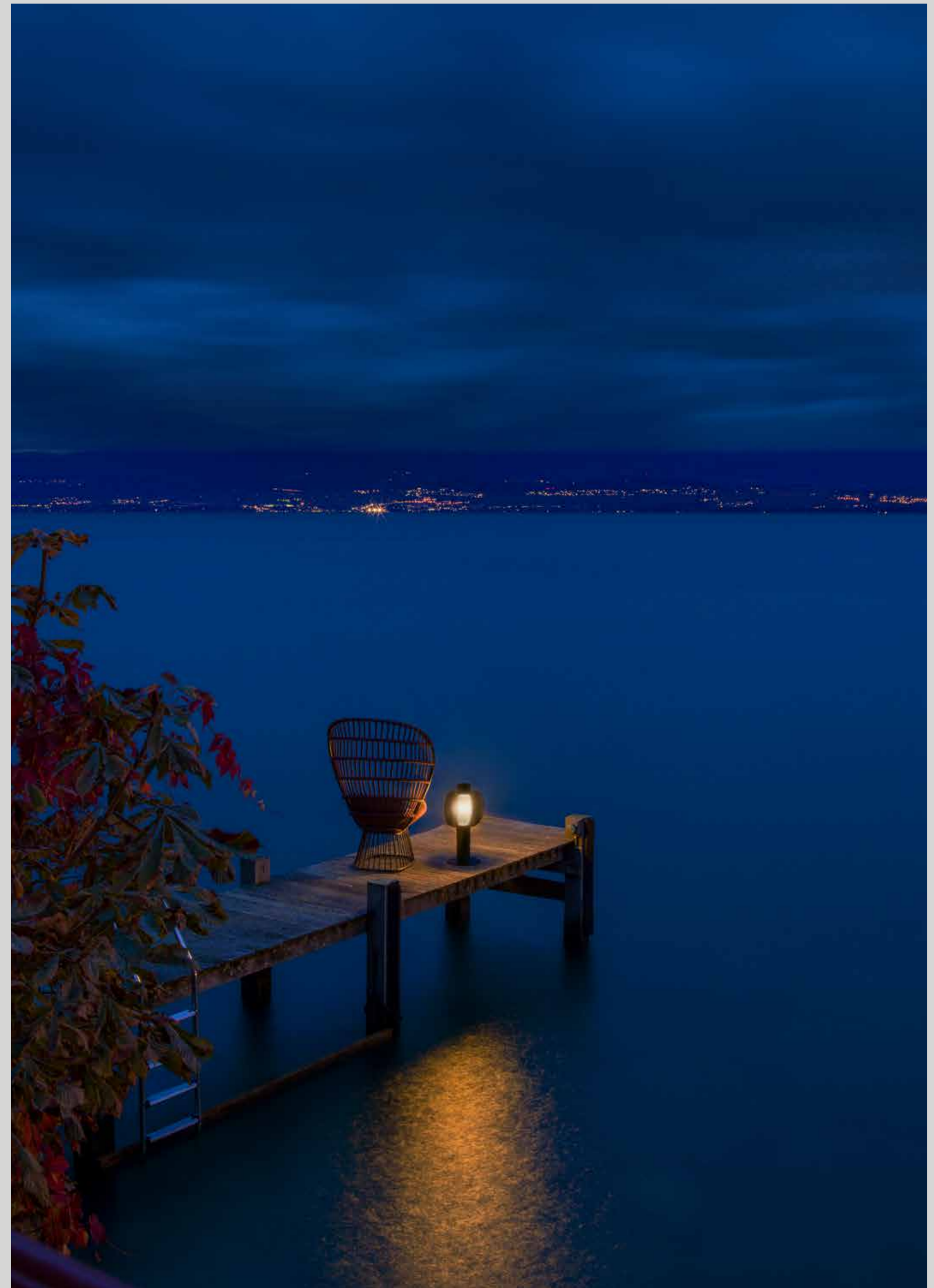


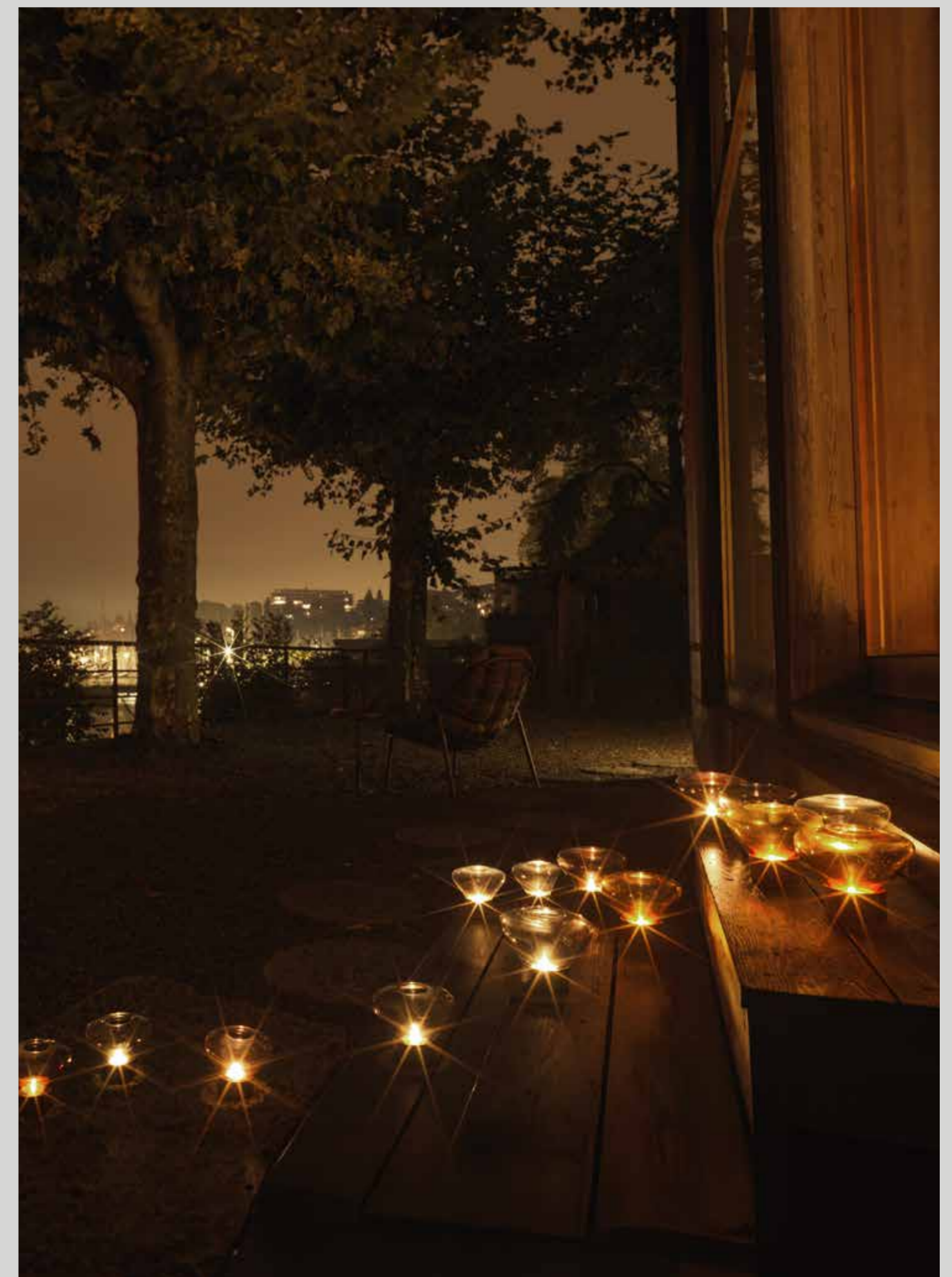






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# Thanks to

**Simona Sbordone**

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*BROKISGLASS*

*David Turecky*

*Kristyna Venturova*

*Luca Noris*

*Mangoshake studio*

*Martin Chum*

*Studio VOKO*

*Todus*

*Zeitgeist Limited*

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*Special thanks to BROKIS and  
BROKIS SOLUTIONS for project  
planning and realization.*

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