

A man with a beard and dark hair, wearing a black long-sleeved shirt and teal trousers, stands in a lush garden. He is positioned in the center-right of the frame, looking towards the camera. The garden is filled with various green plants, including a large, feathery fern in the foreground on the left. The background shows more foliage and a light-colored wall.

MAISON
&OBJET
P A R I S

MICHAEL ANASTASSIADES
DESIGNER OF THE YEAR

MICHAEL ANASTASSIADES

When Michael Anastassiades launched his eponymous lighting brand in 2007, the first fair at which he presented his new designs was MAISON&OBJET. Now, most aptly, he is coming back as Designer of the Year. In the interval, he has become one of the most poetic and prolific lighting designers working today.

In his work, the Cypriot designer uses simple shapes and volumes - a sphere, a line, a circle - to create a rich language where uncertainty and imbalance are embraced. The illusory simplicity of his designs is a labour of love, and not something easily achieved. In his view, designers are there to create relationships and interactions between people and objects.



MICHAEL ANASTASSIADES
DESIGNER OF THE YEAR
M&O PARIS / JAN. 2020



© Ben Anders

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Herman Miller
Double Dream of
Spring Exhibition

After training as a civil engineer and taking a master's degree in industrial design at the Royal College of Art, the Cypriot designer founded his studio in London in 1994 and his eponymous brand in 2007.

Although best known for his lighting, he has designed with the same rigour and clarity in all fields: furniture for the likes of B&B Italia, Herman Miller, Cassina; drinking glasses for Lobmeyr; speakers for Bang & Olufsen; a public project in Mint Street, London; a drinking fountain for the Victoria & Albert Museum. His work can be found in permanent collections at the Museum Of Modern Art in New York, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, the MAK in Vienna, the Crafts Council in London and the FRAC Centre in Orleans France.

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Tube Chandelier



MASTER OF LIGHT

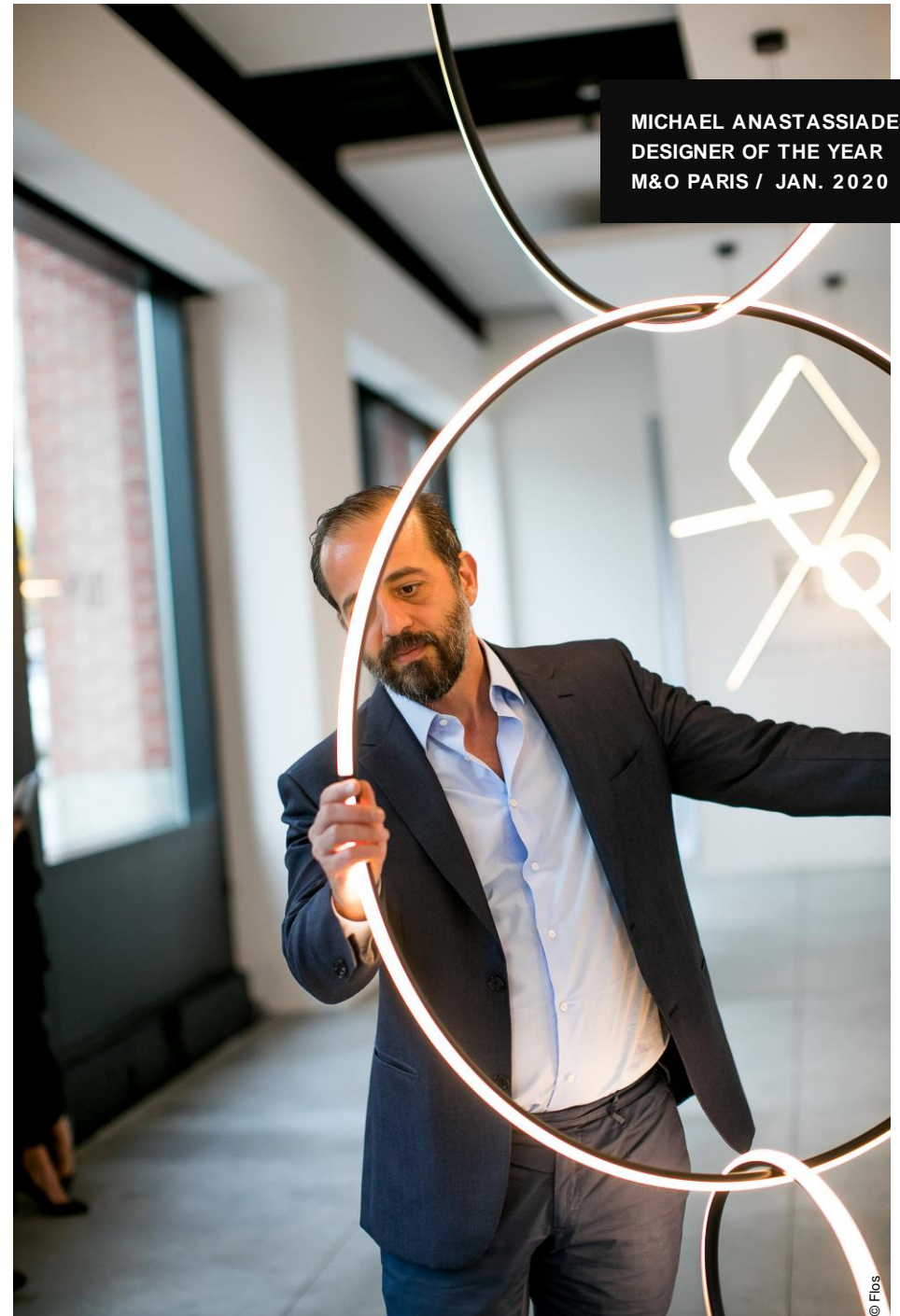
Anastassiades believes that to design a light, one first has to embrace darkness: he sees no need to turn night into day. Lights for him are a source of warmth, and what fascinates him most is the glow.

When designing a light, he takes into consideration that a lamp is off 80% of the time, so he takes the time to figure out the relevance of the object when switched off. In his vision, a lamp is never an isolated object because it has to interact with its environment.

« To design a light one first has to embrace the darkness »

He was drawn to lighting early on, for its poetic qualities, but was aware that no company would hire him until he had made a name for himself. Instead of being discouraged, he decided to take the development and production of his designs in his own hands. Starting his own brand gave him the chance to test the boundaries and design without compromises. By the time he started to collaborate with Flos he had gained experience and was ready for new challenges. He had unexpected freedom to invent, and could count on the expertise of the company to experiment with technical solutions that up to that moment had not been available to him. His projects became more ambitious.

« *Lights are a source of warmth, and what fascinates me most is the glow* »



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Fleet Drinking
Water Fountain



© Andy Stagg

APPARENT SIMPLICITY

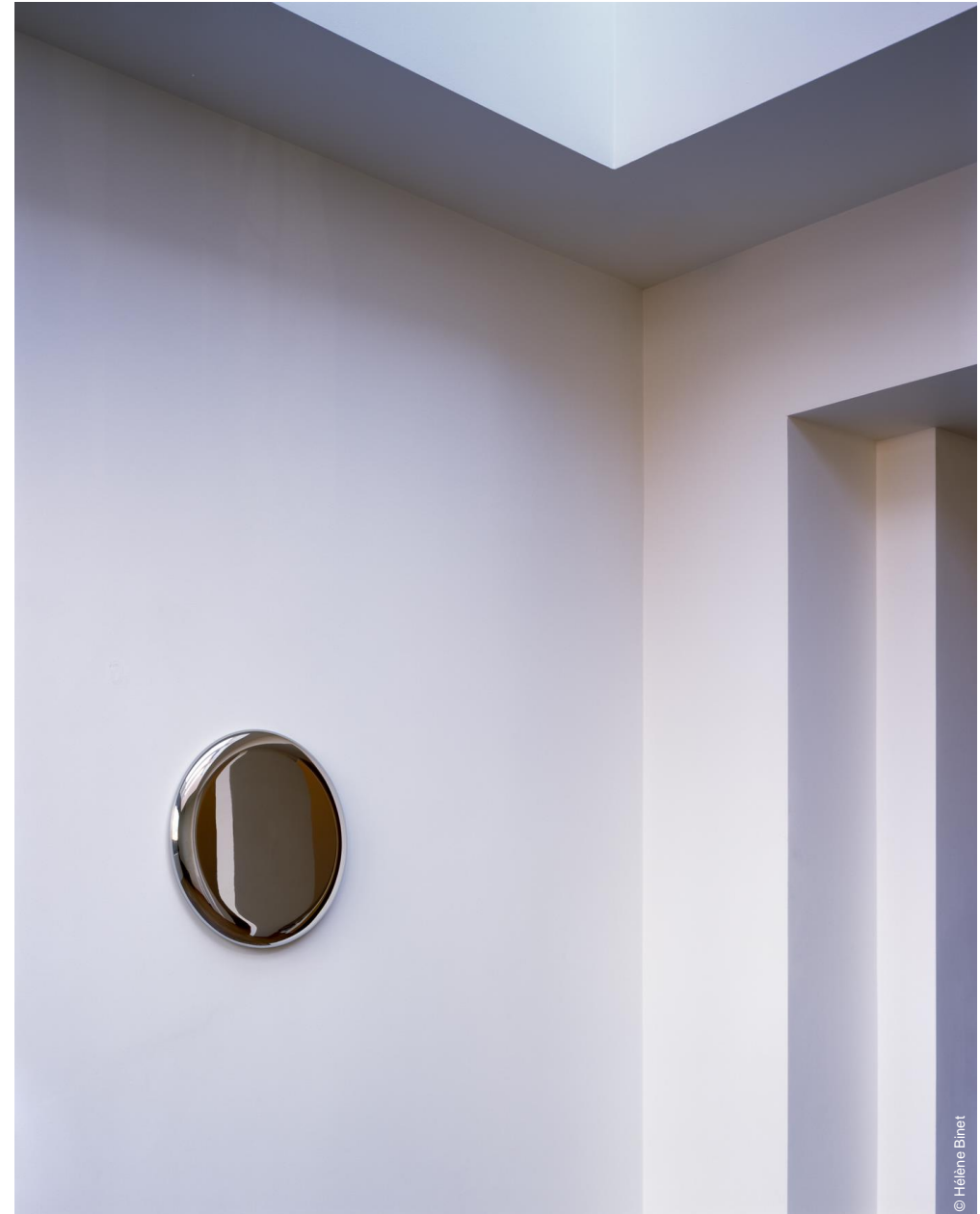
Michael Anastassiades's almost obsessive search for the essence of an object leads him to a misleading simplicity: it takes a lot of effort to make something look simple. The simplicity encourages curiosity, and curiosity leads to participation and interaction, a constant feature of all Anastassiades's projects. A perfect example is The Fleet Drinking Fountain, which conceals the technical aspects without compromising aesthetics and has become more of an experience than just a place to stop and fill a bottle.

« *It takes a lot of effort
to make something look
simple* »

→
Beauty Mirror

TIMELESS OBJECTS

For Michael Anastassiades sustainability is a perverse idea. He strongly believes we should surround ourselves with objects that will last a very long time, that design should not be short-sighted. His desire is to design for the long term and indeed his objects have a timeless quality to them.

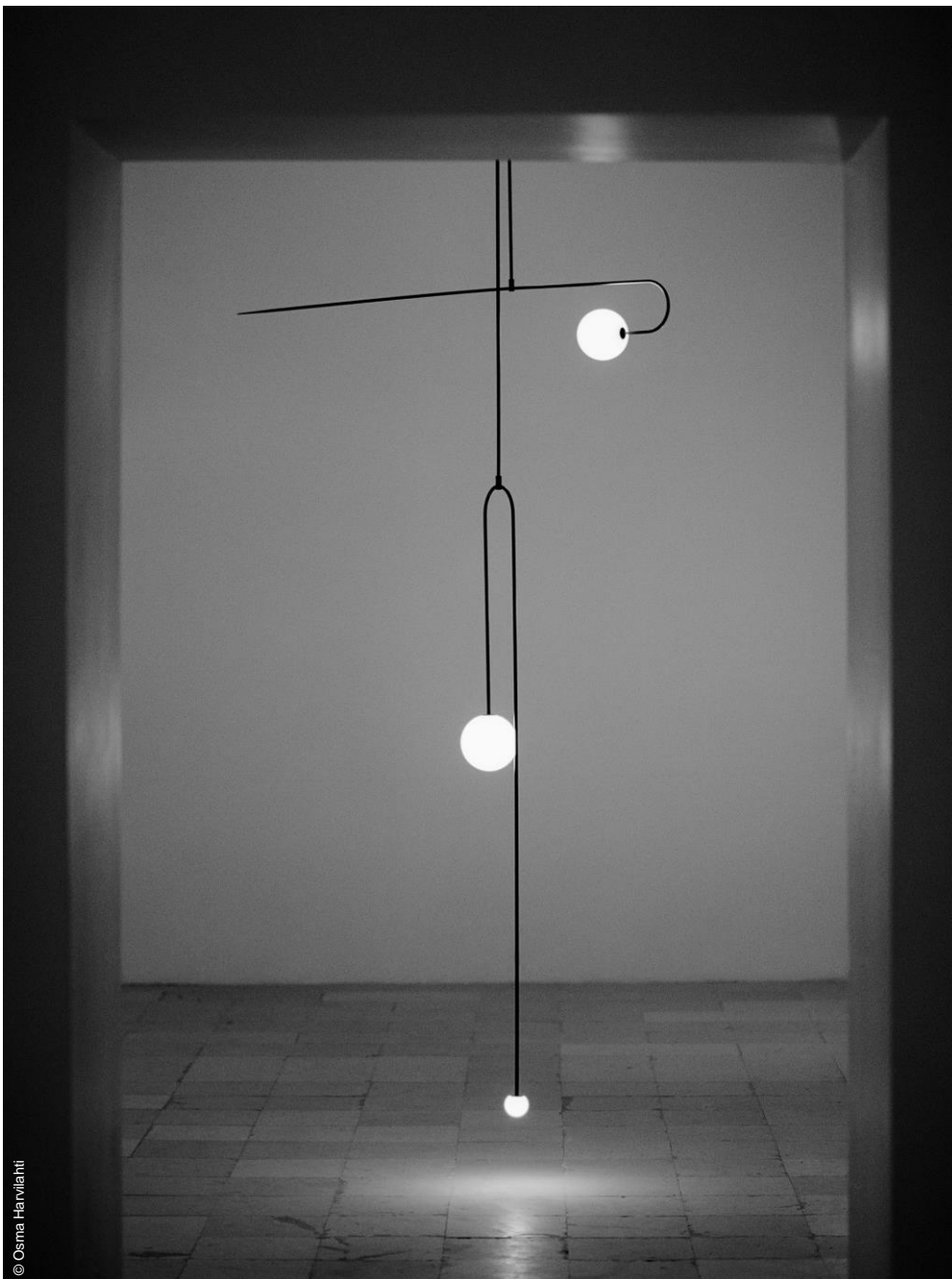


© Hélène Binet

AT MAISON&OBJET

MAISON&OBJET was the first fair at which Michael Anastassiades presented his eponymous brand. It was an important time for him and a chance to define and develop the identity of his brand. This January he wants to offer an experience. For the very first time, all 16 of his Mobile Chandeliers, will be showcased together: in the dark space, the lights, propelled by motors, will move as if planets. Once more, Anastassiades is working simultaneously with the qualities and conditions of darkness and light.

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Mobile Chandelier
Collection

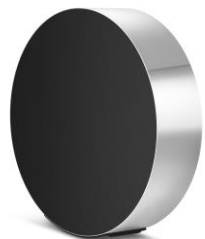




© Gebrüder Thonet

↑ Gebrüder Thonet
Lounge Chair

↓ Bang & Olufsen,
Beosound Edge



© Bang & Olufsen

↓ Half Way Round,
Dansk Mobelkunst



© Dansk Mobelkunst

↓ B&B Italia
Parallel Structure

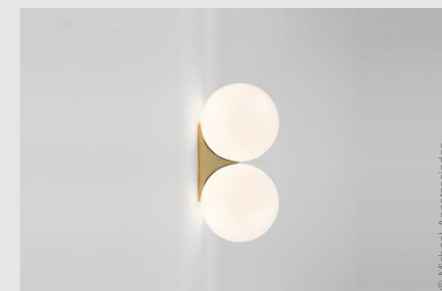


© B&B Italia



© Michael Anastassiades

↑ Michael Anastassiades
Half Moon Mirror



© Michael Anastassiades

↑ Michael Anastassiades
Double Sconce 150

« For me, it is important to always show something different, make sure that what I design explores a new idea, uses new technology in a poetic way »

ABOUT MAISON&OBJET PARIS

Since 1995, MAISON&OBJET has been the world's foremost event for professionals in the lifestyle, interior design and design industries. Each edition brings together some 3,000 exhibitors and more than 85 000 unique visitors, half from outside France. Promoting new contacts and emerging talents, the twice-yearly fair presents the latest sources of inspiration. By shedding light on current and future trends, MAISON&OBJET has become a catalyst for brand development and business growth.

Launched in September 2016, the digital platform MOM (MAISON&OBJET AND MORE) offers a comprehensive overview of up-to-date news and products from the manufacturers, artisans and designers who exhibit at the fair. A bottomless source of inspiration, it also provides a tool for visitors to communicate directly with thousands of brands throughout the year.

1 250 000 **3 000**
SQ. FT BRANDS

85 000 / edition
VISITORS

Press material available on:
www.maison-objet.com/en/paris/press

Password to download images:

MOPRESS2019

Press kits from exhibitors available on:

<https://www.maison-objet.com/en/paris/exhibitors>

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