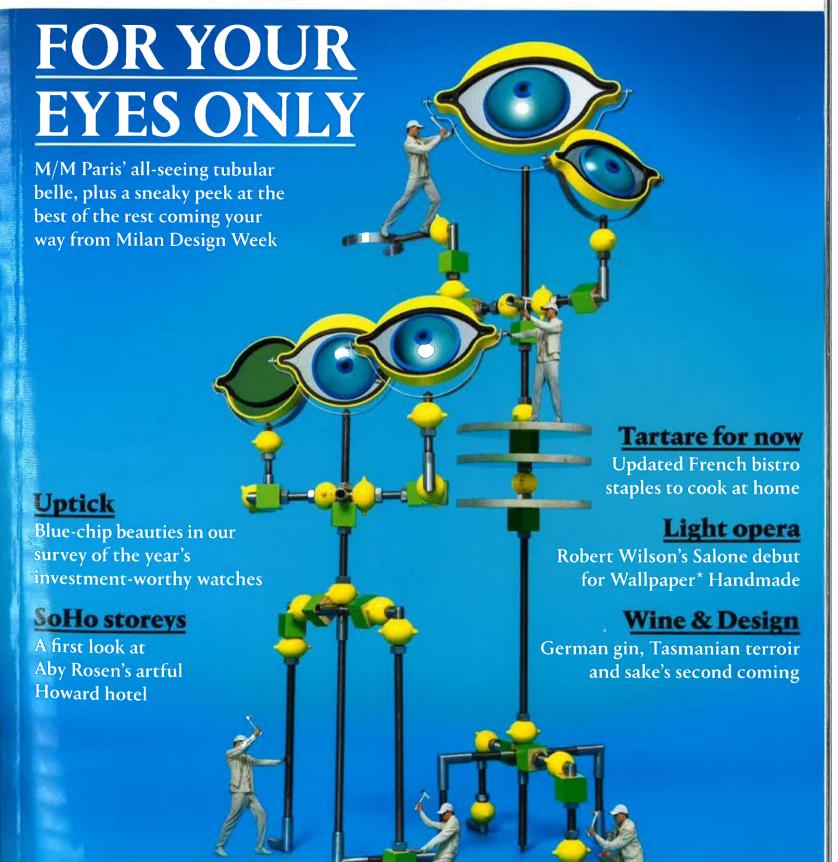
Wallpape **MAY 2016**





Downtown Dane

Manhattan's new 11 Howard hotel serves up a slice of Scandinavian style in the centre of SoHo

In recent years, the relatively serene Howard Street has blossomed into a design mecca right in the heart of SoHo. Lined with an assemblage of niche boutiques ranging from Opening Ceremony to the newly opened New York outpost of BDDW's M Crow general store, the area just north of Canal Street now welcomes another worthy addition in the form of 11 Howard, the latest hospitality venture of real estate magnate Aby Rosen, the owner of properties such as the Gramercy Park Hotel and the Seagram Building.

Occupying a former post office reworked by local architectural practice Beyer Blinder Belle, II Howard further burnishes the neighbourhood's reputation with an interior expertly composed by the hotel's creative director, Anda Andrei, together with Signe Bindslev Henriksen and Peter Bundgaard Rützou of Danish firm Space Copenhagen, which makes its New York debut with the property. Outside, meanwhile, Rosen has partnered with public art organisation Groundswell to create a 150ft mural on

'It's a New Yorker state of mind with a north European filtering of the design choices' the hotel's south wall, completed by student artists mentored by Jeff Koons.

II Howard's slick blend of a Scandinavian design sensibility and a distinctly New York personality is clear from the moment guests step through the door. In the bleached oak lobby, statuesque bespoke furniture complements a mobile by Alexander Calder suspended from the 15ft-high ceiling.

To the right, a design gallery/boutique hybrid full of collectibles, the first US outpost of Copenhagen's Studio Oliver Gustav, overseen by the Danish interior designer, stands in place of the usual hotel gift shop. On the left, a blackened steel spiral staircase with a leather-covered banister>>

Checking In





TOP AND ABOVE, THE GUEST ROOMS FEATURE MARBLE-AND-BRASS BATHROOMS; OAK FLOORS; CUSTOM FURNITURE AND LIGHTING BY DENMARK'S MADS RAASCHOU AND GUBI; AND DESIGNS BY SPACE COPENHAGEN, INCLUDING ITS 'FLY' LOUNGE SEATING FOR &TRADITION

SPACE COPENHAGEN AND ANDA ANDREI'S

DESIGNS SPAN BEDS AND DESKS IN

THE ROOMS, AS WELL AS LOBBY
FURNISHINGS, ALL MADE IN DENMARK

Blackened, waxed steel screen framing seating in the lobby

Mahogany concierge desk

leads up to the bar and library, with furniture from Rick Owens and Vincenzo De Cotiis, and artwork by Hiroshi Sugimoto.

The hotel's 221 rooms have an individual charm, thanks to the building's irregular floor plan, the legacy of a previous life as a more higgledy-piggledy hotel. All feature beds, credenzas, desks and armoires designed by Space Copenhagen and Andrei and handcrafted in Denmark in collaboration with brands such as Gubi, Mads Raaschou and &Tradition. There are toiletries by Grown Alchemist and Glossier in the marble bathrooms, and a choice of healthy snacks in the minibar. The Terrace Suite, in particular, is a real urban oasis with its wrap-around deck. 'There are certain standards and expectations from being in New York that you try to be aware of,' explain the designers. 'It's a specific New Yorker state of mind with a northern European filtering of the actual design choices.'

With the hotel's attractions also including less familiar views of lower Manhattan, a modern French restaurant next door conceived by restaurateur Stephen Starr, and Boosted electric skateboards for guests to explore the area, II Howard is a distinctive but distinctly downtown new draw. *\distinctive but distinctly downtown new draw. *\distinctive II Howard Street, tel: 1.212 235 IIII, IIhoward.com. Rates: from \$400