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MANSION

HOUSE TOUR

Design for Living

Michael Anastassiades's home is his lab

BY NICOLE SWENGLEY

FOR MICHAEL ANASTASSIADES, home is much more than a place to eat, sleep and relax—it's the birthplace of many of the designer's imaginative, sculptural creations.

"I've designed things as I felt the need for them," says the Cyprus-born creator of pieces like the balletic "Mobile" chandeliers and "Tree in the Moonlight" lamps.

Mr. Anastassiades's home is an 18th-century house on a neighborhood market street in southeast London, next door to a pub and across the road from a barber's shop—a somewhat unglamorous location for an internationally acclaimed designer whose work is in permanent collections at the V&A and MoMA.

He has lived in the house for 15 years, continually reshaping the space to suit his needs. Now, the upper floors are his home, while the street-level spaces are devoted to his studio and gallery. Guest quarters are tucked discreetly in the basement.

"There were no original features worth keeping so I've gutted the interior and completely modernized it," he says. "Most of my products have been inspired by the house.

The designs took on a whole new dynamic when I started using them." His angular "Tube" chandelier and limited-edition designs like the linear "Faceted" table and gleaming copper mirrors all originated as a response to his own needs.

In Mr. Anastassiades's living quarters, only his elegant mirrors break up the uniform white of the walls. In the first-floor study, a "Mobile" chandelier hangs above the solid-walnut "Faceted" table.

Tucked between the study and sitting area is the kitchen, whose mahogany units were handmade by Mr. Anastassiades and joiner Ben Legg, to coordinate with the hand-laid, reclaimed floorboards. Brass cupboard knobs are bespoke designs "because I couldn't find any I liked."

Freshly minted designs naturally gravitate to the ground-floor gallery. Moon-phase-inspired mirrors, marble meditation stools and raw-edged "Archipelago" tables designed for Svenskt Tenn are on display and for sale to the public, who can visit the gallery by appointment.

Michael Anastassiades's gallery is at 122 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7AE; +44 20 7928 7527. Online store: michaelanastassiades.com



LIGHT FANTASTIC Michael Anastassiades perches on his 'Faceted' table (from £20,000); above hangs a 'Kinetic' light (£13,500), while 'Tip of the Tongue' lights (£650) sit on the table. The copper mirror is from a limited edition of 10 (£17,500). Just seen is an antique French garden chair.



SHOW HOME The ground-floor gallery is a peaceful showcase for the designer's work. Seen here are a 'Kinetic' light (£13,500); ceiling-mounted 'Ball' lights (£562.50); 'Tip of the Tongue' table and floor lights (£650); 'Archipelago' table (around £1,660); and 'Meditation' stools (from £1,125).



ROCK 'N' ROLL On the first floor, doors open onto a small balcony off the sitting area. One of Mr. Anastassiades's copper mirrors hangs above a George Smith 'Jules' sofa. The designer collected the natural, polished lingams on the floor while in India. The chair is a classic Eames design from Vitra.

Matthew Lloyd for The Wall Street Journal (3); Michael Anastassiades (2)

Matthew Lloyd for The Wall Street Journal (4)



MR. VERTIGO A view from the staircase into the first-floor sitting area. The 'Tube' chandelier, originally created for his home, is one of Mr. Anastassiades's best-selling lighting designs (£2,975). 'In India you see fluorescent tubes everywhere and they inspired my new "Lit Lines" collection,' he says.



PICTURE WINDOW The top-floor meditation space has sliding windows onto a deck with views of the London skyline. There is an 'Addition' bench by Kaare Klint and a vintage Greek rug. The designer's 'Tree in the Moonlight' table and floor lights are available from Nilufar (price on request).



GOOD WOOD Another side of the meditation space, furnished simply with a vintage Danish rosewood bookcase, a milking stool and a leather/wood deck chair, designed by Mogens Koch for Studio Mumbai. A 1980s 'Super' lamp by Martine Bedin for Memphis adds a whimsical touch.



PARTIAL ECLIPSE The entrance to the house is also Mr. Anastassiades's shop-front, displaying work including a 'Ball' vase (£1,250) and a 'Waxing Gibbous' mirror, inspired by the moon's phases (£5,000, to order).