

常州大学山书馆藏书章

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There are trendsetters and there are those that follow the trends. It is the trendsetters that we were looking for in putting together this collection. We were looking for new interpretations, fresh viewpoints, innovation. In short, we were looking for designs that would determine the future of architecture.

Since technical prowess is just as important as artistic vision in any project, we have illustrated every aspect of the design and construction of these projects. From conception to completion, we have included information on materials and detailing in order to complement the design ideas of the contributing architects. Finally, since nobody is in a better position to comment on these projects than the designers themselves, we have included the architects' own commentaries.

We are confident that this selection of some of the most innovative architectural projects in international interior design and architecture will serve as an endless source of inspiration. Enjoy!

## **MAAJ Architects**

### **Paris Apartment**

#### Paris, France

Photographs: contributed by MAAJ Architects

This small Parisian duplex apartment has been restructured to get the most out of its limited floor area. The defining themes of the intervention were resizing, giving elements a multiplicity of functions, maximizing daylight and simplifying.

The project reinstates the apartment's original East-West double orientation to generate constant and diffuse daylighting, giving a greater sense of space. This simple action has transformed the apartment's character, demonstrating the powerful impact that lighting design can have on a place.

A key intervention was the restoration of access to the attic, where two rooms are created. In the double height volume generated, two staircase-storage elements are placed in a dynamic formal interplay. The closets/stairs are arranged and tailored to suit the activities of each room, their storage function ranging from music store to television sideboard, to bookcase and wardrobe. Creating a staircase with such functional multiplicity was an essential space-saving strategy.

Architecture:

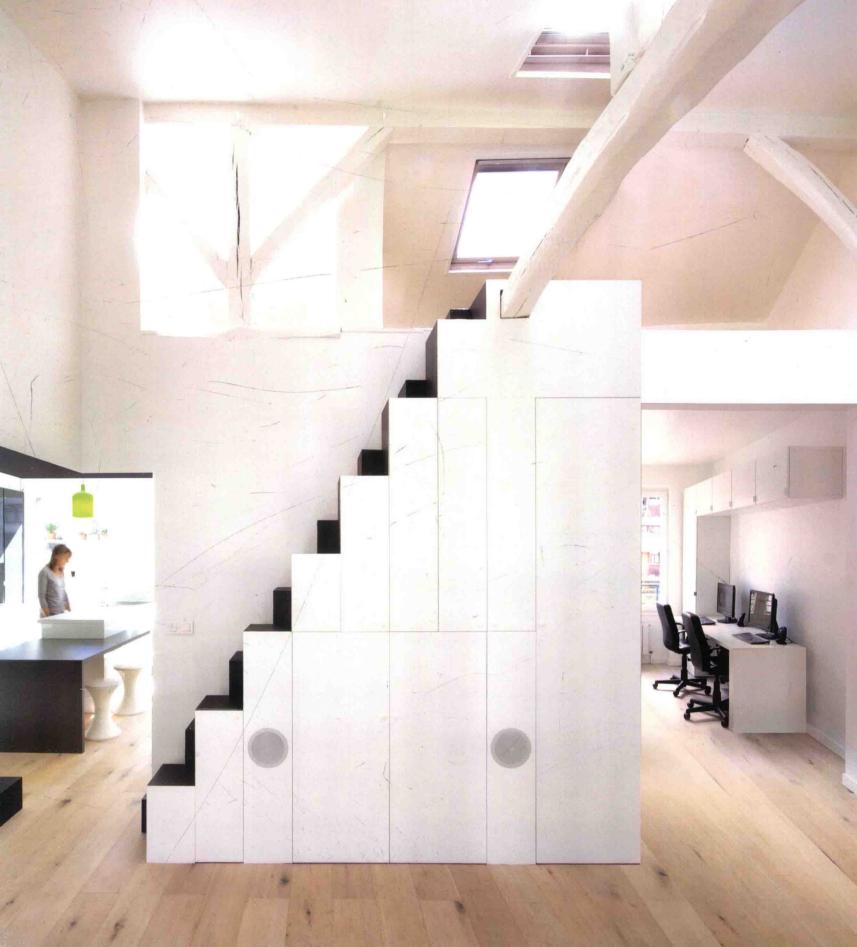
MAAJ Architects

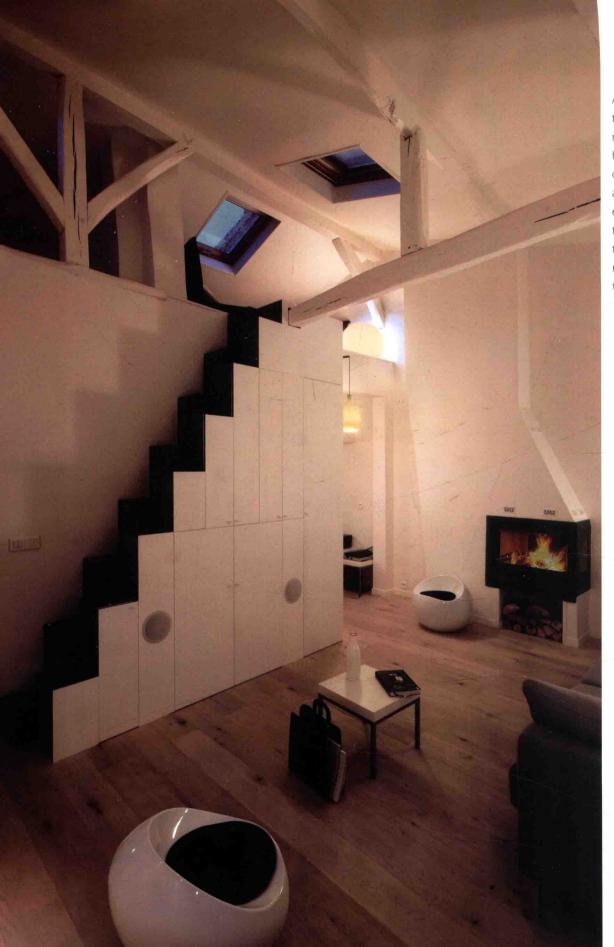
Design team:

Anne-Julie Martinon Marc-Antoine Richard

Surface area:

71 sqm (764 sqft) total: first floor – 41 sqm (441 sqft) ; attic – 30 sqm (323 sqft)





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