



**DOWNTOWN
DESIGN**

**Exceptional
Interiors**

*Dubai stylish
lunch*

SHADES OF GREY

Modern architecture

**THE ITALIAN
COLLECTIVE**

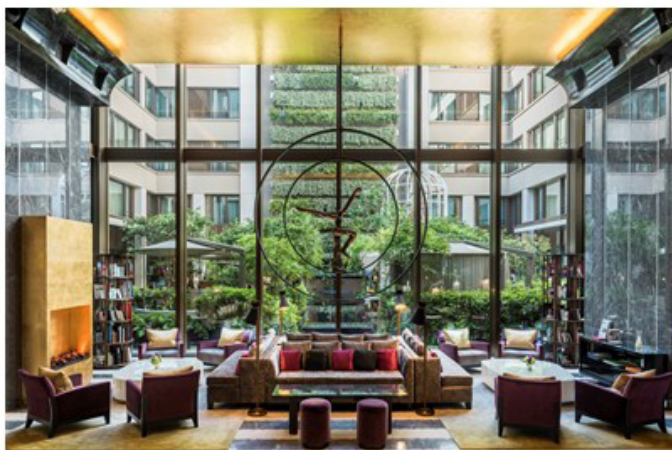
**TOP OF THE
HOTELS**



Exceptional Interiors

Sybille de Margerie realized the interiors of Mandarin Oriental Paris and shares her views on what a hotel must be.

The entrance porch and the majestic lobby are a shimmering jewel of stone, lacquer and gold leaf that bring a touch of true magic. Noble materials in a haute-couture style, bold colours arranged in a subtle harmony of grey, plum, rose, mauve and ecru. A green haven where Nature penetrates the interior, and butterflies flutter and perch. Some are embroidered on cushions, or made of crystal and ceramic in an installation by the sculptor Marcello Lo Giudice. Others are printed or painted, embodying Nature's delicate enchantment which floats in the air. In her search for a striking work that would fit within the hotel, Sybille de Margerie turned to the artist Nathalie Decoster, who has imagined Air, a sculpture that suspends fragile liberty from a thread.

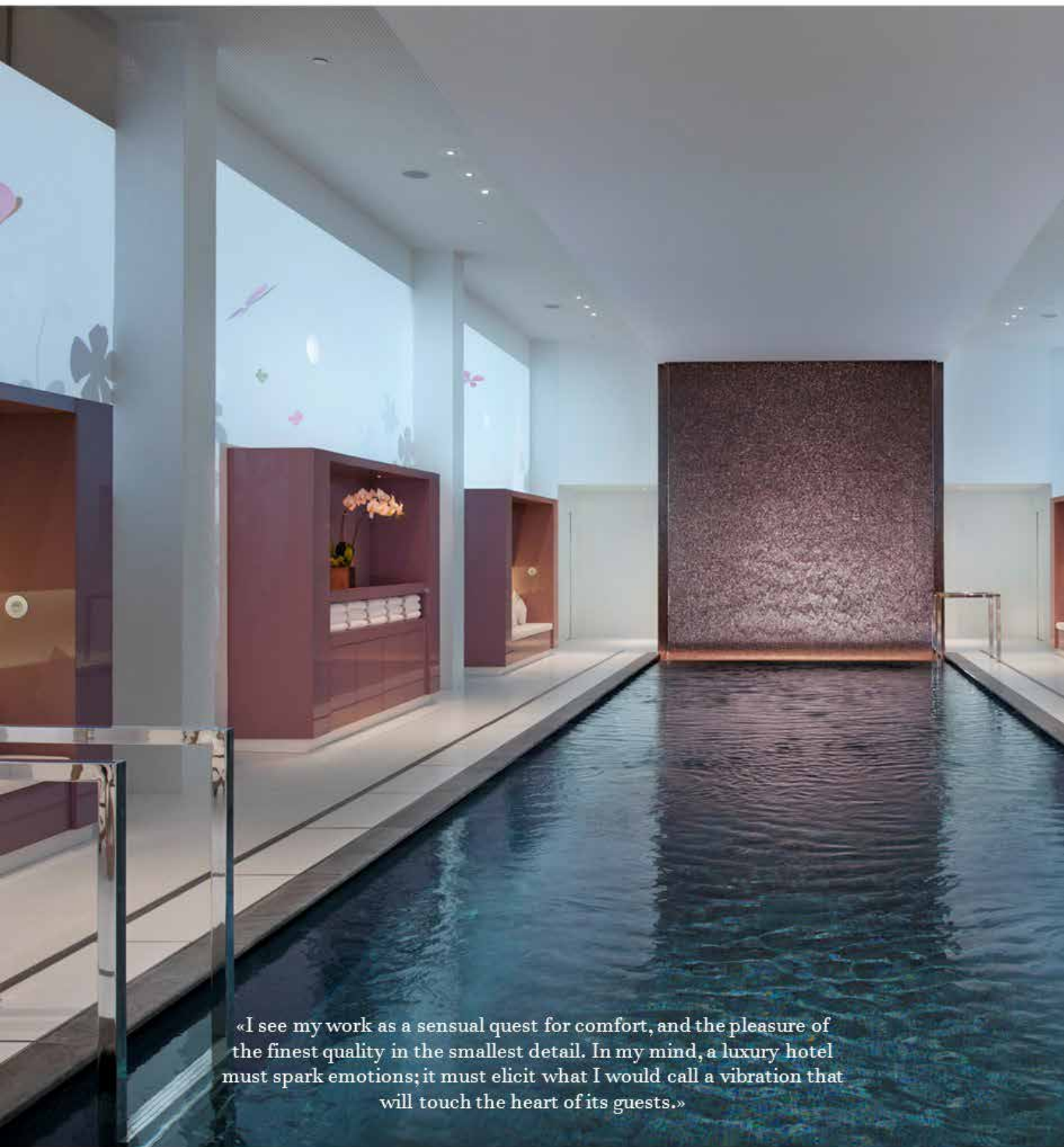


«Interior design is not the same as decoration. An interior designer does more than simply put paintings on walls and swags on armchairs. Interior design is about inventing the layout of a place. It focuses on finding a balance and ensuring the easy flow of people through that space. This is why interior design really is the work of an architect who imagines, designs and organises indoor space as part of a global system. My work for Mandarin Oriental, Paris began precisely with this organisation of space. I then defined a concept and a visual identity; a unique Parisian style and atmosphere that exactly fit with the image and values of the Mandarin Oriental Group. My concern was to blend with the architectural style of the building, so I chose a very modern, unclichéd version of Art Deco. I also wanted this luxury hotel to have its own distinctive feel, one which transpires in its haute-couture style through collaboration with leading names in art and fashion, such as Ali Mahdavi and Ateliers Lesage. Hence it was my role to take all the strategic decisions that would forge this identity, such as the choice of colours, materials and elements of comfort.»

Photography by Alexis Anice & George Apostolidis

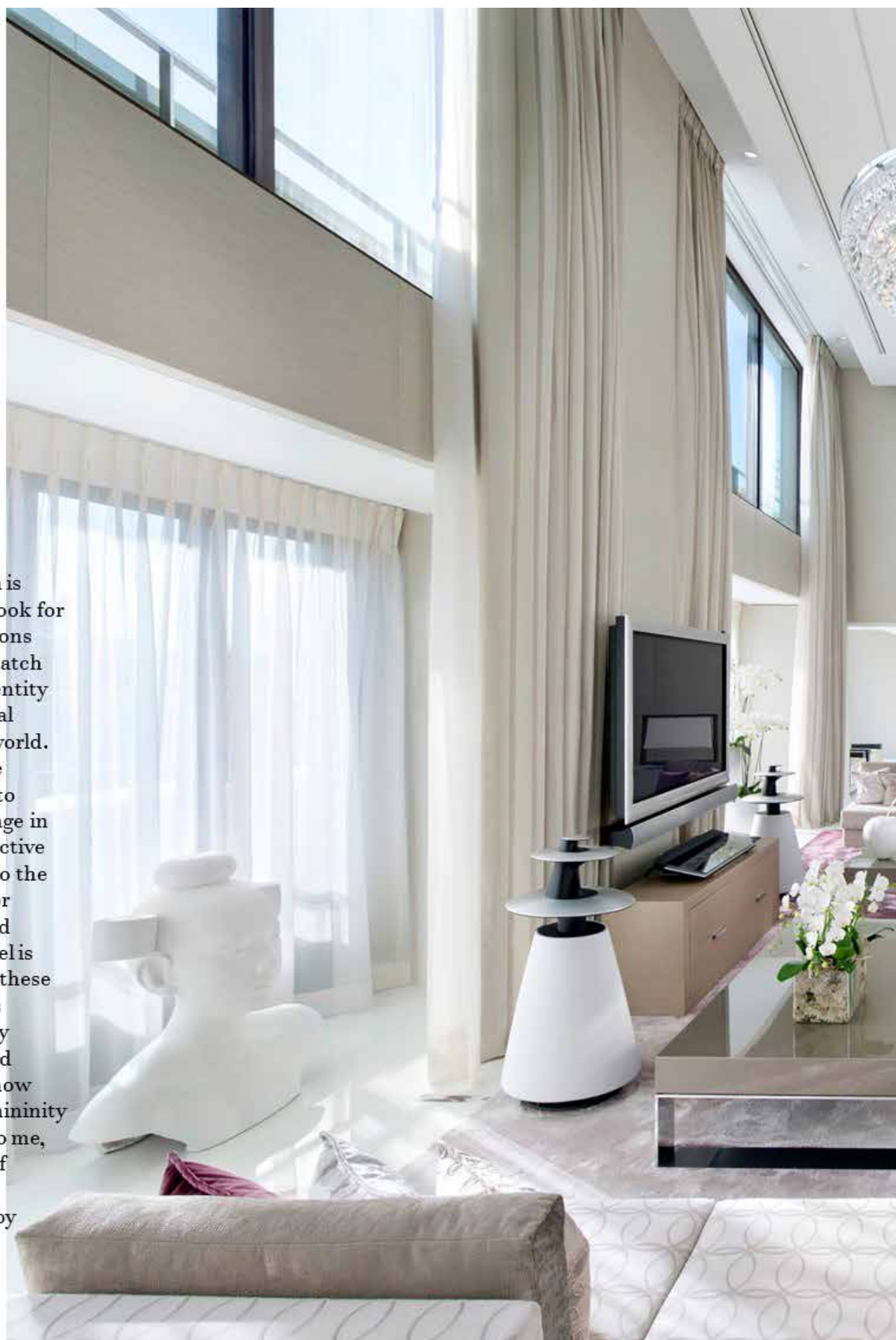


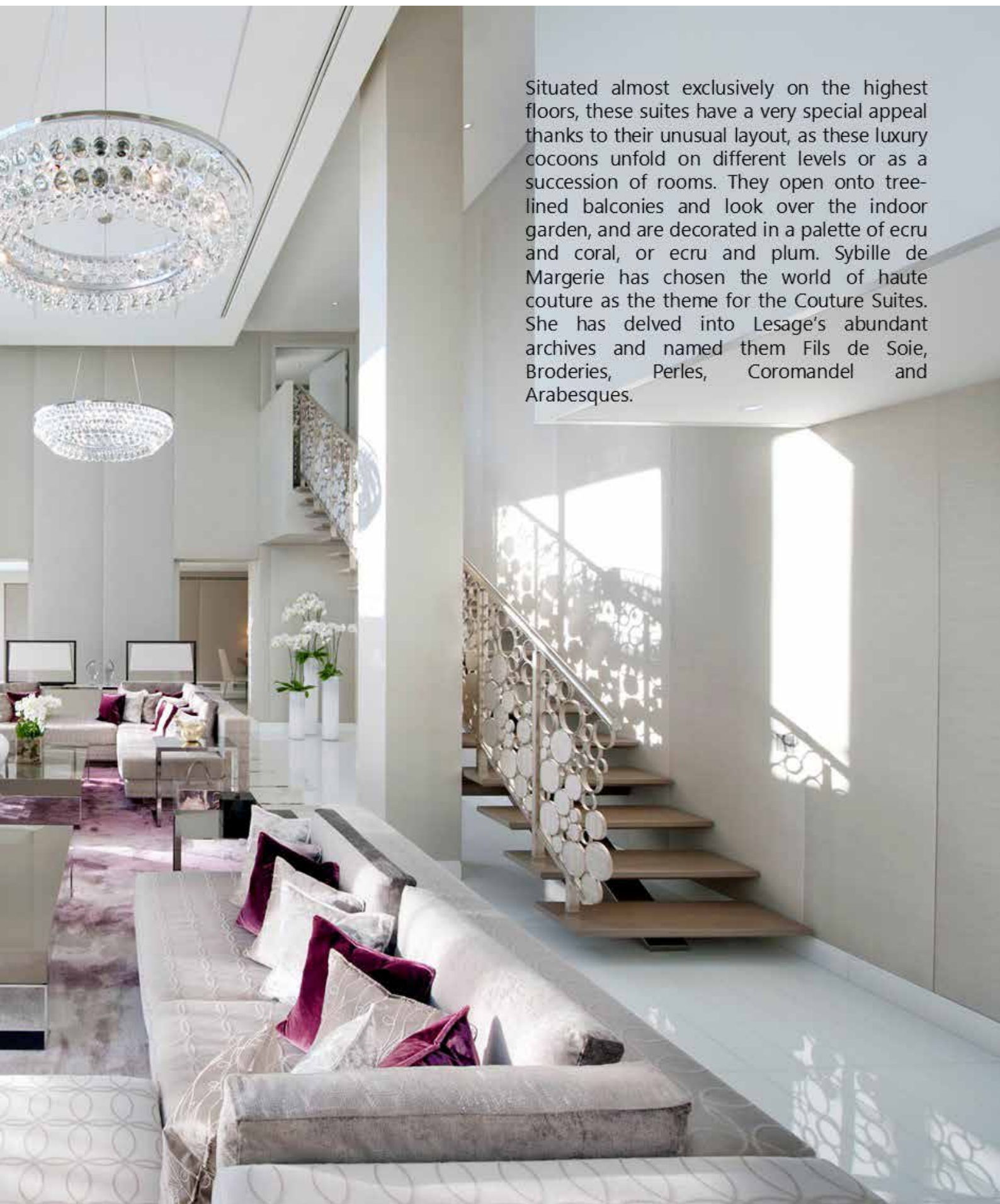
Entirely devoted to well-being and relaxation, the Spa at Mandarin Oriental Paris offers a holistic experience to promote complete mind-body harmony. At 1,200 square metres, this is one of the city's largest hotel spas. Sybille de Margerie has imagined the entrance to this retreat as a vast pearly sphere. That instantly sets a relaxing mood. The sensory journey continues with the unique, refined experience of the fifteen-metre indoor pool. This part of the Spa is embellished in powdery, pearly whites and pinks. Moving shadows cast a poetic, foliage-inspired world on the walls in a dreamlike work that has been specially created for the Spa.



«I see my work as a sensual quest for comfort, and the pleasure of the finest quality in the smallest detail. In my mind, a luxury hotel must spark emotions; it must elicit what I would call a vibration that will touch the heart of its guests.»

«My approach is more open. I look for creative solutions that exactly match my client's identity and their global image in the world. These creative solutions aim to adapt that image in the most attractive way possible to the country, city or neighbourhood where the hotel is located. With these two objectives uppermost, my personality and subjectivity show naturally: femininity is important to me, as is a brand of elegance underpinned by refinement.»





Situated almost exclusively on the highest floors, these suites have a very special appeal thanks to their unusual layout, as these luxury cocoons unfold on different levels or as a succession of rooms. They open onto tree-lined balconies and look over the indoor garden, and are decorated in a palette of ecru and coral, or ecru and plum. Sybille de Margerie has chosen the world of haute couture as the theme for the Couture Suites. She has delved into Lesage's abundant archives and named them Fils de Soie, Broderies, Perles, Coromandel and Arabesques.