ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

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A RICHARD MEIER-DESIGNED HOUSE ON NEW YORK'S FIRE ISLAND





1. CYCLADIC SQUARE SCONCES, AVAILABLE IN 12" SQ. 2. A RENDERING OF THE CYCLADIC PENDANT. 3. CYCLADIC CIRCLE SCONCE, WHICH COMES IN 14" OR 24" DIA.

ight has always played a defining role in the work of Richard Meier, whose white, rigorously geometric buildings seem to harness the sun—reflecting its rays and guiding them to cast dynamic shadows. And yet lighting is a category that has eluded the Pritzker Prize winner, with no such product bearing his name. At the urging of his daughter,

furniture designer Ana Meier, that's about to change. Launching March 14 at New York's Ralph Pucci showroom is Richard Meier Light, an array of refined fixtures created by the two in collaboration with lighting master Hervé Descottes, cofounder of L'Observatoire International.

"We were thinking about how light gives volume to planes, how it can dramatize forms," explains Ana, who shepherded the sculptural collection—all white, naturally—as its creative director. The Cycladic Circle and Cycladic Square sconces, for example, divide their namesake shapes into halves, one aglow and one in shadow. As she notes, "Depending on the intensity of light, the fixtures really change."

Bright Eyes

Ana Meier teams up with her Pritzker Prize-winning father and Hervé Descottes to launch Richard Meier Light

The simplicity of those forms belies the complexity of their construction, which integrates Corian surfaces with state-of-the-art, adjustable LEDs. At Descottes's suggestion, gold-leaf lining was added to the shade of the Cycladic pendant, a handblown orb of Venetian glass capped by powder-coated aluminum. Ingeniously, the gold and the glass can be lit independently for two distinct looks. "Every detail has been thought through," says the French designer.

While those fixtures all channel the ethos of the esteemed architect's signature style, the Barcelona series offers a more literal interpretation, translating the front elevation of his Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art into two different sconces. Whereas one is recognizably buildinglike, with articulated pilotis, the other is an extruded curve that recalls Alvar Aalto's iconic Savoy vase. "Architecture has the power to inspire, to elevate the spirit, to feed both the mind and the body," Richard says. "With this collection, we have distilled this feeling into objects that touch people inside the spaces where they live, work, and visit." richardmeierlight.com —SAM COCHRAN