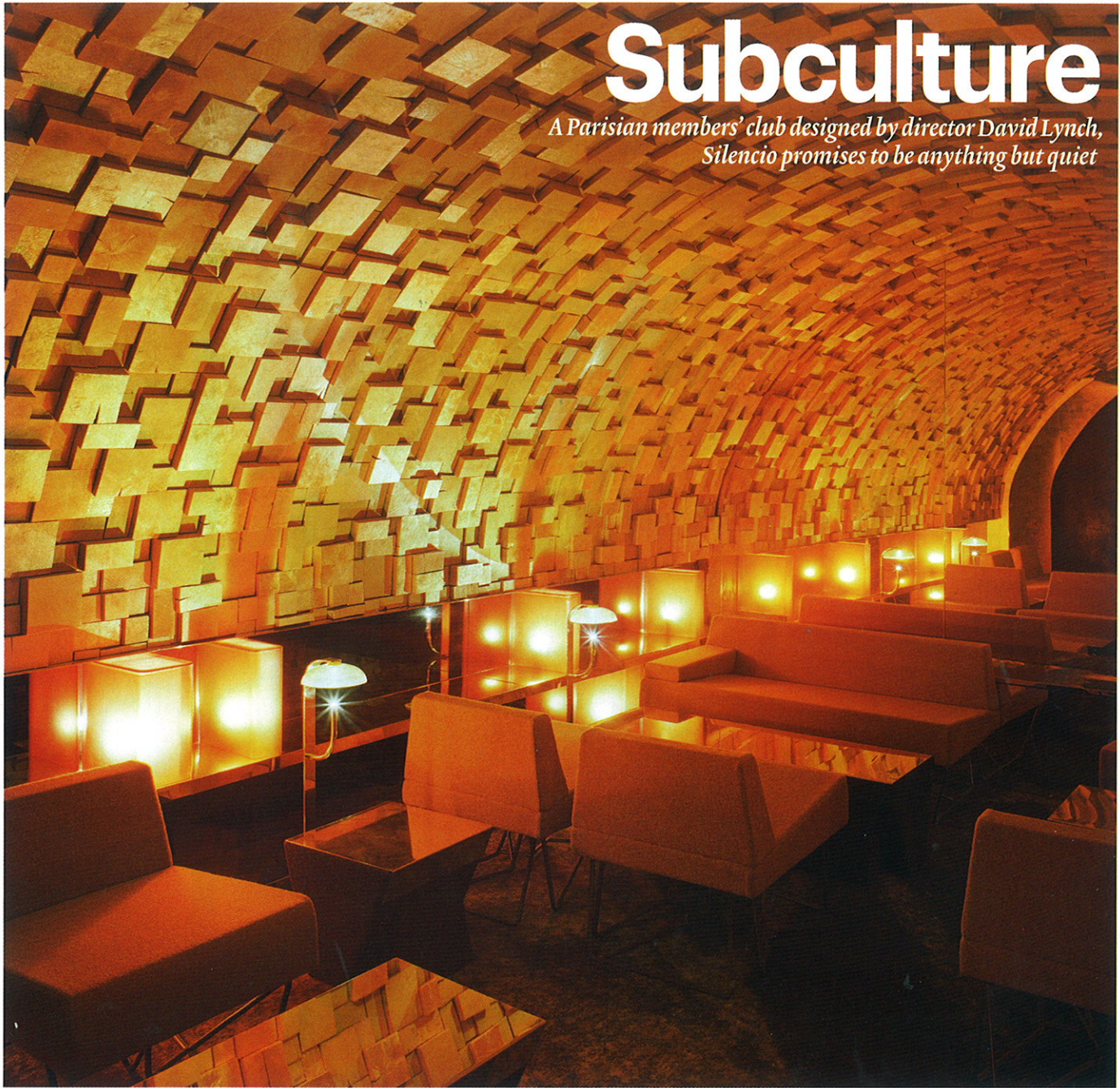


Subculture

A Parisian members' club designed by director David Lynch, Silencio promises to be anything but quiet



There is something haunting and rather exciting about an underground Parisian club designed by David Lynch. It's hard to tell what to expect – and you'll have to wait until the club's opening in September to find out for yourself.

A private members' club dedicated to the arts, Silencio will house a bar, restaurant, library and cinema screening independent films, as well as a stage for private performances. Silencio owner Arnaud Frisch also heads a record label and is associate director of the hip Parisian music venue Social Club. All the music at the club will be selected by DJ Olivier Pilz of Phunk.

'As far as I'm concerned, this club is not linked to any other project. It is meant to be a stand-alone, unique club with its own mood,' says Lynch. Yet at first glance, Silencio's décor bears more than a passing resemblance to the film sets for *Lost Highway* and *Mulholland Drive*.

Under Lynch's art direction, a talented team joined forces to realise his cinematographic vision. Parisian designer Raphaël Navot travelled back and forth to Los Angeles to meet with



SETTING THE SCENE

Lynch, who created original furniture designs for the club (above), which will house a library and cinema as well as a bar. Photography: Philippe Mazzoni

Lynch, while Enia Architectes were in charge of the structural work, and the lighting was made to measure by Thierry Dreyfus.

Lynch created original furniture designs, including a series of leather-clad asymmetric seats and side tables called 'Black Bird' and a collection of slanted sofas and ergonomic cinema seats. All furniture and installations were made by French brand Domeau & Pérès and gold-plate specialists Ateliers Gohard.

'The design had to fit this underground space. The ideas, you could say, were similar to cinema ideas in the way sets are designed to create a specific mood,' says Lynch. 'Architecture design and furniture are like that: with them the space comes alive in a certain way.'

To complement the unconventional interiors, and add to the surreal 'Lynchian' experience, Silencio's bar will serve a menu of creative cocktails prepared by its expert barmen Rob McHardy and Olivier Lehoux. ✪

Silencio, 142 rue Montmartre, Paris 2e, www.silencio-club.com