

Bumper bunker chic in Moscow

Words Anna Bronovitskaya
Photos Alexey Knyazev

Moscow

Kluchi – a nightclub in an old building in central Moscow – runs invitation-only parties, so the designers ‘wanted to avoid any trace of a conventional commercial venue’, says Peter Kostelov, who created the space with Alexey Rozenberg and Anton Grechko. Instead, the pair imbued the interior with strong narratives by opening the original 17th-century brick vaults in the basement and inserting intriguing elements. Toilet cubicles [see photo below] are separated by what appears to be a wooden wall emitting bright light from gaps between planks. In reality the wall is solid, and the source of the illusion is a built-in layer of LEDs.

Serving as a passage into a chill-out lounge, an intimately ambient bar area is dotted with small tables set so close to one another that patrons can’t help but cosy up. The ceiling – fitted with wooden light features and parquet cladding – mirrors the floor and lends the space a dreamlike quality. A seemingly alarming arrangement awaits in the chill-out area. What look like rough concrete blocks hanging overhead are, in fact, effortlessly floating ceiling panels.

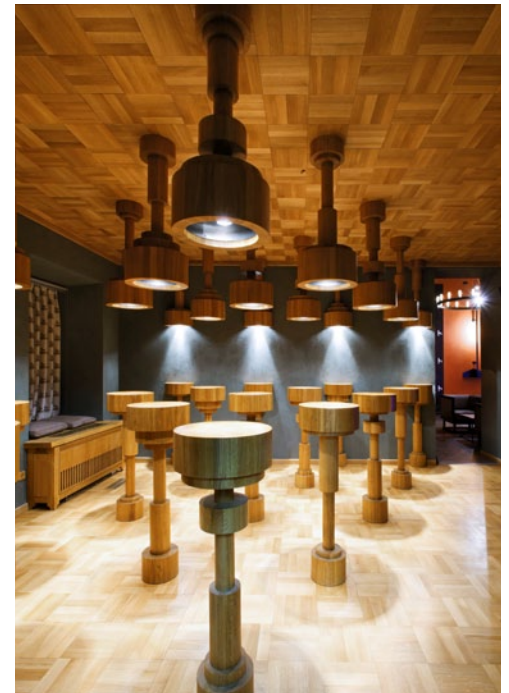
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The Kluchi nightclub in Moscow is replete with unexpected surprises.

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