



AN ENDURING FUSION OF JAPANESE & NORDIC DESIGN

- SPACE PLANNING
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"The Pan-Technic'on: an enduring fusion of Japanese and Nordic design, that brings together food, drink, design and retail under one roof. It is a unique experience that we are proud to have helped shape."

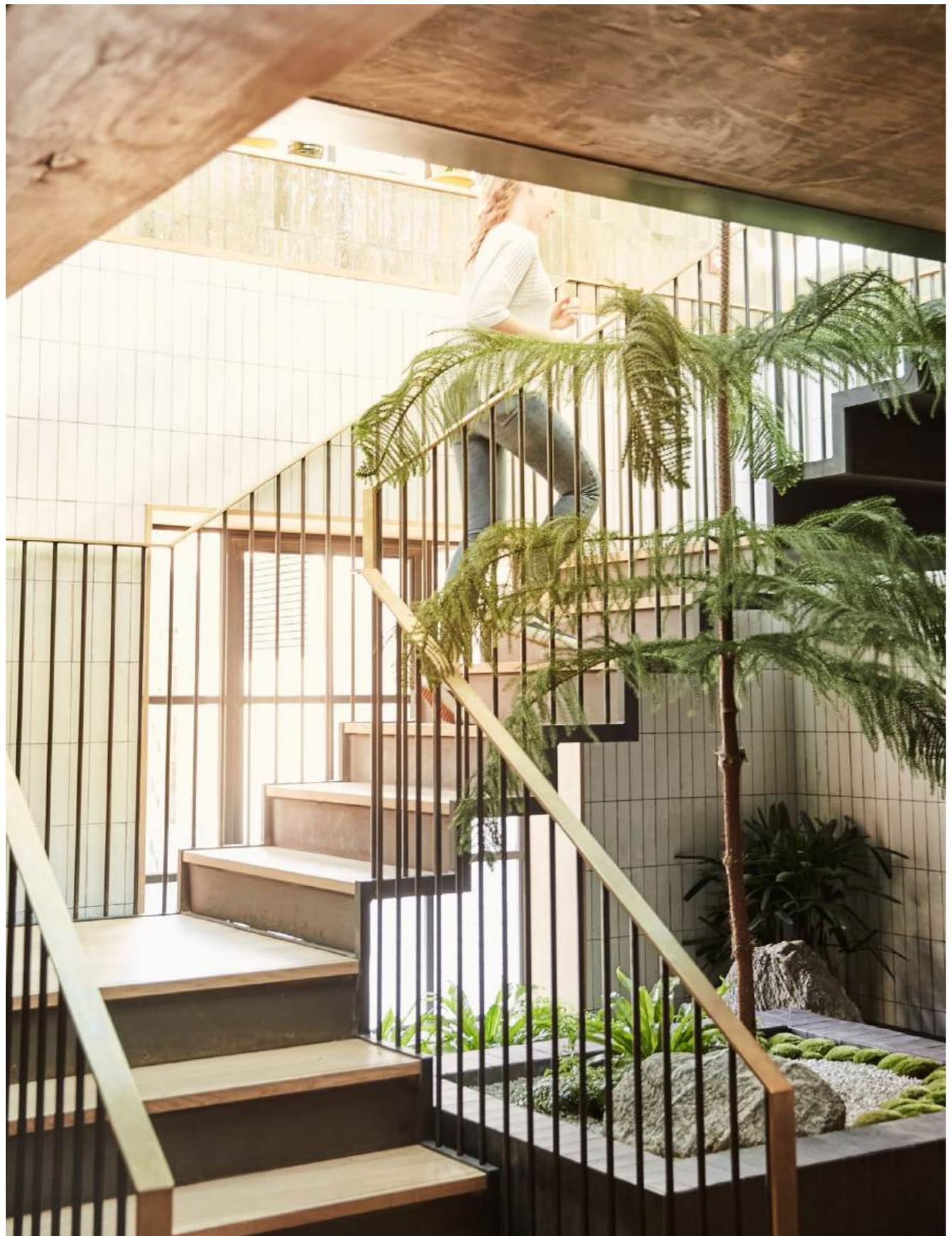
Max Pillbeam,
Sales Director



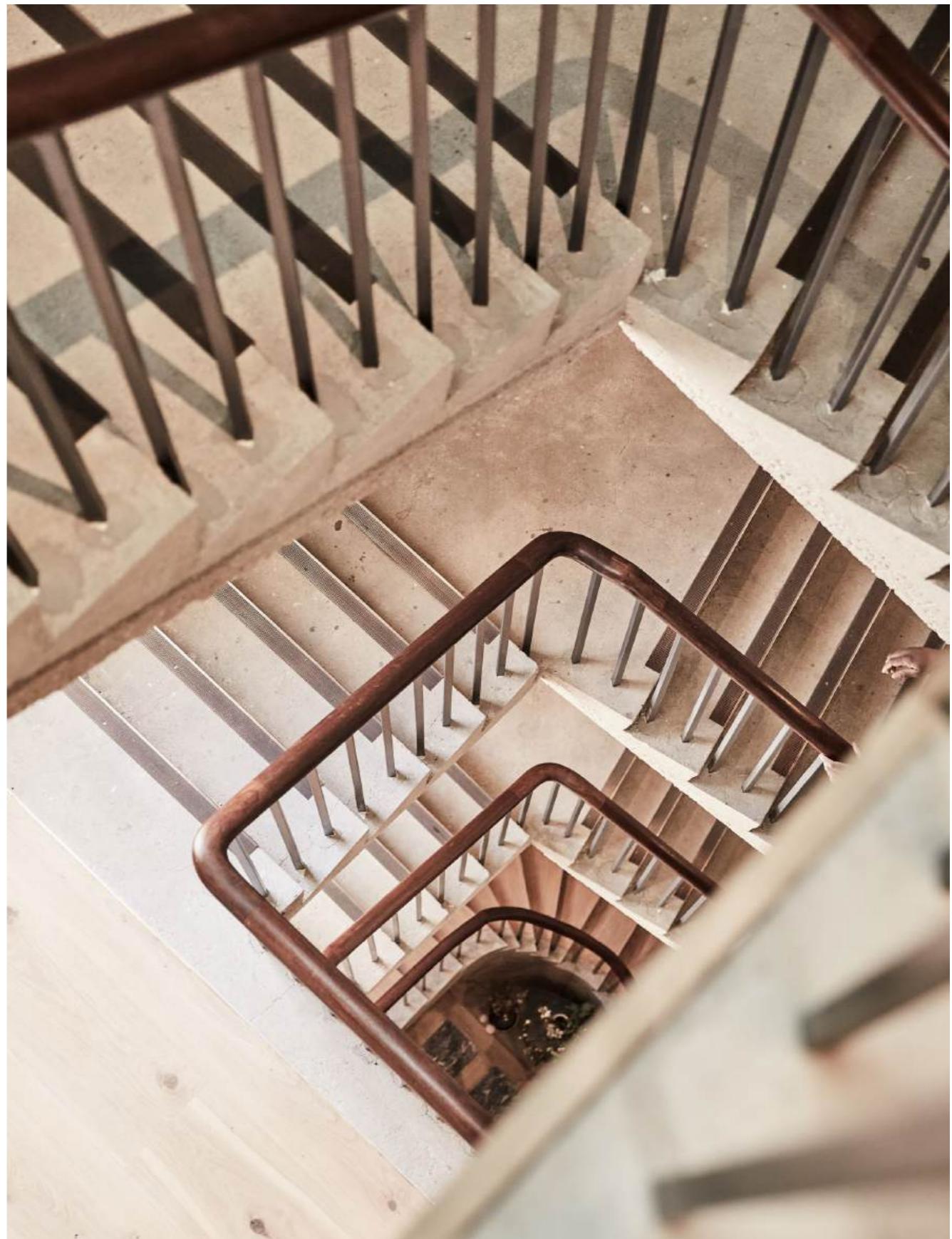


Pantechnicon is a concept store and hospitality venue in London's Belgravia, celebrating Japanese and Nordic creativity and craftsmanship. Located in a historic building, it offers a blend of restaurants, bars, and lifestyle shops.





The building was originally constructed in 1830 as a bazaar for art and crafts, and eventually became a furniture warehouse, which led to the word "pantehnicon" coming to mean a type of storage and transport building. Today's Pantehnicon combines elements of the original architecture with a renewed focus on Japanese and Nordic design, honouring its creative legacy.





The Visionary: Barry Hirst. Tollgard Contracts collaborated directly with Barry Hirst, owner and co-founder of Open House, whose extensive travels to Japan and Scandinavia helped shape his vision. He identified a common cultural thread between both regions—a shared respect for minimalism, functionality, and ritual.

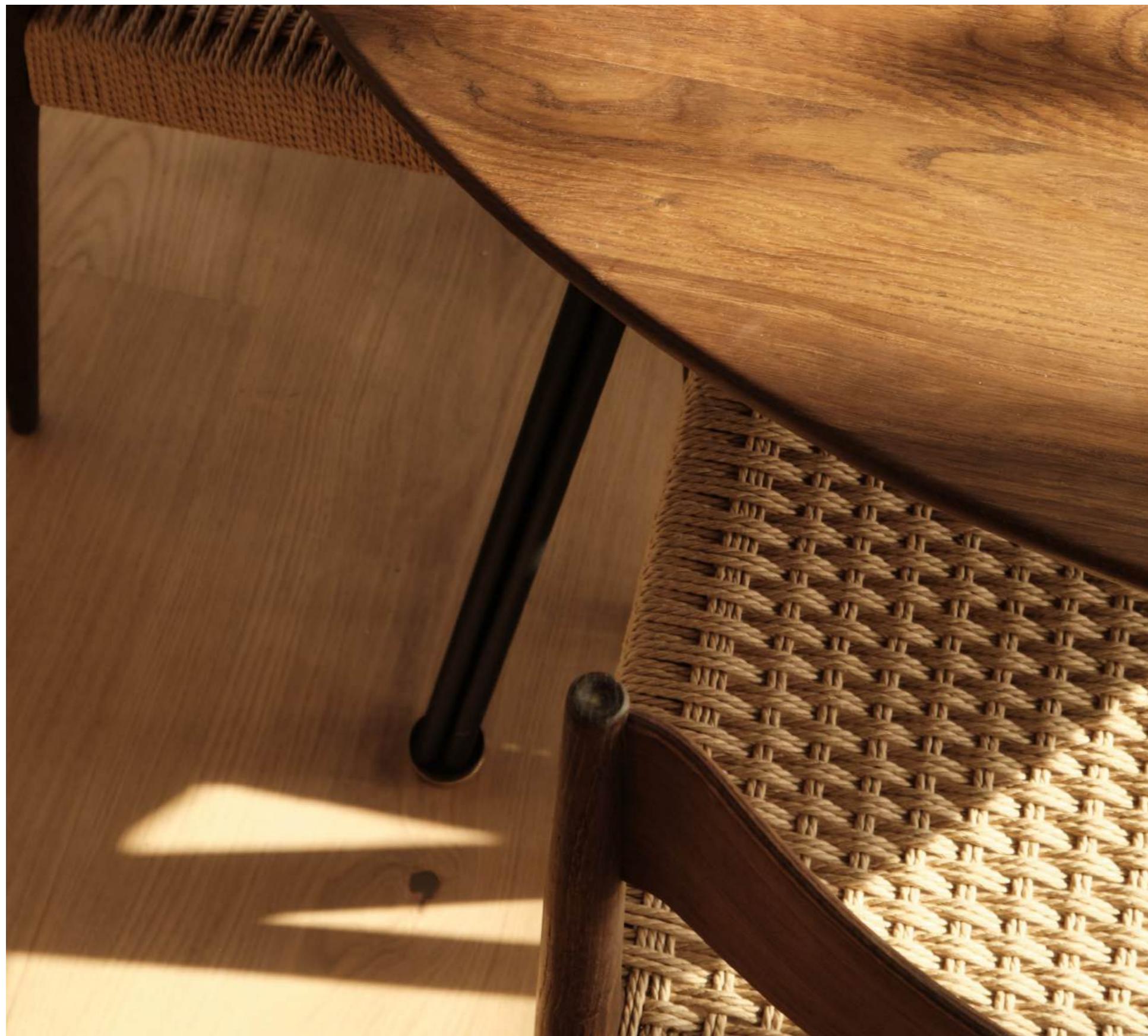






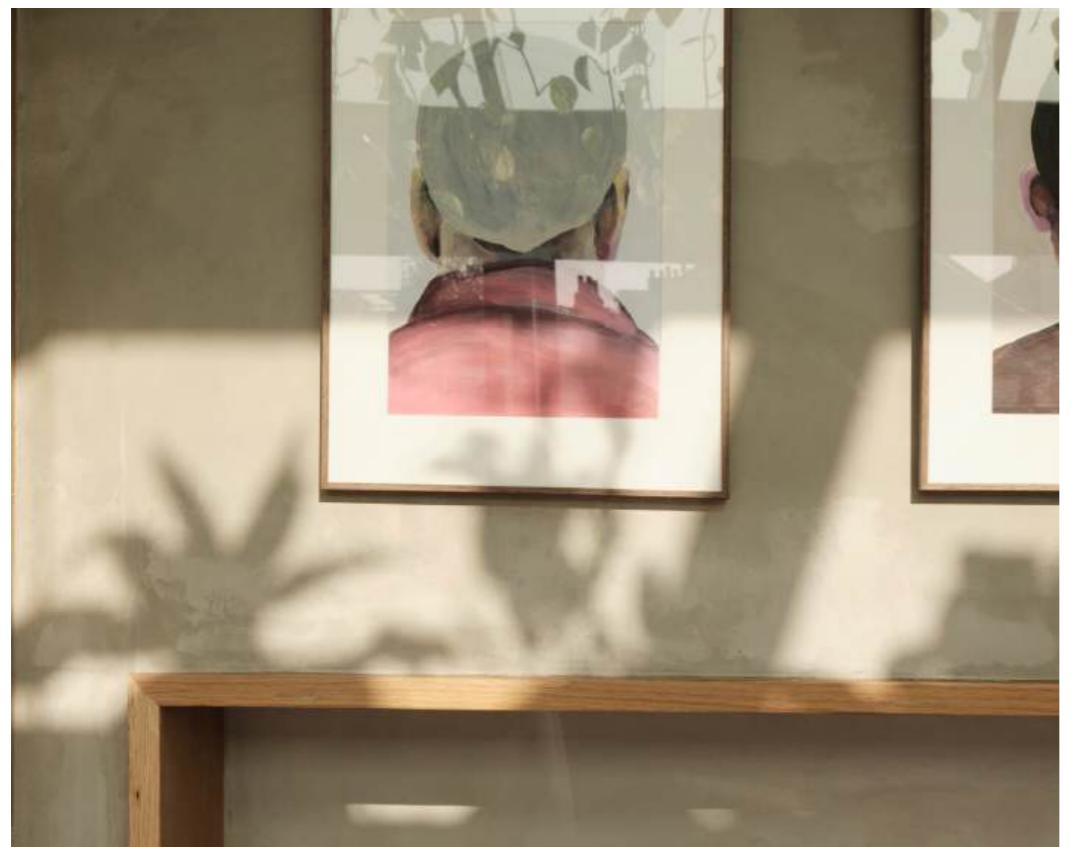
The furnishings reflect a blend of Japanese and Nordic aesthetics, featuring pieces solely from designers and makers native to these areas. Hirst's clear intention was to highlight the finest aspects of both Japanese and Nordic design, creating a fusion that's evident throughout the building—in the cuisine, coffee, restaurants, and the Sake bar.





Fusion of Japanese and Nordic Materials and Techniques. The interior design at Pantechnicon is a harmonious blend of materials and craftsmanship drawn from both Japanese and Nordic traditions. Light oak, ash, and other pale timbers—hallmarks of Nordic design—are seamlessly combined with elements characteristic of Japanese artistry, such as precise joinery, charred wood techniques like shou sugi ban, and ceramics.

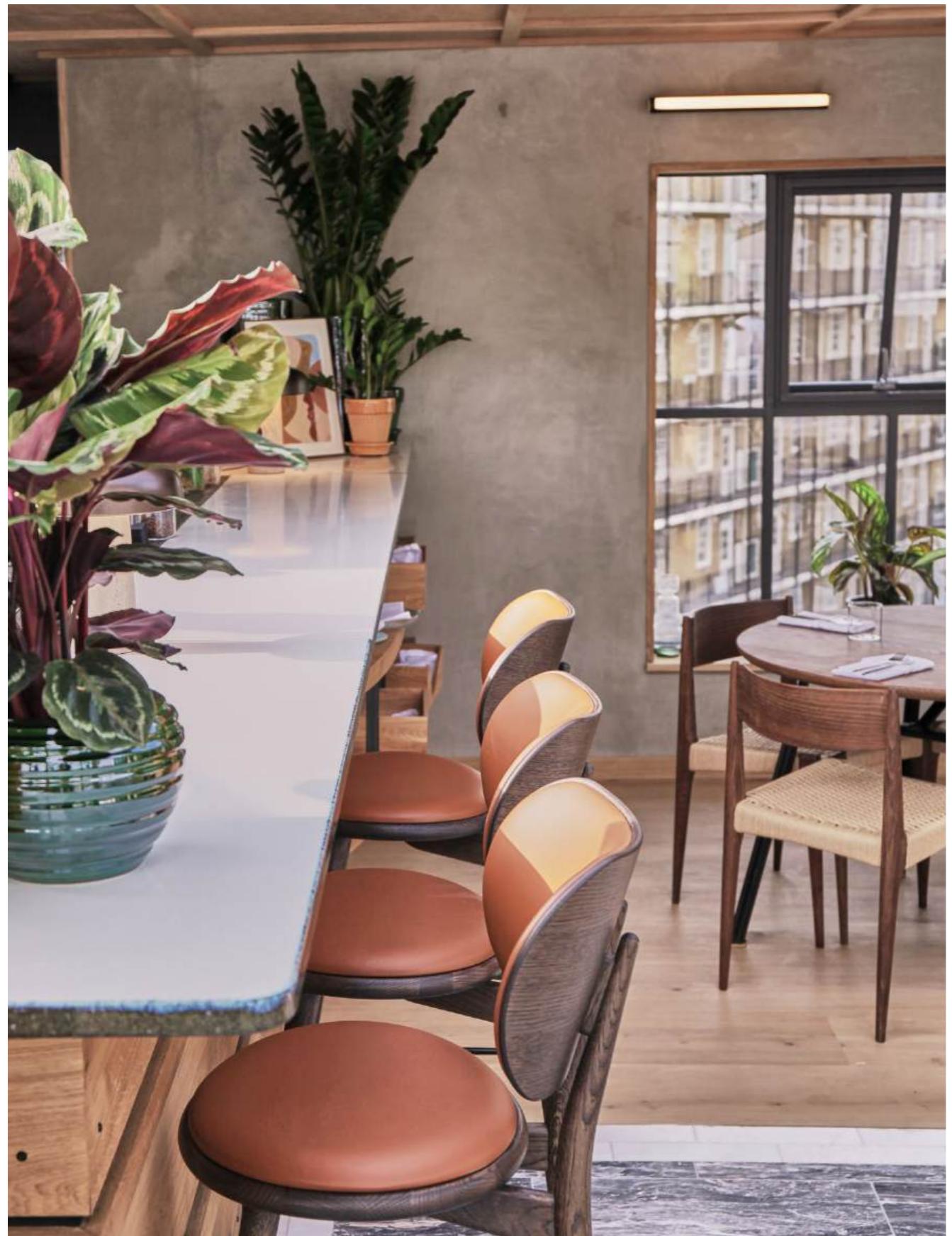




An effortless and enduring fusion. A central aspect of Hirst's vision was to create a seamless fusion of styles. The integration of Japanese and Nordic influences should be so natural that their boundaries are indistinguishable, forming a unified "Pantchnicon" aesthetic. The choice of chairs and tables prioritized tactile comfort, favouring smooth, unfinished wood surfaces that invite people to touch them.







The furniture was designed for extended comfort, whether during leisurely lunches, exquisite dinners, or relaxed terrace cocktails. In Hirst's philosophy, style is always paramount, never overshadowed by functionality.





This thoughtful integration is evident throughout the venue, with furniture pieces sourced from renowned Japanese makers and the leading wooden furniture manufacturers of the Nordic region, alongside classic Danish designs. The result is a curated environment where the finest materials and methods from both cultures coalesce to create a distinctive and inviting atmosphere..







"The brief was complex in that we did not want a sea of the same furniture, our aim was to create a home from home feel rather than a restaurant. They organised sample after sample of pretty well every Nordic chair on the market. It was a skill to make sure all of them hung together in a calm and subtle way without any single piece of furniture feeling out of place. The team at Tollgard remained unflappable and facilitated a fantastic installation of the most beautiful collection of Nordic furniture in London."

Barry Hirst
Co-Founder of Pantechnicon &
Director of Open House London

Featured Brands

- Auren
- &Tradition
- Anour
- Brdr. Krüger
- Byarums Bruk
- Cane Line
- Carl Hansen
- dk3
- Eikund
- Foggia
- Fredericia
- LeKlint
- Made By Hand