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LIANA YAROSLAVSKY

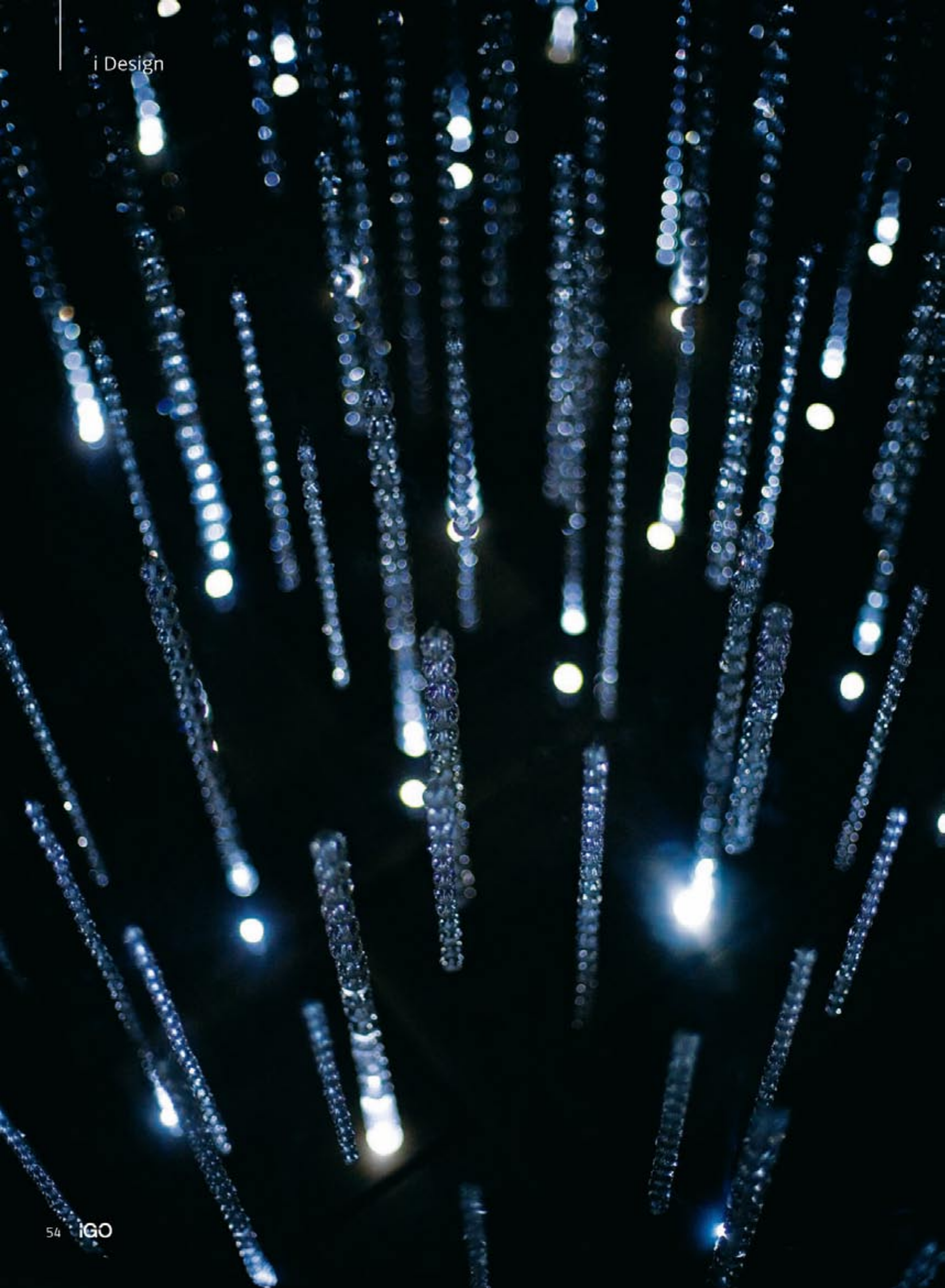
words Leila Nabih

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Designing, for me, is like connecting the dots. I put things together that do not necessarily belong. I turn them around, upside down, and eventually find the order.

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Liana Yaroslavsky possesses a nostalgic admiration for the classical and baroque, a longing to a period when the word "magnificence" still made sense.

Studying sculpture, painting and graphic design at the famous Parsons School of Design in New York, and equipped with a cosmopolitan background, Yaroslavsky used her creative skills in different areas.

The Russian designer started out as an artistic director in a graphic design agency, and later on created her own agency, moving simultaneously into interior decoration. It was there that her taste for the extraordinary and her love for antiques lit the path ahead.

Liana finds her inspiration in music, photography, famous painters, cinema and fashion. Her message is the story of each object she uses in her compositions, recalling at the same time, a little of her own history.

"For me, the world is an enormous stage set. My imaginary kingdoms, museums, exhibitions, flea markets, legendary glass makers in Venice... An object speaks to me; an old piano on which





my children once practiced their scales... I look at it, question it, dissect it and put it all into place at a later time. A story is born. To create is first a game... spontaneous, rough, and sometimes even savage. Then creation becomes sort of acrobatic, more tamed, more knowing. Something – an object, a sentiment – strikes you from the start, and then, over time, it matures and becomes more concrete, looks for other elements, other companions, and other objects to join. I am the conductor of this orchestra," Yaroslavsky mused.

Her Coffee Tables collection is an unexpected marriage of different styles: antique objects, stylish pieces and pure modernity. Venetian chandeliers are dismantled, turned upside down and put back together with new materials. Simplicity is mixed with baroque, decadence is frozen in plexiglas, antique wood is confronted to crystal. Each of her tables is made with precious and rare materials which are often unique: Murano crystal chandeliers, Napoleon III tapestries, original Versailles floors, Bohemian crystals and many more pieces she found on her travels.

When asked why she chose chandeliers for this collection, she said, "I love the variety of styles, the history, the magic of light and reflection which gives fairy-tale-like atmosphere and brings richness, glitter, and mystery. I find them to be the perfect objects to marry with other objects and styles."

Yaroslavsky was born in Leningrad, but spent a lot of time in the Middle East and across the Atlantic. She now lives in Paris, "the most beautiful city in the world, after Venice," she believes.

