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GUBI PRESENTS

THE UNBOUND COLLECTION

by Space Copenhagen



A sculptural shift for the lantern archetype

Design studio Space Copenhagen is known for playing with intriguing juxtapositions in its designs, and this collection's meditation on the archetypal lantern form is no exception. The pared-back take on a traditional Japanese paper lantern balances the ethereal and the functional, while challenging the conventions of the typology in its playful asymmetry.

The Unbound Collection fulfils Space Copenhagen's ambition to create a practical but poetic lantern with a distinctive sculptural character that does not impose on the space around it. Instead, the lamps define and celebrate the scale of the room, populating dark corners and gathering the boundaries together.

Beginning with concept of the archetypal maritime lantern, Space Copenhagen set out to simplify the typology to its cleanest expression, stripped of all distractions. Bringing the shade down as close to the base as possible encourages the viewer to focus on these two elements alone, creating a silhouette reminiscent of a ship with a billowing sail.

The teardrop-shaped gray marble base of the lantern-inspired series acts as an anchor, embodying stillness and weight. A rotating white linen or natural canvas shade with the same shape appears weightless, vibrant and flighty in contrast – aligning perfectly over the base only once in every 360° rotation and embodying asymmetry for the other 359°. Dark antique brass forms an off-center arm that acts as a 'mast' – and, together with the echoing forms of the base and shade, brings the composition together into a cohesive whole. Within the shade, dimmable LEDs all the way around the arm create a softly diffused light without casting internal shadows.

The Unbound Lamp was conceived to cast a spacious atmospheric light and create a gentle 'Zen-like' ambience. A carefully engineered ball joint enables effortless movement of the vertically orientated shade with your fingertips, creating a gentle and poetic sense of rotation. Because the design was

driven by the quality of light and movement Space Copenhagen wanted to evoke, rather than a specific function, the lamps bring a glowing warmth and sense of playful intrigue to any interior – from the most convivial restaurant or living space to the most formal workspace.

The lamp is available in three sizes, meaning it can be used as a standalone table lamp or floor lamp. The smallest of the three brings light to spaces as small as a console or bedside table, making it a functional and flexible piece. The largest lamp makes a bold statement, with the scale to relate to the room as a whole and become a focal point that defines the space. The medium-sized light mediates between the two, enabling dynamic compositions – in clusters of two or more, the shades can be positioned in unison or at angles to one another, creating an animated sculpture even when switched off. Changing angles and positions of the lamps in relation to one another therefore subtly alters the impact of the ensemble and the mood of the space from something that evokes falling leaves to clouds drifting across the sky – actions we humans are naturally drawn towards.

Unbound features similar materials to Space Copenhagen's Gravity Collection, which is also characterized by a large heavy base that gives a sense of weight and grounding, counterbalanced with a lightweight shade. The more abstract and experimental Unbound feels lighter and looser, as though it might float away at any moment, and reflects the studio's ongoing exploration of form.

The kinship between Space Copenhagen and GUBI is defined by a shared philosophy that combines a signature of elegant simplicity with a cosmopolitan international outlook. Prioritizing functionality and personality in design while focusing on a few effective details has resulted in a self-assured design universe that emphasizes a sense of spaciousness and identity paired with a nuanced understanding of materials and craftsmanship.

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