

# Disc Man

*Steven Holl*

The diminutive 37-m<sup>2</sup> Editions de Parfums Frédéric Malle shop, designed by American architect Steven Holl, slides like a drawer into New York City's Greenwich Village. A 3D collage of repeated (and repeatedly disjointed) forms, the store is described by Holl as 'a slipped disc'. Two large windows facing the street are offset hemispheres that launch the 'disc' theme and draw passers-by inside, where the disc is revealed in all its guises: as black-walnut cabinetry, foamed-aluminium shelving, a semicircular rug, ceiling lights, a curvilinear sofa and recessed drawer pulls. It even extends outside to the landscaping and cast-brass tap in a 'secret' garden at the rear. At varying scales – the variety suggests that the form is to be found throughout the space if one looks closely enough – the variety suggests that the form is to be found throughout the space if one looks closely enough – the disc serves as a vaguely uniform backdrop to an array of textures and finishes, including Malle's numinous scarlet packaging, which represents the multiplicity of incarnations Holl imagines scent might take if it were to assume physical form. — SM

stevenholl.com

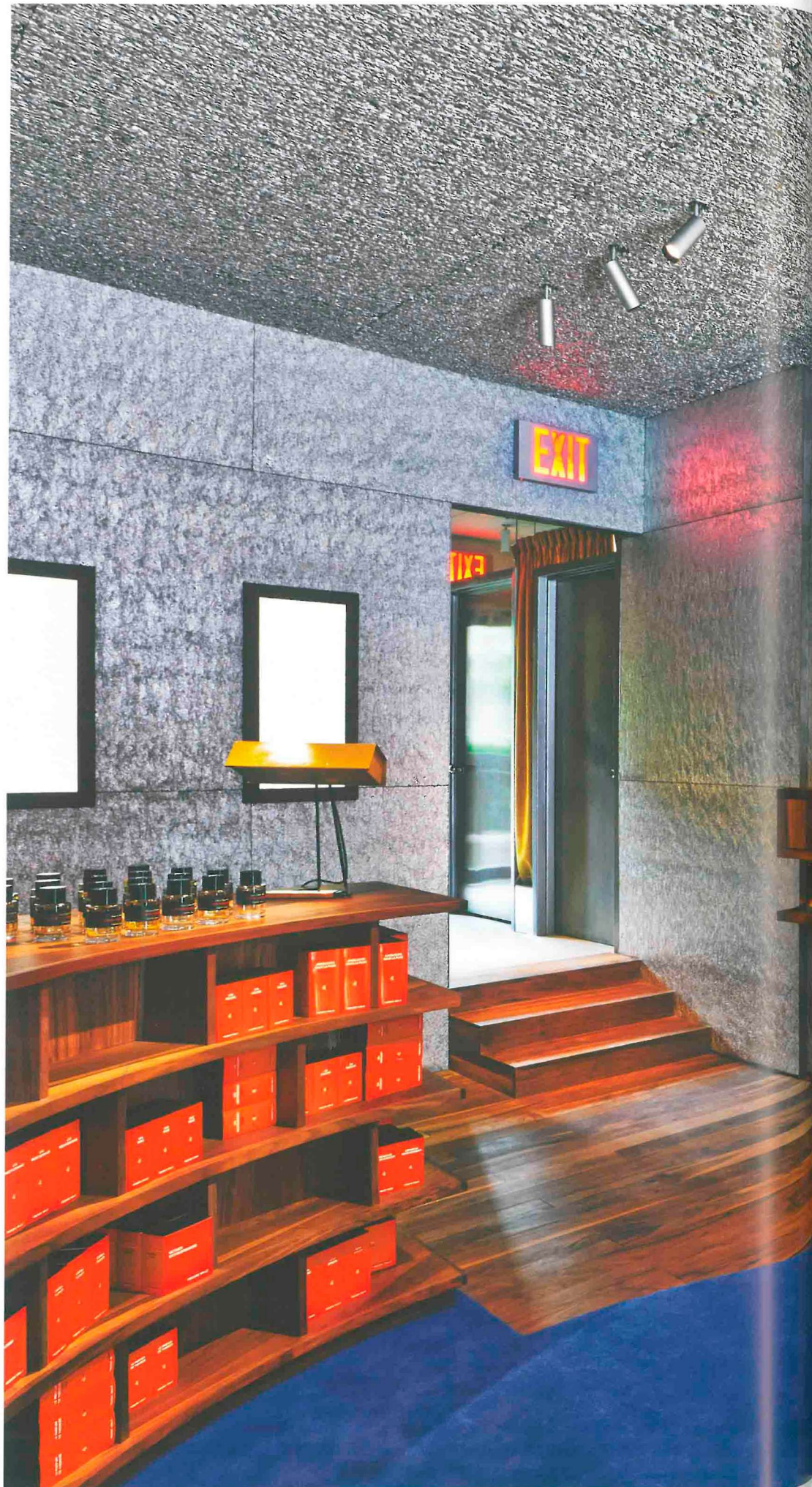


Photo Adrian Gaut

FRAME

Frame's November app assembles the parts of Steven Holl's 'slipped discs'



