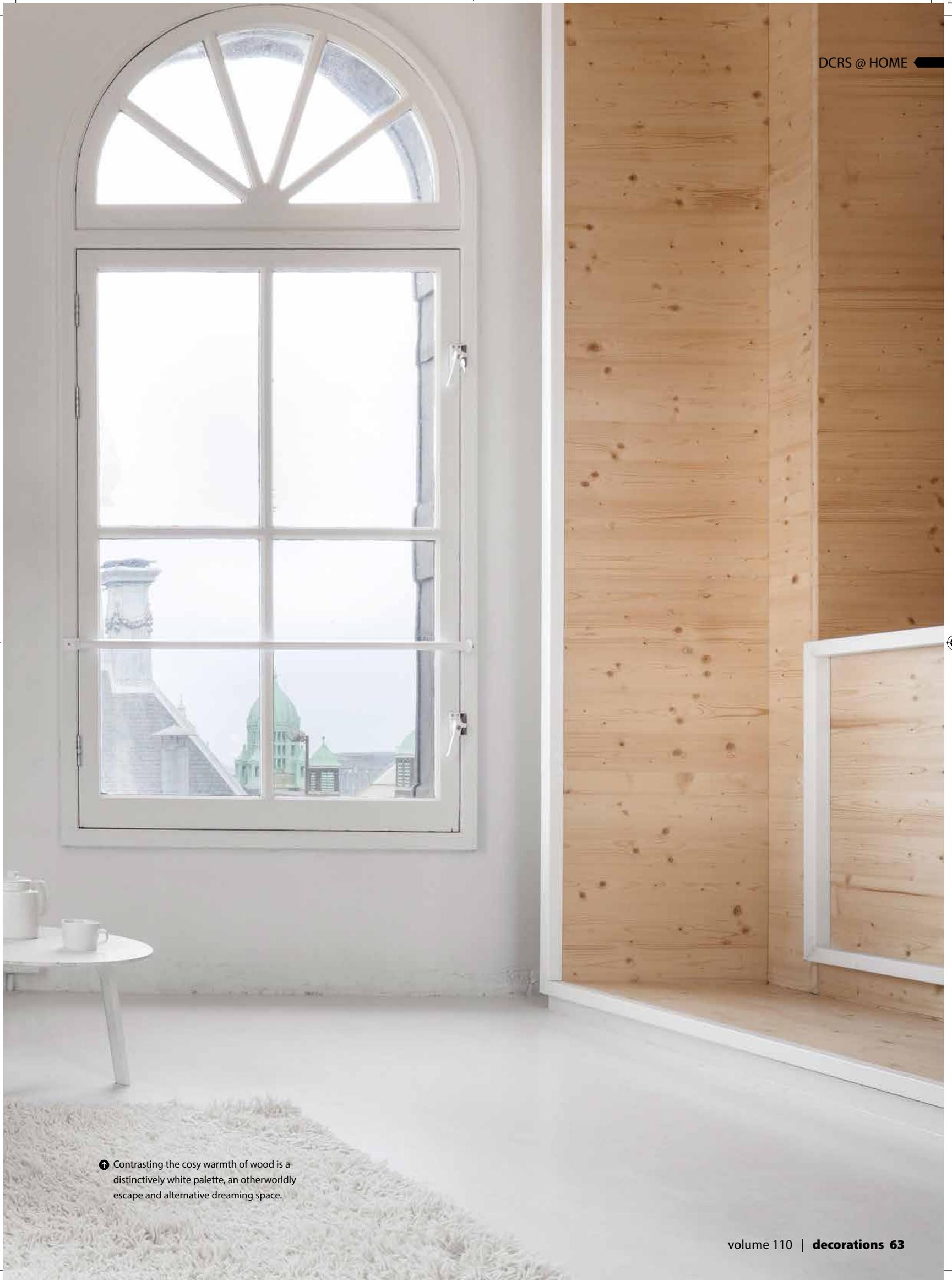
A minimalist, monochromatic interior scene. In the foreground, a white, modern-style armchair with a curved back and four legs sits on a light-colored, shaggy rug. To the right, a tall, thin floor lamp with a large, spherical white shade stands. In the background, a white coat rack is visible against the wall. On the left, a window with a white frame and handle is partially visible, with a white horizontal bar or railing below it. The overall aesthetic is clean, bright, and modern.

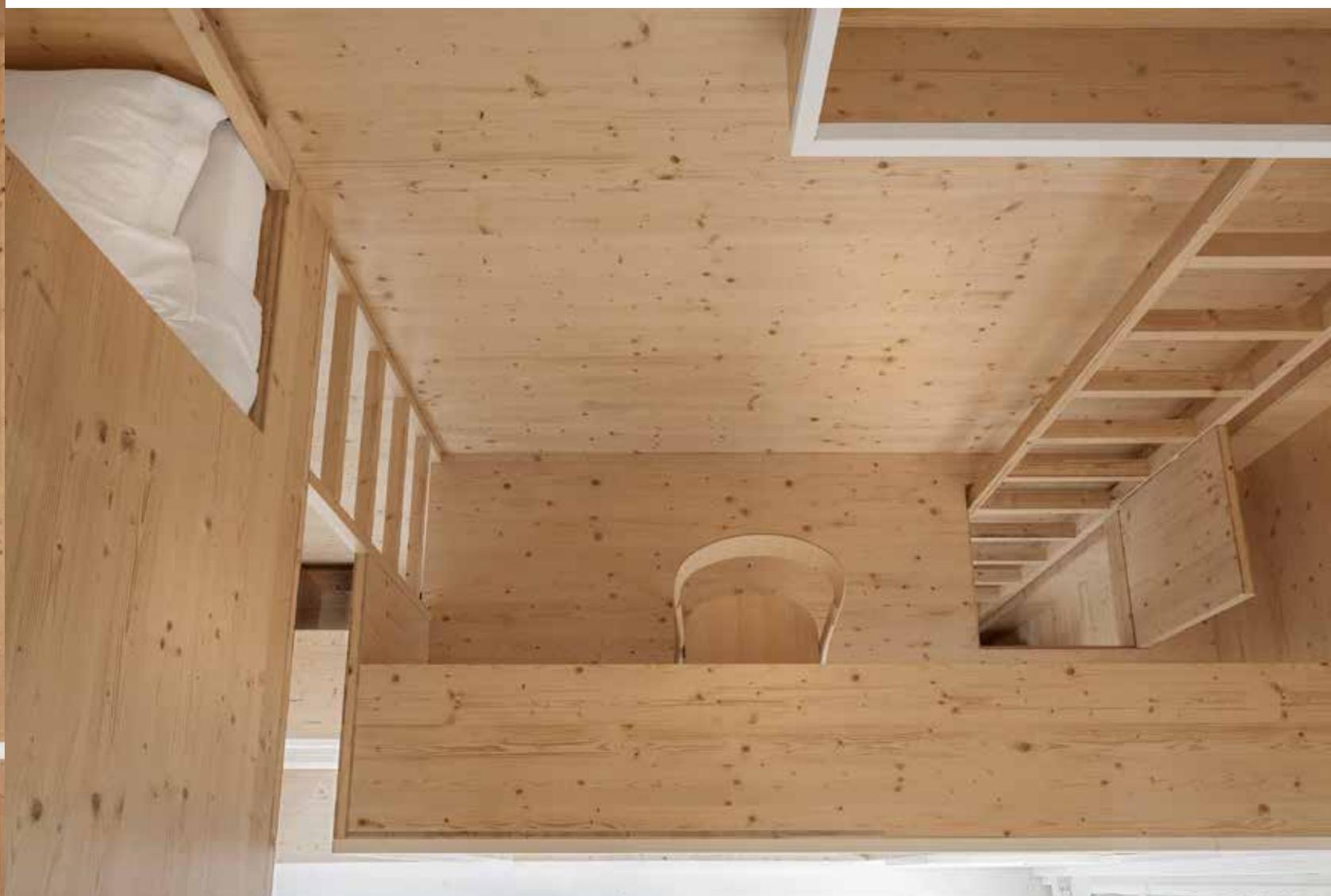
# vertical limit

LIVING IN SMALL SPACES WHERE THE ONLY WAY IS UP



❶ Contrasting the cosy warmth of wood is a distinctively white palette, an otherworldly escape and alternative dreaming space.





PHOTOGRAPHY BY EWOUT HUIBERS | TEXT BY KENNETH THEXEIRA

Located in the small tower within de Bijenkorf, a high-end department store in Amsterdam, a unique loft in the heart of the city has been transformed into a cultural haven. Aptly christened Room On The Roof, the space is a livable studio, where de Bijenkorf has invited national and international artists to work various projects within the tower.

Fully equipped for artists, Room On The Roof comes handy with a telescope to enjoy panoramic city views, a bed, a special menu for meals, and its location atop Dam Square providing inspiration in itself. Resultant works from the time spent incubated within will be shared with the public across variant platforms, be it through store exhibitions, online performances or via installation art in the vicinity.

Caroline Krouwels, Head of Creative at de Bijenkorf,

stated, "De Bijenkorf integrates retail, art, culture and design in order to surprise and inspire customers. The tower is a prominent architectural component of the building on Dam Square and, with The Room On The Roof, it will also come to symbolise the creative innovation of de Bijenkorf."

Designed by prominent Dutch firm, i29 interior architects, the interior's prime directive was to offer live-in artists an exceptional creative experience. This was the starting point where i29 realised an installation that brings two worlds together in a singular space; toying with scale and perception as in the underground universe from 'Alice in Wonderland'.

A juxtaposition is evident- one side sees the placement of a vertical installation of wooden volumes, ranging from floor to ceiling. The other houses a full white

➤ **FACING PAGE** A practical, horizontal living space for creatives, with a telescope for panoramic views, to boot. | **TOP** Ladders provide quick transitions between the spaces.



1 TOP A monumental spiral stair, boxed-in living spaces and an ethereal white-wash with accompanying pendant lights, the loft resembles a dreamscape.



➊ **FROM LEFT** A multi-purpose countertop, situated a short climb away from the nifty, quaint bedroom. | Fully liveable for periods of times on end, with amenities to ensure hygiene amidst incubation periods.

space, minimally fitted. Within the wooden installation lies simple necessities- a pantry, storage, desk and bed. Stacked atop one another and solely reachable via stairs and ladders, the designers present a 'living cabinet', while also allowing inhabitants to experience the tower on different levels. Each storey of the installation provides new perspectives and views of the outside world.

All accessories- the telescope, armchair and lamps- are just like the space itself, a complete whitewash, creating explicit contrast with the wooden volume. Lastly, a monumental spiral staircase leading to the cupola was diligently restored, adding to the fairytale dreamscape.



Published in Vol 110  
Feb / Mar 2016

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i29 interior architects, [www.i29.nl](http://www.i29.nl)