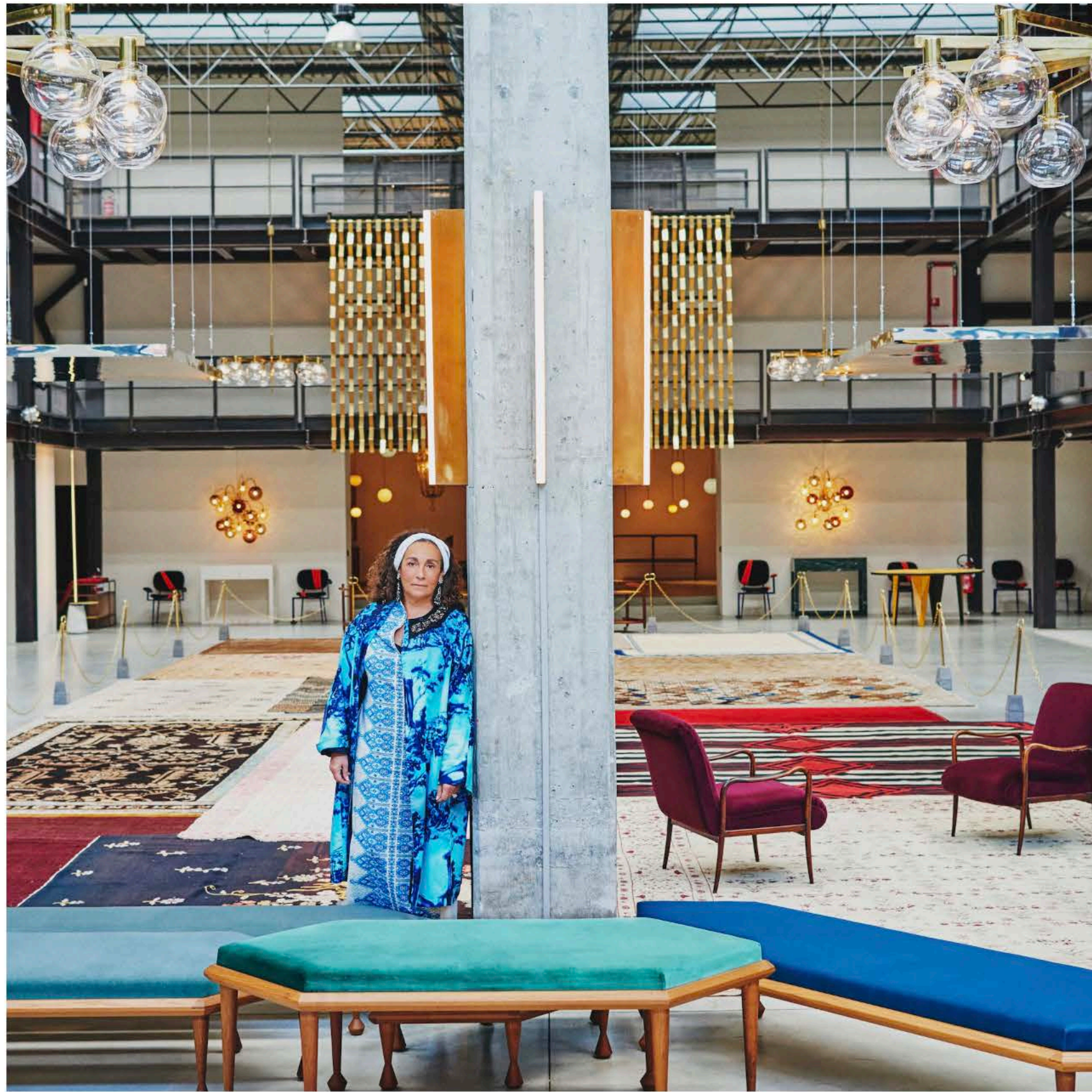


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Nilufar Gallery opens Squat pop-up in London



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Nina Yashar in her Nilufar Depot, surrounded by furniture by Martino Gamper (foreground), a pair of 1950s Leve armchairs by Joaquim Tenreiro, Brazil, Tube wall lamps (on pillar) by Michael Anastassiades, 2014, and 1960s ceiling lamps by Hans Agne Jakobsson, Sweden. CREDIT: PHILIP SINDEN

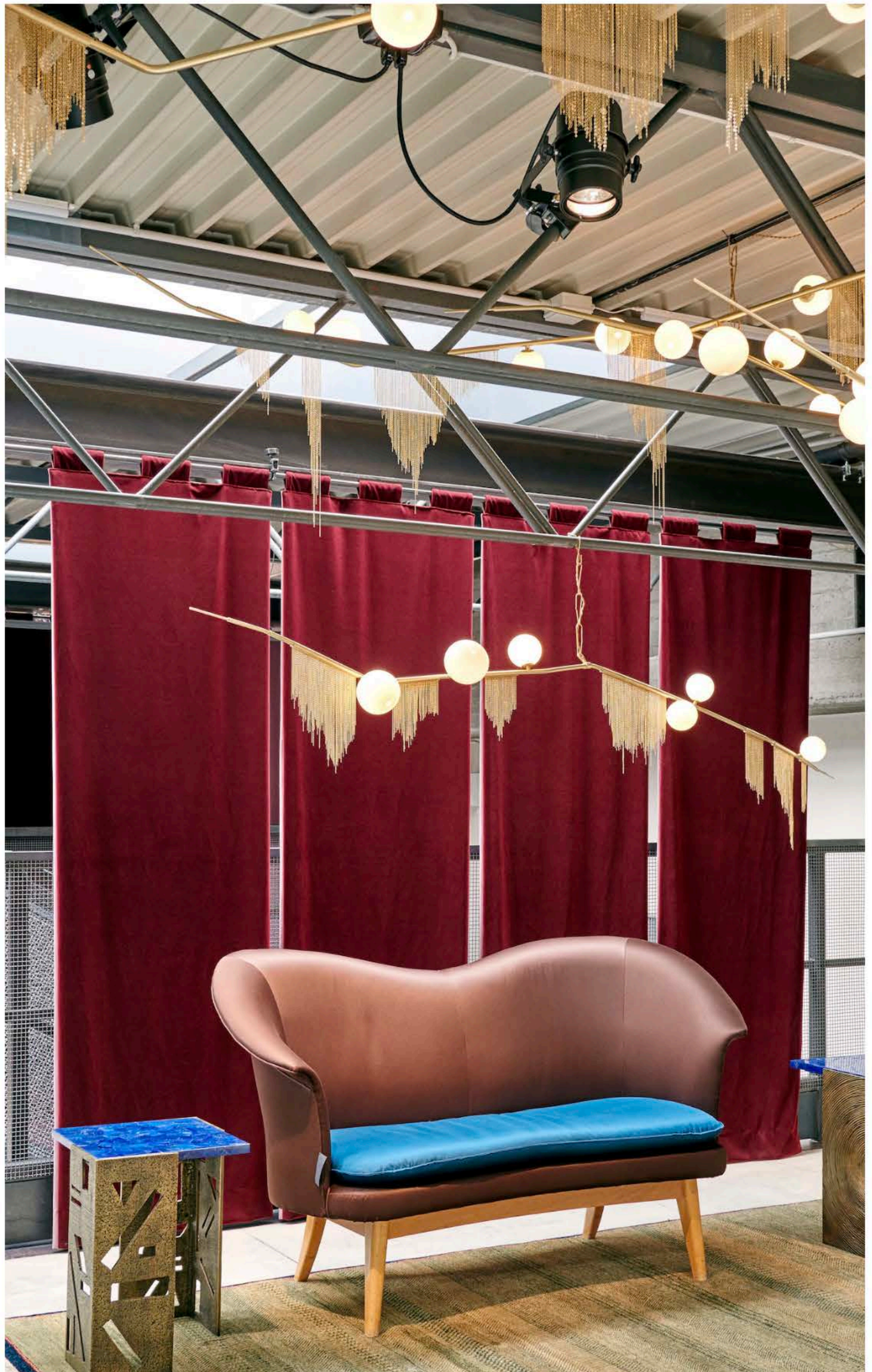
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By Bethan Ryder

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"Which ones do you prefer?" asks the celebrated Milanese gallerist Nina Yashar. She is canvassing opinion on which style of Sunboo sunglasses to choose. In the vein of celebrity ambassadorship, she's been gifted a pair. The eventual consensus is the Geometrico, the bold tortoiseshell and red frame complementing her olive Persian complexion and shock of wild dark curls that are drawn back from her forehead – tamed by one of her signature silk headscarves.

Yashar is relaxed and glowing following a 10-day sojourn in Greece, after the whirl of Milan design week. We're in the Nilufar Depot, a vast 1,500-square-metre emporium in a quiet residential area of Milan, which showcases around 400 of her design treasures, to talk about her latest project – Squat. This is the unlikely title for a luxurious pop-up apartment on South Audley Street in London's Mayfair; a collaboration between interior designer Shalini Misra, gallerist Mehves Ariburnu and Yashar, who has curated a capsule collection of furniture and lighting for the project. Yashar has shown in London before – her gallery is a regular fixture at PAD, the Pavilion of Art + Design, that takes place in Berkeley Square every October – but this is a longer term project opening to the public for four months on June 7.



1950 sofa by Olof Ottelin, Finland, Lapiz collection low tables by Hicham Ghandour, Lebanon, 2016, and Cherry Bomb Fringe collection ceiling lamp by Lindsey Adelman, 2016, USA CREDIT: PHILIP SINDEN