

Tarek El Kassouf

Tarek El Kassouf is a Lebanese designer based in both Beirut and Sydney who creates in three disciplines: architecture, urban planning and product/furniture design. His work is inspired by Middle Eastern geometric patterns and is often spiced with futuristic parametric design. He began refining his third passion, furniture design, in 2014 with the launch of the 'The Edge' series of furniture and lighting. 'The Edge' is inspired by the designer's home city, Beirut. It is an interpretation of a city that is vulnerable yet resilient and adaptive. This series tries to capture the essence of a city living on the edge through the contradiction of solid yet malleable steel designs. The designer's Middle Eastern upbringing and architectural background are woven into the series with the use of repetition of forms and geometric patterns often found in Arabic architecture. At the heart of this series is the cube. Each design takes the pure form of a cube, distorts, bends and twists it with such precision that if unbent and untwisted it would return to its original cube form. Three of the designs from 'The Edge' use the principle of repetition of forms with each unit able to fit together with other units into various shapes and forms to suit different tastes and layouts. The designer also researched the essence of the oriental light often seen in traditional Middle Eastern souks, and implemented its principles in modern shapes for this series. These unique steel designs are handmade in Lebanon by highly skilled artisans. Only 20 pieces of each are produced.



Tarek Elkassouf | Diamond Edge Lamp