



## Architect Philippe Maidenber's Paris Home Is a Temple to Good Design and Great Musicians

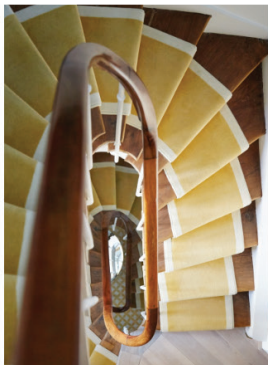
BY LOUISE HART  
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A tour of the home and office of the talented man behind TripAdvisor's top-ranked hotels in Paris.

The Parisian architect Philippe Maidenber has worked on countless hotels in Paris (including Hotel Bel Ami, Hotel 123 Sébastopol, and the Anla Hotel), and while both home and hotel designs have to be practical, resistant, and comfortable, the similarities stop there. "We are very playful when designing hotels, lobbies, restaurants, and bars," says Maidenber. "We aren't afraid to use colors, videos, and new materials. We tone that down a little in rooms, because that is the space where people sleep and relax. For my home, I wanted to do something quiet and light, simple and comfortable for a family (even though at the time I was single). It is much harder to make decisions for yourself than for a client."



Maidenber designed the oak and yellow desk in his office, as well as the stool behind it. (The stool was actually made for the musician and legend Archie Shepp.) The hand moldings are the hands of major musicians, directors, and actors that Maidenber collaborates or has collaborated with: Peter Gabriel, Gilberto Gil, Roger Hodgson, Youssou N'dour, Rickie Lee Jones, Mami Katché, Jean-Paul Belmondo, Claude Lelouch, and Ennio Morricone. "It gives a good vibe to work in front of that," jokes Maidenber.



The 5<sup>e</sup> arrondissement is located in the 2nd arrondissement of Paris. It was historically a textile and garment-manufacturing district, but since the late 1900s, it has increasingly become home to many start-up companies and has acquired the nickname "Silicon Senteur." After months ignoring the suggestions of a broker friend to look at a three-floor, 1,600-square-foot home, Maidenber finally came when she said it was close to sell. "Once I arrived, I quickly saw the potential the house had," says Maidenber. "I made my offer and signed for it quickly after." Renovations took a year, and as soon as the house was completed, he bought the office located right next door.



Maidenber designed the mirror hanging over the mantle. The fireplace is a gift from one of his oldest clients and used to be located in a hotel they renovated together. The original floors were ruined during the renovations, so the new floors are all made of lightly bleached ash parquet.



The terrace separating the house and office measures 320 square feet. "My 2-year-old kids come and knock on my window every day to play, even when clients are around," says Maidenber.



Maidenber designed the dining room table. The table top is made of leather, and the legs are oak. The oak and leather chairs were designed by Sylvain Dubuisson. The tile flooring, made from white and yellow cement tiles, is the type of pattern and material you can find in old loobies in Paris (but not in those colors).



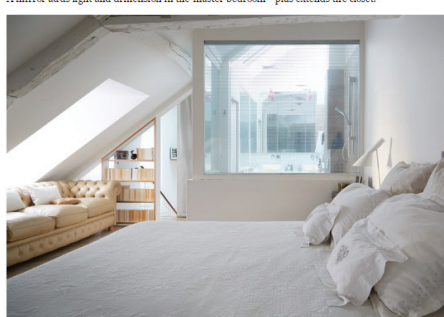
Maidenber purchased the Saarinen for Knoll Womb Chair at a vintage sale. The glass doors open to a closet with a desk in the center. The stairwell, likely 150 years old, is the only original part of this house that's left.



Another view of Maidenber's office. The green light was purchased at a vintage sale.



A mirror adds light and dimension in the master bedroom—plus extends the closet.



The glass wall between the bathroom and bedroom provides additional light. Maidenber has had the Chesterfield sofa for 25 years. The white light is an Arne Jacobsen design.



Maidenber designed the desk and ottoman a few years ago. The white chair is manufactured by Thonet.