Jean Michel, a Cirque Du Soleil creative director, plants his New York roots in DUMBO’s Clock Tower. The themes of nature and classicism come to life in this famous triplex.

The design concept sprouted during visits to The Gallery’s exhibition at the New York Design Center and the French period rooms located at the Met. “Behind the Shadows” exhibition held striking graphic images that used variety of angles and play of light and shadows. The photograph of a tree became the origin of the tree motif. The visit to the Met and spending time paying particular attention to the 18th Century French interiors and its paneled woodwork, it added a layer of sophistication to the design. The panels from the French interiors were mirrored and contemporized by delicately carving concrete panels that follow the rhythmic patterns of the existing architecture. Growing tree became the ultimate concept, resulting with array of experiences for Jean Michel and guests to enjoy, discover and create.

The journey inside the Clock Tower starts with the foyer. The foyer greets you with a grass terrain. You get a glimpse of the clock between leaves of the grass. The ceiling has a tight knit structured panel that holds Thicket Natural glass from 3-form. The glass is warbling branches where lighting seeps from behind. This is where you first experience the branches of the tree. Serge Poliakoff’s Composition Abstrakte and Joan Miro’s Untitled frame the entry trough symmetry.

Tree motif continues in the powder room through scalloped walls mirroring the ripples of tree bark while the ceiling holding a custom lighting fixture that emulates a growth of mushrooms on the side of tree. The powder room also houses Michelangelo Pistoletto’s Sacra as well.

The soft, curved ramp wraps living area creating a warm living area. A low prairie like seating follows the curve of the ramp. This curved seating is also mirrored across the main living area to seat larger gatherings. On the ceiling linearized tree branches peeks in and out of the architecture creating different rhythms. The fire place and seating on the plan creates an intimate space where you can sit and enjoy a book.

The dining and kitchen area serve as the center stage for entertainment. The kitchen is designed to mimic a stage, where one has the spotlight when cooking, the cook can face the the audience who is seated at the dining area and interact with them. This space not only house the culinary entertainment but aerial performances. During a performance the three-piece modular dining table gets pulled apart and moved to the larger living area. During the performance, the artist is highlighted by the lighting system and the dramatic graphic backdrop created from layers of branches.

The master suite is all Mahogany creating a sultry and moody bedroom. The layered wood frame for the bed serves an architectural backdrop while creating a partition between the bedroom and the walk-through closet. Through the partition you can get a faint glimpse at Karel Appel’s Figure.
The Met, 18th century French Period Room
Symmetry, Geometry
Olive Branch
Guilded Woodwork
Parquet
Panelled Walls
Petal Seats

The clock Tower
Greg Lotus "Behind the Shadows"
YT22
FLOOR ONE: Foyer, Living Area
FLOOR ONE: Powder Room, Dining, Kitchen
Floor Two & Three: Master Bedroom, Section