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'The House of Small' by Karim Nader Studio

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Karim Nader Studio Builds Home in the Heart of Beirut Design Fair 2018

Rising in the centre of the Beirut Design Fair (BDF) is Karim Nader Studio's 'The House of Small', a multi-story dwelling on a 2m diameter plot of earth with its own native olive tree, its rose on the roof and a little boy ready to soar.

Beirut-based architect Karim Nader of Karim Nader Studio, creates a multi-layered house that seeks to

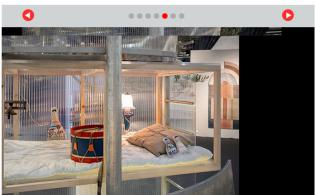
bridge architecture with design. The 1:1 scale contemporary take on a primitive hut is here adopted to the proportions of a small child, making it at once a viable building and an architectural model. The dwelling is vertically layered around everyday rituals, with spaces designated as a garden, cellar, attic, mezzanine and an in-between floor for living.

Nader explains: "'The House of Small' is not a house, but a house represented, a multi-layered design object where the desire for inhabiting can continue to dwell and play in the imagination of every visitor."

Made of steel, wood and polycarbonate, the transparent, glass-like installation also features objects for everyday living. Reminiscent of childhood, these carefully selected pieces are from the following established designers, collectors and artisans: Dolls from the Ana Collection, vintage toys courtesy of Ardeco Gallery, Little Prince Child Chair by Bokja, Yellow Broom and Teta (GRANDMOTHER) Table by Nada Debs, Brass Chandelier by Nayef Francis, Miniature Tribal Carpet by Hadi Maktabi, Tucano Bird by David Oliveiria courtesy of South Border Gallery and vintage objects from Nader's private collection.

Housed under the roof of the BDF showroom, the hut is liberated of its function as a shelter and therefore acts as a transparent showcase for the domestic objects and their associated narratives - a home for design. According to Nader: "The House of Small' is a celebration of small, the pleasure of being somewhere without the built-in obsession of more. For everyone, there is a house of dream-desire. We collect designed objects that represent us. Out of a few small meaningful things - objects invested in memory - the house becomes a home."

(Photos: © Marwan Harmouche)



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