

Stefanie Hering and Studio M reimagine lighting through craft, restraint and intention. *by* CHRIS GROZA

# Poetry of Light



Stefanie Hering has never treated material as a means to an end. For the Berlin-based designer and founder of Hering Berlin, material is the beginning of every idea. “I didn’t enter design through aesthetics,” Hering says. “I entered through making.” Trained as a master ceramicist, she learned early that clay resists, remembers and demands responsibility. Every decision leaves a mark.

That sensitivity to process found a natural counterpart in Studio M, Maxim Lighting’s artisan-led line designed by and for the trade. Entering the collaboration as a true creative partner, Studio M helped shepherd ideas from their earliest spark through refinement, production and realization, translating material intuition into systems and tools that allow the work to live at scale without losing its soul.

Hering’s approach is rooted in quiet luxury: precision, restraint and longevity over trend. Rather than designing objects in isolation, she begins with lived scenarios—arrival, dining, conversation—allowing function to lead and meaning to follow. “Light should encourage conversation, not interrupt it,” she says. “Luxury lighting succeeds when you don’t notice it.” Illumination remains even and natural, with technology quietly receding from view.

Porcelain plays a central role in achieving that balance. Unlit, it reads as sculptural and pure. Lit, it glows with warmth and depth. Achieving translucency without fragility required both material mastery and close collaboration, where creative intuition and technical thinking evolved in tandem.

The resulting family of fixtures spans softly glowing table lamps, modular pendant systems and hand-blown glass chandeliers that introduce rhythm and scale. It’s a collection shaped by partnership: Together, Stefanie Hering and Studio M share a belief that lighting should be designed to live with people, not perform for them.

