

BAROZZI
VEIGA

Overview

Barozzi/Veiga was founded in Barcelona by Fabrizio Barozzi and Alberto Veiga in 2004. The practice has since worked internationally in public and private projects and its work has received several prestigious distinctions. Its diverse international work includes mainly cultural and educational buildings.

Barozzi/Veiga's work is characterized by the intention to arrive at solutions that are rooted in place, architectures that can be perceived over time and that have an emotional content. Concepts and ideas able to create particular atmospheres, which are architecturally clear and expressive, and able to have meaning by itself.

Barozzi / Veiga has won numerous prizes in national and international competitions. Its built work includes the Ribera del Duero Hq. (2011), the Auditorium of Aguilas (2011), the Szczecin Philharmonic (2014), the Music school in Brunico (2018) and the Fine Art Museum in Chur (2018). The recently completed projects include: the Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts Lausanne (2019) and the Zürich Tanzhaus (2019).

At the beginning of its career, Barozzi/Veiga have been distinguished with the Ajac Young Catalan Architect Award (2007), the Barbara Cappochin International Architecture Award (2011). The first building that Barozzi Veiga built in 2011, the Ribera del Duero Headquarter was awarded with the Golden Medal of Italian Architecture and especially with the Gold Medal for Italian Architecture for the Best Debut Work (2012).

In 2015 the project for the Szczecin Philharmonic received the prestigious Mies van der Rohe Award for European Architecture. The jury "finds a convincing formal and spatial strategy for a city strives for a better future in a fast changing economy and social patterns, delivering a dignity to urban life and the same time enhancing the city's specific historical identity with a contemporary "monument". Recently finished Fine art Museum in Chur, Switzerland, has been awarded with the RIBA Award for International Excellence, that distinguished the best 20 buildings constructed worldwide during the last three years.

The office has been invited to contribute to the Chicago Architecture Biennial in 2017 as well as to the Venice Biennale in 2014 and in 2016. There, the office presented "A sentimental monumentality" an installation and essay that defined the conceptual framework of its work later compiled in the monographs Barozzi/Veiga edited by Park Books (2014), a+u 535 (2015) and A-Mag (2018).

Biographies

Fabrizio Barozzi

Fabrizio Barozzi, born in 1976, grew up in Rovereto, Italy, and studied architecture at the Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia and went on to complete his academic studies at the Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Sevilla and at Ecole d'Architecture de Paris La Villette.

Since the beginning of his career, he has maintained a balance between his professional activity and his academic involvement. Between 2007 and 2009, he has been Professor at the International University of Catalonia in Barcelona and since 2009, he has been Professor at the University of Girona. He has been Visiting Professor at the Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia between 2013 and 2015 and in 2016 he was Visiting Professor at MIT Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he is going to teach again as Visiting Professor.

Alberto Veiga

Alberto Veiga, born in Santiago de Compostela (Spain) in 1973, studied architecture at the Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Navarra. Between 2007 and 2010 he has been Professor at the International University of Catalonia in Barcelona and in 2014 Visiting Professor at the Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia. He has taught and lectured worldwide at school of architecture in Spain, Italy, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Chile and United States.



Awards

- 2019 Best architects 20 Award. *Award*
Chicago Athenaeum International Award. *Award*
AD Award Architect of the Year. *Award*
- 2018 Golden Order of Polish Chamber of Architects, Warsaw - Szczecin. *Award*
RIBA Awards for International Excellence. *RIBA*
Gold Medal of the Italian Architecture. *Honorable mention*
- 2015 Mies van der Rohe Award. *European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture*
International FAD Award. *Arquinfad. International Opinion FAD Award*
Life in Architecture Award. *Architektura Murator*
Nagroda Architektoniczna Polityki. *Polityka*
Lamp Lighting Solutions Awards. *Shortlisted*
European Architectural Heritage Award. *Shortlisted*
- 2014 Design Vanguard Award. *Architectural Record New York*
- 2013 Young Talent of Italian Architecture Award. *National Council of Italian Architects*
- 2012 Gold Medal of the Italian Architecture. IV Triennale di Milano. *Best debut work*
ECOLA Award. *Special mention*
FAD Awards. *Shortlisted*
- 2011 Renzo Piano Foundation Award. *Shortlisted*
Barbara Cappochin International Architecture Award. *International Biennial Arch.*
- 2008 Europe 40 under 40 Award. Chicago Athenaeum. *Selected*
Iakov Chernikhov International Prize. *Shortlisted*
Biennial of Venice. *Selected works*
Rizoma – Biennial of Best Italian Architects. *Shortlisted*
- 2007 Best Young Catalan Office. *AJAC Young Catalan Architects*
Young Architect of the Year. *Leaf Award by Emirates Glass with RIBA*
Best Spanish Young Architects. N.I.B. *Shortlisted*

List of works

- 2019 Art Center, Aarlborg, Denmark. *Competition, 1st prize ex aequo - negotiation*
Headquarter Dynafit, Kiefersfelden, Germany. *Competition, 1st prize*
University Campus Development, Padova, Italy. *Competition, finalist*
Secondary School, Sursee, Switzerland. *Competition, shortlisted*
- 2018 Museum of Maritime History, Saint Malo, France. *Competition, 1st prize ex aequo*
- 2017 Flagship Store, Ginza Tokyo, Japan. *Private commission*
Campus Plan for the Chicago Art Institute, Chicago, USA. *Ongoing project*
A Sentimental Monumentality II, Chicago Architecture Biennial, Chicago USA.
2nd Chicago Architecture Biennial 2017 - curated by Sharon Johnston and Mark Lee
Private residence, Beirut, Lebanon. *Ongoing project*
Philharmonic Hall, Munich, Germany. *Competition, shortlisted*
Concert hall, Edinburgh, United Kingdom. *Competition, finalist*
Opera House, Shanghai, China. *Competition, finalist*
Ateliers in the Art district, London, United Kingdom. *Private commission*
Gymnasium and student residence Paris, France. *Competition, 2nd prize*
- 2016 Housing Buildings, Barcelona, Spain. *Competition, 1st prize*
BLF New Headquarters, Beirut, Lebanon. *Competition, finalist*
A Sentimental Monumentality, intervention at La Biennale di Venezia. Italy
15th International Architecture Exhibition - curated by Alejandro Aravena
Transformation of Hôtel des Postes, Luxembourg. *Competition, finalist*
Library of Contemp. Intern. Documentation, Nanterre, France.
Competition, 2nd prize
- 2015 Mixed use buildings, Bergamo, Italy. *Competition, 1st prize*
Art Mill Museum, Doha, Qatar. *Competition, shortlisted*
H. C. Andersen Museum, Odense, Denmark. *Competition, shortlisted*
Extension Gutenberg Museum, Mainz, Germany. *Competition, shortlisted*
Crematorium, Thun, Switzerland. *Competition, 3rd prize*
Theater, El Prat de Llobregat, Spain. *Competition, finalist*
Berggruen Institute on Governance, Los Angeles, USA. *Study proposal*
History Museum and State Archives, Basel, Switzerland. *Competition, 5th prize*

List of works

- 2014 Private Residence, Cretas, Spain. *Private Commission*
House of Present, Lenzburg, Switzerland. *Competition, shortlisted*
House of Music, Innsbruck, Austria. *Competition, finalist*
Dance School, Zürich, Switzerland. *Competition, 1st prize*
Expost. Tracciare futuri possibili, Venice, Italy. *Biennial's work*
Polo della Meccatronica, Rovereto, Italy. *Masterplan*
Primary School, Suhr, Switzerland. *Competition, shortlisted*
Mixed use buildings, Renens. Switzerland. *Competition. 5th prize*
- 2013 New urban area Follone, Rovereto, Italy. *Masterplan*
Offices for the Deutsche Bundestag, Berlin, Germany. *Competition, shortlisted*
Cultural Center, Stockholm, Sweden. *Competition, shortlisted*
Artist shadow, Salerno, Italy. *Public art*
- 2012 New Theater, Beauvais, France. *Competition, finalist*
Student Center, London, United Kingdom. *Competition, finalist*
Music School, Brunico, Italy. *Competition, 1st prize*
Cantonal Museum of Fine Arts, Chur, Switzerland. *Competition, 1st prize*
- 2011 Cantonal Museum of Fine Arts, Lausanne, Switzerland. *Competition, 1st prize*
- 2010 Bank's Headquarters, Rovereto, Italy. *Competition*
Art Center, Gijón, Spain. *Competition*
CSIC Institute, Santiago de Compostela, Spain. *Competition, 3rd prize*
Neanderthal Museum, Piloña, Spain. *Competition, 3rd prize*
Center of Mediterranean Culture, Alicante, Spain. *Competition, special mention*
Auditorium, Elche, Spain. *Competition*
- 2009 Agrarian Studies Institute, Siena, Italy. *Competition, 2nd prize*
Hostelry of Tourism, Castuera, Spain. *Competition, special mention*
- 2008 Multipurpose hall, Feldkirch, Austria. *Competition*
Congress Hall, Davos, Switzerland. *Competition, shortlisted*

List of works

- 2007 Museum of Solidarity, Gdansk, Poland. *Competition*
Art Museum, Dresden, Germany. *Competition*
Philharmonic Hall, Szczecin, Poland. *Competition, 1st prize. Built*
Music School, Karlsruhe, Germany. *Competition, 3rd prize*
Cultural Center, Sant Vincent del Raspeig, Spain. *Competition, special mention*
Visitors Center, Palma de Majorca, Spain. *Competition, honorable mention*
Chamber of Commerce, Barcelona, Spain. *Competition*
- 2006 Multipurpose Facility, Soria, Spain. *Competition*
HQ for the D.O. Ribera de Duero, Roa, Spain. *Competition, 1st prize. Built*
Visitors Center Bardenas Reales, Tudela, Spain. *Competition, honorable mention*
Motorcycle Museum, Madrid, Spain. *Competition, honorable mention*
Multifunctional Center, Ancona, Italy. *Competition, honorable mention*
- 2005 City Theatre, Estepona, Spain. *Competition, 2nd prize*
Savoy School, Merano, Italy. *Competition, honorable mention*
Puez-Odle Visitor Center, Funes, Italy. *Competition, shortlisted*
- 2004 Costanza House, Santander, Spain. *Competition*
Torres de Cotillas Town Hall, Múrcia, Spain. *Competition*
Santa Marianella's Town Hall, Roma, Italy. *Competition, special mention*
Auditorium and Congress Center, Águilas, Spain. *Competition, 1st prize. Built*
Santa Clara Social Housing, Úbeda, Spain. *Competition, 1st prize*
Arts Center, Cádiz, Spain. *Competition, honorable mention*

Selected projects

Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts Lausanne

Lausanne, Switzerland
2011 - 2019



The goal of the project is to transform an area of Lausanne into a new public space, an arts district centred around the city's three main museums. The building of the Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts can be defined as an inhabited wall that separates the industrial world from the new public space.

The foyer emerges from the end facade of a former train shed like an objet trouvé. This ultimately becomes the design's main compositional element from which the museum's entire programme comes to life. Hence, elements such as this façade, the train tracks or the arches of the northern existing wall act as spring mechanisms to trigger the memory of the place and allow it a clear presence within the ensemble.

Client Canton of Vaud
Commission Competition, first prize

Zürich Tanzhaus

Zürich, Switzerland
2014 - 2019



The project aims to reactivate the promenade along the Limmat River, transforming and redefining the current conditions of its location. The building consists of a simple volume that enables a new public space to be generated on its roof and that connects the existing itineraries at different levels along its bank. The projects solves the relationship with its surroundings through the definition of its main façade; the repetition of a singular element enables the building to be integrated into the Limmat's environment, the triangular openings characterize the main interior spaces and singularize its visual impact through the vegetation along the riverside, providing the Tanzhaus with a distinctive identity.

Client City of Zürich
Commission Competition, first prize

Music School

Brunico, Italy
2012 - 2017



The project proposes an alternative way of inserting the new building in order to preserve the urban specificity of Brunico's historic quarter and the importance of the historic Casa Ragen. As a result of these considerations, the proposal consists in creating a new constructed perimeter surrounding a garden. By doing this, the design allows us to carry out two essential tasks: the first, to create continuity with the existing urban tissue by completing its layout, analogously following the uninterrupted sequence of noble villas and their adjacent open spaces that makes up such a distinctive townscape; the second, to keep and enhance the urban presence of the Casa Ragen in its surroundings by understanding the extension as an element that compliments the pre-existing building.

Client City of Brunico
Commission Competition, first prize

Cantonal Museum of Fine Arts

Chur, Switzerland
2012 - 2016



The project absorbs and transforms the Palladian order and the Orientalist style, the main compositional features of the Villa Planta, through a central and symmetric composition scheme which gives the extension a clear formal autonomy as well as allowing the proposal to preserve the identity of the villa itself. The new addition to the Bündner Kunstmuseum is conceived as a simple and compact volume that becomes perfectly integrated into its immediate surroundings. The clarity with which it states its independence with respect to the adjacent buildings also reinforces the importance given to the garden that appears in the newly extended area and confers a sober presence to the building.

Client Canton of Graubünden
Commission Competition, first prize

Selected Projects

Philharmonic Hall

Szczecin, Poland
2007 - 2014



The building emerges from its urban context, influenced by the steeply pitched roofs and the verticality of the city's buildings, by the monumentality of the upright ornaments of its neo-Gothic churches. With an expressionist mindset, we have aimed to use geometry to give shape to a new rhythmic composition that conveys feelings by balancing massiveness and verticality. The use of glass as the exterior cladding material highlights how the building contrasts with the conditions of its surrounding environment. It creates a bright, transparent and upstanding object. The building's interiors are simple. The symphonic hall differs from these in that it is a sculpted object embedded into a barely outlined mineral-like space.

Client City of Szczecin
Commission Competition, first prize

Headquarter for the D.O. Ribera del Duero

Roa, Spain
2006 - 2011



The site has been sculpted by both the city and the landscape. The project interprets this situation, revealing the essential traces of the place. Therefore the building becomes a transitional element, with an awareness towards the re-composition of the small scales of the context, while dialogues with the horizon and the monumentality of the landscape through a towering element, a timeless monolith suspended over the plateau. Through its materialization, with the use of local blocks of stone and the dissonant design of the openings, the project aims both to evoke the landscape through our senses and to open the area to a different spatial experience, placing the proposal in a radically contemporary realm.

Client Ribera del Duero Board and Castilla Leon Region
Commission Competition, first prize

Auditorium and Congress Center

Águilas, Spain
2004 - 2011

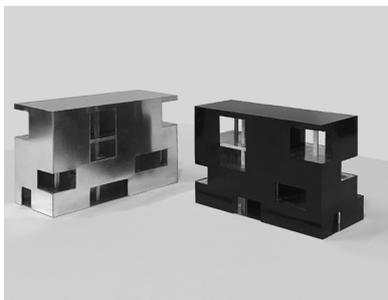


The project responds to the features that its location provides. On the one hand, it reacts to the need to create ties with the urban tissue, while, on the other hand, there is the desire to maintain the expressiveness of its natural setting. This produces a dialectic relationship, between the artifice of the urban realm and the naturalness of what is organic. Consequently, the building's mass takes shape depending on the tensions produced by its surrounding spaces. Towards the city, crisp elevations are composed in an orderly and calm manner. Towards the sea, the landscape's spatial traits and the geography's configurations lead to the generation of sweeping concave surfaces in order to create a forceful link between the building and its surrounding natural environment.

Client City of Águilas
Commission Competition, first prize

Design District

London, UK
2016 -



London Design District is set within the Greenwich Peninsula development at the hearth of this riverside site. It is a new one-hectare neighbourhood of 16 buildings that will provide a permanent base for creative businesses – across design, art, technology, craft, music, food and digital – to trade, interact and grow. The quarter has been designed by eight emerging architectural practices selected across Europe.

Client Private Client
Commission Private Commission

Selected Projects

Villa AK

Beirut, Lebanon
2017 -



The project follows two main strategies to respond to the site conditions: a central vertical continuous void bringing light and natural ventilation into all the house's levels; two long loggias providing a filter, a veil from the close neighbours and gives an emphasis on the indoor – outdoor condition of the house. These strategies create an enclosed and simple volume that expresses a sober monumentality able to establish an intimate relationship to the context and atmosphere of the place. The facades are characterised by a sequence of openings in the form of low arches in the loggias that resonates with the formal vocabulary of the city. In this way the project offers an abstract reflection of the context whilst working in continuity with the tradition of the place.

Client Private Client
Commission Private Commission

Montelungo

Bergamo, Italy
2015 -



The ring perimeter of the Montelungo and Colleoni barracks has been shaped by architectural additions and it is the identifying element of this urban area. The project preserves the characteristics of this urban settlement and defines the creation of a new urban park as a new public space. At the same time, the project transforms the built limit in order to make it permeable and to adapt it to the new public and private functions that it will host. Some existing buildings will be replaced by new ones maintaining the perimeter of the ring and creating a new permeability towards the public parks and reorganizing the façades and their relations with the outside.

Client City of Bergamo
Commission Competition, first prize

Private Residence

Cretas, Spain
2014 -



Down from the main road, a path leads through the woods to an entrance pavilion. Once inside, a little Acropolis appears upon the top of a mountain ridge. A tender breeze blows, there is a feeling of intimacy and protection. Just a few simple volumes. In between, visible but distant, the rough landscape. A continuous plinth, elevated, is extending horizontally in between the trees on the sloping ground. Inside the pavilions, with reflections of water, of fire, the brightness of the sky, the hidden shadows. The light of the evening penetrates inside the high spaces, creating a shelter. One can feel the fresh breeze passing through the patio. When night falls, downstairs and well-protected, we enter the private spaces of the rooms.

Client Solo Houses
Commission Private commission

Maritime Museum

St. Malo, France
2018



Located in a privileged location, facing the historic city of Saint-Malo, the Museum of Maritime History appears as an urban landmark that reactivates the importance of its new neighborhood as a meeting place. The project proposes to preserve and intensify the main aspect of its location and its special industrial and maritime atmosphere. The Museum is composed by two complementary elements, a tower and a base. Those elements give shape to an ensemble capable of giving importance to an enclave, previously identified by industrial silos. The base allows to build a square so that the vertical element becomes a simple and strong signal. A basic volume that, thanks to its geometry, is transformed into an expressive architecture. Transforming itself with light, the tower is ambiguous and enigmatic due to its mineral coating and its faceted surfaces.

Client City of St. Malo
Commission Competition, 1st prize ex-aequo

Selected Projects

Opera House
Shanghai, China
2018



Two simple curved strokes, like the roofs of the ancient Chinese palaces, define a silhouette that will make the Grand Opera a reference for city of Shanghai and worldwide.

Its rigorous and orthogonal position of Opera in the park organizes the project in a clear and simple way. Three theaters organize all the interior spaces, defining among them a high-rise foyer that, like a large public square, organizes the entire interior life of the building along its height.

Large terraces filter the views over the river and city, characterizing thus the interior of the building on the different floors with the constant presence of Shanghai.

Client City of Shanghai
Commission International restricted competition, finalist

A Sentimental
Monumentality II

Chicago, USA
2017



The installation for the Chicago Tribune Tower aspires to establish an intimate relationship with the context in which the building is to be integrated. The project formulates an intersection between different periods of time, techniques and visions of the specific place. It is a piece of architecture that is simultaneously specific and autonomous, capable of preserving and reviving the richness of Chicago's tradition and history. Inspired by the terra cotta style, the project is a pure cuboid form, which is characterized by a static structural geometric grid that in its turn becomes a dynamic continuous ornament. The repetitive character of the structure creates a clear modular organization in order to maintain integrity of all parts of the project, thereby underlining the autonomy.

Client Chicago Architecture Biennial
Commission Invited by Chicago Architecture Biennial 2017 curated by Johnston Marklee

BLF New Headquarters

Beirut, Lebanon
2016



The new headquarters for BLF Bank is a project that integrates into its design the spatial organization of a complex and specific plan for its function as a bank, but which can be opened to the public and let the new headquarters to be integrated within the social and cultural life of the Mar Mikhael district.

The purpose of combining both public and private allocations to its operations lets us fundamentally organize the project through two clearly differentiated volumes: the tower and the plinth. Two features that create optimal balance between the different uses and its spatial requirements, synthesizing two essential objectives into the project, the bank's significance and representativeness in the tower, and the building's urban continuity and integration due to the plinth.

Client BLF Banque Libano-Française
Commission Competition, finalist

A Sentimental
Monumentality I

Venice, Italy
2016



The installation is conceived as a project-manifesto, a way of expressing an architecture in a state of equilibrium between the specificity of a place and the autonomy of the form. It establishes a sentimental connection with the reality of a place through a specific and perceptive relationship with the surroundings, in this case with the Corderie building. At the same time, through a primitive, Povera approach it seeks to transcend the time and the physical place in which it has come into being and achieve autonomy and independence in its own right. It is on the opposition between monument and sentiment that our work and the meaning of the installation lie: in the pursuit of an architecture that is specific and autonomous, intimate and monumental, which aspires to belong to a place and at the same time to belong to all places.

Client La Biennale di Venezia
Commission Invited by the Biennale di Architettura 2016 curated by Alejandro Aravena

Selected Projects

Library of Contemp. Intern.Documentation

Nanterre, France
2016



The new building for the Library of Contemporary International Documentation is located in a border area between the university campus and the residential zone. It seeks to revitalize the importance of its location and its public character as a meeting place. The building takes place on the site corner position and, thanks to its geometry, emphasizes its perception from the adjacent train station. The public spaces and green areas, generally located inside the building, are in its outer perimeter. This strategy permits both the maximum occupancy of the block and the maximum compaction of the building.

Behind this decision, there is the will to generate an exchange between users, between the building and the street, and therefore between the building and the city.

Client EPAURIF Paris
Commission Competition, second prize

H. C. Andersen Museum

Odense, Denmark
2015



Surrounded by a garden, the four proposed volumes sensibly arrange to form a microcosm: a place where architecture and landscape merge as one. The scale, proportion and views between the different elements allow for a changing perception, helping to reduce the sense of the city. The composition invites the visitor to guess the importance and differences between each of the elements. Each of the four forms has their own identity and a different function; yet not one of them can be understood without the other three, or without the garden. The four elements, simple and abstract, are surrounded by a garden that symbolizes the strength and complexity of the world of Andersen. They intend to awaken the imagination of the visitor, inviting a discovery of the unexpected.

Client City of Odense
Commission Competition, finalist

Crematorium

Thun, Switzerland
2015



Two simple square plan volumes are inserted in the expansion of the cemetery pursuing a balance with the existing by its position and size. Thereupon the new crematorium, the larger part, approaches the Strättlingenstrasse to define a new public access to the cemetery while the service building, the smaller part, takes a secondary position to set back and approach the southern boundary of the plot. The extension of the existing frame and the incorporation of these new buildings insists on the landscape features of the cemetery.

The clear and concise implementation of the crematorium incorporates in its formalization the nuances of solemnity and kindness that the program and the character of this architecture require.

Client City of Thun
Commission Competition, third prize

L'Artesà Theater

El Prat de Llobregat,
Spain
2015



The proposal isolates the building and allows to have gardens on both sides of the theater, enriching the relationship between the theater public spaces and its close environment. The reduced volume permits to have a better relation with the context, to minimize the underground construction and to reduce the costs.

The side access through the existing façade and the axiality of the plan are faithful to the original project of the theater. However, the new proposal foyer is open to the gardens. The horseshoe-shaped hall preserves the intimacy and shortens the distance between the audience and the stage allowing a more functional space.

A series of arches enriches the addition of abstract volumes. The arches pierce the volume both to relate interior and exterior spaces and to integrate the scale of the elements.

Client Town of El Prat de Llobregat
Commission Competition, finalist

Selected Projects

Cultural Center

Stockholm, Sweden
2013



The project arises from its setting and from the need to define a new public space. The new building is placed to the West of the site in order to liberate the most public surface area possible, as well as for it to be seen and recognizable from a distance. The building's polyedric and faceted volume is delineated by the boundaries of the plot, by the scale of the surrounding buildings and by the preservation of the area's main axial views. Its setting also enables the conservation of both the area's main features and the existing infrastructures. Along with the building itself, the other element that characterizes the square, to the East, is the existing stone.

Client Botkyrka Municipality
Commission Competition, shortlisted

Student Center

London, United Kingdom
2012



The main goal of the proposal is to define, architecturally, the identity of the campus and fill it with meaning through a center of gravity that allows the connection of all of its buildings. A central element placed within the square that defines the campus and shapes the new entrance, helps understand King's College as a whole, bestowing the institution with the representative presence it needs.

Client King's College London
Commission Competition, finalist

Natural History Museum and State Archives Basel

Basel, Switzerland
2015



Located within the Volta district, the new building for the Natural History Museum of Basel and the State Archives of Basel-Stadt is a new urban landmark and represents the opportunity to convert a cultural building into a meeting place. Three clear geometric structures identify the new building in the neighborhood and allow it to naturally integrate itself into its immediate urban environment: a longitudinal element exploits the maximum permitted height of 18 m, redefining the limits of the path, creating a small public space in front of the museum; a vertical structure, with a total height of 40 m, is perceived as a new monument within the city; and a wide entrance hall renews Vogesenplatz, the existing square in front of the building.

Client City of Basel
Commission Competition, fifth prize

Office Building for the Deutsche Bundestag

Berlin, Germany
2013



The proposal aims to complete the existing building, both its interior and its exterior, while also maintaining its character and identity. The design not only refurbishes, restores and adds new elements, but also finishes the building, enabling its completion. The floor plans speak of the search for clarity throughout the scheme; the original internal logic of the building is recovered, organized around the two central patios. This is why the plan is completed with a new volume that manifests itself through the new façades towards Mittelstrasse and Dorotheenstrasse. These elevations express their belonging to the historic building's extensions while they also acquire their own formal identity.

Client Federal Republic of Germany
Commission Competition, shortlisted

Selected Projects

Neanderthal Museum

Piloña, Spain
2010



Like a fossil embedded in the valley, this seemingly primitive edifice, made up of a simple, compelling volume that emerges from its setting's geometries, strives to establish, through its sculpted surfaces, a unique and sensitive relationship with its surrounding environment. The reduced and minimalist nature of the building's architecture is a direct response to the site; its simplicity and size highlight the beauty of the landscape. On the outside, the formal purity of the volume is altered by the texture of its sole material, turning an otherwise simple element into an object of great expressivity. On the inside, the building reflects the symbolic and material character of its exterior.

Client Principality of Asturias
Commission Competition, third prize

Bank's Headquarters

Rovereto, Italy
2010



The project aims to combine the symbolism that the new seat of the Cassa Rurale needs to embody with its insertion in the urban space following an attentive and respectful approach towards the Palazzo Balista. The proposal is to transform what is currently the back side of the building into the new main façade in order to reorganize the existing urban space. The design is based on an interpretation of the existing Palazzo, so it arises from the original building. Three new architectural features define it: a new contemporary gateway, which is inserted between the existing columns and points the way to a new entry space; a new green roof, as a recollection of the former courtyard's identity, and a new urban garden, which is understood as an extension of the Palazzo Balista.

Client 'Cassa Rurale' of Rovereto
Commission Competition

Art Center

Gijón, Spain
2010



The new Museum of Gijón presents itself not only as an opportunity to renew and enhance part of the urban, social and cultural history of the city, but also as a catalyst capable of articulating its citizenry's interests. Hence it is conceived as a living museum, deeply rooted in the conviction that public space should be its main component. The way it is clearly placed on the site, the gravity of its presence, the density of its materialization and the expressiveness with which it is shaped, all reflect the attributes of the site and of its setting. This not only establishes its clear presence as the container of the city's artistic past, but also as the starting point for its future.

Client City of Gijón
Commission Competition

Library and Student Center

Brescia, Italy
2009



The project, located facing the Palazzo della Loggia —a Renaissance building—, is defined by a simple volume that completes the block it becomes part of. By finishing off this block and by mimicking its alter ego —the palace— the building strives to create a timeless bond with it. The project springs from the memory of the Capitol's former rooms, of the old market's vaulted spaces and of the ever-present Italian villas, attempting to influence the adjacent urban context through its spaces by defining a new area capable of hosting social activities.

Client City of Brescia
Commission Competition

Selected Projects

Private Residence

Ordos, China
2008



The project attempts to translate the notion of essentiality and purity that the site offers. In sharp contrast to the rugged open landscape, both abstract and infinite, the house floor plan adheres to a pure form, a monolithic cube, which stands upon the land as if it were an archaic stone shaped by the forces of the wind. This clearly defined volume sensibly adapts to its surroundings through two features: a patio and a roof line. Put together, the entire architectural layout is extremely clear: a clean-cut exterior reveals the complexity of the visual and spatial relationships that take place inside the house.

Client J. Yang Water Engineering Ltd
Commission Private commission

Agrarian Studies Institute

Siena, Italy
2008



In this privileged geographical context, the project aims to sensibly relate to its surroundings by inserting itself into the site in a simple but nevertheless forceful manner, in order to accommodate a complex program without seeming invasive. The result is a pure-shaped element, a horizontal contour that completes the valley and becomes the counterpart to its alter ego, the Basilica dell'Observanza.

Client Provincial Administration of Siena
Commission Competition, second prize

Music School

Karlsruhe, Germany
2007



The perimeter of the project runs along two large green areas that are interlinked by the castle. The design strategy of choice is to maintain the castle's character without competing with its presence. In return, the notion of a garden is underlined and architecture is used as a tool to define a boundary, a perimeter, that constructs a void, turning the building into part of the sensory landscape. Hence, the building harmoniously becomes part of its setting. The surroundings are reflected on the building's façade, in part because the building itself emerges from it. The visible result is an architecture of simplicity, of pure forms, that seeks to dissolve the limits between its interior and the exterior.

Client City of Karlsruhe
Commission Competition, third prize

Puez-Odle Visitor Center

Funes, Italy
2005



The identity of a place is expressed by images, atmospheres and shapes that, once processed by memory, become its essential elements. The search for these features enables architecture to find its anchoring point and to blur the boundaries between the building and place. This quest for the relationship between the building and its context, between artifice and nature, is essential for this project. The building advances towards its landscape, establishing an interrelation in which an abstract geometry of a higher order helps to modulate the three emerging elements, that in the shape of iconic and monolithic stones, comprise the project. These elements face the mountain, conversing with nature's monumentality.

Client Autonomous Province of Bolzano
Commission Competition, shortlisted

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