

A10



#18
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Start

- Ski jump, Oslo
- Crematorium, Schiedam
- Mixed-use building, Paris
- Broadcasting building, Tallinn
- Government quarter, Budapest

Ready

- Residential building, Pärnu
- Villa, Stockholm
- Swimming pool, Valdemoros
- Open-air stage, Grafenegg
- House extension, Oelde
- Gallery and museum, Woking
- Crèche, Geneva
- Library interior, Palermo
- Passenger terminal, Rinas
- Residential development, Vienna

&:

- Interview with Architectural Ambulancer Oleg Drozdov
- Maximum Security City (the spatial consequences of 9/11 and 7/7)
- Architectural tour guide: Istanbul
- Materia: Biomimicry
- Out of obscurity: Town hall, Offenbach am Main

Section: Wood

Manchester's new courts

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Update: The new Dutch

NETHERLANDS — Building, first and foremost. But equally important, managing to give form to your own ideas and developing a distinctive signature. That is the dilemma facing the youngest generation of architects in the Netherlands. They scarcely stand a chance in EU tendering processes and so they rely mainly on networking to obtain commissions. After which they try to coax their clients into opting for something a bit special. They don't always succeed; a lot of (wild) ideas remain on the drawing board. But these five young firms have seen their first designs become reality and they have contracts in their drawers for the design of other, very promising projects. (KIRSTEN HANNEMA)



↑ **ZEC ARCHITECTEN**
Utrecht-based Zecc, established by Marnix van der Meer (b. 1972) and Rolf Bruggink (b. 1969) in 2002, aspires to design 'lucid buildings with an exciting presence'. In a few short years they have realized a large number of small projects, including many conversions and renovations. Recent completions include a chapel converted into apartments (above) and a totally remodelled 1930s house. Particularly deserving of admiration is the high level of detailing and the way Zecc manages to strike a balance between the preservation of what is already there and the addition of a new and distinctive layer. The coming year will see the completion of a number of housing schemes.
www.zecc.nl



↓ **EMMA**
Jurg Hertog (b. 1973) and Marten de Jong (b. 1973), the founders of Emma in Amsterdam, believe that a new architectural practice should concentrate on building as much as possible in the early years. Their projects reveal an evolution towards an expressionistic style. For example, they have designed a conservatory in the shape of a beehive (A10#10), a sculptural brick balcony and a loft around several organically shaped cores (below). Now they have a number of bigger commissions for an office building and a modest apartment tower in Amsterdam. Their aspiration is to see the tower, which exhibits gothic traits, become a hidden jewel within a larger housing project overseen by DOK architecten.
www.emma-architecten.nl

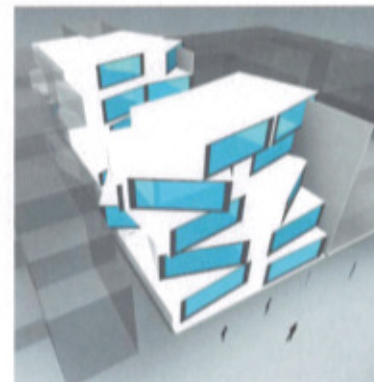


↑ **MONADNOCK**
Monadnock is the name of a kind of hill produced by a lengthy process of erosion. Only the hardest rock is left standing. That is how Job Floris (b. 1974), Sandor Naus (b. 1971) and Floris van der Poel (b. 1972) regard buildings, as the hard matter of the city, among which life is played out. Van der Poel and Floris gained experience with Rapp+Rapp, Naus with MVRDV. Since 2006 they've been working out of their office in Rotterdam on various competitions and projects, the first of which will be realized this year. Their beach pavilion on the River Maas in Rotterdam (above) was inaugurated last summer. Current projects are the renovation of the famous Koninklijke Tichelaar ceramics factory in Makkum and the construction of a private house in Rotterdam.
www.monadnock.nl

← **QUEESTE ARCHITECTEN**
Queeste architecten in The Hague was founded in 1999. The office is led by partners Carli Driessen (b. 1967), Roland Hoekstra (b. 1971) and Jeroen Trimbos (b. 1954) and now employs 17 architects. Noting that many of the issues that architects have to deal with require pragmatic solutions, they go in search of the unique within the ordinary. In their design for the interior of a Bed & Breakfast apartment (left), for example, all the necessary functions – sleeping, eating, washing and storage – are ingeniously and economically fitted together, turning the modest 30 m² into a very stylish whole. At present they are working on several urban development plans and building housing in the new residential areas of IJburg (Amsterdam) and Ypenburg (The Hague).
www.queestearchitecten.nl



↑ **POWERHOUSE COMPANY**
Powerhouse Company (2005) consists of Nanne de Ru (NL, b. 1976) and Charles Bessard (FR, b. 1971). It was set up as an international practice with offices in Rotterdam and Copenhagen – the cheapest and most expensive cities of the northern EU respectively. The two offices function as one, courtesy of such modern conveniences as budget airlines, skype and Gmail (one account per project). In their view designing is all about specificity – spaces that confer new usage and meaning on the context, 'whether it's the luxury mini-world of a villa or a hooligan-proof public space'. Powerhouse Company is currently working on the completion of private houses in the Netherlands, Denmark and France.
www.powerhouse-company.com



↑ **ALLARD ARCHITECTURE**
After graduation, Allard Meine Jansen (b. 1970) worked first for Herman Hertzberger, Renzo Piano, Massimiliano Fuksas and De Architekten Cie., before setting up his own practice in 2006. His first built work was the conversion of a former boxing school in Amsterdam into his own home-office. Since then he has worked on several studies for property developers. Now he has his first new-build commission, a multi-occupancy building in Amsterdam North. The design, entitled 'Matchbox', is a stacking of commercial units that are rotated and shifted with respect to one another – a strategy designed to liberate them from their claustrophobic situation between two bigger buildings and to underscore the individuality of the users.
www.allardarchitecture.com

Magazine factsheet Betonart



What?
BETONART is published as a tribute to concrete which is all too often scorned and made the scapegoat for inappropriate and uncontrolled urbanization. BETONART is a niche architectural magazine, focusing on contemporary examples of local and universal architectural culture featuring concrete. It is produced and published quarterly by the Arkitera Architecture Center for the Turkish Cement Manufacturers' Association (TCMA).

For whom?
The magazine is aimed at architects, students and academics. The projects published are always accompanied by critical texts written by prominent architecture critics. Master architects famous for using concrete creatively such as Auguste Perret, Louis Kahn or Carlo Scarpa are also the subject of articles.

What makes Betonart different?
The upside of its narrow focus is that it allows for a deeper and different content than more general architecture magazines. The limitation of the material also makes it a challenge to find interesting projects around the world which have not been covered by the general architectural press.

What is Betonart's biggest claim to fame?
Since its launch in 2004, BETONART has achieved acceptance by many architects, students and academics as one of the best and most serious architecture magazines.
(OMER KANIPAK)
www.betonart.com.tr

Urban zig-zag

TIRANA (AL) — This busy and central site on the corner of a socialist housing block and at the intersection of two main roads, Lana River Boulevard and the city ring, was previously occupied by a small building housing a neighbourhood café and some shops. Built during the heady period of rampant and unplanned development in the 1990s, such structures, which sprang up all over Tirana, were unable to build strong relations with their context, producing urban discontinuities.

Since 2000, Tirana has been undergoing a transformation in which the keywords are urban regeneration and revitalization. It entails the renovation of the facades



of former socialist apartment blocks and the reconstruction of road infrastructure. In this particular instance the two streets shaping the site were renewed and enlarged. This increased the site's market value but decreased its physical size, thus requiring the demolition of the kiosk to make way for a newly designed urban object.

The Tirana city council gave permission for a new building with two floors of retail space and a footprint of 60 m², and required the landowner, who was also the developer, to come up with a contemporary piece of architecture. These strict require-

ments prompted the client to commission young Albanian architect Dorian Tytymce (b. 1978) who studied and graduated in Krakow, Poland.

The architect based his design on a thermodynamic model created by the plasticity of relations rather than the programme, which was not yet clear in the brief. The resulting building is shaped by a combination of the developer's desire for maximum visual and physical contact between potential customers and the commercial space and the desire for a piece of high quality contemporary urban 'furniture'. (ADELINA GRECA)

← 'Urban zig-zag' is the outcome of a series of parameters such as plot size, location, urban regulations, the pattern of movements in the area and the developer's aspirations.