Hotel Rooms,
7132 House of Architects
Press Kit

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Morphosis is a collaborative architectural practice negotiating the technological, political, and cultural intersections of architecture, urbanism, and design. With projects built internationally, our work traverses a broad range of typologies, scales and contexts across the public and private sector. Drawing from iterative, integrative methodologies and driven by research, we endeavor towards innovative solutions that are responsive to and generate from the specificity of each project. We challenge advanced technologies to reconfigure the intersection of form and performance, yielding buildings and urban environments that are iconic and sustainable. Since its founding in 1972 by Design Director Thom Mayne, Morphosis has received 26 Progressive Architecture awards, over 100 American Institute of Architects (AIA) awards, and numerous other honors. Morphosis buildings and projects have been published extensively; the firm has been the subject of over 30 monographs and numerous exhibitions. We maintain permanent offices in Los Angeles and New York, and site offices at projects world-wide.
Thom Mayne (b. 1944, Waterbury CT) founded Morphosis in 1972 as a collective architectural practice engaged in cross-disciplinary research and design. As Design Director and thought leader of Morphosis, Mayne provides overall vision and project leadership to the firm. With permanent offices in Los Angeles and New York City, the firm currently employs over 60 architects and designers.

Mayne’s distinguished honors include the Pritzker Prize (2005) and the AIA Gold Medal (2013). He was appointed to the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities in 2009, and was honored with the American Institute of Architects Los Angeles Gold Medal in 2000. With Morphosis, Thom Mayne has been the recipient of 26 Progressive Architecture Awards, over 100 American Institute of Architecture Awards and numerous other design recognitions. Under Mayne’s direction, the firm has been the subject of various group and solo exhibitions throughout the world, including a large solo exhibition at the Centre Pompidou in Paris in 2006. Morphosis buildings and projects have been published extensively; the firm has been the subject of 33 monographs.

Throughout his career, Mayne has remained active in the academic world. In 1972, he helped to found the Southern California Institute of Architecture. Since then, he has held teaching positions at Columbia, Yale (the Eliel Saarinen Chair in 1991), the Harvard Graduate School of Design (Eliot Noyes Chair in 1998), the Berlage Institute in the Netherlands, the Bartlett School of Architecture in London, and many other institutions around the world. There has always been a symbiotic relationship between Mayne’s teaching and practice, evidenced in his concurrent position as Executive Director of the Now Institute at UCLA, a research and design initiative focusing on applying strategic urban thinking to real world issues. He is a tenured Professor at UCLA Architecture and Urban Design since 1993.
How do you create a memorable and luxurious hotel room experience, given 20 sqm in an existing hotel?

For the House of Architects at 7132 Hotel in Vals, Switzerland, the renovation of a series of guest rooms with a given size and structure involved a re-examination of the definition of 'luxury.' We turned to the reduction and refinement of elements, focusing on scale, color, tactility, unexpected form, and connections to the natural context. Every aspect of the room, including lighting, bed, furniture, and the shower/wash basin, was custom-designed for the space, to elevate the routine aspects of a guests’ stay into an aesthetic experience.

Located within the deep rise of the Valser valley, two and a half hours from Zurich, the experience of traveling to the hotel is unique; you are embraced by an incredible mass of alpine rock, earth, and greenery. We drew on this immersive experience in the approach to the rooms, which are wrapped in locally-sourced natural materials – differing veins of the Valser stone, varying in color, cut, and texture, or striations of oak from nearby Graubünden forests. At the heart of the room is the double-curved, hot-bent shower piece designed by Morphosis and fabricated by Cricursa in Barcelona – an abstract sculptural object that stands in glowing contrast to the room’s natural surfaces.
LOCATION
Vals, Switzerland

CLIENT
7132 Ltd

SIZE
Each room is 215 gross ft² / 20 gross m²

QUANTITY
20 total / 10 stone, 10 wood

PROGRAM
Guest Suites

DESIGN
04/2015 (Begin) - 03/2016 (End)

CONSTRUCTION
04/2016 (Begin) - 06/2016 (End)

TYPE
Hospitality
Hotel Rooms, 7132 House of Architects
Project Credits//

MORPHOSIS TEAM

DESIGN DIRECTOR
Thom Mayne

PROJECT PRINCIPAL
Arne Emerson

PROJECT MANAGER
Robin Williams

PROJECT ARCHITECT
Robin Williams

PROJECT DESIGNER
Paul Cambon

PROJECT ASSISTANTS
Tom Day, Kabalan Fares, Fredy Gomez, Maria Herrero, Chip Hubert, Eric Meyer, Nicole Meyer, Lizzy Miller, Liana Nourafshan, One Jae Lee, Colton Stevenson, Henry Svendsen, Helena Yun

VISUALIZATION
Jasmine Park
Hotel Rooms, 7132 House of Architects
Project Credits

CONSULTANTS

ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT
Giubbini Architekten, Chur.

STRUCTURAL
WLW Engineers, Buchs.

MEP
Marco Felix AG, Chur.

LIGHTING
Amstein & Walthert, Chur.

CONSTRUCTION TEAM

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT
Priora AG, Chur.
Opus GmbH, Vals.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR
Priora AG, Chur.

CURVED GLASS SHOWER
Cricursa, Barcelona.
Tuchschmid, Frauenfeld.
Hotel Rooms, 7132 House of Architects
Overview//

STONE ROOMS
TYPE 1

WOOD ROOMS
TYPE 4

TYPE 2

TYPE 5

TYPE 3
Hotel Rooms, 7132 House of Architects
Stone Rooms Images//

IMAGE CREDIT
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