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In copertina: découpage dalla copertina del libro di Henri Matisse, Chapelle du Rosaire des Dominicaines de Vence, Vence 1955 (a destra) • Cover: découpage from the cover of the Henri Matisse’s book, Chapelle du Rosaire des Dominicaines de Vence, Vence 1955 (right)
La semplicità dell'impianto volumetrico e la rigorosità del linguaggio architettonico consentono al nuovo edificio dei due studi svizzeri di trovare un inserimento adeguato al contesto dell'edilizia termale della famosa cittadina svizzera.

Elementary geometric volume and purist architectural language allow a new building by two Swiss firms to find a harmonious sense of belonging in the context of traditional thermal baths found in this famous Alpine resort.

Foto/Photos Ralph Feiner
Il complesso residenziale sorge alla fine del XIX secolo a St. Moritz Bad, sui gravi terreni dove fu costruita una nuova infrastruttura ad hoc per gli ospiti della crescente cultura balneoterpica, caratterizzata oggi l’immagine del luogo. In assenza di un riconoscibile piano costruttivo complessivo, la zona sottostante il villaggio sul lago, interna alla ricca di captazione delle sorgenti termali di San Maurizio, si è complessiva, la zona sottostante il villaggio sul lago, interna alla ricca di captazione delle sorgenti termali di San Maurizio, si è trasformata, grazie ai suoi imponenti volumi, di in un complesso prevalentemente turistico di carattere urbano, con parchi e eleganti alberghi. Immendidamente confinato con il parco termale risolvente al periodo iniziale della tradizione balneoterpica ed edilizia di St. Moritz. Compare oggi il nuovo edificio per gli ospiti della crescente cultura balneoterpica, caratterizzata oggi l’immagine del luogo. In assenza di un riconoscibile piano costruttivo complessivo, la zona sottostante il villaggio sul lago, interna alla ricca di captazione delle sorgenti termali di San Maurizio, si è trasformata, grazie ai suoi imponenti volumi, di in un complesso prevalentemente turistico di carattere urbano, con parchi e eleganti alberghi. Immendidamente confinato con il parco termale risolvente al periodo iniziale della tradizione balneoterpica ed edilizia di St. Moritz. 

DALLA RELAZIONE DI PROGETTO

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THE URBAN LAYOUT OF TODAY’S SAINT MORITZ-BAD dates from the late 19th century, when new infrastructure was built on its grassy meadows specifically to welcome guests attracted by the nascent cult of thermal baths. The area below the village on the lake, Saint Moritz proper, where the Mauritius Spring was tapped, developed into a tourist destination with parks and fashionable hotels. It has a more town-like feel thanks to the size of its buildings, but has no identifiable comprehensive planning concept. Right next to the spa park from the early days of Saint Moritz’s thermal-bath architectural tradition, is the new indoor swimming pool and sports centre, bright, almost blindingly white in its memorable architectural form and appearance, but at the same time betray the complex interior layout with its many accessible areas. Together with the window frames of the glass facade and the handrails of the staircases, these metal objects create a colourful addition to the materials of structure and elements. All of the administration offices are located here, as is the delivery department, which, like the car-parking spaces, can be found on the northeast side. The building’s main floor, the generous pool level, enjoys a position elevated from the street, on the base. From it, visitors have a sweeping view of the Engadin mountain landscape. The glass facade that surrounds the pool level in regular units is a post-and-beam structure with triple glazing. The areas of the wellness level are set back from the facade and have been given their own glazing to guarantee a clear separation from the pool. Except for in the restaurant area, there are no sunblinds, since the passive solar energy of the incoming sunlight is used all year round. The spa area on the roof level marks the vertical conclusion of the building. The spatial impression is created by the way it meanders along the double-height pool level. Visually and texturally, the spas differ from the lower levels. Its ceilings, walls and floors are panelled invarnished solid European silver fir and acoustically insulated. Spa guests and pool guests have visual contact only from the atrium. Large openings to the surrounding landscape are positioned only in selected areas, which creates a tranquil, secluded space. Unlike on the pool level, the spa’s walkways and views are channelled precisely. A number of vertical shafts, which encase the emergency stairs and lifts and form the body of the tower with three vertical shafts, which enclose the emergency stairs and lifts and form the body of the tower with three vertical shafts, which enclose the emergency stairs and lifts and form the body of the tower with three vertical shafts, which enclose the emergency stairs and lifts and form the body of the tower with three vertical shafts, which enclose the emergency stairs and lifts and form the body of the tower with three vertical shafts, which enclose the emergency stairs and lifts and form the body of the tower. The spatial impression is created by the way it meanders along the double-height pool level. Visually and texturally, the spas differ from the lower levels. Its ceilings, walls and floors are panelled invarnished solid European silver fir and acoustically insulated. Spa guests and pool guests have visual contact only from the atrium. Large openings to the surrounding landscape are positioned only in selected areas, which creates a tranquil, secluded space. Unlike on the pool level, the spa’s walkways and views are channelled precisely. A number of vertical shafts, which encase the emergency stairs and lifts and form the body of the tower with three vertical shafts, which enclose the emergency stairs and lifts and form the body of the tower. The centrally positioned and accessible stairway is achieved by a funnel-shaped ramp leading down to the lower level, where the reception and locker rooms are. The centrally positioned and accessible stairway is achieved by a funnel-shaped ramp leading down to the lower level, where the reception and locker rooms are.

FROM THE ARCHITECTS’ PROJECT DESCRIPTION}

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In questa pagina, sopra e sotto a sinistra: la vasca all'aperto è caratterizzata dalla copertura che, con disegno chiaro, riprende esattamente la forma dello specchio d'acqua.

In questa pagina, sotto a destra, e nella pagina a fronte, in alto: gli interni sono realizzati in colori tenui e con l’impiego di pietra naturale, ceramica e mosaico in vetro.

Pagina a fronte, in basso:

- This page, above and below left: the roof has an aperture that is cut to the exact measurements of the outdoor pool.
- This page, below right and opposite page, top: the interiors feature a palette of different shades of white in natural stone, ceramics and glass mosaic.
- Opposite page, bottom: two rooms of the spa, located on the level above the swimming pools.

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