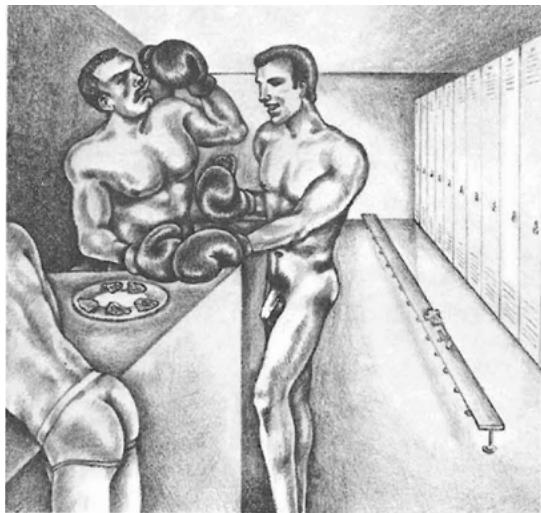


Jan Zachmann
Selected Works



A machine for metropolitan bachelors ...

Physiotherapy Practice

Scale: 250 m²

Budget: £ 100,000

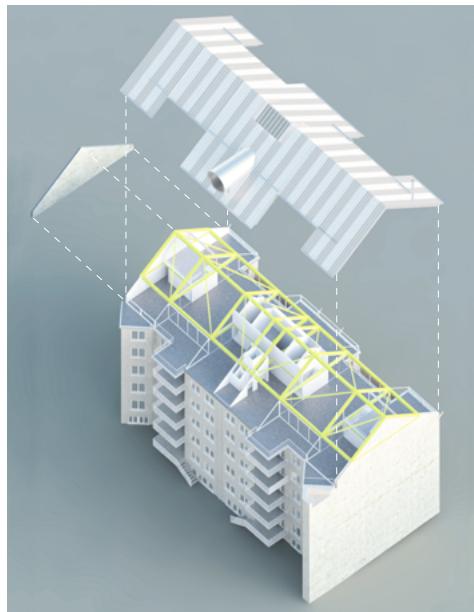
Project type: Conversion

Year: 2022 - 2023 (in collaboration with Andrew Mackintosh)

This conversion project, located in the bustling city of Basel, effectively repurposed a former night club into a 250-square-meter physiotherapy practice using a cost-efficient approach. The project's narrative draws inspiration from Rem Koolhaas's "Delirious New York," which provides an in-depth exploration of body culture. Although the design is not an attempt to replicate the contours of the modern human form, it takes inspiration from the notion that the design of sports facilities can affect the recognition and relationship we have with our bodies. The physiotherapist owner was actively involved in the development of the therapeutic practice, ensuring that the interior spaces are carefully orchestrated to promote patient well-being. To maintain an eco-friendly construction strategy, industrial materials were selectively chosen, and detailed DIY techniques were employed to create both aesthetically pleasing and hygienic interiors that complement the existing structure.







Rooftop Extension

Scale: 500 m²

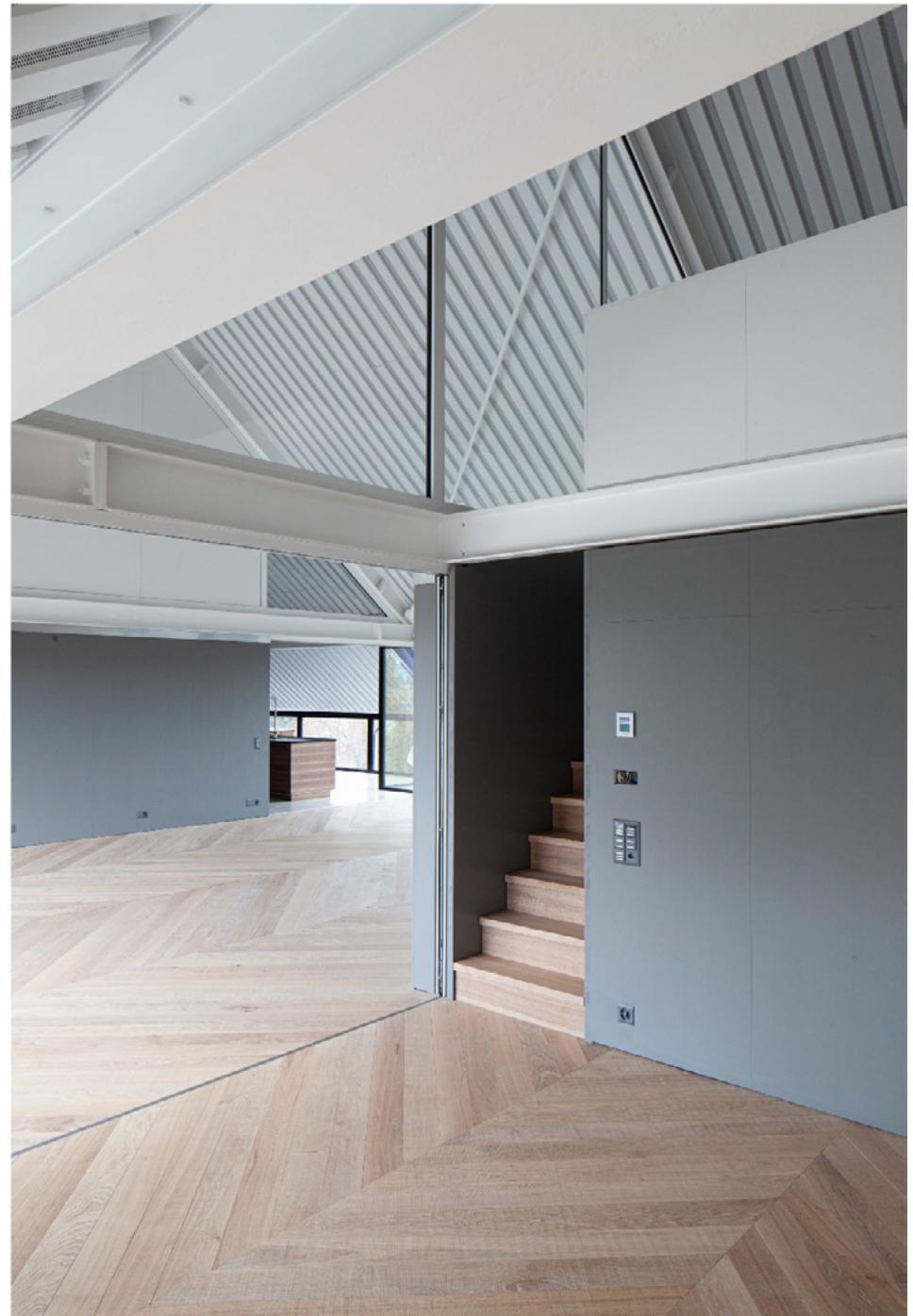
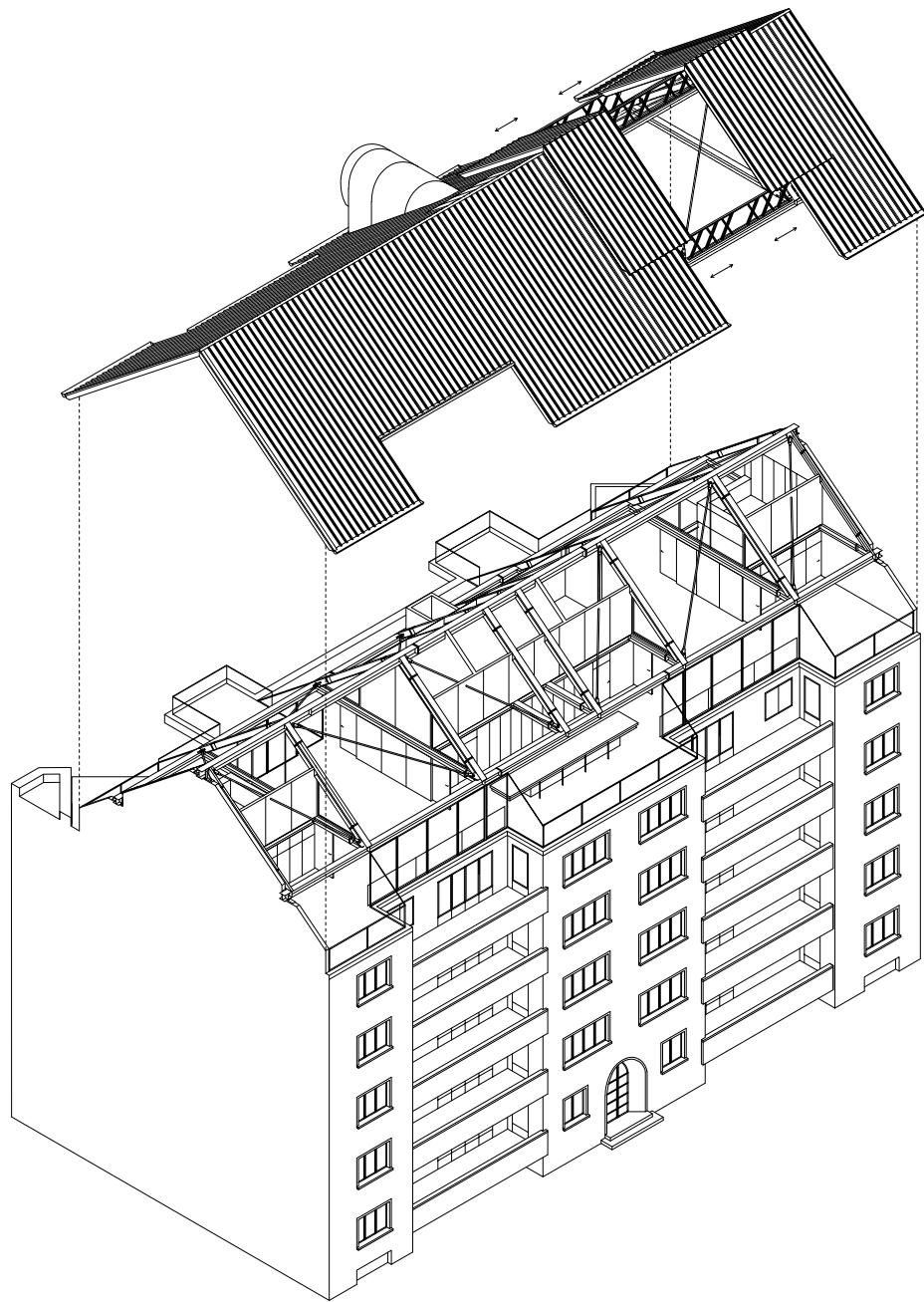
Budget: £ 5,000,000

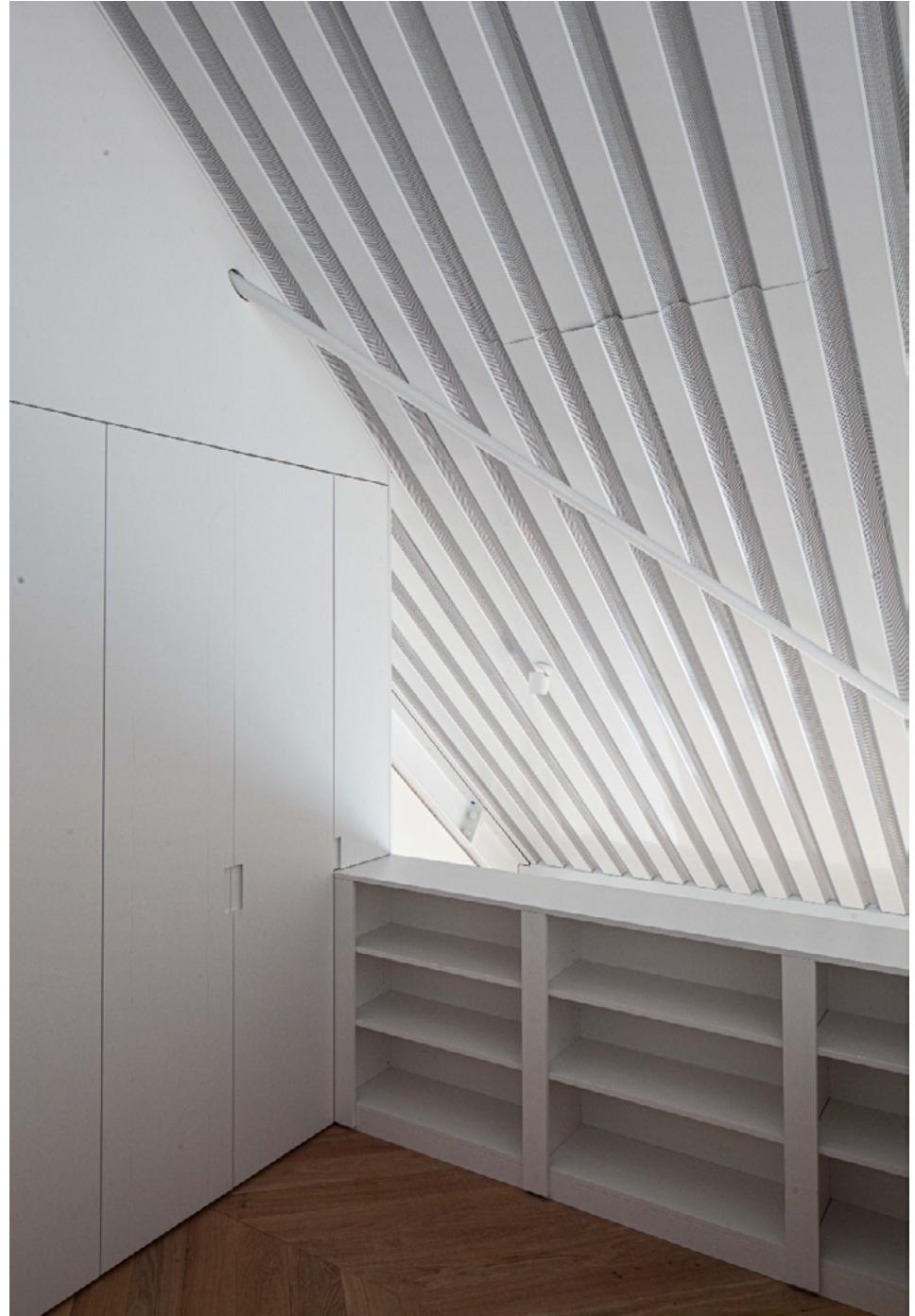
Project type: Extension

Year: 2017 - 2021 (for Christ & Gantenbein)

Situated in an extensively green neighbourhood of Basel, the rooftop extension rests upon an existing townhouse from the 1920s. The existing attic is replaced by a generous space under a pitched roof, whose new geometry is defined by the legally prescribed guidelines. The primary structure is formed by a steel bridge construction, which spans the 33-meter length of the building. To avoid weakening the existing building in the event of an earthquake, the project required careful consideration of weight restrictions. A lightweight skin of alternating aluminum sandwich panels provides the insulated shell, and a layer of phase-change material absorbs excess internal heat. A band of dynamic glazing, minimizing solar gains, mediates between the new roof and the existing building. The entire roof above the dining room can be opened through a lifting and sliding mechanism, transforming the internal room into an exterior space at the push of a button.









Swiss Reformatory Pavilion

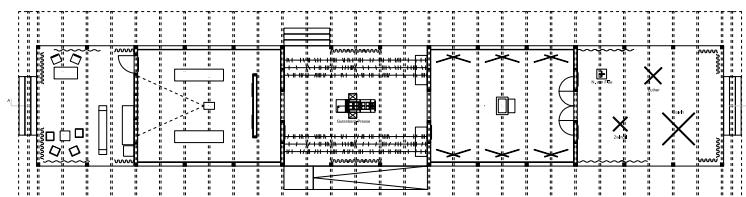
Scale: 220 m²

Budget: £ 200,000

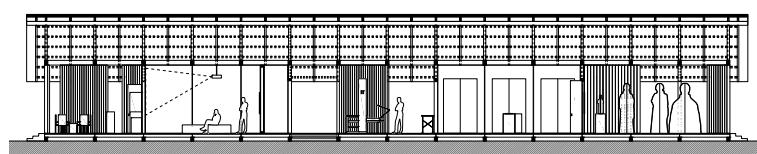
Project type: Temporary structure

Year: 2017 (for Christ & Gantenbein)

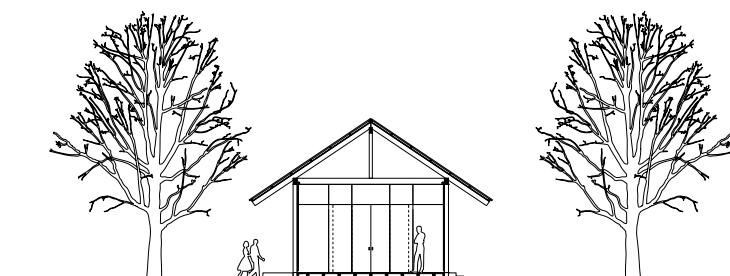
The pavilion celebrates the history of Swiss Protestantism on the occasion of the World Reformation Exhibition in Wittenberg to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Built on an elongated and verdant plot in the Lüthergarten city park, the pavilion is divided into four spaces: each one is dedicated to a different aspect of the cultural history of the Reformation in Switzerland, focusing on its main protagonists as well as its symbols such as the Gutenberg press. The pavilion prints the New Testament of the latest edition of the Zurich Bible using printing techniques from the Reformation era. Its light construction is painted white, with a pitched roof supported by a perimeter of thin wooden beams. There are no outer walls, and a heavy coated fabric spans the spaces, offering protection from the elements. The green color of the cloth blends the building within the vegetation around it, reflecting on the primary dwelling and suggesting a place of production.



Floorplan



Long Section



Cross Section





Kunstmuseum Basel

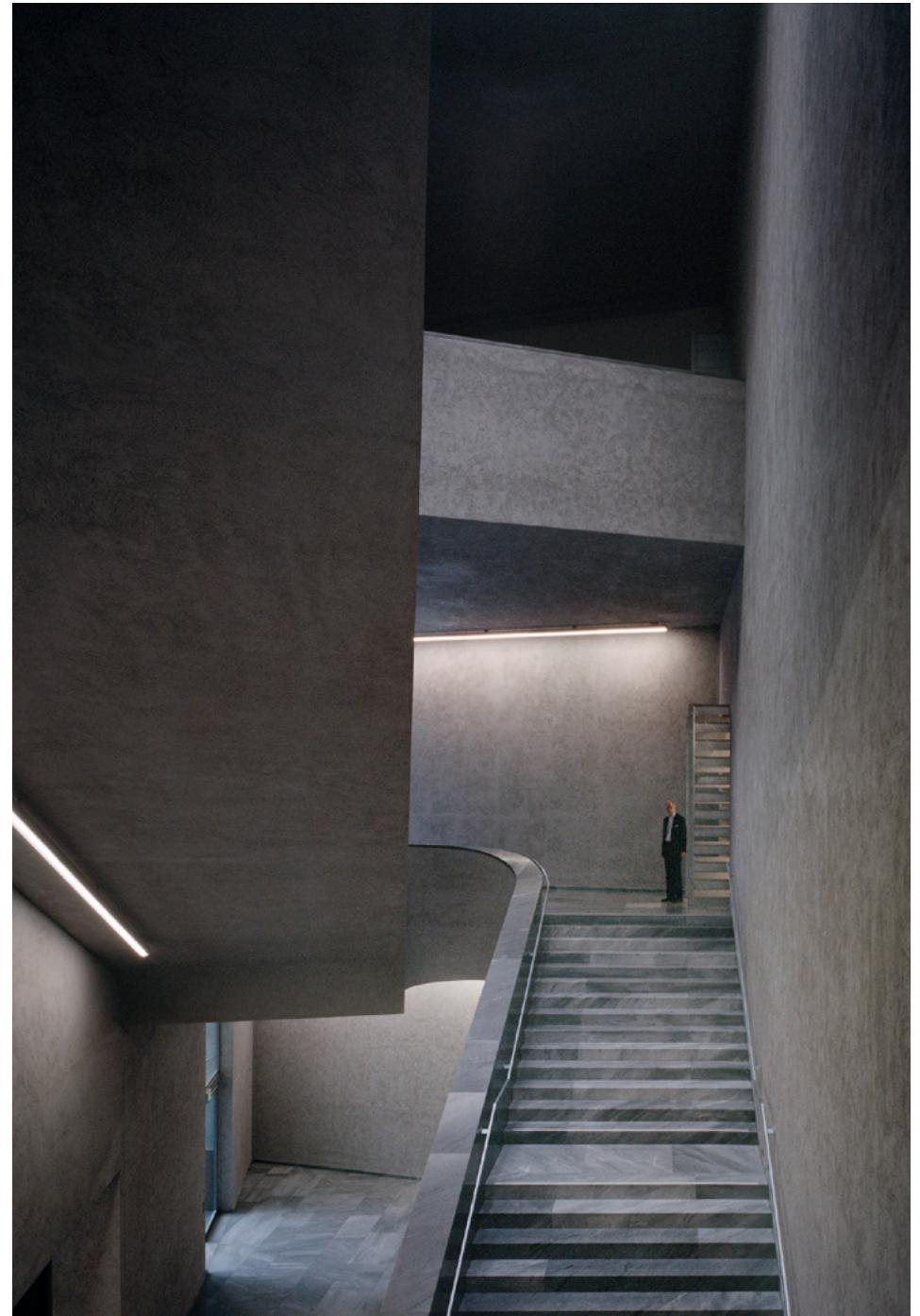
Scale: 8000 m²

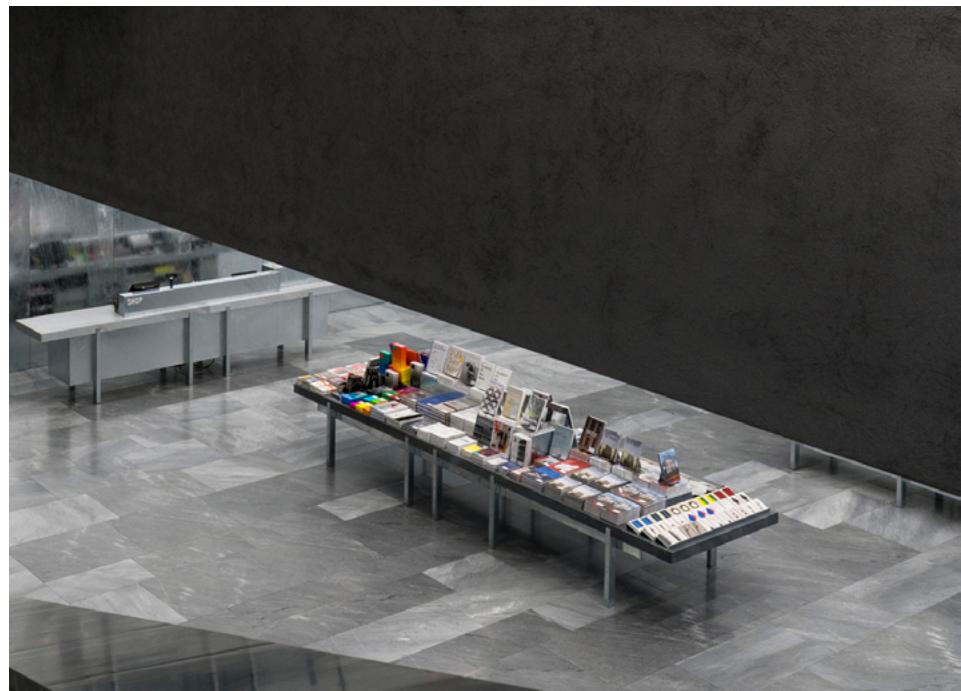
Budget: £ 90,000,000

Project type: Extension

Year: 2014 - 2016 (for Christ & Gantenbein)

Built in 1936, the Kunstmuseum Basel houses the oldest municipal art collection in Europe. In 2010, Christ & Gantenbein won the international competition to extend the existing museum by successfully responding to the brief's complex duality: a museum next to the museum. This ambivalence is the red thread of the project, which strives to create affinity while maintaining individuality. Like in the old building, the extension's façade hints at the classical order of base, shaft, and capital. The grey skin homogenously envelops the decagon shape, emphasizing its geometry while a LED-light frieze adorns the second floor. Two orthogonal lungs of exhibition spaces are set within the complex decagon, leaving the monumental staircase to modulate the resulting areas. Prefabricated ceiling beams span over white plastered exhibition spaces with an industrial wooden floor. This world sharply contrasts with the grey Bardiglio marble, which faces all floors of the public path and the stairs.







Research Centre for Child Health

Scale: 2000 m²

Budget: £ 8,000,000

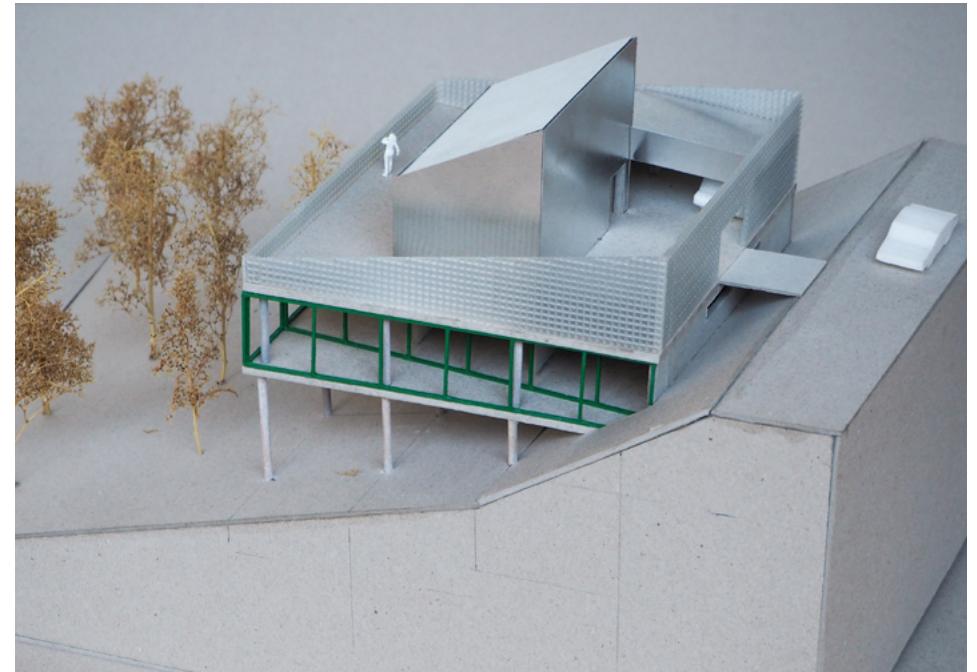
Project type: Competition, 5th Prize

Year: 2021 (in collaboration with Andrew Mackintosh)

A contemporary research centre needs to be able to adapt to constantly changing working conditions and concepts. The proposal for the Botnar Research Centre for Child Health in Basel is therefore characterized by maximum spatial flexibility and a strengthening of communication areas that are important for interdisciplinary knowledge transfer. The building is divided into two complementary areas: a flexible office building and a vertical circulation tube that promotes physical and verbal exchange between the floors. The glazed access sculpture serves as a symbolic place where the interplay of the different parts becomes visible: city and building, science and the public, architecture and ecology. The main body, designed as a steel frame construction, offers flexible, column-free office spaces with natural lighting from all sides. The use-neutral floors allow for short- and long-term adaptability, making the building timeless, stable in value, and thus truly sustainable.







House on a Slope

Scale: 350 m²

Budget: £ 500,000

Project type: Feasability study

Year: 2021

The proposal for a house on a slope utilizes the challenging conditions of the steep site. Developed as an alternative to the client's original plan, which required extensive excavation work, the design proposes a more site-specific solution. By concentrating all the required functions on a raised floor on pilotis, only minimal excavation is needed, and all rooms are guaranteed an unobstructed view into the valley. The building comprises three layers connected by a central staircase: a walled courtyard and sun terrace on the roof, a covered garden area underneath, and the interior spaces sandwiched in between those distinct exteriors. The roof courtyard with adjacent carport is accessible from the upper street level and surrounded by a wall of translucent glass bricks. Following the allowed profile line, the wall gradually reduces in height and becomes a parapet for the south-facing terrace, allowing maximum view of the valley while providing privacy for the sunbathers.





Fish & Ships

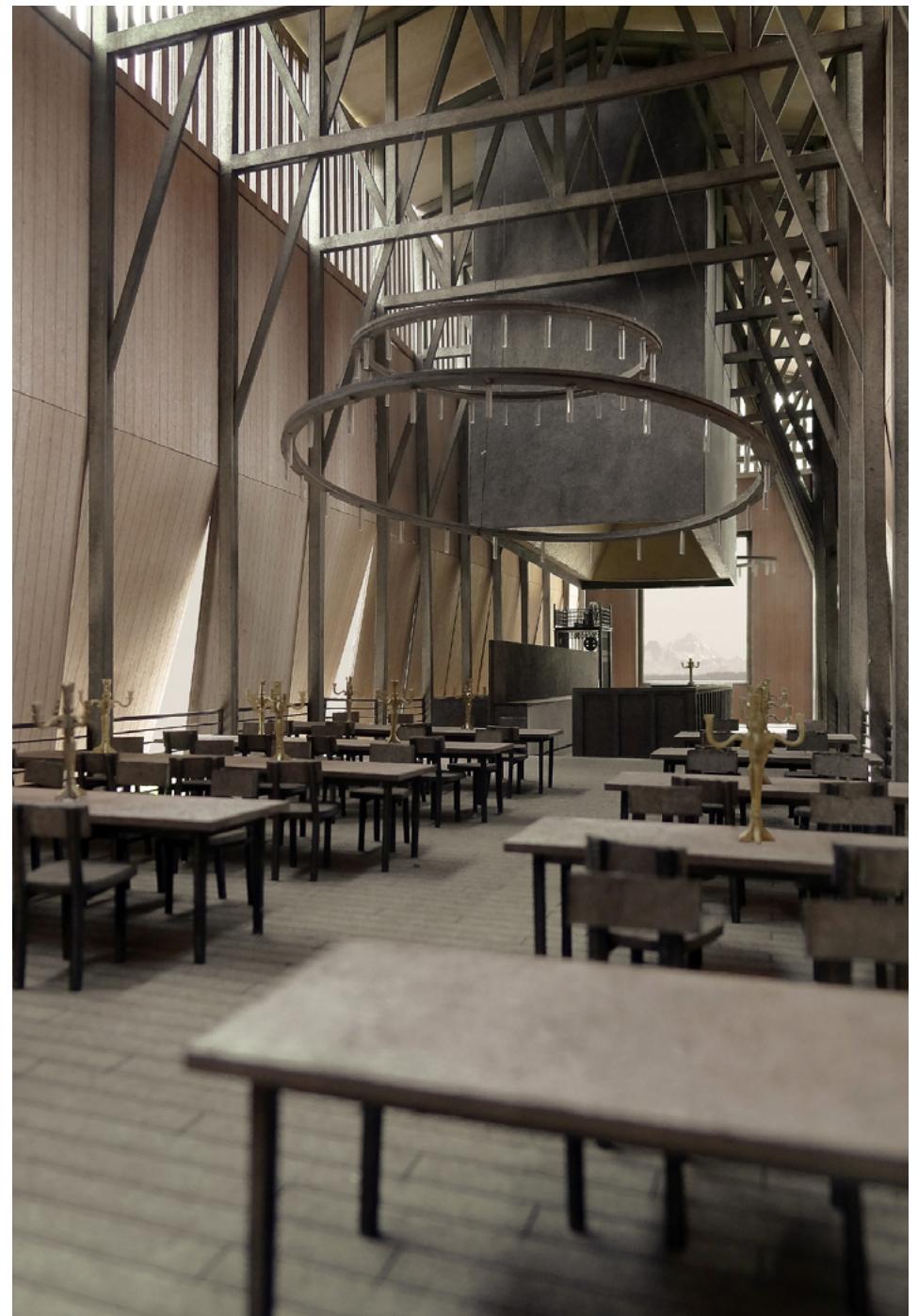
Scale: 350 m²

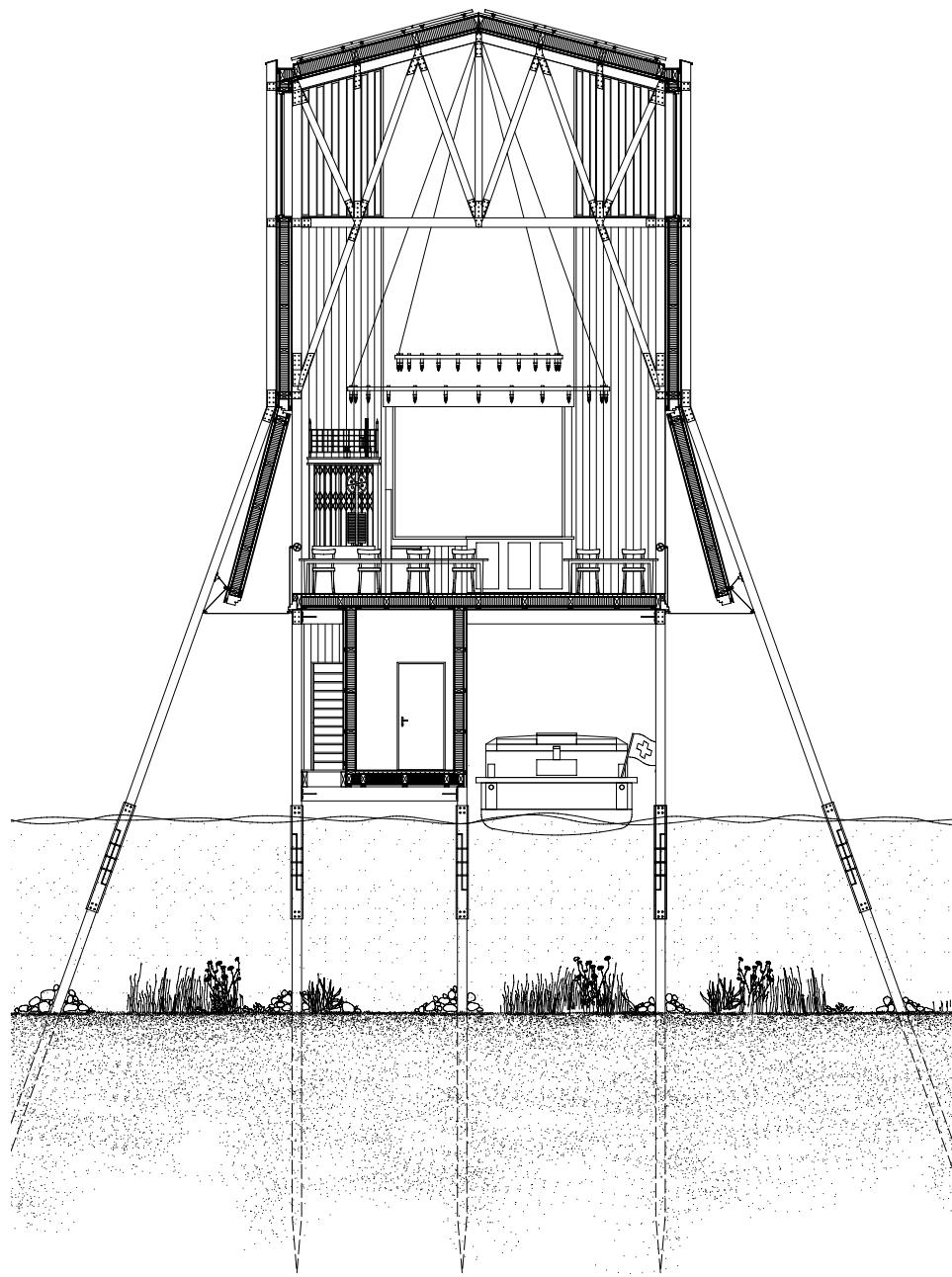
Budget: Unbuilt

Project type: Master's Thesis ETH Zurich

Year: 2013

The lake of Zurich can be identified as a park, a "Stadtallment" as depicted in an old city map. The design of the restaurant relates to the typology of follies. It becomes a visual marking point, a place to visit and stay. Located on the Hafner, a shallow area of the lake, the wooden building is a structural reflection of prehistoric pile dwellings found nearby. Its closed character is inspired by maritime protective structures and offers permanent views of the city and alpine landscape. The restaurant can be reached via public ferry or with a personal taxi boat. It consists of two floors, the arrival and servicing area on water level and the restaurant and cafeteria area on top. Seating is placed all the way towards the facade, so the visitors can open the folding, wooden panels in good weather, enabling a glance down at the water surface, which reflects light back up into the room. With 300 m² of photovoltaic modules on the roof, the structure has the potential for self-sufficient operation.







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