



#40

JUL/AUG 2011

€9.50

E 8 / CHF 14.50 / DKK 75.00 / KRW 22.000

Start

- Residential complex, Izmir
- Office/hotel renovation, Riga
- Mixed-use development, Belgrade
- Jewish community centre, Ulm
- Mixed-use building, Helsinki

Ready

- Housing, Kaniak
- Urban complex, Memmingen
- Architecture faculty, Prague
- Research institute for arts and humanities, Dublin
- Housing estate, Geneva
- House, Kaberneeme
- Homeless shelter, Pamplona
- Cultural-tourist complex, Mokrin

&

- Interview: Studio Non Stop's convincing architecture
- Russia in search of a new identity
- A cross-country tour of contemporary architecture in Slovakia

Section:

Organic facades

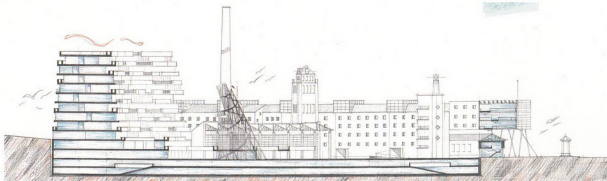
Anything goes in Almere

→ page 10





↑ The existing industrial building (right) will be renovated, while new structures are added to complete the triangular block.



↑ Longitudinal section ↓ Multi-level courtyard with piazzas and streets



Mixed-use development, Belgrade

ZENIT's design combining public, private and commercial functions is a city within a city.

SERBIA — TEXT: VESNA NČIĆ

New life is to be breathed into the 19th-century Bohemian Quarter in the historical centre of Belgrade, which until now had only come to life at nightfall. Situated on a slope overlooking the River Danube, it is a colourful, cobblestoned pedestrian quarter rich with old-style restaurants and recently established galleries. A large section of this district is occupied by disused industrial buildings from the late 19th century, which together form a triangular urban block of around 1.5 hectares. This city block has been earmarked for a new mixed-use development combining public, private and commercial functions.

The architects of ZENIT engineering have sought to regenerate the block while respecting the heritage value of the existing buildings, as required by the design brief. Their proposal entails renovating and converting the existing buildings as well as adding new functions such as a hotel, offices and various commercial and cultural functions. The dominant shape of the city block and its challenging topography, with a height difference of nearly 17 metres, were the starting points for the design.

ZENIT conceives the project as a city within a city; the block's multi-level courtyard is surrounded by substantial buildings and enriched with smaller public spaces like piazzas and streets. Wide passages perforate the perimeter wall of buildings, flowing into the side streets and providing connections between the different courtyard levels and



Jewish community centre, Ulm

ksg Architekten integrate a Jewish community centre into the Old Town of Ulm.

GERMANY — TEXT: URSULA BAUS

The southern German city of Ulm is best known for its famous Minster church. But the city is also remarkable for its ambitious contemporary architecture: Richard Meier's Kulturhaus, Gottfried Böhm's pyramid library, and pioneering inner-city development by Stefan Braunfels. In March the foundation stone was laid for a centrally located Jewish community centre with synagogue commissioned by Ulm's 450-strong Jewish community.

The design by Cologne architects ksg (Kister Scheithauer Groß) envisages a 17 metre-high volume with a 24 by 16 metre footprint containing a prayer room for 132 people. The building will have a facade of pale limestone, with a 'window' at the southeast corner created by perforating the stone in a Star of David pattern. Daylight falls through this ornamental 'Jerusalem window' into the cedar-lined synagogue on the ground floor. The upper storey will house a multi-purpose space, classrooms and a nursery, including a roof garden with a playground.

The Jewish community centre will fit well into its surroundings, which are dominated by high-quality architecture spanning several centuries. Between Weinhof Square and the Schwörhaus (a reconstruction of the 18th-century building and a place of civic power), the city authorities had kept a plot

free directly adjacent to the former Synagogue Square. The city will also be responsible for planning all the outdoor spaces, with the exception of a staircase with an external display case containing a plaque listing the names of Ulm Jews persecuted and murdered by the Nazis.

People of Jewish faith in Germany are increasingly coming to trust the tolerance of their fellow citizens. Outstanding projects for new Jewish community centres such as those in Dresden and Munich (Wandel, Höfer, Lorch + Hirsch), Mainz (Manuel Herz, see A10 #36) and Gelsenkirchen (Mihlsler and Christfreund) offer further proof of the prominent role played by this type of building brief in architectural development. Jewish community centres allow architects considerable scope for responding to the existing fabric of inner city locations and adopting new approaches to the arrangement of interiors. In Ulm, the architects opted for a very compact architectural volume in which all the functional units are logically combined. Ksg won the design competition in January 2010. Construction started last April, and the synagogue is scheduled to be consecrated on 9 November 2012. ←

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 2010-2012

Architect: ksg Kister Scheithauer, Gross
Client: Ulm Jewish community
Address: Weinhof, Schwörhausgasse, Ulm
Info: www.ksg-architekten.de



← Wide passages perforate the perimeter wall of the buildings.



the external public space. In addition, narrow Mediterranean-style streets cut through the courtyard, forming 'piazzettas' and galleries within the larger space and bringing light into the commercial spaces underneath the courtyard. This is especially important since 40,000 of the total 104,000 square metres of gross floor area, including parking, are projected underground.

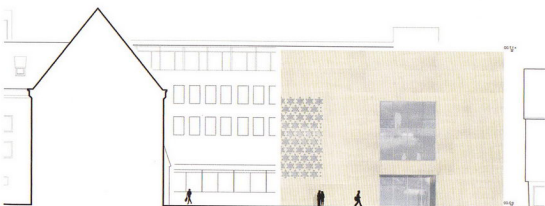
One side of the block is formed by existing buildings, to which just a few new architectural elements will be added. The existing structural grid offers flexible spaces for a variety of functions. The other two sides of the triangle, where some buildings had already been demolished, are new. One is inspired by archaeological evidence of a Roman aqueduct on this site; part of its base is designed as a shopping colonnade. The other is a crystal-like, biomorphic building with a lush green facade designed to counter-balance the huge construction mass of this site.

The architects have done their best to integrate the new development as seamlessly as possible into the existing urban fabric and pattern. Their hope is that the citizens will see and accept this piece of urban densification as if it has always been there. ←

MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT, 2010-2015

Architects: ZENIT engineering (project architect: Norzula Mucic, team: Eia Nešić, Vojta Pavić, Danilo Nedeljević, Vladimir P. Ilić and Miladin Ivanović)
Client: private investors

→ East facade



→ The facade's southeast corner features a 'window' created by perforating the limestone in a Star of David pattern.

