



ARTEC
Bettina Götz &
Richard Manahl
PROPUSNO I VIŠEZNAČNO
 TRANSPARENT AND AMBIGUOUS

APOTEKA "ZUM LÖWEN VON ASPERN" /
 THE "ZUM LÖWEN VON ASPERN"
 (ASPERN LION) CHEMIST'S, BEČ / VIENNA, AUSTRIJA
 / AUSTRIA, 2003.

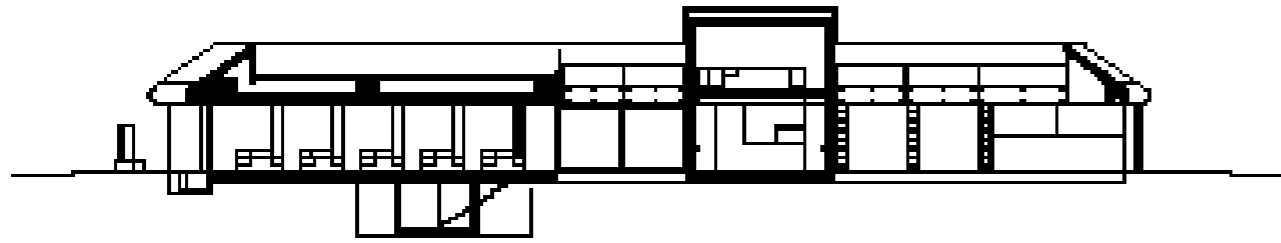
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Through the centre of Aspern, on the north east outskirts of Vienna, stretches a main road along which day after day rumbles the local commercial traffic; nevertheless, the rudimentary remains of a one-time rural or country structure can still be sensed. In this environment, to which its very difference imparts a certain charm, quite recently certain impulses towards structural revaluation have been observable; the new chemist's called Zum Löwen von Aspern, or *At the Aspern Lion* stands out by its subtle transparency from the surroundings of the regular rural scene. The client, Wilhelm Schlagintweit, has not in his new building, called the *experience chemist's*, the *Erlebnisapotheke*, made just a mere empty promise. The range of services that it offers greatly exceeds the ordinary supply of drugs; along with an advisory service for cosmetic,

Mjesnim središtem Asperna, na sjeveroistočnoj periferiji Beča, prote'e se glavna cesta kojom se iz dana u dan kotrlja lokalni poslovni promet, ali se ipak još mogu osjetiti rudimentarni ostaci nekadašnje seoske, odnosno ladanjske strukture. U ovoj okolini, koja zbog svoje dispartnosti ima određene dra'i, odnedavna se primjećuju impulsi strukturalne revalorizacije - nova apoteka "Zum Löwen vom Aspern" ("K lavu od Asperna") svojom suptilnom transparentnošću iskače iz okvira uobičajenog seoskog prizorišta. Investitor Wilhelm Schlagintweit nije svojom novom zgradom, nazvanom "do'ivljajna apoteka" ("Erlebnisapotheke"), dao tek isprazno obećanje. Spektar usluga koje ona nudi uvelike prelazi uobičajenu opskrbu lijekovima; uz savjetovalište u pitanjima dijete, koz-

diet and wellness issues, there is on the roof of the chemist's a garden of medicinal herbs accessible to the customers, where it is possible to obtain comprehensive advice in a natural setting of the problems of natural medicine, that is, of treatment with medicinal herbs. That this innovative entrepreneurial concept has been given concrete structural shape is to be thanked to the circumstance that there is a long-lasting acquaintanceship between the client and Bettina Götz and Richard Manahl (ARTEC, Architekten), as well as to the fact that the investor found a strong financial partner in the pharmaceuticals industry, which fully supported the substance of the concept.

The site, which lies between two main roads, is long and narrow, and it was clear from the beginning that transparency of view between the two streets



uzdužni presjek / longitudinal section



had to be provided. For the architectural structure this meant that it was necessary to bridge a 15 m broad and 40 m deep site with a single bearing structure, preferably without any supports. In order for it to be possible to stretch the ceiling of the first floor like a magic carpet over the druggist's, a crane was used to position alongside both entrance fronts tons-heavy frames or "saddles" of prefabricated concrete parts that create a kind of roof ending. These "saddles" are linked with a slab, the concrete being poured in situ. Structural engineer Oskar Graf provided here some valuable detail approaches which resulted in an impressive sense of space. The massive beams are concealed, and in the roof garden are used as

metiku i *wellnesscoaching* na krovu ljekarne nalazi se i mušterijama dostupan vrt ljekovitih trava, gdje je moguće dobiti obuhvatne savjete "in natura" o problematici prirodne medicine, odnosno liječenja ljekovitim biljkama. Da je inovativni poduzetnički koncept u građevnom smislu proveden u djelo, valja zahvaliti okolnosti da između investitora te Bettine Götz i Richarda Manahla (ARTEC Architekten) postoji dugogodišnje poznanstvo, kao i činjenici da je investitor u farmaceutskoj industriji našao financijski potentnog partnera koji je koncept sadržajno u punoj mjeri podržao.

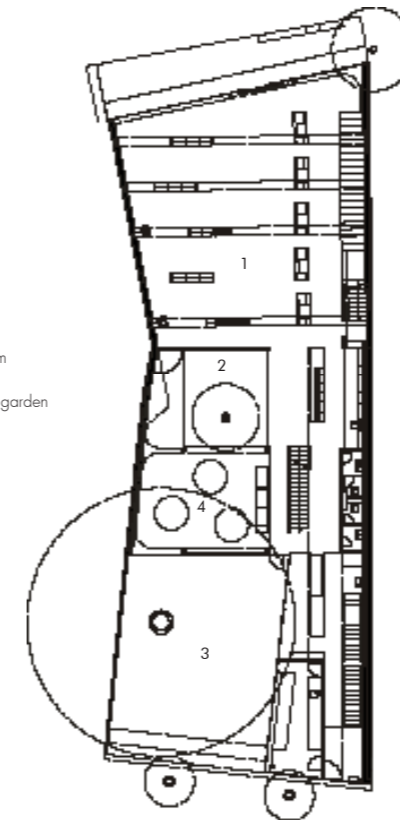
Gradilište, koje se nalazi između dvije prometnice, dugačko je i usko, pa je od početka bilo jasno da treba osigurati transparentnost pogleda



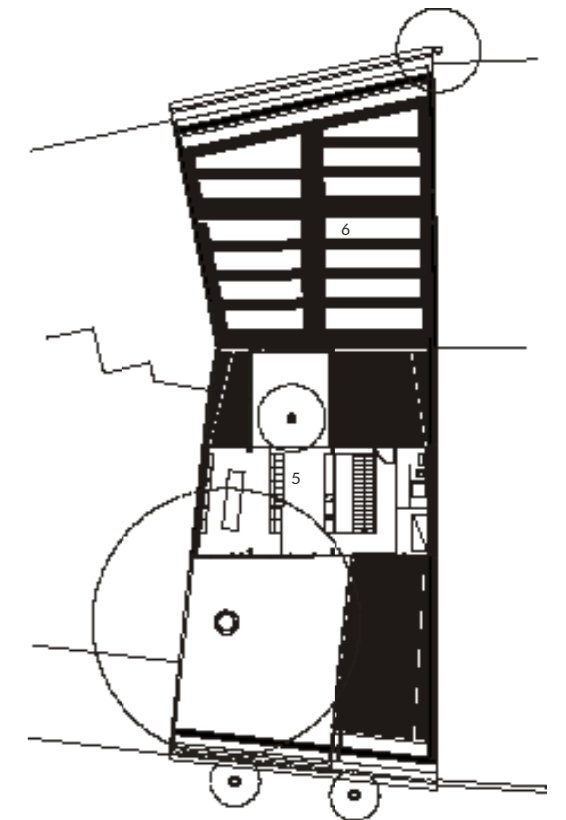
situacija / site plan



1. prodajni prostor / sales area
2. atrij / atrium
3. dvorište / courtyard
4. prostor za seminare / seminar room
5. noćna služba / night service
6. vrt ljekovitih trava / medicinal herb garden



tlocrt prizemlja / ground floor plan



tlocrt kata / floor plan

između obiju ulica. To je za arhitektonsku strukturu značilo da treba premostiti 15 metara široku i 40 metara duboku u parcelu jednim nosivim elementom, po mogućnosti bez potporanja. Kako bi bilo moguće razapeti strop prvog kata poput letećeg saga preko apoteke, pomoću kрана uz obje ulazne fronte postavljeni su tone i tone teški okviri-sedla od betonskih prefabriciranih dijelova, koji tvore neku vrstu krovnog završetka. Ta su sedla povezana pločom, betoniranom na licu mjesta. Statičar

paths between the beds with the herbs, thus serving a "higher" purpose as well. Only in the two-storey central zone (bottom – seminar room; top – night service, social areas and office) are there four slender red lacquer-painted columns which seem as if coquettishly to be drawing attention to their load bearing function.

In the sales area is a classical counter, split up into small islets that work as advice points, and alongside all this "hovers" the self-service area. The shelves are actually suspended, showing what sort of forces



Oskar Graf dao je tu vrijedna detaljna rješenja – što je rezultiralo impresivnom prostornošću. Masivne nadvlake nisu vidljive, a u vrtu na krovu imaju funkciju staza između gredica s ljekovitim travama, te tako služe "višoj" svrsi. Samo u dvokatnoj centralnoj zoni (dolje: prostorija za seminare, gore: soba za noćnu službu, društvena prostorija i ured) stoje četiri vitka stupa, crveno lakirana, koja kao da 'ele koketno ukazati na svoju nosivu funkciju.

U prodajnom prostoru nalazi se klasični prodajni pult disperziran u male otočiće sa savjetodavnom funkcijom, a kraj njega "lebdi" zona samoposluživanja. Regali vise – što ukazuje na sile koje su u igri-u strop velikog raspona, koji izvedenim u vidljivom betonu, su upuštene trake svjetala koje obuhvaćaju bočne strane regala, te ih povezuju u tematske redove. Slobodna površina poda ispod njih sugerira slobodu kretanja između polica; trake strukturiraju prostor koji ostaje otvoren.

Prostor ostaje nepodijeljen u svojoj strukturi i robustan u svojoj materijalnosti: nelakirani vidljivi beton, staklene plohe u visini prostorije, brušeni (nalik na terazzo, ali usporedivo povoljniji u cijeni) pod od asfalta, posmični ormari s frontama od lakiranog čeličnog lima. Namještaj je izrađen od bijelih, vidljivo šarabljenih ili lijepljenih kompaktnih ploča. Ne stječe se dojam da se čovjek nalazi u elegantnom ili klinički čistom prostoru. Naprotiv, prostrana prodajna zona zrači velegradskom "oporošću" industrijske normalnosti. Drugim riječima, kad elektronska ulazna vrata pokretanjem staklenih krila povuku lišće koje uleprša u unutrašnjost ljekarne, čovjek ne osjeti neposrednu potrebu da se prihvati metle.

Profinjenost se nalazi u ozelenjenim međuzonama slijeda prostorija. Oba ozelenjena dvorišta (s velikim kestenom u prednjoj zoni i novozasađenim stablom ginka u unutrašnjem dvorištu) kao i vrt s ljekovitim travama na krovu imaju važnu ulogu za ugodajnu ravnotežu u apoteke.



are involved; and on the large span of the exposed concrete ceiling beams of light are introduced, which take in the lateral sides of the shelving units, and combine them into thematic rows. The free floor area below them suggests freedom of movement between the shelves, the bands structuring the space, which is not divided, remaining open.

The space is undivided in its structure and is robust in its materiality. The unpainted raw concrete, the room-height glass surfaces, the polished asphalt floor (like terrazzo but cheaper in price), the sliding cupboards with lacquer-painted steel fronts. The furniture is of white, visibly screwed or glued panel boards. You don't get the impression of being in an elegant or clinically clean area; quite to the contrary, the spacious sales area gives off a big city roughness of industrial normality. In other words, when the electronic entry doors with the movement of the glass panels suck the leaves that flutter in the interior of the chemist's, you don't feel the immediate need to get hold of a broom.

The refinement lies in the greened intermediate zones in the spatial sequence. Both of the green courts (with a large chestnut in the front zone and a newly planted ginkgo in the interior court) as well as the medicinal herb garden on the roof have an important role in the creation of the equilibrium of moods in the chemist's. In the upper floor, the link with nature dominates, in the wood paved areas of the terrace and in the herbal garden, which the client, together with garden architect Jakob Fina, planted in the best Benedictine monastic tradition.

Reusing the old courtyard paving, the appropriate-

Na gornjem katu dominira povezanost sa prirodom, u drvom obloženim površinama terase i u vrtu ljekovitog bilja, koji je investitor, zajedno sa vrtnim arhitektom Jakobom Fina, zasadio u najboljoj benediktinskoj samostanskoj tradiciji.

Ponovnom uporabom starog dvorišnog popločenja, primjerenošću male građevne visine kao i tegobnim stapanjem novog betonskog po'arnog zida sa starim zidom od cigle dolazi do izra'aja besprijekorno dr'anje arhitekata prema tragovima elemenata seoskog okoliša. Arhitekti ovdje nisu djelovali protiv, već u skladu sa lokacijom; uporabivi ostaci postavljeni su u novi kontekst, te je tako nastala ambivalentna građevina, koja je u najboljem smislu adekvatna funkcionalnoj hibridnosti apoteke, tako da se svojom propusnošću opire jednoznačnoj definiciji.

Kad smo unutra, uvijek smo pomalo i vani. Ovaj dojam će se ljeti vjerojatno još pojačati, jer će ostakljenje unutarnjeg dvorišta biti otvoreno. Prodajni bi prostor u svojoj neutralnoj velikodušnosti bio prikladan za sve moguće namjene – receptura i regal sa čajevima podsjećaju na bar, vrt na krovu posjeduje nešto od samostanske atmosfere, soba za noćnu slu'bu podsjeća na simpatičan način na garsonijeru, a u prostoriji za seminare sa lepršavim zavjesama komorni koncerti ne bi bili na krivom mjestu. U takav transparentni prostor moguće je štošta projicirati, no apoteka jest i ostaje dakako apotekom. No, nije li Aspern s njom stekao i neku vrstu mjesnog centra? Kad razmislimo da se je ispred ljekarne u kratko vrijeme etabliralo nešto nalik na tr'nicu, mo'e se pretpostaviti da će u budućnosti doći do dodatnih mogućnosti korištenja. Činjenica da apoteka, otkad je otvorena, ima dobar promet samo je indicija uspješnosti njenog cjelokupnog koncepta.



ness of the low building height and the painstaking merging of the new concrete firewall with the old brick wall all bring out the impeccable attitude of the architects to the traces of rural environment... The architects did not work here against, rather in harmony with, the location; the usable remains are put in a new context. An ambivalent building has been created; in the best sense it is appropriate to the functional hybrid that is the chemist's, its permeability resisting an unambiguous definition

When we are inside, we are always also a little bit outside. This impression will probably come out even more in summer, when the glazing of the internal court will be open. The sales area in its neutral generosity would be appropriate for all possible purposes, the prescription drug area and the shelving units with the herbal teas recall a bar, the roof garden has something of the atmosphere of a monastery, the night service room recalls a studio flat in a pleasing way, and in the seminar rooms, with their fluttery curtains, chamber music concerts would not be out of place. In an area as transparent as this, all kinds of things can be projected, but the chemist's has nevertheless remained of course a chemist's. But hasn't Aspern acquired with it a kind of community centre? When we think that something like a marketplace has in a short time been established in front of the chemist's, it can be reliably assumed that in the future there will be additional opportunities for exploitation. The fact that the chemist's, since it has been opened, has done a roaring trade, is just one indicator of the success of the overall concept.