



Attention to detail How m3 Architekten create tailor-made homes and corporate interiors in Swiss-style

A fresh and unbiased stylistic approach, combined with in-house planning and an eye on detail in construction, allows Zurich-based m3 Architekten to find an individual creative language for each and every new project they tackle.

TEXT: GORNELIA BRELOWSKI | PHOTOS: BRUNO HELBLING FOTOGRAFIE, ZÜRICH | M3 ARCHITEKTEN

m3 Architekten projects draw their lifeblood from committing to a detailed and accurate execution, based on 15 years of experience. The small but effective team around Basil Düby and Simon Künzler consists of four architects and one building construction draughtsman. Opened in 2001, the Zurich-based office is by now well established in the fields of residential architecture, interior planning and conversions for international corporations.

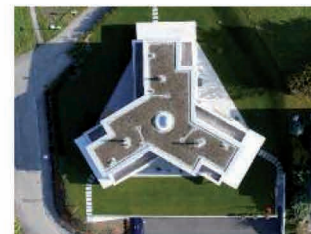
Their contribution to contemporary architecture stems from a holistic approach of

planning and project management executed under the same roof. Spanning from de-



sign to execution, a project is covered completely as an in-house enterprise, constantly allowing minute adjustments throughout the developing process. Both client and project benefit from this fact immensely.

Specialising on both construction and conversions, m3 Architekten also tackles ten-



ant-specific improvements for international companies and corporations. This way, m3 Architekten also provides a great deal of experience in interacting with international project teams and their various culture-originated preferences. Another field of expertise is their focus on residential housing and conversions.

Take for example their 'Wohnhaus am Zürichsee' (Zurich lake residence): a conversion of a residential building, which in effect became a whole new construction, is set right by the expansive Zurich lake, providing a view of almost unreal beauty. The lightweight and simplistic appearance of the bungalow adjusts well to its surroundings and proves as beautiful in design as in function. The overhanging first floor, for example, creates a simple but effective roof for one of the terraces overlooking the lake. The wooden façade with a variety of light brown and beige hues links the building to its surrounding nature and gives it a warm and homey touch as well as a climate shield. White walls and large windows allow natural light flooding into every room of the house. With most rooms overlooking the beautiful lake, there are eating areas both inside and outside and a balcony spans over the entire length of the first floor.

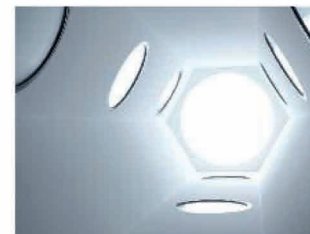
Apart from one-family housing, m3 Architekten have also constructed innovative solutions concerning larger residential building projects. One of these is the Trident house for three families, which shows a terrific layout reminding one of a three-bladed turbine. This innovative shape allows a generous influx of natural light, coming from three sides for each housing unit.



m3 Architekten is creating and constructing buildings that are in equal parts innovative and sustainable. They like to meet the individual needs of their private clients and at the same time honour the responsibility they feel towards society in designing sustainable solutions. Energy efficiency directives are being met conscientiously, with each m3 Architekten building meeting the strict Swiss 'Minergie' requirements.

Basil Düby has established the office over a period of 15 years. He started out after a few years travelling, which took him to Leipzig and Bern before returning home to Zurich. By now fully equipped with manifold experience in construction management and execution, he was brimming with creative ideas and eager to open his own office. Meanwhile his wish to engage in the field of design theory was met with a part-time position at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. Ever since opening the office in 2001, m3 Architekten has accumulated experience in their field.

With a focus on quality in construction and sustainable yet simplistic techniques, m3 Architekten is truly following function with form. The long years of work experience with a focus on modern, yet not modernist,



architecture are paying off in creating high-quality buildings and interiors with a straightforward design. Both high-end office spaces for international clients and residential conversions tackled by m3 Architekten show an explicit eye for detail. With a nod to the new objectivity movement, the interiors show grace and personal flavour alike. This seemingly effortless taste in design is a bonus which, together with their technical expertise, will allow the office a swift entry into the world of competition, a goal which Basil Düby has set for himself to be able to apply their accumulated know-how to larger-scale projects in the future.

With their responsible attitude, know how in both constructive management and design theory and, last not least, a natural sense for linear yet personalised design, will allow m3 Architekten a smooth access to the competition scene of 2016.

www.m3-architekten.ch

Portraits: Basil Düby (left), Simon Künzler (right)
Main image & top left: Wohnhaus am Zürichsee' (Zurich lake residence)
Above: The Trident house for three families.
© m3 Architekten
Below: Residential home 'Forch'

