Project Description

This hillside house shows how it is possible to design a two-storey building with a recessed upper floor where the structure’s mass blends into the landscape while simultaneously creating a harmonious transition from the outdoor to the indoor areas. This works thanks to a complex division and flow between the different parts of the house. Even the outdoor area is characterised by multi-level composition that picks up on the various orientations of the property and views of the landscape.

The entrance and the shared living areas, with adjacent covered terraces that are protected from the wind, are on the ground floor. The parent’s area is shifted toward the rear and includes a terrace that is not visible from the outside. The lower floor hosts the children’s area on the sunny side and various secondary rooms on the mountain side of the house. The children’s rooms are also adaptable to changing age and life situations: If needed, they can be converted into independent residential units without any major construction. The swimming pool is on a separate level between the ground floor and basement/garden, creating a “flowing” transition from the entry level down to the garden space. The architects’ highest priority was to preserve the flow of movement. All of the interior rooms were designed as an effective continuation of the exterior zones. This turns the house and its entire immediate environment into a playground for the residents.

The lighting was installed as invisibly as possible. Only where it seemed necessary from a creative perspective – above the dining table, for example – were lights used to accentuate and enhance the overall design.

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