

BEVK PEROVIC ARCHITECTS

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Ljubljana, SLO

House SB, Ljubljana →

The house is located in a suburban settlement on the outskirts of Ljubljana. The plot is very small, on the edge of the settlement, facing a forest on the northern side. The theme of the project is "the house as mediator" between the anonymous, chaotic suburbia and the natural surroundings.

The house is conceived as a patio-type house with two wings that frame the garden area and then are split into two levels. The usual "split" between living and sleeping areas is reversed, so that the sleeping area is on ground-floor level. The living area is structurally conceived as a bridge, spanning the carport on ground level. It is an open, loft-type space, contrasting the seclusion of the bedroom area. It becomes a mediating device, a kind of a periscope, open to the sunlight on the south side and framing the views of the forest in the north. Regarding material, the whole house, including the pitched roof and sun deck, is clad in larch wood planks.

Social Housing Apartment Blocks, Polje/Ljubljana →

Six apartment blocks on the edge of the city – facing open fields on one side, built city fabric on the second, and busy railway tracks on the third side.

The existing urban plan had to be kept – rows of symmetrically positioned buildings. The project therefore, was an exercise of "dissolving" and rearranging the original plan – trying to establish the central open strip of land as a park-like area, with small hills as partition elements between the buildings which also serve to "dissolve" the outlines of the built volumes. Each side of the building thus has a different profile, a recognizable silhouette that refuses to blend in with an overall volumetric reading of the object. Each building contains 13 small-to-medium sized apartments. The balconies project from the building volume, so as to achieve certain openness for the units. Suspended on metal cables, they relate to the "industrial" iconography of the nearby railways. The railway theme is taken up again in the rusty red coloring of the fiber-cement facade paneling. 8-cm aluminum discs attached on the facade panels and accentuating their random sizes suggest, at first sight, the idea of buildings wrapped in a skin of silver dots.

Royal Dutch Embassy, Ambassador's Residence, Ljubljana ↓

The house is located in a former village structure, bordering on the city. The lack of possible "references" for the project in the immediate surroundings and the duality of the program (semi-public spaces for receptions and private apartment for the ambassador's family) led to a concept of a free-standing 'double' house – one house on top of the other.

The lower, semi-public house consists of three closed volumes, which act as a large column-like for the private house on the first floor. The spaces between the three "columns" are open areas, connectable by means of sliding panels, opening to the garden.

The upper floor with the private residence is conceived as a slab placed across the structure below, divided for different residential functions, oriented away from the front elevation for privacy. The duality of the program is reflected in the duality of material organization – while the ground-floor volumes are clad in prefab polished concrete panels, the upper private floor is clad in vertical slats of untreated cedar wood.

