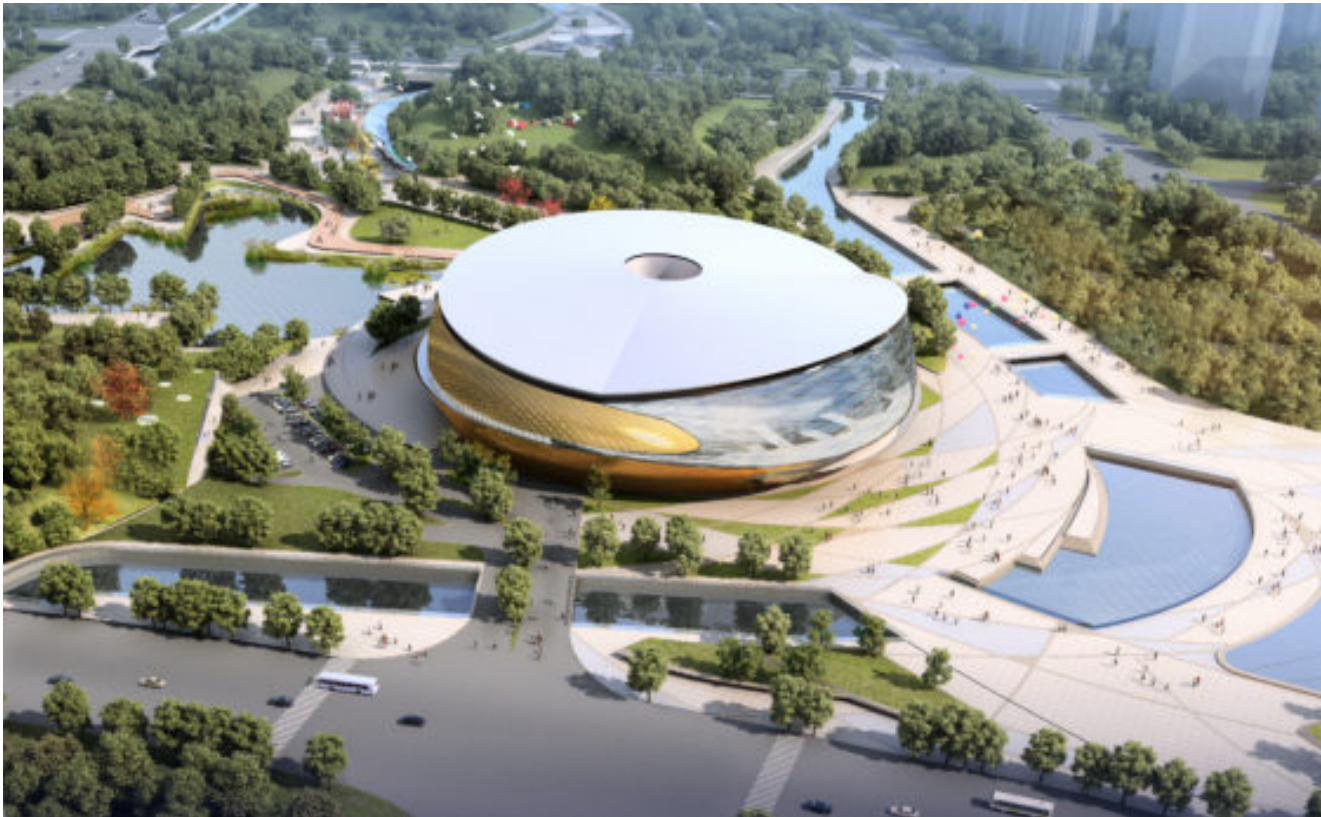


# Archi-Tectonics - Clear, light and radically sustainable

label: Architecture  Premium



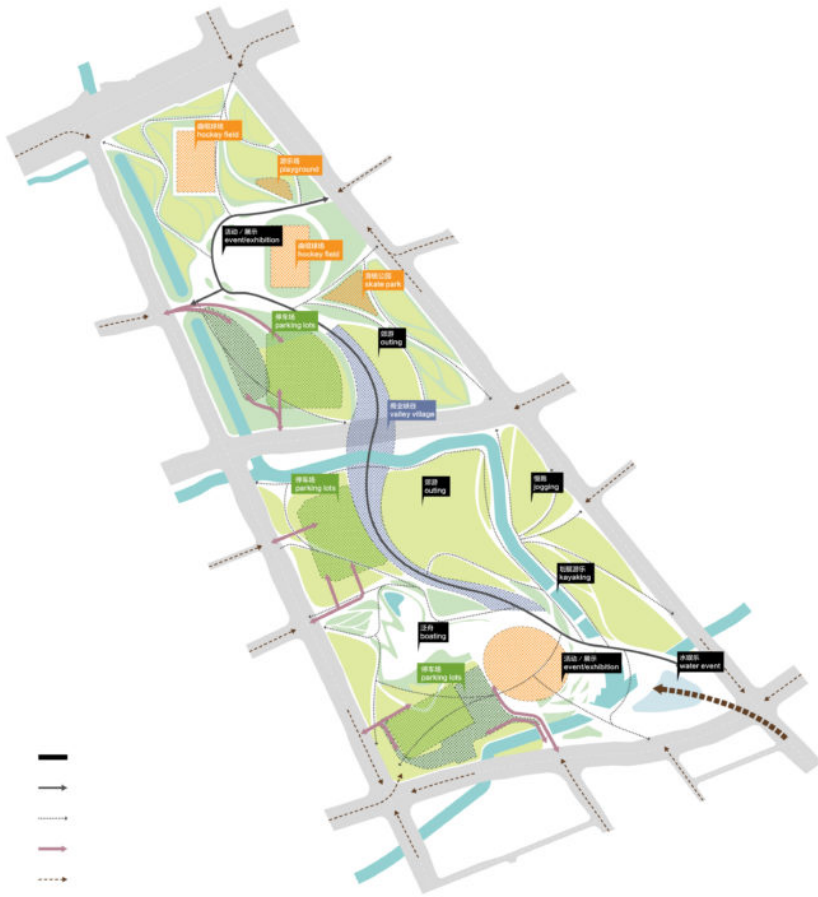
*Table tennis stadium for the 2022 Asian Games in Hangzhou. Archi-Tectonics won the competition for this park together with landscape architect! Melk.*

**Architecture beyond the everyday: that is what Winka Dubbeldam and Justin Korhammer of the Archi-Tectonics office in New York strive for. Their latest projects were presented this spring in the Architektur Galerie Aedes in Berlin, in a solo exhibition with the appropriate title 'Flat Lands and Massive Things - From NL to NYC & Beyond'. Characteristic are the hybrid forms and the constructiveness of the buildings.**

*Text: Claus K apflinger*

The work of the New York-based agency Archi-Tectonics covers an area from the Netherlands to China. In the million metropolis of Hangzhou, the firm's largest project to date is a 47-hectare sports park for the Asian Games of 2022. The way of looking is cheerfully heterogeneous, material and conceptual in character and shows great versatility in the

7/2/201 application of architectural media. This approach focuses on hybridity in all its forms and the constructive possibilities of new technologies.

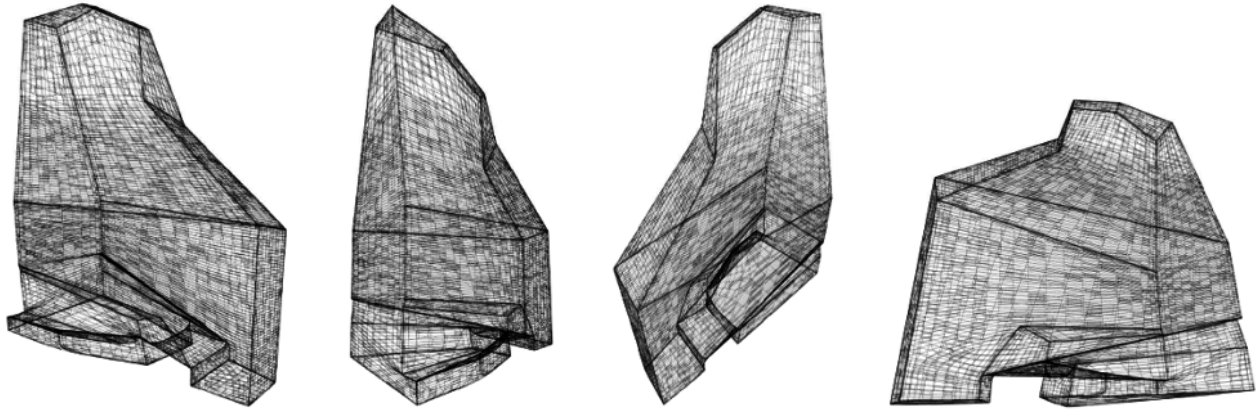


Design of the sports park where the table tennis stadium, the hockey stadium and the Retail Village are located

## As long as you dare

"Everything is possible as long as you dare," is the message from Archi-Tectonics. The agency is euphoric about global possibilities and cooperation in their work and focuses entirely on the transformation of the existing. The Dutch cultural attaché Tom Maasen labeled this attitude as 'typically Dutch' at the opening of the exhibition in Berlin. Dutch designers are, after all, capable of transforming flat, unattractive landscapes into new, fascinating topographies using innovative methods and designs. Horizontal lines are converted into vertical ones and very specific identities are developed.

7/2/201 Maasens typing is a particularly striking summary of the seven Archi-Tectonics projects that can be seen in Berlin. There are strong differences between the dimensions and specific conceptions. Opposite sports stadiums and particularly large high-rise projects are also some very small projects, including some 'townhouses' and an indoor meditation concept. Common to all these projects is the architectural principle to always investigate and test the possibilities of new digital design and production processes.

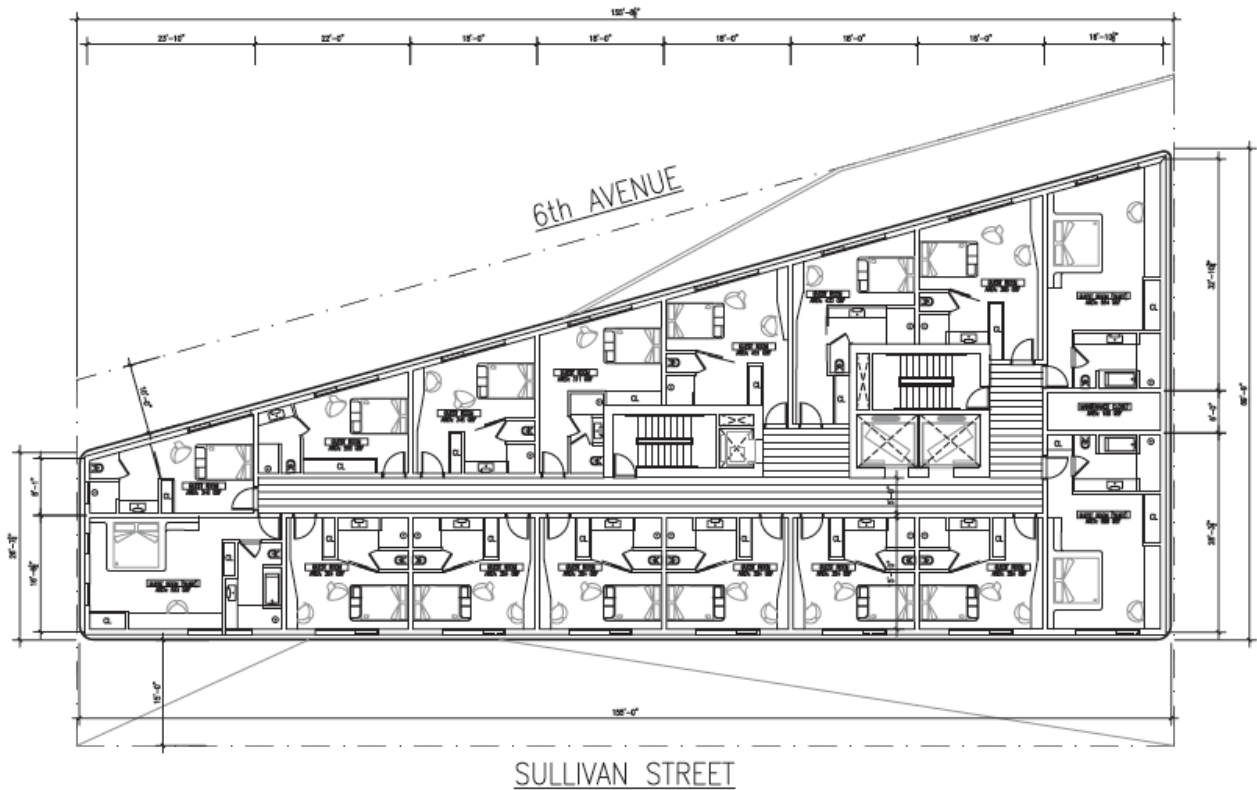


The Soho Tower in New York is a mass that is situated in a glass envelope. The envelope embraces the crowd and offers its comfort and appearance.

## Urban complexity

In Soho (New York), Winka Dubbeldam realized the eight-storey Townhouse '512GW' for a family. This house bears witness to a fascinating spatiality and meticulously designed construction. The building achieves great complexity from the inside through multiple spaces with voids. These are connected by an eight-storey glass staircase with glass elevator, and are illuminated by an equally high glass window. The building and its outside spaces are encased in a light steel frame and trespa slats. This almost virtual space protects the private outdoor spaces against neighbors and climate, and is completely open. This design invites you to experience light and space, use and urban context in a versatile and changeable way. Not far from there is the apartment complex '497 GW' from 2004,

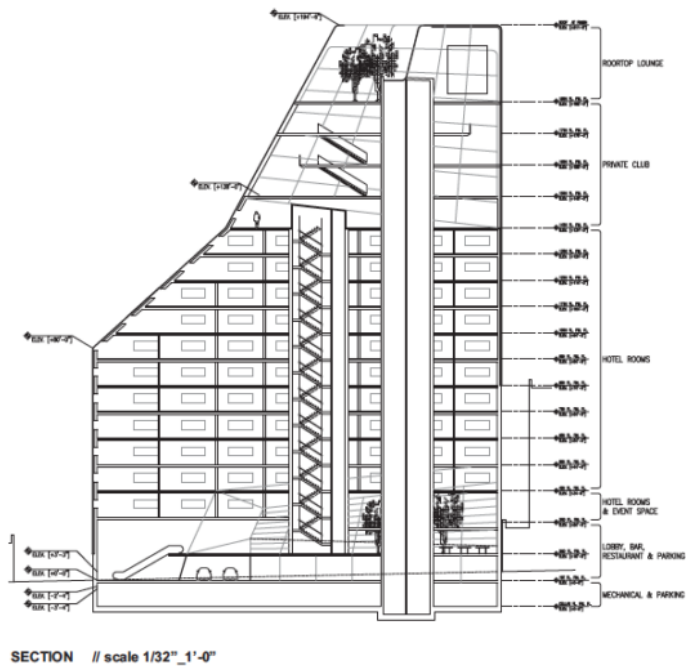
The meditation concept for 'Inscape' is of equally great complexity. This implanted, ellipsoidal dome space is made of a spiral grid of bamboo covered with linen, and has a sophisticated but completely invisible sound, light and ventilation technique. This complex geometry could only be achieved thanks to the latest CNC processes. The design was developed and tested as a 1: 1 prototype and was named one of the 25 best international architectures by Wired magazine in 2016.



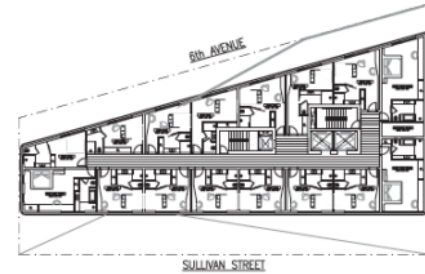
TYPICAL HOTEL FLOOR PLAN // scale 1/16" = 1'-0"

### Floor plan hotel floor

The 'V33' project in the TriBeCa district is developing a new typology for the urban villa. The spacious owner-occupied houses have many-sized and spacious outdoor spaces and a car lift. In part, these houses are also translucent. The characteristic pixelation and 3D texture of the street façade is achieved through a combination of clear and transparent glass, in combination with 2 mm translucent marble panels, made possible by the latest facade system technologies. This material pattern creates identity and privacy, but perhaps more importantly, a soft, atmospheric light in the apartments.



SECTION // scale 1/32" = 1'-0"



TYPICAL HOTEL FLOOR PLAN // scale 1/32" = 1'-0"

## Section

### Passion for precision, prototyping and prefabrication

All projects of this architectural firm radiate a great passion for precision, prototyping and prefabrication. The state of affairs is tested time and again. Archi-Tectonics challenges architectural production and conventions and searches for new methods and specific digital instruments for each project. Winka Dubbeldam undoubtedly benefits from her chair at the University of Pennsylvania School of Design, which she holds since 2013. It facilitates its intensive presentation with technological and digital production processes and enriches them in a decisive way.

The current projects of Archi-Tectonics clearly have other dimensions. It concerns two hotel complexes in New York and Leiden and an office / residential tower in Rotterdam. These projects represent new challenges for Archi-Tectonics. With this, the agency makes the step to vertically folded landscapes and icons. The complex development processes of this can hardly be controlled from singular aspects. For this reason, these projects concentrate strategically on the external appearance of the buildings and their spatial interfaces with the city. In addition, they focus on the public usability of the ground floor and the meeting rooms on the higher floors, 'a city in a city', with the aim of creating as many public spaces in the buildings as possible and as versatile as possible.



In Manhattan, Archi-Tectonics created a meditation room in the Inscape Center that works as an oasis in the hectic street life of the city

The 'Unknot Tower' on the Plesmanlaan in Leiden is a hybrid building that consists of three programmatic elements that are completely intertwined into a complex programmatic element. Two hotels and 27 luxury apartments are housed in the building. They share surprisingly many publicly accessible spaces with each other. The tower will undoubtedly become a new landmark for the city of Leiden. The Soho hotel tower in New York looks even more varied. This is covered with a very complex, two-layer glass and wood facade. With various public functions such as an Art Center, this project is also functionally a hybrid.

The Blaak Tower further develops the idea of hybrid typology, but here moments of programmatic and spatial intensity are articulated as 'anomalies' within the clear lines of the urban object. The optimization of the tower can be found in the fact that 80 percent of it is designed as a simple curtain wall, but that the 20 percent special 'sky lobbies' give the building character and identity. The tower is an iridescent, strongly rejuvenating 'stibniet formation' with generous sky lobbies and numerous green terraces and roofs.



The space is made of plywood using 3D design techniques

## **Architectural revolution**

Together with the office! Melk Landscape Architecture of Dutch landscape architect Jerry van Eyck, Archi-Tectonics is currently working on a 47-hectare park for the 2022 Asian Games in Hangzhou. In this park they realize a 'Table Tennis Stadium', a 'Field Hockey Stadium' and a 'Retail Valley Village' that connects the two stadiums. The Table Tennis Stadium with the intersection of two ellipse forms is largely inspired by the cong, an ancient Chinese artifact. Due to the fact that the Games only last two weeks, the park and the buildings are not only designed for the event, but also for the future use of the city dweller. This building is designed as a hybrid form between an arena and a music hall. It is characterized by much permeability and constructive lightness. Even more impressive is the Hockey Stadium, which is inspired by a Meinong bamboo umbrella. This building combines a supporting structure of only two longitudinally stretched, steel arches with a self-supporting cable structure that spans 125 meters.



The visitors enter the meditation room from a softly lit welcome room

All these buildings look particularly bright and light. They are also radically sustainable.

Winka Dubbeldam thus undoubtedly brings its credo of an intelligent architectural revolution to life in a beautiful way according to completely new standards.

### Also read:



**Archi-Tectonics - Blaak Tower Rotterdam**



**Unknot Tower in Leiden - Archi-Tectonics**