

The *Baupiloten* build a kindergarten where lemonade flows

The refurbishment of the kindergarten "Taka-Tuka-Land"

Hohenzollernring 93, 13587 Berlin-Spandau.

The *Baupiloten* have completed their third project. It is already the second one for the client ASB Kinder.- and Jugendhilfe GmbH, Berlin. Within the scope of the refurbishment the *Baupiloten* created a completely new conceived world from the temporary structure of the kindergarten as imagined by the children. The results are interactive and communicative interior spaces as well as a multifunctional façade according to Astrid Lindgren's story. The construction costs were extremely low due to the recycling of material and the economical renewal of the damaged building substance. Concept design started in 2005 and completion was in March 2007.

Atmosphere defined by a communal design strategy

Pippi Longstockings's "Taka-Tuka-Land", according to Astrid Lindgren's children's book of the same title, not only bestowed the name to the kindergarten but turned into architecture. The *Baupiloten* and the child minder inspired the children to design their own vision of "Taka-Tuka-Land". Their concepts of singing bridges as well as huts, the merry-go-round made of petals and the shell-throne belonging to Pippi's father gave the *Baupiloten* an inkling of spatial qualities the children imagined for their new kindergarten. With the help of collages and architectural models the *Baupiloten* then communicated their views to the staff and the children. Thus the end users had had a direct involvement in the design of their newly built environment. The daily observation of the children's play and the routine was a further inspiration to the *Baupiloten*.

Sensually immediate Architecture

The original temporary structure of the kindergarten has been turned into an everlasting oak tree where lemonade grows and flows. The flow of lemonade has seven intervals where the children can enjoy it, for example, the large-scale windows where the midday sun turns the room into a glittering environment due to the crystals that have been mounted in the windows. As a matter of fact, yellow is the dominant colour, be it in the entrance or the corridors with the lemonade gallery where the children can show their parents their latest achievements. In the hall the children's clothes are accommodated in lemon-coloured cupboards. The architectural highpoint is the "lemonade-island" where the children are taller than the grown-ups. It's oblique surfaces invite every child to play and "drown" in streams of yellow lemonade. In one of the rooms the stream of lemonade literally bursts out bounds and floods into the garden. Metaphorically Pippi Longstocking's old oak tree has been turned into an interactive façade. It has become an oblique climbing frame made of green oak wood covered by yellow membrane with plenty of spaces to hide. The entire construction is protected against the elements by a transparent yellow membrane that sheds the inside with a warm light.

The *Baupiloten* as the best case scenario of architectural design studies

The *Baupiloten* are a group of students who develop under professional guidance their own projects during their architectural course. They go through all design stages from concept to implementation. Part of the *Baupiloten* philosophy is to engage their clients in the design.

Students:

Niklaus Haller, Ole Hallier, Daniel Hülseweg, Annika Köster, Christian Necker, Katrin Zietz, Katja Zimmerling and Anna Meditsch, Anne Pind, Ilja Gendelmann, Susan Jutrowski, Claudia Söchting, Mirko Wanders