



Kinky

A wellness and swimming pool complex is situated in between a residential tower and office building. A rhythm of concrete slabs gives the spaces a certain grandeur, reminiscent of ancient Roman thermal baths. At the same time, these structural elements offer a bearing capacity that allows the incorporation of an urban roof garden on top. Daylight enters from above and is diffusely distributed through the concrete roof surfaces in both the main and side aisle of the swimming pool. Descending into the pool becomes a true experience and occurs in the negative space between the concrete slabs. This space widens towards the depth, so that the pool reveals itself slowly. Bathing becomes a sacred experience of light, structure and space.

The project 'Kinky' was part of a master's design studio at Ghent University. The assignment lies in a context of qualitative densification for a city like Brussels, with a diverse set of programs (residential, work, recreation...) stacked on top of each other. For the design studio, a preliminary design has been realised, including a thorough start assessment of structural properties, HVAC installations and construction details.

