

 J'aime

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Social Housing in Angers / Studio Bellecour Architects

27
MAY 2011

By Andrew Rosenberg — Filed under: Housing , Selected , Angers, Concrete, France, Studio Bellecour Architects



Architects: [Studio Bellecour Architects](#)

Location: [Angers, France](#)

Project team: Wilfrid Bellecour François Barberot, Hélène Dumas, Anne Lhermitte,
Bruno Codron, Raphaël Philipppe

Client: [Angers Habitat](#)

Project area: 8,042 sqm

Project year: 2008 – 2010

Photographs: Nicolas Borel, Willy Berr, [Philippe Caumes](#), [Studio Bellecour Architects](#)



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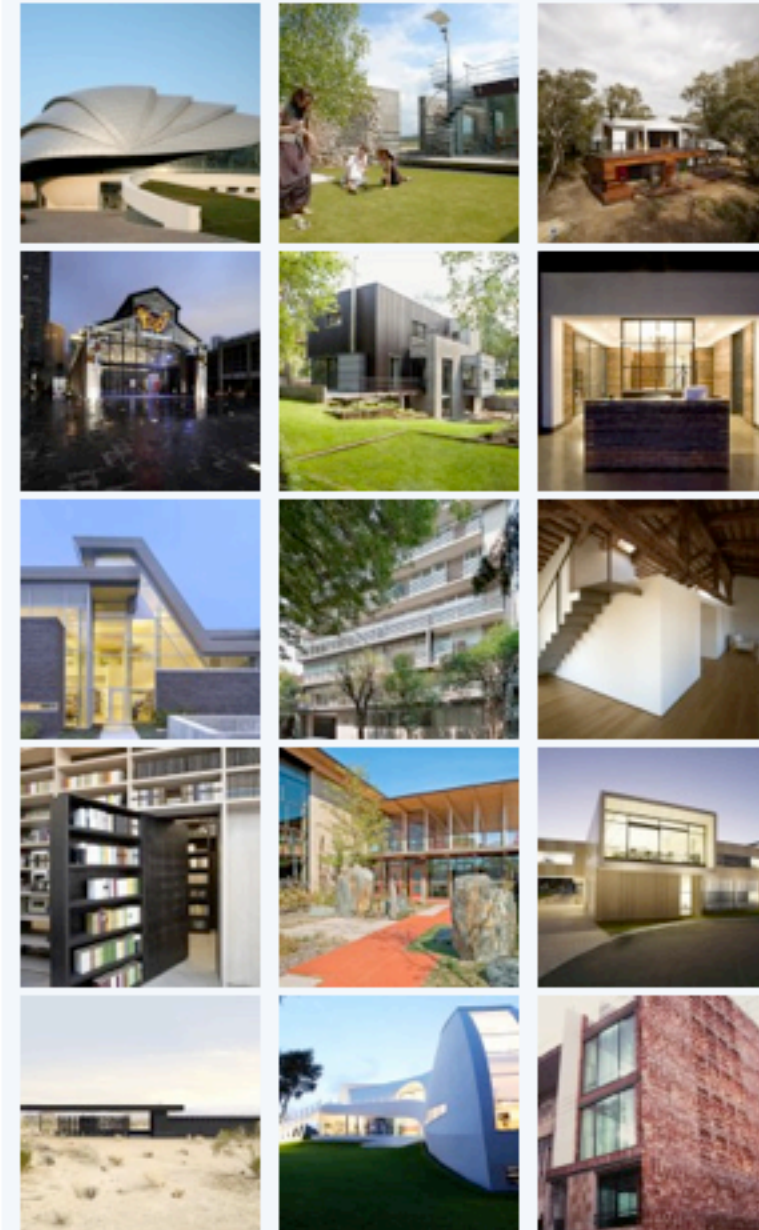
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The project sets within a mission of movement and punctuation. With this framework, a typological approach seeks to combine the urban scale of the street with its surrounding area. The project maintains the necessary "boundaries" between the building and the street while taking into account the area's density. The result produces an intimate residential atmosphere while maintaining the autonomy of the individual units, which break away from the standard "concrete block" and its the negative stereotyping.



© Philippe Caumes

Thus the project is organized into a gathering of buildings sectioned in rhythm with the urban design :

- A well-handled gap separates the structures so that their individuality is maintained, yet they all have corresponding foundations so that a single and continuous reading of the urban landscape is achieved.
- Transparencies and visual escapes produced by the gap between structures finds focus in the patios distributed among the large street-facing apartments. These patios initiate a smooth transition between public and private areas.

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DETAIL Magazine: Lightweight Construction



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American City: St. Louis Architecture / Robert Sharoff + William Zbaren



When architectural journalist Robert Sharoff and photographer William Zbaren created the series American City, the intention was to celebrate some of the States' most architecturally impressive cities. For their St.

Louis publication, the team has produced a beautiful large format

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© Nicolas Borel

– In slight contrast to the regular rhythm of the buildings, a dynamic ensemble of rooftops tipped with slightly asymmetrical angles house attics for the apartments.

The project flirts with false symmetry and vibrations established by slight variations of a serial logic.

Moreover, the urban dimension earns its place amongst the strong goals of the urban project in [Angers](#):

– A united front is presented from the ground (e.g., from Banchais street). One section settles there, bordering Marguerite Legros street, which in turn crosses the existing block (image 1). Where the street makes two building façades face each other between two breaks, perspectival depth is created along with a connection forged between the two sides of Le Gouz street.

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Towards Zero Energy Architecture



Author: Mary Guzowski

Design: Godfrey Design

ISBN: 978-1-8569-678-4

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Introduction (extract)

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