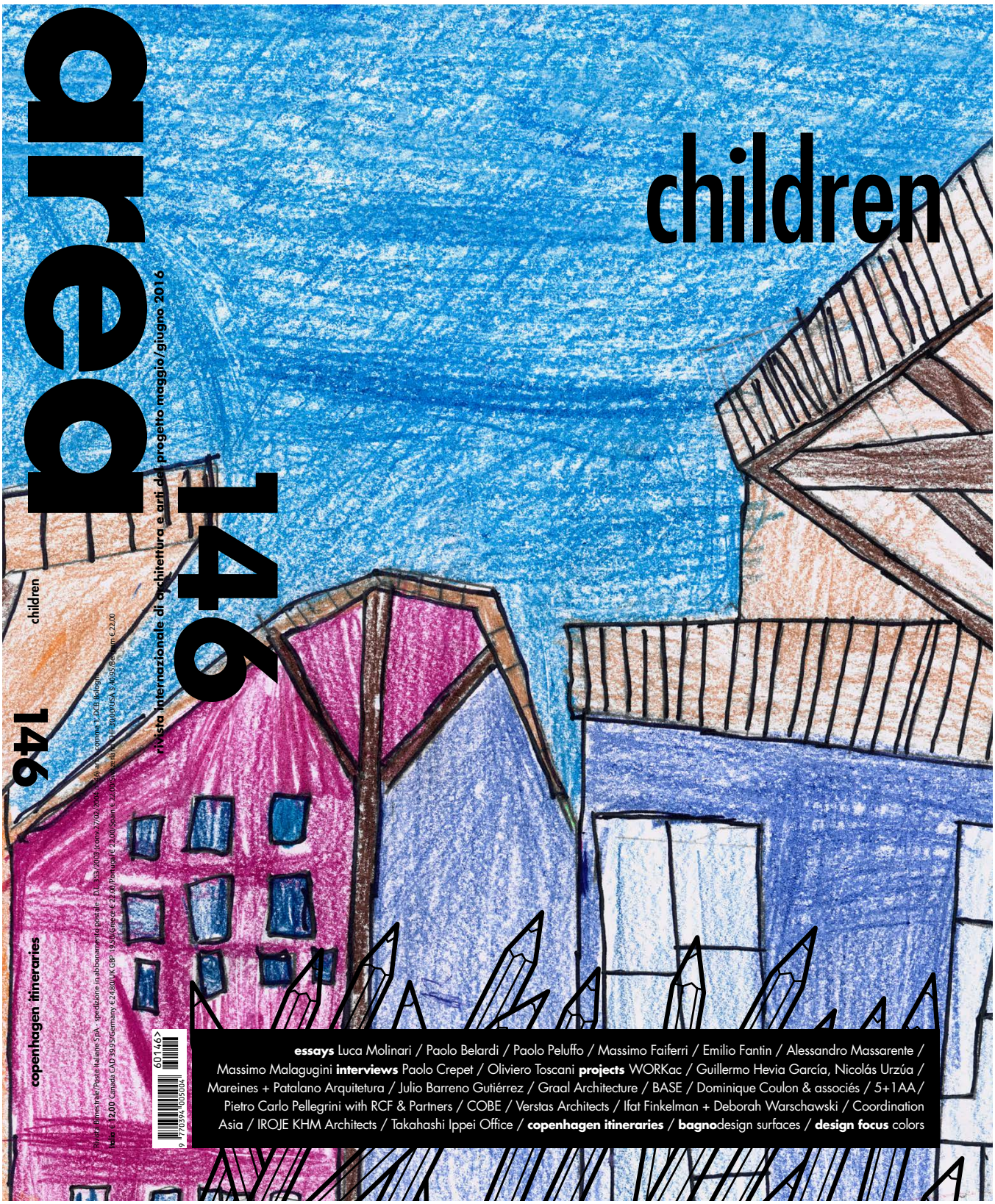

area 146

children

rivista internazionale di architettura e arti del progetto maggio/giugno 2016

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children

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copenhagen itineraries

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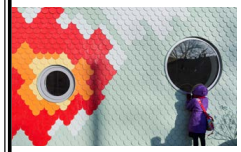

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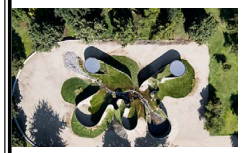

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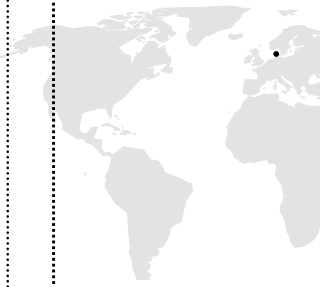

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Nursery

Dominique Coulon & associés

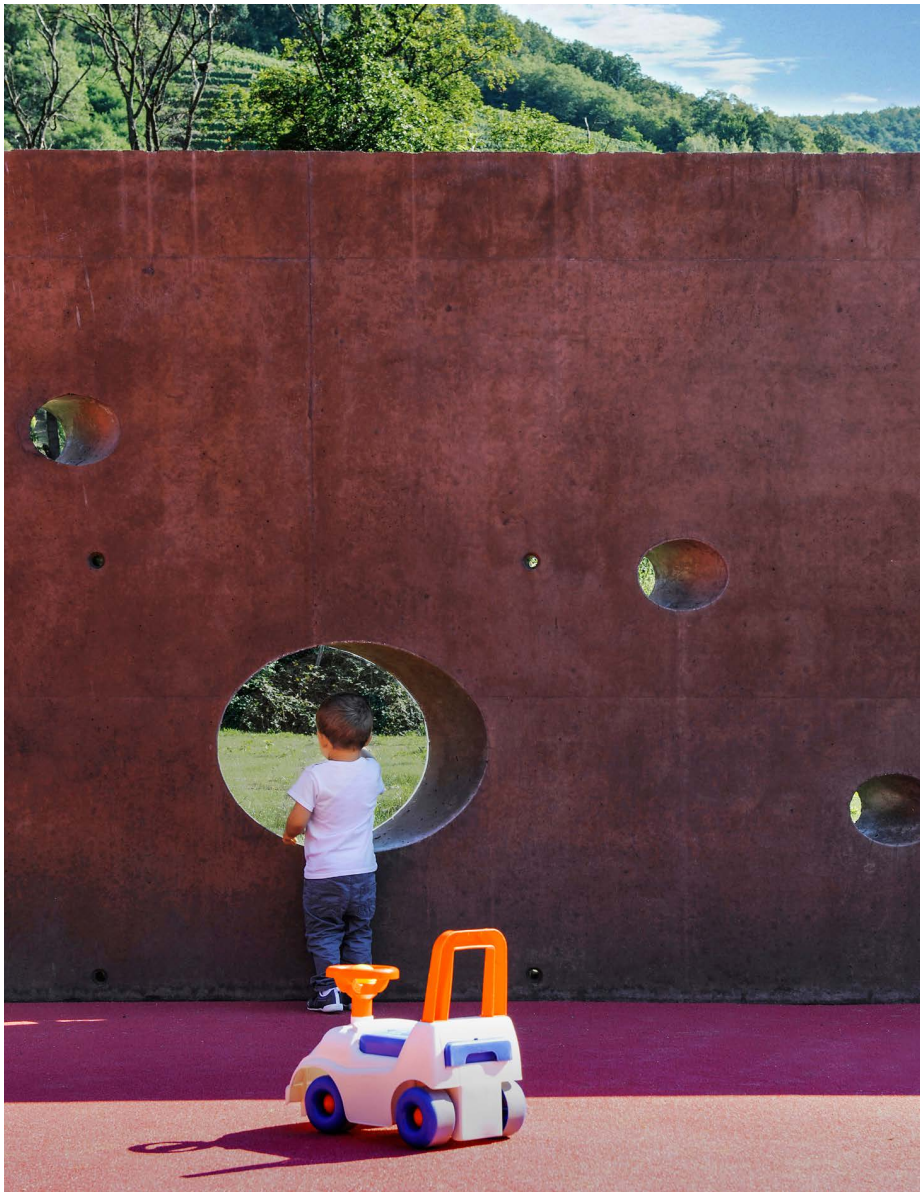
Buhl, France

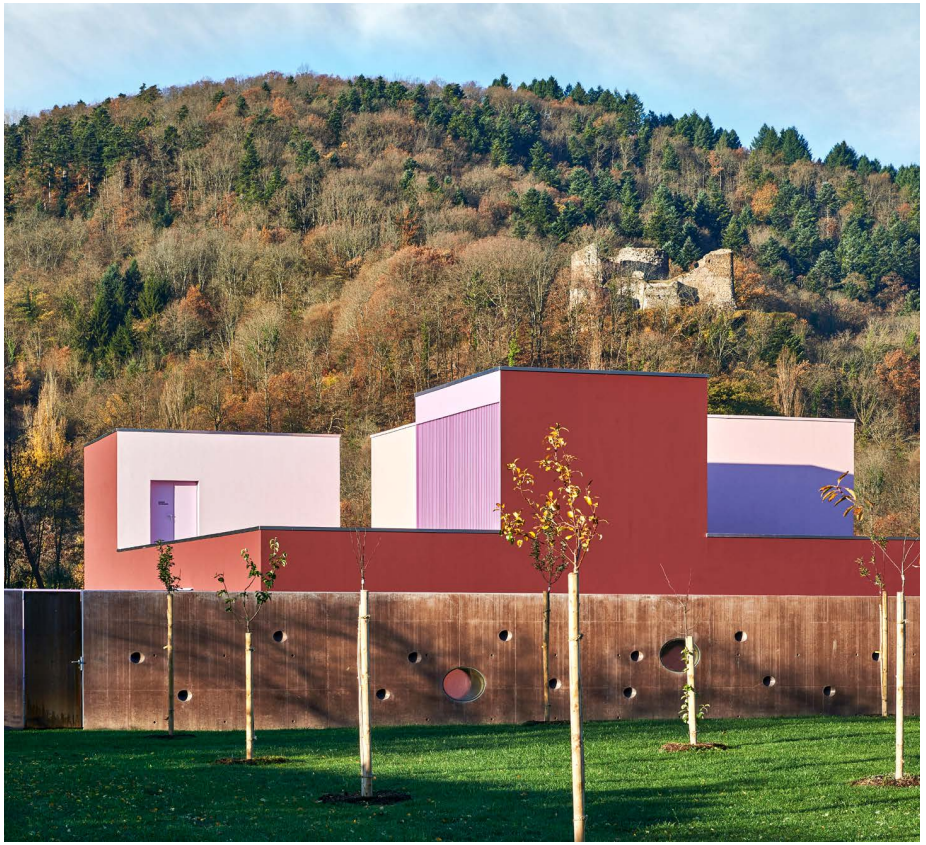
client: CC Région de Guebwiller
architect: Dominique Coulon & associés
architectes: Dominique Coulon, David Romero-Uzeda, Olivier Nicollas
architectes assistants: Javier Gigosos Ruipérez, Diego Bastos-Romero, Gautier Duthoit
construction site supervision: David Romero-Uzeda
structural engineer: Batiserf
electrical engineer: BET G.Jost
mechanical plumbing engineer: Solares Bauen
cost estimator: E3 économie
acoustics: Euro sound project
kitchen expert: Ecotral
landscaping: Philippe Obliger
program: Nursery, Day nursery and Nursery assistants relay for 40 children
location: Buhl, France
area: 763 sqm
budget: 1,700,000 euro
competition: March 2013
completion: June 2015

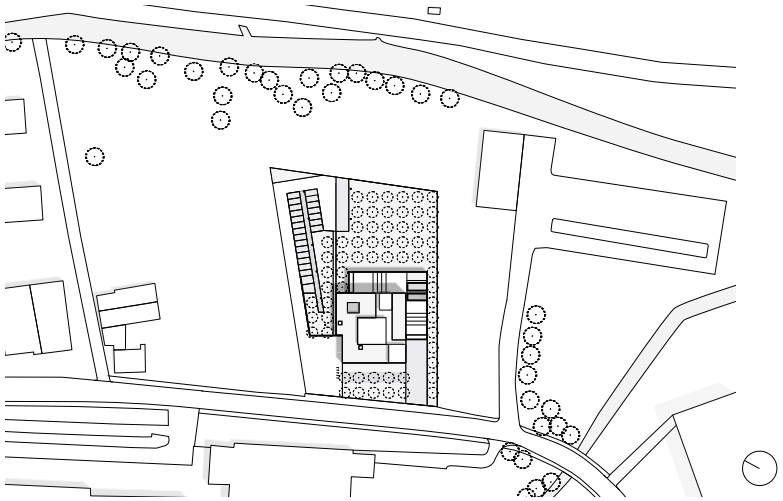
text by Dominique Coulon & associés
photo by Eugeni Pons, David Romero-Uzeda

The building marks the entrance to a small village nestling in a valley in Alsace. A 14th-century castle dominates the site from the nearby hillside. The day nursery echoes the orthonormal geometry of the fortified castle. A perimeter wall with openings like on a castle wall protects the children's playgrounds. This spatial arrangement offers views of the rounded outlines of the Vosges mountains. The principle of the strictly rectangular plan is an arrangement of successive crowns containing the elements of the project. These layers give depth to the project overall. The heart of the building is formed by a central space which emerges at double the height and plays with natural light like a kaleidoscope. This almost cubic volume condenses a host of faces ranging in colour from pink to red. The matte and shiny colours resonate, shaping the space to make it richer and more subtle.

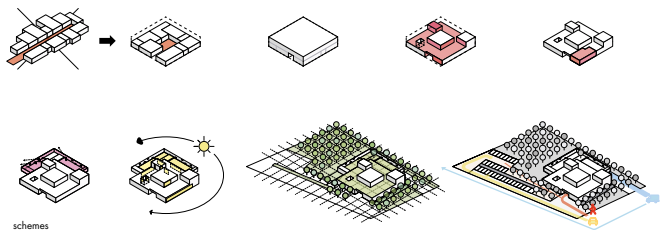
L'edificio segna il punto di accesso a un piccolo paese adagiato in una valle dell'Alsazia. A dominare il sito dalla collina adiacente un castello del quattordicesimo secolo, una struttura fortificata da cui trae ispirazione la pianta ortonormale della nursery. Mura con aperture, proprio come quelle di un castello, proteggono l'area giochi esterna dell'asilo nido. L'orientamento spaziale della struttura consente di godere della vista sulle cime arrotondate dei monti Vosgi. La pianta rettangolare del complesso ha permesso di inserire una serie di volumi più alti, in cui trovano posto i diversi elementi del progetto. La conformazione stratificata conferisce profondità d'insieme. Il nucleo dell'edificio è costituito da uno spazio centrale a doppia altezza che emerge e gioca con la luce naturale come un caleidoscopio. Tale volume, che ha quasi la forma di un cubo, presenta una serie di facciate colorate che vanno dal rosa al rosso; i colori talora opachi, talora brillanti, creano risonanze e danno forma allo spazio, rendendolo più ricco e discreto.



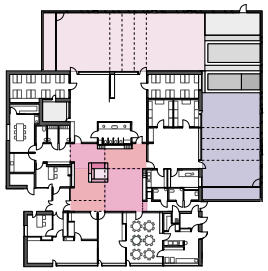




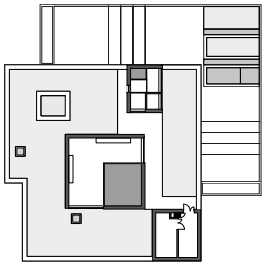
site plan



schemes



ground floor

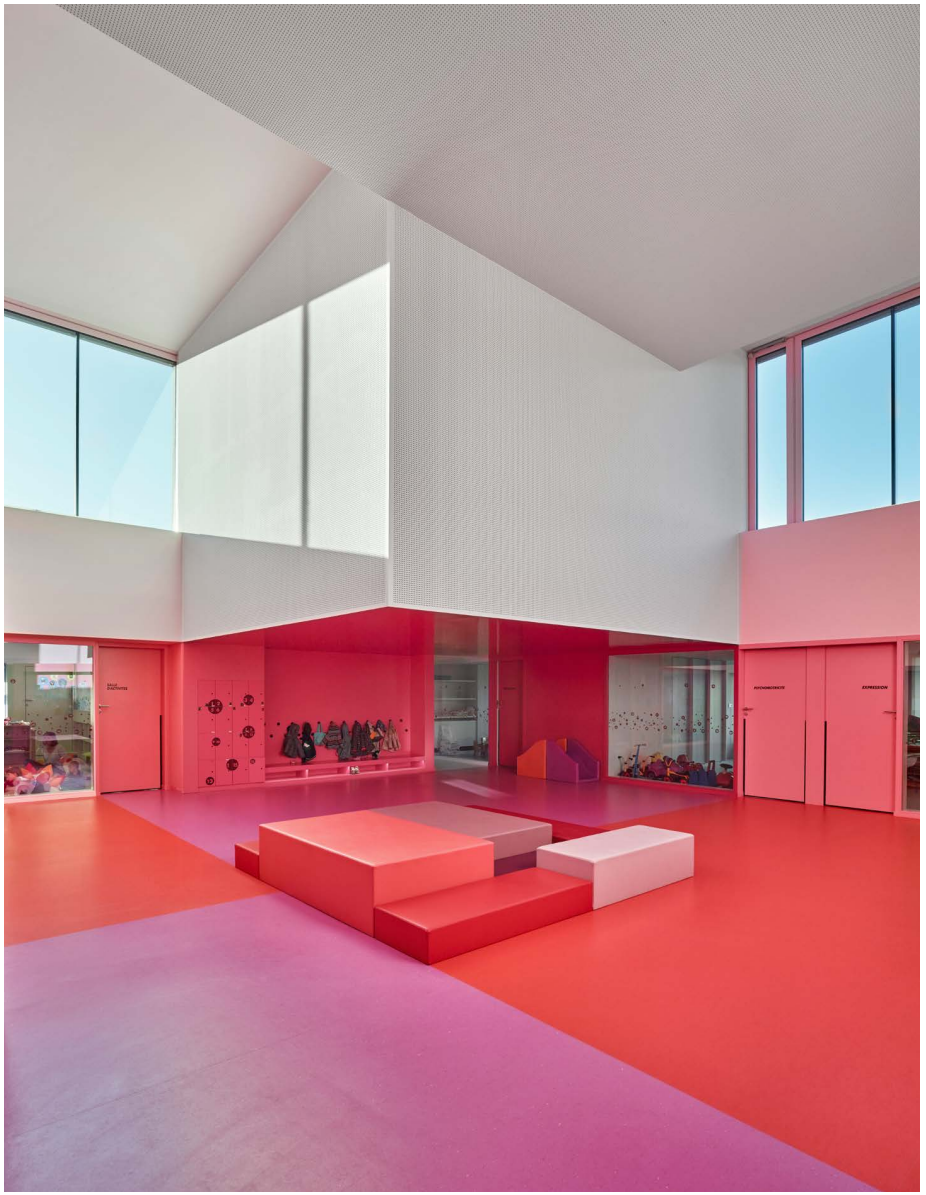


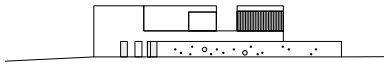
first floor

0 2 5

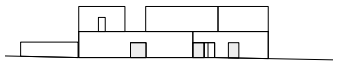
Le molteplici superfici trasparenti, installate tra i diversi strati, permettono di intravedere la reale profondità dell'edificio. I lucernari che emergono dall'intero volume consentono all'abbondante luce naturale di inondare gli interni.
L'edificio si erge, nel paesaggio, come un monolite frammentato in cui il gioco dei pieni e dei vuoti ricorda un castello costruito con i mattoncini Lego. L'architettura è circondata da sessantotto meli che rimandano alla tradizione agricola locale.

The multiple transparencies installed between the different layers give an indication of the depth of the building. There is abundant natural light throughout, captured by skylights emerging from the overall volume.
The building appears in the landscape like a fragmented monolith where the play of solids and hollows is reminiscent of something like a Lego model of a castle. The building is surrounded by sixty-eight apple trees which hark back to the local agricultural landscape.

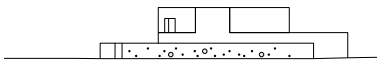




south-east elevation



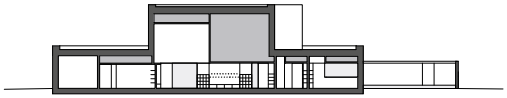
north-west elevation

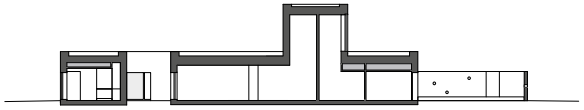


north-east elevation

south-west elevation

0 5 10





sections

0 2 5