

0.0030
BP8 710966 141267

MARK

MARK n° 30
FEBRUARY - MARCH II

— ANOTHER ARCHITECTURE —

ZECC UTRECHT - YASUTAKA YOSHIMURA TOKYO - MORPHOSIS SHANGHAI - CAAU HONG KONG - THOM ANDERSEN LOS ANGELES - RONNIE SELF HOUSTON - MANUELLE GAUTRAND VILLENEUVE D'ASCQ - JR SHANGHAI - HIROSHI NAKAMURA & NAP TOCHIGI - JUNICHI SAMPEI TOKYO
LETTER FROM CAIRO - TAKAYUKI SUZUKI KYOTO - BEAT KARRER ZURICH - NEY + PARTNERS BRUSSELS - SANDER ARCHITECTEN AMSTERDAM

EUROPE €19,95 / UK £ 14 / JAPAN ¥ 3,950 / KOREA 40,000 WON / CANADA \$ 29,50 / USA \$ 19,95 / MARK IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN A DIGITAL FORMAT TRY MARK DIGITAL AT WWW.MARK-MAGAZINE.COM



**'Criticism of modern architecture is an
expression of social conservatism'**

— Thom Andersen —

Kersten + Kopp



Hamburg's latest youth centre is located next to the remarkable concrete sculpture that is the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Church, built by Jo Filke in 1973. The new building, designed by Berlin-based architects Kersten + Kopp, is as sculptural as the church – and, upon closer inspection, reveals itself as an unlikely hybrid.

What is this? A house or sports equipment?

Minka Kersten: It's both. We took the opportunity to put all the facilities requested into, under or onto the building. The house itself becomes 'playable'. So, yes, it can be interpreted as sports equipment.

What can the kids do here?

Everything they could ask for. We have provided areas for activities such as billiards, table soccer, table tennis – even places for reading or just hanging out. Other programmes include a photo studio, a workshop and spaces for bands to practise. A central space stretching over all three floors connects

the diverse facilities and acts as a meeting place. There are two sports fields: one inside and the other outside, beneath the building. One façade features a climbing wall, and another extends from the third floor down towards the street to form a small half-pipe. With the help of some Berlin skating clubs, we developed a ramp that dips slightly, hovering visibly from the upper level of the building.

What about colours and materials?

Our intention was to offer users a variety of spatial experiences while ensuring that orientation throughout the building would be easy. To achieve this goal, we marked different activities and functions with strong, distinctive colours. As for materials, the building has a metal façade, but where we cut into the volume to create external spaces, the otherwise concealed concrete structure is exposed.

www.kersten-kopp.de



Text **Florian Heilmeyer**
Photos **Klemens Ortmeier**

up a house for play

