

1:3:5





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An homage to the innocence of a child

With our own childhood being anything than a distant memory, we came to realise that the way in which children think about a library or a canteen is fundamentally different from that of a grown up. There is no perception of function and purpose; playing, exploring and unfolding in a new world is what matters. It is thus at the heart of this project to stimulate and fulfill those childrens' innocent and intuitive needs.

As a consequence, the only way to achieve this goal is to design a space without a function per se. We avoid direct spatial constraints but leave room to the children to develop a relation with space of their own. Our proposal is a module, simple in shape.

The L-shaped wooden body follows the logic of the traditional chinese 1 : 3 : 5 proportion system. Within an open plan space elements are to be stacked one on top of another, one besides the next, whether in order or in chaos: simplicity giving room for complexity. Each module may be used as a bench as well as a table or a book shelf. Module size and weight allow rearrangement to any particular need, which might well be a small theatre, a fort or a class room. The finishing of the locally grown wood will allow for indoor as well as outdoor use.

Children will see possibilities in those structures that are far beyond our adult imagination.

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