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The Azure Dragon 青色的龙

Among the rich celestial narratives, the Chinese constellation system is a treasure trove of mythological tales. One of the prominent figures in this cosmic saga is the Azure Dragon, known as Qing Long (青龙). This system is deeply rooted in Chinese mythology and is associated with various aspects of traditional Chinese philosophy, culture, and astrology.

在各种各样的天文故事中,中国的星宿系统是神话故事中的瑰宝。青龙是宇宙中的知名形象。星宿在中国神话应用得十分广泛,与中国传统哲学、文化和占星术的各个方面都有关联。

Qing Long represents the East and is often linked with the spring season. The constellation is composed of several stars, and its formation is said to resemble the shape of a dragon. In Chinese mythology, the Azure Dragon is associated with power, strength, and good fortune, making it a popular motif in art, literature, and architecture throughout Chinese history.

青龙代表东方,四季中的春季。据闻,青龙由多颗星星组成,形状酷似龙。在中国神话中,青龙与权力、力量和吉祥有关。因此在中国历史上,青龙是艺术、文学和建筑中最受欢迎的形象。

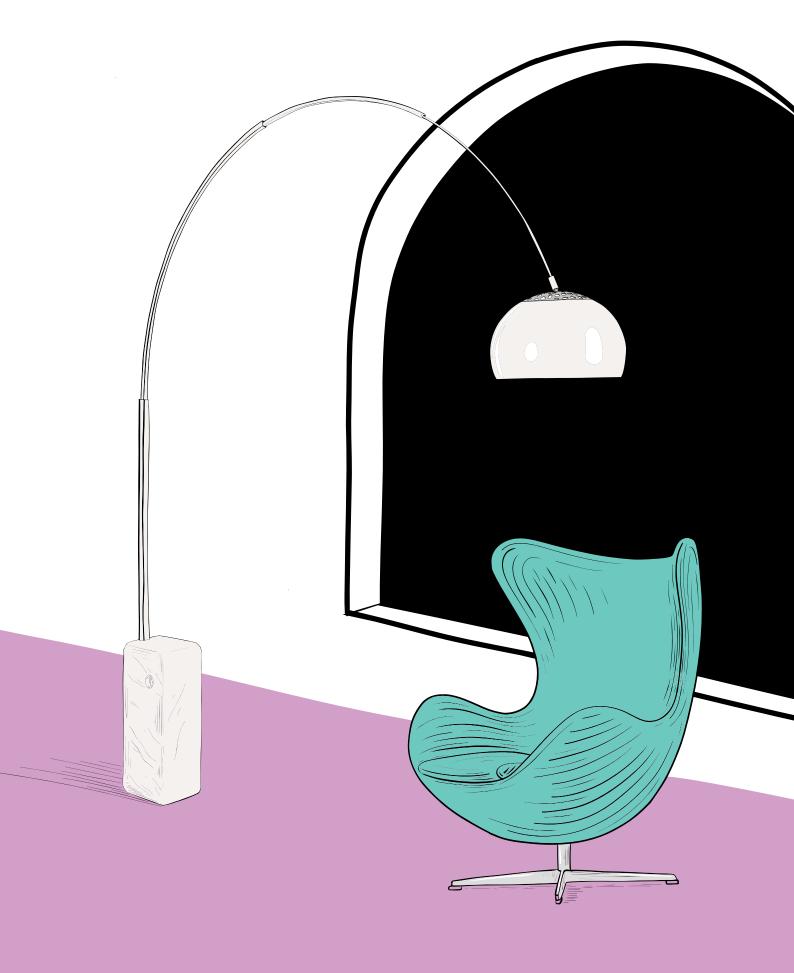
The mythological roots of Qing Long can be traced back to ancient Chinese texts, such as the "Classic of Mountains and Seas" (Shan Hai Jing) and the "Book of Documents" (Shu Jing). According to these texts, the Azure Dragon is one of the Four Symbols that govern different cardinal directions. The constellation played a role in ancient Chinese navigation, agriculture, and timekeeping. It is believed to have the ability to control the water element and is often associated with rain, essential for the prosperity of agriculture; farmers would look to the position of Qing Long to determine the timing of agricultural activities, while sailors would use it as a navigational aid.

中国古代典籍,如《山海经》和《尚书》,记录了青龙的历史渊源。据这些典籍,青龙是掌管不同方位的四象之一。该星宿在中国古代的航海、农业和计时中有重大作用。 人们认为青龙掌管水,尤其是掌管降水,而降雨又决定了农耕收成;农民会根据青龙的位置来确定农耕的时间,而水手则会根据青龙来指引方向。

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青龙通常与东方的守护神联系在一起,据说它保护着中国神话中至高无上的神灵玉皇大 帝的天宫。 因此,在丰富多彩、引人入胜的中国宇宙学中,青龙是上天与人类文明之间 永恒联系的见证。





DESIGN 设计

采访... Matteo Thun

An interview with... Matteo Thun

《丝绸之路》杂志采访了意大利建筑师和设计师、"Matteo Thun & Partners "公司创始人 Matteo Thun。他是孟菲斯集团最伟大的倡导者之一,该集团由Ettore Sottsass创立,活跃于1981年至1987年,并将意大利的优秀作品带到了国外,作品获得了巨大的赞誉和无数奖项。他与我们分享了自己职业生涯中最重要的阶段以及最新作品,包括健康生活和植物建筑。

20 世纪 80 年代,您是孟菲斯的领军人物之一,以打破传统、风格大胆而著称;这是一个挑战传统规范的团队,为重新定义设计标准铺路。这段经历给您留下了怎样的个人财富,又是如何体现在您后来的作品中?

这是一段充实而紧张的经历。与埃托·索特萨斯(Ettore Sottsass)共事以及成为孟菲斯一员教会我最重要的一

The Silk Road met Matteo Thun, Italian architect and designer and founder of "Matteo Thun & Partners". He has been one of the greatest exponents of the Memphis group, founded by with Ettore Sottsass and active between 1981 and 1987, and has brought Italian excellence abroad, receiving for his works great acclaim and numerous awards. He shared with us the most important phases of his career and his latest works, through healthy living and botanical architecture.

In the 1980s, you were one of the leading figures in the Memphis Group, known for its break from traditional conventions and bold style; a collective that challenged traditional norms, paving the way for the redefinition of design standards. What personal legacy did this experience leave you, and how did it reflect in your subsequent works?

It was a full and intense experience. The most important thing that working with Ettore Sottsass





件事,就是在接触新项目时,要始终超越事物的表面,不断寻找更好的解决方案。

从您职业生涯一开始,您项目的重点之一就是"健康生活",创造优先考虑居住者福祉和健康的生活空间。建筑能确保人类与环境"幸福共存"的主要方式是什么?

健康的建筑和室内设计对于促进身心健康非常重要。当然,学会如何与自然和谐共处,而不违背自然,也是至关重要的。自然是我们工作中不可或缺的一部分,通常称之为"植物建筑"。我们努力将天然材料和触感尽可能多地融入我们的项目中。

关于可持续建筑,您是真正的先驱,是最早意识到可持续发展将成为最重要问题的人之一。是什么促使您从一开始就采用"绿色"方法?在环保问题变得如此紧迫之前,您在这方面遇到过什么挑战吗?

相比混凝土,我一直更喜欢木材。木材是一种可再生材料,触感好,比混凝土更能促进健康。20世纪90年代初,我为一座零能耗住宅设计了一套模块化木材和玻璃

and being part of the Memphis Group taught me, is to always look beyond the surface of things and continually search for better solutions when approaching to new projects.

From the very beginning of your career, one of the main focuses of your projects has been "healthy living," creating living spaces that prioritize the wellbeing and health of occupants. What are the main ways in which architecture can ensure a "happy coexistence" between humans and the environment?

Healthy architecture and interior design are important to stimulate physical and mental wellbeing.

It is certainly essential to learn how to work with nature and not against it .Nature is an integral part of our work, which we often refer to as "botanical architecture." We strive to integrate natural materials and tactility as much as possible in our projects.

Regarding sustainable architecture, you were a true pioneer, one of the first to realize that sustainability would become a matter of utmost importance. What inspired you from the beginning to embrace a "green" approach? Did you face any challenges in this regard before the issue became so urgent?

I have always preferred wood over concrete. Wood is a renewable material, tactile, and promotes wellness in a better way than concrete. In the early 1990s, I designed a modular wood

系统,并取得了巨大成功。我相信木材是21世纪的建筑材料,对我来说,它是应对我们不断面临挑战的答案。

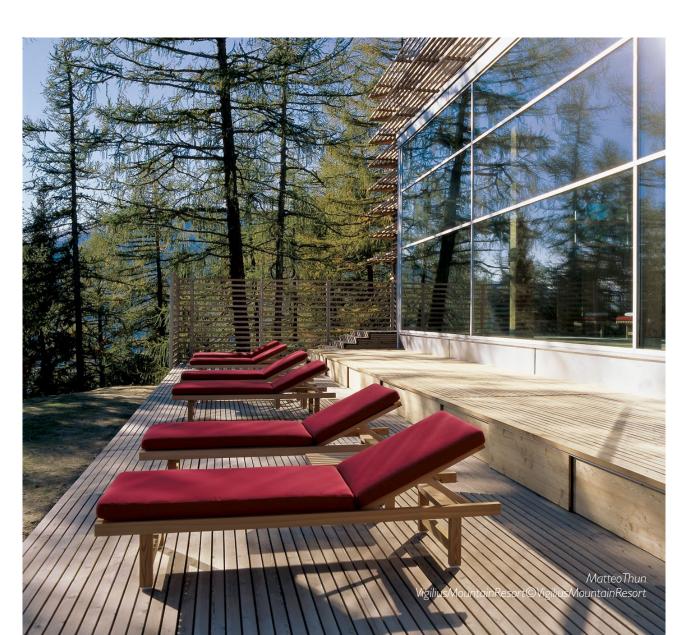
在 Matteo Thun & Partners 的项目中,例如南蒂罗尔的 Vigilius Mountain Resort (这是空间与健康关系的开创性项目,也是意大利第一家获得 CasaClima A 级认证的酒店),我们可以看到使用了木材和石材等材料。如何在建筑中更好地利用这些材料?使用天然材料的主要优缺点(如果有的话)是什么?

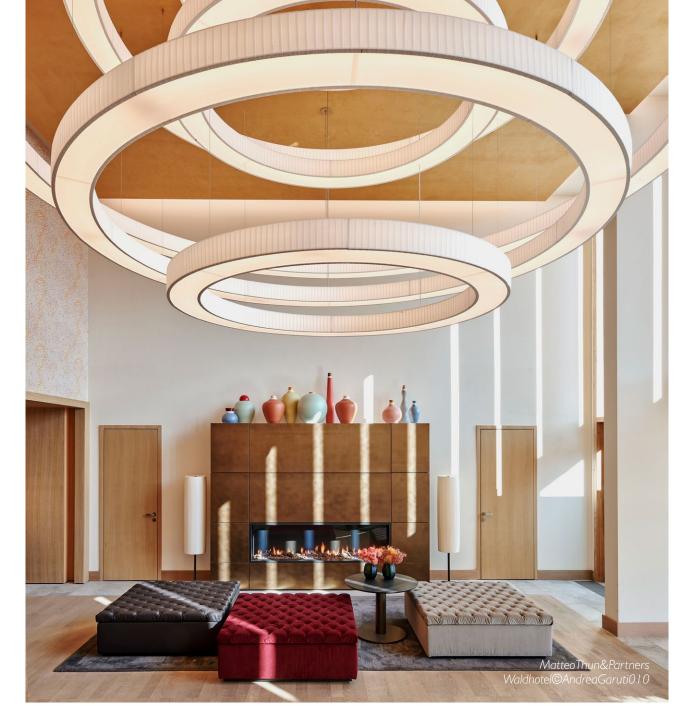
没有缺点!相反,在建筑和室内设计项目中使用天然材料可以实现人类生活与自然世界、外部与内部之间的对话。预制木材作为建筑材料,是全球建筑项目的另一个重要方面。它降低了成本,减少了复杂程度,缩短了施工时间。与技术创新一起,带来了更好的能源来源和更少的浪费:通过这种方式,我们可以通过地热、太阳光、雨水和从水中提取的能源提供一个能源矩阵。

and glass system for a zeroenergy house, which was a great success. I believe wood is the building material of the 21st century, for me is the answer to our recurring challenges.

In projects by Matteo Thun & Partners, such as the Vigilius Mountain Resort in South Tyrol (a pioneering project in the relationship between space and wellbeing and the first Italian hotel to obtain CasaClima Class A certification), we find the use of materials like wood and stone. How can these materials be best utilized in architecture? What are the main advantages and disadvantages (if there are any) of using natural materials?

There are no disadvantages! On the contrary, using natural materials in architecture and interior design projects allows for a dialogue between human life and the natural world, between the outside and the inside. Another important aspect for architectural projects worldwide is prefabricated wood as a construction material. It reduces costs, complexity, and construction times. Together with technical innovation, it leads to better energy sources and less waste: in this way, we can provide an energy matrix through geothermal, solar rays, rainwater, and energy derived from water.





瓦尔德酒店建在瑞士的中心地带,是健康与医疗领域的杰出项目:这是一种独特的形式,其中健康与旅游完美地共生。您能否向我们介绍一下这项工程,特别是项目的目标是什么,如何实现的?

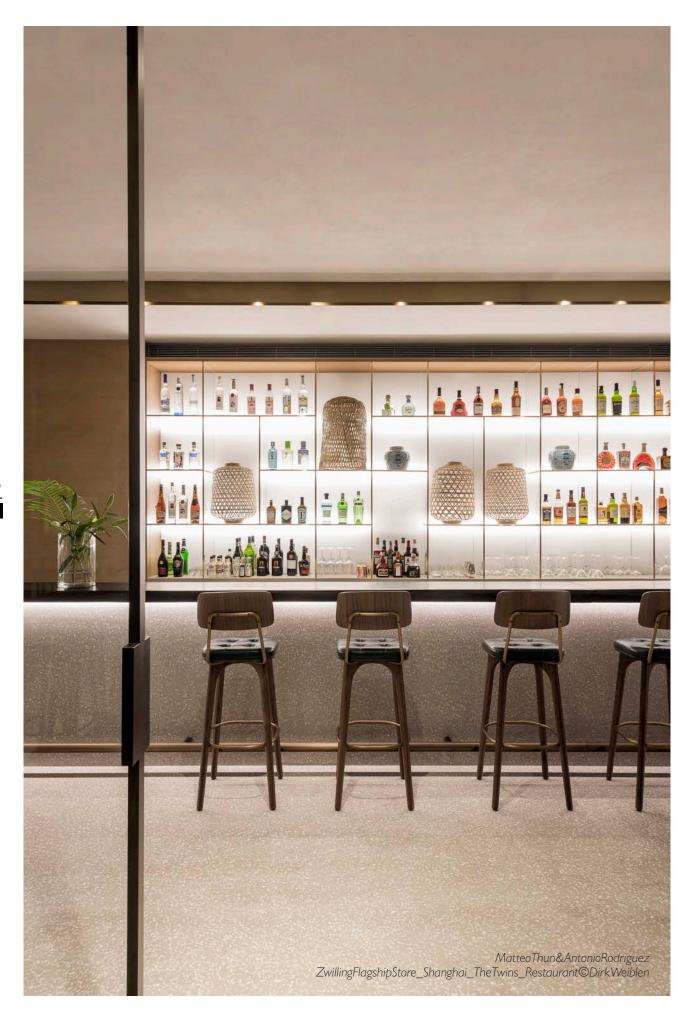
投资方/客户的要求是打造一个创新的(酒店)综合体,在自然和原始的环境中提供优质的保健服务和医疗服务。客人们来到瓦尔德酒店进行康复和医疗治疗,如控制体重、美容和抗衰老,同时他们希望享受大自然和健康的生活方式。

我们想要建筑能反映出精神场所的特点:周围环境的原始特征。因此,我们决定只使用天然材料,并用石笼塑造外墙,石笼里装满了直接从比尔根山山壁挖掘的石块。

The Waldhotel, built in the heart of Switzerland, is an outstanding project in the Health & Medical sector: a unique format in which wellbeing and tourism are in perfect symbiosis. Can you tell us something about this work, particularly what the project's objectives were and how they were achieved?

The investors/clients' brief was to create an innovative complex (of hotels) that could offer excellent wellness services as well as medical care in a natural and pristine location. Guests come to the Waldhotel for rehabilitation and medical treatments such as weight control, beauty, and antiaging, and they want to enjoy both nature and a healthy lifestyle.

We wanted the building to reflect the Genius Loci: the pristine character of the surrounding environment. That's why we decided to use only natural materials and shape the facades with gabions filled with stones we sourced directly





这样做的结果是,周围的墙壁保留了原有的石材,而平整、绿色和自然隔热的屋顶则与景观完美融合。外部结构使用了当地的落叶松木材,提供了一个遮阳系统,保护宽敞的阳台和露台不受任何天气条件的影响。 这就是建筑中的健康。

除了米兰, Matteo Thun & Partners 还在上海设有办事处。在您看来, 中国经济的崛起及其日益增长的全球市场重要性与设计界有何关联和影响?

中国建筑师在国内外的重要性与日俱增。在限制建造过高的建筑之后,新一代建筑师正在为塑造自己的特色做出贡献,从而创造出越来越多的可持续发展和具有文化敏感性的建筑和景观设计。这确实是向前迈出的重要一步!

from excavations in the Bürgenstock mountain wall.

The result is a synthesis as the surrounding walls retain the original stone, while the flat, green, and naturally insulated roof allows for perfect integration into the landscape. Local larch wood was used for the external structure, providing a shading system and protecting spacious balconies and terraces from all weather conditions.

This is wellness through architecture.

In addition to Milan, Matteo Thun & Partners also has an office in Shanghai. In your opinion, how do China's economic rise and its growing global market importance relate to and influence the world of design?

Chinese architects are gaining increasing importance both in China and abroad. After restrictions on building excessively tall structures, a new generation of architects is contributing to shaping their own identity, leading to the construction of increasingly sustainable and culturally sensitive buildings and landscape designs. This is truly a significant step forward!

THE SILK ROAD MAGAZINE

Matteo Thun is a renowned Italian architect and designer. He studied at the Academy of Salzburg with Oskar Kokoschka and graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence. His career has spanned a wide range of projects, from architecture to industrial design, with a particular focus on sustainability and ecological approaches. Thun is known for his ability to seamlessly blend form and function, creating works that reflect his distinctive vision and commitment to responsible design. His studio "Matteo Thun & Partners" operates internationally and develops Hospitality, Residential, Headquarters, Retail, Urban Design and Master Planning projects.

Matteo Thun是意大利著名的建筑师和设计师。他曾在萨尔茨堡学院师从 Oskar Kokoschka, 毕业于佛罗伦萨美术学院。他的职业生涯涵盖了从建筑到工业设计的众多项目, 尤其注重可持续发展和生态方法。图恩以其将形式与功能完美融合的能力而闻名, 他的作品反映了他独特的视野和对负责任设计的承诺。他的工作室"Matteo Thun & Partners"在全球运营, 开发酒店、住宅、总部、零售、城市设计和总体规划项目。

