

ELLE DECOR GRAND HOTEL, *DESIGN THERAPY*  
MATTEO THUN & PARTNERS

October 4 to 20, 2019 / Free entrance  
Palazzo Morando, Via Sant'Andrea, 6 - 20121 Milan

Matteo Thun & Partners presents a holistic vision of the hotel of tomorrow, interpreting a new direction being taken in the hospitality industry. Design Therapy for the 2019 edition of the Elle Decor Grand Hotel held at the Palazzo Morando, Milan focuses on the physical and mental wellness of guests, in which nature takes on a decisive role. A dynamic, multisensorial journey towards the hospitality of the future.

Project by Matteo Thun & Partners  
Landscape design Marco Bay  
Stylist Simona Silenzi  
Nutrition advisor Nicola Sorrentino



Elle Decor Design Therapy, Déjeuner sur l'herbe - Restaurant © Marco Bertolini



*Design Therapy* – A path through the senses

As highlighted by Matteo Thun and partner Antonio Rodriguez, the Latin word “hospes” means “guest”. Design Therapy aims to merge the aesthetics of hospitality with that of healthcare emphasising the relationship between physical space and wellbeing and assigning a leading role to nature, guests and people. Design Therapy proposes a natural surrounding, generating neurological and physiological benefits. The project shows neither a hospital nor a hotel, but the result of the symbiosis between healthcare and tourism, which future structures will have to take into account.

Built 15 years ago, the Vigilius Mountain Resort is the pioneering project of Matteo Thun & Partners and marks the starting point of a hotel concept that places nature and a holistic approach to hospitality at the center of attention. Focus is the place in its physical context, the architecture and the rituals that are consumed. Design Therapy seeks to unite nature and naturalness, freshness, the stimulation of the senses, nutritional aspects as well as local and regional craftsmanship. The installation shows the strength of simplistic design and a tangible, preventive hospitality vision in which the power of nature plays a significant role.



Elle Decor Design Therapy, Golden Gallery - Lounge © Marco Bertolini

*Design Therapy - Therapy journey*

It's a path through the senses. Starting in the courtyard that is home to the Garden Bar and the Outdoor Lounge the visitor experience a relaxing space within fine greenery. The Goldengreen Gallery welcomes the guest with grasses and a golden colour palette - a space to enjoy healthy drinks or to read.

The journey takes the visitor to grassland: the Déjeuner sur l'herbe restaurant. Feeding on nature and with nature is the basic concept behind the restaurant with an open kitchen overlooking the indoor Hortus. While dining under trees the eyes are led to the outside area where furniture made from natural materials invite to relax or to playfully sway.

A corridor leads to the area devoted to curative body care, focused on wellbeing, balance and activity. It's just about ease. Soft and reflective glass, porcelain stoneware with marble effect for the Hamam – its the interior is filled with purifying sunlight. The sauna with large sliding wooden doors ensures privacy, calmness and openness at once.



Elle Decor Design Therapy, Sauna - Body Care © Marco Bertolini



Physical exercises in a natural setting and led by personal trainers, grant an active healthy body. The Gym, or the sports room with no technology but equipment reminiscent of the gyms of yesterday (rings, wall bars, weights) provides a natural total body workout that mediates playfulness, joy and healthiness.

The path leads to the bedroom, the Finestra sul bosco suite, grouped by a wooden top-to-floor structure and surrounded by 'boiserie'. Simplicity, calmness and a neutral colour palette rule its layout and alignment. The ensuing bathroom is all about self-care in muted warm colours.

No experience without scents. A wooden walkway leads over a pond and brings in nature and its flavour.



Elle Decor Design Therapy, Active Body - Gym © Marco Bertolini