

# AJ SPECIFICATION

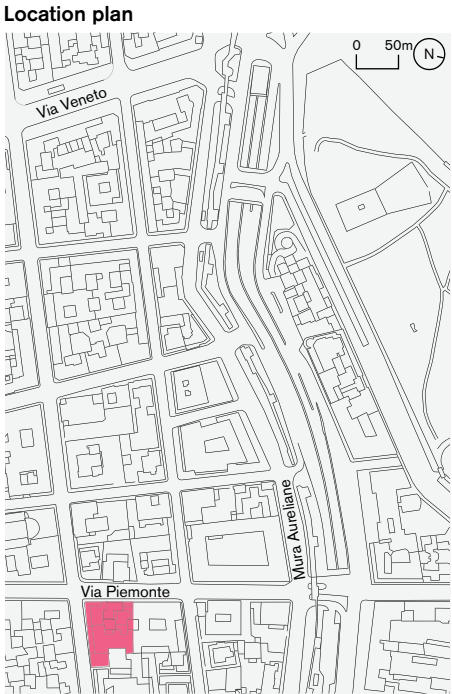


## LIGHTING

David Hughes and Hoare Lea:  
illuminating playhouses  
PLUS a Roman theatre of light



HOUSE OF  
DUST, ROME  
ANTONINO  
CARDILLO  
ARCHITECT



**Top left** Kitchen roof: at night, the rough plaster on the upper walls and ceilings is emphasised by an Egyptian light  
**Top right** Living, entrance and kitchen. Arched doorways conceal rooms and cupboards  
**Right** The golden ratio divides the sides of the living room

**Photography by**  
Antonino Cardillo

Using Classical proportions and architectural elements, on a conceptual level this house is a celebration of dust. The proportions of the living room are governed by the golden ratio. A light grey base supports a ceiling of rustic plaster, the colour of bare earth. My inspirations were primordial caverns, Renaissance grottos, the nympheae of Rome’s Villa Doria Pamphilj and the faintly Liberty facades in the streets off the Via Veneto.

The spaces of the House of Dust form a balanced sequence of compressions and dilations. On the walls, passages and windows appear, now dug out of the base, now like the textured surfaces of baguettes. A series of arches, abstracted memories of Trecento Italian painting, disguise doors and cupboards. Among these, one studded with a pink glass doorknob introduces intimate rooms, which are distinguished by the palest pink on the walls which evokes dawns and flowers, the colour of beauty, the colour of beauty that dies.

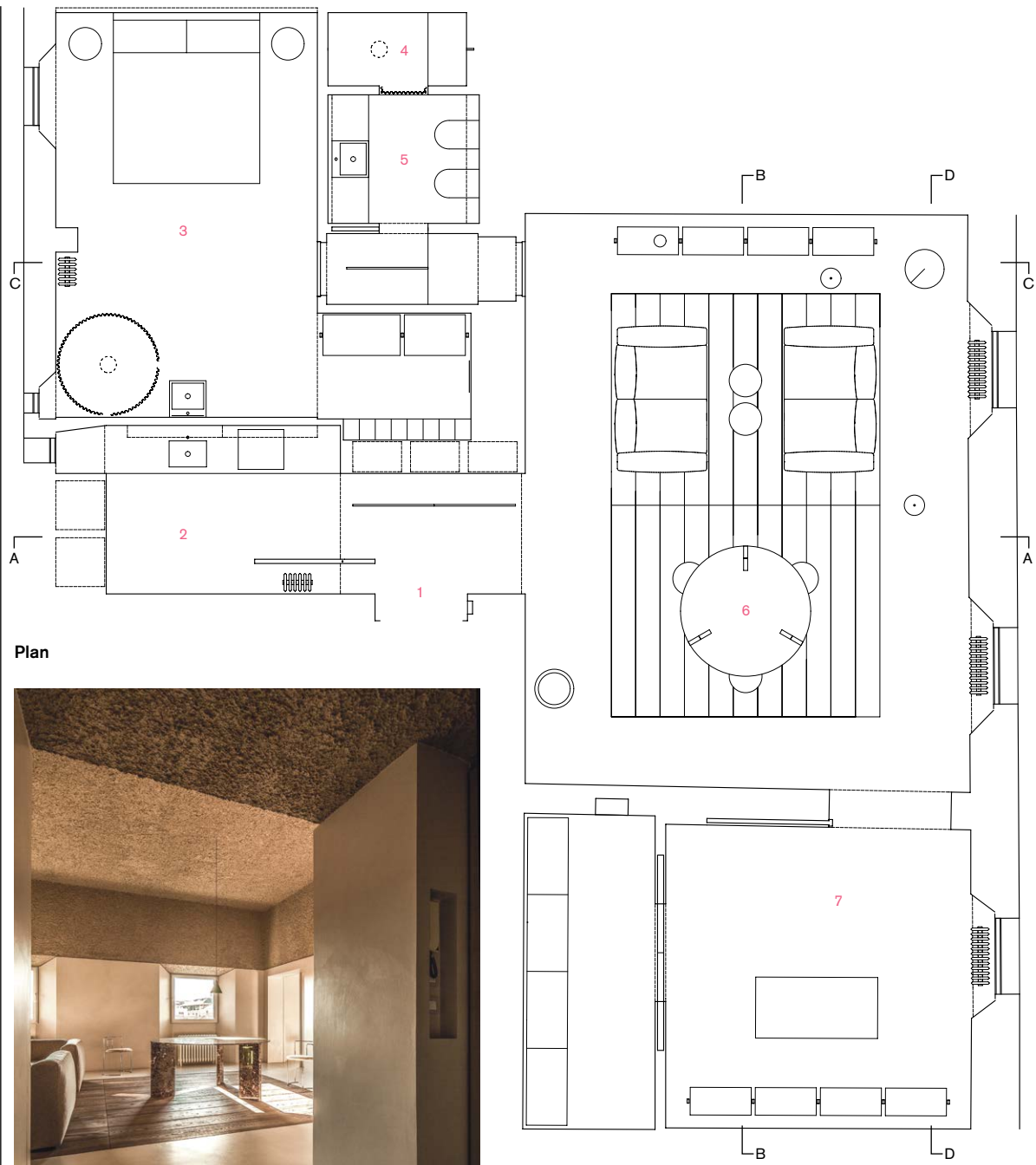
Someone has observed that my spaces impose silence and others that my houses look like bunkers, inside which light separates and dilates architectural components. In a way, light permeates a building just as air does our bodies and I could say that architecture inhales light. Architecture is the interpretation of light, which it mediates. If music is sound, architecture is light and a building is not the outcome but the instrument that creates it. And if light is the raw material of architecture, reverberation, as in music, measures its distances. Light, when it encounters a solid material changing its nature and form, reverberates on other surfaces in a game of divisions until it decays into darkness. But not all buildings ‘listen’ to the light: only opaque material is pushed into that iridescent web that we call architecture.

*Antonino Cardillo, architect*

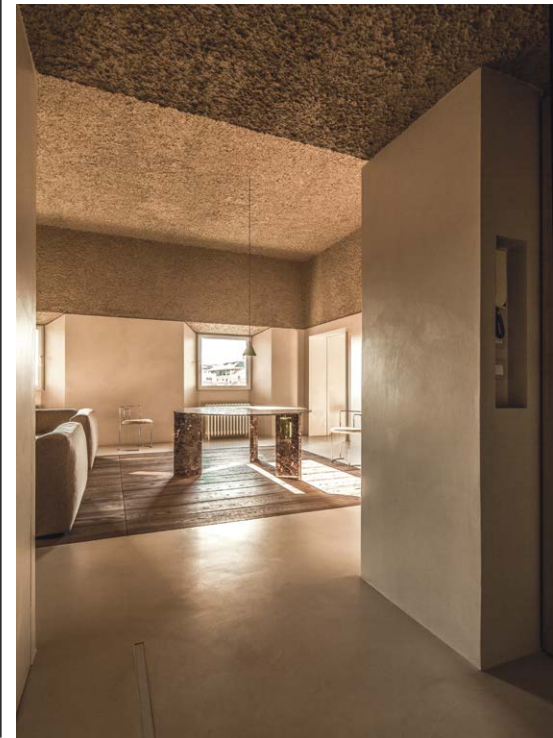


Specified products
<b>Lighting</b>
Simes, Linea Continua
<a href="http://www.simes.it">www.simes.it</a>
<b>Windows</b>
Schüco, AWS 75 BS HI
<a href="http://www.schueco.com">www.schueco.com</a>
<b>Cement flooring/paving</b>
Kerakoll
Cementoresina
<a href="http://www.kerakoll.com">www.kerakoll.com</a>
<b>Parquet flooring/paving</b>
Mardegan, Grey Castle
<a href="http://www.mardeganlegno.com">www.mardeganlegno.com</a>
<b>Doors</b>
L’Invisible
<a href="http://www.linvisibile.it">www.linvisibile.it</a>
<b>Marble/stone</b>
Ghirardi
<a href="http://www.ghirardi.it">www.ghirardi.it</a>
<b>Lamps</b>
Lumieres
<b>Bookshelf</b>
Rimadesio, Zenit
<a href="http://www.rimadesio.it">www.rimadesio.it</a>
<b>Sofas</b>
Cassina, Mexcube
<a href="http://www.cassina.com">www.cassina.com</a>
<b>Chairs</b>
Simone Gavina, Gaja
<a href="http://www.simoncollezione.com">www.simoncollezione.com</a>
<b>Marble and lacquered tables</b>
Antonino Cardillo, Triumviro
<a href="http://www.antoninocardillo.com">www.antoninocardillo.com</a>
<b>Project data</b>
<b>Start on site</b> October 2012
<b>Completion</b> March 2013
<b>Gross internal floor area</b> 100m²
<b>Construction cost</b> €150,000 (£126,627), including furniture
<b>Construction cost per m²</b> € 1,500/m² (£1,266), including furniture
<b>Architect and project manager</b> Antonino Cardillo
<b>Client</b> Massimiliano Beffa

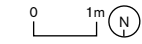
- 1. Entrance
- 2. Kitchen
- 3. Master bedroom
- 4. Shower
- 5. Bathroom
- 6. Dining area
- 7. Living area



Plan



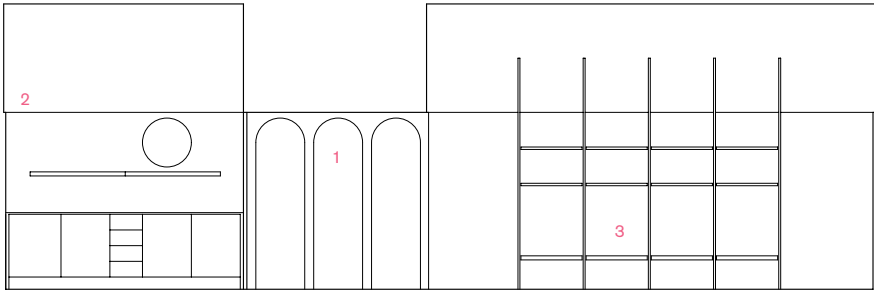
Right Entrance,  
leading to area with  
translucent table



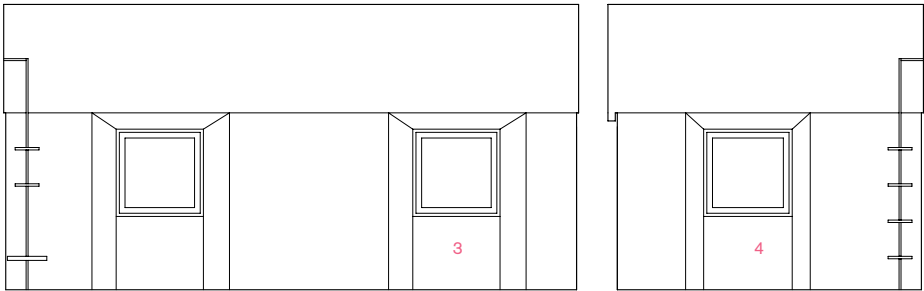


Right Bedroom  
painted pale pink

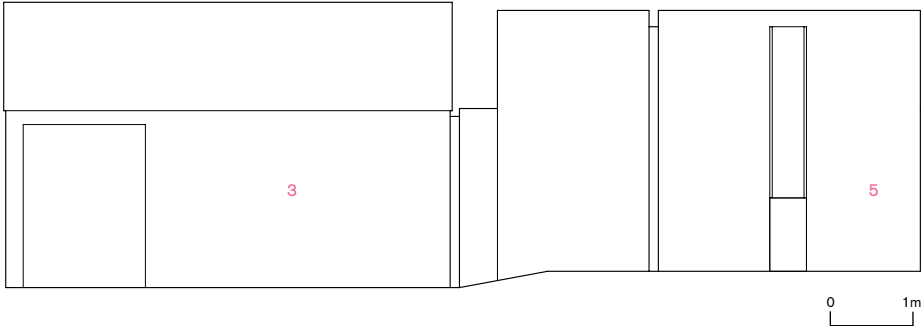
Section A-A



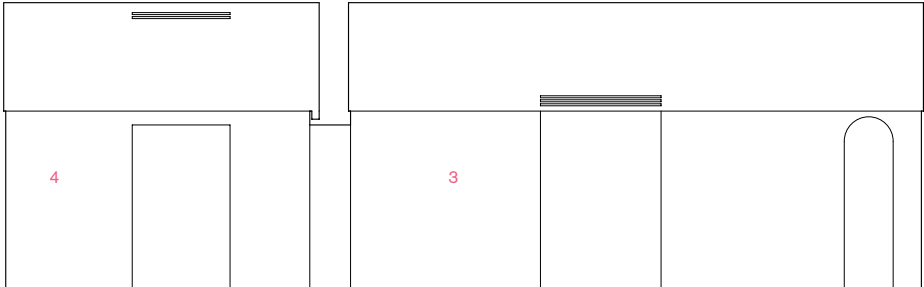
Section B-B



Section C-C



Section D-D



- 1. Entrance
- 2. Kitchen
- 3. Dining area
- 4. Living area
- 5. Master bedroom



The spaces form a  
sequence of compressions  
and dilations