



Filipe Saraiva Arquitectos, lda.
House in Melroeira
 Ourém, Portugal | 2016

Architects: Filipe Saraiva Arquitectos, lda.
Client: Mr. Mendes
General Contractor: Egipson, Architecture Portugal
Photographers: Jan Nuygen

The house is located on a slope of land in Ourém (characterized by its rectangular configuration, with a sloping side in the south, adjacent next to the public road). The difference in height between the highest part and the lowest part is approximately 1.50m. It is a terminal unit in a house comprising two units and belonging to the Catalogue of Ourém, being made and according to the Catalogue of Ourém.

When we talk about architecture in the world to draw a house, all of them inevitably proceed with a simple representation consisting of two lines, a rectangle and two squares. The program comprises the floor level, the walls and the roof.

The challenge is meant to represent the door and the volume. The volume, regardless of the culture, the architectural relations of each point, or the most common concept of accommodation that that place is about, all of the houses have characteristics that are the same: to stand out of all. Because we all feel that the house is not a shelter that protects us from the world but a world in itself.

It is our safe haven and our own world.

Project Description:

The program assumes the same design, as to volume, the module composition, geometry, creating a regular geometry, generally well proportioned and well balanced dimensions, with which we identify.

The project consists of a house of one, for me and my family and intends to meet our functional needs, but also to study a range of architectural requirements that are part of my home and spatial imaginary, resulting from my individual and living experience.

After the process of identifying the site and acquiring the land, the development of the project became a natural process where the professionals and members began to give meaning to the drawing.

From then on, the drawing started to gain a consistent form.

This form has become the concept of this project with which I intend to be. Throughout its development, the most current possible, being not to depart from the groups.

The use of black concrete as a material with a smooth integration in harmony with the landscape, as well as reduce maintenance costs.

The constructive method adopted consists in the use of prefabricated black concrete panels, with a double dimension, that defines the geometry of the house, which is a composition of advanced modules in a regular sequence.

In formal terms, the house results in a series of perfectly regular volumes, arranged horizontally, and sits on the ground, in the longitudinal direction of its inclination, in an intermediate point between the street.

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