

Summer house in Protaras

Utilizing the architectural infrastructure of a summer house, the interior architect/designer Elena Karoula created a unique summer residence on a sandy beach of Cyprus with a view to the Mediterranean sea.

Fixed volumes, shaped almost in archetypal formations, unify four levels and travel the visitor to different views of the surrounding natural environment depending on the observer's level. The main entrance, living, dining, kitchen, and cloakroom are at the ground level, forming the meeting area of the residence without threatening the privacy of the owners. The boundaries of interior/ exterior space transform, depending on the positioning of the movable glass dividers. The building resembles a tower with a base made of a transparent unified space, which is connected to the element of the water used in the garden, as in the old villages of the island where water was flowing inside open ducts, cooling and pleasing the passersby and the inhabitants. In a similar way, an open water flow starts at the backyard of the residence and flows to the front veranda, which has an unobstructed view of the sea, bringing the residence in a direct relation with the blue of the Mediterranean sea. The four levels are united by the interior staircase, which is characterized by transparency and in association with the black metal fireplace chimney complete the integration of all levels ending at the roof garden.

At the first and lower levels, bedroom suites are refuge places from the summer heat. Thus, depending of the time of the day and the position of the sun, each space of the residence can be transformed into a cool refuge, with the sea as a background. Natural materials dominate both the interior and exterior spaces.

Location
Protaras, Cyprus

Composition
1 building, 5 bedrooms

Design company
Elenakarouladesign.architecture

Photography
Nikos Alexopoulos

