

hinge

ARCHITECTURE
INTERIOR DESIGN

Shou County Culture and Art Center

TFD Hong Kong

A Work of Substance

Bodo Town Hall

www.hinge.hk

ISSN 1561-781-5



9 771561 781004

HK\$80
RMB80
US\$11



**K11 MUSEA B2 LEVEL,
HONG KONG, CHINA**
Stefano Tordiglione Design

Photography by Nicola Longobardi

This latest entry to the city's shopping mall landscape takes over a basement level, so with no natural daylight, the space has been transformed into a combination greenhouse/industrial-loft den, with black metal screens near living walls of plants, wild floor tile patterns and nightclub-worthy restrooms. The vibe is sort of grotto-chic, as if you're not quite supposed to be here, but someone snuck you in anyway. The shopfronts are particularly innovative, at least for standard mall conventions; sliding metal-framed doors heavy with mullions, and smallish brand signage. There are also contemporary artpieces in the public spots, and of course a generous foodcourt area, which continues the palette of materials and tones. This Instagram-ready new member of the mega-list of retail offerings stakes out its own aesthetic turf. And maybe that's what will make the difference between brands that fail and those that survive: a design angle all its own.



**INTERTWINE HOUSE
HOUHEILONGMIAO VILLAGE,
BEIJING, CHINA**
Wonder Architects

Photography by ZHU Yumeng

A little oddity of a building, as challenging to navigate in plan as it is to climb around in reality, (making it irresistible to children or playful adults). It mixes materials as if they were paint colours thrown onto a drip-sheet. It attacks section like a ninja, and carves solids into voids like a butcher. Most obviously, it splashes upon the low-rise context of its village neighbourhood with élan.

The project splits the building into three half-levels rising about a linear core that culminates in a roof terrace - the "intertwine" of the namesake. Part of the scheme is pre-existing, part newly-built. The latter has been dug below grade to create new space. You move up half-landings and across thresholds, to spaces bright with light or dim and cosy. And the mix of materials - bricks, wood, steel, concrete, glass, bamboo, tiles, plaster - is another 'intertwining' from the architects. It proposes deliberate complication as a viable, and desirable, condition.

