



light between



en the rocks



Previous pages and above: La Grintosa villa on the Italian island of Sardinia designed by architect Stefanie Stera and enlightened on the outside and inside by Davide Groppi - Spazio Esperienze Milano.

Sculptural volumes in conversation with nature, in a succession of corners, yards and terraces: La Grintosa villa situated at the seaside of Porto Cervo on the Italian island of Sardinia. It was designed by architect Stefanie Stera and enlightened on the outside and inside by Davide Groppi. Special feature is the suspended tree trunk collected on the beach and transformed into a light ornament.

Light design is always one of the most critical parts of an architectural project. It requires the involvement of specialists from the beginning of the process specially as indoor and outdoor lighting have to work together.

“At La Grintosa villa created outdoors lights with

the same poetic and coherence as we used inside the home,” according to Groppi. “ We have always imagined bringing light outdoors with the same poetic, we use inside. We like to think that, seeing the final project, a coherent thought and truth are recognizable. Artificial light is not only vision, but also aesthetics, knowledge through the senses. For us, light is not only technique, but first of all meaning.”

The form uses five paradigms for the use of light outdoors.

The light from windows - This is the simplest way of using light outdoors, as the light that comes from inside can sometimes perfectly illuminate the outside of the house.

The doorstep light - This is a symbolic use of



light, to say hello and goodbye to people on the doorstep in a beautiful light.

The light of pathways - This is the idea of light as a tool for guiding people along a path or emphasizing the hierarchies of spaces and functions.

The light as depth - This is the possibility to use light to create a three-dimensional vision of space, for example by placing a light beneath a tree in the background.

The light of an encounter - For example, meeting around a table on a May evening, with a beautiful, delicate light, is fantastic.

Outdoor spaces have no ceiling, they have only the starry sky, and that is why, there are solutions with rechargeable batteries.

In this case Groppi used its Luce Fuori outdoor

lighting, lamps: simple weightless, emotional and inventive.

To create the project architect Stefanie Spera had to play with the rugged terrain, the countless rocks and the wild inlet, characteristic elements of the Sardinian landscape.

The project was built in line with the initial project of Porto Cervo, begun in the sixties by the Aga Khan with the Costa Smeralda consortium.

The house was designed to inscribe itself in its whole setting and that can be inhabited in any season: to be an architectural promenade in harmony and continuity with nature, where different worlds meet and cross, one complementing the other.