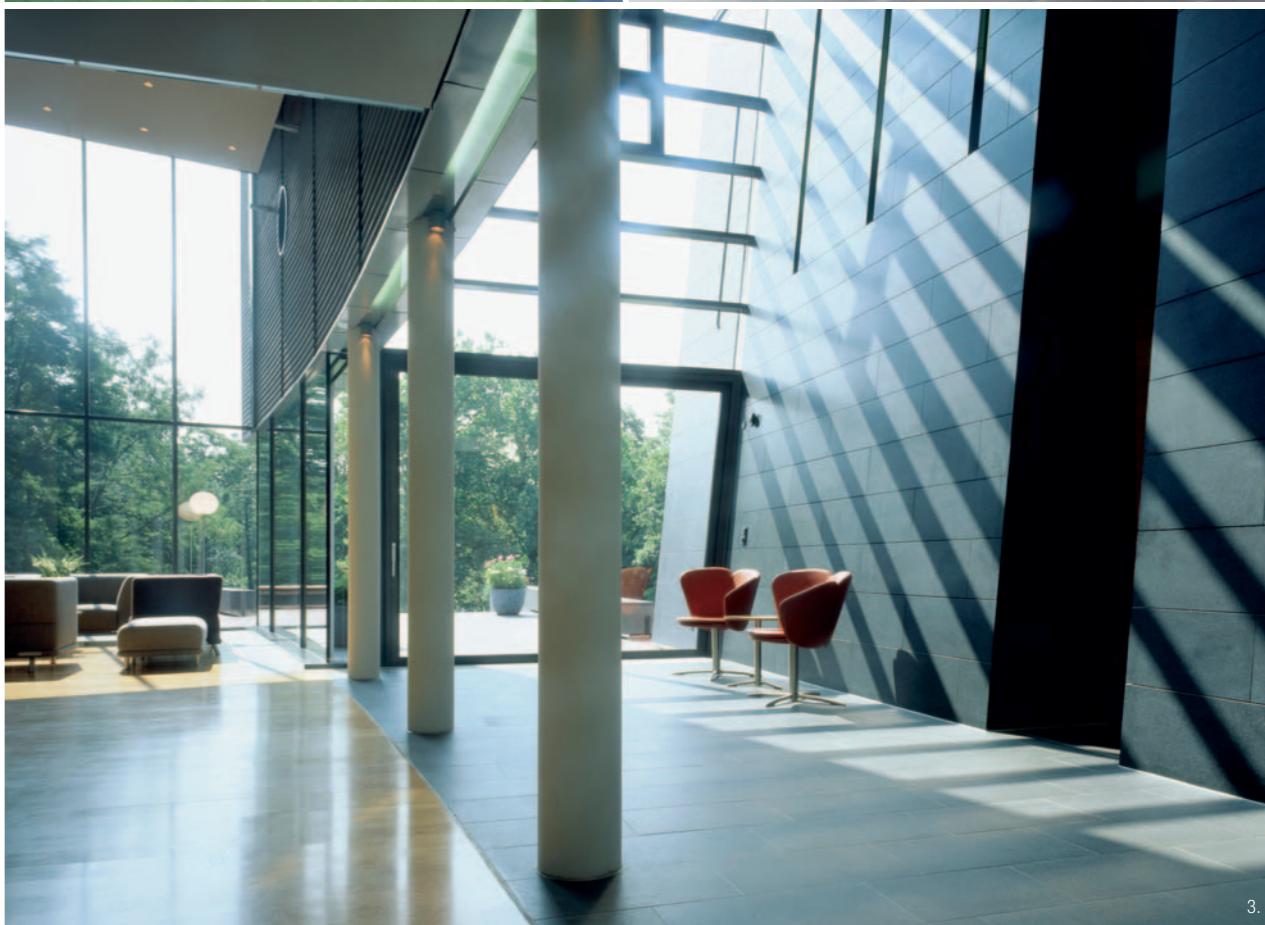




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Photos: Werner Huthmacher, Berlin

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the icelandic embassy residence

FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, THE ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT HAS BUILT A NEW AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. A SPECTACULAR, NORDIC-INSPIRED BUILDING IN BERLIN-GRUNEWALD WHERE THE RESIDENCE WILL SERVE AS AN OFFICIAL RECEPTION FACILITY AND THE HOME OF THE AMBASSADOR. GREAT ARCHITECTURE AND INTERIORS REFLECT ICELAND'S NATURE AND SPIRIT.

THE ICELANDIC RESIDENCE WAS DESIGNED BY ARCHITECTS HJÖRDÍS & DENNIS, WHO ALSO DESIGNED THE INTERIORS. THEIR WINNING DESIGN WAS CHOSEN FROM AMONG 45 PROPOSALS IN AN OPEN COMPETITION.



■ Iceland's magnificent landscapes are reflected in both the form and materials of architects Hjörðís Sigurgísladóttir and Dennis David Jóhannesson's embassy residence in Berlin. Concrete, oak, black natural stone and eroded zinc evoke Iceland's mythological landscapes where water is also an important element.

■ Im monumentalen Botschaftsgebäude Islands in Berlin, gezeichnet von den Architekten Hjörðís Sigurgísladóttir und Dennis David Jóhannesson, spürt man die gewaltige Natur Islands sowohl in der Form als auch in den Materialien. Beton, schwarzer Naturstein, erodierter Zink und Eichenholz stellen die Verbindung zur heimischen mythischen Landschaft her, wo auch das Wasser eine wichtige Rolle spielt.

■ La vigoureuse nature islandaise se reflète aussi bien dans les formes que dans les matériaux utilisés par les architectes Hjörðís Sigurgísladóttir et Dennis David Jóhannesson pour l'ambassade d'Islande à Berlin. La relation avec l'environnement national empreint de mythologie est créée par le béton, la pierre naturelle noire, le zinc érodé et le chêne, l'eau jouant également un rôle important.

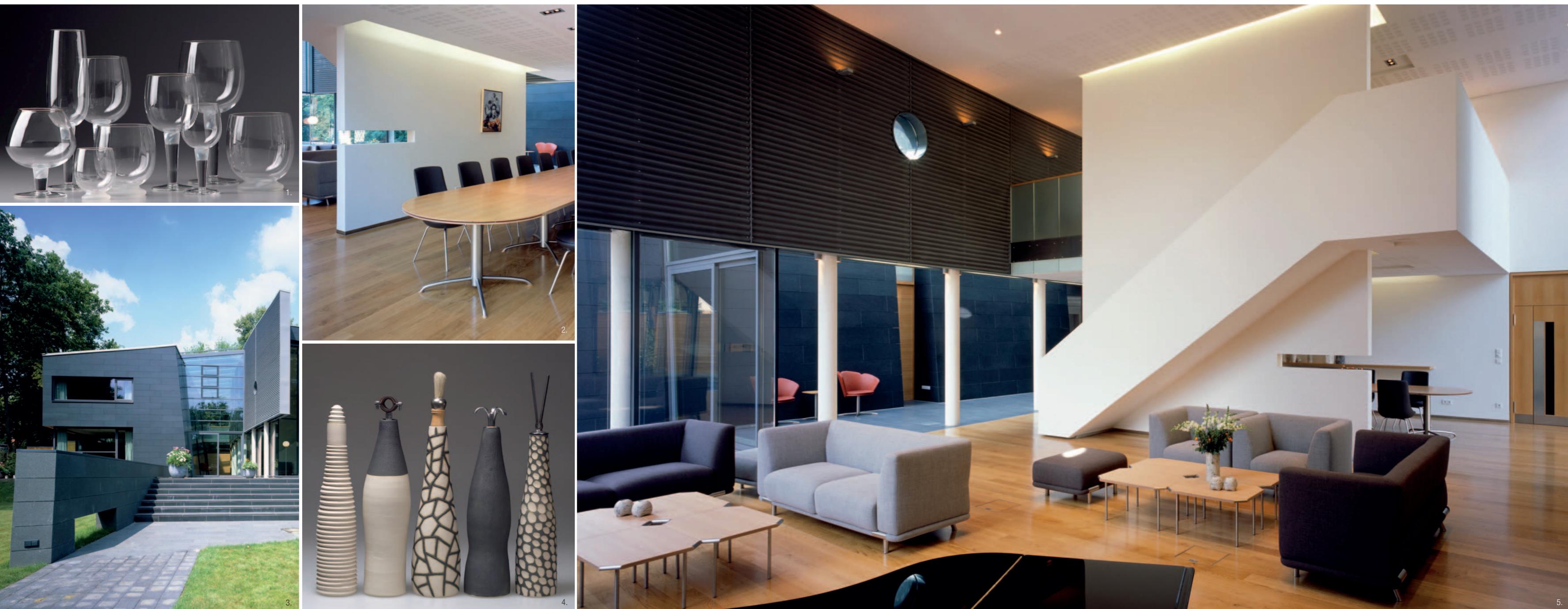
■ Islands kraftfulde natur afspejler sig i både form og materialer i arkitekterne Hjörðís Sigurgísladóttir og Dennis David Jóhannessons monumentale ambassadebygning i Berlin. Beton, sort natursten, eroderet zink og egetræ skaber forbindelsen til det hjemlige mytologiske landskab, hvor også vand spiller en vigtig rolle.

Left page / The residence covers 675 m² on two floors. A glass-covered corridor transects the centre of the building like a natural ravine.

1 / A curved zinc wall pushes half of the building sideways. Zinc and black unhewn stone are used outdoors and indoors, merging with the glass to smooth the transitions.

2 / The Smári chair was designed by Erla Sóleyg Óskarsdóttir.

3 / An expansive corridor divides the residence into two parts – a reception area and the living quarters



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■ The Icelandic Embassy not only serves as an official representation facility and residence, but also beautifully showcases Icelandic design and craft art as well. Furniture, lighting and utility art were specially designed for this rustic, stringent structure to give the embassy a harmonious, dynamic, unified appearance. The building is also designed to accommodate musical events, meetings, shows and presentations of Icelandic culture.

■ Die isländische Botschaft dient nicht nur als offizielle Vertretung und Residenz, sondern auch als eine hübsche Vitrine für isländisches Design und Kunsthåndværk. Möbel, Beleuchtung und Gebrauchs-kunst sind speziell für dieses rustikale und stringente Gebäude geschaffen worden. So ergibt sich daraus eine harmonische und dynamische Einheit. Das Haus ist so eingerichtet worden, dass Musikveranstaltungen, Sitzungen, Shows und isländische Kultur-darstellungen darin Platz finden.

■ L'ambassade d'Islande fait fonction non seulement de représentant officiel et de logement mais également de belle vitrine du design et de l'art décoratif islandais. Le mobilier, les luminaires et l'art décoratif appliqués ont été spécialement conçus pour ce bâtiment rigoureux et rustique qui se présente ainsi comme un ensemble dynamique et harmonieux. Le bâtiment est aménagé de manière à pouvoir accueillir des manifestations musicales, réunions, spectacles et expositions de la culture islandaise.

■ Den islandske ambassade fungerer ikke blot som officiel repræsentation og bolig, men også som et smukt udstillingsvindue for islandsk design og kunsthåndværk. Møbler, belysning og brugskunst er specielt skabt til den rustikke og stringente bygning, som på den måde kommer til at fremstå som et harmonisk og dynamisk hele. Huset er indrettet så der også er plads til musik-arrangementer, møder, shows og præsentation af islandsk kultur.

1 / All aspects of Icelandic design are represented. Shown here is Artika, a set of beautiful glasses designed by Sigrún Ó. Einarsdóttir and Søren S. Larsen. Photo: Imynd, Reykjavík.

2 / Erla Sölveig Óskarsdóttir designed these chairs and tables especially for the dining room/meeting room.

3 / The architecture is a stylised version of Icelandic nature. Shown here is the entrance area, reminiscent of a monumental landscape transected by a ravine.

4 / The expressive ceramic flasks were designed by Kogga. Photo: Imynd, Reykjavík.

5 / The strong and beautiful European oak, used extensively throughout, is linked with Nordic mythology, as Mjolnir, Thor's hammer, is said to have been made from the wood of a sacred oak tree.

6 / The Hekla cutlery was designed by Dögg Guðmundsdóttir.



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