

FRAME

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A-maze-ing curves in Mexico City

Words Cathelijne Nuijsink
Photos Paúl Rivera

Rojkind Arquitectos and Esrawe Studio recently transformed a former residence in Mexico City into a high-end Japanese restaurant, Tori Tori, whose digitally designed and illuminated façade is a dual-layered lattice of CNC-cut curves. Made from self-supporting steel sheet, the decorative cladding was assembled on site. 'We wanted to create a dynamic, two-layered brise-soleil that could dialogue with the vertical garden inside, while evoking a play of light and shadow,' says Michel Rojkind. 'During the day, sunlight filters through the façade, but a completely different ambience emerges at night, when integrated lighting produces a moiré effect.'

Each part of the restaurant has a Japanese theme. The sushi bar, for instance, pays homage to the small traditional temple. The compact tearoom opens into a double-height vertical garden wall with a skylight. Completely covered in wood, the tearoom features sunken booths that provide a Zen-like experience.

Hector Esrawe designed the furniture. 'We developed several prototypes and mock-ups for each piece and used colour and material to maintain the Japanese essence,' he says, 'but we exaggerated the proportions to Occidentalize the furniture.'

rojkindarquitectos.com
esrawe.com



Behind a breathtaking façade designed by Rojkind Arquitectos and Esrawe Studio is a restaurant that reflects the rituals inherent in Japanese temples and tearooms.