

# “JUNSHAN CULTURAL CENTER”

HINGE; JULY 2020



[folio]

## WHAT

Junshan Cultural Center, a renovated clubhouse and sales centre

## WHERE

Beijing, China

## WHO

Neri&Hu Design and Research Office

## HOW

By wrapping the existing, nondescript volume with intriguing facades of vertical aluminium struts arranged in a quilt-like pattern. Seen against the sombre grey masonry just behind it, this lends the mass an instant, curiosity-inducing chic-ness that uses shadows and tonal contrast. Inside, the complex plan unfolds a sequential promenade through variously-functioned spaces, around a central void. Landscape design (water gardens), quiet and elegant rooms of different proportions, and a general sense of restrained luxury all elevate the centre above the ordinary. Allusions to classical Chinese architecture are subtle but important.

## WHY

Because the programme type, ambiguous though it is, runs rampant throughout China, so dealing with it intelligently seems necessary. Because this outing proves again that formal gymnastics aren't needed to render architecture worthy of our eyes or wallets.



Photography by Pedro Pegenaute

