

Green Box

act_romegialli

CERIDO, LOMBARDY, ITALY

Like an undiscovered ruin overgrown with vines, there is a romantic imperfection to act_romegialli's Green Box—making it all the more beautiful. Over time, a cloud of vegetation has covered this renovated building, guided by a pitch roof-shaped support structure that envelops its original stone walls and flat, concrete roof. Using a very limited palette of wood, concrete, and galvanized steel, the design balances the language of industrial and practical spaces with that of a tranquil garden hideaway. At dusk, the glowing interior is visible through the branches, its angular silhouette softened by a tangle of greenery. A mixture of deciduous, annual, and perennial varieties was carefully selected to provide a constant cover of plants and flowers throughout the year. Generous picture windows, shaded by the vegetation, offer views from the building to the garden beyond. The wildness of this design is especially successful: by allowing the architecture to all but disappear, it celebrates the unpredictable beauty of nature.

