



## **Press release**

### **For immediate release**

**12/01/2021**

## **RMJM Milano Showcase Designs For Mixed-Use Gdynia Development Competition**

The team at RMJM Milano recently placed fourth in Polish competition for a mixed-use development in the city of Gdynia. The competition was close and they were thrilled to have been considered alongside a number of prestigious firms.

RMJM Milano's design drew on the city's historic identity as a small fishing village and later as a prominent Polish seaport. The team's concept was a tribute to the fishermen founders of the city while also paying homage to the marine architecture of the region.

The 2 residential towers were inspired by the sails of a boat, curving in all three dimensions. The cladding of these towers was composed of a frosted glass that created a light, translucent envelope that again evoked the imagery of a ship's sails.

"Our driving concept for this design was for the project to be rooted in its environment and yet to feel that, like a ship, it sways and turns with the winds. We wanted the design to be still, yet moving."– Abhinav Goel, Lead Architect

Taking lessons from the events of 2020 and the prevailing global pandemic, the team emphasised the importance of access to private outdoor spaces. For that reason, they ensured that all the apartments in the tower included private balconies. Along with private outdoor space, the rooftops of the towers held a common garden space for the residents, populated with lush greenery to tie in with the ground-level landscaping the team envisioned.

"One of the significant features of this project was the inclusion of as much private outdoor space as possible. One of the lesson that we, as architects, have taken away from the last year is how important it is for people to have access to their own outdoor environments, for both their physical and mental wellbeing."– Luca Aldrighi, Design Director

Continuing with the sailing theme, the office building within the development, placed strategically at the forefront of the site, was shaped to embody the keel of a ship. Again, the roof is linked to the surroundings through curated gardens, this time across a series of stepped green terraces.

Completing the oceanic imagery, the central piazza, shaped by the curved surfaces of the surrounding buildings emulates the organic shape of a conch shell.

RMJM Milano have been going from strength to strength in recent months and with this latest design have proven that their attention to detail and dedication to the cultural context of their projects can create beautiful and meaningful designs that speak to their local communities.

## **Notes to the Editors**

### **About RMJM**

Founded by Sir Robert Matthew and Stirrat Johnson-Marshall in 1956, RMJM Group is one of the largest, most geographically and culturally diverse architecture firms in the world. With studios across five continents, the RMJM family can share knowledge, expertise and design talent, enabling them to think quicker and act faster. Working stronger together, they are global enough to make a difference while still being local enough to be personal. Through their shared vision of success, RMJM has spent more than 67 years creating a legacy of world-class design.

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