

RESTLESSLIVING

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TRUSS HOUSE

Alto de Pinheiros, Brazil

In the Paulista neighborhood of Alto de Pinheiros, the two architecture firms Terra Capobianco and Galeria Arquitetos were responsible for the design of a 464 m² home which relies on using rationality of construction systems to create a large, sustainable space fully immersed with the 533 m² pocket plot of the urban landscape. To guide us through the project, we got in touch with architect Ana Terra Capobianco.

Indicated by the house's name, trusses played a crucial role in how the place was conceived to create a floating appearance, making the ground floor as transparent as possible while visually connecting all the social spaces and bring in the feeling of open air. "The structural solution for the house permitted the feeling that the first floor does not touch the ground floor in a way where the house does not reveal how much it weighs. For this, three metallic trusses were projected: two at the longitudinal ends of the main volume, allowing a 15-meter span, free of supports, in the social area; and the third one in the transversal direction of the total land width, configuring the suspended volume of the shed, with 14 meters of free span", Ana Terra Capobianco says. Consequently, it was possible to achieve a fast and dry construction through the use of few elements while giving an incredible degree of openness. "Less than 1/5 of the first-floor area has opaque fences, which produces a sense of spaciousness – further enhanced by the 3-meter-high ceiling. Thus, the





living and dining rooms can be completely opened with sliding glass panels, allowing full integration with the veranda, pool, and garden", Ana explains. Throughout the garden, a path designed with molded-in-place concrete treads is lined up to connect each of the outside areas.

Once inside, the Truss House delivers a Brazilian contemporary interior as a continuation of the exterior façade. "Positioned in the ground floor social area, a metal staircase leads to the first floor where the trellis is revealed in the backlight of the translucent thermoclick material, polycarbonate sheeting", Ana mentions. The polycarbonate sheeting guarantees thermal resistance and adds a level of privacy to the private areas including the four suites. "The bedrooms face east and west, and have vertical slatted shutters made of autoclaved and carbonized pine, a material that guarantees durability", Ana notes. Following the same construction methodology, a guesthouse accommodates a guest bedroom and a fitness room on the first floor. "The constructive solutions, along with other aspects of the project, ensured that Casa Treliça (in English: Truss House) was awarded the Silver certificate by the Green Building Council Brasil, a national reference in sustainable construction", Ana ends.

Architecture by **Terra Capobianco + Galeria Arquitetos**

Photography by **Nelson Kon**

