

P.C. HOOFTSTRAAT 138

Architect
Client
Location
Year

UNSTUDIO
WARENAR REAL ESTATE
AMSTERDAM
2019

7705



In The Looking Glass, three curved glass panels descend from the upper floors. They resemble billowing fabrics. Stainless steel profiles between the panels create the glass box shape. Octatube was responsible for the technical elaboration of the design, assembly and mounting. The boxes are entirely bonded by means of structural silicone. As the glass cantilevers outward the silicone bonding has to withstand higher levels of tensile stress. This presented a structural challenge that required extensive calculations.

Because of the complex geometry, the finish and the minimal deviations, we opted for complete prefabrication in the workshop. As the glass elements are being kept together by a structural sealant, it was important not to put a heavy load on them during transport and during the rotation from horizontal to vertical. We designed a custom steel auxiliary frame that functioned as a rigid mold around the glass boxes during assembly and protected the boxes during transport and hoisting.

octatube