

CORSO BLOCK REDEVELOPMENT

ROTTERDAM HOLLAND

The vision for this provocative Rotterdam development was to celebrate the urban lifestyle by blurring the boundary between the everyday aspects of city life and popular entertainment. A multi-screen cinema complex and indoor-outdoor retail space at the base of a 40-story residential tower interact in every possible way to enrich the urban experience.

One side of the site engages a busy city street as urban buildings should, providing physical definition and imparting an open, welcoming and unambiguous identity. However, on the other three sides of the site, which adjoin a broad pedestrian plaza, the building elevates the idea of architecture to the level of performance art. People are drawn into a nearly kinetic, three-story glass-clad atrium enlivened by shops, cinemas, restaurants and an outdoor beer garden. The atrium enclosure facing the plaza is a real-time movie screen, and is equally visible from both inside and out, unifying the two spaces with a shared centerpiece.

While residents benefit from the world of activity at their doorstep, they have exclusive access to a private sky garden on the atrium rooftop, 100 feet above the plaza level. This oasis of tranquility is both a peaceful retreat from the activity below — and the cornerstone of an ambitious energy conservation strategy. LEED principles are widely applied, through use of recycled and non-resource-depleting building materials, water conserving mechanical systems and architectural details and finishes that emphasize reliance on natural ventilation and the infusion of natural light.

CLIENT Fortis Vastgoed Ontwikling

SIZE 52,900 square meters / 569,400 square feet

Retail: 6,700 square meters / 72,100 square feet

Parking: 440 square meters / 4700 square feet

Residential: 150 units

Roof garden: 2,150 square meters / 23,142 square feet

ROLE Architect

COMPLETION study completed in 2001

LUCIEN LAGRANGE
ARCHITECTS