

I. IDENTIFICATION DATA

Thesis name:	Holešovice Wellness Spa Center
Author's name:	Aigerim Azirkhanova
Type of thesis :	master
Faculty/Institute:	Faculty of Architecture (FA)
Department:	Architecture and urbanism
Thesis supervisors:	prof. Ing. arch. Vladimír Krátký, doc. Dipl. arch. Luis Marques
Supervisor's department:	Architectural design III

II. EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUAL CRITERIA

Assignment	challenging
<i>Evaluation of thesis difficulty of assignment.</i>	
Typical spa typology on a topographically flat site by the Vltava river bank	

Satisfaction of assignment	fulfilled with minor objections
<i>Assess that handed thesis meets assignment. Present points of assignment that fell short or were extended. Try to assess importance, impact or cause of each shortcoming.</i>	
The northern part of the site is only schematically designed, particularly the zone between the exterior parking at Jateční street and the designed building	

Activity and independence when creating final thesis	A - excellent.
<i>Assess that student had positive approach, time limits were met, conception was regularly consulted and was well prepared for consultations. Assess student's ability to work independently.</i>	
Aigerim consulted regularly, was always well prepared and able to intellectually respond to our criticisms to keep a forward movement to the design process	

Technical level	A - excellent.
<i>Assess level of thesis specialty, use of knowledge gained by study and by expert literature, use of sources and data gained by experience.</i>	
The building is programmatically, statically and aesthetically very well and logically resolved. The wet programs are defined by two big swimming pools as a two-level space on the southern part overlooking the Vltava river with a big glazed façade; the dry programs located on the first level on the northern part overlooking the two-level swimming pool space with a flexible direct connection from the main reception. The rational and regular modular structure reinforces this programmatic layout.	

Formal and language level, scope of thesis	A - excellent.
<i>Assess correctness of usage of formal notation. Assess typographical and language arrangement of thesis.</i>	
The project is well researched in its first phase and graphically well represented in its final presentation phase with its blue/red graphic minimalistic 2d drawings and the modernistically abstract 3d visualizations	

Selection of sources, citation correctness	Choose an item.
<i>Present your opinion to student's activity when obtaining and using study materials for thesis creation. Characterize selection of sources. Assess that student used all relevant sources. Verify that all used elements are correctly distinguished from own results and thoughts. Assess that citation ethics has not been breached and that all bibliographic citations are complete and in accordance with citation convention and standards.</i>	
The initial spa sources were the typical references ranging from Archdaily, to Pinterest, to the archetypical Zumthor's spa in Vals. However, the references became more architectural sophisticated and less typologically specific by focusing on individual architectural sources like the works of David Chipperfield, Richard Meier or even le Corbusier. This was ultimately reflected in the final product	

Additional commentary and evaluation

Present your opinion to achieved primary goals of thesis, e.g. level of theoretical results, level and functionality of technical or software conception, publication performance, experimental dexterity etc.

Please insert your commentary (voluntary evaluation).

III. OVERALL EVALUATION, QUESTIONS FOR DEFENSE, CLASSIFICATION SUGGESTION

The spa wellness building is very well designed and logically placed on the southern part of the site activating the river's edge. The urban design should have been better developed, particularly some of the movement sequence from the north to south, and this is something Aigerim should still try to improve for the defense. One question is how does a guest move from the center of the parking lot to the building?. There is a clever architectural vocabulary combining disparate elements, such as the typical spa colonnade with the industrial chimney stacks of Holešovice, into one surprisingly cohesive and modern language. The southern river edge is particularly successful with its asymmetrically composed colonnade unifying the building form with the exterior swimming pools terraces. The northern urban edge is dominated by the four, brick chimney-like forms both defining the specific programs of the saunas and steam rooms as well as reacting to the genius loci industrial forms of Holešovice. The issue of public vs private access to the exterior swimming pools is not completely clear from the documentation and it is another question I would pose. In conclusion, despite of these minor details I believe that Aigerim was able to create a highly reciprocal and successful strategy between program, context and form.

I evaluate the handed thesis with classification grade **A - excellent**.

Date: **4.6.2024**

Signature:

