

Ensemble Bloemershof | Bekkering Adams architects  
Dieren | The Netherlands | 2011



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A self-evident urban composition with a strong identity. Grouped around a range of public green spaces and gardens, it connects the village of Dieren with the nature reserve of the Veluwe. The ensemble is conceptually designed as a frozen forest, with an open and transparent ground floor with concrete columns as tree trunks, filled in with glass and natural stone accents, crowned with an upper elevation with slender wooden slats as a 'leafy canopy', hovering above the ground floor. The clear selection of materials provides a strong architectural identity. The interiors are light and transparent and offer an optimal functionality to their users, with a generous central hall, canteen area and a diversity of classrooms and workshops for the vocational school and a large and high sheltered area for the trucks of the fire department. There are unexpected spatial views and vistas and the ensemble contains spacious sports facility. Sustainability is playing a key role, it is the first building in the Netherlands using concrete core activation with air.

