

ZOO  
ISSUE 7

118 119 : GERMAN DEL SOL

2000 NOV  
PURPLE HOUSE LIMITED  
LONDON, ENGLAND



Germán del Sol Atacama projects



**Project** Puruma Hot Springs Landscape, Sauna, Hot Springs, Swimming Pools and Horse Stables, Atacama, Chile. **Architect** Germán del Sol Architects, Santiago. **Creative team** architect and interior design: Germán del Sol, Interior team: Wendy Schmidt, architect; Nicole Lobos, architect; Herman Ferys, graphics; Carlos Lemay, landscape architect; Germán del Sol. **Structural engineer** Fernando del Sol. **Main contractor** Sella S.A. **Electrical engineer** Felipe Latorre. **Acoustics cultural consultants** Alpacarthen Health Council. **Native wood supplier furniture** Designed by the architects and made by Sarmiento, La Cometa, Chile. **Water furniture** Designed by the architects and made by Juan Sepulveda, in Chumbungo, Chile. **Photography** Guy Widdemans, Guy U. Claer.

A thermal spa has been generously sited in a secluded valley, 30 miles from the small town of San Pedro de Atacama, Chile. In its long history, it creates many natural bathing pools that have been used since ancient times, as well as the famous geysers. The landscape was intended to give structure to the place, aesthetically and make a sustainable use of the park's resources. Razed boundaries that the overtake grassy areas and reveal the urban beauty of the heart, long winding terraces, and its paths. Two lines which the concrete structures house all the facilities, and make the wild nature of the place stand out. To dwell in the vast land, men and women build gradual stone structures along the roads in Atacama, to get an insight into nature, and make it harmonious. Three concrete landmarks in the landscape reveal the presence of water resources used to irrigate the land, and to warm and open up the landscape to the immense wilderness around. The water is kept and flowing gently over the concrete edges to reflect the light, and the beauty of the place, against the dark, blue coating and shade. The terraces that the walls belong to the place will be integrated by the sky that the stone carries, instead of being seen alone. The concrete roof structure, the concrete impasse form of the walls, is a sheltered with trees that are fine, soft and permeable to the landscape, to see the baby's rocky house. Soft shades of wooden beds, and long drinking fountains temper the heat, and keep the rhythm that make the place feel alive.

Atacama projects Germán del Sol

