

A HOUSE FOR ADAM EXPELLED FROM PARADISE

About Antón García Abril's Hemeroscopium House in Las Matas, Madrid

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I could tell you about the most beautiful house I have ever seen, the most beautiful, the strongest. But I'm not going to do it.

I could tell you that if I had to grade this house I saw today, I would do it with honors because it is the most intense house I have ever seen in my life. But I'm not going to do that.

I could tell you that this house meets many of my ideals of more with less and that it uses materials in a wild way. But I'm not going to.

I could tell you, and I am telling you, that this house provokes any self-respecting architect to establish a profound dialogue with it and with its author.

And in the same way that Mies van der Rohe understood how steel was capable of concentrating the loads to achieve maximum transparency to make way for the landscape, underlining it, so does this house.

And just as Le Corbusier knew how to arrange with white straws the white box that navigates in which his "fênêtre en longueur" frames nature, so does this house.

And in the same way, Antón García Abril has intuited, has he known? that current technology can and must change the concept of space.

I know that some will say that I exaggerate a little in this text. I do it with full awareness and with the clear idea that we must support young and valuable people who are just starting out. I was supported by architects whom I will never thank enough for their generosity: Sota and Cano Lasso and Cabrero in my first steps. Carvajal in my teaching career. And Oíza. Meier and Frampton and Vignelli and Dal Co in more recent years. And so many others, thank you!

Welcome Antón García Abril! And you, go and see the house live. You will thank me.