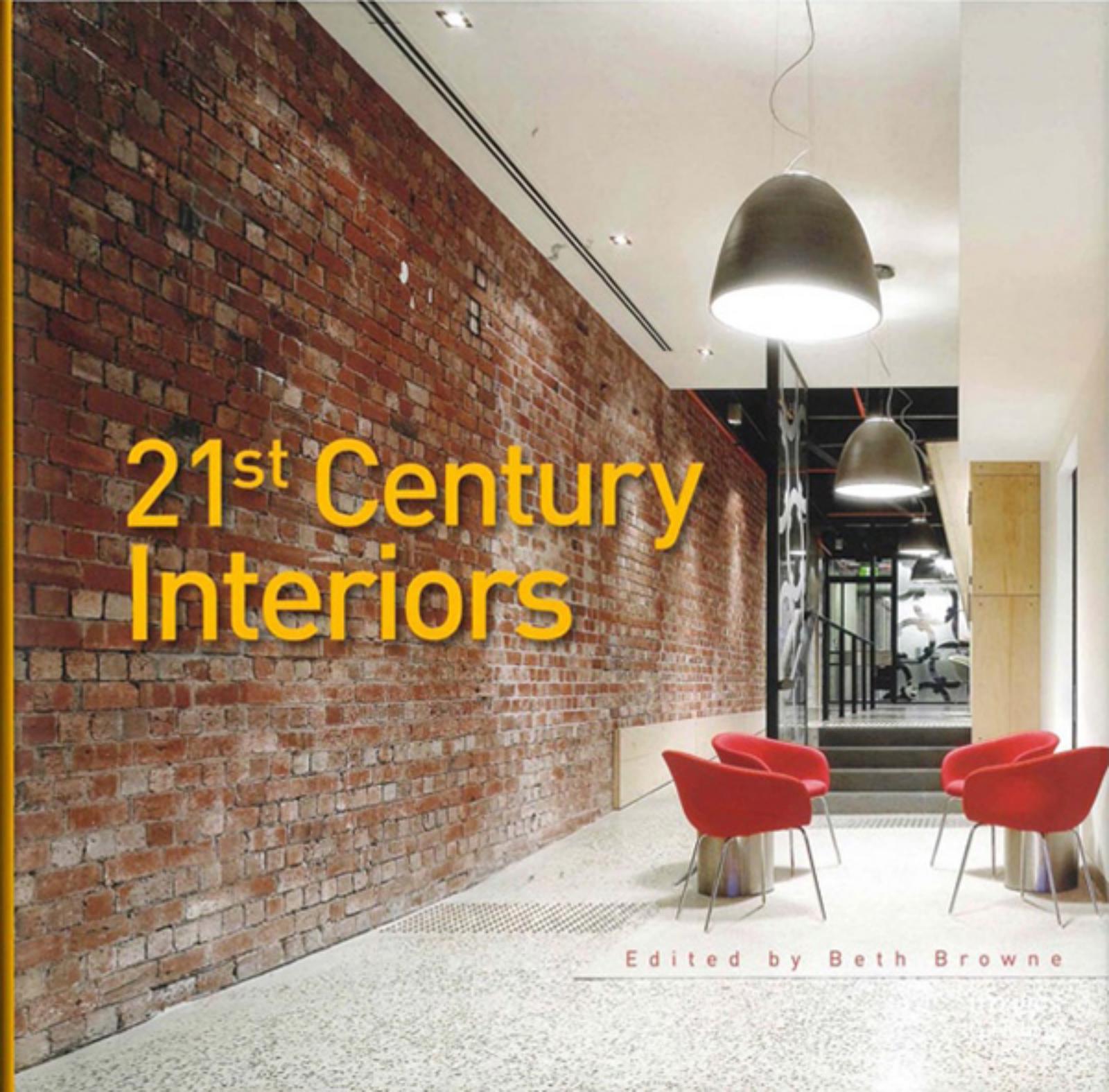


# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Interiors

A photograph of a modern interior space. On the left, a large section of red brick wall is visible. In the foreground, there are three red armchairs with thin metal legs arranged around a small, round, perforated metal table. Above the chairs, two large, white, conical pendant lights hang from the ceiling. In the background, there's a staircase and more of the interior space, suggesting a multi-level building.

Edited by Beth Browne

# Scandinave Les Bains Vieux-Montréal

Montréal, Québec, Canada

Saucier + Perrotte Architectes

This urban spa provides a thermal therapy experience that engages each of the body's senses. The design distills the idea of cool glacial forms and the warmth of volcanic rocks and articulates the duality through both the spaces' forms and the selection of various materials.

In this unique environment, walls, floors and ceiling are slightly angled according to a notion of interior topography. Just as in a natural landscape, slight undulations in the ground plane create gentle slopes; depressions in the floor level generate basins of water for bathing; volumes emerge from the ground to sculpt zones for the sauna and steam bath.

Uniting the main space is an undulating wood ceiling that echoes the movements of the floor: walls of white marble mosaic appear to melt at the point of contact with the warm-coloured wood on the ceiling, resulting in accentuated architectural reveals. Heated, cantilevered benches made of black slate offer visitors a warm place to pause in between hot and cold bathing cycles.

Opalescent glass admits natural light through the building's existing openings while providing a sense of privacy. Along de la Commune Street, a thin cascading layer of water flows on glass surfaces, filtering views so that from the exterior, passersby can see only shadowed silhouettes of the figures within the hot bath.

Technically, the most critical area of the project was the bath area where significant moisture is generated by the hydro-jet and steam baths. For these spaces, white Italian marble mosaic was used on the walls and floor for its water-resistant properties. The complex ceiling geometry was developed using 3D-modelling software; the space gained between the existing concrete slab and the new, undulating wood ceiling was a practical solution for the installation of the ductwork and other mechanical systems.



- 1. Steam bath
- 2. Suspended cold rinsing shower
- 3. Relaxation room and juice bar
- 4. Hot hydro-jet bath and cold rinsing tub with waterfall

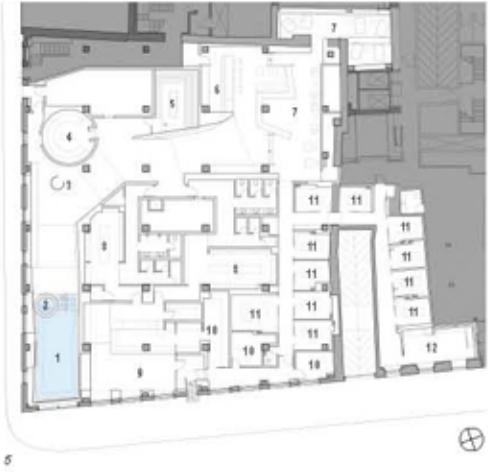


3



4

- 1 Hydro-jet bath  
 2 Cold lab  
 3 Cold shower  
 4 Steam bath  
 5 Sauna  
 6 Juice bar  
 7 Relaxation room  
 8 Dressing room  
 9 Reception  
 10 Gallerie space  
 11 Massage room  
 12 Staff room
- 5 Floor plan  
 6 Reception desk  
 7 Sauna
- Photography: Marc Craver



6



7