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BENELUX NATURAL STONE ASSOCIATION

BNSA was founded in March 2021, and welcomes your membership as a natural stone professional. The association brings together all companies active in the natural stone sector in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg and aims to promote natural stone and improve general knowledge through targeted campaigns.

Members gain access to an extensive network, can rely on a well-researched information centre and enjoy training opportunities, trade fairs, technical support, a 50% discount on photography, a yearbook featuring members' completed projects, referrals on social media and more.

How to become a member?
info@bnsa.be



Members



PREFACE

“We have the most beautiful product!” That was the title of an article about the BNSA that came out earlier this year.

Our yearbook serves as definitive proof, featuring high-class materials quarried, sourced and processed by our skilled members to produce gorgeous projects that enrich clients’ living, working and public spaces with life and colour. Natural stone is alive, authentic and unique. From the fossils in Belgian blue stone to the lovely veins of an Arabescato. We have the most beautiful product!

Natural stone is more than beautiful, it’s sustainable too. Of all construction materials, ours is the only one which extraction and processing require no heat and, therefore, no carbon emissions. Now that the Covid-19 crisis is on the wane, climate change is once again a priority. Rightfully so.

As developers, architects, contractors and natural stone specialists, we are not just responsible for the delivery of quality projects to today’s clients, we are also responsible for ensuring their sustainability for future generations.

Natural stone is an ideal solution: Natural stone does not just have a low carbon footprint, it is sustainable due to its longevity, as it will not require replacement after a few years. Countless historic buildings serve as proof. Natural stone tiles and paving are also highly suitable for reuse. Natural stone gains a lovely patina with time, becoming more attractive as it ages.

However, there is still plenty of work to be done within our sector to simplify the reuse of natural stone to make it even more sustainable and climate-friendly. This is a task for everyone, from developers and architects to quarries, importers, processors and masons.

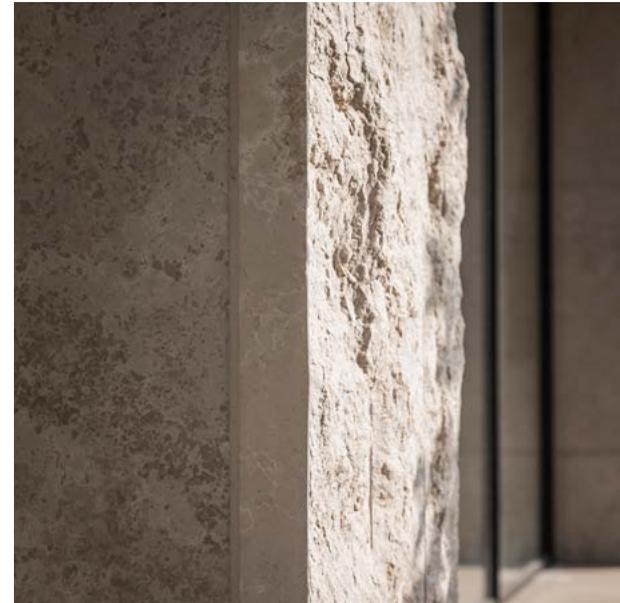
BNSA is ideally positioned to tackle this: We work on establishing relationships between the various parties, make our knowledge centre available to all and are involved in TruStone for more responsible manufacturing and procurement of natural stone. We aim to coordinate all processes and techniques to further facilitate reuse, but more than that, we want to highlight the beauty of natural stone.

In conclusion: I wish you a “natural stone” year in 2022: Sustainable and authentic, but most of all... A very lovely 2022.



Stijn Renier,
Chairman BNSA

Want to help promote natural stone? Want to learn more about natural stone? Become a BNSA member! For more information, visit www.bnsa.be or email to info@bnsa.be



STONE

PROJECT
AG Real Estate

PROJECT DEVELOPER
AG Real Estate

MATERIAL
Gradina

PHOTOGRAPHY
Buro H+C - Valerie Clarysse



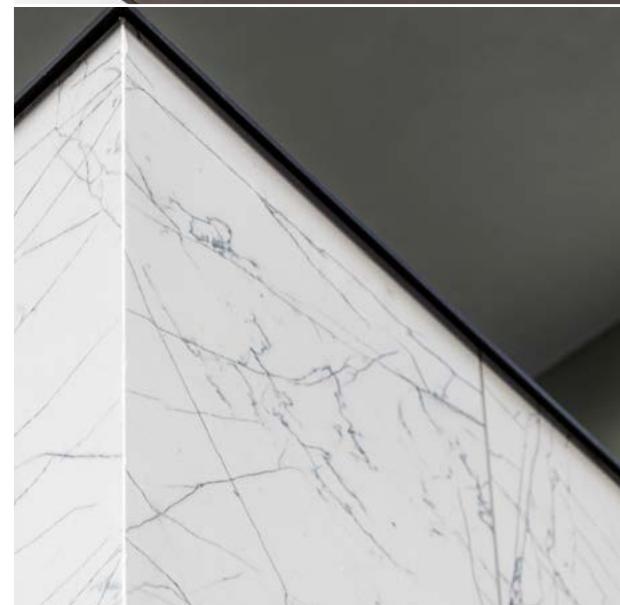
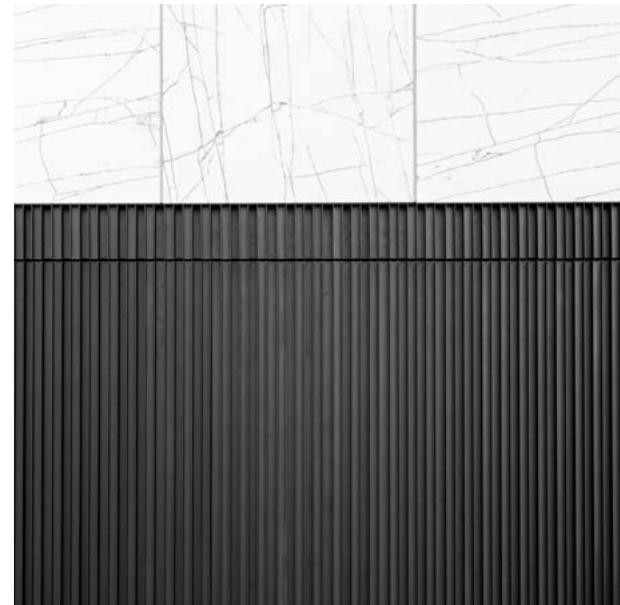
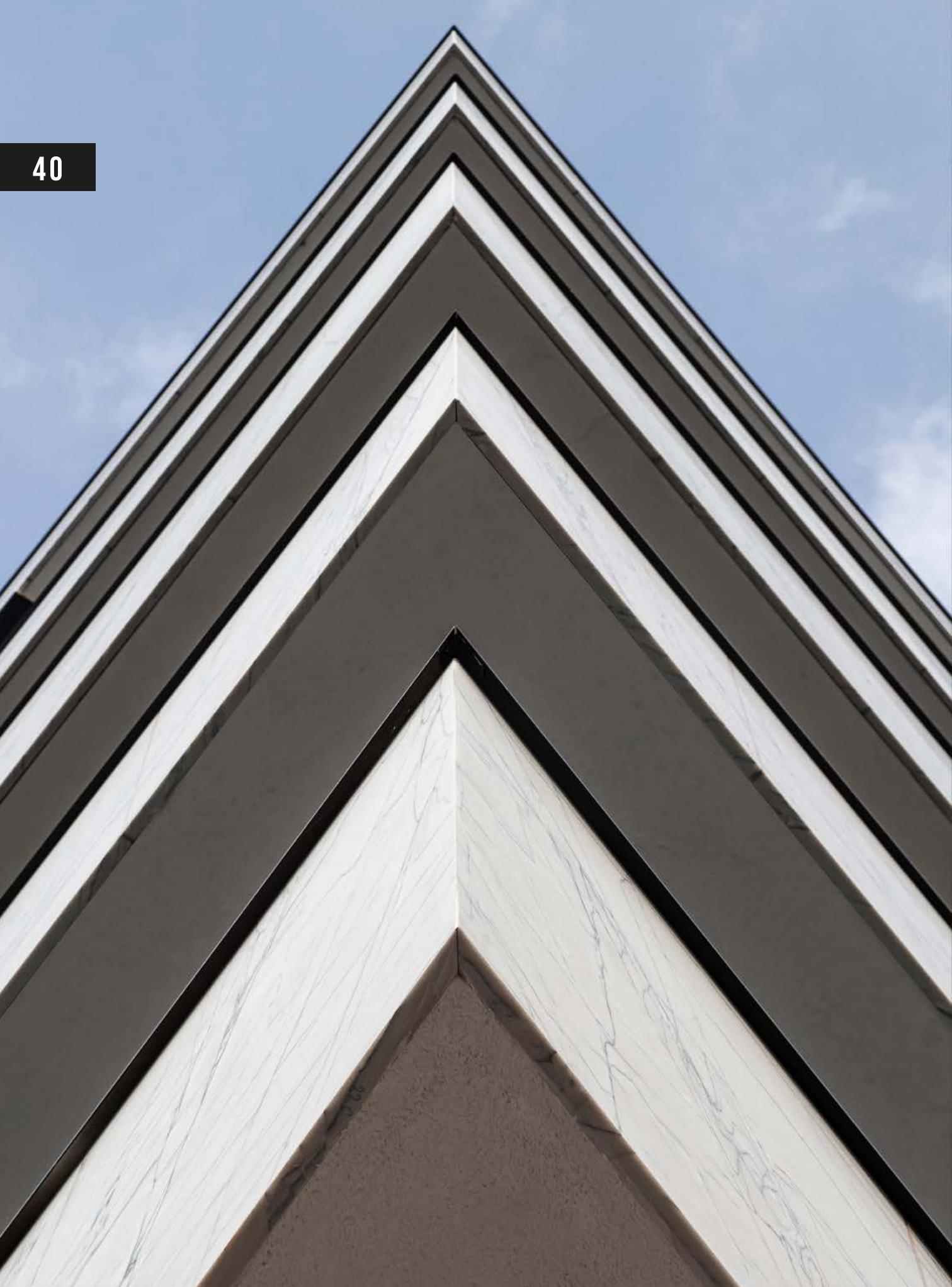
STONE

PROJECT
Yzerpark

DESIGN
Binst Architects

MATERIAL
Gradina

PHOTOGRAPHY
Buro H+C - Valerie Clarysse



TUYTELAERS NATUURSTEEN

PROJECT
Jordaenskaai Antwerpen

DESIGN
Binst Architects

MATERIAL
Macaubas Giotto

PHOTOGRAPHY
Buro H+C - Valerie Clarysse

JORDAENSKAAI ANTWERPEN

Natural stone on the spot where Antwerp was born

Antwerp's Jordaenskaai is a site of tremendous historical significance for the city. You can still see the old city walls here and it is situated in the direct vicinity of the Scheldt River. The renowned Antwerp-based firm BINST Architects designed a building containing flats and a shop on the corner of Zakstraat. Its façade is adorned with Macaubas Giotto quartzite, installed by Tuytelaers and selected from its product range.

You could call the Antwerp Scheldt quays a city border in dialogue with the river. Its residents live on the water, in a historic spot. BINST Architects designed a new building on the corner of this unique location, using natural stone as the basis of the design. 'We deliberately chose not to use brick. The alternative, natural stone, emphasises the grandeur and maritime atmosphere of the location', says Luc Binst, CEO of the architectural firm. 'Natural stone deserves to be used with integrity: the right stone for the right function, in the right hue and pattern. We regularly make use of natural stone, particularly if a project allows it. It is a strong material that also distinguishes itself in terms of maintenance and durability.'

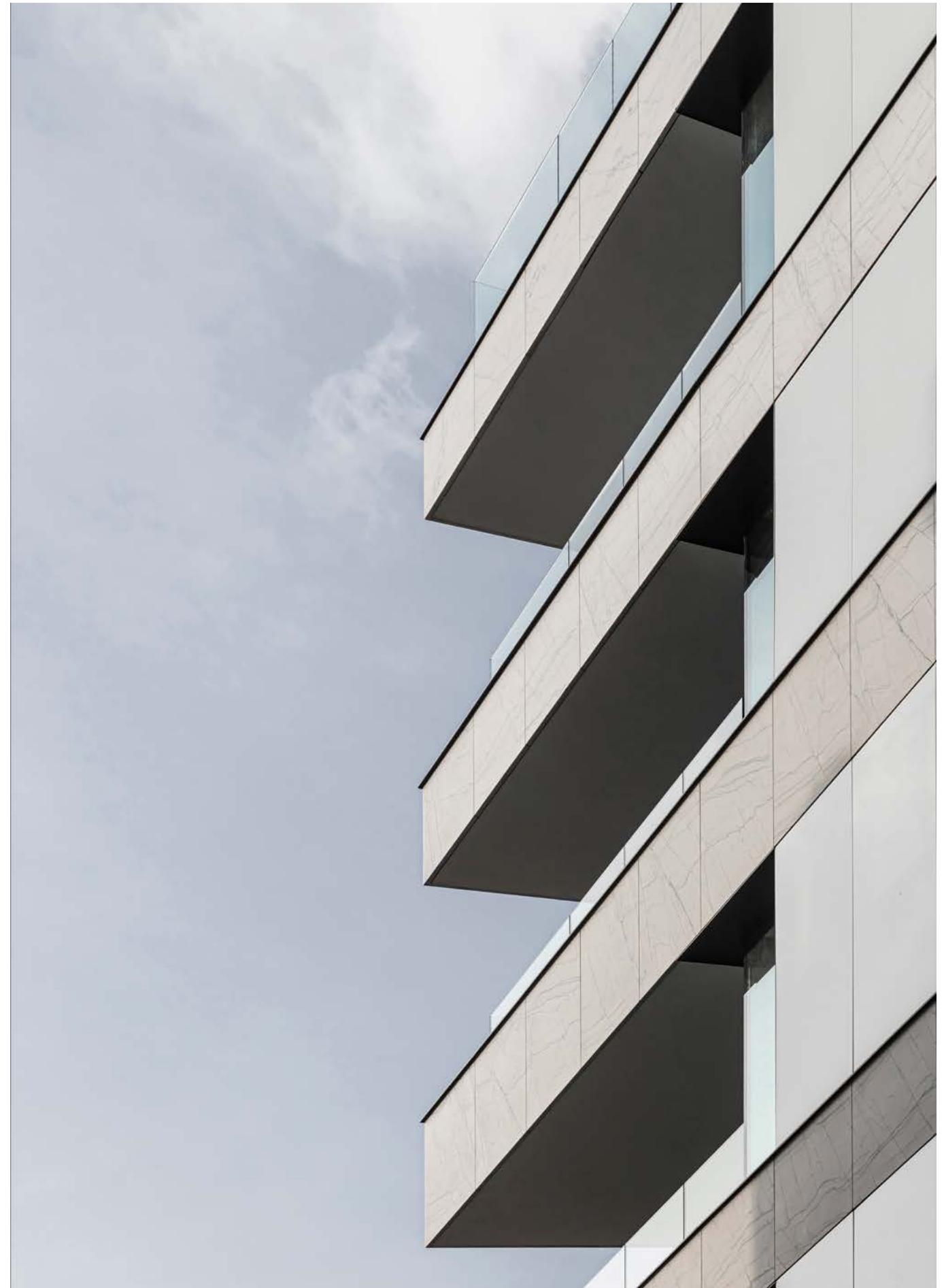
The architectural firm chose Brazilian Macaubas Giotto quartzite, available from Tuytelaers, for the building's façade. The expressive veining and artistic allure of the material were the deciding factors. 'The alternating façade bands of light natural stone interspersed with expressive grey veining are an abstract representation of the water on the Scheldekaai, in reconciliation with the context, as a special reference to the power of water and our everyday visual relationship with it', explains Binst. 'In an urban context, we also need to be alert to weather conditions and graffiti. The stone had to be nourished, and was impregnated against contamination.'

Basic ingredient

Special attention was also paid to the installation. 'Each slab was photographed beforehand in Tuytelaers' studio to create a meticulous record of the cutting and positioning of each slab. The veins always run in the same direction to the mitred corner. The slabs were then suspended with supporting anchors, taking into account the WTCB guidelines of a maximum surface area of one square metre per slab.'

This resulted in an architectural language that can immediately be read as a simple volume of stacked slabs of varying degrees of thickness. The natural stone on the façade gives the entire composition tremendous allure. 'That is what is so rewarding about a material as noble as natural stone. You can mould it into the desired formats and subsequently incorporate this into the interior finishing', says Luc Binst. 'We have been working more and more with natural stone in the past six or seven years. It has almost become a basic ingredient.'

'Natural stone deserves to be used with integrity: the right stone for the right function, in the right hue and pattern.'





EXCLUSIVE NATURAL STONE PROJECTS BY BNSA

www.bnsa.be