

FRAME

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A Touch of Uncertainty

**White Worlds by Martin Margiela,
Herzog & de Meuron and
Julie Verhoeven**

**You Are Where You Drink
Flex-Working in an Ersatz City
Four-Star Colour Therapy - French Style**



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Walk On By

Trendy though it may be to breathe life into the façade of a commercial building, rarely are the results innovative. How exciting is a ticker tape displaying the latest news or an animated billboard advertising a fashion label? Migdal Architects of Mexico City went a step further in designing an office building next to a busy highway in the southern section of the capital. After making an intensive study of natural light conditions at the building site, the architects used mullions and a special type of glass geared specifically to their findings. They selected 9-mm tempered glass with a silk-screen print to filter the bright sunshine that strikes the front of the building during much of the day.

Silk-screen-printed windows divided by mullions define the character of the horizontal façade, while the architectural volumes, along with the window sashes, imbue the project with an air of modulation that frames the building, so to speak, both horizontally and vertically. The urban setting inspired the architects to provide the façade with an image of moving people, an element that emphasises the showcase concept of the building. This image emerges from the panes of tempered glass that protrude at angles from the façade and give it a dynamic, three-dimensional effect. Each pane has been individually printed before being grouped and, finally, supported by mullions and aluminum anchors.

Kerstin Kühn

Photography by Paul Czitrom

