

TARRUELLA[®] TRENCHS STUDIO

EN TRÁNSITO RESTAURANT, VALLADOLID

Creative Directors: Sandra Tarruella and Ricard Trenchs
Project Leader: Elsa Noms
Collaborators: Núria Calderón, Núria Martínez, Roser Ribas.

En Tránsito is the third restaurant that we have designed for the González brothers, in Valladolid, after the completion of the Japanese Wabisabi and the Alioli tavern.

The aim was to design an interior in line with the company's menu offer, which specializes in authentic and high quality gourmet burgers, and that would further differentiate itself from the typical aesthetics found in American burger joints.

Having the desire to create an original place, the concept lead us to propose a space with winks to car garages and courier companies, where austerity and simplicity of materials provide an urban and casual style. We used textures and materials to maintain a balanced industrial look without losing warmth.

The restaurant is located on a corner building with two glass facades providing visibility and natural light inside the space. Its layout is distributed in two levels: ground floor and basement.

On the basement level, to highlight the idea of a garage, we decided to cover all the walls with fiber cement panels, a solution reminiscent of concrete formwork used during the brutalist architecture period, and a continuous cement flooring in a similar gray tone.

In contrast to these colder claddings, traditional timber formworks were used. They are made of a set of strips and slats in birchwood that run throughout the walls, including the double space of the staircase and the glass facade. This provides a spatial continuity, it serves to draw the attention from the street, and gives an improvised thinking that the space is unfinished.

A Birchwood stair integrates with these slats and runs through the two levels. It is placed aligned with the main facade, guiding the view of passersby towards the inside, and allowing them to glance the basement level.

We strengthen this industrial look with the use of exterior window frames done in enameled steel and different etched glasses, along with exposed stainless steel HVAC ducts.

The restaurant's entrance is through a glass vestibule integrated with the Birchwood slats on the facade. This level is used for the bar and skewers area. It has some high tables and timber bars attached to both the walls and the facade, highlighting the casual ambience of the space and optimizing the available square meters of the premises.

On the rear wall, a black marble volume serves as a bar, and merges with a cantilevered solid oak plank that allows diners to sit around it, and therefore, breaking the barrier between the waiters and guests, since diners can sit in front of the stainless steel back bar unit.

In the middle of the room, a group of wooden boxes with wheels, and used as tables, are either placed together or individually depending on the influx of people. Over these tables, suspended black iron lamps organize the space.

Both the disabled restroom and the storage rooms are hidden behind a cladding in a similar tone with the rest of walls that simulate garage doors. This textured background serves as communication support for the menu.

The basement level has the same aesthetic appearance, and uses like materials as those applied on the ground level. However, all the furniture here was designed to eat while being seated, hence, becoming the most comfortable area of the restaurant.

On one wall, an installation was designed. It consists of 600 burger boxes (at 1:1 scale) made in bright white ceramic produced by Apparatu, a pottery artisan. Some open boxes incorporate interior light, and become wall lamps that illuminate the tables.

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Throughout this installation, a group of tables and oak benches with opposite backrests are found, as well as cushions made with the typical moving blanket's fabric, giving privacy to diners and create a cozy atmosphere.

All the restaurant's furniture, including benches, tables, chairs and stools were brought from Thailand, and were chosen in both oak and teak woods to give a feeling of comfort and warmth.

We decided to add color details on the walls to add boldness and dynamism to the space, signaling paths and framing the flooring with broken lines both on the tables and restroom areas. We also enameled, in cauldron red, the bases of the fiber cement columns to enhance the image of a garage.

Some tables have colored lines that recall the typical checkered tablecloths, and on the restrooms, beer kegs -enameled in cauldron red - were used as sinks, to give a fun touch to the room.

The warm lighting of the spotlights favor a peaceful atmosphere, as well as the sound insulation on the ceilings. These spotlights are combined with some decorative lamps, such as reading lamps or bright red lamps hanging on the staircase help create different ambiances within a single space.

The food presentation and the waiters' uniforms in denim were also adapted to this more informal and edgy aesthetics. The restaurant's design incorporates the naming and graphics of the menus by Pobrelavaca, completing the concept of the venue.