

block722

Press release

O Lofos

architects<sup>+</sup>

30.06.2022

# block722

## Studio Description

“To rise all senses through authentic and timeless experiences”

Block722 is an Athens-based architecture studio, founded in 2009 by architect Sotiris Tsergas and interior designer Katja Margaritoglou. The team combines Greek and Scandinavian heritage, as well as interdisciplinary experience, and creates work that feels confident, natural, and timeless. The studio undertakes a variety of work, from residential to commercial and hospitality, managing in-house all stages of architectural development, from concept design, through to construction and delivery. Solutions always incorporate a focus on quality materials, a crafts-based approach and collaborations with local artisans and artists that interpret the Mediterranean spirit and traditions for the 21st century. An architectural ethos that places a sense of balance at its heart is among this boutique, yet dynamic practice's guiding principles. At the same time, Block722's design solutions are strongly led by each project's contextual needs and the client's brief. As a result, the studio has won several high-profile awards and has been featured widely in Greek and international media.

# block722

Project Identity

Project name

**O Lofos**

Total Surface area

**280 m2**

Type

**Architecture  
Residence**

Predominantly materials

**Stone, wood,  
plaster**

# block722

O Lofos

The green, wild Cretan landscape and the richness and heritage of traditional crafts define this new, thoroughly contemporary residential design by Block722. Located on the northern foothills of Thrypti mountain on the island's eastern side, the project is a commission by a private client. It called for a 280 sq m home on a slope, including two guestrooms and generous outdoors areas.

Balancing the needs of the brief with the natural setting that combines vistas of mountains, plains, and the Mediterranean Sea, was critical in the architects' design solution. The architecture was driven by desire to create a modern house that is discreet and respectful to its surroundings. Negotiating the site's angle through levels instead of steps was also critical in moulding a relaxing environment that embraces its setting.

A path down a slope from the main road leads visitors to the residence's entrance. The complex's size is cleverly broken down into smaller volumes, which are interconnected through circulation routes and in-between spaces - some indoors and some open-air. The main home is divided into two low buildings linked by a semi-enclosed area with a water feature. The design merges natural materials that are often used in the local vernacular, such as wood and stone.

# block722

At the same time, the atmosphere is distinctly contemporary, blending Block722's inherent Scandinavian sensibility and organic minimalism with Japanese architecture influences. This nod to Japan unfolds through the design's refreshing simplicity of clean, almost austere lines that balance the materials' natural, tactile nature and the overall craft-rich approach.

The powerful Greek sunlight helps define shapes and surfaces, playing with the textured materials, as the architects drew on the feel and rhythm of the context for both interiors and exteriors. The journey of light and the clients' habits throughout the day led the spatial arrangement inside. Each section and route are carefully planned to support functionality and frame vistas, through visual journeys and spatial narratives that blend inside and outside, the natural and the human made. The design seeks to enhance slow living, taking its cues from the island's lifestyle.

Block722 collaborated with local craftsmen throughout the construction, applying expert manufacturing skills to a large array of elements in the house. This applies to both high-end architectural details and furniture pieces, the majority of which are bespoke and created

# block722

specifically with this project in mind, using marble, wood, stone, and terrazzo. All the pieces together form Block722's ANATA furniture collection. This approach, rich in artistry and locally sourced, natural materials, elevates the design into a truly custom-made residential gem. Neutral, earthy colours dominate, and quality is prioritised over quantity.

Artwork was also important in the overall composition and the project now holds an impressive 2.8 x 1.5m sculpture by Greek artist Pantelis Chandris. The specially commissioned art piece, sits in the living room, and was developed in parallel to the architectural design, beautifully displaying the retreat's perfect marriage of scales and disciplines.

# block722

Data sheet

Position

## Crete

Year of start

## 2020

Year of completion

## 2022

Photographer:

*Ana Santl*

Art Direction:

*Block722*

Architectural

Supervision:

*Block722*

Ceramics:

*Un.processed realities*

*Maru Meleniou*

Creative Direction:

*Block722*

FF&E:

*Block722*

Construction Manager:

*Nani Kapsoritaki*

Furniture marble

Constructions:

*Delta marble*

*Masterplanning&*

*Architecture:*

*Block722*

Lighting Study:

*Skia Lighting*

*Special wood*

*constructions:*

*Loupasakis s.a.*

Special metal

Constructions:

*Grammatikakis*

*Interior Design and*

*Curation and Styling:*

*Block722*

Landscape:

*Outside landscape*

*architecture*

Special marble

Constructions:

*G. Houlakis*

Furniture construction:

*Maan Halaoui*

Sculpture:

*"Post-Landscape":*

*Pantelis Chandris*

Weaving art:

*Chrysa Georgiou*

Furniture Design

Collection ANATA:

*Block722*

Mirror construction:

*Oentropy*

# block722

Design team

Sotiris Tsergas, Katja Margaritoglou, Francesca Balfoussia, Michalis Grylakis, Christina Kontou, Yannis Mantzaris, Sofia Badeka, Eva Dimoula, Danai Lazaridi, Aristeia Topizopoulou

General publications:

Block722

#block722 #block722architects #architecture

#housingdesign #architecturedesign

#interiordesign #hoteldesign #bespokefurniture

#customfurniture #furnituredesign

#sotiristsergas #katjamargaritoglou #design

#architecturelovers #lines #greekarchitecture

Facebook posts:

@block722architects

Instagram posts:

@block722architects

LinkedIn:

@block722architects+

Pinterest:

@block722

Website:

[www.block722.com](http://www.block722.com)



Lighting:

*Skia Lighting*  
*Celine Wright*  
*Noguchi Lamps*  
*Menu*

Outdoor:

*Kourasanit*

Fabrics:

*Libeco, Norrgavel,*  
*Mille et Claire, Studio*  
*Natural*

Armchairs:

*Darco\_Desiree*

Marbles:

*Marmyk\_G.Houlakis*

Kitchen:

*Marmyk\_G.Houlakis*  
*Loupasakis s.a.*

Curtains:

*Ez Design*

Nightstands:

*Parafernalìa\_Ferm Living,*  
*Dam,*  
*Block722 (master*  
*bedroom)*

Door, windows:

*Loupasakis s.a.*

Kitchen top:

*Mitras architectural*  
*Metalwork*

Pillows:

*Libeco, Mille et Claire*

Outdoor furniture:

*Block722, Dedon (chairs)*

Mosaics:

*G. Houlakis*

Sanitary ware:

*Bagno y Bagno*  
*Cocoon,*  
*Frama, Unidrain,*  
*Design Collection*

Dining Chairs:

*Architecture\_Ethimo,*  
*Brdr.Kruger,*  
*ABAΞ\_Dedon*

Bench:

*Zanat*

Floor wood:

*Mafi*

Mattress:

*Media Strom\_Tempur*  
*Nikos Haritos*

block722

EXECUTIVE CREATIVE DIRECTOR

**Katja Margaritoglou**

MANAGING DIRECTOR

**Sotiris Tsergas**

Founding year

**2009**

block722

Contact persons

**Efi Spyrou**

**efi@block722.com**

**Nikol Chatzigianni**

**nikol@block722.com**

**CC**

**press@block722.com**

Contact hours

**Monday - Friday**

**10:00- 17:00**

block722

[info@block722.com](mailto:info@block722.com)

T1 +30 210 9249769

T2 +30 2103617081

[www.block722.com](http://www.block722.com)

14, Ardittou 11636

Athens, Greece