

Open space for a residential development in Ittigen, Berne

The water sculpture in winter: the frozen work of art plays with the frosty light.



on their sides, and there are also concrete shapes that the water flows through as gliding and deflecting slopes. At the edge of the steps leading down to the so-called arena, curved concrete channels are built in, and the water falls from these in a phased rhythm, flowing on to the fountain sculpture in a straight line and returning from there to the source point. If there is a great deal of rainfall, surplus water passes from the fountain basin to two ponds designed to be as close to nature as possible.

The site has cellars under most of the area, and gains its dynamic from a thoughtfully linked network of paths, a lively topography, from alternating open spaces and intimate niches, and the various opportunities to meet others or to hide, to enjoy the sun or seek out some shade. But without the subtle effect of water in the pools, channels, cascades or fountains the residents would find it very difficult to identify this courtyard as something special, as their own particular habitat with lots of intriguing sub-habitats. And it is not until the water in the fountain sculpture freezes into an icy artwork that the three columns seem to stand together properly for the first time, out there in the freezing cold.



Who is crossing whom?
The water has the same rights as the path, the cracks allow for constant eye contact with the water.



People walking at the watercourse source.
The source feeds through five flowforms.