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# ARTISTIC ESCAPE

CABIN 03 / TSCHIERTSCHEN

## Aux Losanges

In February, the mountain village of Tschierschen will receive an influx of art enthusiasts. An exhibition of works by Swiss sculptor Hans Josephsohn will open at Aux Losanges, a residence that doubles as an arts venue.

The *strickbau* was renovated by London and Zürich-based practice Caruso St John in 2017 and has been at the centre of the village's cultural life since the mid-20th century. Built as a home in 1869, the structure served as a restaurant (known as Café Engi), exhibition and concert space. Its future hung in the balance until Zürich-based couple Armin Zink and Stéphane Lombardi, who used to visit Café Engi after hikes, purchased the property in 2015. A plan to turn it into a holiday home changed when the town's mayor suggested they give it a "public dimension". "It set Zink and Lombardi's imaginations alight," says architect Adam Caruso. "So we created a house that works like a turn-of-the-century salon: it is a private residence but there are concerts and exhibitions where some of the interiors become accessible to the public."

At the heart of the public areas is a double-height foyer with a concert grand piano and panoramic windows. Guests can choose from one of five large bedrooms – each with a distinct identity – that are complemented by four common rooms. The architects also designed built-in beds and cupboards, which were inspired by the traditional painted furniture of Swiss farmhouses. "By containing a diverse set of interiors and atmospheres, the house is a world in itself," says Caruso.

[aux-losanges.ch](http://aux-losanges.ch)

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