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"Mala ulica" Family Centre

Družinski center "Mala ulica"

Mala ulica or Little Street, located just off the popular Trubarjeva Street in Ljubljana's historical centre, is a public day-care and activity centre for preschool children. It occupies the premises of a former City Public Bathhouse built in 1899–1901 after plans of Wilhelm Brückner, which was repurposed as a restaurant in the second half of the 20th century.

After several years of neglect, a team of architects devised a plan for its conversion into the Family Centre. The neo-Romanesque façade was reconstructed respecting cultural heritage protection guidelines with the interior following and making the most of the former ground plan, while adapting it to its users - the children. It was created as a reflection of the



outside city on a child's scale with the various play areas mimicking its constituent parts. One enters through the city gates and continues along a city street lined with playful imitations of Ljubljana's famous façades into the city park, a cafe, a

Prečna ulica, 7 - Ljubljana

Špela Kuhar, Mateja Panter
2013



model apartment, a play-house, a fishpond, a library etc. The design encourages imaginative play and helps children to get to know Ljubljana; the innovative equipment was conceived with soft, tactile and washable materials in dynamic,

irregular shapes with a stress on safety. To further reference and honour the building's original purpose, artists Mojca Smerdu and Alenka Videgar created a fountain for the basement lavatory area, appropriately named the 'City Public Bath'. **K.M.**

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Renovation, reuse
and interior design

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www.malaulica.si

