

Project Name: **S Cube Chalet**
 Type: Residential | 750 m²
 Location: Kuwait
 Date: 2007-2011
 Client: Private
 Cost: Confidential
 Photographer: [Nelson Garrido](#)

Awards: Golden A'Design Award 2013 "Architecture, Building and Structure Design Category"
 Residential Project of the Year at Middle East Architect Awards 2012

Project Description

S Cube family chalet is made up of three intertwined **beach houses**. The owners -**two brothers and their sister** each with their own families- want to continue enjoying the same exceptional environment in which they grew up, but with complete **independency and privacy** from each other.

For these reasons, the **design** of these three small houses calls for a **duplicated program**, which maintains **privacy**, while benefiting from **outdoor areas** and **sea views**, by the use of several **terraces**.

Architectural solutions proposed by AGi

In order to create **private and independent houses** for each family -comprising of three young couples with two small children each-, **AGi architects** have divided the plot into two units, composed of **two houses** that are **mirror images** of each other, named S2 and S3. These units are separated by a staircase leading towards the third house, located at the **higher level**. The third house is positioned on top and across from the two residences, enjoying a large roof terrace with direct views towards the sea. Each of the three houses enjoys an **individual outdoor area** that is open to the sky, **privacy** from its neighbor, and **extended sea views**.

The **highly dense** program in the **intertwined** houses is manipulated to create outdoor spaces which **harvest the prevailing winds** and enhance their circulation within the **courtyards**, allowing people to comfortably reside in them. The building is carefully situated to protect its exposure to the sun on the **southern façade**, whilst increasing shaded space on the northern side to **frame views** out to the sea as well as create a pleasant outdoor environment.

The **outdoor spaces** on the ground floor and the **roof terrace** of the third house on the upper level are the main distinguishing elements and spaces of this project; from which the three houses are organized around them. They are **beach houses** designed to optimize and enhance the outdoor experience.

Program

S Cube chalet is developed into **three levels**:

S2 and S3 houses comprise of **mirrored program**, occupying two levels:

- **Ground floor.** Main bedroom, bathroom, kitchen, living room and a large courtyard open to the sea.
- **First floor.** Two bedrooms, bathroom and a terrace with side views to the sea, designed as a playing area for children. Terraces of both houses are visually separated by a grid.

S1 house is developed in two separate levels illustrated below:

- **First floor.** Main bedroom, bathroom, kitchen, living room, and a terrace connected to the S3 terrace.
- **Second floor.** Two bedrooms, bathroom and a large terrace facing the sea.



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Materials

The **flooring, stairs and dividing wall** between S1 and S2 are all clad using **Indian sandstone**. **Interior walls and ceilings** are finished using plaster and paint, whilst **handrails** are clad with **wood**.

The **interiors** have been designed by AGi architects. All **materials** used in the S Cube project are locally manufactured. The loose **furniture** produced by Spanish brands, supplied by Gunni & Trentino.

Team

Joaquin Pérez-Goicoechea
Nasser B. Abulhasan

Architectural team:
Robert A. Varghese
Abdul Hafiz Mohammed
Mónica Marqués
José Ángel del Campo

AGi architects

The international design firm [AGi architects](#) was founded by two architects educated at Harvard University, **Joaquín Pérez-Goicoechea** and **Nasser B. Abulhasan**.

With a noticeable **international** character and a **multidisciplinary** focus, [AGi architects](#) offers a **professional service** emphasizing **quality, creativity** and **exclusive design**. AGi has a vision to create environments that create a lasting value for clients through distinctive and imaginative solutions. At present, the studio has offices in **Kuwait and Madrid**, with a team comprised of **more than 70 professionals**.

The studio's architecture is based on four founding pillars: **innovation, an inherent life component, ecological and social interventions** and **research**. AGi architects provides comprehensive services in architecture, interior design and urban planning.

[AGi architects](#) has been recognized with more than **40 international awards** such as: Lafarge Holcim Awards, WAF Awards, Middle East Architect Awards, MIPIM Architectural Review, Identity Design Awards and Cityscape Awards, amongst other prizes.

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