



# My House is Better Than Your House

**NADAAA**  
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**Robert Levit**

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- Explores the confluence of typology, geometry, landscape, and constructive systems in a design process that brings them into a difficult synthesis

In the South of France, sited on a hill of olive trees, pinus pinea, and a vineyard, a family retreat was designed with a key mission of maintaining the vitality of the site. A small agricultural plot, the site offered the possibility of amplification. With the introduction of a garden and many outdoor living spaces, the family had the intention of cultivating the landscape as part of their stewardship. In part a response to a programmatic brief, but moreover, a discursive response to architectural predicaments of geometry, typology, and anomaly, the house is also a response to Preston Scott Cohen's pedagogies on architecture.

**NADAAA** is a Boston-based architecture and urban design firm led by principal designer Nader Tehrani. NADAAA is a platform for design investigation at a large scale and with a great geographic reach. NADAAA has evolved over three decades as a practice dedicated to bridging between design disciplines: from landscape to urbanism, architecture to interiors, and industrial design to furniture, with a focus on craft, construction, and digital fabrication.

**Nader Tehrani** is Dean of the Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture at the Cooper Union and Founding Principal of NADAAA. Tehrani's work has been recognised with notable awards, including the Cooper Hewitt National Design Award in Architecture, the United States Artists Fellowship in Architecture and Design, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Architecture.

