

THE HINTERLAND

CABINS, LOVE SHACKS
AND OTHER HIDE-OUTS

gestalten







– Valais, Switzerland –

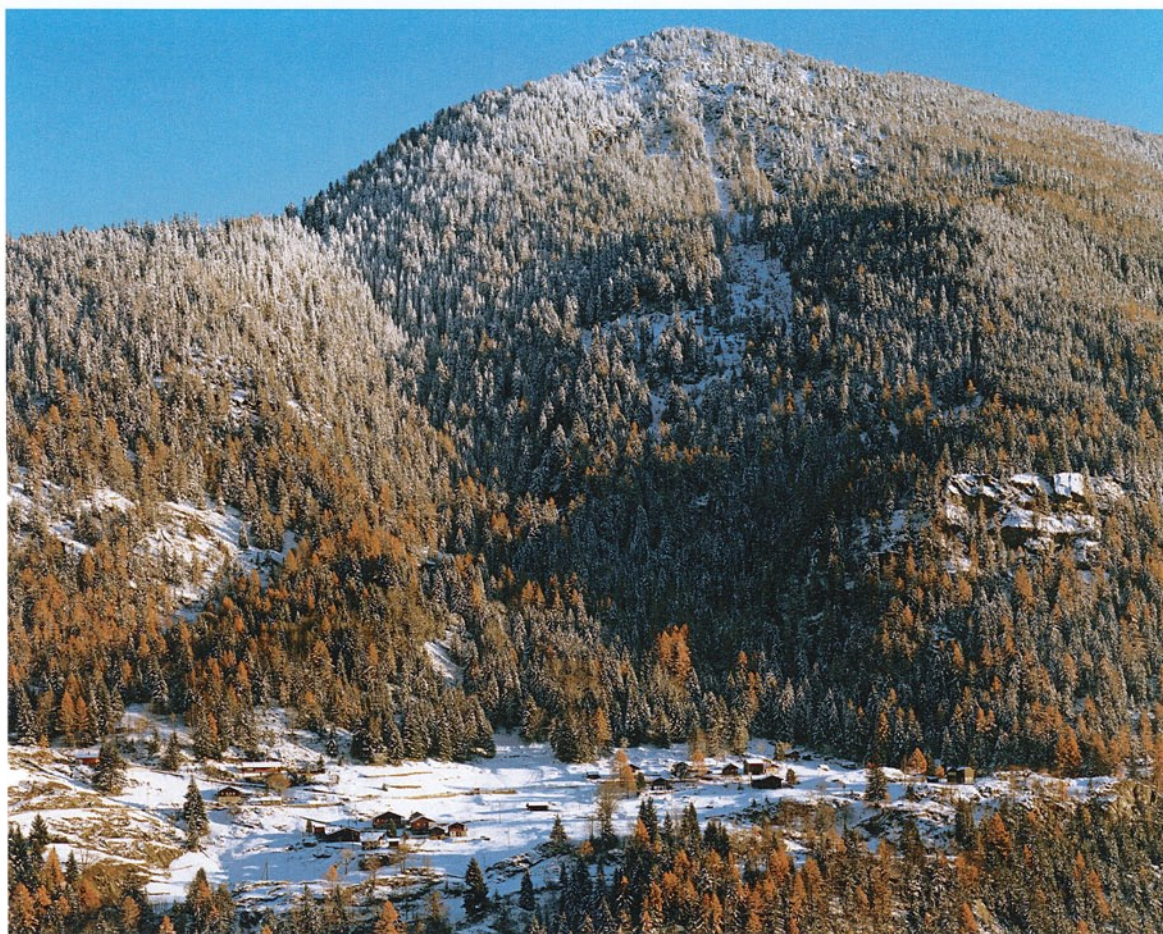
ALPINE PROMONTORY

LACROIX CHESSEX



The Swiss Alps encircle
a mountain retreat steeped in history, awakening
the senses at a prominent altitude.

In a sleepy hamlet above the road to the Col de la Forclaz, an alpine lodge adds to the local memory. The form and scale of the structure recalls the traditional huts for storing grain found throughout Valais. From the mountainside, one sees only a single silhouette in the form of an M, resembling the rocky ridges that encircle it. From the valley side, the view of two volumes raised from the ground evokes the archetypal children's drawing of their home. Two large windows, one in the living room on the ground level and the other on the first floor, allow the landscape to seep through the building. The two windows each command an opposing façade, forging a visual reference between the two sections of the chalet while framing swatches of the expressive, snowcapped surroundings. A subtle nod to the historic Swiss barns and agricultural huts of the region, the understated design carves out a legacy in the space where the past and future intersect. ♦



“From the mountainside, one sees only a single silhouette in the form of an M.”

