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choreographs

Text Terri Peters
Photo Adam Mørk
A series of 15 -degree folds and bends, in the two otherwise simplistic towers of Bella Sky Hotel, make for an elegant composition that resembles embracing figures dancing on the skyline. In the words of Kim Nielsen, partner at 3XN: 'We started with the programme, the rooms, but with the airport so close, we had height limitations. Instead of trying to make a stack, we thought: how about folding it? That's when it got a lot more interesting.'

Located in Ørestad, Copenhagen, the hotel is clad in triangular panels, affirming 3XN's emerging signature style of geometric precision, which also marks its Horten Building (Mark 24) and Middelfart Savings Bank (Mark 29). Here in Ørestad, the random pattern of panels displays a variety of glazed and solid shapes.

Bridged at two levels, the towers have a common entrance foyer and increased circulation at the top. The grand lobby staircase - encourages guests to linger and socialize on their way through the hotel. A carefully manicured green wall continues this relaxed atmosphere while decorating two storeys 'naturally'. With 814 guest rooms and 30 conference rooms, Bella Sky is the largest hotel in Scandinavia. As a result of the folded façades, the architects were able to create about 200 distinctive room plans. For those who like heights, room \#2130 on the $22^{\text {nd }}$ floor offers the most cantilevered façade, not to mention dizzying views from the corner windows.
The team at 3 XN can be credited with opening the doors to a thrilling new hotel experience for a range of tastes: whether
you want a 'dancing in the sky' adventure that goes no further than viewing the city skyline and the water beyond or one that includes teetering on tiptoe and peering straight down to the street, Bella Sky caters to your wishes.

