



FONDAZIONE PRADA

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eleven buildings dedicated to art

This lighting project offers a flexible and powerful museographical and scenographical tool, to the Fondazione Prada, to exhibit modern and contemporary art pieces. Tracks, projectors, and general lighting insert even in the rehabilitated buildings than the contemporary architecture from OMA.

The site and the all architecture are also part of this project for which we designed and commissioned the lighting of two first exhibitions : « Serial Classic » and « An Introduction ».

This compound dedicated to art take part on our architectural and museum lighting activity, with OMA architects, where the lighting design overpasses the limit of a basic illumination and creates ambiances, even visible from the outside of the building.





THE HAUNTED HOUSE: an iconic building covered with gold

architecture of the foundation

A foundation dedicated to contemporary art

Largo Isarco is requalification rehabilitation and project, of a former Gin Factory into a Contemporary Art Center. Project of the architectural office OMA – designed by Rem Koolhaas, Chris Van Duijn and Federico Pompignoli – that gives to the Prada Foundation, a new space to deploy their collections and an ambitious exhibition creation politic with renowned curators.

From the different buildings of the site, two were dismantled, height were preserved and rehabilitated, three are totally new.

An architectural strategy according to the building typologies

Three typologies of buildings composes the site: the buildings rehabilitated, the new and contemporary buildings, the new buildings rebuilt on an ancient shape. OMA designs three contrasted architectural strategies, with strong design characteristics, to reinforce their own identities.

The renovated buildings are treated with a strong will to keep visible the traces of intervention and restoration: the reinforcement beams are exposed and painted with contrasted colors, the plaster refecton's are left raw, breakthroughs and doors are clearly identifiable with a very different architectural language, made of brushed aluminum and large windows. A design of "no design", sophisticated in its simplicity.

If it includes all of the strategy, the «Haunted House» adds an extra note. At the heart of the site, to house the small museum of Miuccia Prada, the building is covered with almost 4 kg of gold leaf.

The contemporary buildings such as the Tower, dominating the site with its almost 45m height of white concrete, the Podium and Beam, two showrooms coated aluminum foam, say a very different architecture both in its volume and its materials: great cube without posts in the manner of a Mies Van der Rohe, glazed on three sides, for the Podium; long parallelepiped cantilever for the Beam; rectangular and triangular rooms of variable height stacked for the tower.

The refurbished buildings, such as the Cinema, who retake the initial volume of a razed building, are completely re-interpreted in its facades. The stainless steel mirror panels on the two long sides of the building, multiply the site and the Cinema becomes almost transparent. Transition between the two typologies that surrounds it, it fades to amplify the outlines of the Podium.

With this project, OMA realize a subtle conservation work, contemporary reinterpretation of an existing site. Respectful of the architecture while hustling by contemporary interventions that assume their presence and their actions, as paradoxical revelators.





FONDAZIONE PRADA





biblioteca





THE LIBRARY, THE BAR AND AN EXHIBITION SPACE UPSTAIRS



RECEPTION: an aluminum canopy, lit by continuous fluorescent lines hidden on the side of the beams

the podium et the beam

An architecture of transparency and aluminium

Such as a large building «free plan», the Podium is a centerpiece of the Foundation's site. Clad with aluminum foam, glassed on three sides, it contrasts the haunted house covered with gold, with its cold hue, the simplicity of its outlines and its contemporary architecture.

The Podium is a complex program that host exhibitions, fashion shows, monumental installations... on a «pedestal» visible from three sides. An additional surrounding curtain allows to make a dark space, if necessary.

Real production tool dedicated to exhibitions, the Podium synthesizes a multitude of services: «capable ceilings» - equipped with 3 phases tracks for projectors, Halfen tracks, RJ45 and power sockets - «capable floor» - with multiple floor box equipped of RJ45 and power sockets - «operable walls» with a whole section of the south facade motorized to be open to the outside and to the logistics services of the exhibitions (monumental artworks, etc.).

The Podium is completed by the Beam, a long architectural volume, placed on the roof of the Podium. With a single glass facade, the Beam is a more obscure volume, inside and outside covered with aluminum foam. It is cantilevered on the roof of the North building and ends with a large terrace. This allows to make monumental pieces exhibition, on a balcony visible from the center of Milan, as a signal directed towards the city.

Lighting design basics on Podium and Beam

The Podium and the Beam have the same aluminum ceiling, adaptable to multiple configurations. It consists in a complex multifunctional track concealed behind a decorative panel on a hinge. Perpendicular to the tracks, dimmable fluorescent lines from 0 to 100%, allow 1.200 lux with high uniformity. The assembly forms a very smooth ceiling, with a very studied design.

Some LED projectors, with an specially adapted bracket to this technical slot, illuminate the works with intensive and semi-intensive optics. The range of projectors is completed by some LED profile projectors and wall-washers, particularly in the Beam. All fluorescent luminaires are dimmable unitary via a touch panel and a specially interface developed by our office, to make easy the new lighting setups.

Finally, to accommodate the multiple configurations, the lighting system is completed by a Halfen track and 36A power sockets in the ceiling and the floor.





RECEPTION: an aluminum canopy, lit by continuous fluorescent lines hidden on the side of the beams



















the exhibition Serial Classic

An exhibition on the copy of the Greek sculpture, by the Roman tradition

Alongside the delivery of the building lighting, we designed and commissioned the lighting of two of the opening exhibitions: « Serial Classic », co-designed by the commissioners Salvatore Settis and Anna Anguissola, that puts the focus on classical sculpture. This exhibition explores the ambivalent relationship between original and imitation in Roman culture and on the circulation of multiple copies in homage to Greek art. The exhibition takes place in the Podium and Beam, two major rooms of the foundation. The lighting present the statues in a mineral and artificial landscape composed of marble-travertine slabs laid on transparent acrylic slices. The exhibition creates a « democratic » position between viewer and sculpture, without pedestal...

See the artworks without romanticism, with all their details

The lighting shows the sculptures from every angle, and seeks to avoid any imposed views on the meaning or aesthetic of the statues. No romance, no over-played shadow. The sculptures are illuminated to minimize shadows and provide a complete reading of the details. Curly hair very worked on a marble type are reinforced, some color corrections reveals traces of gilt on bronze hair, a hand that remains of a cherub on the back of Venus is made visible by lighting,... on all sides of the sculptures.

Directions of light are specifically designed to reduce the shadows and allow light to penetrate into the sculptural volumes. The balancing of the different sources helps to gives a main direction to light - as the axis given by the sun - to bring up correspondences between groups of sculptures and help reading the seriality.

The part shown in the Beam, more didactic, attempts to show techniques for copying and the differences from original to copies. A video mapping on a block of marble is made to show copying techniques by the ancients.



THE LOBBY AND THE ACCESS TO THE HAUNTED HOUSE...



... THREE PHASES TRACKS FOR SPOTLIGHTS ILLUMINATING THIS SPACE OF PASSAGE AND EVENTS



ROBERT GOBER
LOUISE BOURGEOIS

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the haunted house

A renovated building, golden plated

The « Haunted House » is the small personal museum of Miuccia Prada, in the heart of the site. Old building site management, he was rehabilitated by OMA in a conservation concern: Invisible structural reinforcement, recovery visible coatings to mark the procedure, concealment of technical equipment to give expression to the existing structural elements, etc. Paradoxically, the building where the architectural intervention is more discreet with no significant changes stairs, doors, door frames.

Conversely, this concern for discretion and invisible intervention, OMA covers the building of nearly 4 kg of gold leaf. Minimum intervention has the maximum effect, transforming the building into the Foundation icon.

Lighting of the exhibitions

No general lighting in the exhibition rooms, but lighting realized by three phases tracks and LED fixtures. All of these tracks are attached flush on the wing of existing steel ceiling beams. Matching the color of the beams, they are invisible. The projectors are horizontal, tilted down to the artworks.

Between the tracks, we slip small fluorescent seamless lines to achieve security lighting. Always off, these ramps are activated only when needed.

The « Haunted House » presents art pieces from Louise Bourgeois, Robert Gobber, etc. The lighting consists of LED spotlights intensive and semi-intensive, and LED profile projectors.



THE HAUNTED HOUSE: spotlights fixed on tracks concealed in existing steel beams



THE GREAT HALL
event, exhibition

THE TOWER
exhibition, restaurant



THE SOUTHERN GALLERY
exhibition

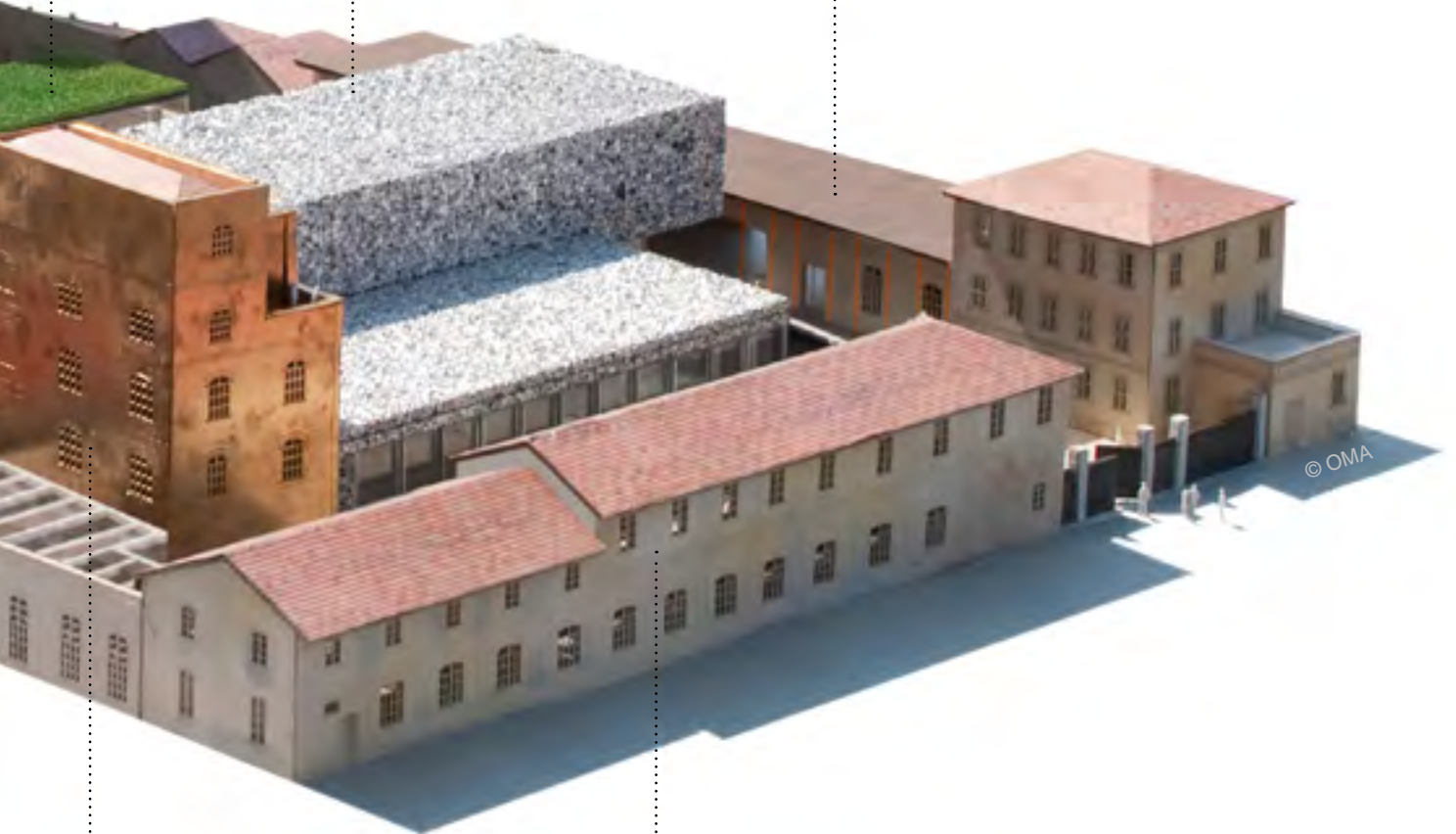
THE TANK
exhibition

THE LOBBY
event, exhibition

THE CONVERTIBLE CINEMA
cinema, conference, bandstand

THE BEAM & THE PODIUM
event, exhibition

THE NORTHERN GALLERY
exhibition on two levels



THE HAUNTED HOUSE
exhibition

LIBRARY & BAR LUCE
bar, reading, exhibition on first level



THE HAUNTED HOUSE: spotlights fixed on tracks concealed in existing steel beams





CINEMA, wall mirror stainless opens to reveal a LED screen. The building's walls are opened to create an open room on the courtyards.

the Cinema

A building mirroring the Podium

The Cinema hall acts as a mirror of the Podium facing it. With its stainless steel mirror facade, it multiplies the Podium and extend its outlines: the floor of the hall reigns same height as the Podium, building heights correspond.

Thus, from the Cinema / Conference room, the the building becomes a podium by adding a temporary wooden floors, to house fashion show or outdoor concerts. Both east and west facades are raised to radiate the room like a bandstand in the heart of the site.

The room lined with black carpet, willed by Prada and OMA as a reference to the 70's. A large entrance chandelier covers the hall wall. Fluorescent lighting, slipped under a perforated and folded metal mesh, creates a strong welcome signal, which extends into the room and turns on the front of the room of the projectionist.

A multifunctional hall

The lighting of the room is made up of seamless fluorescent lines positioned between the metal beams of the ceiling. Alternating every two beams, they form a ceiling of black and white stripes.

Steel bars complete the system between each fluorescent line, to fix stage projectors and allow different stage configurations (concert, cat-walk show, etc.).

To finish, a cloakroom and toilets, with a high-contrast design, complete the picture.



CINEMA, main room: the room is transformable to an open podium on the outside...



... scenic bars allow to fix stage lighting and transform the room to a stage overlooking the outer courts



CINEMA, large lighting of the lobby: the seamless fluorescent lines

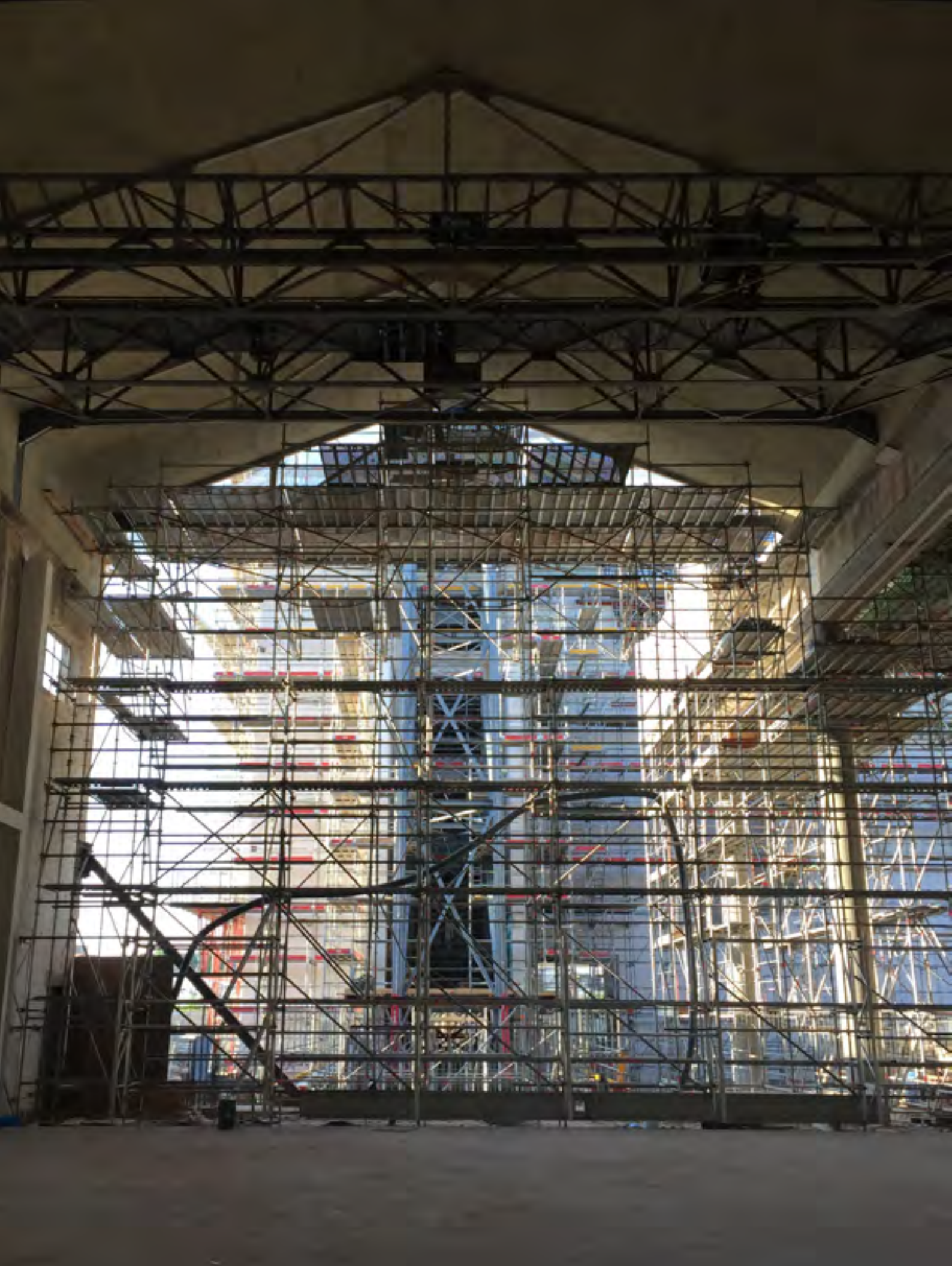


CINEMA, main hall: the horizontal lines are turning ceiling



CINEMA, stairs to the locker room: the seamless lines extend creating a light box





GREAT HALL, awaiting finishing the construction of the TOWER

the Great Hall and the Tank

The Great Hall

With almost 70m long and 20 m high, the Great hall is a huge space dedicated to monumental exhibitions and events. Partially dismantled for the construction of the tower, it is reinforced structurally like other rehabilitation of the site by visible steel beams, painted orange. Gantry cranes and concrete roof structure made it a particular building, with an industrial ambiance.

The tank, three high-rise exhibition spaces

Facing the large deposit, the Tank consists of three exhibition spaces of 15 m high. If the West facade is little changed, the Eastern facade is thoroughly transformed, with the addition of balconies and large contemporary windows.

A stage lighting for these two places

In both buildings, lighting is achieved by stage projectors, fixed on a special cable tray system with a continuous scenic bar. RJ45 and power sockets allow to perform multiple configurations. General lighting for mounting and cleaning is delivered by high-power asymmetrical floodlights wall mounted.



GREAT HALL: asymmetric floodlights for functional light and a scenic system that allows additional lights





TRITTICO







THE TERRACE OF THE BAR: LED fixtures illuminates the perimeter of the site



LOBBY, ACCESS TO THE SOUTHERN GALLERY: fluorescent fixtures lining the arch between the polycarbonate walls

the North and South Galleries

Buildings preserved in their industrial quality

The North and South galleries are left raw places, and rehabilitated with subtlety. The soils are mostly preserved, coatings are redone but leaving visible traces of the interventions. Structural reinforcements are left exposed, with the use of visible steel beams IPN. These multiple places that forms the North and South galleries, creates a series of « clean rooms » in raw and industrial atmosphere that hosts the temporary exhibitions of the Foundation.

A simple but smart lighting

The existing lighting with T26 fluorescent lines on the trunking system is removed and replaced identical, but with DALI ballast that allow individual dimming. The lighting system includes, as well, emergency lighting.

To these fluorescent lines we added three phases tracks for installing exhibitions projectors. Again, work with lighting and general lighting enhancements of works by spotlights.

The premises are equipped with intensive and semi-intensive LED spotlights, some LED profile projectors and wall-washer lighting for artworks on entire sections of walls.





THE NORTHERN GALLERY: T26 fluorescent ramps controlled by DALI, three phases tracks and LED spotlights



WC

some technical details

A centralized management system, powerful and complete

We designed the entire DALI management system, including execution studies : DALI relay, dimmers, management for single lights ... all our studies have tent to build a flexible and powerful control system. Multiple lighting scenarios are made for each space. An heliometer analyze sunshine, sky typology, and automatically switches between different lighting scenarios: sunny day, cloudy day, dusk, twilight, night, building closure.

If all zones and commands are given from the PC security, the Foundation has a wireless touch-pad allowing it to control lighting at any point. Wall panels dedicated to each space, complete the control system.

For the main spaces, lighting is reconfigurable at will, via a graphic interface designed by ourselves. It lets ones select the fixtures one by one, or in groups or individually to graduate at will, via a simplified plan interface. During commissioning, we support providers and realize the management settings.

A geometric lighting design

Voute covered fluorescent tube - in the manner of the artist François Morellet - lines diffusing light in polycarbonate ceilings, flush lines or otherwise invisible installation above aluminium grille ... the lighting project deploys a very graphic vocabulary of lines and accumulations. For easier maintenance, we use sources of very long lifetime (20 to 60 000h), almost equivalent to the lifetime of LED luminaires.

A refined lighting even in basic premises

The lighting project designed multiple environments into the corridors and toilets: exposed lines or highly integrated, LED lines above the towel, etc. All these spaces runs on presence detection.



TOILETS OF BUILDING C : fluorescent line position is coordinate with the mesh





↑ Detail of the ceilings of the lobby: some fluorescent lines on one side bathe the beams. Round masks give access to sockets for illumination.



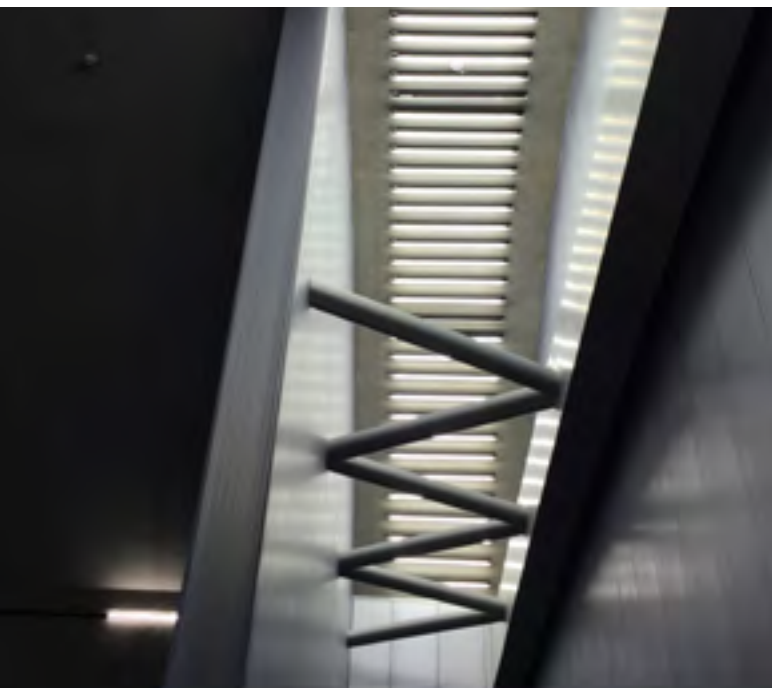
↑ Installation of sculptures: here is Penelope under the supervision of the Iranian curator.



↑ Emergency lighting: seamless fluorescent in the three phases tracks
↓ Lobby vault, sequence of long lifetime fluorescent tubes



↑ Adjustment of the current exhibition lighting
↓ Detail of the three phases tracks and the T26 trunking system





↑ Lighting perforated sheet metal benches by integrated LED ramps



↑ Synchronizing the ceilings with fluorescent seamless tubes



↑ Lighting of the perimeter of the site by wall lights (including emergency lighting)
↓ Details of steps: indirect LED lines and letters illuminated



↑ Trapdoor system to hide the lighting
↓ Lighting of the underside of the Beam by fluorescent ramps





Location: Fondazione Prada - Milano, Italy
Largo Isarco 2, 20139 Milano
Project size: 19 000 sq m
Budget: 48 200 000 euros
Contracting authority: Fondazione Prada
Completion (1st part): May 2015

Architects: OMA, R. Koolhaas,
C. Van Duijn, F. Pompignoli
Lighting design: les éclairieurs
Scenography: Ducks Scéno

Main products and lighting systems:
Zumtobel (management system and fluorescents)
Erco (exhibition projectors and outdoor lighting)
Flux Lighting (led ramps in benches)
Iguzzini (fluorescent lines in the Haunted House)

our company

Les éclairieurs is a young, dynamic and motivated agency, working in France and abroad. With annual sales of € 900.000, and a strong team with a range of skills from urban planning to architecture, our ambition is to extend our business to english-speaking countries and China, while continuing to develop our core business in France and Europe.

Our agency is recognized for its expertise and ability to deliver high requirement projects. We focus our attention on the details as well as the subsequent maintenance of the facilities. This is shown by the long term loyalty of our partnerships with both architects and clients.

We develop the networks and the automation systems for our lighting and are always looking for innovative solutions. We are able to offer bold and ambitious projects because of the strength of our technical expertise.

With a background in the creative arts, we are engaged in numerous collaborations with artists, designers and scenographers who are at the heart of new designs for architectural structures and urbanities.

les éclairieurs are members of:



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