Special Tectonic - MUSEUM
Steven Holl · Zaha Hadid · Manuelle Gautrand
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The Brown Stone Gallery ISU

Incheon Robotland Public Facilities WONYANG
Lille Métropole Musée Extension Villeneuve d'Ascq, France
Manuelle Gautrand Architecture
Location Villeneuve d'Ascq, France
Use Musaum
Surface 7,600 m²
Including the Extension 3,200 m²
Exhibition Surface 4,000 m²
Architects: Manuelle Gautrand Architecture (Representative Architect)

- Yves Tsigard (Project Manager Architect, Joint Architect in Works Phase)

Museography: Renaud Pierard

Structure: Khebren

Façades: Alto

Economist: LTA (Studies Phase), Guersquier-Derick (Works Phase)

Multimedia: Roger Labeyrie

Fire Security: Casso

Refurbishing Works of the Existing Building's Facade and Roofing: Etienne Sintive

Landscape Architects: AWP

Roofing: Finishing: Tommasini

Giant Lille Métropole Communauté Urbaine

Photo by: Max Lerouge • LMCU • Philippe Rusault
The project aims at building up the museum as a continuous and fluid entity, by adding new galleries dedicated to a collection of Art Brut works, from a travelling movement that extrapolates existing spaces. A complete refurbishment of the existing building was next required, some parts were very worn. In spite of the heritage monument status of Simonner's construction, rather than set up at a distance, we immediately opted to seek contact by which the extension would embrace the existing buildings in a supporting movement.

The architecture of the extension wraps around the north and east sides of the existing arrangement in a fan-splay of long, fluid and organic volumes. On one side, the fan ribs stretch in close folds to shelter a café-restaurant that opens to the central patio; on the other, the ribs are more widely spaced to form the five galleries for the Art brut collection.

The Art brut galleries maintain a strong link with the surrounding scenery, but they are also purpose-designed to suit the works that they house: atypical pieces, powerful works that you can't just glance at in passing. The folds in these galleries make the space less rigid and more organic, so that visitors discover art works in a gradual movement.

At the extremity of the folds meaning the galleries a large bay opens magnificent views onto the surrounding parkland, adding breathing space to the visit itinerary. The surface concrete has a slight colour tint that varies according to intensity of light.

Written by Manuella Gautrand