

La Gaîté Lyrique

Music, Music venues



Arts et Métiers



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TIME OUT SAYS



DETAILS

USERS SAY

19th-century composer Jacques Offenbach isn't usually associated with cutting-edge digital art, but after a 10-year revamp, Offenbach's former Belle Époque Gaîté Lyrique theatre has been turned into Paris's first ever digital cultural centre - a 7 floor, multidisciplinary concert hall cum gallery that thrusts visitors deep into the realms of digital art, music, graphics, film, fashion, design and video games.

It's not the first time the building has undergone transformation: After being a haut-lieu of operetta and Russian ballet, it was pillaged by the Nazis, only to become a circus school in the 1970s and a mini theme park in the 1980s. But this time its interior, which combines the original Belle Époque foyer with starkly modern spaces signed architect Manuelle Gautrand, is set to become a permanent fixture on the city's cultural scene. Its programme explores the relatively uncharted territory of digital art, and the role of technology in artistic expression with electronic music concerts by cutting-edge acts; live multimedia performances; guest appearances by famous international artists and DJs; and film projections. You can even just pop into the funky surroundings for a decent cup of coffee and a flit through the magazines.