

Project	ARTOTHÈQUE
Architects	L'ESCAUT ARCHITECTURES
Address	1, Rue Claude de Bettignies, 7000 Mons
Programme	Transformation of the old chapel of the Ursulines Convent The program is structured and divided into four entities. One of them is accessible to the public: the space of the ground floor and the library on the first floor, the other three being dedicated to scientific staff and restoration, management, logistics and storage spaces (six levels).
About	<p>L'Artothèque is the new storage and conservation tool for the heritage of the city of Mons. The history of the Ursulines chapel is combined with the works that are conserved, half way between restoration and reinterpretation. Stretched between steel and cracked stones, L'Artothèque is defined as a journey rather than an object.</p> <p>The Chapel of the former Ursulines Convent is a remarkable example of classical architecture from the early eighteenth century. Listed as patrimony, it was transformed and deprived of its original interior space after the Second World War.</p> <p>The presence of concrete floors, that destroyed the monument, is turned into an opportunity: from a commonly damaged monument, the chapel becomes a place of conservation for works of art, with an envelope of heritage value.</p> <p>The main options that determined the interior design lie in the creation of a vertical opening, opening to the height and length of the former nave, and freeing the vision on the ground floor. We can now apprehend the three dimensions of the original interior of the chapel, where the volume of the precious storage fits.</p> <p>Inside the chapel, the public enters the lobby area. Its scenography confronts digital technologies, allowing virtual consultation of the works, with glass cases containing the actual works.</p>
Typology	Culture
Status	Built
Conception	2010
Delivery	2015
Client	Ville de Mons
Total budget	7 300 000 euros HTVA
Per square meters	3 300 euros HTVA
Area	2200 m2
Architects	L'Escaut : Catherine Dohmen, Grégoire Fettweis, Atelier Gigogne : Pierre Van Assche, Catherine Titeux



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OTHER PROJECTS :

Cultural hall Victor Jara
- 2005 2009
- Soignies

Development of the left bank quaysides
of the Sambre in Charleroi
- 2010 2014
- Charleroi

Housing units-studios for artists 'Cheval
Noir'
- 2003 2010
- Bruxelles

Otro
- 2008 2012
- île de Vassivière

Stability	JZH & Partners
Special techniques	Axis Engineering
Scenography	L'escaut architectures
Lightning	Henriette Michaux
Others	Patrimoine sur les parties classées : Atelier Gigogne



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