

CLIENT :
iGuzzini Illuminazione France S.A.

ARCHITECT :
PLC Architectures

DESIGN TEAM :
Pier Luigi Copat, *Architect principal*
Alia Bengana, *Project Architect*
Serge Bussière, Sébastien Aribat, Roberta Molteni, Lorenzo Barracchi, *Collaborators*

PROGRAM
Renovation and refurbishing of a former industrial building. Design of the iGuzzini Illuminazione France headquarters Offices, entry lobby, showroom, meeting rooms and conference room.

DATE :
September 2004

COST OF WORKS :
2 200 000 €

SITE AREA :
1 500 m²

Abandoned industrial spaces in suspensionCraft industries, ateliers, workshops used to be the heartbeat of the Bastille neighborhood. These activities having left the city center, what remains are empty, twisted and intricate spaces, result of extensions ,subsequent in time, where the original layout is not anymore perceivable. Spaces "in suspension" waiting to be reclaimed to the new city life. The project for the headquarters of iGuzzini Illuminazione France focuses in turning a disordered overlapping of structures and spaces into a coherent sequence of clearly identified spaces, "the patio", the "black chamber" and the "light chamber" .



The Patio

The entry space is a long and narrow, funnel like, space which links the core of the project, in the inner part of the city block, to the street. A surprising vertical garden extinguishes the city hectic pace to introduce a space where peace is the ideal condition to experience light. From here starts a four storey red wall that acts as constantly present reference point when moving around the building

The Black Chamber

The underground is intentionally left without natural lighting. This perfect Dark Chamber becomes the ideal and natural space for presenting the iGuzzini products.

The Light Chamber

The upper two floors, become the space where natural light has revitalized previously dark spaces by opening up the façades, creating double height volumes, skylights. It is the space where perception can dynamically flow from one floor to the other, from one space to the other. uninterrupted. Consistent alterations to the original walls and structure free unexpected perspectives, diagonal views trough out the spaces and the floors , surprisingly questioning the relationship between inside and outside sometimes making exterior elements part of the interior and vice versa.







