



A gentle manifesto

BRIGITTE D'HELFT

Our starting point is:

Territory/geometry

Memory/history

Tradition/modernity

Architecture must relate to:

Our time/our context

The challenge is:

Emotion/beauty

Today we build tomorrow's patrimony

The essence of any city is a mix of human experience:

Monuments/housing/workplaces/culture/public space

Architecture might be rich/simple/complex

But it must always be attractive

Modernity and beauty

History and memory

Honouring context does not mean reproducing it

The answer is not in rigidity/conformance

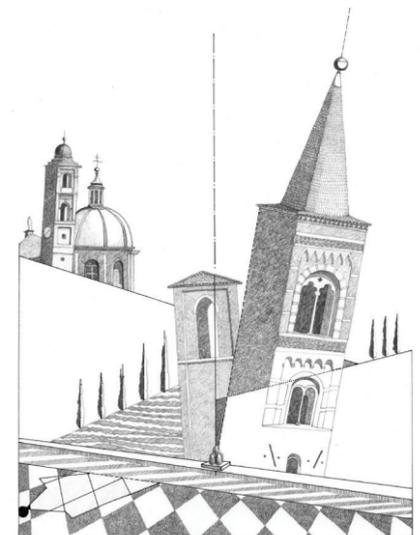
Innovative modernity gives historical architecture its due

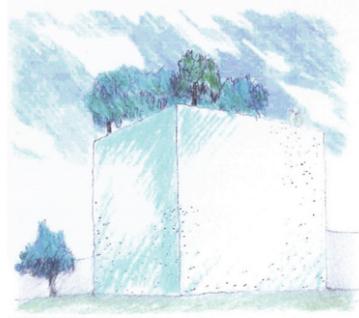
New life in old places

Where the past is respected



Louise Bourgeois [1911 - 2010]



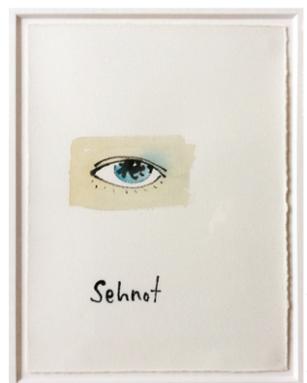


New architecture speaks a contemporary dialect
 Not aggressive, respectful
 Not pale, vigorous
 Not stylistically continuous, a new expression
 Not a tyranny of rules, but foundational fundamentals
 Vitruvius, Palladio, Laugier, Camillo Sitte

We create
 With wonder/curiosity/emotion/intuition
 Using today's sensibility to project the future of the city
 Simplicity/singularity
 We use the genius of small things
 The beauty of common sense

All forms are within nature
 Each can be a pretext to:
 Transform/interpret/divert
 Harmonise/express/contrast

Every project brings its own constraints
 Within them, architecture must be:
 Practical/functional
 Economical/attractive
 Comfortable/sustainable
 Poetic/emotional
 Above all, human

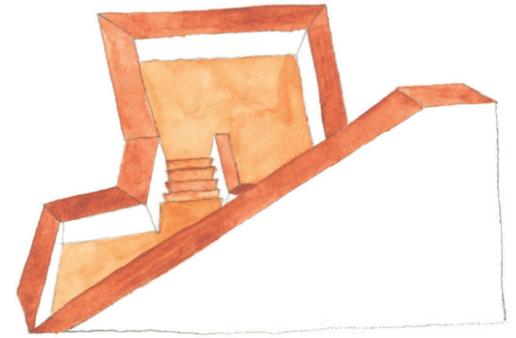


Thomas Schütte

The relationship with art can inspire:
 Ideas/conceptual freedom
 Structure/space
 Disparities/connections
 Light/rhythm/colour/texture
 Surprise!
 We seek an architecture of pleasure
 Visual pleasure inside/outside
 Sensual pleasure
 Aural pleasure
 Spatial pleasure
 Pleasure as our bodies move through space

We work with dream/reality
 Constraints/opportunities
 Technique/cost/time
 We convince through dialogue, not monologue
 Teamwork, listening, not autocracy
 Art and friendship are possible in every project

Each building/city has a story
 Each creation is a growing tree
 Processes/routes/multiple origins/roots
 Hesitations/missed attempts/blind alleys
 Lessons learned
 By the people who give it life



Michel D'Heiff (1949 - 2012)

