



Reinventing Paris - Étoile Voltaire

Location : 14 avenue Parmentier, Paris XIème

Architect : Olivier Palatre

Client : Etoile cinémas

Package : Structure - Glazed facades

Scope : Design of the structure for the cinema room "boxes" and glazed facades.

Date : 2015-2018

In the heart of the 11th arrondissement, near Place de la République and the lively Oberkampf district, 14 Avenue Parmentier houses a building with a remarkable history. The Parmentier electrical substation, built in the early 20th century, is a key part of Parisian heritage. It is one of 36 electrical substations constructed between 1900 and World War II to adapt the capital to the rapidly evolving electricity demands.

This building is protected for its outstanding architectural features. Both its original function and its design make it an ideal candidate for an innovative redevelopment.

As part of the "Reinventing Paris" competition, the project aims to create the cinema of the future by promoting the emergence of high-quality, popular cinema while exploring new ways of experiencing film.

The Étoile Voltaire team, led by Olivier Palatre Architectes and Étoile Cinémas, was selected as the winner after three selection phases.

Within this team, T/E/S/S is responsible for the facades and structure, particularly for integrating the metallic-framed projection rooms.

The Étoile Voltaire project is designed around multiple spaces: the Maison du Cinéma, which will house the Société des Réalisateurs de Films, a complex of five screening rooms, a solidarity restaurant initiated by Thierry Marx, and a large hall managed by La Bellevilloise, which will host a variety of cultural events.

The existing facade of the building is preserved, and its strong industrial identity is highlighted. The screening room structures are integrated within the original building. An extension is added to the roof, featuring a screening room offering a panoramic view of the Parisian rooftops.

All new structures are designed to be reversible, ensuring the site's integrity and allowing flexibility in its use. The central nave is enhanced, and the existing architectural elements are repurposed. The facade turrets provide natural ventilation, while the glazed rooftop pavilion grants access to the restaurant terrace.

Project presentation video : [► Étoile Voltaire](#)

