

# PHILIPPE SCHMIT aRchITecTs

Philippe Schmit (b. 1963 in Luxembourg).

After graduating from the Institut Supérieur d'Architecture La Cambre in Brussels in 1989 and being registered as an independent architect (1990), he established his first studio in 1997. In 1999 he formed a partnership with Diane Heirend and Georges Servais, which subsequently existed as a Luxembourg-based venture up to 2009.

In 1998 he designed the Infolab for Manifesta 2, the Luxembourg edition of the itinerant European Biennial of Contemporary Art. Philippe Schmit has designed several exhibition architectures and curated a series of architecturally-themed exhibitions. In 2000 he exhibited the architectural installation 'Paradise Is' at Casino Luxembourg - Forum d'art contemporain and, on invitation of Bernard Ceysson he joined the catalogue editing for the design collection of the Musée d'Art Moderne in Saint-Etienne, France. In 2002 he had been commissioned an architectural feasibility study by the City of Luxembourg for the renewal of the municipal art gallery located at the Villa Vauban, which he submitted in 2003.

In 2009 he founded Philippe Schmit architects and in 2010 he completed the Villa Vauban museum project, which involved a comprehensive renovation of the existing gallery spaces in the historicist villa and the construction of an additional building.

Philippe Schmit's work has been consistently addressing the thematic connections between art and architecture, from which he has been developing his trademark conceptual approach.

Architectural typologies transformed in a sensitive reaction to urban place and landscape context inform his projects. The acknowledgment of utilisation values and site specificities results in projects that could be likened to sculptural echoes in the public realm. Programm conditions and the physical context are mirrored by unexpected spatial sequences. His succinct architectural vocabulary is defined by the use of a reduced range of materials and colours. Subtle lighting concepts accentuate the clearly structured spaces and rich textures of his buildings.

Philippe Schmit has mainly worked on residential projects and in exhibition contexts. The art museum of the City of Luxembourg is his first built public project.