



Réseau Art Nouveau Network

**Press conference 24 November 2008  
Musée Horta**

**« Art nouveau & nature »**

Brussels, 24 November 2008

**The Réseau Art Nouveau Network** is a network of cities aiming to preserve, study and promote Art Nouveau at a European level. The network has just submitted **a new project** to the European Commission in the framework of the programme Culture 2007-2013.

The network was created in 1999 under the leadership of the Brussels-Capital Region in the framework of the Culture 2000 Programme and has already received three successive European funding (1999; 2001-2004; 2005-2008). Today the network wishes to continue with **a fourth phase entitled « Art nouveau & nature »** to shed light on the main inspiration of Art nouveau and its relation to ecology today.

Please find enclosed a press pack giving additional information on the Réseau Art Nouveau Network, its organisation, structure, partners and actions.

If you wish to find this press pack online in our « press space » and for all complementary information (photos and logos downloadable online), please do visit our website:

[www.artnouveau-net.eu](http://www.artnouveau-net.eu)

or please refer directly to the coordination office :

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Enjoy !

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Elisabeth Horth

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## « ART NOUVEAU & NATURE »

### THE CONCEPT

Although Art Nouveau emerged more than a century ago in various European cities, it came back again a centre of debate more than ever in recent years. The works of this long criticized movement are now not only recognized but also restored and preserved; and nature, as a main source of inspiration, decoration and structure of Art Nouveau, is a current concern, with sustainable development and environmentally friendly materials...

The « Art nouveau & Nature » project seeks to highlight the relationship between the European Art Nouveau heritage and nature.

**“Man will not move forward in the invention of beauty without imitating natural forms”**. This sentence by John Ruskin (1849), whose theories will be used by the artists of Art Nouveau, illustrates the fundamental place of nature in the artistic life of the time: to immerse the modern man in the heart of nature is the original will at the end of the nineteenth century. Art nouveau responds by a constant reference to nature. This « intrusion » of nature has long seemed suspicious to the critics of Art Nouveau, who reduced the movement to a form of naturalism or mere imitation.

Art Nouveau manifested as a "total art", it includes a range of disciplines: architecture, decorative arts, applied arts, graphical arts, painting, handicrafts, glassware, woodworking, parquetry, jewellery, etc... These disciplines will be featured in the exhibition "Art Nouveau and Nature", which will analyze the place of nature in Art Nouveau detailing the various phases of construction, the natural material in the raw state (wood, glass, stone, etc.) to the final object.

Literature, the press and other writings of the period will also be discussed at the international symposium entitled "Perception of Art Nouveau" to enlighten the public on critical or crazes aroused by Art Nouveau from 1900 to today.

The project will also provide an opportunity to inculcate environmental values to children while making them discover European Art Nouveau through educational tools (educational books, online activities) relating to natural materials.

The steadily updated website [www.artnouveau-net.eu](http://www.artnouveau-net.eu) will continue to be the showcase of our network by having all our activities (see "news", "agenda" sections) and Art Nouveau news all over the world ("Main international events", "agenda" and "links" sections).

## PARTNERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJET

**\*Coordinator:** Direction of Monuments and Sites of the Brussels-Capital Region

**Co-organising cities:** Ålesund (NO), Aveiro (PT), Barcelona (ES), Bruxelles-Brussel (BE), Bad Nauheim (DE), Darmstadt DE), Glasgow (UK), Helsinki (FI), Ljubljana (SL), Nancy (FR), Regione Lombardia (IT), Rīga (LET), Terrassa (ES).

**Associated partners:** La Chaux-de-Fonds (CH), La Habana (CU).

**Friend cities:** Budapest (HU), Łódź (PL), Provincia di Varese (IT), Reus (ES), Rijeka (Croatie), Tbilisi (Géorgie), Wien (AUT).

## BUDGET

The « Art Nouveau & Nature » project will be co financed by the European Union (50%) and partner institutions (50%) and a total budget of almost 5,000,000 Euros for five years.

## ACTIONS

- Conducting a travelling exhibition "Art Nouveau & Nature" innovative by its touchable aspect and aimed at the general public and visually impaired public, ideal for promoting Art Nouveau amongst European public through the circulation of works and developing political awareness to preserve this heritage
- A series of five historical laboratories on the theme of nature, symposia for professionals and the general public to share their knowledge and experience of Art Nouveau
- The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Réseau Art Nouveau Network will be celebrated at a large international conference in Brussels in 2010 on how Art Nouveau was received by the general public and all of society throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Multilateral exchanges, working meetings to share experiences and training between co-organisers on the theme "Art Nouveau & Nature"
- Bilateral exchanges, training and visits between co-organisers allowing the efficient flow of European cultural professionals and optimization of meetings
- A feasibility study for an exhibition of chairs for the visually impaired public and the general public, allowing visitors to sit on Art Nouveau chairs copies to understand the tactile point of view and the essence of this style
- Activity books and online activities to introduce young audiences to Art Nouveau and ecology
- An effective communications plan (website, newsletters, press conferences, leaflets, etc.) to promote our heritage and our partner cities across borders

## **The Réseau Art Nouveau Network Phase III last main action: The multimedia presentation “Art Nouveau & Society”**

The core action of the Réseau Art Nouveau Network is a multimedia presentation entitled “Art Nouveau & Society”. Designed to be a permanent tool for our partners, it will show the cultural and social history of Art Nouveau and the times in which it developed. In a departure from the Network’s earlier exhibition (Art Nouveau in Progress), this contextual production will emphasise the wider relevance of the pan-European phenomenon that was Art Nouveau, thereby linking the past with the future.

Multimedia as a method of communication offers many advantages, especially in handling all the languages of the Network. The design allows it to be placed outside traditional environments (galleries and museums) to maximize the visibility.

The presentation will be launched on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in Bad Nauheim at the occasion of our VIth Historical Lab “Art Nouveau: Healthy in Body and Mind” and in the other cities of the network according to the following dates:



Aveiro: permanent screening at the new Art Nouveau museum  
Ålesund: from May to December 2008 at the Jugendstilsenteret  
Bad Nauheim: 14 September 2008 in the Sprudelhof, Spa House 6 - See poster  
Barcelona: from 22 October at the Hotel Casa Fuster  
Bruxelles-Brussel: 15 October to 22 February 2009 at the Musée du Cinquantenaire  
Glasgow: from 11 October 2008 on the third floor of the Lighthouse  
Helsinki: permanent screening at the City Museum of Helsinki

La Habana: from 7 to 14 November in the framework of the Belgian week

Ljubljana: from 4 November at the National Gallery

Lodz: in September 2008 at the Art Centre or at the Textile Museum (to be confirmed)

Nancy : from 22 October at the Musée Ecole de Nancy

Provincia di Varese: launch on 25 October 2008 at the Cinema Nuovo - Viale dei Mille (Varese)

See teaser trailer:

[http://www.artnouveau-net.eu/get\\_page.asp?jezik=FR&stran=67](http://www.artnouveau-net.eu/get_page.asp?jezik=FR&stran=67)

### **Content**

Art nouveau & Society is a 15 minutes multimedia presentation about the artistic movement around the turn of the 20th century and its relation to people of the time. Art nouveau was a pan-European phenomenon that was expressed differently across Europe. One of the aims of the movement was to express contemporary life and culture. It was a period of peace and economic growth and society was rapidly changing through industrialization and urbanisation. New technology changed people’s everyday life and leisure time became a new concept. The struggle between the rich and poor; national identity and internationalism were all key issues of the period. The story of Art nouveau and its relation to society is told through examples all over Europe, including 16 of the Réseau Art Nouveau Network partners: Ålesund, Bad Nauheim, Barcelona, Brussels, Glasgow, Helsinki, La

Chaux-de-Fonds, La Habana, Ljubljana, Łódź, Nancy, Provincia di Varese, Regione Lombardia, Reus, Rīga and Terrassa.

### Concept

The presentation *Art Nouveau & Society*, available in 11 languages, is aimed at the general public, giving them an opportunity to experience Art nouveau and the society as it was a hundred years ago, giving them a European introduction in addition to the visit of a local Art Nouveau museum or building. The story is told in a contemporary spirit, using audiovisual means as a vehicle to disseminate awareness of our common European cultural heritage. The story is told in present tense to involve the audience and the presentation is so rich that it is impossible to visually grasp everything by first time viewing. The presentation can be put in a loop and the audience can experience the show as long as they find it satisfying. The ambition of the production is to stimulate the discovery process and the visitor's intellectual and emotional connection to the Art nouveau heritage. - The goal has been to light a spark of curiosity, not fill the bucket, says the curator.

### Design

The multimedia presentation has been created on a digital platform allowing different kinds of screening technologies. Produced in a DVD format, it can be screened in various public meeting places, from a school to a shopping mall. The most complex mode is a projection on three large widescreens that requires a dedicated screening room in a museum or in a historical house. As the production is digital, the presentation can be screened in many different cities simultaneously or according to the local agenda, when it suits the individual partner city. The production is available in 11 languages (English, French, German, Castilian, Catalan, Italian, Dutch, Norwegian, Finnish, Polish, Slovenian)

### Production

*Art nouveau & Society* presentation is the result of a collaboration between the curator David Aasen Sandved, the production company Instamatic, especially Jack van Domburg and Kai Fridstrøm, and 16 of the Réseau Art Nouveau Network partners: Ålesund, Bad Nauheim, Barcelona, Brussels, Glasgow, Havana, Helsinki, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Łódź, Ljubljana, Nancy, Provincia di Varese, Regione Lombardia, Reus, Rīga and Terrassa. The compact production started in October 2005 and the presentation will be launched in May 2008 in many different European cities (see agenda above).

The production was made possible with the support of the Culture 2000 programme of the European Union.

If you wish to see the list of closing credits of this multimedia presentation, please do not hesitate to visit the press section of our website: [www.artnouveau-net.eu](http://www.artnouveau-net.eu)



## Réseau Art Nouveau Network General presentation

In 1999, following an idea mooted by the Brussels Region Department of Historic Sites and Monuments, a large group of institutions from various European cities with a rich Art Nouveau heritage - from Helsinki to Barcelona, and from Glasgow to Budapest - decided to come together to form an initial European co-operation network.

Enterprise and commitment are the Network's chief hallmarks; as well as championing a rigorously scientific approach, it aims to keep professionals informed and to make the general public aware of the cultural significance and European dimension of this heritage on our very own doorstep.

Since it was created, the Network realized a number of actions: exhibitions, publications, colloquia and educational tools.

You will find additional information about our activities on our website [www.artnouveau-net.eu](http://www.artnouveau-net.eu), on which you can subscribe to our newsletter and download some of our publications and the proceedings of our colloquia. You will also find the actions of the network, information on our partner cities, Art nouveau links and events all around the world. Professionals and students can use our scientific tools, as well as our research database listing Art Nouveau related theses and a list of documentation centres. Last but not least, our educational tools allow children to read our activity books on line, and the teachers to help the pupils discovering Art Nouveau with our activity sheets on line.

The Réseau Art Nouveau Network, in association since 2007, is supported by the European Union programme « Culture 2000 ».

**Partner cities :** Ålesund (NO), Bad Nauheim (DE), Barcelona (ES), Bruxelles-Brussel (BE), Glasgow (UK), Helsinki (FI), La Chaux-de-Fonds (CH), La Habana Vieja (CU), Ljubljana (SL), Łódź (PL), Nancy (FR), Provincia di Varese (IT), Regione Lombardia (IT), Reus (ES), Rīga (LV), Tbilisi (GE), Terrassa (ES), Wien (AT) and Ecole d'Avignon (FR) as technical partner.



## The Réseau Art Nouveau Network figures

46 European partners specialized in Art Nouveau  
15 countries - 12 being part of the European Union  
21 partner institutions  
16 cities  
3 regions or provinces  
10: age of the network in 2009  
1.520.000 €: overall budget of the Art nouveau & Society Project  
827.000 €: European Union financing  
693.000 €: participation of partner institutions  
3 financings by the European Union programme « Culture 2000 » since 1999  
6 newsletters per year  
7 downloadable publications in a large choice of languages  
60 conferences on line  
128 doctorate theses on line  
230 links

### Present structure of the network

**BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION:** **President:** Julia FENBY (Glasgow)  
**Vice-president:** Anouk HELLMANN (La Chaux-de-Fonds)  
**Project leader:** Muriel MURET (Bruxelles-Brussel)  
**Treasurer:** Lluís BOSCH PASCUAL (Barcelona)  
**Members:** Nils ANKER (Ålesund)  
Breda MIHELIC (Ljubljana)

**COORDINATION OFFICE (BRUXELLES-BRUSSEL):** Elisabeth HORTH  
Anne-Sophie BUFFAT

### The association

More than a European project, the Réseau Art Nouveau Network acquired in 2007 the statute of non-profit making organization.

Member institutions : Ajuntament de Barcelona (ES), Direction des Monuments et Sites de la Région Bruxelles-Capitale (BE), The Lighthouse (UK), Ville de La Chaux-de-Fonds (CH), Jugendstilverein Bad Nauheim (DE), Urbanisticni Institut Republike Slovenije (SI), Regione Lombardia (IT), Provincia di Varese (IT), Musée Horta a.s.b.l. (BE), Patronet Municipal de Tourisme i Comerç de Reus (ES), Rigas Pasvaldibas Agentura (LV), Jugendstilsenteret (NO), Ajuntament de Terrassa (ES), Ville de Nancy (FR), Helsinki City (FI), Institut Mathildenhöhe (DE), Municipal de Aveiro (PT).

### The website of the network

The bilingual website [www.artnouveau-net.eu](http://www.artnouveau-net.eu) (French-English) is the main tool of communication between the network and the general public. It is especially used to develop some actions of the Network, such as the research database. Five other languages will be added through summer 2008: German, Italian, Catalan, Norwegian and Slovenian.



## About Art nouveau

Art Nouveau came into being in 1893 when Victor Horta introduced iron and casting into the homes of the bourgeoisie in Brussels. These industrial materials enabled him to breathe space into home interiors, allowing air and light to circulate. By choosing to decorate with abstract curves he was able to express the malleable nature of metal, whose varied composition provided the decorative theme of mural paintings and mosaics. He thus created a teeming universe where lines expressed vitality, the power of plant growth.

Nature was one of the fundamental sources of the new style: theoreticians such as Eugène Grasset in his work "La plante et ses applications ornementales" showed how motifs borrowed from nature could be used in a logical way. The rediscovery of Japanese art in the latter 19th Century led to a new perspective that would wonder at the beauty of a wave, a kimono motif or the curve of a courtesan's neck. The fluidity of lines, asymmetrical compositions without geometric perspective and delicate shades of colour created a new ornamental vocabulary, freeing itself from historicism, from the grand "carnival of styles" which prevailed for a large part of the 19th Century.

The languishing and mysterious image of the female which haunted the pre-Raphaelites became a decorative theme adopted in advertising (Mucha's posters) before appearing in architecture and the decorative arts in the same way as plants or abstract lines. Art Nouveau has two faces: that of a style appropriate to new ways of life (lighting, hygiene, transport) and that of a quest to embellish daily life (artists trained in the traditional fine arts devoting themselves to the applied arts). The creators pondered the lasting nature of craft production methods as well as the need to provide industry with models of high quality in order to raise the esthetical level of mass production.

Traditional products created by William Morris and Arts and Crafts were costly and only accessible to the well-heeled. In Weimar or Darmstadt, creators of Art Nouveau such as Henry Van de Velde or Josef-Maria Olbrich were employed to revitalise the local industries and increase the prosperity of the states that employed them. In Vienna, the Viennese Workshops were wholeheartedly committed to costly craft production in the belief that it was time for the bourgeoisie to play its part in artistic patronage. Art

Nouveau spread quickly throughout Europe thanks to photo-illustrated art magazines as well as international exhibitions. The name differed according to country, it was called "Modernisme" in Catalonia, "Jugendstil" in Germany, "Liberty" in Italy or "Secession" in Vienna or Prague. It was to develop more quickly in countries or regions which claimed greater cultural autonomy (such as Catalonia, Czechoslovakia and Finland) or those experiencing economic prosperity and distancing themselves from tastes dictated by capitals (Glasgow or Nancy). The whole of Europe was to adopt Art Nouveau to a greater or lesser extent because the style was able to cohabit with forms inherited from the past. It was more often dominant in new areas constructed to cope with increasing urbanisation at the end of the 19th Century (Riga or Barcelona). The fashion was to diminish from 1906, disappearing almost completely during the First World War.

*Francoise Aubry, Curator of the Horta Museum, Bruxelles-Brussel*

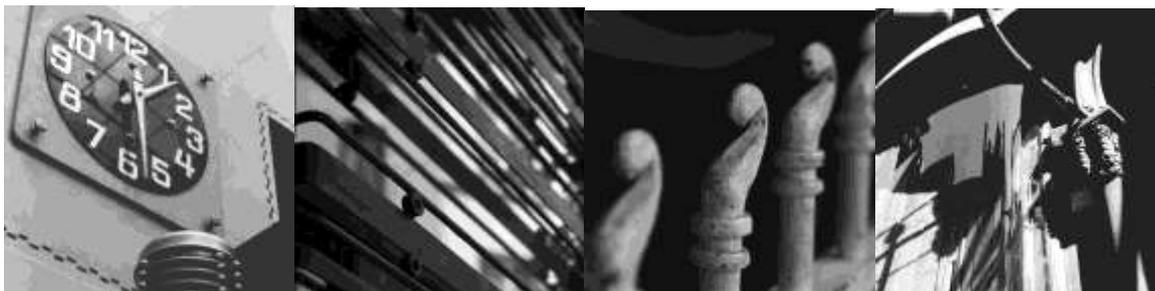
## **Art Nouveau: A Quintessentially European Movement**

Jugendstil, Modern Style, Glasgow Style, Secession, Nieuwe Kunst, Stile Liberty, Ecole de Nancy, Modernisme - these are all different facets of an essentially pan - European cultural phenomenon: Art Nouveau.

Emerging at the turn of the century, the Art Nouveau trend was driven by a particular set of aesthetic ideals and an enthusiasm for modernity, exploiting the possibilities offered by the industrial technologies and the new materials, and combining an aspiration to beauty with meticulous workmanship and a scrupulous eye for detail. The result was a wonderful concordance of architecture, furniture, and decoration.

## **An Endangered Heritage?**

Having languished for decades in oblivion, Art Nouveau is once again in fashion and apparently well protected. But appearances can be deceptive: as well as the major examples of the movement's output, the importance of which is universally acknowledged, there are large numbers of remarkable creations that remain unknown to the public, enjoy scant protection, or have actually been destroyed. In addition, the tardiness with which protection measures are being implemented in certain countries is placing large numbers of important items associated with the movement in jeopardy.



## **Short history line of the Réseau Art Nouveau Network:**

### **Phase 1 - Launch phase (1999-2000)**

Following an idea mooted by the Brussels Capital Region Department of Historic Sites and Monuments, a large group of institutions from various European cities with a rich Art Nouveau heritage decided to come together to form an initial European co-operation network.

During this first phase of the Network the structure of the cooperation between the member cities was established; responsibilities delegated during several plenary meetings, the website was created, the graphical identity was chosen, the image bank was launched, the publication 'Art Nouveau in Europe today – A general appraisal' was edited, the presentation kit was exhibited in different public spaces, etc.

Partner cities: Ålesund, Barcelona, Bruxelles-Brussel, Budapest, Glasgow, Helsinki, Ljubljana, Nancy, Palermo, Reus, Rīga, Terrassa, Wien and Ecole d'Avignon as technical partner.

## **Phase 2- Art Nouveau in Progress (2001-2004)**

A key feature during this phase was the exhibition 'Art Nouveau in Progress' and its catalogues. It was created as a very different event from the large exhibitions, which have successfully celebrated the Art Nouveau movement over the last few years.

The aim of the exhibition is to explore the destiny of the Art Nouveau heritage in the thirteen cities and brings to light a number of examples of previously unknown projects: examples hitherto unseen or now disappeared, not acknowledged in their day or undergoing restoration. It also shows how the buildings have changed and been adapted to fit in our contemporary life one century later. The exhibition is presented successively in each of the partner cities, each host city featuring its own local extension of the event, showing current restoration projects for its Art Nouveau heritage.

During this second phase of the Network, colloquia were held in Wien (Oct. 2002) and Ålesund (Oct. 2004), both centered around the same theme as the exhibition (see Colloquia) and allowed researchers and European professionals to share their experiences and thoughts for the future.

Furthermore, an awareness campaign for the youth was launched 2003-2004 with four publications, a series of posters, guided tours for the schools and a very appreciated handbook for interactive visits- all of which are available on this website.

Partner cities: Ålesund, Barcelona, Bruxelles-Brussel, Glasgow, Helsinki, Ljubljana, Nancy, Provincia di Varese, Reus, Rīga, Terrassa, Wien and Ecole d'Avignon as technical partner.

## **Phase 3 - Art Nouveau & Society (2005-2008)**

The main action of this phase is the production of the multimedia presentation mentioned above. Under the title 'Art Nouveau & Society', the Network has conceived a pluri-annual programme of actions to be realized under three structures: Innovation Labs, Historical Labs and Exchange Platforms. The core feature is a multimedia presentation entitled: 'Art Nouveau & Society', examining European Art Nouveau and its social, political and economic context, linking cities in the past and present. The presentation is designed to be a permanent tool for the partners, allowing them to promote their heritage as an expression of their unity with the rest of Europe. The research and iconography gathered at the Historical Labs will also be included.

As a whole, six plenary meetings and [Historical Labs](#) will have taken place during the period 2005-2008:

- International Exhibitions and World Fairs (Bruxelles-Brussel, 22 October 2005)
- National Identity and International Trends (Ljubljana, 10 March 2006)
- Decoration in Art Nouveau (Riga, 20 October 2006)
- Urban Quality and the Perception of landscape (Como-Cernobbio, 4 May 2007)
- Art Nouveau Patrons (Nancy, 19 October 2007)
- Healthy in Body and Mind (Bad Nauheim, 16 May 2008)

The Historical Labs aim to establish an exchange platform of knowledge and know-how for those in and outside RANN. The content is a mix of research, practical knowledge and experience to reflect an agenda that aims to attract members of the general public as well as those working in the sector.

The Innovation Labs include an educational package for educators and school children (including a new publication on Monsters, activity sheets, activities on-line and teachers' sessions), a project for the visually impaired public and an Art nouveau guide through mobile phones and personal digital assistants (PDAs).

The [Multilateral exchanges](#) provide the opportunity for those working in the Art Nouveau cultural heritage sector to exchange their knowledge and experience across Europe on three specific subjects:

- Tourism and Art Nouveau (Ljubljana, 14 March 2006)
- Education and Art Nouveau (Provincia di Varese, 8 May 2007)
- Art Nouveau Interpretation Centres (Nancy, 23 October 2007)

Partner cities: Ålesund, Barcelona, Bruxelles-Brussel, Bad Nauheim, Glasgow, Helsinki, La Chaux-de-Fonds, La Habana Vieja, Ljubljana, Łódź, Nancy, Provincia di Varese, Regione Lombardia, Reus, Rīga, Tbilisi, Terrassa, Wien and Ecole d'Avignon as technical partner.

#### **Phase 4 - Art Nouveau & Nature (2009-2014) – to be confirmed**

A project in the framework of the European Union programme « Culture 2007 » was submitted in September 2008. The answer of the European Union will be received at the end of March 2009.



## Réseau Art Nouveau Network actions

Discover all our actions on the website [www.artnouveau-net.eu](http://www.artnouveau-net.eu)

1. **Multimedia presentation (MMP)**
2. **Historical Laboratories**
3. **Art nouveau research**
4. **Educational tools**
5. **Exchange platform**
6. **Visually Impaired Public**
7. **Exhibitions**

### 1. Multimedia presentation (MMP)

See information above

### 2. Historical Laboratories

In the third phase of Réseau Art Nouveau Network, called Art Nouveau & Society, we are organising a series of six Historical Labs where we aim to establish an exchange platform of knowledge for a broader audience. The events are open to anyone. The contents of the Historical Labs is a mix of research, practical knowledge and experience, to reflect an agenda that aims to attract members of the general public, as well as those working in the sector.

All proceedings and lectures are available on our website.

International Exhibitions and World Fairs- Historical Lab 1, Bruxelles-Brussel, October 22d 2005

National Identity and International Trends- Historical Lab 2, Ljubljana, March 10<sup>th</sup> 2006

Art nouveau & Decoration – Historical Lab 3, Rīga, October 20<sup>th</sup> 2006

Urban Quality & The Perception of Landscape- Historical Lab 4, Como-Cernobbio, May 4<sup>th</sup> 2007

Art Nouveau Patrons- Historical Lab 5, Nancy, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2007

Healthy in Body and Mind- Historical Lab 6, Bad Nauheim, May 16<sup>th</sup> 2008



### 3. Art nouveau research

The Réseau Art Nouveau Network actions are aimed at the general public, especially scientists and students. One of the network priorities is, in a strictly scientific approach, to develop the impact of Art nouveau related theses through its website. A section is therefore especially dedicated to research, including a [research database](#), a [list of archives, libraries and documentation centres](#), and a selection of [scientific articles](#) from all over the world.

Academic theses are often "hidden" in university libraries and difficult to locate for the interested public. The theses are a great source to deepen the knowledge on Art Nouveau artists and their works throughout the history, which is why we have chosen to start a list of such publications.

In the research database, information about Art nouveau related researches, including more than 128 doctorate theses, are available on the website. For some of the publications, additional information is given thanks to a questionnaire where you can find details such as the related university, the keywords of the thesis, an abstract of the thesis, the table of contents and the references of the published version. The list of documentation centres (more than 60 are listed) is useful to academics searching for specific documentation about Art nouveau. A link leading to the website of the institution and often additional information on the nature of Art nouveau collections (books, posters, magazines, etc.) is available for each centre. The scientific articles page is a new section on our website; those articles, often dealing with a specific aspect of Art Nouveau, are listed by countries and are directly available for online reading.

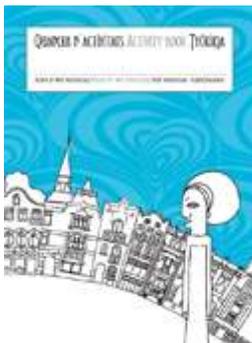
### 4. Educational tools

#### a. Activity Books

##### [Activity book, 2003](#)

Designed for children in primary school (age range from 6 years upwards), with basic reading skills, this sketchbook offers a set of exercises and games, based on Art Nouveau objects, furniture and buildings. The publication also includes overview of the movement, the Network and European projects. It concludes with a European map locating the partner's cities.

The body of the publication focuses on the visual representation of Art Nouveau, using a game or an exercise to illustrate each partner city. Each city chose an appropriate example of art, craft or architecture for their pages.



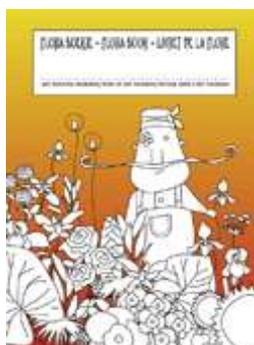
The publication is available in 11 languages and is printed in five versions, each in three languages!

1. [Catalan - English - Finnish version](#)
2. [French - English - Dutch version](#)
3. [Italian - English - Slovenian version](#)
4. [Latvian - English - Hungarian version](#)
5. [Norwegian - English - German version](#)

### [Flora Book, 2004](#)

Designed for children at junior primary school (age range from 9 years upwards), with good reading skills, this book offers short stories on the role of Flora in Art Nouveau decoration as well as a basic lesson on flower and plant names. The publication also includes an overview of the movement, the Network, European projects and two activities: How do you make a flower press? How do you make a frieze? It concludes with a European map locating the partner's cities.

The body of the publication focuses on the visual representation of Art Nouveau, using a plant and Art Nouveau designs to illustrate each partner city. Each city chose an appropriate example of art, craft or architecture for their pages.



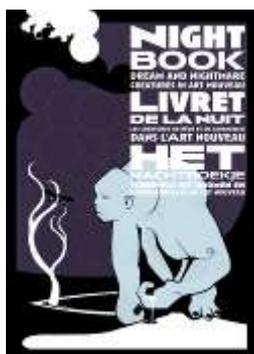
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1. [Dutch - English - French version](#)
2. [Finnish - English - Catalan version](#)
3. [German - English - Norwegian version](#)
4. [Latvian - English - Hungarian version](#)
5. [Slovenian - English - Italian version](#)

### [Night Book, 2006](#)

Designed for children in primary school (age range from 8 years upwards), with basic reading skills, this activity book offers short stories on the role of dream and nightmare creatures in Art Nouveau, as well as a set of exercises and games, based on Art Nouveau objects, furniture and buildings. The publication also includes an overview of the Network and European projects. It concludes with a European map locating the partner's cities.

The body of the publication focuses on the visual representation of Art Nouveau, using an exercise to illustrate each partner city. Each city chose an appropriate example of art, craft or architecture for their pages.



1. [English – French – Dutch version](#)
2. [English - Polish - Finnish version](#)
3. [English - Spanish - Catalan version](#)
4. [English - Italian - Slovenian version](#)
5. [English - Norwegian - German version](#)
6. [English – Latvian – Georgian version](#)

## **b. Newspapers**

### **[Newspaper 1, 2003](#)**

Aimed at the upper classes of secondary/comprehensive school, it contains articles on each partner city. Each page - richly illustrated - describes the individual context in which Art Nouveau appeared in each partner city; specific examples of Art Nouveau and other interesting information.

In sympathy with European diversity, texts are written in the native language of each partner, and accompanied by a translation of the all the partner's languages. For example, in the French version - distributed in Brussels and Nancy - all the French text will be doubled with an English text for Glasgow, a Finnish text for Helsinki, an Italian text for Varese etc.



[Catalan](#)  
[Dutch](#)  
[English](#)  
[Finnish](#)  
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[Italian](#)  
[Latvian](#)  
[Norwegian](#)  
[Slovenian](#)

### **[Newspaper 2, 2004](#)**

Aimed at the lower classes of secondary/comprehensive school, it contains articles on each partner city. Each page - richly illustrated - describes the individual context in which Art Nouveau appeared in each partner city; specific examples of Art Nouveau and definitions on heritage vocabulary.

In sympathy with European diversity, texts are written in the native language of each partner, and accompanied by a translation of the all the partner's languages. For example, in the French version - distributed in Brussels and Nancy - all the French text will be doubled with an English text for Glasgow, a Finnish text for Helsinki, an Italian text for Varese etc.



[Catalan](#)  
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[Norwegian](#)  
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### c. Other tools

#### ***Series of posters, 2003***

A set of 13 posters was made to announce the Network's actions for schools. Following a common graphic theme, each city presented two images of its Art Nouveau heritage. The background was chosen from the Network image bank, made during the launch phase, while the other image was chosen to attract children.

These very decorative images were designed to be displayed inside classrooms where by children could become visually familiar with European aesthetics of architecture, art and crafts.

Each poster is bi-lingual and shows information in the local language and in French or English. The set of posters also emphasizes European heritage and its linguistic richness.



[Ålesund](#)  
[Barcelona](#)  
[Budapest](#)  
[Bruxelles-Brussel](#)  
[Glasgow](#)  
[Helsinki](#)  
[Ljubljana](#)  
[Nancy](#)  
[Reus](#)  
[Rīga](#)  
[Terrassa](#)  
[Provincia di Varese](#)  
[Wien](#)

#### ***Series of activity sheets, 2003-2006***

Made for teachers and guides, this guide shows a series of ideas, exercises and games to enable a coherent and original discovery of Art nouveau. Interactive visits are proposed to discover Art Nouveau at the level of individual objects, collections, museums, a building or a neighbourhood. Stimulating the sense was a prime objective; the proposed exercises were created to require only minimal preparation or materials. Thus they are accessible to every teacher or guide who wants to work interactively! Educators and guides can use the ideas that are generated by this tool for example during other heritage or arts projects that involve young people.



[Catalan](#)  
[Dutch](#)  
[English](#)  
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[Norwegian](#)  
[Spanish](#)  
[Slovenian](#)

## 5. Multilateral exchanges

One of the actions planned for the next three years of the Réseau Art Nouveau Network is a number of multilateral exchanges, based on the specific needs of the participating partners. The exchanges will provide the opportunity for those working in the cultural heritage, tourism and academic sector to exchange their knowledge and experience across Europe, addressing themes relevant to the contemporary promotion of Art Nouveau. Working and learning from colleagues in countries across Europe, professionals can develop close co-operational links and the pan-European nature of Art Nouveau makes it an ideal subject matter for such exchanges.

Three events are planned during phase 3, Art Nouveau & Society:

- Art Nouveau and Tourism (Ljubljana, 14 March 2006) [Report](#)
- Art Nouveau and Education (Provincia di Varese, 8 May 2007) [Report](#)
- Interpretation Centres (Nancy, 23 October 2007) [Report](#)

## 6. Visually impaired public

The Réseau Art Nouveau Network will approach the issue of making Art Nouveau heritage accessible to the visually impaired public through a number of Innovation Labs for our partners.

The central objective of this action is to challenge misconceptions that heritage such as Art Nouveau can only be experienced and enjoyed using visual senses. The process requires the development of alternative ways of communicating the emotions of a piece of art, design or architecture, so they can be translated for the visually impaired: The aim is to explore Art Nouveau in three different dimensions: perceptive, conceptual and expressive, and to encourage different levels of experience: individual, bilateral communication between the guide and visitor and group exchanges of impressions and ideas. The rich use of materials and form in Art Nouveau makes it an ideal subject for equally valid sensory experiences.

[The Report from the first Innovation Lab, held in Bruxelles-Brussel in October 2005.](#)

## 7. Exhibitions

### [Art Nouveau in Progress](#), travelling exhibition, 2003-2007

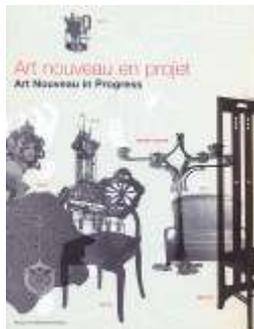
Travelling exhibition of the Réseau Art Nouveau Network. « Art Nouveau in Progress » is totally different from, and complementary to, the great exhibitions which have so commendably celebrated Art Nouveau in recent years. It explores the destiny of the Art Nouveau heritage in the thirteen partner cities and brings to light several examples of previously unseen projects. The exhibition is set out in themed sections, offering a perspective of an artistic and cultural movement that developed simultaneously in a number of European cities. The exhibition's originality lies in genuinely new discoveries of city planning projects, architectural creations and objets d'art. Indeed, apart from the five major works chosen by the partners and illustrated in the introduction, the exhibition presents works which have never previously been seen, have now disappeared, have not been recognized or are

undergoing restoration. All are shown in the themed sections: vision, disappearance, continuity and regeneration. The exhibition tour therefore presents visitors with a history of the Art Nouveau heritage, from the process of its creation to its current functions, via the recollection of lost works. The exhibition is to be presented in turn in each of the thirteen European cities over a period of about three years. At each stage the exhibition will be completed by a local section, which focuses particularly on the distinctive features of that city's Art Nouveau heritage.

TERRASSA 9.5.2003 - 22.6.2003 [poster](#)  
 BRUXELLES - BRUSSEL 10.7.2003 - 12.10.2003 [poster](#)  
 PROVINCIA DI VARESE 6.11.2003 - 4.1.2004 [poster](#) [press details](#)  
 BARCELONA 29.1.2004 - 28.3.2004 [poster](#) [press details](#)  
 NANCY 22.4.2004 - 20.6.2004 [poster](#) [press details](#)  
 ÅLESUND 15.7.2004 - 10.10.2004 [poster](#)  
 GLASGOW 29.10.2004 - 23.1.2005 [press details](#)  
 HELSINKI 4.3.2005 - 29.5.2005 [press details](#) (Swedish) [press details](#) (Finnish)  
 RIGA 4.8.2004 - 2.10.2005 [poster](#)  
 PRAHA 11.10.2005 - 10.11.2005 [poster](#)  
 BUDAPEST 21.11.2005 - 31.12.2005 [poster](#)  
 LJUBLJANA 18.1.2006 - 18.3.2006 [poster](#)  
 LA CHAUX-DE-FONDS, 30.03.2006 - 18.05.2006 [poster](#)  
 BAD NAUHEIM, 9.9.2006 - 29.10.2006 [poster](#)  
 LODZ, The Art Center, 3.11.2007 - 25.11.2007 [invitation](#)

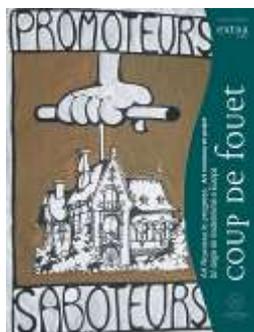
More Information: [pressfile](#)

## EXHIBITION CATALOGUES



### Art Nouveau in Progress, exhibition's catalogue, 2003

This publication accompanies the travelling exhibition "Art Nouveau in Progress". It presents case studies from different cities within the Network, covering three chosen themes of "Visions", "Disappearance" and "Regeneration". Published in two bilingual editions: English - French, French - Dutch.



### Art Nouveau in Progress - Un Segle de modernisme a Europa

CoupDefouet Extra, published by Art Nouveau European Route in collaboration with the Réseau Art Nouveau Network.

Copyright: - Institut del Paisatge Urbà i la Qualitat de Vida,

Ajuntament de Barcelona, 2004. Published in a bilingual edition, English – Catalan.

### Nova umetnost – vizije in resničnost / Art Nouveau in Progress, 2006,



Exhibition's abstract, for the travelling exhibition "Art Nouveau in Progress", during its Ljubljana visit. Published in collaboration with Ruta Europea del Modernisme. Published in a bilingual edition, English– Slovenian.



### **Art Nouveau in Progress, exhibitions leaflet for children, 2003**

Small publication dedicated to children to accompany the travelling exhibition "Art Nouveau in Progress". The recto presents a short story linked to the Art Nouveau heritage in each partner city. The verso is a long poster which summarises the diversity of the Network.

Catalan: [recto-verso](#), Dutch: [recto-verso](#), English: [recto-verso](#), Finnish: [recto-verso](#), French: [recto-verso](#), German: [recto-verso](#), Hungarian: [recto-verso](#), Italian: [recto-verso](#), Latvian: [recto-verso](#), Norwegian: [recto-verso](#), Slovenian: [recto-verso](#)

### **Serge Brison**

**Serge Brison** has documented the Art Nouveau heritage of nine of the cities involved in the Network, with help from the partners. The aim of the project was to produce an 'Undiscovered Portrait of Art Nouveau', illustrating the Network's commitment to exploring less well-known facets of the movement. The images also portray the current state of Art Nouveau heritage. Brison's photographic study of European Art Nouveau has produced a series of images that reflect a unique vision of the subject. The exhibition, shown successively across our partner's cities, presents a selection of 50 photographs selected from 3000 negatives.

**Bruxelles - Brussel**, CIVA: autumn 2000

**Ålesund**, Aalesunds Museum: summer - autumn 2001

**Glasgow**, the Lighthouse: summer 2002

**Bruxelles - Brussel**, European Commission: autumn 2002

**Nancy**, City Hall: spring 2003

**Palma**, Fundación "la Caixa": summer - autumn 2003

**Reus**, Museu d'Art I Història de Reus: winter 2004

**Provincia di Varese**, Villa Recalcati: autumn 2004

**Bruxelles-Brussel**, Goethe Institut: 6 November to 14 December 2007

**Bad Nauheim**, spring 2008 (to be confirmed)

**La Habana**, autumn 2008 (to be confirmed)

