

# **SIMONE MICHELI ARCHITECTURAL STUDIO**

## **Press Release**

Project: **Simone Micheli © 2005**

Place: **Via Aretina, Firenze**

Sm: **400**

Photos: **Maurizio Marcato**

### **New and old in an architectural osmotic dialogue**

“This project certainly represents a three-dimensional portrait of my wife Roberta and myself, represents an architectural manifesto, is a hymn to truth, beauty, transparency.

I tried to bring back to life the historical “archaic words” submerged by senseless and vandalism modifications; I tried to create a dialogue made of assonance-dissonances, of broken connections among past, present and possible future;

I tried to create a happy place where you can design daydreaming; I realized a place able to change its aesthetic and evocative features throughout the day, in relation to natural and artificial lighting changes.

White pigments, effervescent polychrome shouts, bald and polished surfaces, compositional interactivity, represent the basic elements of this volumetric performance, thought to continue, day after day, to be in love with life.” Simone Micheli.

A fifteenth century compound, used as a post office, characterized by large spaces with stone paving and cobble stone where the horses used to stop, high ceilings with wooden structure and masonry walls mixed represent a charming and fascinating heritage, for a strong architectural intervention recovery.

The renovation has put side by side the new with the old creating an harmonious dialogue characterized by continuous opposition and studied assonance/dissonances to create an exciting space that hosts the architectural studio Simone Micheli.

Four hundred square meters restructured and brought back to life, enriched by essential furniture with chromatics in the light and a lighting system that uses incandescent and halogen lamps, headlights and lighthouses led to emphasize every detail, every present node.

The space is characterized by multiple volumetric areas that interact in a synaesthetic way transforming the old stereotypes in a metropolitan and organic loft.

The areas that characterize this immersive and functional place are: the reception area, waiting-archive, meeting room, bathroom area, development projects area, graphics department, Arch. Micheli office.

The original flooring divided in irregular blocks of stone that characterizes the space of the reception area and the archive, was recovered with a careful restoration; the area dedicated to development projects, long time ago was cobblestone, now it is in cement industry.

A design based on total white, where the perimeter walls have been completely plastered to exalt the candidly colourful stone structure and the girders of the ceiling have been pickled in white.

The large windows in front of the building introduce these intriguing interiors to the road-life, etched written that run throughout the glasses, tell about the philosophical and planning idea of Simone Micheli. In the white area of entry, with flooring composed by blocks of irregular stone and wooden ceiling, stands the totem cylindrical volume of reception area, completely covered with laminated digital prints, which represents macro images of salad.

A large angular fitted cupboard made of shiny black laminate which cover also the bathrooms, with his tips/handles of polished stainless steel, acts as energetic contrapuntal element as regards the ironic cylinder characterized by strong chromatics.

The scenic bathrooms, enclosed in this black and shiny parallelepiped, are characterized by diffuse lights, the head-on wall of the ante-bathroom covered by a mirror, has a rectangular slot in steel, in which there are sources of supply, soap and water, monitored by electronic sensors, an allusive reference to the horse drinking troughs present in the historic building.

Two black sliding glass doors introduce to two bathrooms "Juliet" and "Romeo", completely resined with spatula, strictly in shiny black, where the only light comes from this blue light blade present in this radiant "Nouvage" designed by the same Micheli as the sanitary fittings "Block", rectangular volumes made in corian: the only white sign in this small space.

In front of the bathroom area, a place equipped as press office, presents a black

laminated counter, on its back stands a fifth-coated cupboard completely covered by a laminate with drawings of macro lemons.

Going down some steps the visitor is wrapped in a charming meeting room, characterized by a white central table and quilted chairs "OO" (designed by Simone Micheli), the covering wall and the vaulted ceiling are completely made of stones and bricks, panels covered with mirror with spotlights hidden on the back, create unusual light effects and light games highlight the present rough surfaces. On the bottom of the room, stands alone "Polyphemus", an armchair made of white sky with an eye made with a red led (designed by Simone Micheli).

The area dedicated to the development projects is characterized by large rooms on two levels with white plastered walls and wooden ceilings pickled in white, shelves and tables in white laminate. An exciting glass path that looks the garden is illuminated in a particularly scenic way by a row of blue leds, which accompanies the user until the office-meetings hall of Architect Micheli and until the graphic office directed by Roberta Micheli, that is highly characterized by a wall entirely covered with a laminate with a digital printing.

The studio of the architect presents white lacquered shelves with opening doors, which run along all the walls, at the bottom of the fifth, completely covered by a mirror with plasma, introduces in the small bath in glossy black resin given with spatula, sanitary fittings in white Corian, the chromed faucets "Zpoin" (designed by Simone Micheli) and small circular mirrors.

The big central area of the archive and waiting room keeps intact the original masonry structures; the ceiling with big girders and hollow clay tiles and walls with niches and fissures once present. Big rectangular seats in black sky spaced out by volumes in white laminate with function of table, stand in front of the big mobile-archive made of metal.

A renovated and highly emotional area, the Simone Micheli architectural studio represents an interesting design operation that reinterprets traditional materials in a seductive theatricality that makes them dumb players of continue scenic games created by essential furniture and by coatings. The area shows like a project dream linked to a possible future could harmoniously dialogue with an ancient masonry structures of a fifteenth-century complex.

## SPECIFICATIONS

The construction company is "**Intre**" Via Malibran 47, 50127 Florence, Ph. 055 3215426 fax. 055 3218024, E-mail: [intre-edilizia@tin.it](mailto:intre-edilizia@tin.it)

The works of painting and pictorial treatments are by "**Cassese Andrea**" Via di Brozzi 364, 50100 Florence, Ph. / fax. 055 311240

The hydrothermal sanitary wiring is made by "**Idroservice**" Via Leone Pancaldo 13/15, 50127 Florence, Ph. 055 4289281. Fax.055 4286977, E-mail: [info@idroservice.it](mailto:info@idroservice.it)

The special lighting fixtures are designed by Simone Micheli, the technical bodies in the garden are made by "**IGuzzini illuminazione**" (design by Simone Micheli) Via Guzzini 37, 62019 Recanati (Macerata), Tel. Fax 071 75881. 071 7588295  
E-mail: [iguzzini@iguzzini.it](mailto:iguzzini@iguzzini.it)

The furniture works are made by "**Centrocasa Arredamenti**" Via Balestrino 7, 84014 Nocera Inferiore (Salerno), Ph. / fax 081 925858, E-mail: [xcentrocasa@libero.it](mailto:xcentrocasa@libero.it)

The mobile-archive is made by "**La Fortezza**" Centro Direzionale Colleoni, Viale Colleoni 23, Palazzo Pegaso 2, 20041 Agrate Brianza (Milan), Ph.039.6899533. Fax. 039.6899544, Email: [milano@lafortezza.it](mailto:milano@lafortezza.it)

The padded seats "OO" (design by Simone Micheli) of the architectural studio and of the meetings hall are made by "**Saporiti**" Via Marconi 23, 21010 Brescia (Varese), Ph.0331.273333 fax.0331.273320, Email: [saporiti@saporiti.com](mailto:saporiti@saporiti.com)

The armchairs in black skay, the armchair "Ata" and the armchair "Polyphemus" in white skay (design by Simone Micheli), are made by "**Adrenalina**" po box 99, 47841 Cattolica (Rimini), Ph. 0721 208372 fax. 0721 209923, E-mail: [adrenalina@adrenalina.it](mailto:adrenalina@adrenalina.it)

Fabrics of padded seats are made by "**Conjugi Eger**" Via Eger 17, 36065

Mussolente(Vicenza) Ph.0424 878441 fax. 0424 577002, E-mail: conjugi-eger@conjugi-eger.com

The black seats for the offices are by "**Steel Case**" P.zza Napoli 22, 20146 (Milan), Ph. 02 42255511 fax. 02 42255599

The sanitary fitting made of corian "Block" (design Simone Micheli) are by "**Planit**" Via Nazionale 61, 39040 Ora, (Bolzano), Ph. 0471 811490 fax.0471 811494, E-mail: info@planit.it

The faucets "Zpoint" (design Simone Micheli) are made by "**Rubinetterie Zazzeri**" Via del Roseto 56/64, 50012 Bagno a Ripoli (Florence), Ph. 055 696051 fax. 055 696309, E-mail: info@zazzeri.it

The doors (design Simone Micheli) are made by "**Seal Porte**" Via Lisbona 1, 66020 S. Giovanni Teatino (Chieti) Ph.085 4465151 fax. 085 4465153

The casings and exterior fixtures are made by "**Duerre**" Via De 'Tacchinardi 7, 50100 Florence, Ph.055 330779 fax. 055 3219436, E-mail: duerre.snc@libero.it

The laminate of the furniture and digital printing are made by "**Liri**" Via Vernea 2, Nichelino 10042 (Torino), Ph. 011 6898800 fax.011 6274536, E-mail: info@liri.it

The curtains are made by "**Silent Gliss**" Via Reggio Emilia 33, 20090 Redecesio in Segrate (Milano), Ph. 02 269031, fax. 02 2133288, E-mail: info@silentgliss.it

## CAPTIONS

1-(0012H05) The large entrance area with the cylindrical counter covered by laminate and on the bottom the location of the secretary office.

2 - (1564H0C) The inclined glass septum that separates the entrance area from that of development projects.

3 - (1563H05) In evidence: the big black counter and wall-cabinet covered with laminated with digital print images of macro lemons.

4 - (1562H05) A special scenic effect created by the blue lights in the entrance area where stands the cylindrical volume of the reception covered by laminate.

5 - (1561H05) Another image of the entrance area, on the background, the fitted cupboard in glossy black laminated.

6 - (hero) On the foreground the fitted cupboard in glossy black laminate with thin cuts that suggest the openings and cylindrical handles polished stainless steel.

7 - (1547H05) Archive-space waiting room with flooring divided in irregular blocks of stone, walls painted in white, large pouff in black sky.

8 - (0101H05) A particular of the connection area between the archive and the glass corridor.

9 - (1538H05) The charming meeting room, with a white table in the centre and padded chairs, parietal coatings and vaulted ceilings of stones and bricks, parietal mirrors with spotlights hidden on the back, creating unusual effects of light and reflections .

10 - (0010H05) The scenic glass path that overlooks the garden is illuminated by a row of blue leds, until the room of the architect and the study of Roberta Micheli.

11 - (0030H05) On the foreground the etched writings throughout the windows towards the street that telling the architectural philosophy of Simone Micheli.

12 - (1554H05) The big area of project development with flooring made of cement industry.

13 - (1543H05) On the foreground architect Micheli studio- meetings hall, with shelves in shiny white laminate and steel supports, on the bottom the wall completely covered with a mirror with plasma.

14 - (1541H05) The graphic office with a giant photograph made of laminate that covers an whole wall.

15 - (1542H05) One of the bathrooms in glossy black resin given with a spatula, sanitary fittings in white corian, chrome-plated faucets and small circular mirrors.

**For further information contact us:**

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