



BOMBAS GENS

UNDER
CONSTRUCTION

Bombas Gens is an old industrial building with an unquestionable social-historical value and one of the rare remaining examples of the industrial architecture of the thirties. Its Art Deco façades and architecture make it a special, unique location for some new uses according to today needs.

The new facilities have been created as an internationally renowned multi-use space where Fundació Per Amor a L'Art will carry out its three-branch activity (arts, society and research). The first images of the addition reveal a few details of a refurbishing process that is unique in Valencia.

After the restoration of the warehouses by Eduardo de Miguel, Ramón Esteve has taken over the reinvention and extension of the complex with the advice of Annabelle Selldorf, an expert in turning iconic buildings into museums.

“Our aim has always been to apply a homogeneous intervention criterion to the whole complex, and, at the same time, give each building, be it original or recently built, the characteristic features that it needs for its specific use.” Ramón Esteve

The core of the complex is an art centre that uses four of the original warehouses and most of the façade. By its sides we can find the restaurant and the day care centre for children at risk of social exclusion, as well as Foundation's offices using the former villa.

There are other detached premises such as the remains of 16th century cellar on the backyard or an air-raid centre from the Spanish Civil War. They are organised by means of courtyards and gardens that allow the proper use and enjoyment of the whole complex and each of its corners.

Ceramic brick and galvanised steel are the most used materials because they evoke the original industrial atmosphere of the complex. In some other more secluded places, we have reinterpreted the original tiling of the cellar and the archery, which combines with the wood to make the rooms more distinguished. In the interior, we have reproduced the original lightweight timber decks.

You can access the Bombas Gens Art Centre through the façade bay. Then you get into the courtyard walking on a restored industrial weighing machine that covers most of the floor of the hall. In the courtyard, some hackberry trees grow on a floor covered by recovered sandstone cobbles. Through its irregular shape, we can discover intuitively the different facilities: straight forward, the entrance to the art centre; to the right, the restaurant, and to the left, partially secluded from the entrance, the offices.

TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

location | Valencia, Spain
year | under construction
area | 6981 m²

Extension Architect Ramón Esteve / Museum Project Architect Annabelle Selldorf / Restoration Architect Eduardo de Miguel / Technical Architect Rafael Ferriols / Project Team Víctor Ruiz, Javier Estevan, María Luna, Francisco Palomo / Installations Engineering ICA S.L. / Structural Engineering Estructuras Singulares | David Gallardo Llopis | UPV/ Developer Sancana S.L. / Constructor Grupo Inserman / Structure Bertolín / Project 2017 / Landscaping Gustavo Marina / Photographer, production and audiovisual Alfonso Calza