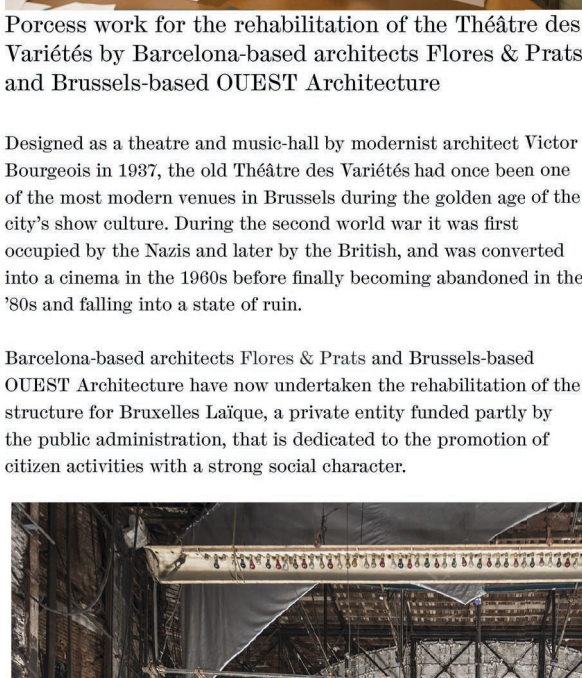


## AR In Pictures: the Théâtre des Variétés in process, by Flores & Prats and OUEST Architecture

16 MARCH 2021 | BY AR EDITORS | AR IN PICTURES



Process work for the rehabilitation of the Théâtre des Variétés by Barcelona-based architects Flores & Prats and Brussels-based OUEST Architecture

Designed as a theatre and music-hall by modernist architect Victor Bourgeois in 1897, the old Théâtre des Variétés had once been one of the most modern venues in Brussels during the golden age of the city's show culture. During the second world war it was first occupied by the Nazis and later by the British, and was converted into a cinema in the 1960s before finally becoming abandoned in the '80s and falling into a state of ruin.

Barcelona-based architects Flores & Prats and Brussels-based OUEST Architecture have now undertaken the rehabilitation of the structure for Bruxelles Laïque, a private entity funded partly by the public administration, that is dedicated to the promotion of citizen activities with a strong social character.

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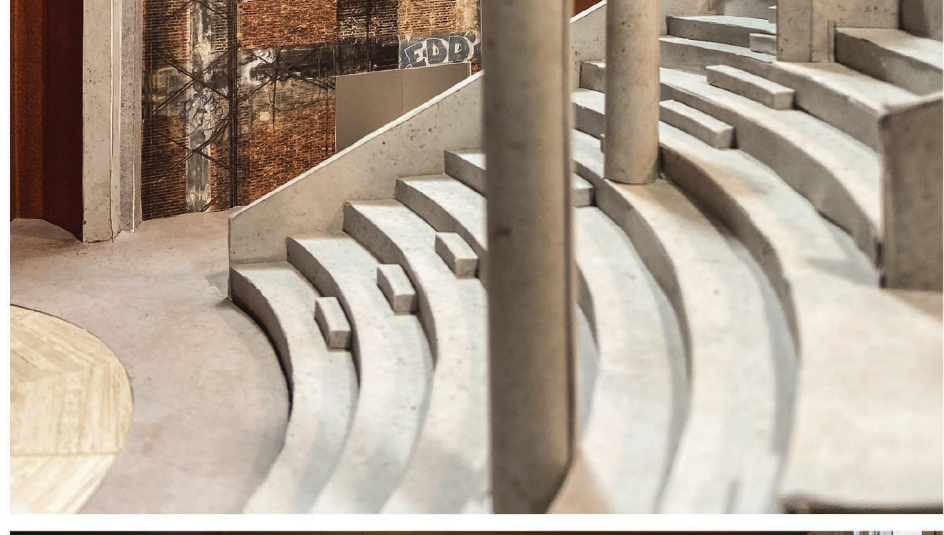
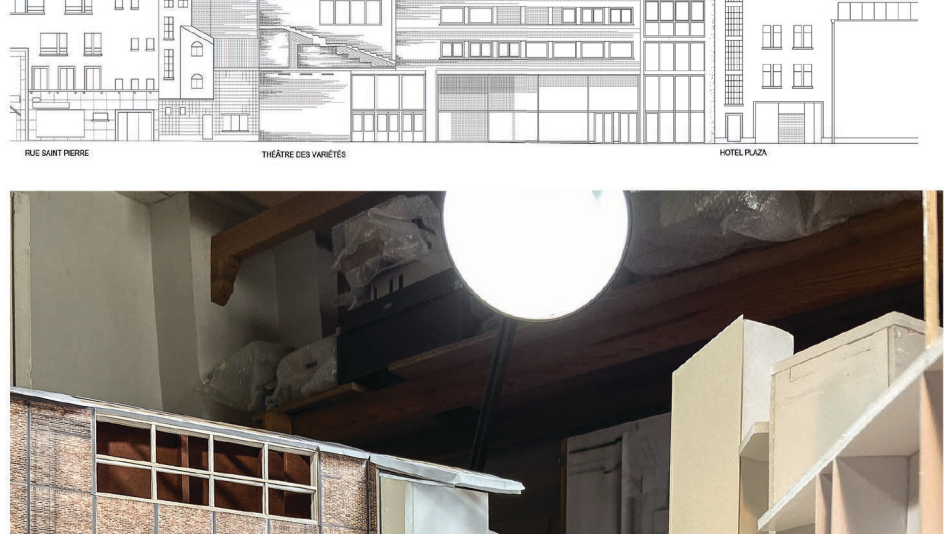
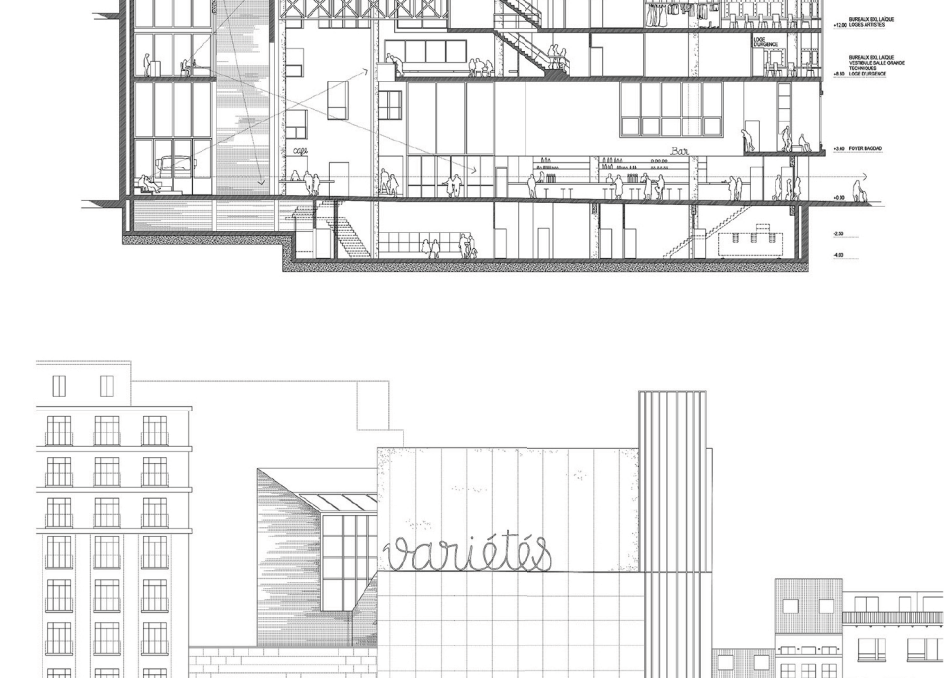
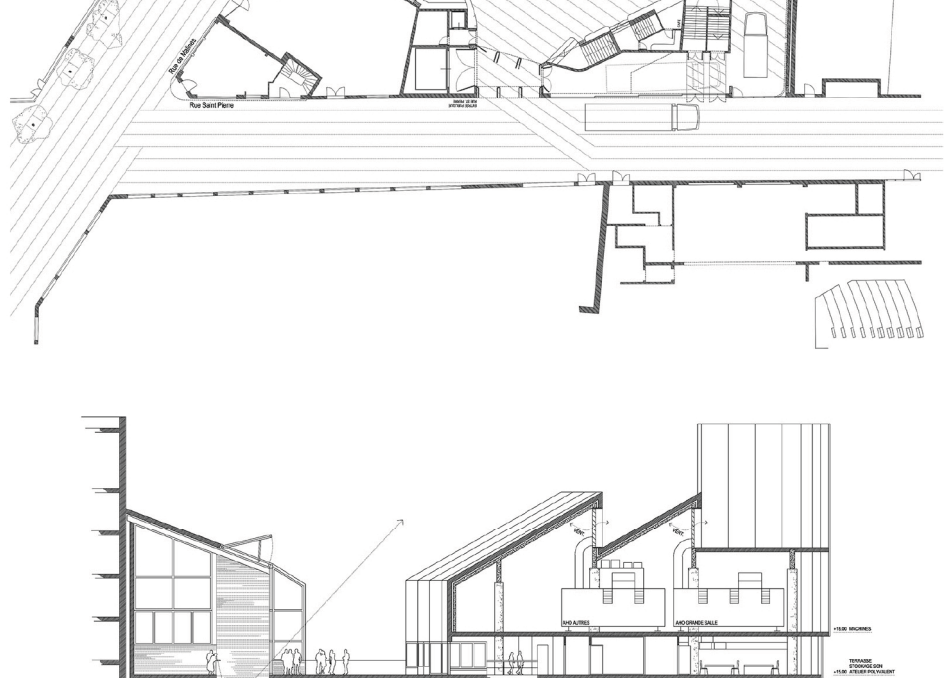
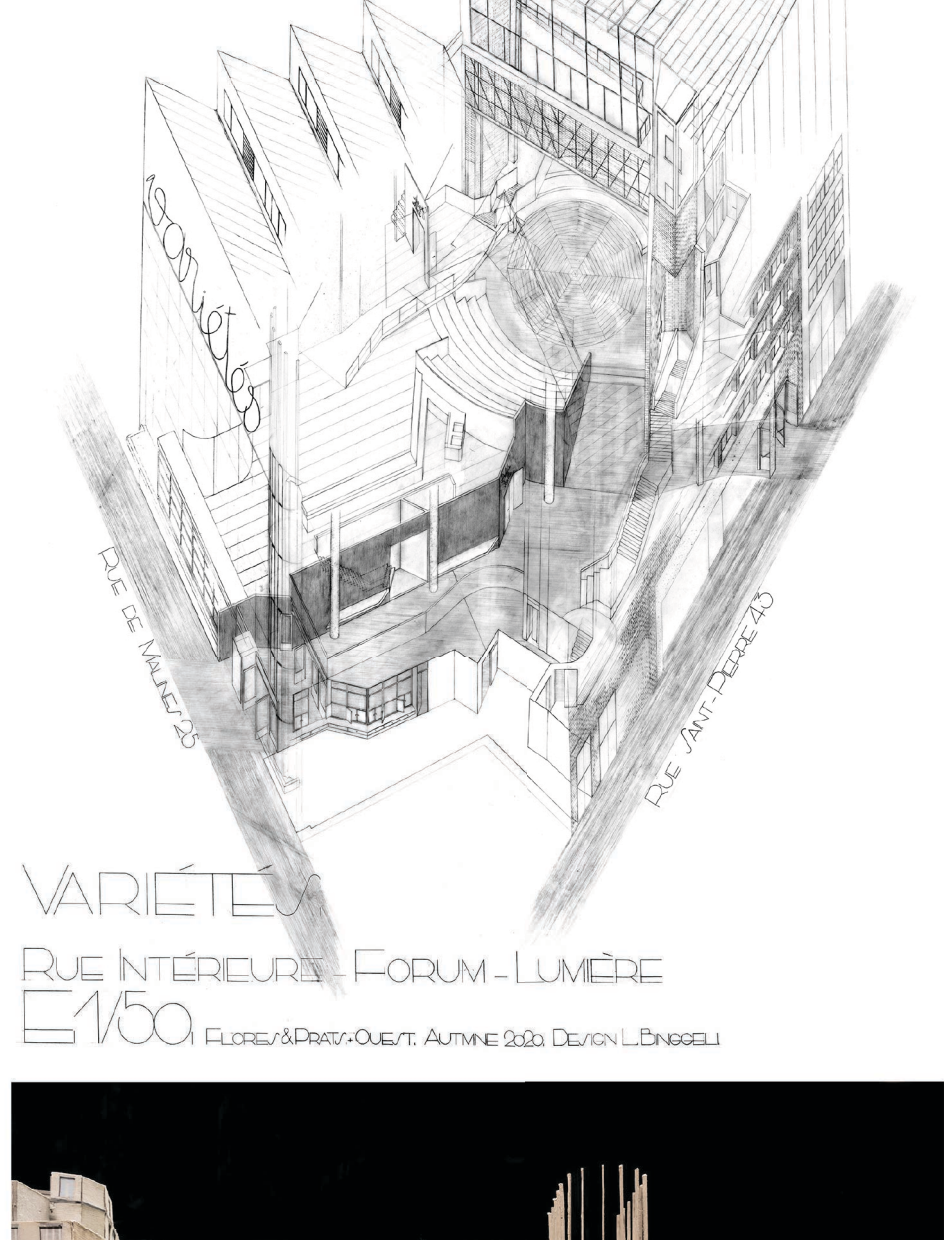
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Due for completion in 2024, the project proposes an open, inclusive public space to welcome debates, art and musical performances, and to celebrate public encounters within the city of Brussels, aiming to reactivate the place for its new use while retaining its unique spatial and material qualities – working not with nostalgia but rather with the memory of the building.

Flores & Prats co-founder Eva Prats was recently announced as a judge for the 2021 AR New into Old awards, which celebrate excellent examples of adaptive re-use in architecture. The awards were last run in 2019, when Flores & Prats won for their work on Sala Beckett Theatre in Barcelona. Find out more and enter the 2021 AR New into Old awards here

Photography (of models and of the building as-found) by Adrià Goula



### Variétés Théâtre rehabilitation

Architecture: Flores & Prats + OUEST Architecture

Structure: JZH & Partners

Acoustics: Daidalos Peutz

Scenography: Kanju

Techniques: Boydens

Budget and survey: Bureau Bouwtechniek

Signage: Ekta