

*Strand 3: The Challenges Facing Art Nouveau Heritage (Looking Towards the Future)*

**Definitive abstract for paper presentation at the *coupDefouet* International Congress**

**Art Nouveau buildings of Riga for the future**

Rich and dynamic economic and cultural life has resulted in more than 800 Art Nouveau buildings constructed at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in Riga, capital of Latvia. The report follows recent process of renovation of apartment houses and public buildings of different trends in Art Nouveau of Riga, including Eclectically Decorative Art Nouveau, National Romanticism, and “Perpendicular” Art Nouveau. Several important buildings and sites in the city, including cases of renovation for the same function, examples of conversion for other functions, and projects that involve noticeable input of contemporary architecture are examined. Future prospects in protection and renovation of Art Nouveau buildings are outlined in the report while touching also upon the challenges for research, promotion and perception of heritage in the context of current development of the city.

**Key words:** *Art Nouveau, Riga, National Romanticism, Northern Art Nouveau, renovation, cultural heritage, urban landscape, architecture, history of architecture*

**Les bâtiments d'Art Nouveau de Riga pour l'Avenir**

La vie économique et culturelle riche et dynamique a résulte pour Riga, le capital de Lettonie, en plus de 800 bâtiments d'Art nouveau construites au début du 20ème siècle. Le rapport est consacré au processus récent de rénovation d'immeubles et les bâtiments publics d'Art nouveau. Exemples de Façon éclectique Décoratif, de Romantisme national et d'Art nouveau Perpendiculaire est analyses. Plusieurs édifices et sites sont examinés dans la ville, y compris les cas de rénovation pour la même fonction, les exemples de conversion pour d'autres fonctions et les projets qui impliquent l'apport d'architecture contemporaine. Les perspectives futures dans la protection et la rénovation de bâtiments d'Art nouveau sont décrit dans le rapport en touchant aussi sur les défis pour la recherche, la promotion et la perception de la

patrimoine dans le contexte de développement actuel de la ville.

*Mots clés: Art nouveau, Riga, Romanticisme national, Art nouveau du nord, rénovation, patrimoine culturel, paysage urbain, architecture, histoire d'architecture*

## Curriculum Vitae

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Architect, MA, teacher of architectural design at Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning of Riga Technical University (since 1999); studied architecture at RTU, visiting researcher in Sweden (1998), Denmark (2002); ongoing PhD research devoted to industrial heritage of Riga and Art Nouveau urban space; participated in more than 40 international congresses, conferences and seminars, 30 paper presentations on history of architecture of Latvia; 11 scientific publications; writing internationally and locally on both contemporary and historical architecture and urban space since 1995: 67 publications in Latvian, 37 in English (A10. New European Architecture; Project Baltica; online); lectured abroad (Denmark, 2002; Austria, 2007; Norway, 2008); practicing architect in architectural design and renovation (1998-2004); participant and coordinator from Riga in Reseau Art Nouveau Network (2000-2009); member of DoCoMoMo; TICCIH (via Latvian Foundation of Industrial Heritage); expert for VKPAI (State Inspection for Heritage Protection of Latvia, since 2008); expert for VKKF (Culture Capital Foundation of Latvia, since 2012).