## MONOCLE

a briefing on global affairs, business, culture & design



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- A AFFAIRS Estonia's president talks and talks... Plus how to be a well-behaved ambassadog
- B BUSINESS Nice patch: our report from the frontline of the property world at Mipim
- © CULTURE Will Turkish TV's global-news play find any fans?
- D BESIGN Let's watch: a dispatch from Baselworld's timely event
- E EDITS Saddling into Santa Fe, Laurie Anderson's 'fast meal' and a properly cool campus



## Report Three design firms

remains a close friend. "You can say I'm a spin-off of Ingels," says Stubbergaard, smiling - and though he is selling himself short, there is a touch of Ingels in the way Cobe's designs straddle the line between playfulness and functionality.

The studio has designed buildings across the Nordic region and Germany but Denmark remains its chief stomping ground. In the capital it recently redesigned Nørreport train station and is working on a masterplan for North Harbour, Scandinavia's biggest urbanplanning project. "We use Copenhagen as an urban laboratory," says Stubbergaard. "The city and its politicians and administration are very open-minded."

"Architecture needs to be contemporary but it also needs to relate to the history of its surroundings," adds Stubbergaard. "[Each design] becomes site-specific: it is defined for exactly that spot". For instance, the Forfatterhuset Kindergarten in Nørrebro, Copenhagen, draws on the area's ubiquitous red-brick houses with a series of long red-brick "sticks" - evocative of rusted metal poles - forming a wall around the playground.

By contrast the Roskilde Rock Museum (showcasing music as opposed to geology) looks very different to its surroundings. Clad in aluminium spikes, the sparkling gold monument opened this year in an industrial district near Copenhagen. "It's like combining rough old jeans with a glittering golden belt," says Stubbergaard. These intelligent combinations of genre serve to bring vitality and style to a nation with a grand tradition - thanks to architects with subtle imaginations and bold visions. - IWA





## 02 Festen

Architects Hugo Sauzay and Charlotte de Tonnac live and work from their own Haussmanian apartment in Paris's Le Marais. "We never thought we would work together; it was not something we planned," says Sauzay. He explains how the partnership came about in 2011 while the pair were still studying and were asked to remodel an apartment in the capital's 7th arrondissement.

"We were both working on our final school project," says De Tonnac. "I was doing a library [concept] for Steidl and Hugo was working on a public swimming pool [concept]. Suddenly we had to create a real company."

Since then their elegant home - with its Hungarian point parquet, marble fireplaces and stucco details - has been transformed into a busy HQ where three other designers now assist. Architectural models of future projects and marble samples festoon the space while

a cat, Simone, purrs on a Bo concept sofa. "We are actually looking for a real office," says Sauzay.

Taking the name Festen, which is Danish for "feast", the pair have become known for their Parisian interiors and their work with the French hotel operator Perseus and its owner Valéry Grégo. Their recent Le Pigalle hotel pairs the classic panelled doors, moulding and parquet flooring of an old stone building with the lively and artistic neon aesthetic that has come to define the neighbourhood. "We are doing interior architecture in relation to the history of the space," says Sauzay. "We play with the furniture

and decoration but we don't want to create trendy spaces.'

01 Model apartment Charlotte de Tonnac

03 A Festen interior 04 Les Roches Rouges lobby 05 National Library of Technology, a Projektil project 06 Inside the library

and Hugo Sauzay

07 (I to r) Roman Brychta,

08 Projektil's plans 09 Library reading room

10 Model behaviour

Ondrej Hofmeister and

Petr Lesek of Projektil

Past projects in Paris range from a former printing factory in the 11th arrondissement to a pied-à-terre for a New York photographer in Le Marais. Elsewhere the duo have worked on a seaside annex in Trouville, Normandy, and are working on a holiday home in Cap Ferret.

There's also a 1960s-era hotel in Agay on the French Riviera; called Les Roches Rouges, which is slated to open in 2017. "It's a five-star hotel with the atmosphere of Eileen Gray and Le Corbusier's Cote d'Azur interiors," says Sauzay. - DHZ

Paris

