

Another Architecture

N°61 April — May 2016

MARK

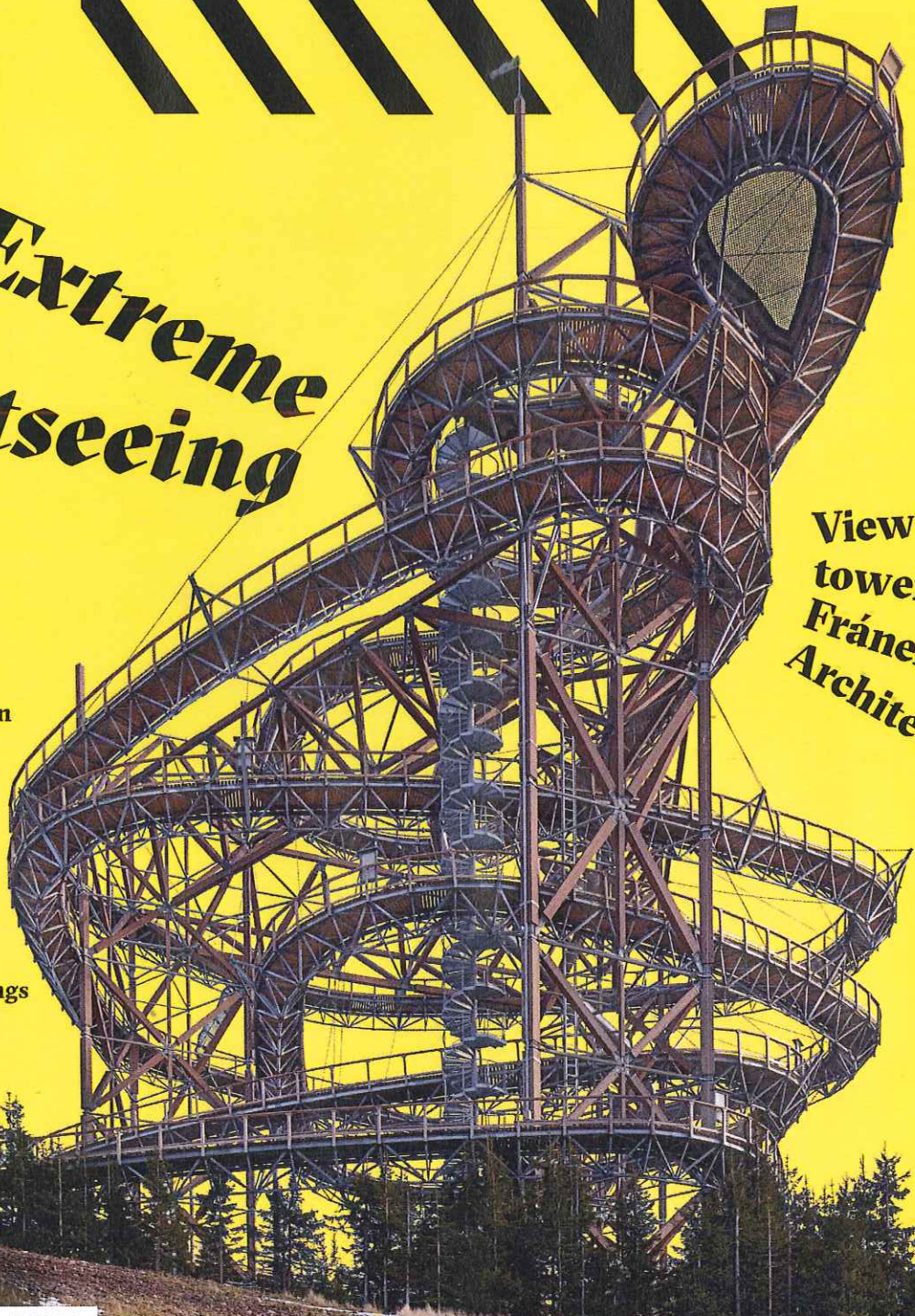
*Extreme
Sightseeing*

**Viewing
tower by
Fránek
Architects**

**Touring a Norwegian
island with
Ghilardi+Hellsten**

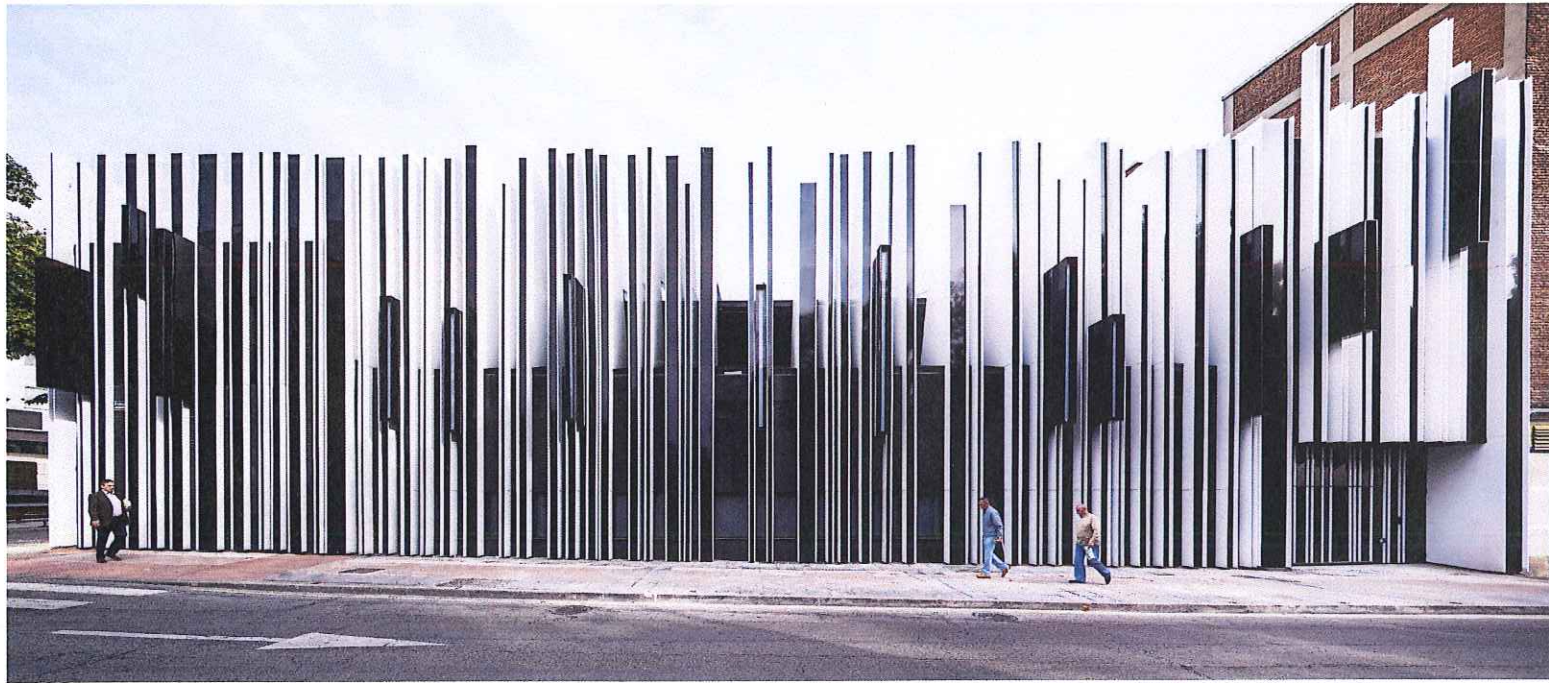
**Rocking a Polish
concert hall with
Fernando Menis**

**+
11 houses
8 parliament buildings
2 museums
1 church**



EUR 1995 GBP 14 CHF 30 CAD 2950
USD 1995 JPY 3990 KRW 40000





Text *Emily Downing*
Photos *Rubén P. Becerra / Inés Mallá*
for *RecordUs*

A-cero transformed a derelict site into a striking cultural centre for the Spanish city of Getafe, near Madrid. To quote the architects: 'The existing building was nearly in ruins, and the city council came up with a proposal for a multifunctional centre for the townspeople, with a main focus on cultural events.'

Not just an adaptive reuse project but the result of an adaptive overhaul scheme, the current complex embraces a bold juxtaposition of old and new, which is visible both outside and inside. The façades are an eye-catching complement to the surrounding, more traditionally designed Spanish architecture. Vast vertical ribs interspersed with smaller protruding 'pieces' encase the former market hall, wrapping the whole building in an interesting new skin.

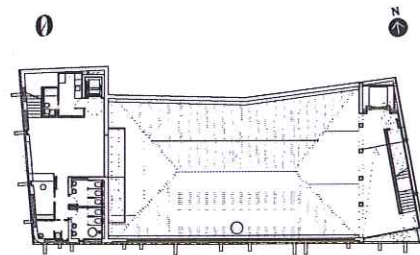
This black and white aluminium panelling obscures the existing structure, leaving mere glimpses of the historical fabric within. The interior follows a more sensitive approach to the old market hall by allowing the original brick walls and a lattice of concrete roof trusses to characterize the space. Sleek contemporary additions transform the fragmented hall into a habitable venue for the community.

Throughout the cultural centre, references are made to the old building, such as the architects' exposure of the original entrance on the main façade, a token of the past. Although the building has undergone a major transformation, such mementos signify respect for the site, its previous functions and the value it holds for the local community.

a-cero.com

Adaptive Overhaul

A-cero turned a partly ruined market hall into a cultural centre by encasing it in aluminium.



Before and after.

