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# Newsletter



► **Treasury or storage depot?**

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# Treasury or storage depot?

The painter Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres is considered one of the most important exponents of French neoclassicism. The town of his birth, Montauban, in Southwest France hosts a museum dedicated to the painter, which has now been extended with the addition of a storage facility.

As well as meeting the latest storage technology and security standards, the new building, which house extremely valuable artistic treasures for which there is insufficient space in the public galleries, was intended to be a little different from the average storehouse, often little more than a simple, rectangular box, with little to offer aesthetically.

Special attention was therefore paid to the building's external appearance, particularly as it is situated in the middle of a park at the entrance to the town. The architect, Raphaël Voinchet of W-Architectures in Toulouse, has succeeded in creating a marvellous construction for those artworks which are unable to be displayed. He has encased the building's deliberately simple rectangular silhouette in a façade which hints at the valuable treasures stored within. The building appears to be enclosed within vestments, the shape and colour of which are the result of intensive preliminary work and which bring to mind a reliquary or a richly ornamented treasure chest.

The textured façade, an enlargement of a recurring detail from some of the painter's major works, becomes almost a leitmotif for the building. It consists of 240 precast

284x117 cm concrete elements, the surfaces of which have been textured using RECKLI individual formliners.

In conjunction with the architect, French artist Franck Triscos created a 1:1 model in order to be able to define the type of surface in accordance with the architect's specifications. Following on from this work, the decision was taken, rather than coloured concrete, to use a scumbling coat for the concrete surface.

Three elastic RECKLI formliners were cast from the final model and delivered to the Prefabay pre-casting works in Toulouse.

The fact that the formliners were used 80 times meant that the project was as economical as anticipated and illustrates the almost unlimited design possibilities offered by RECKLI formliners for architects, planners and designers.

The textured concrete surfaces are accentuated by light and shadow effects and bring the façade to life. Interestingly, the screen-printed glass façade elements adopt the motif used by the concrete façade and impart on the building a uniform, yet vivid, impression.

RECKLI formliners are guaranteed for 100 uses both in pre-casting plants and for cast-in-situ concrete. With more than 230 standard patterns, we offer a comprehensive range of designs, which, even with the regular implementation of individual projects of this kind, is far from exhausted.







