

news

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01 ARCHITECTURE

Poltrona Frau Contract completed its 7th project with Pritzker Price winner architect Rafael Moneo in Toledo



Located in the City of the Three Cultures, the Toledo Congress Centre has cutting-edge meeting and event facilities. Designed by the architect Principe de Asturias prize and Pritzker winner Rafael Moneo, the Congress Centre has been fully incorporated into the city. The modern edifice squeezes comfortably into the historic heart of the city, hanging upon a cliff side. The project seeks to integrate the cultural heritage into a more established framework of function and rationality. The five-floor building has a multipurpose room for 6,000 occupants, six smaller multipurpose rooms, and parking for 600 vehicles. Ramps, lifts, and stairs connect the steep vertical climb. The Plaza de Zocodover stands nearby and the city's gardens sit directly below.



The Toledo Congress Centre covers 12000 m² and it is divided into multiple rooms and spaces catering both to the needs of small groups or those of major events, such as congresses and conventions.

Poltrona Frau Contract supplied and installed 1000 Circa armchair designed by Rafael Moneo initially for the National Auditorium of Barcelona project in 1999. Circa is a seat design reflecting sophistication with function that appeals to those with high aesthetic standards. The five other previous projects of Poltrona Frau with Rafael Moneo are The Bank of Spain Madrid, Prado Museum extension Madrid, Kursaal Conference Center San Sebastian, The Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum Madrid and Museum of the Roman Theater Cartagena.

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02 DESIGN

Restored as a luxury hotel, the Café Royal looks to regain its place at the centre of London's social scene



Café Royal began life in the 1860s as a place to eat and drink, and has been legendary ever since, popular with the city's in-crowds through the decades: Oscar Wilde, Noël Coward, Virginia Woolf, Brigitte Bardot; then, later, rock stars and royals, with rumours abounding of debauched parties behind its velvet curtains. David Chipperfield Architects have reimagined the Grade I-listed building at a 68 Regent Street, which has been closed for half a decade. They have sensitively updated the listed interior, which dates from the 19th century and also from its first refurbishment in the 1950s.



Something of the mid-century modernism remains. Original detailing is combined with contemporary décor and geometric forms in its 159 rooms. It has several restaurants and bars as well as an extensive spa. Its overhaul is part of the London Council's masterplan to develop the south end of Regent Street and turn it into London's biggest new open space since they spruced up Trafalgar Square.

Poltrona Frau supplied bespoke loose items designed by Chipperfield such as armchairs, writing desk and chairs, small tables for all the guest rooms and public areas.

Images courtesy of Hotel Café Royal

03 LIFE & PEOPLE

Poltrona Frau Contract and Kvadrat celebrating in Paris the power of their collaboration



Poltrona Frau Contract and Kvadrat have hosted in Paris a Cocktail event on the 14th of February inviting friends & partners from the Parisian A&D community to celebrate their successful collaboration on Valentine's Day. The event took place in Kvadrat's newly inaugurated showroom at Rue Charlot, the hip Marais district of Paris, where six Poltrona Frau iconic auditorium chairs upholstered in Kvadrat textiles were at the center of the show.

Based on the success of the first events in London and Paris, Kvadrat and Poltrona Frau Contract have decided to go on a world tour dedicated to the global

A&D community throughout 2013. The next stops are scheduled for Munich and Hamburg followed by Amsterdam before the tour will cross the Atlantic ocean to New York followed by Shanghai. The partnership with Kvadrat has been extremely fruitful and has resulted in a number of interesting joint projects. The recipe is very simple: bringing together the finest textiles with the best auditorium/theatre chairs in the world. By doing that we have created the optimal fusion of both, aesthetics and function in the seat design, while also incorporating important safety features such as fire retardant treatment.