Colasse



CASE STUDY

Heritage · LED lighting

Custom, redundant LED lines for a listed dome

Salle académique: the dome in the light

To light the coffered half-dome of this listed monument, Colasse designed, tested and manufactured custom LED lines that cannot be seen from the hall.

1824	2×	CRI 90	DALI
hall completed, listed in 1983	LED rails and power supplies doubled, backup circuit	to render the stucco and gilding	dimmable light for each event

The venue

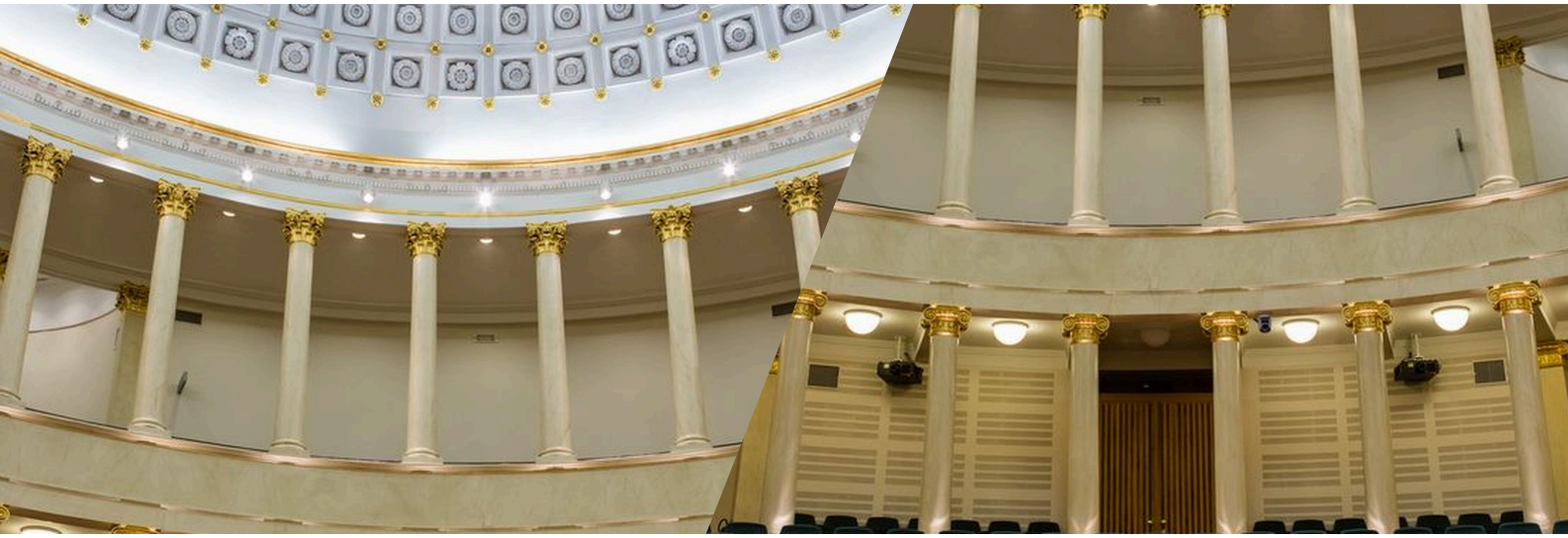
On Place du XX-Août, the **Salle académique** is the historic heart of the University of Liège: a neoclassical hemicycle surrounded by a gallery of gilded columns and covered by a coffered half-dome decorated with stucco rosettes.

Listed in 1983 and recognised as **exceptional heritage of Wallonia**, it hosts academic openings, graduation ceremonies, honorary doctorates and conferences.

The challenge: light without touching the décor

The dome must be lit evenly, from the cornice to the top, **with no fitting visible** from the seats. The luminaires sit inside the cornice, which follows the curve of the hemicycle.

In a listed monument, the décor cannot be altered. The light has to render the white of the stucco and the gold of the capitals. It also has to **remain reliable over time**: placing an aerial platform in the hall is costly and complicated.



Our solution

Instead of a catalogue luminaire, Colasse designed **custom LED rails in several lengths**, joined by quick connectors, to follow the curve of the cornice as closely as possible. The installation is **fully redundant**: LED rails and power supplies are doubled, with a backup circuit.

Two test kits were installed on site to compare power levels and colour temperatures. Final choice: **23 W/m, 4000 K, CRI 90**, with **DALI** drivers to adjust the intensity to each use.

The result

The light rises from the cornice and reveals every coffer:

- an evenly lit dome, **with no hot spots or shadows**;
- from the hall, you see the dome, **not the luminaires**;
- if one part fails, **the dome stays lit**.

When no catalogue luminaire suits the venue, Colasse designs and manufactures custom lighting. We validate it on site with the installer and make it redundant when access is difficult.

Design, testing and manufacturing of the LED lines
December 2023 – May 2024

The Salle académique

- University of Liège, Place du XX-Août 9, 4000 Liège, Belgium. Completed in 1824.
- Listed monument (1983), exceptional heritage of Wallonia.
- Installation: partner electrician.

Project photos: colasse.be/projects/salle-academique-uliege

Colasse

Understanding your challenges is already securing your project.
Let's talk.

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