

Brussels 1900 Art Nouveau

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Outline

- Why a “new art”?
- Why around 1900?
- Why Brussels?
- Art Nouveau Architecture

A “new art”

- “Art Nouveau” in French & English-speaking countries, “Jugendstil” in German-speaking countries, Sezessionstil” in Austria, “Modernismo” in Spain, “Stilo Liberty” in Italy
- Created by groups of young artists who rejected the historicist “Neo” styles of the nineteenth century

Classical



Parthenon, Athens, Greece completed 432 BC

Neo-Classical



Brussels Stock Exchange completed 1873

Gothic



Cathedral of SS Michael & Gudula, Brussels completed c1450

Neo-Gothic



Notre-Dame de Laeken Church, Brussels completed 1872

Renaissance



Galleria degli Uffizi, Florence completed 1581

Neo-Renaissance



Royal Galleries, Brussels completed 1847

Why around 1900?

- Combination of artistic influences
 - Arts & Crafts
 - Pre-Raphaelites
 - Japanese art
 - Aesthetic movement
- Changed role of women

Arts & Crafts

William Morris (1834-1896)



- preaches return to true artisan methods and values
- “Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful”
- Morris & Co founded 1861, selling tapestries, fabrics, wallpaper, furniture, stained glass etc. for homes & churches
- Kelmscott Press reprints Chaucer, Icelandic sagas, Middle Eastern poetry, etc.



Woodpecker tapestry 1885



Acanthus wallpaper 1875

Pre-Raphaelites



“Ophelia” by JE Millais 1852

- highly-romanticised view of nature
- minute observation of natural detail
- mediaeval fantasies
- bright colours



“Isabella and the Pot of Basil”
by W Holman Hunt 1868



“The Viking Ship” by Edward Burne-Jones (stained-glass window by Morris & Co.) 1884



“Lady Lilith” by Dante Gabriel Rossetti 1883

Japanese art



Japanese
Native Village
Exhibition,
London 1885-87



“Red Fuji” by Hokusai
1833

- Lack of perspective & shadow
- areas of flat, bright colour
- ukiyo-e woodblock prints
- kakiemon porcelain



Hiroshige's “Reeds in the Snow” on the cover of Siegfried Bing's “Le Japon Artistique” magazine 1888



“The Mikado” 1885



“The Great Wave off Kanagawa” by Hokusai
1832

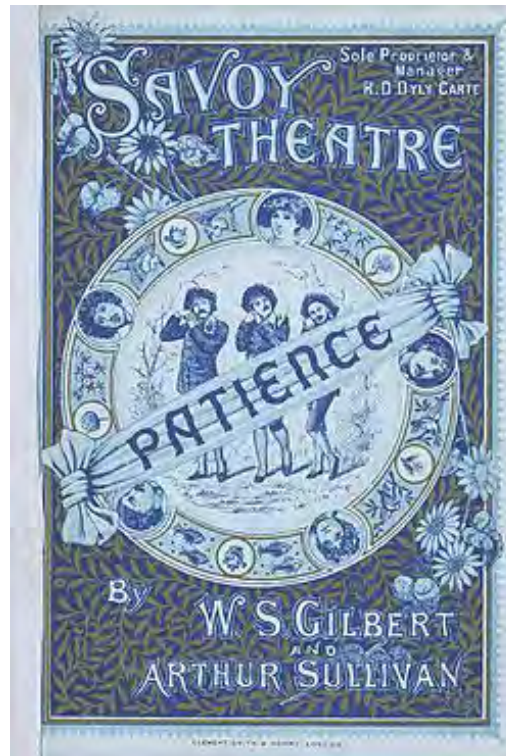


Stained-glass window in Paul
Saintenoy's house, Brussels,
1896, designed by Saintenoy
and made by Raphael
Ewaldre.

Aesthetic Movement



“The Peacock Skirt”
by Aubrey Beardsley
1894



“Patience” by Gilbert
& Sullivan 1881



Cartoon satirising
Oscar Wilde's poetry
in “Punch” 1881



“Aesthetic” teapots by James Hadley for Royal Worcester 1881

Changed role of women

- Women targetted by advertisers
- Votes for women campaigns
- Artists portray decadent, sexualised women
- Prominent women in theatre (e.g. Sarah Bernhardt)



Advertisements by Alfons Mucha



Why Brussels?

- Capital of first country in Continental Europe to undergo industrial revolution
- Huge profits from steel & coal industries & Congo colony fund large middle class which wants to appear innovative and progressive
- Talent pool of young artists, designers, architects and artisans

Art Nouveau architecture in Brussels

1893 : Suburb of Ixelles sees first two
Art Nouveau buildings

1) House for
Professor Tassel
by Victor Horta
(1861-1947)



As Horta's designs are still protected by copyright, we regret that the photos used in the presentation are not available in this version published online

2) own house & studio by Paul Hankar (1859-1901)





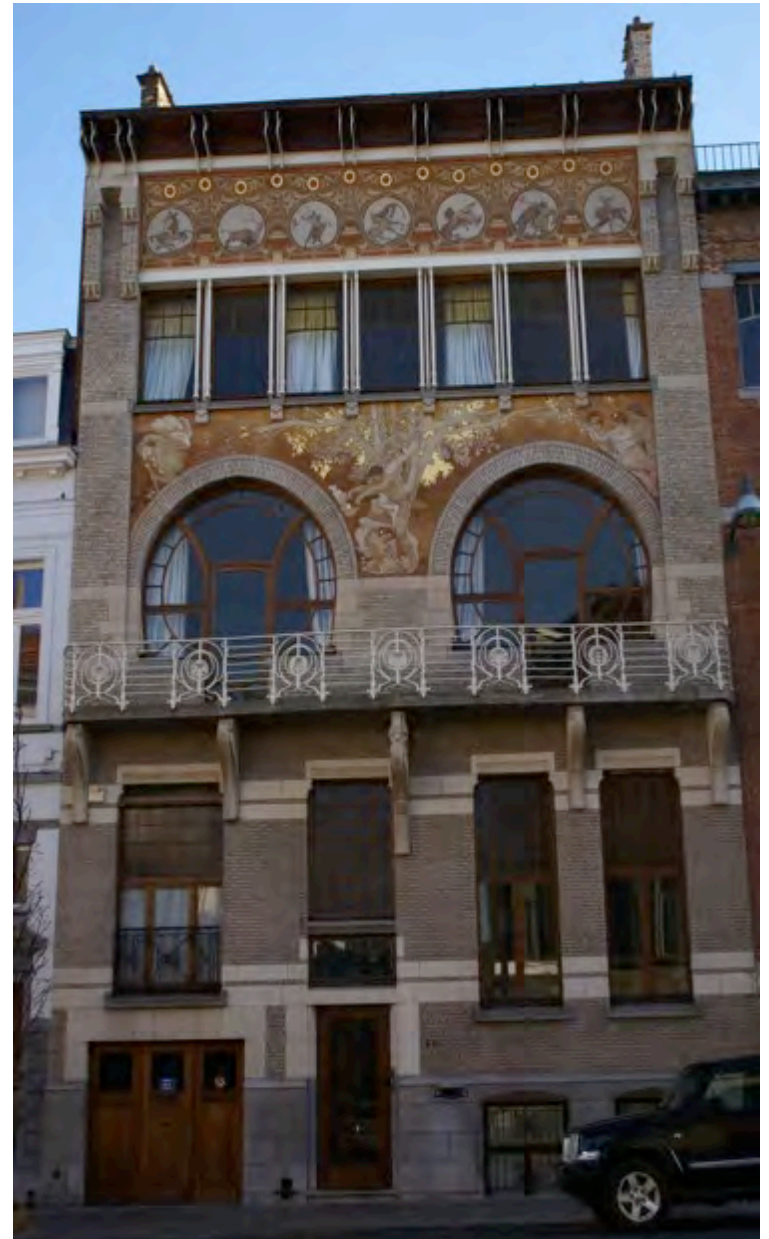
Horta's career blossomed,,,

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Another house from Paul Hankar's tragically short career



Alberto Ciamberlani
house, Rue Defacqz,
1897, with sgraffiti by
Adolphe Crespin





Sgraffiti on facade of Ciamberlani house executed by Adolphe Crespin

Brussels was also home to a disciple of Charles Rennie Mackintosh and his wife Margaret MacDonald...



Charles Rennie Mackintosh 1868-1928



Margaret MacDonald 1865-1933



CHAS. RENNIE MACINTOSH
■■■■■ GLASGOW 1901

... Paul Cauchie and his wife Lina



Paul Cauchie 1875-1952



Lina Cauchie 1875-1969



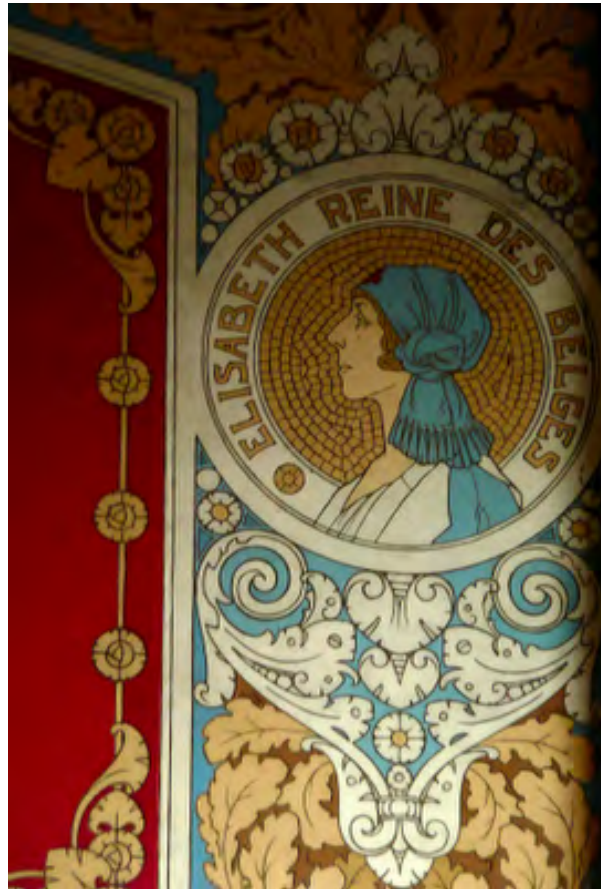
Cauchie House, Rue des Francs,
1905



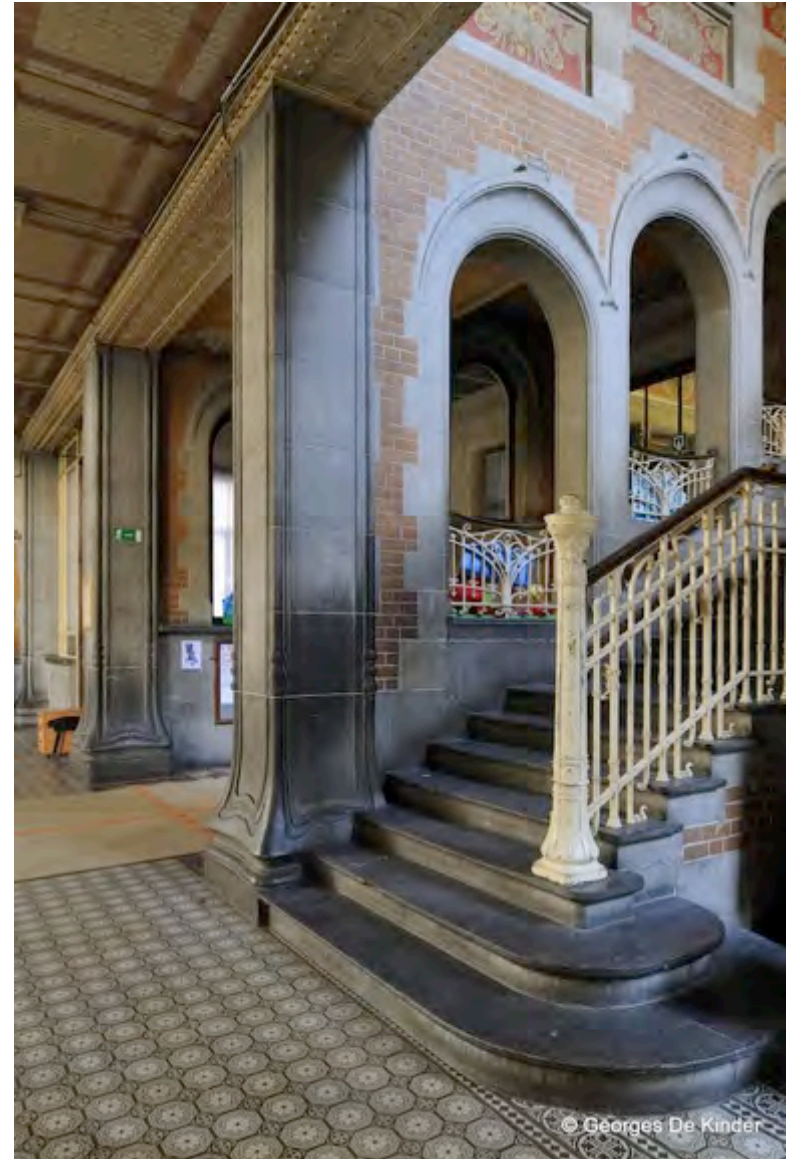
Brussels was also home to Henri Jacobs (1864-1935) one of the most prolific Art Nouveau school architects, who built over 400 schools and colleges in Belgium. Most of them are still in use today



Schaerbeek School No 13, Avenue de Roodebeek, 1913, mural by Privat Livemont



Wall paintings from gymnasium at Schaerbeek School No 13



Schaerbeek School No,1, Rue Josephat, 1907



sgraffiti panels by Privat Livemont in indoor playground at Schaerbeek School No 1



Former Girl's Secondary School,
Rue Herkoliers, 1907, street
elevation and detail of sgraffiti by
Adolphe Crespin



indoor playground with sgraffiti by Adolphe Crespin at Rue Herkoliers school



Former Cohn-Donnay house,
Rue Royale Sainte-Marie
by Paul Hamesse 1904, details of bar
(former reception room and garden
passage)
Now “De Ultieme Hallucinatie” bar-
restaurant





Aegidium dance hall (later cinema), Saint-Gilles 1905, G Seghers



Otlet house, Rue de Florence, by Octave Van Rysselberghe 1897

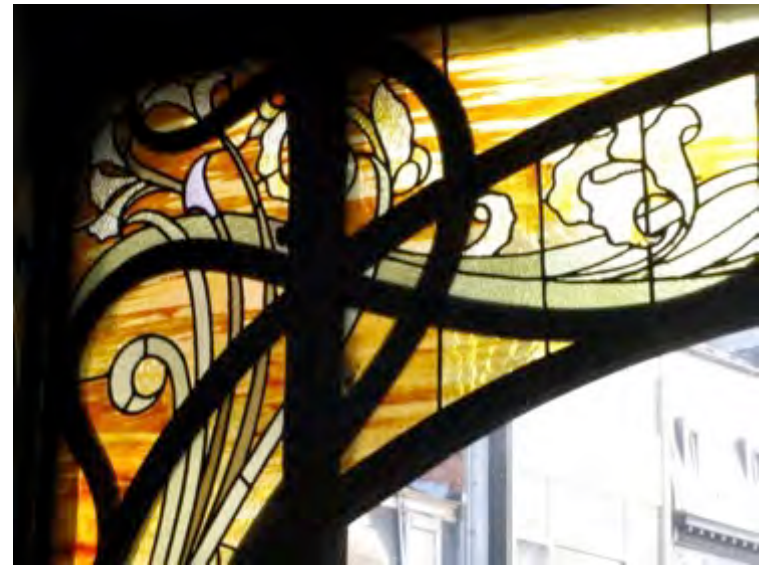


Otlet house, entrance hall,
stained glass by Henry Van
de Velde 1863-1957





Otlet house, stained-glass window from salon to stairwell by Henry Van de Velde



former Edouard Hannon house, now
Contretype Gallery, Avenue de la Jonction,
by Jules Brunfaut 1904, stained-glass by
Emile Gallé, executed by Raphael Ewaldre



Hannon house, upstairs landing window executed by Raphael Evaldre



Hannon house, stairwell mural "Les Joies de la Vie" by Pierre-Albert Baudouin

Thank you for your attention
Any Questions?