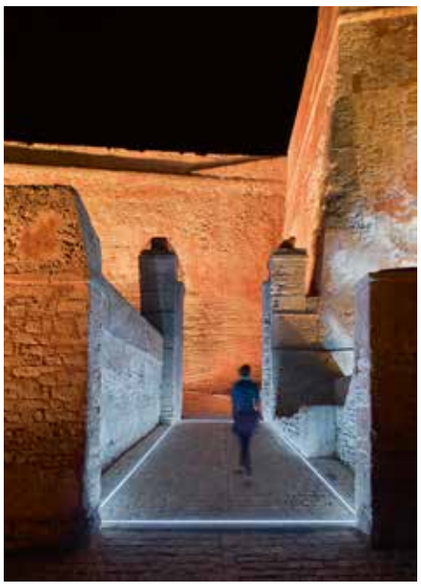
LIGHTS AND LADDERS

In honour of its historical importance, LEC Lyon and L'Agencelumière have teamed up to create a pathway of light for visitors of Bonifacio's Citadel in Corsica, France.

Pics: Xavier Boymond / LEC Lyon



Known for its chalk and limestone cliffs, Bonifacio in the south of Corsica, France is a city distinguised through its religious structures, medieval architecture, military buildings and harbour.

Following ten months of oniste work and lighting tests, the Citadel of Bonifacio has revealed a new face at night that pays homage to its historical location. The 12,000sq.m of walls and cliffs are now lit with 200 LED projectors. The up-lighting was realised through a technical and artistic collaboration with the City of Bonifacio, lighting design agency L'Agencelumière and LED lighting solutions supplier LEC Lyon.

Introduced 27 June 2015, the up-lighting was designed to provide a ladder-like route of light, guiding visitors toward the upper town, visiting the chapel, Saint-Roch hill, citadel's walls, Door of Genes, bastion and Sutta Rocca cliff along the way.

78 of LEC Lyon's 4660-Corsica LED projector provide a uniform coverage of the 50m high Sutta Rocca cliff and the 30m high bastion. Equipped with 42 Superwatt LEDs and a 360° telescopic arm, the wall-washer illuminates the citadel in four colours: red, green, warm white 3,000K and king blue. Each projector is DMX controlled, according to a specific light scenario designed by L'Agencelumière, enabling users to experience light at various points along the route.

Saint-Roch Chapel, the entry point of the route, uses harmonious up-lighting with four-colour glow on its facades, achieved with in-ground recessed 5760-Passy projectors. Two 4020-Luminy 2 projectors and one 5635-Ligny light bar from LEC Lyon emphasise the bell tower and the inner space open to the sky.

For the Saint-Roch hill, LEC lyon and L'Agencelumière designed a compact cast aluminium bollard luminaire. Lining the inner side of the pathway, the 23 bollards hide a mini 1750A-Bourgogne LED spotlight, spreading a perpendicular white light line across the paved climb, securing safe access to the citadel at night as well as giving rhythm to the pathway.

To reveal the architectural beauty of the inner citadel's walls, 44 5760-Passy linear LED fixtures of various lengths (from 50cm to one-metre) were installed along the way. These again cover the walls in a four-colour glow, achieved with specific optics that allow an accurate rendering from the ground to the whole walls' 30m height. For maximum comfort, all in-ground projectors were equipped with a flow-cut which avoid spectators being dazzled. All luminaires are individually adjustable and controlled by a DMX tool system.

Along the journey of light, L'Agencelumière wanted to include an in-ground luminous rectangle. This light effect was achieved with LEC Lyon's LED 5620-Brunei linears - equipped with 120 LEDs per metre, spreading a monochrome light in cold white.

Once at the Door of Genes, the climbing pathway stops and visitors enter the upper town. This crossing offers a unique lighting experiment for visitors, containing a sequence with four paces: the drawbridge, the Doore of Genes, the black room and the white room. Fourteen 4240-Havre LED wall spotlights allow an indirect monochrome lighting in warm white for both rooms. At the designer's request, LEC Lyon manufactured anodised aluminium spotlights in a coppery-brown, to suit the rooms' environment. Bringing the journey to a close, the drawbridge and the luminous narrow openings located on both sides of the door's facade are equipped with seven 5635-Ligny LED linears, creating a window to the entry bridge of the upper town from the outside.

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