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Selected Projects Illustrated

“Custom is our Standard”

A poor room may be elevated by good light, bad light though may ruin the best interior

Relying on the experience of our skilled craftsmen enables us to live up to this credo as every item we manufacture is treated as a single item. Our core competencies here are skilful handcrafting of metal and various other materials in traditional techniques. Most of the techniques we deem as our standard are lost to mankind in other places but continue to flourish only in our workshop in downtown Vienna.

In collaborating with designers and architects worldwide we are proud to be able to bring to bear our over two centuries of experience in representative lighting. To reach this goal we gladly offer to be involved in projects from the early phase on to make possible the most outrageous and extravagant visions. Being provided exact plans and elevations (as room height is most important) is a perfect starting point; a visit on site is a service we gladly offer. Precious fixtures demand to get a feel for the situation, but also to have the personal contact to the persons involved.

It's family business after all!



L'Alliance

The family tree as a light sculpture

The French interior designer Elliott Barnes was contracted to design the interiors of a Viennese house, his client asked him to design a chandelier under the condition that it shall be made by Lobjmeyr in Vienna.

The chandelier created reflects the binding love of a family.

Rings of crystal are a very common element in modern lighting and nothing special for themselves. But what Elliott Barnes challenged us to try again proved our team as true experts. Supporting the two large rings alone, was a very nice problem.

By exactly pre-tensioning the 80 cm wide rings along the central column they level gracefully under their own weight. The hand-cut crystals are encased between the rings in circumferential grooves showing no visible connections.

Installing the fixture was another challenge as the sophisticated building structure left only 5 cm of concrete thickness to anchor the suspension.

An integrated downlight on a separate circuit illuminates the dining table below and the main lights are custom-made LED-elements for greatest function and flexibility with low power consumption.

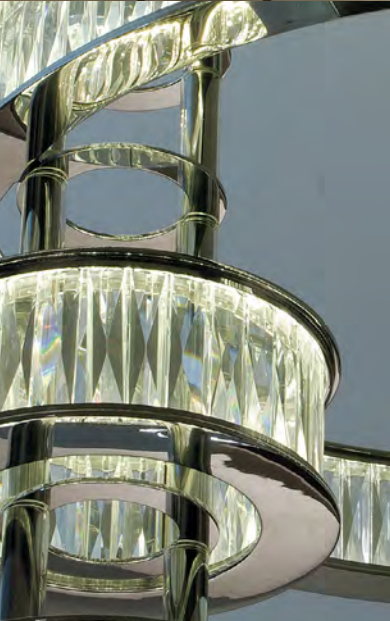
Design: Elliott Barnes, 2012

Location: Vienna

Building type: Private residence

Architect: Architekt Paul Richter ZT GmbH

Services: Development, production, installation





The Emperor's Metro Pavilion

Restoration of street lights by Otto Wagner

For decades the Imperial Metro Pavilion was neglected. History reports that even the Emperor himself used his personal metro station opposite his palace only once. Nevertheless it was a symbol of modernity for Vienna and still is a local landmark. The pavilion is located just opposite the palace on one of Vienna's main access roads into the city. On this route the first metro line was developed under the lead of Otto Wagner.

The magnificent pillars stood there for now 100 years without the beautiful lanterns, somehow bereft of their function.

From archive pictures we reconstructed the original lanterns true to their original design. On many metro stations throughout Vienna similar lamps are still to be seen but this was to be reconstructed in perfect truth.

Here we not just copied the shape but also the original coat of colour with the traditional oil paint was recreated.

Design: Otto Wagner

Principal: Vienna Municipal Utility

Location: Vienna, Schönbrunn Palace

Building type: Public building

Services: Restoration, reconstruction





Liechtenstein "Stadtpalais"

Restoration of monumental chandeliers

It started as single monumental chandelier to be restored. All crystal parts and one complete sixth of the metal were missing and had to be reconstructed. Superior gilding techniques and expert casting were among the most demanding tasks beside the installation of high-tech Swarovski LED-candles.

During this inspiring project follow-up projects were awarded resulting in three more monumental chandeliers of similar size and various states of preservation. These ranged from mere cleaning and restoring to a full research and reconstruction from an indistinct picture.

Under close supervision of the Liechtenstein restoration authority Lobmeyr partook in the single most outstanding example in recent architectural and preservational history. With this project we set a new milestone in restoration history.

Design: Historic; various design from early 18th cent.

Location, Year: Vienna, 2011 - 2013

Principal: Liegenschaftsverwaltung Stiftung Fürst Liechtenstein

Building type: Public building

Architect: Wehdorn Architekten

Services: Restoration, reconstruction, development, research





Liechtenstein "Stadtpalais"

More chandeliers for the palais

Lobmeyr also provided, restored and developed many more marvelous light fixtures, smaller but even as sophisticated as the large.

Largest among those is a French Rokoko chandelier from the former showroom of Fred Adlmüller on Kärntnerstraße. This was restored earlier and exclusively gold-plated for the client.

A technically very interesting side project were the outside lanterns along the façade. Here we created authentic period lanterns with state-of-the-art LED lighting to recreate a natural ambience.

For some rooms we actively searched for suitable objects under strict guidelines from the 'Stiftung'.

Some objects we closely and fruitfully collaborated on with local academic restoration professionals.

The Swarovski LED-candle was a common element throughout the project. A fitting embrace giving a unique shine to this outstanding project.

Design: Historic; various design from early 18th cent.

Location, Year: Vienna, 2009 - 2013

Principal: Liegenschaftsverwaltung Stiftung Fürst Liechtenstein

Building type: Public building

Architect: Wehdorn Architekten

Services: Restoration, reconstruction, development, research





Le Palais Sans Souci

Exclusive events with the flair of the Viennese "Gründerzeit"



Le Palais Sans Souci is the first of a series of investments to restore historic buildings throughout Vienna to cater for the needs of today's business and event industry. The Sans Souci group leaves no need unfulfilled. Starting from plenty of indoor parking facilities to a wonderful garden, over modern multi media facilities and a state-of-the-art show kitchen, Winkelmayer, head of the Sans Souci Group, has thought about everything. All of this with highest regards to quality and authenticity! Most of the ground floor reception rooms are crowned by the most beautiful chandelier Lobmeyr had to offer. According to the group's philosophy those splendid pieces are mostly originals from the 19th century. Where not enough originals were available matching wall sconces were reconstructed based on the chandelier design or from actual pieces available.

Design: Norbert Winkelmayer
Location, Year: Vienna, 2011
Principal: Sans Souci Group
Building type: Event Location
Services: Restoration and reconstruction





Schloss Schönbrunn

Restoration of the Viennese landmark

Here we restored the large chandeliers and the numerous wall brackets during the general restoration of the Grand Gallery and the adjacent rooms, the castles main function hall.

The whole project pays acute attention towards a thorough yet gentle work to refrain from appearing restored but merely well kept. This approach favoured our competence and skill.

This is not any contract as Schönbrunn is the landmark symbol of Vienna if only one was to name. The Imperial Palace is of course a returning customer, both during and after the Empire. Another interesting fact was that Swarovski premiered their prototypes of a new electrical candle here before having the world presentation at the Louvre.

Design: Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach

Location, Year: Vienna, 2011

Principal: Schloss Schönbrunn Kultur- und Betriebsges.m.b.H.

Building type: Palace

Services: Restoration and installation





A Private Villa

Lighting concept for a luxurious beach villa in the Middle East

Chance led the steps of a businessman into our flagship store in Vienna. Impressed by what he saw he decided to give us the honour to manufacture the lighting fixtures for the main areas of his newly constructed beach villa. Many breathtaking designs from our archives were used in this project as well as some designs proposed by the architects we custom made according to the desires of the principal.

A wonderful opportunity was to create a monumental version of the famous chandelier designed by Josef Hoffmann in 1914 and to mount this as a pair, flanked by matching wall sconces in the grand salon.

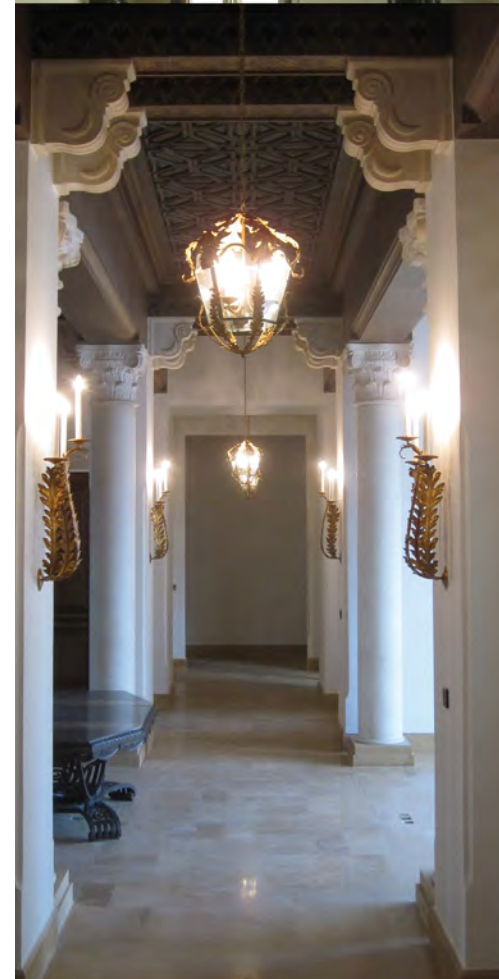
The absolute highlight of this project is the Spiral Chandelier designed for the Megaron of Music in Athens which gives a breathtaking illumination for the staircase. This version of the Spiral is over 6 meters long.

Design: Lighting designs by Josef Hoffmann, Stefan Rath,...

Location, Year: Middle East, 2010

Building type: Private residence

Services: Production





A Private Mansion

Reproduction of a traditional chandelier

As one of the last chandelier manufacturers working on the highest level of quality we were approached by an English gentleman with a difficult task: Since there were no high quality producers of typical British glass arm chandeliers in the United Kingdom he asked us whether we were able to reconstruct a classical English design from just a picture from an old catalogue. The design was interesting and the dimensions of the chandelier tempting by being monumental so we took the challenge and got to work.

The result was a stunning example of a genuine English glass arm chandelier which we further enhanced by using exquisite crystal in the Bohemian tradition.

Even though this project included only a single chandelier it was an important step for two reasons: It marks the infancy of a completely new range of fixtures in our collection and the re-emergence of an otherwise lost cultural treasure.

Design: Historical, circa 1850; Victorian

Location, Year: Great Britain, 2009

Building type: Private mansion

Services: Production and installation





Bob Bob Ricard Restaurant

The flair of the thirties by David Collins Studio

As the leading emerging restaurant in London the BBR on Upper James Street sets a new standard. Next to maybe the finest dining in town the restaurant also features the most reasonable prices for an exclusive selection of the best wines, personally selected by Leonid Shutov, one of the proprietors.

With playfulness and a clear language of shapes David Collins Design Studio transforms the interior straight back to the thirties.

By simply touching the chandelier with a satin brass finish and accents of copper the designers blend this chandelier perfectly in this wonderfully composed ambience. With the dimmed light the air of the era is evoked into an opulent play of colours. The items used here are the largest size possible with this design, a real challenge for the craftsmen.

Design: David Collins Design Studio - London

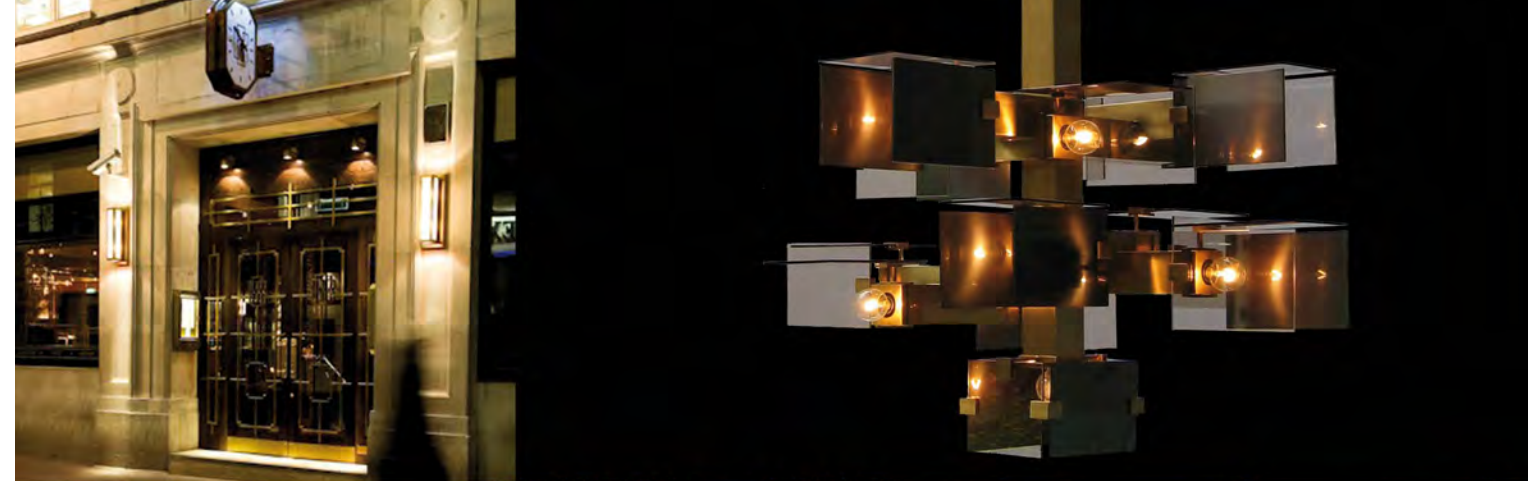
Location, Year: London, 2008

Principal: Bob Bob Ricard

Building type: Restaurant

Architect: David Collins Design Studio - London

Services: Production and installation





Metropolitan Opera 2008

Restoration of Chandeliers

The eleven crystal chandeliers in the prominent foyer of the New York Metropolitan Opera came to Vienna for restoration. In 1.200 man hours of delicate work we restored the chandeliers, 51.500 crystal elements, 50.000 bicycle spokes, 1.000 metal rods and 800 pieces of the so called "Sputniks" were used.

Due to the opera's limited closing period this work had to be realized within only 9 ½ weeks. This was made possible because we performed all preparations on pure hope long before the actual order was signed and by the incredible support given by the Met's house technicians to dismantle and then to hang again the chandeliers in record time.

It became so very obvious to what high extent the Metropolitan team of technicians and stage hands identified themselves with these chandeliers.

Design: Hans Harald Rath
Location, Year: New York, 2008
Principal: Metropolitan Opera New York
Building Type: Opera
Architect: Wallace K. Harrison
Services: Restoration





A Private Estate

Complete lighting concept for a private residence

This large private villa was erected in the years 2005 to 2007 and lovingly designed encompassing the smallest details taking reference from French mansions. Here we were asked to offer the complete representative lighting in various styles for multiple rooms.

The principal's attention to the lighting situation and his understanding of quality made it possible to create some milestones for this project in our history. So this project has an enormous scope, both from a stylistic perspective as well as in volume. Not only could we use some of our most exquisitely restored antique items for this villa. We also had the chance to make an exact copy of a very beautiful original Biedermeier chandelier we also restored. Noteworthy are also the exquisite set-in wall lights with manually hammered metal mirror, in an oval shape which was a very interesting work to do. Furthermore, an extensive amount of wall lights, lanterns and a variety of antique chandeliers were used for this prestigious project.

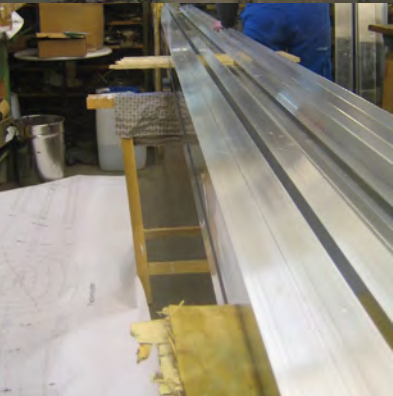
Design: Various antique lighting fixtures

Location, Year: Austria, 2007

Building type: Private Residence

Services: Consulting, design, production and restoration





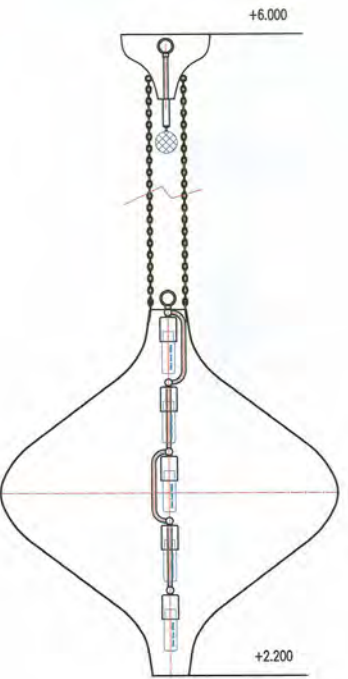
“Österreicher im MAK”

A light installation for the restaurant in Vienna’s Museum of Applied Arts

“Eichinger oder Knechtl” were invited to create a restaurant space in the former MAK-Café designed by architect Hermann Czech. For this project a piece of lighting furniture became a central element to dominate and structure the whole composition of the room. To achieve this Gregor Eichinger analysed the classical Viennese baroque chandelier and stripped it down to its most basic aspects: material, shape and function. From here Eichinger reinvented the chandelier as an intimate part of the Café. The suspending of this long structure as well as power capacities existing on site became the greatest challenge for us. This lighting object has become an identification mark for the MAK-Café as many Lobmeyr works have become before.

Design: Gregor Eichinger
Location, Year: Vienna, 2006
Principal: Museum of Applied Arts - Vienna
Building type: Restaurant
Architect: Eichinger oder Knechtl
Services: Development and production





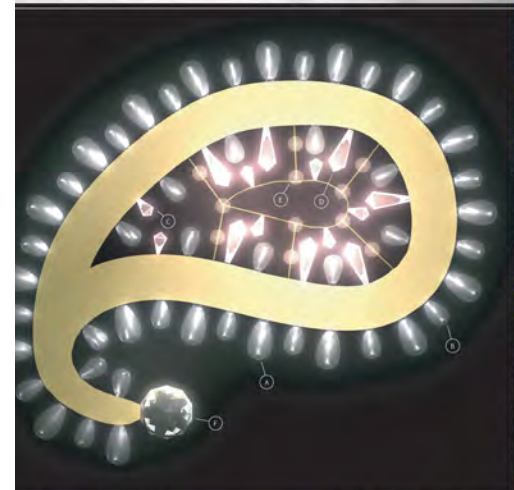
The Paisley

A prototype for Swarovski Crystal Palace

In spring 2005 Swarovski approached us with a design concept for a chandelier by the designer Pietro Ferruccio Laviani. The design was a conceptual study focusing on the crystal used, but with little information on the making. Important points such as the actual method of construction or the intended lighting technology were not specified. Because of this challenge we gladly took this offer to work with Swarovski. Only then we were informed that the prototype should be shown at the exhibition in less than three weeks' time.

Here special challenges were the transferring of the flat pattern on to the curved body, the fixing of the delicate crystals and the extremely short lead time. Yet in record time we managed to add another highlight to the Crystal Palace Show.

Design: Pietro Ferruccio Laviani
 Location, Year: Milano, 2005
 Principal: Swarovski Crystal Palace
 Building type: Exhibition
 Host: Nadja Swarovski
 Services: Development and production





Project "Lumen"

A light installation for the Anker Insurance Company

After the great blaze in the Sophiensäle ballroom we managed to recover most of the remaining chandeliers from the still smouldering ruins. Some fixtures were in an unexpectedly good shape, some heavily soiled, the chandeliers in the main hall at the centre of the blaze were molten to a misshaped lump of glass and metal. The artist Eva Afuhs was commissioned by Anker Insurance Company to create an artistic installation within the lighting shaft of the company building. Her idea was to compose a cascade as of "tumbling chandeliers" using the recovered chandeliers from the S.S. and hanging them at odd angles, purposely not freed of soot marks from the fire. It was a challenge to fix the chandeliers out of the perpendicular positions. The result shall symbolize the business concept of the Anker Insurance Company.

Design: Eva Afuhs with Eliza Karpinska
Location, Year: Vienna, 2005
Principal: Anker Insurance Company
Building type: Company building
Services: Production and installation





Megaron of Music

The new concert hall in Athens

Athens was to have a new concert hall to be ready for the Olympic Games 2004. The contract for lighting went directly to us as we were the only company on the market able to offer tested earthquake-proof chandeliers in such big dimensions. Together with architect Ernst W. Beranek we developed three different designs for the five main staircases. The longest, a design by Stefan Rath, is nearly 20 meters high and weighs over two tons.

The Megaron of Music is to a large extent built underground, only the top floor with its entrance hall is visible from the outside. For us it was the biggest project of this new millennium.

Design: Prof. Ernst W. Beranek, Stefan Rath

Location, Year: Athens, 2004

Principal: Christos Lambrakis, "Friends of Music" Society

Building type: Concert Hall

Executive architect: Hellinotechniki S.A., N. Pandis

Services: Design, production and installation



The Wolseley

A chandelier for the famous café on Piccadilly

Originally the location of today's café was a car show room of Wolseley Motors Limited. It was constructed by William Curtis Green in 1921 and features wonderful Art Déco architecture.

For the adaption into a restaurant the local David Collins Design Studio succeeded in retaining the spectacular atmosphere of this architectural highlight of London.

As the large bronze chandeliers were still in good shape, only one chandelier for the former non-smoker salon was needed. To give a tender contrast to the heavy bronzes a delicate glass arm chandelier was selected. It is a typical Viennese original from the early 1930s, a perfect match. The low drawn arms wonderfully accompany the high vaulted room and express the elegance of this epoch.

Despite the chandelier from Vienna, the "Viennoise" on the breakfast menu might be pure coincidence.

Design: Stefan Rath sr., 1963
Location, Year: London, 2003
Principal: The Wolseley, London
Building type: Restaurant
Architect: David Collins Studio - London
Services: Production





Holy Haram Sharif Mecca Al Mukarramah

The extension of the Holy Mosque of Mecca

As we designed the chandeliers for the previous stage we were also invited to tender for the extension of the Mecca Mosque. Again we made great use of traditional Islamic motives and combined this with modern shapes. The so created chandeliers are among the largest ever done.

Because of the enormous size of the fixtures and the relatively high ceilings we tried to keep the level of decoration as low as possible. The main decorative element is the balance between satined and polished areas on the metal parts.

The design follows the typical Islamic tradition with a large ring with numerous satellites around containing the main light sources. The surface is gilded in traditional techniques and broken into satined and polished areas.

Design: Peter Rath with Margaret Wischemeyer-Fried

Location, Year: Mecca, 1988

Principal: GAAB Vienna, N. Bedoun - Jeddah

Building type: Religious building

Architect: Mohamed Kamal Ismail

Services: Design and prototypes



Holy Haram Sharif Mecca Al Mukarramah

Creation of an Arabic chandelier style

To be called in for the creation of lighting for this important mosque was both a great honour and responsibility for us. Stefan Rath was greatly surprised to find that the design concept foresaw baroque chandeliers in classical European style to be used. But one "...can't have the chandeliers of the infidel's ballroom's in the prophet's holy halls..." Stefan Rath said.

After studying Egyptian originals he was able to convince the contractors to draw from the rich treasures of their own culture. In this way we probably were the first to use Islamic motives with a chandelier in modern days. A total of over 1000 items were produced for this project using our plans by another company.

This project not only brought us into a completely new creative phase, but these designs also became the foundation for an altogether new style of chandeliers regarded as classics today.

Design: Stefan Rath with Margaret Wischemeyer-Fried

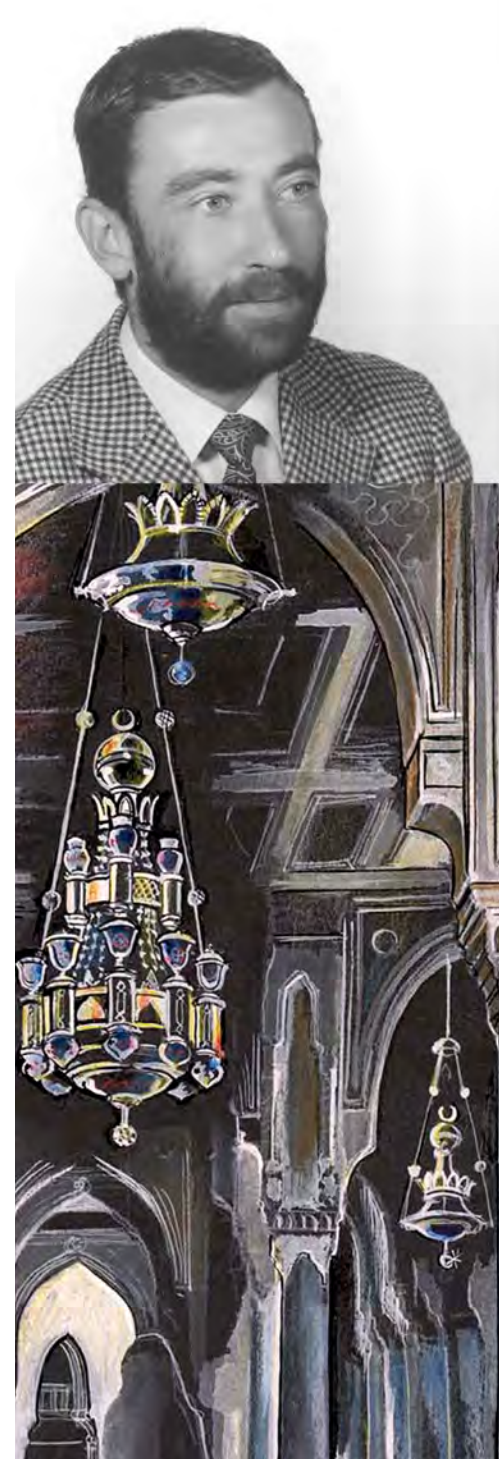
Location, Year: Mecca, 1975

Principal: Bin Ladin Group

Building type: Religious building

Architect: Zaman Architects

Services: Feasibility study and overall design concept



Kremlin

A chandelier for the Great Assembly Hall of the Supreme Soviet

At the height of the Cold War it was an honour and a surprise to be called to design a chandelier for the new assembly hall of the Supreme Soviet at the Kremlin in Moscow. Peter Rath, then managing partner in charge of the chandelier department set to work and came up with this monumental circular chandelier. Through its huge dimension we collaborated here with the Austrian company Waagner-Biro who specializes in construction of steel structures such as bridges and other buildings. Accommodated in this vast structure of the chandelier is also a small trolley for two workers to travel in when replacing light bulbs and cleaning as we always take care to make maintenance as easy as possible. The foreman whom Peter Rath worked with was an East-Germany native. Despite this fact the two had to talk via an interpreter as the foreman was prohibited or refused to speak his native language. After the breakup of the USSR the hall is now part of a museum.

Design: Peter Rath
Location, Year: Moscow, 1971
Principal: Moscow Kremlin
Building type: Government building
Architect: Michael Possochin
Services: Design and production





Metropolitan Opera 1966

Chandeliers and sconces for foyer and auditorium

When the New York Metropolitan Opera opened on September 13th, 1966, the first applause went to the twelve chandeliers that rose towards the ceiling with the first curtain. On the opening night audience and journalists were startlingly impressed by Starburst Chandeliers from Vienna, a gift to the United States of America by the Republic of Austria out of gratitude for the ERP-program after World War II. The design comes from the pencil of Hans Harald Rath, company owner of those days, who worked in close collaboration with the architect. The fixture was also a bow towards the present space age resembling distant galaxies. The foyer chandeliers visible from greater distance soon developed to become the landmark of the Met. This is the greatest praise for us.

Design: Hans Harald Rath
Location, Year: New York, 1966
Principal: Metropolitan Opera New York
Building Type: Opera
Architect: Wallace K. Harrison
Services: Design and production





Hotel Imperial

Vienna's finest hotel

As the finest hotel in Vienna the Imperial housed not only emperors and kings, but also modern day celebrities from actors over musicians to managers who are looking for the flair of imperial Vienna. So it befits this hotel to be enlightened by prestigious chandeliers from Lobmeyr. As the top residence in Vienna our chandeliers not only crown the lobby and restaurant, with this hotel we even had the opportunity to furnish some of the suites, a rare privilege with a hotel project. Most of these chandeliers are from our extensive range of classical baroque chandeliers lovingly named "Maria Theresia" after the former empress of Austria. The chandeliers in the lobby are among the largest ever done by us. They are produced in the traditional techniques featuring a raw iron cage with a precious leaf gilded surface and exquisitely hand-cut crystal.

Design: various designs
 Location, Year: Vienna, circa 1940
 Principal: Hotel Imperial Vienna
 Building type: Hotel
 Services: Production



The Musikverein

Eight chandeliers for the Golden Hall



The building of the Wiener Musikverein was built in 1870 by Theophil Hansen, one of the most famous architects of the “Ringstraßen” period. It is not only the home of the Viennese Philharmonic Orchestra; it is also an international landmark of Vienna. It gets world fame from the annually broadcast of the New Year’s Concert from the Golden Hall. It ranks among the concert halls with the best acoustics.

For this hall we created eight very simple bag-and-tent chandeliers. The challenge was to create fixtures that emanate a certain splendour without interfering with the emblazing golden stucco. The light from these fixtures perfectly highlights Hansen’s marvellous ornamentations.

Beside their coyly splendour these fixtures are very resourceful as they can be used in any proportion and varying degree of ornamentation.

Design: Stefan Rath, sen.

Location, Year: Vienna, circa 1920

Principal: Vienna Society of Music Lovers

Building type: Concert hall

Architect: Theophil Hansen

Services: Design and production



Hotel Sacher

Chandeliers and sconces in the restaurants



As one of the landmark Viennese hotels the Sacher was a very innovative house, stylistic as well as technical. It rivals with the Hofburg Palace and the Lord Mayor's office to be the first building worldwide to be equipped with representative electrical lighting so it was the first private project at least. Ludwig Lobmeyr connected with Thomas A. Edison who was in Vienna during the World Exposition 1883. The chandeliers in the Anna Sacher restaurant bear the typical hanging bulbs necessary for the early electrical chandeliers. They mark the peak of this so prosperous period for our company at the late 19th century. Later we provided the chandeliers for the Red Bar, the Marble Hall and the Blue Bar. We are also gladly invited from time to time to overlook the chandeliers and clean them carefully to ensure another 100 years of service.

Design: Ludwig Lobmeyr
Location, Year: Vienna, 1887
Principal: Hotel Sacher Vienna
Building type: Hotel
Architect: Eduard Fraenkel
Services: Design and production



Other Projects of renown

Theatres, concert halls and opera houses:

Vienna Theater in der Josefstadt, Vienna Burgtheater, Vienna Theater an der Wien, Vienna Kammerspiele, Vienna Schloßtheater Schönbrunn, Vienna Volkstheater, Vienna Staatsoper, Graz Opernhaus, Salzburg Altes Festspielhaus, Innsbruck Landestheater, Salzburg Landestheater, Salzburg Stadttheater, Bregenz Theater am Kornmarkt, Klagenfurt Stadttheater, Graz Schauspielhaus, Saalbau Essen, Zürich Pfauentheater, Munich Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz, Munich Residenztheater, Baden-Baden Casino, Bayreuth Neue Stadthalle, Coburg Landestheater, Luxemburg New Municipale Theater, Washington Opera at Kennedy Center, Pittsburgh Heinz Hall, Fukui Harmony Hall, Fukuoka Symphony Hall, Hamamatsu Act City Concert Hall, Amuse Kashiwa Crystal Hall

Government and palaces:

Vienna House of Parliament, Vienna City Hall, Vienna Federal Chancellery, New York Office of UN Secretary General, Brunei Town Lapau Parliament, Ankara Parliament of Kemel Pascha, Fukui International Activities Plaza, Vienna Habsburg Imperial Castle, Vienna Castle of Schönbrunn, Vienna Belvedere, Castle Herrnschiersee, Kuala Lumpur Kings Residence, Jakarta Residence and Palace, Katmandu Kings Palace, Riyadh Palace for H. R. H. Prince Salman, Samama Palace for H. M. King Khaled, Al Khobar Palace for H. M. King Khaled, Cairo Palace of the Khedive, Daraiya Saudi Arabia Palace for H. M. the King, Addis Abeba Palace for H. M. the King

Hotels and Restaurants:

Vienna Hotel Sacher, Vienna Hotel Bristol, Vienna Hotel Imperial, Vienna American Bar by Adolf Loos, Vienna Demel sugarbakery, Vienna Café Prückel and many other Vienna Cafés, Pasadena Ritz Carlton Hotel, Munich Hotel Bayerischer Hof, Nagoya Romain d'or, Makuhari Hotel New Ohtani, Nagoya Marriott Associa Hotel, Kashima Central Hotel, Hilton Hotels (Vienna, Paris, Tunis, Athens), Lissabon Hotel Ritz, St. Moritz Palace Hotel, Bad Ischl Café Zauner, Innsbruck Hotel Europa

Sacred buildings:

Vienna Stephansdom, Klosterneuburg Chorherrenstift, Graz Kirche der barmherzigen Brüder, Brunei Wakaf Masjid Kampong Kiarong, Medina Old Friday Mosque and Extension of Mosque (prototypes), Gibraltar Synagoge, Cairo Mosque, Istanbul Church of the Redemptorists