

# BETTS PROJECT

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## Jacques Hondelatte

### CV

\*1942-2002. Lived and worked Bordeaux, France.

Jacques Hondelatte (1942-2002) was a French architect who made a significant impact on the realm of architecture in his generation. Hondelatte was little known to the general public and mainly published through specialised journals, yet remains a cult intellectual for his peers Jean Nouvel and Rudy Ricciuti, as well as his closer disciples including Lacaton-Vassal and the group Epinard Bleu with Frédéric Druot and Duncan Lewis. As professor at the Ecole d'Architecture of Bordeaux he was often coined 'the guru without dogma' according to Druot.

He left a radical body of work in his wake that Jean Nouvel (a longtime friend and associate) defined as "an architecture based on abstraction and discussion that no longer derived from drawings".

"What was incredible about Jacques" recalls Mathieu Perez, one of his students in the 1990s at the school in Bordeaux, "is that he was capable of always finding in his students' work, which sometimes struck us as rather mediocre, some awe-inspiring content. He had that ability to find in our projects the thing that could reenchant them without sacrificing the rigour required. To this day, that energy and poetry continue to keep me going."

A pioneer of digital architecture in France from the mid-1980s, Jacques Hondelatte's work was gradually recognised by the profession. In 1998, he won the Grand Prix National for architecture and, the same year, the Institut Français d'Architecture devoted a solo exhibition to him, curated by critic Patrice Goulet, who had also worked hard to communicate his work. The exhibition toured in Europe and, in 2002, Patrice Goulet wrote the excellent 'Jacques Hondelatte: Des gratte-ciel dans la tête', an exhaustive and critical monograph that still remains the sole reference book on the work of the architect from Bordeaux. In 2004, the Centre George Pompidou bought a series of plans and images from the architect's projects, including those of the Tribunal de Grande Instance de Bordeaux (1988-1990), the "islandification" of the Mont Saint-Michel (1991), the Bibliothèque de Jussieu (1992), and the Viaduc de Millau (1994).

Patrice Goulet describes Jacques Hondelatte as a wizard with an excellent poker face: "Of course, he always looked innocent, casual, constantly curious, perpetually enamoured, with a sharp eye, ever on the lookout, enthusiastic, an eternal explorer, inventor, and discoverer. Yet his projects clearly indicate that he is radical in terms of the process of their development, uncompromising as to the pertinence of the concept, a total stickler for the rigorous precision of the drawings, meticulous as to the appropriateness of details, and passionate about the absolute cost effectiveness of the project."

Hondelatte's work is also characterised by incredibly minimalist plans that illustrate texts of intense poetry, in service to mythogenic architecture or objects. Goulet dates the moment when mythology was integrated into the architect's design tools to 1984, with the project for the Léognan town hall. "From then on, Hondelatte was elsewhere: that is, in an ideal world in which architecture would blossom freely. He did not however transition into utopia, but instead found the means that would enable him to insidiously slide his project into the meshes of a reality bogged down in rationality and materialism that rendered it drab and sad . . . The injection of the myth immediately emerged as a particularly effective means of metamorphosing the most difficult problems into a dazzling solution."

### Practice

2001 — 2002	Scientific advisor to the teaching and research commission, Grenoble School of Architecture, FR
1978 — 2002	Agence Jacques Hondelatte, Bordeaux, FR
1985 — 1997	Professor, School of Architecture and Landscape, Bordeaux, FR
1967 — 1977	Agence Duprat-Fagart-Hondelatte, Bordeaux, FR
1969 — 1973	Architect-consultant at CETE Bordeaux, FR
1967 — 1969	Urban planner-consultant, DDE Gironde, FR

### Exhibitions

2019	<b>One Can't Engrave Lies in Marble</b> , Betts Project, London, UK
2018	<b>Jacques Hondelatte</b> , Journées Européennes du patrimoine, Tribunal de Grande Instance de Bordeaux, Bordeaux, FR
2018	<b>Jacques Hondelatte</b> , arc en rêve centre d'architecture, Bordeaux, FR

- 2017 **Jacques Hondelatte**, Betts Project, London, UK
- 2012 **Jacques Hondelatte, un projet oublié**, Galerie Six Elzevir, Paris, FR
- 1999 **Des gratte-ciel dans la tête**, Institut Français d'Architecture, Bordeaux, FR  
**Des gratte-ciel dans la tête**, Institut Français d'Architecture, Grenoble, FR
- 1998 **Des gratte-ciel dans la tête**, Institut Français d'Architecture, Varsovie, PO  
**Des gratte-ciel dans la tête**, Institut Français d'Architecture, Madrid, SP  
**Des gratte-ciel dans la tête**, Institut Français d'Architecture (I.F.A.), Paris, FR
- 1997 **Imagina**, Monaco, FR
- 1994 **Défense et illustration de l'architecture contemporaine**, Le lycée Gustave Eiffel à Bordeaux, I.F.A., FR
- 1993 **Le Campus universitaire de Jussieu**, Pompidou Centre, Paris, FR  
**Meubles et immeubles**, CCI, Pompidou Centre, Paris, FR  
**Grand Angle, panorama d'architectures françaises et contemporaines**, Troyes, FR  
**Cinq créateurs à Montréal**, I.F.A., Montréal, CA
- 1992 **Cinq créateurs à Montréal**, I.F.A., Paris, FR
- 1991 **40 architectes de moins de 40 ans**, tome 2, I.F.A., Venise, IT  
**40 architectes de moins de 40 ans**, tome 2, I.F.A., Paris, FR
- 1989 **French Avant-Garde Architecture 1989**, Chicago Art Institute, Chicago, US  
**Temps sauvage et incertain**, I.F.A., Arc-et-Senans, FR  
**Temps sauvage et incertain**, I.F.A., Paris, FR
- 1988 **Trois Architectes français : Hauvette, Hondelatte, Soler**, arc en rêve, Bordeaux, FR

## Built Projects

- 1995 **Appartement Delay**, Bouliac, FR
- 1992 **Aménagement du centre-ville**, Niort (Deux-Sèvres), FR  
**Ecole élémentaire**, ZAC Manin-Jaurès, Paris 19ème, FR
- 1991 **Restaurants universitaires No.2 (phase 2) et No.3**, Pessac, FR  
**Internat du lycée Gustave-Eiffel**, Bordeaux, FR
- 1990 **Clinique chirurgicale**, with Danielle Briole, L'Isle-d'Espagnac, FR  
**Appartement Cotlenko**, avec Anne Lacaton et Jean-Philippe Vassal, quartier des chartron, Bordeaux, FR
- 1989 **Maison Sécherre**, Saint-Aubin-du-Médoc (Gironde), FR
- 1987 **Ensemble sportif**, Saubusse (Landes), FR
- 1986 **Résidence pour personnes âgées**, La Teste, Frontenac (Gironde), FR
- 1984 **Maison Dabon-Barrau**, Ares (Gironde), FR
- 1983 **19 logements HLM**, with Danielle Briole, Angouleme (Charente), FR

- 1982 **Holiday Village Arc-en-Ciel**, Port-d'Albret, FR
- 1979 **Hôtel des Impôts**, Castres (Tarn), FR
- Renovation of Hotel Gradis**, Bordeaux, FR
- 99 dwellings HLM with parking entries, 19 renovated dwellings, bureau d'aide sociale**, Castres, FR
- 1978 **Boutique "La Pince a Linge"**, Bordeaux, FR
- 1977 **Maison Passemar**, Camblanes, FR
- Foyer de troisième âge**, La Plate-Castres, FR
- 1976 **Clinique ORL Portman—Négrevergne**, Bordeaux (Gironde), FR
- Réhabilitation de l'immeuble Servan**, Bordeaux, FR
- 1975 **19 Houses**, Gages, FR
- 1974 **Maison Supery**, Libourne, FR
- Maison Dupouy**, Gradignan, FR
- 1973 **Maison Artiguebielle**, Saint-Aubin-du-Médoc (Gironde), FR
- 1972 **Maison Rozes**, Sainte-Eulalie (Gironde), FR
- Centre d'études techniques de l'équipement du Sud-Ouest**, Saint-Médard-en-Jalles (Gironde), FR
- Appartement Négrevergne**, Bordeaux, FR
- 1971 **Maison Fargues**, Saint-Paul-les-Dax, FR
- 1970 **Divers logements à Bordeaux, Aménagements intérieurs, bureaux du SETRA 33**, Bordeaux-Cauderan, FR
- Garage Citroën**, Merignac, FR
- Imprimerie Marien**, Merignac, FR
- 1971 **Maison Fargues**, Saint-Paul-les-Dax (Landes), FR

#### Unbuilt Projects

- 2002 **Rénovation of the Grands Moulins**, University of Paris VII. (competition with Mathieu Poitevin, Pascal Raynaud, Stéphane Maupin)
- 2000-2001 **Museum of Contemporary Art**, Hérouville-Saint-Clair, FR
- Planning of the SNCF site**, 180 000 m<sup>2</sup>, Monaco. (Study)
- 1999 **New Stadium of Zurich**, 30 000 seats and 350 000m<sup>2</sup> of built surface. (Competition)
- Grain silo**, 9 000m<sup>2</sup>, Caen harbour, Hérouville-Saint-Clair, FR. (Competition with Julien Gadrat)
- 1998 **Maison Campmas**, le Cap-Ferret, FR
- 1997 **French Lycée**, Frankfurt am Main, DE. (Competition with Anne Lacaton and Jean-Philippe Vassal)
- School of architecture**, Compiègne, FR. (Competition with Anne Lacaton and Jean-Philippe Vassal)
- Council estate**, Bordeaux, FR
- 1996 **Centre culturel du vin**, Bordeaux, FR

- Elysée-Reclus secondary school**, Saint-Foy-la-Grande, FR. (Competition with Anne Lacaton and Jean-Philippe Vassal)
- 1995 **Delay flat**, Bouliac, FR
- Maison Lalanne**, Messanges, FR
- 1994 **Millau Viaduc**, Millau, FR. (Competition with John Brodeur, Bruno Gerbier and Paul Pradel)
- The Garden of Love, The Football Garden**, planning of the Lizard esplanade, Noisel, FR. (Competition)
- Réorganisation of the complexe d'échanges urbains (interchange station) of the Grande Arche de La Défense**, Paris-La-Défense, Paris, FR. (Competition)
- 1993 **Urban planning**, Saint-Lô, FR. (Competition)
- 1992 **Library of Jussieu University**, Paris, FR. (Competition)
- Module 4 "Sciences du vivant"**, University of Marne-la-Vallée, Champs-sur-Marne, FR. (Competition)
- Développement plan of Youville square**, Montreal, CA. (Competition)
- Cultural centre of the university of science of Lille**, Villeneuve-d'Ascq, FR
- 1991 **Insularity of Mont-Saint-Michel**, FR. (Invitation)
- Urban planning**, Nantes, FR. (Competition)
- Rebuilding of Francis-Jammes Secondary school and the agricultural college**, Orthez, FR. (Competition)
- 1990 **Tube station**, Colonel-Raynal square, Bordeaux, FR
- college, Orthez, FR. (Competition)

## Bibliography

### Monographic publications

- 2002 **Jacques Hondelatte, Des gratte-ciel dans la tête**, Goulet Patrice, Norma, novembre 2002
- 1994 **Le Grand Viaduc de Millau**, Hondelatte Jacques Paris, fév. 1994.
- 1993 **BELLE Bernard, HONDELATTE Jacques, GOULET Patrice, GUINHUT Thierry, Jacques Hondelatte centre-ville Niort**. Niort, 1993, p.1-12
- 1990 **Maison Sécherre**, Hondelatte Jacques, Architecture & Cie 2, tiré à part, Les Éditions du Demi-Cercle, Paris 1990, p. 1-16
- 1991 **Rebelle et farouche, cohérent et précis**. Philippe Tretiack, Jacques Hondelatte, Gros Plan 7, Institut français d'architecture, Pandora, éditions, Paris, sep. 1991.
- 1989 **Logement Mythogénèse et Mélancolie**, Hondelatte Jacques, Les éditions du Demi-Cercle, coll. État des lieux, Paris, 1989, p. 1-32

### Collective Publications

- 1996 **L'architecture du futur**, sous la direction de Sheila de Vallee, Paris, Terrail

- 1993 **Jacques Hondelatte, in Nouveaux créateurs-Regard d'écoles**, Paris, March, p.50-52
- 1990 **Jacques Hondelatte, in The New French Architecture**, Lesnikowski Wojciech, New York, Rizzoli, October, p.120-135
- 1989 **Centre de calcul, éditions de l'annuaire téléphonique, Bordeaux**, Goulet Patrice, in Temps sauvage et incertain, Paris, éditions du Demi-Cercle, June 1989, p.47
- Ecole élémentaire Manin-Jaures**, in Nouveaux quartiers de Paris, Paris, February, 1989, p.52
- 1988 **"Et puis ..." in Écrire**, Hondelatte Jacques, dessiner un livre d'architecture, autoportrait d'Hubert Tonka, Paris, éditions Champ Vallon, jan. 1988, p.15 à 31
- La Maison Fargues in Maison individuelle des années 80**, Goulet Patrice, Marseille, éditions Rivages, nov. 1988, p. 46-47

#### Magazines

- 2018 **AMC-ARCHI, L'enchantment de Jacques Hondelatte à arc en rêve-exposition**, Paris, 16 March, 2018 (online)
- 2017 **Details d'Architecture, A Londres, une exposition qui rend hommage à Jacques Hondelatte**, 6th Dec, 2017, (online)
- The RIBA Journal, Pillar of the French profession**, Claudia Mandelli, London, 30th Nov, 2017, (online)
- Domus Web, Jacques Hondelatte, an absolute master of radicalness**, Pamela Buxton, London, 15th Dec, 2017, (online)
- Rue 89 Bordeaux, Jacques Hondelatte, architecte bordelais « culte », exposé à Londres**, Walid Salem, Bordeaux, 1st Dec, 2017 (online)
- 2002 **Le Monde, Jacques Hondelatte**, Edelmann Frédéric, Jacques Hondelatte, Paris, 7 fev. 2002, p.35.
- Archiscopie, Jacques Hondelatte, 1942-2002**, Patrice Goulet, Paris, March, 2002, p.15-16
- Crash, Génération(s) Hondelatte**, Francis Rambert, n°119, Paris, March, 2002
- Le Festin en Aquitaine, L'Enchanteur Hondelatte**, Delphine Costedoat, n°42, Bordeaux, June, 2002, p.90-93
- Parpaing, Jacques Hondelatte, créateur de mythe**, Patrice Goulet, n°31, Paris, March 2002, p.21
- 1999 **Beaux-Arts, Hondelatte, les idées en porte-a-faux**, Philippe Tretiack, n°176, Paris, January, 1999, p.14
- 1998 **Crash, Portrait du poète en architecte**, Nouvel Jean, Paris, nov. 1998
- D'Architecture, Je me sens explorateur en architecture**, Francis Rambert, n°84, Paris, June, 1998, p.10
- Kenchiku, House in Bordeaux**, n°618, April, 1998, p.124-125
- Le Moniteur des travaux publics et du bâtiment, Jacques Hondelatte, Grand prix national 1998**, Elisabeth Allain-Dupre, Paris, 5th June, 1998, p.3
- Sud-Ouest, Hondelatte consacré**, Lassere Benoît, Bordeaux, 5 juin 1998.
- D'Architecture, En plein milieu**, Philippe Tretiack, Paris, July- August, 1998

- Artpress, Jacques Hondelatte, Institut français d'architecture/arc-en-rêve, centre d'architecture**, Charles-Arthur Boyer, n°241, Paris, Dec, 1998, p.75
- L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Jacques Hondelatte projets 1985-1997**, Emery Marc, n°319, Paris, nov. 1998, p.63-87
- L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Projets 1985-1997**, Hondelatte Jacques, Paris, n°319, Nov. 1998, p. 63-87
- 1993 **Arca, Una piazza per Montréal**, Milan, May, 1993, p.97-98
- Intramuros, Les dragons de Niort. Mobilier urbain création d'un identité**, Benedicte Duhalde & Jean Queheillard, n°50, Paris, Sept-Oct, 1993, p.29-33
- Le Moniteur des travaux publics et du bâtiment, Les Dragons de Noirt**, Odile Fillion, Paris, Feb. 1993, p.81
- 1992 **Abitare, Saint-Aubin-du-Médoc**, in Un itinerario attraverso la Francia, n°309, July-August, 1992, p.104-119
- D'Architecture, Concours du TGI de Bordeaux: trois questions à Jacques Hondelatte**, Philippe Tretiack, n°23, Paris, March, 1992, p.14
- 1991 **Archi-Cree, Architecture d'intervention: Bordeaux, France**, in Maisons en Ville, Colin Christine, n°243, June-Juli, 1991, p.100-105
- Archi-Cree, Tribunal de grande instance à Bordeaux**, in Jean Nouvel et apres..., horserie, Emery Marc, n°245, Paris, Oct-Nov, 1991, p.136-139
- 1990 **Le Moniteur des travaux publics et du bâtiment, Aquitaine: les promesses de la diversité**, n°4535, Paris, Oct. 1990, p.123-145
- 1989 **Le Moniteur des travaux publics et du bâtiment, Hâbitat: logements, lotissements, maisons individuelles**, hors serie, 1989, p.117-131 & 189-194
- 1988 **Beaux-Arts, Cahier du CCI**, Hondelatte Jacques, Des objets sous les arbres, Paris, March, 1988, p.111-115.
- 1987 **L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Concours pour la maison des restaurants, parc de la Villette**, Hondelatte Jacques, n°250, Paris, April. 1987, p.VII-VIII
- Intramuros, Bordeaux**, Chantel Hamaide, Paris, February, 1987, p.20-29
- 1986 **Techniques et Architecture, L'invention poétique et le miroir du temps**, Jacques Hondelatte, n°367, Paris, sept. 1986, p.130-139.
- L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Maison de retraite et station thermale La Léchère**, Hondelatte Jacques, n°245, Paris, June. 1986, p.XXV-VIII
- 1985 **L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Exorcisme, pour la liberté d'usage, in Logements : une zone à explorer**, Hondelatte Jacques, Epinard Bleu, n°239, Paris, juin 1985, p. 2-7
- L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Fonctionnel et sophistiqué: Centre de calcul, édition de l'annuaire téléphonique, Bordeaux**, Jacques Hondelatte, n°242, Paris, Dec. 1985, p.42-46
- 1984 **L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Une oeuvre ouverte : lycée polyvalent, Pessac**, Hondelatte Jacques, Nouvel Jean, n°235, Paris, oct. 1984, p.14-17
- L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Jacques Hondelatte, quatre projets récents**, Goulet Patrice, n°236, Paris, Dec. 1984, p.70-81
- 1983 **L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Maison Fargues, Saint-Paul-les-Dax**, Photography de Gilles Ehrmann, in France inconnue 1, Goulet Patrice, n°229, Oct. 1983, p.24-25 & 66
- L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Centre d'études techniques du bâtiment Saint-Medard-en-Jalles**, Photography by Gilles Ehrmann, in France inconnue 2, Goulet Patrice, n°230, Paris, Dec. 1983, p.58-59 & 90-91

1969

**Jardin de modes, Jacques Hondelatte l'enchanteur**, Paris, March, 1969,  
p.XX

Public Collections

Pompidou Center, Paris, France

Awards

1998

**Grand Prix National d'Architecture**, FR  
Great national price of architecture