

Strand 1: Art Nouveau Cities: between cosmopolitanism and local tradition

Definitive abstract for paper presentation at the *coupDefouet* International Congress

Cosmopolitan Atmosphere and Latvian Jugendstil in Liepāja

The harbour town Liepāja, located on the western coast of Kurzeme area of Latvia, contains more than 70 excellent big-scale Art Nouveau apartment buildings and villas, the school, the theatre, the market hall etc. Most of the architects of buildings in Liepāja were unknown (the project archive is extinguished in Soviet time), but some new data are discovered recently. Art Nouveau buildings in Liepāja were designed by local architect of German origin Max Theodor Bertschy, by local civil engineer of English origin Charles Carr, by local architect Lluís Melvíll, and by Latvian architect Pauls Kampe, who was a graduate of Riga Polytechnical Institute, but studied also in Darmstadt. Swedish, Finnish, German and Russian architects also contributed in Liepāja Art Nouveau. Cosmopolitan atmosphere of architecture in Liepāja reflects distinct local features and is noticeable contribution to the Art Nouveau heritage of the whole humankind.

Key words: Art Nouveau, Liepāja, History of Architecture

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