

NEWS MARSEILLE



1. The MuCEM (©Lisa Ricciotti) 2. The Silo (©Ville de Marseille) 3. La Friche de la Belle de Mai (©Caroline Dutrey) 4. The Mama Shelter Hotel (©Francis Amiard) 5. The new Regards de Provence museum, on the seafront, a contemporary exhibition space reserved for the masters of Provençal painting (©Jean Bernard)

MARSEILLE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

European Capital of Culture for 2013, France's second largest city has cultivated both its architectural prowess and state-of-the-art venues, a stone's throw from the rugged calanques along its shoreline. The transformation of the Phocian city's skyline began in 2009 with Zaha Hadid's tower, followed by a series of projects by architects like Jean Nouvel and Massimiliano Fuksas. This new coastal district, Euroméditerranée, includes diverse rehabilitation programmes from the docks to the former Arenc grain Silo, now a superb opera house. Even the famed Old Port has been revamped for pedestrians by Norman Foster. The 15th-century Fort Saint-Jean still stands at one end, but is now joined by a walkway to MuCEM, the future Museum of European and Mediter-

anean Civilizations, a cube clad in lacelike concrete designed by Rudy Ricciotti. Art lovers will find all the information they need about Marseille's cultural events in Pavilion M, in the Old Port, just in front of the 16th-century hospital converted by Jean-Philippe Nuel into a luxury Intercontinental Hotel. Between the exhibitions at La Friche de Mai or Didier Gourvennec Ogor's Soho-style gallery, the photography in the Galerie Detaille, Marianne Cat's concept store (rue Grignan) and the hotel-restaurant Mama Shelter, with interior design by Philippe Starck and menu by Alain Senderens (rue de la Loubière), there's something for everyone in Marseille. V.S.
■ silo-marseille.fr ■ muceem.org ■ mp2013.fr
■ lafriche.org ■ galeriedetaille.com ■ mamashelter.com