

## OKAPANE - REFERENCES

Finland | Helsinki | Museum of Contemporary Art



**Project:**  
Museum of Contemporary Art  
**Location:**  
Helsinki, Finland  
**Produkt:**  
OKAPANE and OKALUX  
**Quadratmeter:**  
500 m<sup>2</sup>  
**Special features:**  
U-Profil with integrated  
capillary slab  
**Architect:**  
Steven Holl Architects  
**Completion:**  
1998

The material for purists - from the factory hall to the art gallery. A high level of light incidence and the best possible visual protection in a particularly cost-effective combination: Since their introduction, the light green U-shaped structural glass elements have been used in industrial and commercial construction as well as in sports facilities or in large-area staircase glazing. The decisive reasons are usually of a functional nature. For example, the facade adapts itself just as elegantly to the requirements of contemporary architecture as to the current thermal and solar protection regulations. More and more, contemporary, upmarket architecture is seeing the innovative aesthetic aspect. Transparency and lightness has its

limits wherever daylight is required, but visibility is not wanted. Here, the puristically structured U-profile with integrated capillary slab has proved to be a unique design element. Good light transmission, attractive tints and shadowy plays of light behind the facade. Yet these effects are reversed in darkness by the deliberate use of artificial light, intentionally giving the building an independent profile. Art breaks with conventions. This is the essential feature of contemporary art in particular. The expansion of the range of glass types and system components provides the creative planner with a variety of unusual materials; he must only have the courage to completely redefine the application potential.



*We take architectural glass a step ahead.*