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## Jean Paul Attier Award 2024

### Identification

City: Mexico City.

**Country:** Mexico.

Mayor: Dr. Martí Batres Guadarrama.

Name of property inscribed on the World Heritage List: Historic Center of Mexico City.

Name of the contact person for the nomination submitted: Mtra. Loredana Montes López.

Contact person's e-mail address: anabeli.fideicomisoch@gmail.com

### Realization

**Project:** Rehabilitation of the building located at Antiguo Callejón de Puentecito, República de Ecuador, number 10.

Project implementation dates: 2022-2023 El

Barrio de la Lagunilla

The building is located at Callejón de Ecuador, number 10, Colonia Centro, Alcaldía Cuauhtémoc, Zip Code 06020, in the traditional neighborhood of "La Lagunilla", which was the access point for boats going to the Tlatelolco market on Lake Texcoco located between the then Tenochtitlán and Tlatelolco.

Once the Viceroyalty was established, this body of water was known as "La Lagunilla" and with the drying up of this part of the lake towards the end of the 16th century, the emblematic neighborhood was established on its bed.

The Santa Catarina market, also known as "La Lagunilla", was established in the area and was located in front of the church of the same name. In 1904, the construction of a new market began to replace the Santa Catarina market. The new market was inaugurated on September 14, 1905 under the name of "La Lagunilla" market.

The building was declared a Monument by the Commission of Monuments and Fine Arts on October 29, 1931.

According to bibliographic sources, oral tradition records that this property was inhabited by the Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortes and Malinalli (Malintzi or Malinche). When the building we know today was built, it was occupied by nuns and finally became the headquarters of the Casa del Diezmo (Tithe House).



It has a land area of 753 M\* and is an example of civil architecture of the 18th century.

It is the headquarters of the Fundación Renacimiento which, since 1992, has been working for the defense of children's rights. It serves children and adolescents who live or have lived on the street.

The project

For the restoration and rehabilitation of the façade, a documentary and graphic research of the building was carried out in the historical archives of the National Institute of Anthropology and History. In particular, we consulted the archive of the Constantino Reyes-Valerio Photo Library of the National Coordination of Historical Monuments, whose historical photographs were fundamental for the restoration of the façade.

At the time of the architectural survey of the façade, the original masonry of the walls and ornamental elements of the main façade were identified. Primarily in the access doorway and the walls, mixed stone masonry composed of tezontle, brick and masonry were identified.

The façade consists of a carved quarry stone façade, pilasters with molded cushions of different sizes that sit on an enclosure baseboard that runs along the façade with a quarry stone molding that confines the element.

The pilasters by means of their capitals receive an entablature in its architrave of horizontal moldings, frieze with pillowed of diverse sizes and a molded cornice is truncated that gives space to a niche of red annealed partition and bricks, framed by forms also made of brick covered with stucco up to the curved finish.

The niche houses a small sculptural motif in mortar that has deteriorated. The parapet of the facade reaches up to the motif that frames the niche, which dies in scrolls also made of brick.

In the exterior walls of the façade there were found traces of mortar mortar, which can be taken as reminiscent of the remains that exist inside the entrance hall and of the historical photographs found in archives.

A drawing was made of the masonry elements found and proposals for the geometric composition of the façade were drawn in order to be able to guess the height of the façade, which could no longer be inferred due to the loss of elements.

### **The work**

Traditional techniques were used in the works, such as the use of mortars with a high lime and sand content to guarantee compatibility with the existing masonry and the use of cactus slime mucilage as a natural binder, to generate a good work of the mortars and ornamental mortars.

The main work consisted of the following:



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- Release of loose masonry elements and structural consolidation of masonry in sculptural elements.
- Forging of ornamental elements such as niches and gable ends.
- Integration of sculptural groups following the forms and proportions identified in the historical graphic information.
- Moulding of sculptural elements and integration of mortar blocks.
- Burnishing of surfaces in ornamental elements.
- Chromatic integration of the surfaces according to the stratigraphic coves.
- Reintegration of quarry elements in pilasters.
- Integration of carved quarry ashlars in the baseboard and pilaster bases.
- Integral treatment of wood on the gate, applying termite protection emulsions and carrying out structural reinforcements on the crossbeams and combs of the element.

#### Use of the house

The social use of the built heritage is something that concerns us, the property located at Callejón de Ecuador, number 10, is currently the headquarters of the "Fundación Renacimiento" which, since 1992 works in favor of the defense of the Rights of Children and especially of those who are in a street situation. This foundation is a Private Assistance Institution dedicated to assist children and adolescents who live or have lived on the street and who, due to their socio-family conditions, are considered to be at risk of going out into the street. In addition, it works with people who still spend the night on the streets, seeking to sensitize them to modify their lifestyles and carry out activities for the prevention of drug use in this population.

It also offers housing, food, medical, psychological and pedagogical care, basic education, workshops to learn trades, detoxification therapies and drug abuse prevention. The purpose of these activities is to contribute to the social reintegration of children and adolescents, as well as to ensure that they have a dignified life.

#### ATTENTAMENTS

**DR IARTÍ BATR**                      **ARRAI4A**  
**HEAD OF GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO CITY**