

INTERIOR DESIGN[®]

APRIL
2021

making a splash



"The white purity highlights and contrasts the original structural concrete, while the playful yellow delineates the museology"





Kanva with Neuf Architect(e)s

project Montreal Biodome.

standout Occupying the 160,000-square-foot former velodrome built for the 1976 Olympic Games, the science museum that's now home to thousands of plant and animal species—penguins, macaws, Canadian lynx—retains its architectural heritage with the insertion of a biophilic skin made from Batyline and Precontraint that reaches 37 feet, plus other freestanding elements, and is capped with massive skylight panels.

photography clockwise from top left: James Brittain (4); Marc Cramer. ➤





light into dark

Back in 2015, ACD Architecture began transforming parts of a long-abandoned 19th-century railway station into new Montreal headquarters for Lightspeed, a rapidly growing, point-of-sale software developer. Now, in phase three of the ongoing project, the ACD team has turned an additional 10,000 square feet of attic storage on the top fifth and sixth floors into characterful, modern work space. Predicated on a moody, chiaroscuro scheme, the lower level is dominated by a training center with a dark ceiling, gray carpeting, exposed brick walls, and soft lighting. It's flanked by super-white barrel-vault corridors with gleaming epoxy flooring and drywall arches referencing the original station architecture. Lined with glass-fronted meeting rooms, the corridors lead to open zones with workstations beneath attic beams. Meanwhile, the sixth-floor rotunda houses the boardroom, its centerpiece a 30-foot-long, quartzite-topped table sitting below a dropped ceiling of fabric-wrapped panels. "We wanted to enhance the historical value of the building with a bold and edgy intervention," ACD principal and senior architect Joan Renaud notes. Mission accomplished. —**Edie Cohen**



"Contrast was the driver—going from one space to another"

MAXIME BROUILLET



creates energy and an emotional reaction"

BIGideas 20

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MATIAS RENAUD; MAXIME BROUILLET (2)