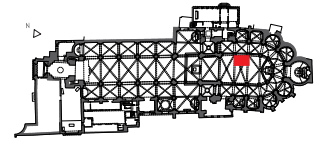


# RESTORATION OF THE 19TH-CENTURY DECOR UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF VICTOR BALTARD

FILE No. 4 - Second arch on the north wall of the choir



1. Faux architectural décors by Alexandre Denuelle  
Oil/wax paint on plaster

2. Stained glass panels from the Lusson workshop, Le Mans  
Grisailles, 1848

3. Reuse of marble columns from the original Merovingian church.

4. Figural paintings by Hippolyte Flandrin-2nd restoration  
Oil/wax paint on plaster | 1846-1848  
a. Saint James the Lesser  
b. Saint John

5. Medieval capitals painted in the 19th century

6. Choir railings by Raymond Subes, 1954

## DESCRIPTION

For the decoration of the choir, undertaken between 1846 and 1848, architect Victor Baltard once again called upon artists Alexandre Denuelle and Hippolyte Flandrin, who had previously worked on the Sanctuary, to produce the mural paintings for the Chapel of the Apostles. Maintaining the compositional approach which had guided this earlier work, the artists combined gold backgrounds with hot wax/encaustic paint to produce a mixture of historical scenes and ornamental motifs. Each of the arch compositions is laid out symmetrically: apostles in the spandrels, marble pillars (remnants of the original Merovingian abbey) and stained glass windows from the workshops of Lusson in Le Mans. In 1957, ironwork artist Raymond Subes replaced the old wooden gates of the choir with wrought iron railings.

## RESTORATION AND OBJECTIVES

Now coated in a layer of dirt and damaged by the church's excessive humidity, this exceptional artistic ensemble is dulled and difficult to fully appreciate. Specialists will be called in to clean and consolidate the paint and gilt work, helping these paintings to recover their original power and sparkle. The restoration campaign will also include work to preserve the medieval capitals, as well as the installation of new support panes to secure the stained glass windows.



Examples of damage to the paintwork and the capitals of the triforium

## COST OF SPONSORING THIS WORK

€ 102,540

**All costs relating to contracting, coordination and commissioning will be borne by the City of Paris.**