Daniel Buren Brings Color to Frank Gehry’s Fondation Louis Vuitton

The Fondation Louis Vuitton, designed by Frank Gehry, is one of the most recent additions to Paris’s rich architectural landscape. On May 11 the museum will unveil a temporary installation by French artist Daniel Buren, known for utilizing color and shapes in site-specific works. The piece, called The Observatory of Light, will see the 2014 building covered by a breathtaking array of colored filters—in 13 different hues—that accentuate the shiplike structure’s 12 billowing sails. In a true mastery of color and light, Buren’s patterns will be refracted on the 3,600 pieces of glass both inside and outside of the building, creating a kaleidoscopic effect that changes depending on the time of day and season.

The Fondation, a center for art, music, and other cultural events, was the brainchild of Bernard Arnault, chairman and CEO of the French luxury-goods conglomerate LVMH Moët Hennessy–Louis Vuitton. “We wanted to present Paris with an extraordinary space for art and culture, and demonstrate daring and emotion by entrusting Frank Gehry with the construction of an iconic building for the 21st century,” Arnault said in a statement when the building was first built. This immersive installation is sure to dazzle the center’s visitors and passersby alike.