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CRYSTAL MUSEUM

COLLE DI VAL D'ELSA (SI) - ITALY



**The Crystal Museum
of Colle di Val D'Elsa**
is located in the
underground area of the
former Schmidt crystal
and glass factory.

The various exhibition
areas reconstruct the
evolution of the glass
industry from 1820 to
the present day.

Crystal Museum

Colle Di Val D'Elsa (SI)



Filippo Fornai, the architect,
conceived the museum as a
location where the beauty
of the **installations** and
design products combine with their
surroundings, stimulating
emotions and **evoking the idea of**
crystal's purity,
fragility and **hardness.**

The first things that come to mind
when we think of glass, especially
crystal, are its transparency, the way
it reflects water and ice and the
lightness of air.

Indeed, **crystal and glass**
embody the **elements**
of fire, air, water and **earth.**

Earth, since it is born of
sand and lead;
fire, since it melts into incandescent
matter like magma.

Water, since it is utilised for
cooling. Air, for its softness.
Based on these four components, the
exhibition design aims to bring them
out within the exhibition hall through
the use of certain materials,
colours and installations.



The **ceiling** of the **entrance** recalls the component of **water** and the **crystal bubbles** blown by artisans. Looking at the structure, the image of water droplets breaking away from the undulating surface instantly comes to mind.

The **system** utilised consists of **panels in polished, hammered stainless steel** with a **mirror effect**, laid on a **T-grid structure**.



"The Galaxy room takes on a tour of the crystal manufacturing process, evoking the four natural elements by transporting visitors to a different time-dimension"

"Galaxy" room



The **panels** that cover the entire room are made of **polished stainless steel mirror effect** to enhance the effect of the video projections, fragmenting and decomposing the architectural space into a kaleidoscopic tunnel where a vortex of light and emotion transports the visitor into a new space-time dimension.



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