Using Aedicules to Enhance the Architectural Impact of a Cultural Complex

The term “aedicule” is derived from ancient Rome and is typically a small shrine or construction designed in the form of a building. Through the ages, aedicules have been employed by architects as design influences to add form and dimension to buildings for added impact and esthetics.
The Solution:

Unicel Architectural was approached to fabricate and install five aedicules of 10' wide x 10' long x 9' high (3m x 3m x 2.8m) and a separate skylight structure for Place des Arts. The insulating glass units used for the aedicules were made of ¼" (6mm) Solarban 60 tempered on the outboard, ½" (12.5mm) argon-filled airspace, ½" (12mm) laminated glass composed of 3/16" (5mm) clear tempered glass / 0.060" (1.52mm) PVB / 1/4" (6mm) clear tempered glass. Unicel integrated into its aluminum frames a gutter system and drainage basin downpipe. These penetrated the 2.5'' x 4.5'' (63.5mm x 114mm) curtain wall back members and were made of galvanized steel sheet metal and membrane, designed to allow discharge of the water accumulation from the green roofs above.

The Results:

The Unicel aedicules have become part of Montreal’s distinctive architectural scene. They allow natural light to enter deep into the underground building and workspaces below, while respecting the outdoor landscaping design.

Participants:
Manufacturer of Aedicules and Skylight & Glazing Contractor: Unicel Architectural Corp.
General Contractor: Gestion SNC Lavalin
Client: Société de la Place des Arts
Architect: Sid Lee Architecture + Aedifica