We preserved one major area of greenspace from the previous landscape design as it was. Following the client’s decision to build an underground pedestrian passage under the central intersection and also an underground parking whose footprint partially coincided with the greenspace, we had to then rebuild the latter to its previous state. We unified the other greenspaces and platforms of the park into one large rectangular space, the Square. The old trees, initially evenly distributed on the greenspaces, were removed and we planted new ones on the sides of the square, so that they don’t obstruct the view when large events occurred. Due to a three-meter difference in height on the north-south direction of the site, and one meter on the east-west direction, we decided to lower the new square’s level. Thus, the new configuration partially resembles to an open air amphitheatre whose “zero” point would be the south-west corner of the square. The rectangular square would be connected with its surroundings through different types of stairs, all of them important elements, bearing different names in our project, accordingly: the Monumental Stair, the Gradina, the Triangular Stair, the Diagonal Stair, the Diagonal Ramp.

2012 COMPETITION SCHEMES: Making the Square flat

1. THE MONUMENTAL STAIR
2. THE ROUND PLAZA
3. THE DIAGONAL RAMP
4. THE GRADINA
5. THE TRIANGULAR STAIR
6. THE ARTESIAN STAIR
7. THE ARTESIAN FOUNTAIN
8. THE TAXI STATION
9. THE PARKING ENTRANCE

The monumental stair is rhythmically by corten planters that match the colour of the opposite church bricks and the tiles of the blocks’ roofs. The ramp is not merely a tool for people with disabilities, instead it has pocket platforms that allow people to sit and rest, or watch the square show. The diagonal crossing, as a memory of the old street (which was kept as the main alley in the previous intervention, too), is marked in the pavement by using cut and eroded paving stone opposed to rough anhydrite for the rest of the square. Moreover, in the evening, its direction is outlined by a row of powerful tall light posts. The centre of the square was equipped with an artesian fountain.

Recreating [new] connections

Replanting and replanting trees

CROSS SECTION AND SITE PLAN OF THE ACTUAL INTERVENTION

Ob. A - PUBLIC SPACE REFURBISHMENT
Ob. B - UNDERGROUND PARKING
Ob. C - UNDERGROUND PEDESTRIAN PASSAGE