Nelson Mandela Garden, Paris - France

A GLOBAL URBAN PROJECT TO LINK THE MAJOR PLACES IN PARIS CORE

The project recreates urban continuities over continuities over an area stretching from the Bourse de Commerce (commodity exchange building) to the Georges Pompidou Centre.

The intention is that the Halles district should join the other interlinked large public spaces to be found in central Paris. It provides a new quality in the relations between the underground world and the city’s street level while taking into consideration its importance as the largest gateway to Paris by positionning its generously dimensioned opening onto the vity above the Place Basse of the old Forum. The Canopée, designed by Patrick Berger et Jacques Anziutti, provides the formal expression of this new link.

FROM THE OLD FORUM TO « THE CANOPEE »

Located in the heart of the city and built in the 1970’s, the Forum des Halles is the largest underground complex open to the public ever constructed in Europe. Laid out over five basement levels, it groups together a multimodal public transport hub (800,000 visitors/day), a leading shopping centre, public cultural and leisure amenities as well as sports facilities. An underground road network and several car parks lie within its perimeter.

(c) La Canopée : Patrick Berger and Jacques Anziutti architects
(c) Le Carreau des Halles - SEURA Architects
(c) Le Forum des Halles - Willerval architect (1980's)