



water pump



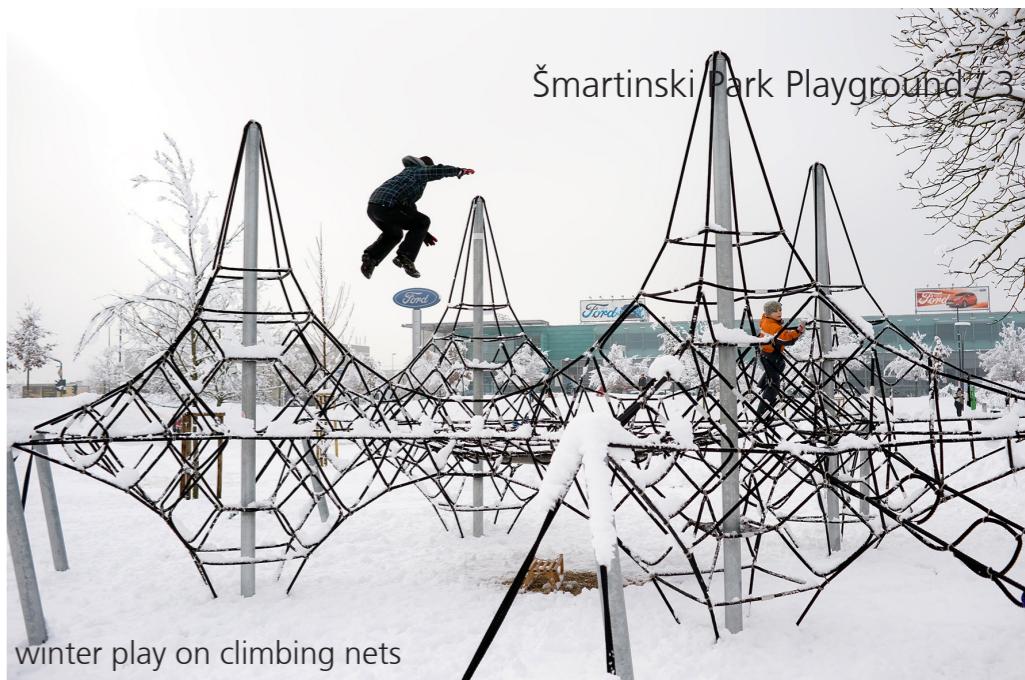
playing with water and sand

The design concept was to provide spaciousness, playful terrain, water feature in combination with sand, lots of vegetation and play equipment with a diverse set of functions - a high climbing net with a view being one of its essentials. Playful water feature and path design are adjusted to the park layout, adding soft curved circular shapes with high play value to the existing straight functional park paths.

The transformation of the area into a park was very well accepted from the beginning, even gardeners admitting the new quality of open public space immediately and the first requests for a playground in park started to reach the city hall almost immediately.

Even though the idea of a playground in front of a cemetery sounded a bit unusual at the beginning, its life proves right: people wished to see a playground constructed in a park more than anything. The visitors are coming from near and far, even from outside of the city of Ljubljana. Some of the users initiated ideas, such as circular paths for running or scooter riding with graphic length marks, a wavy up and down path and a softly curved hill with assortment of slides are the busiest features alongside water play - pumps, dams, channels or mills in combination with sand, a rarity in Ljubljana's otherwise diverse play options.

Playground safety (gravel in combination with sand) is fully provided by careful detailing without abundant constructional additions. The heavily visited area called for additional bike racks and a dog park set in vicinity, again upon the users' wishes. Recent popularity of the playground and the park triggered an expected future initiative to build a designated playground teahouse with necessary service features for park and playground users.



winter play on climbing nets



sliding



water playground

Šmartinski Park Playground 2