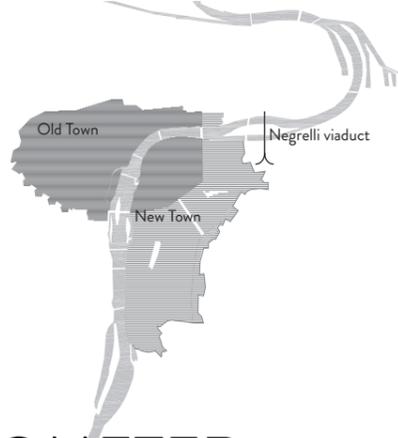


NEGRELLI VIADUCT – OPPORTUNITY FOR A CREATIVE PRAGUE

CHANGING A KILOMETER



Project: Summer Under the Viaduct

Studio: CCEA MOBA

Authors: Yvette Vašourková, Igor Kovačević, Karin Grohmannová, František Novotný, Barbora Slavičková, Rostislav Krones, Eva Bártová

Location: Prague, Czech Republic

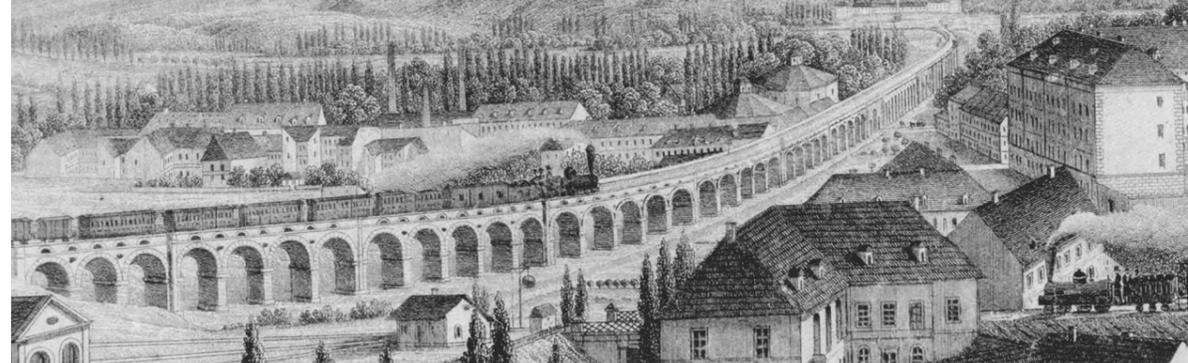
Year: 2016

CCEA MOBA

Our passion is the contemporary city.

CCEA is dedicated to Central Europe and its culture.

MOBA is focused on the research, design and vision of urban spaces.



Until 1910, it was the longest bridge in Central Europe. It was built in 1850 as part of the main trainline connecting Vienna, Prague and Dresden. The viaduct between Karlín and Holešovice stretches across 1.111 m and has 99 arches.



At the beginning of the 20th century Prague company Velox opened under the viaduct the Grand Garage for 50 cars and 100 motorcycles. At the time it was the largest garage in the Austrian-Hungarian Empire. Velox also constructed here its first aeroplane.



Summer Under the Viaduct axonometric, 2016.



Architectural and urban study of Negrelli viaduct. MOBA studio, 2016.

“The Negrelli Viaduct – Opportunity for a Creative Prague” – focuses on experimentation between architecture, art and public interest. It is a long-term project initiated by CCEA MOBA in 2013.

As of 2016, negotiations with the public sector has resulted in a large-scale intervention “Summer Under the Viaduct”, which explored the social impact of bringing together the local inhabitants and the arches, and communicated new possibilities. Thanks to the project, an agreement between the public authorities and the local inhabitants was reached, regarding the reuse of the spaces under the arches of viaduct. The viaduct transformation has therefore progressed to further stages of preparation, in cooperation with the Prague City Council, Prague Institute of Planning and Development (IPR) and the Railway Infrastructure Administration (SŽDC). This project proves that an architect, who is both a professional and a citizen as well, is capable of initiating transformation of public spaces at such a scale (one kilometer). The Negrelli Viaduct – Opportunity for a Creative Prague is a quest for a path where creative activity can contribute to the improvement of the cityscape.

Specific interventions of the long-term project initiated by CCEA MOBA could be realized only thanks to the generosity of our partners Consorcium for Karlín, Vodafone Czech Republic Foundation, Program of Czech-Swiss cooperation, Capital City of Prague, Municipal District of Prague 8 and The Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic.

www.viaduktkreativni.cz

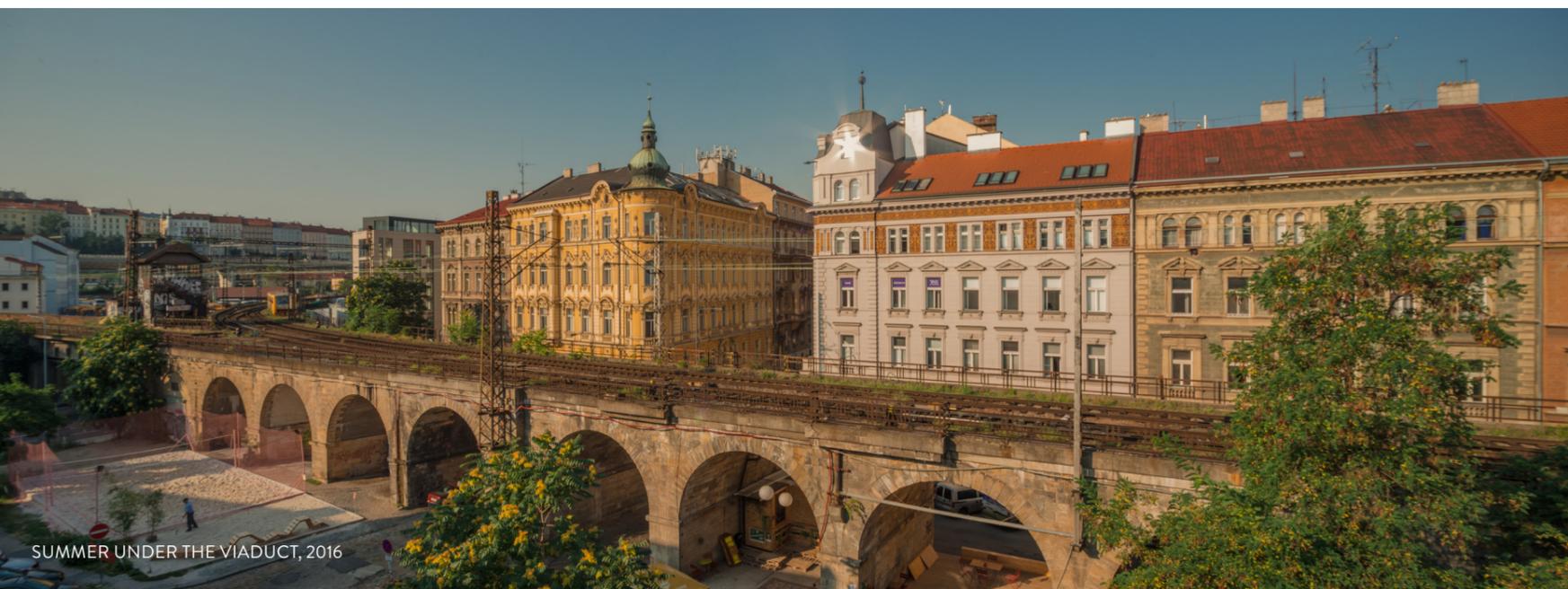
The Negrelli Viaduct – Opportunity for a Creative Prague hosts a series of activities and small subprojects, leading to the improvement of quality of public space in the regions surrounding the 19th century viaduct, located at the border of Prague historical center and Karlín district. The project is led by the architects of CCEA MOBA, the initiators of the project, since 2013. At the same time, the investor SŽDC (Railway Infrastructure Administration) introduced its plan to reconstruct the bridge. The prepared reconstruction primarily focused on the technical aspects, like the railway tracks, and initially did not consider the possibility of the revitalization or the use of the spaces around the structure.

Our aim was to highlight the potential of the Negrelli Viaduct, and verify the possibilities of how to include it into the urban life of the city. It is one of the most important technical constructions in the Czech Republic and is the second oldest bridge in Prague. With its length of one kilometer, it was also, till 1920, the longest stone bridge in Europe.

The negotiations between the public sectors (the representatives of the Capital city of Prague, Prague 8 city district, SŽDC) have resulted in several interventions on site during the course of 4 years. The neglected environment, used as unofficial parking lots, drug dealer zone, opportune public toilets, junkyard, etc., has been transformed. The largest impact had the Summer Under the Viaduct project, which tested the impact on the surroundings and communicated new possibilities of

using the arches together with the inhabitants. The public space “under the bridge” has become a popular destination, not only for the local inhabitants and people that work close-by, but for tourists as well. Spaces were created not only for relaxation, but for sports, music, theatre shows and other events as well. The program originated directly from inhabitants of Prague. CCEA MOBA has, parallelly, presented its vision, which aims at permanently transforming the spaces under the arches of the bridge – in the form of bistros, craft workshops, art galleries and studios – and therefore support minor productions and creativity, which is the bases of the Karlín DNA.

Thanks to the **Summer Under the Viaduct**, an agreement regarding the reuse of the spaces under and around the viaduct has been reached upon between the public authorities and the local inhabitants. The viaduct transformation has therefore progressed to further stages, in cooperation with the Capital City of Prague, Railway Infrastructure Administration (SŽDC) and the Prague Institute of Planning and Development (IPR) with an estimated completion date of the planned reconstruction (2017-2021). SŽDC began the renovation in July 2017. The architectural and urban study proposed by MOBA was accepted by The City Municipality of Prague 8 in October 2017, which explored public spaces around Negrelli Viaduct and their creative uses for arched spaces. Furthermore, the negotiations with the representatives of the Capital city of Prague about financing and the next stages of the project are ongoing.



SUMMER UNDER THE VIADUCT, 2016