

public space
european prize 2010

2010 European Prize for Urban Public Space Results

JOINT WINNERS



Open-Air-Library Magdeburg [Germany] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2005
START OF WORK: 2008
SUPERFICIE: 488 m²
COSTE: 325.000 €

AUTHORS:

KARO* with Architektur+Netzwerk

DEVELOPERS:

Bürgerverein Salbke-Fermersleben-Westerhüsen e.V.
City of Magdeburg Department of Building and
Construction

Like so many other urban zones of East Germany, the district of Salbke in the southeast of Magdeburg is sunk in deep physical and social dereliction. The unemployment rate is high and its post-industrial landscape is scattered with abandoned factories, empty lots and a large number of vacant business premises and homes. In this setting, the site of the district's former library saw, in 2005, the beginnings of an urban planning experiment called "City on Trial", promoted by the residents themselves.

The abandoned premises of an adjoining shop were used as a working space for organising the book collection and to draw up, in an open and neighbourly participative process, the programme for designing a new open-air library and listing its needs. Some twenty thousand books were collected and, with over a thousand beer crates, a 1:1 scale model of the resulting proposal was constructed on the site. This then became the venue for a small poetry slam and readings festival. The success of the initiative helped to procure from the Federal Government the necessary funds to construct the facility, which was opened in 2009. Prefabricated pieces from the façade of a recently-demolished 1960s building now shape a thick wall that holds the bookshelves. The wall, topped by a higher section that houses a cafeteria, shelters a green space where people can read in the open air and there is also a stage on which primary school plays are performed, public readings are given and concerts by young people's bands are held.

Open 24 hours a day, the facility is managed by the residents who, without any kind of monitoring or checks, freely take and return books. Although there has been the odd episode of vandalism, testifying to the tough surroundings, the new library is fully-functioning. The residents have taken over a run-down space to turn it into an innovative meeting place that, with its powerful iconic charge, rises as an emblem of a more promising future for Salbke.



Den Norske Opera & Ballett

Oslo [Norway] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2000
START OF WORK: 2003
SURFACE: 38,500 m²
TOTAL COST: 500,000,000 €

AUTHORS:

Snøhetta

DEVELOPERS:

Statsbygg

Built around a cove of the Oslo fjord, the port neighbourhood of Bjørvika is the historic centre of the Norwegian capital. Despite its central location, by the end of the twentieth century, the large buildings constructed to give infrastructural support to the port's commercial activity had ended up segregating it from the rest of the urban fabric so that it would become a marginal, run-down area. With the turn of the century, the Norwegian Government decided to turn the zone into a representative neighbourhood that would attract a lot of visitors and articulate the relationship between city and fjord. The first step in this transformation was to be achieved with the construction of an opera house on a wharf adjoining a busy highway and the railway lines that run together as they enter the nearby central station.

Accessible only by means of a walkway that crosses the adjacent highway, the roofing of the new Opera House forms a series of gently sloping planes that, rising from the waters of the port, ascend over the concert hall. The slopes, covered in white Carrara marble, are totally open for people to walk on. Their disposition generates several spaces suitable for strolling around, for holding open air shows and contemplating the splendid views over the city and fjord.

Independently of the activity that might be taking place inside the building the roof, with its different parts, has become an appealing and popular meeting place. The gentle encounter of the sloping planes with the water gives visitors the sensation of being on a beach, while the height they can attain as a result of the ascending surface offers them a splendid lookout over the city and its scenery. The slope that makes such attributes possible does not, however, involve any indiscriminate appearance of protective barriers but rather it opens out in a perfectly natural fashion, respecting the freedom and intelligence of the people walking there. With the majestic presence of an iceberg, the new Opera House rises as a symbol of a new Bjørvika which presides with dignity over the meeting of city and fjord.

SPECIAL MENTIONS



Urban Activators: theater podium & brug Grotekerkplein

Rotterdam [The Netherlands] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2005
START OF WORK: 2008
TOTAL COST: 1,150,500 €
SURFACE: 10,000 m²

AUTHORS:

Atelier Kempe Thill architects and planners

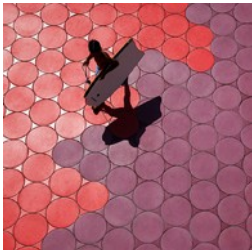
DEVELOPERS:

Rotary Club Rotterdam Noord, foundation 'Grotekerkplein', OBR Rotterdam

Bombing attacks in the Second World War levelled almost all the buildings surrounding the Grotekerkplein, the old main square of Rotterdam. Despite its privileged position between Sint Laurenskerk (St Lawrence Cathedral) and the Delftsevaart canal, the mediocrity of the adjacent buildings constructed after the War gave it the feel of a backyard.

A theatre pavilion has now been constructed with a view to programmatically activating this dull, unappealing space. The building has a prismatic volume and runs parallel to the canal to close off the western end of the square. It consists of two cubic nuclei resting on a podium and sustaining a slab of 50cm high and 30 metres long. The result is a great horizontal gateway framing a stage that is open on both sides. A 70-metre-long running curtain hanging from the edge of the roof makes it possible to have performances facing the square or the canal, and the curtains can be closed on both sides at the same time to create a closed hall. The lateral core buildings offer storage space, toilet facilities and a dressing room for the artists.

Besides equipping the square with a new focus for public events, the pavilion rises as a structure with the twofold value of acting both as an opaque limit reinforcing the perimeter of the Grotekerkplein and as a threshold significantly connecting it with the Delftsevaart.



Paseo Marítimo de la Playa Poniente

Benidorm [Spain] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2002

START OF WORK: 2006

TOTAL COST: 10,620,000 €

SURFACE: 40,000 m²

AUTHORS:

Office of Architecture in Barcelona

DEVELOPERS:

Generalitat Valenciana - Ajuntament de Benidorm

The esplanade of the western beach of Benidorm once ran for one and a half kilometres parallel to a four-lane road and a long line of above-ground parking spaces. In the 1970s it was covered with mediocre paving and lined with a heavy concrete balustrade of 1.2 metres high, which considerably obstructed the view of the sea. Access to the sand was only possible by way of ostentatious imperial stairways set two hundred metres apart.

The new esplanade has reduced the urbanised surface, creating a complex strip of transition between city and sea. It is structured over a sinuous succession of white concrete walls delimiting terraces, flowerbeds and ramps with a line of apparently capricious concave and convex geometric surfaces that, in fact, are subject to a strict modular system. Garden plots and the interplay of different colours in the paving fill in the sections separating the walls in their undulating coming and going. The road has been restricted now to two lanes and an underground parking area runs longitudinally along the esplanade. The architectural barriers have been eliminated, markedly improving access to the beach by way of a good number of stairways and ramps.

Once again, Benidorm is posited as an urban paradigm within the industry of mass tourism. Its extreme density is concentrated in an area of land that is significantly small in comparison with the large extensions of territory taken up by other more disperse models of sporadic occupation and almost unviable maintenance. It is precisely this density that makes possible the concentrated investment of large amounts of public money in projects such as this. The esplanade's colourful surging forms evoke the gardens of Gaudí or Burle Marx, while its powerful iconic presence unfolds in a forceful embrace with the skyscrapers along the seafront, ordering them into a unitary body



Passage 56 / espace culturel écologique

Paris [France] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2006

START OF WORK: 2007

TOTAL COST: 90,000 €

SURFACE: 200 m²

AUTHORS:

atelier d'architecture autogérée

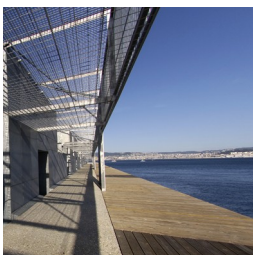
DEVELOPERS:

atelier d'architecture autogérée

Rue Saint Blaise runs through the 20th *arrondissement* of Paris, a neighbourhood notable for its urban density and cultural diversity. The deterioration undergone by this pedestrian precinct in recent years has brought about a decline in its public uses, the closing down of businesses, social segregation and insecurity for children and the elderly. At number 56 in this street there is a passageway that was closed off in the 1980s when a residential block was constructed and the space, which was not amenable to further construction, remained shut off and neglected ever since.

In an unusual association between the public administration, local organisations, professionals and residents, an open process of consultation was organised in order to discuss in a public forum suggestions, possibilities and misgivings related with the site. This gave rise to the idea of a collectively managed space that could be the venue for meetings, film screenings, workshops, games, intercultural exchanges and activities revolving around gastronomy and horticulture. By means of a continuous participative process, a project was drawn up and constructed with minimal cost and using recycled materials collected by the residents themselves. The result is a wooden construction with a garden cover and a green office hanging between the two buildings that flank the space, thus constituting a lintel between the public space and the new garden with its plots for collective cultivation. The project as a whole has solar panels, compost pits and a rainwater collection and storage system so that it is almost self-sufficient in the water, compost, food and energy it consumes.

The "Passage 56" project reinforces the idea that public space does not culminate in the idea of the physical construction of a designed object but is continuously developed as a social, cultural and political production. Here, the client does not precede the intervention but gradually emerges in the group of people who manage it, offering irrefutable proof that everyday ecological practice can transform present spatial and social relations in a dense and culturally diverse metropolis.



Casetas de pescadores en el puerto

Cangas do Morrazo [Spain] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2003

START OF WORK: 2005

TOTAL COST: 1,200,000 €

SURFACE: 3,920 m²

AUTHORS:

Irisarri + Piñera

DEVELOPERS:

Puertos de Galicia

Strategically built around a bay of the Ria de Vigo, the port of Cangas is home to intense nautical and fishing activity that is not in contradiction with the beauty of its environs. It is closed on the southern side by a breakwater consisting of two rectilinear arms meeting at an angle to form a walkway more than five hundred metres long and offering good views of the town from the sea. On the inner wharf of the breakwater, there is a yacht club, a road for vehicular traffic, an above-ground car park and moorings, while the side facing the river is lined

by an esplanade and a dike made of large blocks of stone, which is frequented by rod and line fishermen.

The entity that manages the ports of Galicia promoted an intervention with a view to constructing a row of forty fishermen's huts on the breakwater along with a new public walkway. Made of galvanised steel plates, the huts allow the fishermen to store their tackle and avail themselves of the outside working spaces. The line of huts is interrupted by ten transversal passageways that connect with the inner wharf where the boats are moored and with the outer dike used for rod fishing. The walkway that runs along the dike, thus enabling passers-by to watch the fishermen's activities, has been paved with a platform of wooden slats.

Despite the specificity of its beneficiaries, the project brings life to the breakwater as a public space, organising the setting around an activity that appeals to everyone, besides being one that is deeply rooted in the everyday reality of Cangas. The tasks and tackle pertaining to this popular activity invade the neutral and contained minimalist structure of the huts conferring on them an air of vitality that changes with time.

FINALISTS



MadridRío

Madrid [Spain] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2005
START OF WORK: 2008
TOTAL COST: 350,000,000 €
SURFACE: 1,100,000 m²

AUTHORS:

Burgos Rubio Garrido Porras y Lacasta, Burgos Rubio Garrido Porras y Lacasta, Burgos Rubio Garrido Porras y Lacasta

PROMOTOR:

Coordinación General de Proyectos Singulares, Ayuntamiento de Madrid



Eichbaumoper

Deutsch-Wagram [Austria] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2006
START OF WORK: 2008
TOTAL COST: 420,000 €
SURFACE: 1,000 m²

AUTHORS:

raumlaborberlin/ www.raumlabor-berlin.de

DEVELOPERS:

raumlaborberlin



Ulap-Platz

Berlin [Germany] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2005
START OF WORK: 2007
TOTAL COST: 1,100,000 €
SUPERFÍCIE TOTAL: 13,000 m²

AUTHORS:

Till Rehwaldt

DEVELOPERS:

Abt. Städtebau und Projekte, Hauptstadtreferat, Berlin



Jardín vertical y plaza pública Delicias

Zaragoza [Spain] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2002
START OF WORK: 2007
TOTAL COST: 1,319,000 €
SURFACE: 1,786 m²

AUTHORS:

Sicilia y Asociados

DEVELOPERS:

Asociación de Vecinos Delicias "Manuel Viola"



Jardí del Museu Can Framis

Barcelona [Spain] 2009

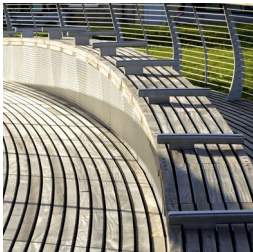
PROJECT BEGINNING: 2007
START OF WORK: 2008
TOTAL COST: 7,354 €
SURFACE: 5 m²

AUTHORS:

BAAS, Jordi Badia y EMF, Martí Franch

DEVELOPERS:

Fundació Vila Casas. Layetana



Riverside Masterplan

Castleford [United Kingdom] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2003
START OF WORK: 2006
TOTAL COST: 3,650,000 €
SURFACE: 2,734 m²

AUTHORS:

McDowell+Benedetti

DEVELOPERS:

City of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council



Vabaduse väljak

Tallinn [Stony] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 1998

START OF WORK: 2008

TOTAL COST: 20,000,000 €

SURFACE: 11,000 m²

AUTHORS:

Andres Alver, Veljo Kaasik, Tiit Trummal

DEVELOPERS:

Tallinn City Government

Klaus Wailzer, Bulant & Wailzer /Wagner /

Fritsch



Campus des Comtes de Champagne

Troyes [France] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2003

START OF WORK: 2007

TOTAL COST: 26,848,700 €

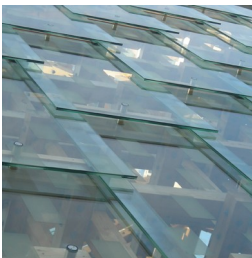
SURFACE: 10,973 m²

AUTHORS:

Intégral Lipsky+Rollet architectes

DEVELOPERS:

Communauté d'Agglomération Troyenne



Lanternen/ Norwegian Wood

Sandnes [Norway] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2006

START OF WORK: 2008

TOTAL COST: 1,400,000 €

SURFACE: 2,500 m²

AUTHORS:

AWP+ Atelier Oslo

DEVELOPERS:

Sandnes Kommune, Norwegian wood steering group



Rehabilitación de la Alameda de Hércules

Sevilla [Spain] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2005

START OF WORK: 2007

TOTAL COST: 11,934 €

SURFACE: 38 m²

AUTHORS:

José Antonio Martínez Lapeña, Elías Torres Tur, arquitectos

DEVELOPERS:

Gerencia de Urbanismo del Ayuntamiento de Sevilla



Remodelación del puerto

Malpica [Spain] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2005

START OF WORK: 2008

TOTAL COST: 2,843,240 €

SURFACE: 13,710 m²

AUTHORS:

CreuseCarrasco arquitectos

Juan Creus Andrade, Covadonga Carrasco López

DEVELOPERS:

Xunta de Galicia

Ente Público Portos de Galicia

Juan Antonio Rodríguez Pardo



Furtwänglergarten

Salzburg [Austria] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2007

START OF WORK: 2008

TOTAL COST: 900.000,00 €

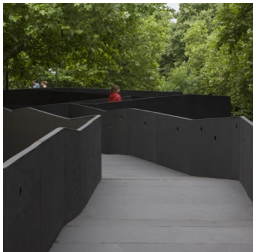
SURFACE: 5,000 m²

AUTHORS:

Auböck + Kárász

DEVELOPERS:

Municipality of Salzburg



NLA Skywalk

London [United Kingdom] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2008

START OF WORK: 2008

TOTAL COST: 55,200 €

SURFACE: 280 m²

AUTHORS:

Carmody Groarke

DEVELOPERS:

New London Architecture / London Festival of Architecture



Neubau der Domtreppe – Neugestaltung des Bahnhofvorplatzes

Köln [Germany] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2001

START OF WORK: 2004

TOTAL COST: 6,500,000 €

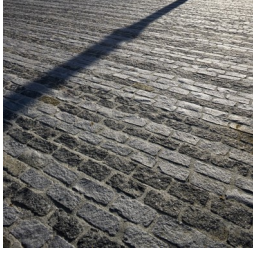
SURFACE: 11,950 m²

AUTHORS:

Schaller/Theodor Architekten BDA

DEVELOPERS:

Stadt Köln, Amt für Stadtentwicklung und Statistik



Redesign of main square

Maria Saal [Austria] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2002

START OF WORK: 2007

TOTAL COST: 1,200,000€

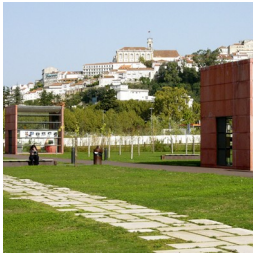
SURFACE: 2,250 m²

AUTHORS:

nonconform architektur vor ort

DEVELOPERS:

Maria Saal Beteiligungs und Infrastruktur GmbH



Parque Verde do Mondego

Coimbra [Portugal] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 1995

START OF WORK: 1997

TOTAL COST: 18,250,000 €

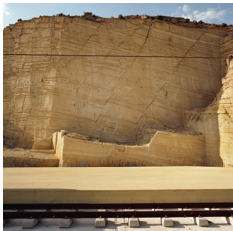
SURFACE: 230,000 m²

AUTHORS:

MVCC - Mercês Vieira e Camilo Cortesão

DEVELOPERS:

MVCC - Mercês Vieira e Camilo Cortesão



Paisatgisme de la línia 1 del TRAM

Alicante [Spain] 2009

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2005

START OF WORK: 2006

TOTAL COST: 5,200,000 €

SURFACE: 12,000 m²

AUTHORS:

Eduardo de Miguel Arbonés, José M^a Urzelai Fernández

DEVELOPERS:

Ente Gestor de la Red de Transporte y de Puertos de la Generalitat. Consellería de Infraestructuras y Transporte



Square and open air altar

Brezje [Slovenia] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2005

START OF WORK: 2008

TOTAL COST: 478,000 €

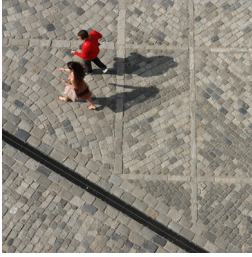
SURFACE: 1,790 m²

AUTHORS:

Zorec, Tepina

DEVELOPERS:

Franciscan monastery Brezje



Reabilitari urbane centru istoric, faza1 – Piata Muzeului si strazi adiacente

Cluj-Napoca [Romania] 2008

PROJECT BEGINNING: 2005

START OF WORK: 2006

TOTAL COST: 363,764 €

SURFACE: 5,050 m²

AUTHORS:

clujnapoca cityhall, tirrena-garboli

DEVELOPERS:

clujnapoca city hall