



granite paving LED-lights, drainage lines and small fountains are integrated that contribute to the vibrancy of the square during the day and at night. Ten multi-stemmed trees are scattered over the square. The trees are protected by large 'tree benches' of 2 x 5 meters, which also serve as seats.

Evaluation

The square has been used for more than a year now, since its finalization, in September 2012. There was a big opening with events for over 2 days, culminating in the concert of various popular bands. The response of the users and inhabitants is unanimously positive; the people of Leeuwarden are proud of their new square. People cross the square and sit on the benches, the terraces are filled in summer, the market functions like never before and a number of events have been organized successfully. During the days before Christmas 2013 the Wilhelminasquare was the most important public space of the country, as "serious request" of top radio 3FM took place on the square. On top of that the project has won the Falco award for best public space design 2013. A challenge was to come up with a suitable answer to the given urban context, consisting of various buildings, eras and ideas. The second challenge was to create an intimate urban square while still offering space and flexibility for various use such as the market, the fair, events, terraces and supply traffic. The third challenge was the technical integration of trees, on the roof of the garage. In the end the puzzle was solved by only two elements. A beautiful paving and ten pieces of furniture did the trick. This minimal approach gave the design a kind of serenity, leaving space for people to interact and enjoy city life.



new market



view new facade on the square with new shops, cafés and terraces



areal nightview opening festival 2012