Akasya Central Park, Istanbul TK

Type: Landscape  
Location: Istanbul, Turkey  
Year: 2013  
Client: Akasya Acibadem Uskudar  
Cost: 900,000 euro  
Surface: 10,000 m²  
Phase: Built  
Team: SdARCH Trivelli&Associati, Alhadeff Architects

The Akasya Central Park is located in the Acibadem district, on the Asian side of Istanbul, an area of high quality housing developments. In recent years, a new road network and new residential buildings have been built. The Park is the green centre or the “green lung” of this new urban development and is the focus of the new Akasya Acibadem District.

The public space is the connection for the whole site. The landscape design of the Central Park, by SdARCH Trivelli&Associati with Alhadeff Architects, encompasses a public area in front of the north entrance of the mall. This area is located at the center of the new residential buildings, and is surrounded by roads. We designed a space where the people can go and stay, as city users, to share leisure time with others in a public park.

The park provides a gradual transition between residential areas and the mall. The landscape design, using elliptical shapes, reflects the same geometry of the entire project, creating a unifying whole. Once the connections within the park were designed, we added green circles as green ‘rooms’. These green rooms propose different activities, providing different relations within the site. The design concept is for a space where visitors can relax after shopping or share their free time with other visitors.

There are 15 different species of trees for a total of 283 trees, 46 shrubs - type flowers, herbs for a total of approximately 13,300 m² characterize the new park Akasya, a sort of Mediterranean garden within the city.

Quints of trees of the same species (olive trees, pines, oaks, birches, willows, etc.) draw the spaces in a circular manner, creating rooms with different colors, sometimes interrupted by paths.

Small hills with slides, boulders, mazes, rubber hooks for climbing up are the playground for the youngest. The open-air theater, which lies on existing slope, frequently entertains shows, concerts and other cultural and recreational activities during the evening and the day. Finally, a small pond and a large fountain located at the entrance of the park, amaze visitors and residents.