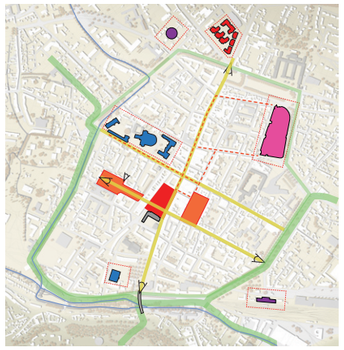
# JEANNE HACHETTE, THE THEATRICAL SQUARE

Before: the square as a car park

The Square, the cornerstone of the City Centre project



location
Beauvais, Oise, France
role
Prime contractor
Winner of the call to tender
operation
1.1 ha, 4,200,000 euros ex-VAT
project owner
City of Beauvais
date
2014-2015
team
Agence Babylone, contractor
SOGETI, BET VRD, co manager
OGI, BET fontainier, co manager

The project centres on the many different ways the square is now used: Christmas events, the Jeanne Hachette festival, the market, outdoor seating for cafés, a carousel and playground, which fill and animate the space.
The project provides a setting for these events and facilitates their cohabitation and succession by providing a vast mineral stage, like a multi-purpose theatre.

The backdrop for the square is the 18th century façade of the City Hall, highlighted by a large reflecting pool featuring fountains and misters.

The site is further enhanced by a variety of «accessories»:
- Personalised cement tiles, embedded in the ground like colourful confetti;
- A lateral wooden riser, the perfect place to sit in the shade and watch the world go by
- Mobile planters and chairs so the square can be adapted for events
- A playground based on the theme of the historic battle of Beauvais
- The statue of Jeanne Hachette, the victorious heroine of the battle

The square, free for everyday use, a social space for residents

The inauguration of the square on 16 October 2015

Les Féeries de Noël Christmas festival, December 2015