

LE CORBUSIER

—
Site & Architecture
Firminy-Vert
Saint-Étienne
Métropole

apr. 5th 2023 - jan. 14th 2024

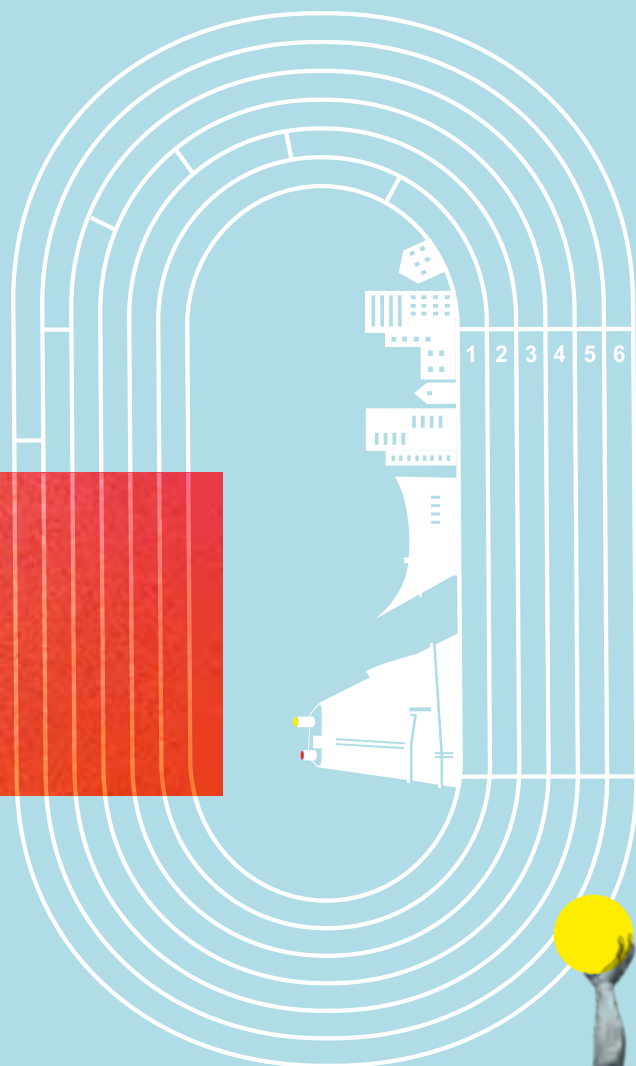
PRESS KIT

EXHIBITION
Saint-Peter's Church
Firminy

LET'S MOVE IN THE CITY!

Sport & architecture
for tomorrow

sitelecorbusier.com



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In 2023, with the organisation in France of two major sporting events - the Rugby World Cup and the future Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris 2024 - the Site Le Corbusier invites us to look at our way of living in today's and tomorrow's world. The exhibition *Let's move in the city! Sport and architecture for tomorrow*, created by the architectural agency DREAM questions the place of sport in the city of tomorrow.

In 2020, the lockdown caused by the COVID epidemic has turned the city into an open-air gymnasium, even a place of daily practice. In 2022, the Football World Cup in Qatar triggered a wave of indignation. This constant media coverage of professional sport reveals its growing role and the issues it raises in our contemporary societies. Essential to public health and a vector of socialisation, sport is at the same time a leisure, a set of techniques and an economic issue. It constitutes an institutional organisation and is at the heart of territorial political strategies.

The first International Congresses of Modern Architecture in the 1930s increased the general awareness about the influence of sport in the design of space on an urban scale. In Firminy, the Centre for re-creation of the body and mind designed by Le Corbusier is an example of this functionalist urbanism where people should not only work but also have access to leisure. Today, the overall increase of leisure and entertainment sports - associated with the development of new forms of practices and uses - implements the need for new organisations, and relationships with the territories. This requires a renewal of architectural programmes in rapidly changing cities. The exhibition presents a first approach based on interactive immersive and innovative devices.

Ready, set, go!



Press contact

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Editorial

Curator's word

The Site Le Corbusier develops a positioning based on the emotional dimension as a key to the discovery of architecture and urbanism.

For the second consecutive year, the Site Le Corbusier launched in July 2022 its new call for applications for the design and production of scenographic devices around the theme of sport in the city of tomorrow. This call was widely shared on social networks.

At the end of September 2022, a jury composed of tourism, press and architecture professionals chose DREAM, an architectural firm, from among

the 10 quality applications received. This project on "Sport in the city of tomorrow" started in October 2022, and is ultimately entitled: *Let's move in the city! Sport and architecture for tomorrow.*

Through this exhibition, the Site Le Corbusier invites the public to a sensitive, inclusive and participatory experience, intended for sporty and less sporty bodies, for experts of sports architecture but also for a wide audience of novices. Thanks to the devices exhibited in each room, the apprehension of the architectural space is also an important point of the exhibition.

DREAM's word

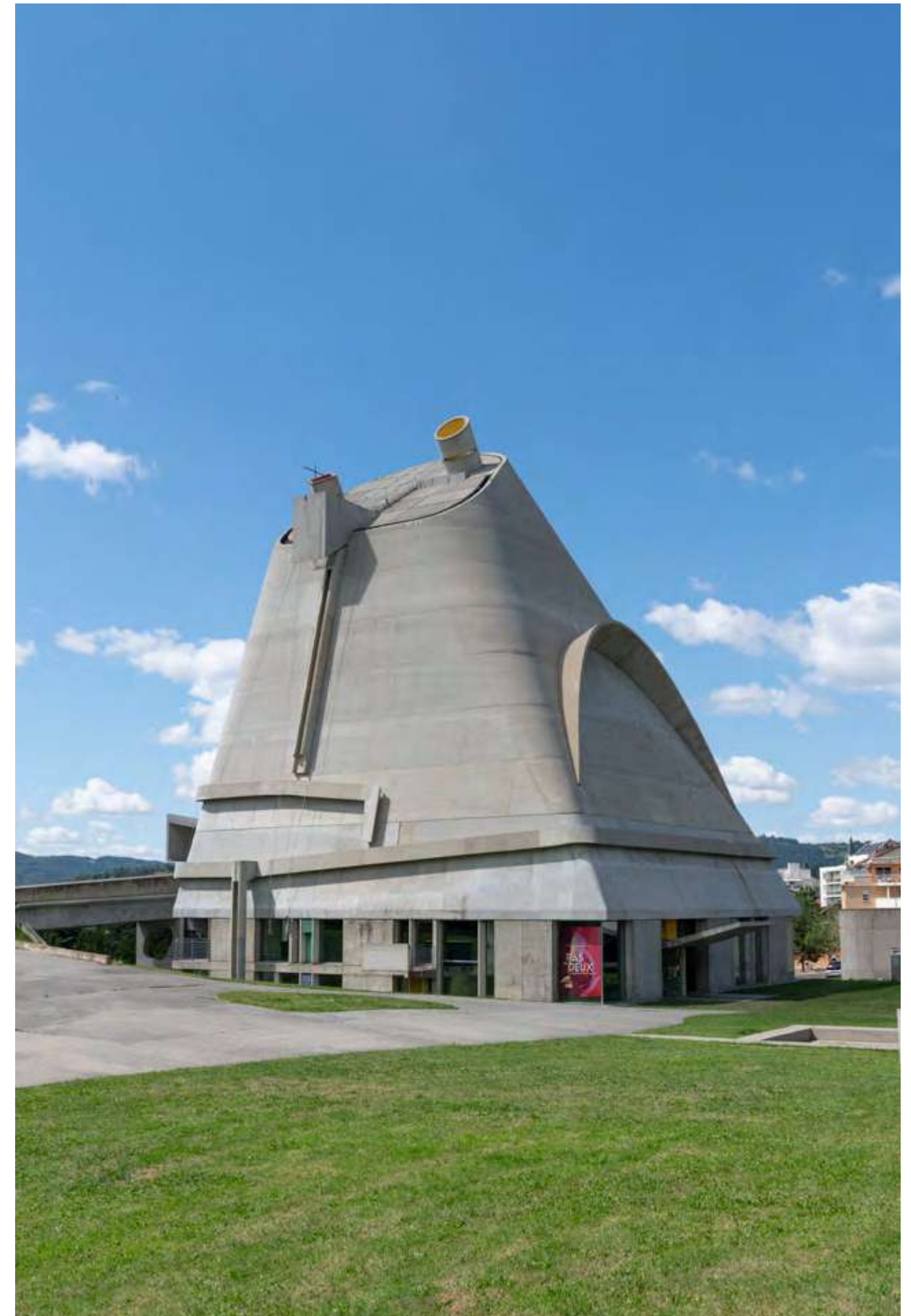
Designing an exhibition on the theme of sport in the city of tomorrow is an opportunity for the agency to share our experience and thoughts on the subject, as architects and designers of the city of tomorrow.

For the elaboration of the scientific discourse, we have associated with François-Emmanuel Vigneau, architect and geography and planning PhD. A specialist in sports facilities, sports in urban spaces and a former athlete, he worked for over 20 years in the sports facilities office of the Ministry of Sports.

This exhibition was also the result of a close collaboration with ENSASE: 11 students participated in the making of the exhibition during a 3-week workshop at the Saint-Peter's Church in Firminy-Vert.

Beyond the theme of sport in the city of tomorrow, the conception of the exhibition is articulated around two main axes in line with DREAM's DNA: low-carbon construction and re-use. Both were the central themes throughout the exhibition's scenography and a strong source of inspiration.

Through a didactic and playful path, we tried to bring an accessible scientific light and to arouse the visitors' reflection on the perspectives and stakes of sport in the city of tomorrow. The exhibition that we propose is thought of as a sports journey that starts from the entrance hall and continues through the different exhibition rooms of the first floor. Each room has a device, to see, touch, listen and experiment, created in situ and designed so that the visitor is also an actor (and sportsman).



Firminy-Vert's “centre de re- création du corps et de l'esprit”

Cultural Center, open-air
theater, training ground,
stadium, swimming-pool
& church

In the early 1950s, Firminy, a medium-sized city in the Saint-Etienne basin, had the reputation of a dark city with dilapidated houses. Eugène Claudius-Petit, Member of the Parliament for the Loire and former Minister of Reconstruction and Urban Planning (1948-1953) became mayor of the city in 1953. He wanted to implement a vast urban and architectural program based on the principles of the International Congresses of Modern Architecture and the Athens Charter. To this end, he surrounded himself with a team of urban architects who shared his aspirations: André Sive, Jean Kling, Marcel Roux and Charles Delfante. Eugène Claudius-Petit wished to offer the Appelous (inhabitants of Firminy) a cultural, spiritual and sports center that corresponded to the popular education and culture policies of the time. He entrusted this mission of "Center for the recreation of Body and Spirit" to Le Corbusier's workshop in 1955. Linking the old and new towns, the complex is located in the former Razes quarry. It is composed of a Cultural Centre with an open-air theater, a training ground, a stadium, a swimming pool, and a church.



LE CORBUSIER STADIUM (1966-1969)

[Designed by Le Corbusier, finalized by André Wogenscky and Fernand Gardien; listed MH in 1984]

It is in the heart of this district of Firminy-Vert and after the death of Le Corbusier that the Stadium was built between 1966 and 1969, the only one in France to be listed as a Historic Monument. Its stands can accommodate more than 4,000 spectators. The pitch is a practice area for soccer and rugby ; it is surrounded by a 400 m athletics track, completed by a high jump and triple jump track. Le Corbusier was inspired by the ancient stadiums that he was particularly fond of and that we can already find in his project for a popular entertainment center in 1936.



THE ANDRÉ WOGENSCKY POOL (1966- 1971)

[Designed by André Wogenscky; listed as MH in 2005]

The swimming pool was not included in the official commission given to Le Corbusier in 1955, but it was very quickly mentioned. Contrary to the "classic" swimming pool desired by the mayor, Le Corbusier proposed a more ambitious project of the aqualudic center type with a 25 m covered pool, a 50 m open-air pool equipped with changing rooms and a wave pool, with an island including a diving board. He was inspired here by his own projects, such as the Durand housing estate in Algeria (1932-1936). In 1966, André Wogenscky took over the studies of the pool and finalized the project. He kept the rounded shape of the changing rooms and built a solarium on the roof terrace. With the material used and the installation of undulating pannels, the swimming pool is part of the Corbusean universe. Inside, there is a traditional 25m pool and a 12m long learning pool.

The exhibition

The exhibition route

As soon as they enter the exhibition, visitors are invited to walk through the various rooms of Saint-Peter's Church following an athletics track. In each room, interactive devices allow them to understand and experience the place of sport in the city and its evolution for tomorrow: from the sports field to the city, via the sports facilities, the exhibition questions the role of sport for inclusiveness, socialisation, but also public health and the environmental issues of tomorrow.



The eco-design approach

The Saint-Étienne Métropole Convention and Tourist Office is committed to sustainable development through the ISO 20121 certification process, which is also being implemented at the Site Le Corbusier.

As such, the exhibition, from its creation to its dismantling, is part of an eco-design approach. Most of the materials were recycled or recovered from previous exhibitions, as is the case in the first room of the exhibition, for which table tennis clubs were invited to give used ping-pong balls. For the manufacture of the scenographic furniture, DREAM worked with local companies, such as CECOIA (42).

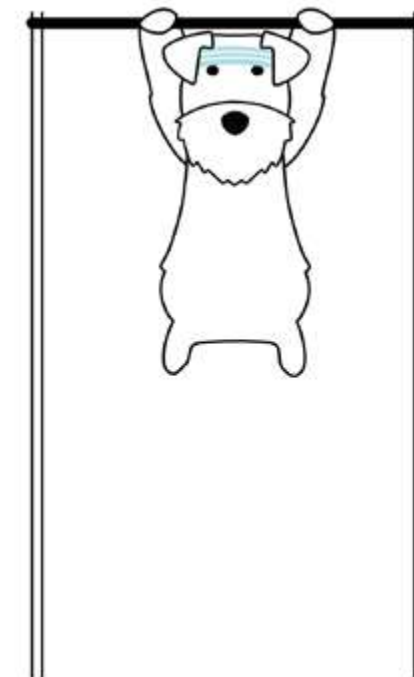


An exhibition for everyone

As part of an inclusive approach the visitors are invited to move, test and experiment with the exhibition devices. All the objects featured in this exhibition can be touched and used.

The exhibition contents (panels, videos) are translated into English.

Children will also find adapted texts and pictures to guide them through the different themes, following Pinceau, Le Corbusier's dog, through the exhibition.



A sporty modulator awaits the visitors in front of Saint Peter's Church. Its presence invites them to enter the monument. Everyone is free to try and score, thanks to the basketball provided at the reception desk. Once arrived in the entrance hall, the sporting journey begins.

Room 1. Le Corbusier, Firminy-Vert and sports

This first room offers a historical introduction to the various sports facilities built from the Ancient Times to the present day. Featured in the Site Le Corbusier, the exhibition starts with a contextualisation of the legacy of Le Corbusier and the Modern architects regarding the place of sport in the city. It is quite obvious that the vision of the architects in the 1950s and all the questions they raised at the time are still strikingly relevant today.

The visitor is invited to mimic the hygienic sports movements performed by Jorgen Peter Muller in the 1910s, and to venture behind a curtain of ping-pong balls to discover an audiovisual device.

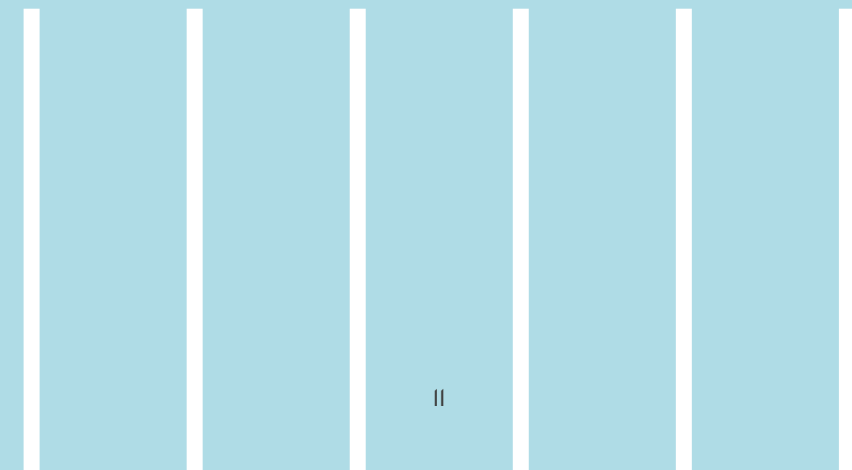
Room 2. Which spaces for which sports?

With an interactive and playful device, the visitor is invited to identify and define his or her own sporting practices thanks to a theory developed by the French architect and geographer François-Emmanuel Vigneau. This sports classification according to the space they occupy: circular, linear or rectangular; then according to their objectives: sometimes collective, sometimes about power struggles, or even about overcoming one's limits. Finally, an arborescence and graphic design invite us to understand the relationship of the body to the sports space, as a relationship of struggle whether in space, with space or for space.



Room 3. When the city becomes a sports equipment

Make room for physical exercise in the city! Visitors, just like urban sportsmen and women, take over the street and its furniture, a nearby environment that is more or less suitable for physical exercise. Through photographs, videos and Active Design installations, the public is invited to question its relationship with public space. Initially, this free and spontaneous practice was created to compensate for the remoteness of infrastructures or the cost of gym membership. However, in recent years, public policies have sought to transform the city into an open-air gymnasium. Bringing sport to the street makes it possible to popularise these practices that can provide solutions to contemporary public health issues caused by a sedentary lifestyle.



Room 4. What place in the city for sport?

The presence of sports equipments in the very heart of the city is now a reality. But has it always been so ? And, even today, are all cities equal when it comes to this urban development? The visitor is invited to take a break on a tennis court that flows down the steps of the room and to explore projects that are innovative in finding ways to make room for sport within the walls of the city. Illustrated by the photographs of Kevin Couliau, this room questions the inequality of access to equipment and the current state of the French sports facilities.

Room 5. What sports equipment for the population and the planet?

The practice of sport requires the construction of numerous facilities, the ecological impact of which is now a major issue. These infrastructures, increasingly dedicated to very specific activities, separate the practitioners. Is this not a risk to jeopardise the values of living together carried by sport?

This room presents the models of six projects, in order to understand the new possibilities for building more sustainable and inclusive sports venues



Room 6. After artificial sports equipment comes virtual sport?

This last room raises the question of the artificialization of sport (indoor climbing walls, artificial snow for skiers, reconstructed beaches), along with the practice of e-sport: is it an individualization, or on the contrary a new way of living together? Is this an opportunity for new collective sports spaces? To end this sporting journey, thanks to virtual technology, DREAM invites the visitor to experience e-sport and to question the get-together aspect - or not - of this new practice.

Room 7. “In the locker rooms”: a joining forces project

As a conclusion, the last room is dedicated to the process of creating the exhibition. The public will discover the past lives of the recycled materials, and all the people who participated in its completion.

Landmarks

The Site Le Corbusier

The Site Le Corbusier of Firminy is imposing. Singular. An unusual ensemble resulting from the vision of an architect in love with form and light, nature and functionality. Opened to tourism in 2008, shortly after the completion of the Saint-Peter's Church in 2006, this unique architectural ensemble in Europe has developed its notoriety, which was reinforced by the recognition of the Maison de la Culture (cultural centre) by UNESCO in 2016, along with 16 other buildings by Le Corbusier as "exceptional contribution to the modern movement". Schoolchildren, enlightened design and architecture enthusiasts, families, etc, there are about 20,000 visitors to the Site each year.

Emotion, a key to knowledge

The Site Le Corbusier offers experiences to a wide audience: families in the region, tourists passing through etc., by making emotion the key to knowledge. It thus offers a renewed tourist experience, based on astonishment, emotions and pleasure. It invites visitors to go behind the concrete facade to discover an arrangement of space and light open to nature, and original and daring inventions and innovations.

Tailor-made tours

To open up the public's imagination and accompany them in their discovery, the Site is currently developing new visitor itineraries, as well as events and activities to match its ambition: to create a true tourist destination dedicated to the world of Le Corbusier.

"The purpose of construction is to make things hold together; of architecture to move us." Le Corbusier

DREAM architecture agency

Founded in 2018 by Dimitri Roussel, DREAM is an architectural firm specialised in wood construction, bringing together some 40 collaborators with an international profile. Concerned by the ecological and social issues raised by the act of building today, the agency is committed to developing a local, bioclimatic architecture and is committed to the creation of an affordable biosourced architecture model.

From "Arboretum" (the largest wooden campus in Europe in Nanterre) to "In wood" (a wooden structure housing project with the lowest construction cost in France in Saint-Étienne), DREAM wants to democratise low-carbon construction, both in working-class neighbourhoods and in the heart of the most attractive metropolises.

The agency has expertise in the construction of sports facilities, including: the construction of a soccer field in Bondy for Kylian Mbappé, the creation of five-a-side soccer fields under the Porte Pouchet ring road in Paris 17, a four-story sports and leisure tower in Nice, and a sports facility on the roof of offices in the heart of the Athletes' Village of the Paris 2024 Games in Saint-Ouen.

Questioning the institutional forms of sports spaces by integrating the issue of low carbon thanks to wood is part of the agency's thinking: The Pavilion "ça joue!" presented in 2022 in the gardens of the Villa Medici in Rome and then exhibited at the



Grand Parc des Docks de Saint-Ouen from spring 2023 for the Paris 2024 Games, illustrates the research on the subject conducted by the agency.

In perpetual search of experimentation and innovation, DREAM is particularly fond of creating ephemeral installations for exhibitions, festivals and biennials. The small scale of the projects and the short time frame in which they are created allow them to test innovative low-carbon construction processes in a relatively short time, thanks in particular to parametric and 3D modeling tools. These artistic installations and exhibitions reflect their sensitive approach to architecture and constitute a real laboratory of grey matter that feeds the agency's projects.

Dimitri Roussel

Born in Firminy, Dimitri Roussel grew up in Saint-Étienne and attended the ENSASE (Saint-Etienne's architecture School) during his life as a student and professional basketball player (SEBC, PRO B). For this former basketball player, architecture is a collective sport: isn't each construction a synergy of individual knowledge pooled in the act of building? Dimitri's career path and the agency's points of reflection are thus at the heart of the theme of this exhibition project when they apply for the call for applications in the summer of 2022.

Team and partners

Exhibition curation

Géraldine DABRIGEON, Site Le Corbusier Director and curator
Margaux CHATAIGNER, in charge of the exhibitions
In collaboration with Dimitri ROUSSEL and François-Emmanuel VIGNEAU

Technical conception

DREAM : Dimitri ROUSSEL, Marta CHICON PEREZ, Emmanuelle ECHASSOUX, Giovanni SALVADOR, Leticia MARTINEZ VELASCO, Raphael MEIRA

Graphic coordination

Louise PERTUSIER and Marta CHICON PEREZ

Maquettes

Ambre POMER

Production

Association Rêve

Coordination and production

Margaux CHATAIGNER, in charge of the exhibitions
Toufik ZOULFA and Laurent GIULIANA, Technicians

Communication and PR

Floriane FONT, Communication and promotion manager

Visual identity

Mathilde WYDAUW, Artistic direction and graphic designer and her team Marion JOUBERT, Camera and drone operator and editor, and Pierre DESRUMEAUX architectural Photographer

Direction

DREAM

In collaboration with ENSASE, Mural Studio
In partnership with CECOIA, X-LAM Solutions, Entreprise Chazelle, Fit Immersion, Société Rozières

Partners

Les Ateliers Médicis, Le Five

Exhibition printing

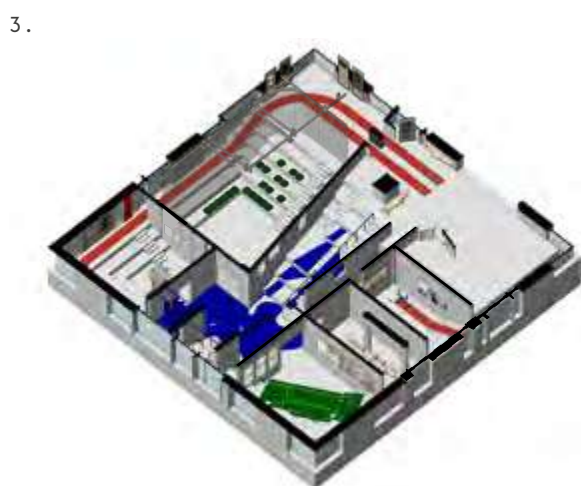
Pacoret Version Originale

Visitors department

Anne BERTHE, Visitors and cultural development manager
Estelle CAHINGT, Noémie BOEGLIN, Emmanuelle BOTTURA, Cultural mediators

Shop and front desk

Frédérique ARCOS, Front desk and commercialisation manager
Toufik ZOULFA, in charge of the shops
Camille COTE, public service mission



1. Le Corbusier Stadium - Yohann Merlevede © F.L.C/ADAGP
 2. Le Corbusier Stadium - Olivier Ramonteu © F.L.C/ADAGP
 3. Map of the exhibition route © DREAM
 4. Saint-Peter's Church - Gaël Romier © F.L.C/ADAGP. Design, Le Corbusier architect, José Oubrière assistant (1960-65). Construction, José Oubrière architect (1970-2006)
 5. Used ping-pong balls © ENSASE's students
 6. André Wogenscky municipal Swimming Pool © Magali Stora
 7. Le Corbusier Stadium © Magali Stora
 Pictures of the exhibition : © Pierre Desrumeaux - studio NORDE

Other visuals of the in situ exhibition are available on demand at: f.font@saint-etiennetourisme.com

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Related events

Programme

A discovery of the sports facilities in Firminy-Vert
Exceptional guided tour of the Stadium, the Swimming Pool and the exhibition
Wednesday 12, 19 and 26 July at 2pm
Wednesday 2 and 9 August at 2pm

Firminy-Vert concentrates emblematic sports facilities of the 20th century: The Stadium conceived by Le Corbusier - considered as one of the 10 most beautiful French stadiums in 2022 and the only French stadium listed as a historical Monument - and the André Wogenscky Swimming Pool. This guided tour will show you these exceptional buildings and will end in the temporary exhibition where you will experiment with the future of sports in the city.

Rate: €10,50 / €9

Duration: 75 min

Online booking is mandatory:

<https://sitelecorbusier.com/billetterie-en-ligne/>

« Archi-sport »

Creative workshops for children (6-12 years old)

Wednesdays 12, 19 and 26 July at 2pm

Wednesdays 2 and 9 August at 2pm

Get ready, set, imagine! After a tour of the exhibition the children will imagine buildings of the future, using only everyday life materials. They will create new spaces in the cities to run, jump and climb.

Rate: €5

Duration: 2h

Children will keep their creations

Comfortable clothes are recommended

Online booking only

<https://sitelecorbusier.com/billetterie-en-ligne/>

“Build your mini-skatepark”

Video tutorial - to do at home

From 6 years old – requires adult supervision.

Build your own skatepark model with everyday life items.

Download the pattern and follow the instructions of the video tutorial

Watch our tutorial on our YouTube web page Site Le Corbusier Firminy-Vert

Exhibition
"Sports, portraits of a city"
(undefinitive title)
Mid-October 2023 to September 2024
Cultural Centre

The exhibition traces a panorama of sport in Firminy since the beginning of the 20th century. It shows the importance and diversity of the equipment developed, the dynamics of the associations, the several events organized and also presents the great sportspeople of Firminy.

Virtual visits of the Site Le Corbusier and the swimming-pool on our YouTube channel
Site Le Corbusier Firminy-Vert 

The exhibition catalogue

Written under the direction of Géraldine Dabrigeon.
Paper size: 30 x 21 cm .
Language: bilingual French/English.
Printing: 250 copies.
Selling price: €25.

7.



Practical informations

EXHIBITION DATES

From 5th of April 2023 to 14th of January 2024

OPENING HOURS, RATES AND ACCESS

Site Le Corbusier
église Saint-Pierre
Rue des Noyers
42700 Firminy

OPENING HOURS

From 10 to 12.30 and from 1.30 to 6.
From 05/04 to 09/07, from 04/09 to 10/11, from 23/12 to 31/12: open every day except on Tuesdays.
From 10/07 to 03/09: open every day.
From 12/11 to 22/12, from 02/01 to 14/01: open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.
Exceptional closures on: 01/05, 11/11, 25/12 and 01/01.

RATES

Full rate: €6,50.
Reduced rate: €5,50 (under 18, over 65, students, person with a disability).
Free under 8 years old.

Free entrance on the first Sunday of the month.

Discover our special offers entrance + guided tour from €12.

Online booking on www.sitelecorbusier.com

ACCESS

By train: SNCF train station in Firminy. From the station, follow the colored lines on the ground.
By bus: M1 line Firminy/Saint-Étienne, stop at « église Le Corbusier ».
By car: N88, "Firminy-Centre" exit, 2 parking lots.
Free parkings lots open from 10 am to 6 pm.

GPS address: Boulevard Périphérique du Stade - 42700 Firminy.

Information and booking

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www.sitelecorbusier.com
information@sitelecorbusier.com

LE CORBUSIER

—
Site & Architecture
Firminy-Vert
Saint-Étienne
Métropole

SÉM
SAINT-ÉTIENNE
la métropole
tourisme & congrès



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DE LA RÉGION
AUVERGNE-
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Liberté
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**SITES TOURISTIQUES
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En collaboration avec

DREAM

An experience] **Saint-Étienne Hors Cadre** [