Le Mans, FRANCE Cultural

Authors

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Associates:

Atelier 4 (Pourreyron, Jean Louis; Tixier, Philippe)

Collaborators:

Stanislas Zackarian, Claire Palluel, Francesc Muntasell, Xavier Franquesa, Miguel Morte, Antonio Benaduce, Roberto Eleuteri, Joan Alvarez, Almudena Chaves, Higini Arau, Francisco Revilla, Scott Kuypper, Stefanie Herr, Anek Noss, Francesco Mozati, Luca Signorotti, Atelier 4 (Jean Louis Pourreyron, Philippe Tixier), Higini Arau, Francisco Revilla, Scott Kuypper Stefanie Herr, Anek Noss, Francesco Mozzati Luca Signorotti,





2002













Built surface area: 31830 m2 Tendering: Concurs

Client: Le Mans City Council (públic)

Competition year: 2002 Type: públic

Type of competition: concurs restringit

Classification: finalista Future development: Yes

In April 2002, Mans City Council organised an invitation competition to find a project for the Les Jacobins Cultural Space. The brief was for a 31,830 m2 space which was to include a theatre seating 840 spectators, a cinema complex for 2,200 spectators, various multipurpose halls, a 'galerie-traversière' and a basement car park for 820 vehicles.

The commendable finalists in the competition, in addition to the team of Alfredo Arribas Arq. Ass & Atelier 4, were Christian de Portzamparc, Henri

Gaudin and Atelier 3.

The proposal presented by AAAA-Atelier 4, with the professional collaboration of Higini Arau on the acoustic project and Francisco Revilla for the stage project, resolves the complex and varied programme of uses by means of a single element: a sculpture-building made up of 'closed boxes' that rise or sink to free up the ground and allow maximum transparency and continuity. At its centre is a great covered plaza containing a courtyard, made up of empty spaces and vertical connexions, which brings together all the building's uses. The section of the building, in its tangential layout, dematerialises, turning into a single arris and producing a great awning that welcomes visitors.