

OMEGA GIF

Construction of a recreational, sports, and wellness aquatic center within the Paris-Saclay urban campus.

CLIENT

City of Gif-sur-Yvette

TEAM

VenhoevenCS (Lead Architect, QEB, BIM)
Patriarche (Architecture, QEB, BIM)
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Recrea (Commercial Operator)
Nebbia (Landscape)
Partners: Ethis, Indiggo, Cap Horn, CL Infra, Ingeba
Credit :
Photos : ©Salem Mostefaoui
Diagram : ©VenhoevenCS

KEYPOINTS

Functionality and flow management.
Landscape at the heart of the project.
High compactness.
Efficient water management.
Sustainable materials.

OMEGA, an aquatic and fitness center, is integrated into the sports plain of the Moulon district, serving as the true western gateway to the Paris-Saclay urban campus and closely connected to the Paris metropolitan area by the future Grand Paris Express.

As a flagship facility, the aquatic center opens up and creates synergies with the surrounding public amenities. It fits into the landscape continuity linking the plateau to the valley and encourages, through sports, interactions between the various campus communities and the residents of Gif-sur-Yvette.

Emphasis has been placed on functional qualities and flow management to create a space capable of simultaneously accommodating different audiences (students, schools, clubs, swimmers, wellness enthusiasts) while offering each a quality experience throughout the day. This spacious and modern complex includes three distinct areas: learning and swimming, wellness, and sports-health.



Typology	Construction cost	Status
Sport	22M€	Delivered in 2024
GFA	Location	
4 150 m²	Gif-sur-Yvette, France	

Intention - Stance

It is about finding the right balance between land, nature, and built environment, as well as between functionality, constructibility, and energy to create the architecture of the place.

Evolving Countryside Landscape

The project gives a prominent place to nature with a compact structure, opening onto the vast surrounding landscape. The landscape, composed of spontaneous plant species from Île-de-France, is inspired by horticultural composition principles, promoting a seasonal spread of flowering that will create changing and immersive "landscape paintings," visible from the swimming pools as well as from the vegetated and mineral solariums.

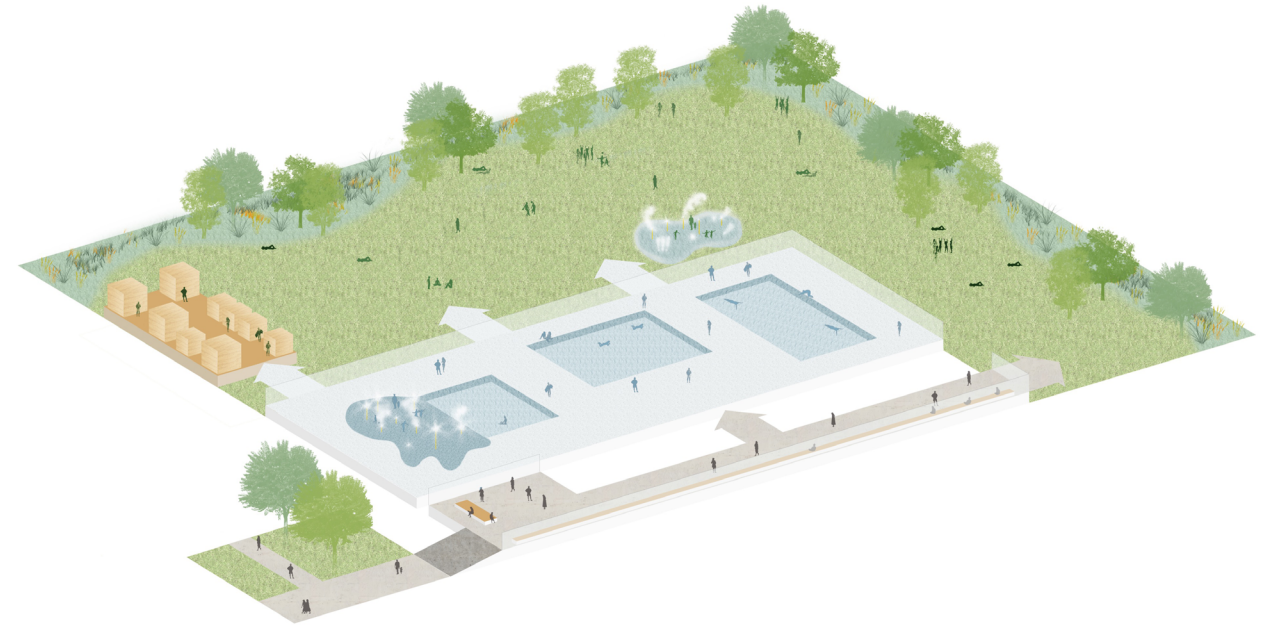
In some areas, the wooded fringe widens to form dense plant masses: a traversing undergrowth that connects a calming clearing to a more playful one, as well as an orchard that surrounds the playground and frames the last swimming pool in a rural setting. This diversity of fringes, rich in species, accompanied by measured ecological management, promotes the development of biodiversity.

Harmonized Water Management

Water is a key element of the site due to the geographical and hydrological characteristics of the plateau. It is essential to respect this natural balance by adopting harmonized water management through landscape technical devices. To preserve the soil structure and groundwater, the pools are not excavated but placed on the natural ground of the plateau. Thus, the underground spaces are reduced to the bare minimum, and the reception area is slightly elevated.

Humility and Elegance

The constellation of metal boxes, with varied sizes and textures, gives the facility a monumental quality while conferring a certain discretion thanks to their reflective materials. Suspended, more or less reflective, more or less striated, these boxes appear and disappear depending on the light. Although governed by a formal and metallic unity, they decompose into a multitude of facets and perceptions. Their appearance evolves with the light variations of the sky, from morning to evening, throughout the seasons, and the shades of green of the vegetative environment, offering a constantly renewed image.





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