

RMA/AV-09-04-10

International competition - Arturbain.fr 2010/2011**in French, and translated into local languages - 19th session****2010-2011 Discussion topic for the Robert Auzelle seminar****Putting forgotten empty spaces to good use**

In 2010, to commemorate 25 years of the Robert Auzelle seminar, the discussion topic recalls “the importance of the void in urban art” evoked by Robert Auzelle¹, who adds “*It seems to me that an empty space, whether it be void, landscaped or grass-covered, constitutes the essential aspect of urban art - city architecture being nothing but the numerous walls that enclose a space*”. Thus, to improve the framework of our urban life, Robert Auzelle invites us to participate in the quest by Gaston Bachelard² when this philosopher tells us: “*In fact, we want to examine very simple images, the images of the fortunate space...*”.

Each country has to deal with the difficulty of creating a framework of life that respects the dignity of human beings. The era of globalisation has seen the disproportionate, disorganised and unrestricted growth of urban sprawl. The fragmentation of territories constitutes an obstacle to the continuity of a soft traffic under pleasant conditions.

Whether in large urban cities or in small towns, numerous empty spaces have been forgotten. They may be termed residual, interstitial, abandoned, intermediate, industrial wasteland or waste ground... there is no lack of synonyms and other expressions for them. They often abut defined public spaces, such as streets, places, squares, boulevards, esplanades, pedestrian malls, etc³. Based on all these existing spaces, the operations that are candidates for the National Prize arturbain.fr and the projects submitted to the International Competition arturbain.fr shall highlight the improvements they make to the framework of life. These concern:

- The link of these spaces with the urban fabric to create continuity between them and facilitate their accessibility to pedestrians and soft traffic.

- The programmes for these operations and projects are attentive to citizens' expectations while coordinating with the municipalities.

Under these conditions, the quality of the framework of life will be assessed as a priority with regard to the following criteria and references:

Architectural quality: Insertion into the surroundings and taking the landscape into account. Identity of the place and its heritage

Quality of social life: User-friendliness and accessibility

Respect for the environment: Respecting biodiversity (green and blue belt systems), waste management, management of nuisance, pollution and congestion due to cars⁴.

Definition of urban art according to the Robert Auzelle seminar:

All the multidisciplinary actions to be taken to improve the framework of life
with a concern for evaluation

of the architectural quality, quality of social life, and respect for the environment

For more information contact www.arturbain.fr / Phone number: 01 40 81 71 35 / E-mail: arturbain@i-carre.net

¹ *L'architecte*, Vincent et Fréal Editions, 1965 p. 79

² *La poétique de l'espace*, PUF Editions, 1970 p. 17

³ cf. Fiches du Vocabulaire français de l'Art urbain on www.arturbain.fr

⁴ cf. *Référentiel pour la qualité du cadre de vie*. Summary on www.arturbain.fr

Article 1 : ORGANISER

The Association for Urban Art also called the Robert Auzelle Seminar (SRA) (Association pour l'Art urbain), an officially recognised organisation, is organising an 'international competition' **in the French language and translated into the local language.**

Important note:

The teacher could request the visit of an "ambassador of Urban art" in his school for a conference-discussion.

Article 2 : CONTESTANTS and ENTERING TEAMS

- The competition is open to all professors and students enrolled in a university and in art schools, architectural schools, engineering schools, landscape architecture schools, town planning schools ...

The competition is more specifically aimed at post graduate MASTER Students.

- The contestants are grouped into multidisciplinary teams of three or four members comprising **one professor and two or three students with at least two separate disciplines.**
- Each student can only belong to one team. Any withdrawal by a student must be notified.
- **Each professor can coordinate several teams as co manager of the quality of the sketch with the students :**
 - The professor completes the entry form on the web site: www.arturbain.fr.
 - The professor ensures the rules are respected,
 - The professor sits on the Internet selection panel in accordance with article 6 of the rules

Registration entails the students' and professors' membership of the association for the Urban Art (SRA), and exempts payment of the 2009 and 2010 subscription.

The directors of teaching establishments are asked to include the International competition in their establishment's study programme.

A partnership agreement with the SRA can be envisaged.

Importante note:

"A certificate of the sketch return" will be given by the SRA. This certificate will allow to give 4 european credits (ECTS) to each student of the team (subject to the teacher and the education committee agreement in the responsible school).

Article 3 : CHOICE OF SITE

Each professor chooses the study site in consultation with the local authority concerned (villages, boroughs, small towns, community of municipalities, public establishments...)

Article 4 : PROCEDURES TO BE RESPECTED (see 'Recommendations Note' in the appendix)

4.1 Format, page layout, title :

The sketch must be delivered in **A1 format** (59, 4 × 84,1 cm) horizontal landscape mode.

It should **comprise 2 vertical A2 portrait sections** separated in the centre along the top by a 1 cm wide white vertical space.

A **3 cm horizontal strip on the top** should contain the **project's Descriptive Title** and the name of the town (or the location of the project) in Arial 60 pt bold font.

4.2 Presentation of the sketch:

In order to facilitate reading:

- the left hand A2 section will present the situation **Before** (analysis of the current situation)
- the right hand A2 section will present the situation **After** (intentions, proposal and programme)

4.3 Graphic documents

Before section / Analysis Current situation	After section / Proposal Goals and programme
<p>A 1/50000th, 1/25000th or 1/10000th scale plan or aerial photo of the area will show :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The natural areas (wooded areas, waterways...), ○ The urban nodes (towns, boroughs, hamlets, etc) the transport routes and the structures ... <p>A site plan (1 to 10 Ha) to scale 1/2000th, 1/1000th 1/500th (or aerial photo) related to the intermunicipal project.</p> <p><u>Please note:</u> The site chosen for the project should be identified by a box or superimposed colouring.</p>	<p>A <u>development plan</u> to the same scale (1/50000th, 1/25000th or 1/10000th) showing the mechanisms set up,</p> <p>A block plan of the intermunicipal project on the same scale (1/2000th, 1/1000th or 1/500th) with the programme.</p>

The diagrams and visual sequences can be annexed to the plans.

4.4 Display:

- **The mode of portrayal** of the area should be indicated in the 'French vocabulary of urban Art' (land use interpretation grid, visual sequence, identifications, urban window, block plan, landscape plan, etc));
- The scale and the **North** should be shown on all the plans.



- **The sections and façades** (where necessary) should be to the scale of the plans and positioned to facilitate simultaneous reading : plan/section, or plan/façade;
- **The views of the 'visual sequences' Before/After must be identified** (numbered and materialized by a viewing angle ● ◀) on the corresponding plans for a plan/view reading;
- **Text should be** written on a **white background** to facilitate reading. It should be written in 15 cm wide columns with a maximum of 1000 characters in Arial 25 points, interline 1.5.

Please note: *the sketches are judged on A4 format. The presentation standards given in these rules enable the sketch to be read in this format.*

4.5 Presentation of the qualities of the proposal:

- For the 'After' Section, the qualities of the proposal will be mentioned in three separate columns: **Architectural quality**

- **Quality of community life**
- **Quality of community**
- **Respect of the environment**

- **One of the sketched proposal views will illustrate the descriptive title** (see 'Summary-sheet)-résumé »)



Translation : Title of the project Before Section, After Section Text Arial 23 points, 1.5 liner spacing, maximum width of columns 10 cm, 1 cm wide white band

4.6 Summary Sheets

Two 'summary sheets' one in French and the other in English, should be presented on A4 portrait format (vertical) and annexed to the sketch.

The **examples** of the two 'summary sheets' will be annexed to these rules.

Contents: the two 'summary sheets' must contain:

1. **The descriptive title** of the sketch and the **name of the town**,
2. **The descriptive view** and **another image** (plan, view, zoom...)
3. **The presentation** of the sketch, text with a maximum of 1000 characters, including an explanation of the problems, a brief diagnostic, the project's programme and its qualities
4. **The presentation phase** of the main aspects of the project
5. **The principal qualities** of the project, inspired by the 3 criteria of the Referential for the quality of life: **architectural quality**, **quality of community life**, **respect of the environment**.

Important: The text of the 'Summary sheets' must be the one appearing in the sketch.

Article 5: Procedure for sending the CD-Rom :

It should be sent by post to the following address:

**S.R.A.
Grande Arche
92055 PARIS LA DEFENSE CEDEX**

The CD-Rom you send must include **4 files** :

- An A1 format JPG file (59.4 cm x 84.1 cm) ,resolution: 300 pixels/inch i.e. 9933 x 7016 pixels, saved under the name : *title_of_the_project_a1.jpg*;
- An A4 format JPG file (21 cm x 29.7 cm) resolution : 300 pixels/inch i.e. 1752 x 2480 pixels, saved under the name : *title_of_the_project_a4.jpg*;
- The summary sheet in French in pdf, under the name : *title_of_the_project_sheet_fr.pdf*
- The summary sheet in the local language in pdf, under the name : *tile_of_the_project_sheet_loclanguage.pdf*

The external sleeve should be blank, reserved for the anonymity code given by the organizer.

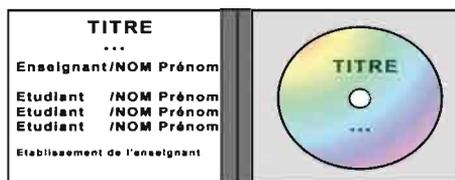
The inside sleeve should contain the title of the project, the surnames, first names of the professor and the students and the name of the teaching establishment.

CD-Rom

Pas de photos
Pas de noms
Pas de dessins



POCHETTE EXTERIEURE



POCHETTE INTERIEURE

Article 6 : THE KEY DATES OF THE COMPETITION

- Announcement topic after the SRA meeting
- Deadline for annual program registration (2011) expected as soon as possible
- School's conferences are from September 2010 to mid-February 2011
- Deadline for on-line registration (for team involved) is mid-February 2011
- Deadline for sketches consignment is March 2011
- Technical committee and selection committee will be held in March 2011
- On-line publication of selected sketches available in March 2011
- Award ceremony, Exhibition, and educational meeting expected at the end of may 2011

Exhibition and prizes can be awarded in other cities and countries on the initiative of the professors and local representatives of the Association for Urban Art (SRA).

Article 7: TECHNICAL COMMITTEE, SELECTION COMMITTEE AND INTERNET JUDGES

7.1 The SRA's technical committee will examine and send the sketches to the Selection Committee, indicating, as follows :

- o those **which have not respected articles 2, 4 and 5 and which can be disqualified from the competition.**
- o those with legibility problems, making it difficult to get the ideas across (descriptive title, before/after comparison, text-image link, etc).

7.2 The Selection Committee, comprising professional experts (architects, town planner, engineers, economists, urban plasticity experts, landscape architects...) chosen by the SRA, will examine all of the sketches.

It will unanimously select at least 10 sketches it considers to be exemplary.

7.3 The Internet Judges have supreme authority and comprise the professors who participated in the competition. Each professor on the judges' panel will receive a CD-Rom of the selected sketches with an evaluation grid.

Each teacher of the judges is invited to evaluate sketches with documents in the web site www.arturbain.fr (if he requests it, he can receive a CD-ROM with selected sketches and an evaluation grid).

The professor will give each sketch (excluding the ones he participated in) a mark of 1, 2 or 3 points for each of the three criteria:

- **architectural quality**
- **quality of community life**
- **respect of the environment**

The SRA will then rank the selected sketches after receiving the professors' votes.

Please Note : *The professors will use the "Referential on the quality of life" as a guide to marking.*

Article 8: PRIZES AND DISTINCTIONS (€3000 awarded)

- o The '**International arturbain.fr prize**' is awarded to the sketch which obtains the best score in the general classification (1 500 €).
- o The **three 'distinctions'** (€500 each) for "architectural quality", "quality of community life", and "respect of the environment" are awarded to the sketches which obtain the best scores in each criteria. In the event of a tie, the result will be decided by the general classification score.
- o The Internet panel of judges can award special distinctions with respect to the rankings.

9.1 Intellectual and artistic property:

The contestants remain the owners of the sketches entered in the competition and of their utilisation rights. Nevertheless, the organiser reserves the right to reproduce the proposed sketches as well as the name and the photograph of the contestants to organise public relations or information actions at its sole discretion. Any physical or legal person wishing to use the works of the teams must send a request to the organiser.

9.2 Organiser's liability:

The organiser reserves the right to shorten, defer, postpone, modify or cancel this competition for any reason whatsoever. The organiser makes a commitment to try to inform the contestants, but cannot be held liable.

9.3 Interpreting the rules:

The competition rules can be consulted on www.arturbain.fr

Participating in this competition entails the unreserved acceptance of these rules.

The organiser has exclusive powers to interpret these rules.

9.4 Communication:

- **the web site www.arturbain.fr** will display the winning sketches with the names of their authors, the selection committee's opinion and their ranking,
- **advertising of the results of the international competition** will be sent to the main professional journals in the countries concerned to publish the prize-winning sketches,
- **a DVD** on the theme and the results of international competition will be created for teaching purposes,
- **An exhibition** of the selected sketches can be organized in agreement with the organiser.

Please send all requests for additional information to

arturbain@i-carre.net

or

S.R.A. Grande Arche– 92055 – PARIS LA DEFENSE CEDEX

Tel. : 01.40.81.71.35– Fax : 01.40.81.73.90

A lot of sketches are disqualified each year because they break the rules or lack legibility. Make sure you don't waste your time and effort!

For your information, the sketch 'Paysage en débats' which received special distinction in the 2008-2009 competition' appears below

Please respect the rules

Failure to respect one of these criteria will result in the disqualification of the sketches (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) :

- 0. enclose A4 'summary sheets' and the CD with the PDF files
- 1. Multidisciplinary team (e.g. an architecture student and a town planning student, or a town planning professor, an engineering student and a landscape architecture student)
- 2. presentation on horizontal A1 format
- 3. separation into two A2 sections : 'before' on the left, 'after' on the right
- 4. before AND after scale plan of the territory,
- 5. before AND after scale plan of the project

Other rules may appear to be secondary, but they are intended to put the competing sketches on an equal footing and to encourage their legibility and comparison. Be professional!

- 6. 'descriptive title' band at the top of the A1 format
- 7. all the views (photos, sketches, 3D...) must be identified on the plans with an arrowhead and a number as follows 1 ● ◀

This is essential for knowing precisely what the view represents

- 8. The north sign and the scale are indicated on each plan with the symbols in article 4.4
- 9. Apart from a duly justified exception, respect the working scales imposed by the rules.

Take care over the appearance of your sketch

A clear and orderly sketch where the broad principles are understood in a few seconds will be favoured!

- 10. 'descriptive titles' which enable the project and the name of the town to be identified
- 11. 'descriptive view' (plan, perspective...), in relation to the title, to be enhanced (bigger size) (this view is not shown in the example below).
- 12. Respect the size of the lettering and do not exceed the maximum length of text (1000 characters). *Don't forget that the sketches are judged on the A4 prints!*
- 13. The before and after plans must be on the same scale and if possible opposite each other so that it is easy to understand your proposal.
- 14. Present the main quality or qualities of your sketch with reference to the 3 criteria from the environmental quality of life referential (architectural quality, quality of community life, and respect for the environment) *this will enhance it!*



From marsh to garden

San Marcos

1- Descriptive title

4- The presentation phase

A marshy wasteland subdivided in a leaf pattern with the veins irrigating the natural spaces as far up as domestic gardens.

The village of San Marcos is located in the 'La Mojana' region in Colombia, on the San Jorge river. **Its uncontrolled and disordered growth** is fragmenting the system of marshes surrounding it, destroying the ecological and environmental relations between them. The lack of urban planning and **an architecture which is out of step with nature**, have led to the population of San Marcos fighting nature, instead of finding a harmony permitting sustainable development which can enrich the quality of life.

The plan proposes a natural network developed at different levels, which tightens the links between man and the city with the landscape and nature, proposing a route from the marsh to the garden

Like a leaf transporting water, the project brings the marsh and nature up to the garden of each house.

1- name of the town



5- The main qualities:

Architectural qualities:

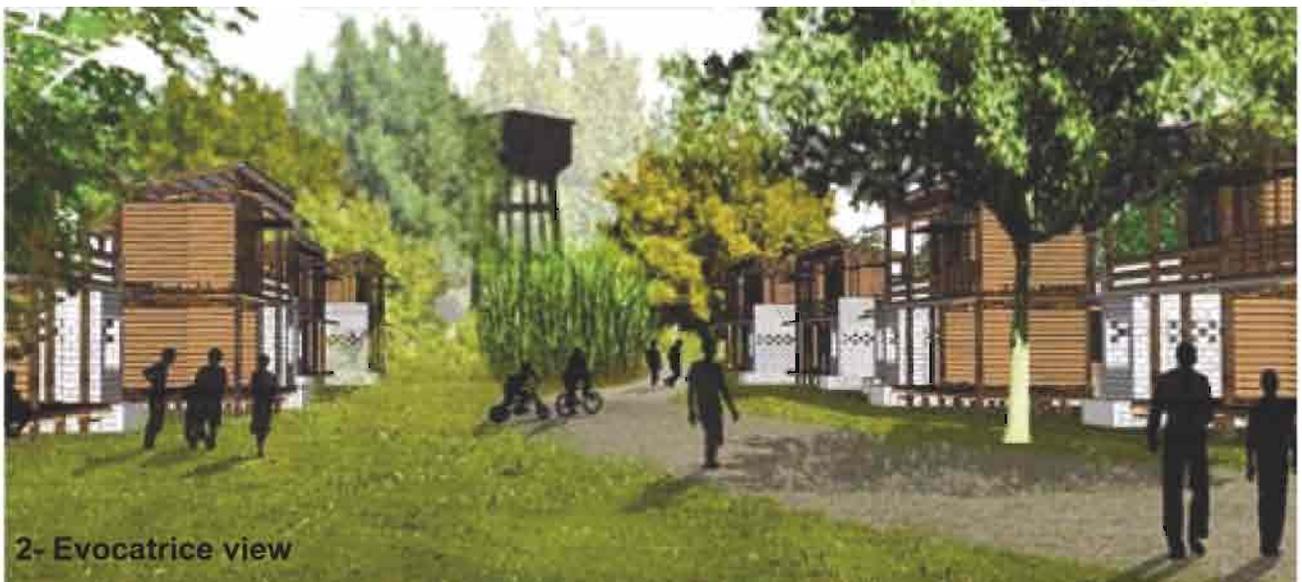
The subdivisions form part of the preexisting landscape. The transitions between public space and private dwellings occur through the vegetation.

Quality of community life:

It is based on the recreational, educational and community areas, which use the nature as a stage to encourage interaction with the community and conviviality.

Respecting the environment:

The vegetation and aquatic resources help to create parks and a system of canals.



**Non-profit and state-
approved organization**

The Association for Urban Art's contribution to the Grenelle of the Environment multiparty round table

Values to promote

The environmental ethics of both project sponsors and project management professionals can find a place in higher education. Future professionals can learn to situate their actions by respecting the rights of the person and ecological constraints.

An awareness of environmental ethics in the Masters programme will lead to transversality of professional cultures.

This will establish a moral and technical authority in the future within the environmental domain.

A territorial challenge

Small towns and inter-municipal communities where there is strong potential for the quality-of-life with nature and national heritage are areas where town planning and rurality can combine, respecting ecological constraints.

Sustainable development initiatives in these territories will provide an alternative to concentrations in large built-up areas.

The Association for the Urban Art is striving to instill the 'Urban Art attitude'

and

proposes the 'Referential for quality of life' as a guide for elected representatives and professionals

Definition of urban art according to the Robert Auzelle Seminar

"All the multidisciplinary actions which result in the creation or the transformation of urban units,
emphasizing the evaluation of architectural quality, community life, and the respect of the environment"

Correspondence should be addressed to: Président du Séminaire Robert Auzelle – Arche de la Défense – 92055 – LA DEFENSE cedex

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