



On the occasion of the **17th Festival des Architectures Vives** , the Champ Libre association is launching an open call to create 1 of the 10 interventions of the Festival in Montpellier .

The Festival takes place in the heart of the city of Montpellier, it will take place in the Ecusson and more specifically in courtyards of certain mansions, thus offering a route to visitors, a sort of architectural discovery.

The objective of the FAV Montpellier is on the one hand, to open to visitors, during the festival, these emblematic places and on the other hand, thanks to the intervention of teams of architects who will present a specific work to each place, to reveal an intimate relationship between contemporary architecture, an installation and a site heritage

1. PRESENTATION OF FESTIVAL DES ARCHITECTURES VIVES

The Festival des Architectures Vives wishes to answer to the evolution of architectural practice which by integrating all the domains related to its culture, does not hesitate anymore to assert itself through realizations. The “Lively Architectures” are short-lived and evolutionary by nature; each time localized, registered in a short temporality and thought for a specific place.

Like augmented reality, they add, transform, reveal a forgotten and invisible space or on the contrary too exposed. Respectful of their environment, they change it in an inhabited environment where the past, the present and even the future are one. The installations create an environment where the imagination of each and everyone is possible. Refusing the unchanging, during the Festival, the ephemeral installations question our everyday environment. Targeting a large audience, they offer a sensory adventure, an unconventional glance. They position themselves as a revelator. The “Lively Architectures” are objects of desire, envy and simply wish to find the sense of the pleasure of the place, the city, to offer the sensitive and the tactile, to reposition the Man in the heart of the architecture.

For this 17th edition of the Festival des Architectures Vives in Montpellier, the chosen sites are in adequacy with its historical city. One of its treasures is the presence in the heart of the city of several mansions. Today, Montpellier counts more than seventy of them. Lots of these courtyards are not open to the visitors.

In their history the courtyards that are half private and half public, have had many purposes, from place of representation, distribution hall, but today it remains uninhabited. Lacking in function, they appear as ordinary spaces that are just crossed to reach a private apartment. Forgotten, because they are inaccessible, or forgotten because they are inappropriate, these courtyards disappear little by little from the common knowledge, even from the collective imagination. They become real forgotten spaces but they nevertheless maintain their own specificity, playing between shadow and light, offering a possibility to glorify these places with few things. Thus contemporary architecture will enjoy revealing and waking up sleepy sites.

Every year, the Festival is visited by a large public and in 2022 by not less than 10 000 people.

2. THEME : SACREDNESS

The notion of sacredness takes on many faces today. There is a moment of shifting “from one sacred to another” in contemporary society. From the religious – with its very codified spaces and rites – to the sporting, the cultural, the secular, the political... Sport has taken on the status of a new religion for some. The large stadiums thus become high places of the collective rite with unifying times that mark history. At the same time, major sports facilities are iconic places of architecture, showcases of this “magnified” sacredness, such as the “Nest” of Herzog and de Meuron for the Beijing stadium. The school lost its stage, just as teaching changed status. The space tells us about this paradigm shift from which flow new programs sanctuarized by architecture. Emblems of a society that adopts other benchmarks. It is therefore difficult to define what is sacred or what is not with certainty. The environmental awareness and the climate emergency that are imposed on us have a definite influence on the implementation of this new paradigm.

However, if the apprehension of the sacred presents a great complexity and diversity of approach, the association sacred/space is an obvious fact which makes it possible to approach it more clearly. As soon as the space makes the expression of sacredness felt, it is no longer really useful to decipher it. Talking about it is too complex, even taboo. The sacredness in space is not told, it is experienced.

In this displacement of values, each new sacredness has its rites and rituals that undeniably mark the space. Like contemporary society, the relationship to time and communication plays a transformed role. The rite composed of three aspects described by Lévi Strauss: the “uttered words”, the “performed gestures” and the “manipulated objects” is upset by these mutations. Although these three types of actions are also present in secular life, they are performed in a specific way for the rite, which is revealed only in a given place.

Even moving, the space of the sacred takes on universal features by staging the forbidden, the preserved, the closed, the initiatory, the mysterious, in a strong relationship with its context. It is the place that produces the first feeling of the sacred. It accompanies the attitude of the body, brings the conditions of calm or intensity, sharing or introspection.

The courtyards of mansions, protected, secret and introverted places, invite this reflection on sacredness. They constitute a privileged framework for questioning the place and the condition of the sacred in the dense city, and more particularly in a historical fabric. This approach can re-examine urban imaginations, summon myths, icons, memories or even fetishism in their sacred dimension.

Annabelle ISZATT
Architect, teacher researcher

3. METHOD OF SELECTION

The consultation is open to young architects and landscape architects. The aim is to promote young architectural creation. It is possible to form a multidisciplinary team but it must be composed of at least one architect.

Applications must reach us using this form.

Applications must be sent as a single PDF file not exceeding 10MB under penalty rejection of the application.

4. APPLICATION FILE

The application file must consist of the following documents:

- + **Presentation of the team to download and send back**, its members, with Curriculum Vitae of each member . (Required) - 1 A4 format per team member.
- + **Illustrated references of your architectural** achievements, installations, competitions ... (Mandatory)
- + **Note of intent with regard to the theme of the Festival des Architectures Vives**. This note of about one page must express how the candidate envisages his installation and must be accompanied by **a image** . (Obligatory)

We draw the attention of candidates to the fact that these are original creations that must be presented within the framework of the FAV. It is essential to cite and reference all sources for your projects.

The results of the selection will be announced in January 2023.

A file presenting in detail the technical constraints related to the design of an intervention (ground, exhibition, photos, survey, etc.) will be addressed to selected candidates. The selection of teams will be made from this file exclusively.

5. DEADLINE FOR SENDING APPLICATIONS

Applications must arrive no later than: **Monday, December 12, 2022 at midnight**, time French. (GMT + 1 / date of deposit being authentic).

6. FOR THE TEN SELECTED TEAMS

The Festival will take place from **June 13 to 18, 2023**. The installation and dismantling of the installations will have to be carried out by the team itself, on site from June 8 to 12, 2023 and dismantling is scheduled for June 19, 2022.

It will be possible to visit the sites during an organized visit during January 2023 .

A subsidy of € 1,500.00 including tax will be allocated to each of the 10 projects carried out.

The book of the 17th edition presenting the achievements will be published at the end of the year 2023.

Specific constraints: the installations will take place in the courtyards of private hotels, they must be take into consideration the occupancy conditions so as not to harm either the inhabitants or the the built environment. The safety of visitors and residents must be ensured day and night.

7. CONTACT

All questions should be sent by email to the Champ Libre association:

@ : communication@festivaldesarchitecturesvives.com

Site internet : www.festivaldesarchitecturesvives.com





1. Team contact:

PRINCIPAL TEAM SPEAKER : <i>* mandatory</i>	
LAST NAME* :	
FIRST NAME* :	
ACTIVITY/DIPLOMA* :	
ADRESS/COUNTRY* :	
EMAIL* :	
PHONE :	MOBILE PHONE* :

OTHER MEMBERS <i>* mandatory</i>	
LAST NAME* :	LAST NAME* :
FIRST NAME* :	FIRST NAME* :
ACTIVITY/DIPLOMA* :	ACTIVITY/DIPLOMA* :
ADRESS/COUNTRY* :	ADRESS/COUNTRY* :
EMAIL* :	EMAIL* :
PHONE* :	PHONE* :

OTHER MEMBERS * mandatory	
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ADRESS/COUNTRY* :	ADRESS/COUNTRY* :
EMAIL* :	EMAIL* :
PHONE* :	PHONE* :

2. Have you ever applied for another FAV edition?

YES / NO

if yes, in which year :

To return completed, dated, signed with file elements in one PDF file of 10 Mo Maximum, before Monday, December 12, 2022 at midnight, French Time (GMT / date of emission as attested) on the link :
<https://forms.gle/J3ke3fDsPgHCeutYA>

Done in....., the.....

Signature

QUESTIONS TYPE

Do we have to be architect to apply for the festival?

It is necessary to be graduated in architecture with Master level.

Does everyone in the team have to be an architect or just one of us?

Rather, with the possibility of association with other disciplines. The festival is reserved for professionals, students can not be part of a team.

What is the intention note?

The note should show how you intend to answer the theme, this should be a page. These are the main lines of the project that you intend to develop.

What is the expected image attached to the intention note ?

It can be a sketch, a realistic perspective or not, you are free to use the technique that will best present your project. Examples of notes of intention are available after this page.

Does the specified subsidy of 1500 €, include the author's fees and the construction costs of the project?

1500 €TTC is for all. Nevertheless you can find your own sponsors and every communication file (books, program, website...) will be open to them.

How can we find pictures of Hôtels Particuliers courtyards?

They are available on the website: www.festivaldesarchitecturesvives.com

Does the designed installation have to adapt to every courtyard or one in particular?

The installation has to adapt to every courtyard because the selection is made later