

FAV 2026

THE TWENTIETH



Transmission
09-14.06.26

THE FESTIVAL

Since its creation in 2006, the Festival des Architectures Vives (FAV), organized by the Champ Libre association under the direction of Élodie Nourrigat and Jacques Brion, both architects in Montpellier, has been dedicated to raising public awareness of architecture. This festival transforms Montpellier's historic center into an interactive architectural trail, connecting private mansions and courtyards that are mostly closed to the public.

For one week, the public discovers these innovative projects while exploring the city's heritage. The festival thus creates a dialogue between contemporary architecture and historical heritage, encouraging reflection on the evolution of architecture within an existing urban context.

The FAV attracts a growing number of visitors each year. From 3,500 visitors in 2006, the festival welcomed more than 13,000 people for each of the 2023 and 2024 editions. In 2025, for the first time, the FAV welcomed more than 16,000 visitors.



CULTURE FOR ALL

The FAV fosters dialogue between architecture and the public, making culture accessible to everyone. The festival is open and free to all.

The FAV is a time for meeting and sharing, where architecture becomes a language accessible to all generations. From the youngest to the oldest, everyone finds something to marvel at, ask questions about, and discuss around the installations.

Mediators are present in each courtyard. They are dedicated to helping visitors better understand the architects' approach or simply to allow them to appreciate the installations. They share the architects' expertise and Montpellier's heritage.

AN INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION



Since its inception, the Festival has embraced an international approach. Nearly half of the invited architects come from abroad, bringing with them a diversity of cultures, practices, and visions of architecture. This openness is central to the Festival's identity, which aims to be a forum for exchange, research, and experimentation on a European and global scale.

The Festival has welcomed academics and institutions from numerous countries, thus strengthening its reach. These include the Elisava School of Architecture in Barcelona, Tohoku University in Japan, Syracuse University in the United States, Aalto University in Finland, Laval University in Quebec City, Harvard Graduate School of Design, the Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia (IAAC), and many others. The FAV also participates in the European ReCITYing program.

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PROGRAM *reCITYing*



2025 : Portrait of a planet (UNIGE)



2025 : Food-waste futures (IAAC)

ReCITYing, a project co-founded by the European Union's Europe Programme, aims to create a networking and exchange platform for best practices in the temporary reuse of urban spaces. Targeting young creatives, professionals in architecture, design, and the arts, as well as local policymakers and social enterprises, this project promotes the regeneration of disused urban spaces and buildings into artistic laboratories and cultural incubators.

The project fosters practical knowledge and professional skills in reuse architecture in four partner cities and four host cities (Genoa-Lublin, Barcelona-Umeå, Hanover-Tallinn, and Maribor-Timisoara). It combines the expertise of several institutions: the University of Genoa (UNIGE) (inclusive co-design), the Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia (IAAC) (digital fabrication), the University of Hanover (LUH) (urban resilience strategies), the Maribor Art Gallery (UGM) (visual arts and artistic events), and the FAV.

At the 2025 edition of the festival, UNIGE and the IAAC presented works exploring the relationship between architecture and scenography, and between architecture and Land Art. At the 2027 edition, partners LUH and UGM will highlight the interactions between architecture and music, and between architecture and visual arts.



A SPRINGBOARD FOR THE YOUNGER GENERATION

The Festival of Vibrant Architectures is dedicated to showcasing a new generation of architects by offering them a unique platform for expression in the heart of Montpellier's heritage. Through their installations, these teams propose, invent, experiment with, and explore new ways of designing our environment.

For many, it's the first time they've faced the public eye: a diverse, non-specialist audience that reacts, questions, marvels, or challenges.

By taking over the courtyards of private mansions—emblematic and often inaccessible locations—these young firms benefit from a prestigious setting to create their first site-specific work.

ZOOM AT THESE ARCHITECTS

Since 2006, the FAV has hosted nearly 640 architects from all over the world, including:



*380 architects
from France*



*193 architects from
Europe (out France)*



*70 architects outside
of Europe*

THE MEDIATORS: A STRONG LINK WITH THE PUBLIC

Students at the National School of Architecture of Montpellier have mediators present in each course throughout their studies. Their mission is to help students better understand the architects' approaches or simply facilitate access to and appreciation of the installations.

NEARLY 430
MEDIATORS SINCE 2006



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

The Festival des Architectures Vives is committed to an environmental approach, favoring natural resources and materials, reuse and waste reduction. As a public event, one of the objectives is to raise public awareness of the broad field of architecture, associated with a virtuous image. The festival's ephemeral installations can generate waste, the cost of which is constantly rising, underlining the importance of rethinking our practices and modes of production in a world of limited resources.

Today, construction accounts for around 40% of CO2 emissions, 37% of energy consumption and 40% of waste in developed countries. It is crucial to take action to reduce energy consumption and favor sustainable materials. Numerous projects are rediscovering ancestral building techniques, such as adobe and stone construction, or the use of bio- and geosourced materials, with a view to recycling waste.

The Festival des Architectures Vives and the participating teams are committed to integrating environmental concerns. The installations presented during the Festival des Architectures Vives are designed with a view to limiting the use of resources, valorizing natural materials and considering the reuse, recycling, reutilization or donation of the materials used. The overall approach to the event incorporates these considerations at every stage, from design to reuse.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAV

To assist teams in this process, the FAV has partnered with MAS RÉEMPLOI in Montpellier since 2024. This partnership allows participating teams to consult an online catalog of available materials.

When the project is decommissioned, MAS RÉEMPLOI collects materials for reuse or recycling, with an emphasis on reusable materials.

This year, in collaboration with our partner, an environmental award was awarded to the project that optimally integrated this environmental approach.



Opting for a global approach

Recovery of natural and reuse

An environmental prize

FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

A collection of the 13 temporary installations presented was conducted at the end of the festival. By reusing materials from the installations, the FAV 2025 enabled nearly 983 kg.eq Co² saved.

Which represents :



575 kg of materials integrated into reuse



223 round trip Montpellier-Paris by TGV



Environnemental prize - CHAUME SUBLIMÉ
Julia Fraolini & Félix Steinbacher

FAV 2026 - THE TWENTIETH

COMMON THREAD: TRANSMISSION

In 2026, the Festival des Architectures Vives has chosen to highlight an invisible yet essential dimension of creation: transmission — what is shared, passed on, and what connects us.

To transmit is far more than simply conveying knowledge or a gesture. It is about creating a living link between the giver and the receiver, between the hands that shape and the minds that imagine. It is the circulation of a way of seeing, understanding, and building the world — an heritage in motion.

In Montpellier, within the courtyards of private mansions, this notion resonates deeply. These spaces embody the delicate balance between tradition and modernity made possible through transmission. They are places where the past constantly converses with the present. Here, artisanal know-how meets new ideas, inherited techniques encounter emerging technologies. Architecture becomes a living language, in constant evolution.

Because building is never a solitary act. Architecture is nourished by ancestral gestures and fresh perspectives. Know-how—whether manual or intellectual — is at the heart of this dynamic. It is not merely a set of techniques, but a way of seeing the world, a sensibility passed from knowledge keepers to future bearers. It encourages us to weave links between generations, but also between disciplines and cultures. It gives meaning to continuity while opening the door to creativity.

By celebrating transmission for its 20th edition, FAV 2026 pays tribute to that invisible yet vital thread that runs through generations of architects, artisans, builders, and thinkers. A thread woven from trust, attentiveness, and transformation. A collective journey, turned toward tomorrow.

AN ANNIVERSARY EDITION



In June 2026, the Festival des Architectures Vives will celebrate its 20th edition in Montpellier. To mark this symbolic milestone, the FAV is evolving its traditional format and presenting a special edition dedicated to TRANSMISSION.

For this occasion, the festival has chosen to invite emblematic teams from past editions to take on a new role: that of mentor.

The mentor will not design an installation for the festival but will instead nominate an architect or a team of young architects they trust and wish to spotlight. By supporting this emerging talent, the mentor becomes a conduit of heritage—both creative and human. The nominated architect or team will be responsible for designing and building the installation presented during FAV 2026.

While transmission is the common thread of this anniversary edition, each mentor-mentee duo will be free to define a specific theme together, embodying the bond that unites them. This theme, both personal and symbolic, should reflect a process of sharing, inspiration, the transfer of experience, know-how, or values.

JULIEN TUFFERY

PATRON FAV 2026



A FRENCH FAMILY HISTORY

Founded in 1892 in **Florac**, in the heart of the Cévennes mountains, Atelier Tuffery is today the oldest French jeans manufacturer still in operation.

For over 130 years, the company has designed and manufactured handcrafted jeans entirely made in France. Each piece is conceived, cut, and crafted with meticulous attention to detail, respecting traditional techniques and rare textile expertise.

At the helm of the workshop, **Julien Tuffery** represents the **fourth generation of a line of master tailors**. Under the leadership of Julien and his partner Myriam, the company continues to grow by combining heritage and modernity: local production, the use of responsible materials, and innovation in cuts and designs.

Atelier Tuffery doesn't just preserve its heritage; it evolves it.





TRANSMISSION AT THE HEART OF CREATION

For its 20th edition, the FAV has chosen to explore Transmission.
Transmission of skills. Transmission of know-how. Transmission of values and visions.

Through his career, Julien Tuffery embodies a concrete and contemporary expression of this. For him, transmission is not an abstract concept: it is lived daily, in the workshop, in the dialogue between generations, in the ability to perpetuate a craft while adapting it to current challenges.

Transmitting is not about freezing the past. It is about giving it a future.

By welcoming Julien Tuffery as its patron, the FAV celebrates a vision of creation deeply rooted in the long term: one that connects generations, values craftsmanship, and affirms that innovation can emerge from heritage.



1892

Foundation of the workshop



1960

French jeans become a style emblem



2014

Taken over by Julien Tuffery, a sustainable and artisanal revival

TEAM & PROJECT

IACHA PERGET & LAETITIA REJANY

Montpellier (France)



Iacha and Laetitia are two young graduates of ENSA Montpellier. Bound by a shared passion for architecture, they have grown together through work and life. Their dialogue weaves a methodical, almost scientific mindset with more intuitive and utopian impulses. Through architecture, they seek to explore time, movement, and place, drawing strength from the territories they know and inhabit.

Lozère, shaped by modest means, harsh climates, and lasting ways of life, gave rise in Iacha to a sensitive awareness of the real, where architecture becomes sober yet radical, woven from local knowledge and lived memory. Growing up in Saint-Étienne, a former industrial city, Laetitia developed an awareness of multiplicity, a sensitivity to places where urban and rural worlds intersect and resonate.

Together, they imagine a situated architecture, open and evolving, nourished by art, music, technology, travel, and lived experience.

MENTORS

Élodie Nourrigat & Jacques Brion (Montpellier, France)

TÉISSER

Pop-up pavilion within de Saint-Côme Hotel (CCI Hérault)



Téisser transforms the Hôtel Saint-Côme's courtyard into a vast weaving loom, where architecture and material engage in dialogue. Inspired by the transmission of a craft, the project stages the transformation of denim and questions its lifecycle.

The columns become monumental warp threads guiding an interlacing of blue yarns. From the street, a dense weave draws the eye: inside, two nested cylinders structure the journey. The first forms weave of threads playing with light and the sky. The second consists of braids made from leftover denim fabric, materializing the passage from thread to material.

Evolving over time, the installation then invites each visitor to tie their own strip of denim and participate in the collective weaving. Téisser thus offers an immersive and engaged experience, where transmission, reuse, and shared action become the driving forces of a shared and living artwork.

YURICA DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE

Yurika TAKEMURA

Nara (Japan) / San Francisco (USA)



Architect Yurika Takemura (Yurica Design & Architecture) is based between Nara and San Francisco. She approaches architecture as an act of reweaving relationships between people and place, and between the past and the future. Rather than treating architecture as a fixed object, her practice listens to the voices embedded in memory and materials, allowing them to gently re-emerge in the present.

This perspective is guided by her concept of Open Nostalgia, which understands architecture as something continuously cultivated through time, use, and human presence. Design, in this sense, becomes a quiet and accumulative act shaped by repeated encounters.

In her recent work, *Traces of Earth*, Takemura was selected as an Emerging Architect for Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai. The project reinterprets Zannen-ishi stones quarried four hundred years ago for the walls of Osaka Castle but never used—as an existing asset that is both old and new. By incorporating these stones into architecture, she bridges traditional craftsmanship and contemporary technology, seeking a form of architecture that exists in close dialogue with nature.

MENTOR

Tohru Horiguchi (Osaka, Japan)

LIMINALITY IN MOTION

Hortolès Hotel



What is a boundary?

At a moment when divisions are accelerating at an extraordinary speed, often beyond perception, this project deliberately constructs a space in which otherwise invisible boundaries can be made perceptible and gently unsettled within human awareness.

By rendering these boundaries visible, the work seeks not to reinforce division, but to shift perception toward connection. Boundaries are reconsidered not only as those between self and others, but also as those that mediate the self within itself.

Through this reframing, boundaries are approached not as fixed separations, but as conditions that can be sensed, reflected upon, and reoriented. In doing so, the space aspires to become a site that brings people into relation, rather than keeping them apart. This work functions as an experimental apparatus for that inquiry.

CHARLES ANTOINE LAUZON & MARIE-LAURENCE DURAND

Quebec (Canada)



Charles Antoine Lauzon is pursuing a master's degree in architecture at Université Laval with a desire to push beyond established frameworks. His professional experience in firms, both in architecture and landscape architecture, informs a sensitive and exploratory approach, in which he seeks to question conventional ways of designing space in order to cultivate an even more creative practice.

Marie-Laurence Durand, also a student at Université Laval, develops an approach that is both sensitive and engaged. Her academic background, enriched by studies in psychology and sociology, sharpens her reading of human dynamics and broadens her understanding of the social and cultural issues that shape living environments.

From their meeting at the beginning of their university studies emerged a collaboration driven by the desire to push creative boundaries. Their projects interrogate the relationship to space and propose innovative, committed, and diverse spatial responses. Their collaboration is grounded in the conviction that a single detail can open a vast field of possibilities. Their practice becomes a field where frameworks dissolve, making room for a more experimental architectural practice.

MENTORS

Agence Spatiale : Etienne Bernier & Marianne Charbonneau (Quebec, Canada)

THE CONTINUUM AS SPACE-TIME

Trésoriers de la Bourse Hotel



In every act of design, it's not only about creating something new, but also about transforming the way we perceive what already exists. The architect's work does not necessarily lie in the power to create space, but in the ability to distort reality to reveal a field of endless possibilities.

The installation aims to convey this experience to FAV visitors. By moving through it, they alter the perception of the place and inscribe their movements into a continuum where each gesture contributes to redefining existing spatial boundaries.

This "continuum" refers to a new fluid reality, where the distinctions between time, matter, mind, and space are no longer absolute. The inner courtyard remains physically enclosed, yet the space perceived between the two reflective surfaces seems to unfold as a boundless universe. Space comes alive through the gaze and experience of each individual. Space exists because it is traversed, lived, and transformed by the mind that observes it from a new perspective.

CALADA ARCHITECTES & ATELIER MOSCHATA

Zoé DALLONI, Élodie ARTIÈRES pour Calada Architectes
Raphaël CONTESSO pour Atelier Moschata

Nice (France)



The team brings together two architecture studios from Nice: Calada Architectes, founded by Élodie Artières and Zoé Dalloni, and Atelier Moschata, created by Raphaël Contesso. Two structures, but above all three friends bound by a long history of camaraderie and shared convictions.

Zoé Dalloni is an architect who graduated in 2014 from ENSA Paris-Belleville. After growing up under the Mediterranean sun, she trained in Paris, where she began her professional career, notably at Atelier OS Architectes, sponsors of FAV 2026.

Élodie Artières, architect and photographer, graduated from ENSA Versailles. Her artistic path led her to work simultaneously as an architect and photographer. After several professional experiences in Paris, she moved to Nice and co-founded Calada Architectes.

Raphaël Contesso is an architect and cabinetmaker, a graduate of ENSA Marseille and holder of a CAP in woodworking. He founded Atelier Moschata in 2020, developing a hybrid practice between architecture and carpentry.

MENTORS

Les ateliers O-S Architectes :

Gaël Le Nouène, Guillaume Colboc & Vincent Baur (Paris, France)

MÂT-TIERS

| Lunas Hotel



In 2020, the construction sector generated 7% of the waste produced in France (ADEME, 2021). A significant proportion of this waste comes from scraps left over from cutting new materials, which are often thrown away before they have even been used. Today, disposing of them remains simpler and cheaper than reusing them, an approach that requires collection, transport, storage and careful consideration.

For FAV 2026, we have designed an installation made exclusively from these fragments recovered from a marble workshop, a metal workshop and a carpentry workshop. Destined for the skip, they become the primary resource for the project.

The installation consists of three pillars: stone, metal and wood. Each pillar is unique. It tells its own story, but interacts with the other two through its proportions, proximity, stratification and identical base. Through the raw superimposition of materials, they reveal textures, grain and contrasts, elevating reuse to an architectural manifesto.

ATELIERS A+

**Axelle LE LETTY, Eva RICHEZ, Ayyoub MAZOUZ, Jules ROUSSET,
Hugo CORSIG, Valentin LAGARDE**

Montpellier (France)



We are Axelle, Ayyoub, Eva, Hugo, Jules, and Valentin. Aged 23 to 30, we embody a new generation of designers driven by a shared vision. As a multidisciplinary team, we bridge architecture, engineering, and interior design, working across five departments within Ateliers A+.

Our strength lies precisely in this diversity of expertise. By blending the technical rigor of engineering with the aesthetic sensitivity of interior design, we challenge our perspectives daily to master every scale—from structural detail to urban vision.

Drawing from our diverse backgrounds and collaborative experience on a wide range of projects, we conceived “Vertige” for FAV 2026. More than just an ephemeral structure, this installation is designed to evoke a raw sensation. Join us in June 2026 to lose your balance with us.

MENTORS

Ateliers A+ (Montpellier, France)

VERTIGO

| Faculty of Medicine



Vertigo begins with a blurring of vision, a breach where reality wavers. Our installation explores this oscillation: a visual shock that halts the step before sparking momentum.

Faced with an image that recedes, the body leans forward to regain its balance. As it moves, the abyss dissipates: we realize that vertigo is merely a point of view. In a single motion, fear turns into curiosity. Beneath our feet, the sky stretches out and facades fragment, shattering our bearings to invite us toward the impossible.

This experience engages both the body and the collective. Sharing vertigo is not about spreading fear, but about the capacity to overcome it. Within this courtyard, illusion unsettles us only to better bring us together. It is an initiation where the imagination transforms the fragile. Vertigo becomes a legacy: an invitation to cross the uncrossable.

OFNN GROUP

Sanghoon PARK & Sung-min PARK

Seoul (South Korea)



OFNN Group is a Seoul-based architectural studio dedicated to creating «meaningful spaces» that redefine the standards of living. Inspired by the evolution of everyday tools like pencils and vessels, we design environments that are both functional and timeless.

Our practice centers on the «Translation of Landscape,» where natural phenomena become spatial experiences, capturing nature's fluid rhythms and profound stillness through tactile materials. We create «Textured Scenery»—spaces not meant to be viewed from a distance, but to be touched and felt. By exploring the «Depth of Light,» we focus on how light rests on surfaces to create resonance beyond simple brightness.

With the quiet devotion of craftsmanship, we pursue the soul of every detail through rigorous precision. We weave gentle, human-scale spaces that embrace users in comfort, anchored by the poetic logic of rational structure. Through sincere exploration of daily life, we provide architectural answers that aspire toward timelessness.

MENTORS

Jennyfher Alvarado Figueroa & Álvaro González Serrano (Pamplona/Madrid, Spain)

운지(雲紙) : THE SUSPENDED CLOUD

Rozel Hotel



On the ground, borders divide us; in the sky, light remains a shared heritage. This pavilion invites visitors to look upward, transcending earthly divisions through a suspended roof that filters the Mediterranean sun. Inspired by the traditional Korean craft of sifting paper pulp, the installation replaces the bamboo screen with industrial expanded metal mesh. Mulberry pulp is cast directly onto this grid, merging organic irregularity with industrial precision.

By rotating Hanji from a vertical wall into a horizontal «suspended cloud,» the pavilion reorients the gaze. The uneven thickness of the pulp creates a living watermark, transforming harsh sunlight into a soft, tactile glow that records the passage of time. Celebrating the festival's 20th anniversary, twenty paper wind chimes translate invisible air into resonance. Designed for a «trace-less» afterlife, the pulp returns to nature while the metal is reused, leaving only a spatial memory behind.

ESTÉBAN LE MAGNEN

Paris (France)



Estéban Le Magnen graduated from the École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Grenoble in 2025, with the jury's honors. In order to complete his initial training, he undertook various internships during his studies, notably at Régis Roudil.

He also took part in several seminars, became involved in the journal Lames, and carried out his diploma project within a research program, indicating a constant desire to accompany architectural production with critical and theoretical reflection. Today, alongside professional practice at Banquet in Paris, he is developing his first projects in the south of France, which allow him to return to a scale closer to the act of building.

These experiences have led him to consider architectural thought as a poetry of construction at the service of human : a determined and committed architecture in its contribution to society, when matter meets, or even becomes identified with, the spirit, and utility with beauty.

MENTOR

Régis Roudil (Aix en Provence, France)

LA LYRE ET LA COURONNE

Audessan Hotel



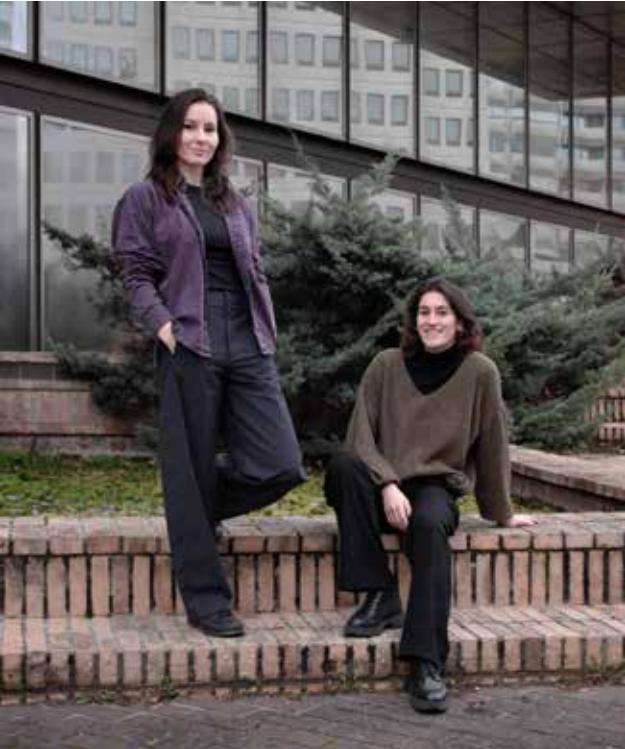
This ephemeral architecture gives form to the notion of transmission by creating a place for gathering. The figure of the circle, autonomous and unifying, anchors the project within its site. A raised floor marks the threshold; inside, the space invites without prescribing. One may sit, speak, remain silent, observe, or simply be there.

The slender wooden porticoes, asserting their tectonic expression, support an immaterial envelope through which light passes. Within it, the pavilion shelters a stone column around which the porticoes unfold; the floor opens to receive it. Dry-assembled from unequal fragments, it stands only through the wood that encircles it, while in turn it supports the roof that compresses it. They hold one another, fragile and necessary, like two beings who endure only through their mutual accord. The column already appears as a ruin, beautiful in having renounced permanence.

ATELIER MOUSQUETON

Valentine GEOFFROY & Delphine LECOMTE

Bordeaux (France)



Atelier Mousqueton is an architecture studio founded by two young architects, Delphine Lecomte and Valentine Geoffroy.

Our paths converge around a shared desire : to develop an attentive practice that reinforces the capacity for action. Together, we explore questions of hospitality, spatial justice and the social relations embedded in places.

Through scenography, mediation and collective practice, we approach spaces as supports for experience, emancipation and transformation.

Our reflections inform inclusive, playful and activatable devices, engaging both bodies and imaginaries. They question ways of inhabiting and perceiving landscapes. Our studio is conceived as a place of research and action : in the field, through sensitive diagnostics, and with users, through co-design.

MENTORS

*Moonwalk local : Lucas Geoffriau, Etienne Henry, Camille Ricard, Axel Adam & Xin Luo
(Bordeaux, France)*

TRANSPHÈRES

Beaulac Hotel (new courtyard !)



The sphere is one of the first forms through which we learn to transmit : to throw, to catch, to push, to redirect. Universal, it transcends ages and cultures. Through play, we discover, we communicate, we connect.

Transphères builds on this simple gesture and unfolds it at the scale of space. Suspended within a frame, floating spheres form a shifting plane whose contours transform through contact with visitors.

Inspired by Newton's cradle, each impact, each rebound extends energy from one point to another, from one person to the next.

Transphères is an immersive, playful and inclusive installation that explores transmission through play. It relies on the movement of bodies and invites passersby to activate the space together.

COLETIVO624

**Maria FILIPE, Patrícia VARÃO MOREIRA, Miguel VAN-ZELLER,
Beatriz ROSENDO, Ruben VASQUES, Raquel STATTMILLER**

Portugal, Switzerland, Australia



Coletivo 624 is a group of six architects based in Portugal, Switzerland and Australia.

Over the past five years, they have discovered in each member the complementary skills and interests to develop their actions. Having done competitions, public space installations, articles and performances, they discuss, reflect and create on various themes: from architecture to politics, from sustainability to construction, from reality to utopia.

With a focus on the city and its public space, their goal is to be active agents in their communities. They come together today to transform ideas into actions, as they found in this group the support, awareness, and friendship that make their interventions possible.

MENTOR

Vicente Spinola (Porto, Portugal)

RACONTE MOI UN SECRET

Grave Hotel (DRAC Occitanie)



The proposal from coletivo 624 is called “Raconte-moi un secret” and consists of an interactive sound installation. The project invites people to share and listen to anonymous confessions, transforming private emotions into a collective and evolving soundscape. The installation consists of a walk-through structure where visitors can record a secret on one side and listen to others on the opposite side. By bringing intimate experiences into the public realm, the project promotes a reconciliation between individual vulnerability and the shared and plural.

The project explores themes of trust and emotional exchange in public space, blurring the boundaries between installation, performance and social interaction. The outcome is a participatory artwork that evolves through audience contribution - visitors, local residents and international cultural professionals - and fosters reflection on shared human intimacy in urban contexts.

NATURA URBANA COLLECTIVE

Emma FRANCO, Marta PORTIGLIATI, Lorenza FERRARI

Genoa (Italy)



Natura Urbana is a collective formed by Emma Franco, Marta Portigliati and Lorenza Ferrari. We are three young architects graduated in Landscape Architecture from the Department of Architecture and Design (DAD) at the University of Genoa.

Throughout our academic and professional careers, we have collaborated on different projects; however, the current demands of the professional world have led us to be based between Genoa and Turin.

As Natura Urbana, our aim is to be an heterogeneous collective; we focus on architecture and nature in different contexts and environments. The goal of our projects is to increase the urban green system in our cities, fostering connections between these spaces and the communities that live in them. We believe that high-quality urban space design and community engagement are the key to collective well-being and urban regeneration.

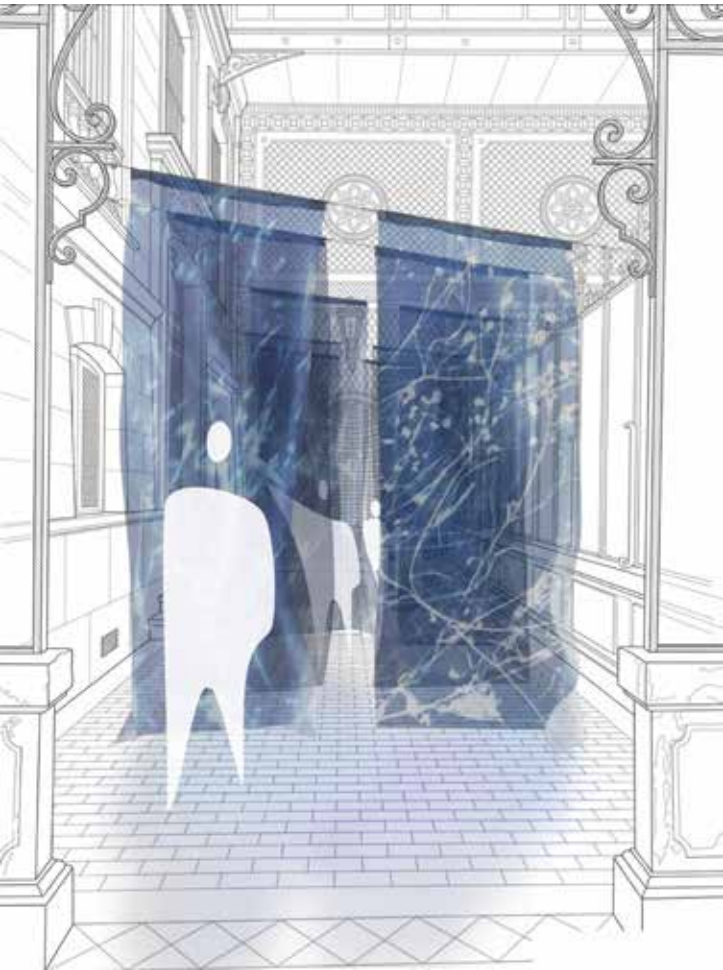
Our work is a combination of vegetation, cities, participation and urban space.

MENTOR

Nicola Canessa (Genoa, Italy)

UNE OMBRE BLEUE DEVIENT UNE RELIQUE

| Sabatier Espeyran Hotel



Du Latin

Umbra, -ae (f.): a reflection or a faded image of something.

Reliquiae, -arum (f. pl.): that which remains, the remnants of what once was.

The installation explores the theme of Transmission. It is an immersive project that investigates the profound connection between humanity and things that have been lost. By employing the cyanotype technique on suspended veils, the work acts as a medium — that is to say, as a vector of transmission — revealing the vanishing aspects of the natural world.

The installation prompts a reflection on the very essence of transmission: it does not present itself as a perfect reproduction of the original, but rather as a filtering process that creates unfaithful copies or shadows, allowing lost objects to emerge in a new form, to leave a trace and to remain.

As visitors wander through these transparent fabrics in bluish tones, the installation becomes a living, shifting presence rather than a univocal and static object. The varying overlaps of images and the variations in light encourage an experience that is always renewed, inviting the observer to slow down, to reflect on the intimate sense of transmission and, finally, to reconnect with the ordinary character of things.

NOU(E)S COLLECTIVE

**Maxime NEUVILLE, Violette SOLEILHAC,
Tanhuy GUYOT, Fabien LAMY**

Rodez, Paris, Clermont-Ferrand, Lyon (France)



The Nou(e)s collective is a group of four architects and friends, trained at the National School of Architecture in Clermont-Ferrand. All originally from rural areas, they have a particular affinity for these communities on the fringes of major metropolitan developments. The collective offers its expertise on a variety of subjects, ranging from territorial studies to architectural projects. It works towards a collective shaping of the territory, centered on its natural environment. It advocates for frugal actions to address current socio-environmental challenges. From master plans to micro-architecture, it draws inspiration from the specific characteristics of a place to lay the foundations for a future collective project.

«Nous» is a plural personal pronoun. It symbolizes the gathering of several individuals within a collective.

«Noue» is also a small ditch that collects water during periods of heavy rainfall. This age-old feature symbolizes a peaceful relationship with our natural environment and a return to simple actions.

«Noués» represents the necessary connections between people working together on a project, debating and thus shaping the community. Moreover, it signifies the interconnectedness between a territory and its population, at every level.

MENTORS

Luc Léotoing & Chloé Mariey (Clermont-Ferrand, France)

SABLIER

| Griffy Hotel



Sablier (Hourglass) is a temporary installation inviting visitors to question the relationship between humans and an underappreciated resource : Sand.

As a pure form reaching towards the sky, it is constructed like a monument built to last. Conversely, its materiality reveals its fragility and inevitable decline.

Through this paradox, the Nou(e)s collective invites visitors to reflect on current construction systems, their impact on our environment and our necessary position in the face of dwindling resources.

This installation questions the act of building and the ecological impact of the construction sector. It asserts the need to do less, but better, to take care of what already exists and to extend the useful life of our heritage. Its fragility raises questions about the relationship we wish to maintain with our territories, both as landscapes to be preserved and as places from which to extract our resources. These are the topics we wanted to share for the theme of FAV 2026: Transmission.

GUILLAUME DEBEZE & AMANDINE COURTAILLAC

Montpellier (France)



We are Amandine Courtaillac and Guillaume Debeze, a duo of architects who have recently graduated from ENSA Montpellier. Our journey began eight years ago in this radiant city, where we met at art school and each earned a degree in spatial design.

Our deep attachment to the history and unique atmosphere of this city guides our work. As architects, we draw inspiration from its rich heritage and the rare energy of this metropolis. Our vision is to harmoniously connect tradition and modernity, much like the blue sky embracing the limestone of Montpellier's façades.

Taking part in this event at the heart of our city is a special opportunity to share our vision and our love for the environment that shapes us.

MENTORS

Élodie Nourrigat & Jacques Brion (Montpellier, France)

LE SENS DU DÉTAIL

Baschy-de-Cayla Hotel



Ornament was never just a detail, what if it told the stories we have forgotten how to see ?

At a time when contemporary architecture tends toward purity and the complete disappearance of ornament, this project reflects on the loss of detail and decorative language. It stands as an ode to the classical architecture of Montpellier's private mansions.

At the heart of the project lies public interaction. Three white models, archetypes of the modern building, will be placed at the center of the Hôtel Baschy-du-Cayla. Visitors are invited to compose façades using a multitude of golden fragments, gradually uncovering the keys to reading and interpreting the architecture of Montpellier's historic façades.

What once seemed silent takes shape again, under the gaze and in the hands of the visitors.

ATELIERS A+

**Valentin BANCAREL, Marie FELIPE, Eline THIBAUT,
Camille LE JOLY, Bastien LAURAS, Julie GUIRAUD**

Montpellier (France)



Ateliers A+ was the birthplace of this multidisciplinary team, consisting of people from different backgrounds.

Composed of architects, landscape designers, urban planners, and engineers, our team unites to convey the values of seriousness and requirement, as well as joy, passion, and, without a doubt, a certain sense of celebration.

Around the table, ideas fuse, contradict each other, respond to each other, and connect. We talk, we laugh, we draw, we erase, we start again.

Through this emulation, a colorful and animated work is produced that conveys light's richness.

"Panache" is implied, with rigor as the backdrop and madness as the form, for a festive, proud architecture that enhances the real and illuminates the everyday life.

MENTORS

Ateliers A+ (Montpellier, France)

PANACHE DE LUMIÈRE

Petite Loge Hotel



Around the corner of an alley, the courtyard reveals itself behind an imposing red door. At first, the space seems hidden, almost confidential, as if it were breathing secretly in the heart of the city. A zenithal glow, plants lining the walls, and it is here that the event takes place.

Fragments are multiplied during the torment of a plume of colors. They meet, rub against each other, and respond to each other. The viewer contemplates this chromatic canopy that swings in the wind and shines when hit by a ray of sunlight.

Color intensity, overlap, merge, and constant composition of new harmonies are constantly created by the whole depending on the angle of view and movements. The installation encourages the eye to rise, slow down, and focus on all the details of this whole.

And when we leave the court, there remains this sweet sensation, as if something over there continues to vibrate within us.

MENTORS

RÉGIS ROUDIL

Atelier Régis Roudil
Aix-en-Provence (France)



Régis Roudil graduated from the Marseille School of Architecture in 2008 and then moved to Nice, where he worked for various organizations such as Atelier Comte et Vollenweider and Atelier Barani. In 2013, he founded Atelier Régis Roudil Architectes in Aix-en-Provence, which focuses on developing both public and private projects addressing various scales in the fields of architecture, urban planning, scenography, and rehabilitation.

In 2013, he participated in the Festival des Architectures Vives, whose theme was memory.

With a team of 10 architects working on the theme of terroir, the studio has received several national and international awards. Alongside his practice, he has been teaching at the Marseille School of Architecture since 2014. In 2017, he co-founded the KHORA collective – with EGR, Ivry Serres and Thibault Maupoint de Vandeuil – which organizes an annual traveling architecture seminar across the Marseille metropolitan area, on the theme of “the landscape city”.

FAV 2013 : EMPR(EI)NTEZ-VOUS !

Participated in the 2013 FAV in Montpellier, with the «Emp(ei)ntez-vous!» project.

FAV 2013 theme: Memories



FAV 2014 : SAVON(S)

Participated in the 2014 FAV in Montpellier, with the project «Savon(s)» (Jury Prize).

FAV 2014 Theme: Sensuality

MOONWALK LOCAL

**Lucas GEOFFRIAU, Etienne HENRY, Camille RICARD,
Axel ADAM & Xin LUO**

Bordeaux (France)

MOONWALKLOCAL is a collective of five architects, graduates of the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture et de Paysage de Bordeaux. We have been united since 2011 by the desire to explore unique fields of architecture.

We view architecture as a means of building relationships with those who create and experience it. Thus, conversation with the inhabitants of a place is a privileged mode of action for us. We propose desirable and reasoned architecture, humane and environmentally friendly.

Winners of the 2020 AJAP and the 2019 European15 competition on the theme of the circular economy (runner-up), our committed approach is developed around the promotion of local know-how and sectors, waste and resource management, and the experimentation of building materials related to reuse, bio-sourced, and geo-sourced materials.

We primarily operate in locations accessible by bicycle or public transport: Bordeaux and the Bordeaux metropolitan area, and more broadly in Nouvelle-Aquitaine. We are also developing several projects in the Ile-de-France region and the Pyrenees.



AGENCE SPATIALE

Marianne CHARBONNEAU & Étienne BERNIER

Québec (Canada)

Located in Quebec City (Canada), Agence Spatiale is a firm that brings together the spatial disciplines of architecture, art, interior design, urban design, brand design, and furniture design. Habits and design evolve, but memorable experiences remain. This is the premise that inspires the team. Agence Spatiale offers an inclusive approach designed to offer a broad range of expertise and focus on the human experience.

Their mission: to shape space and distort time by bringing together a team that dares to dream the impossible. A process deliberately focused on enjoyment.

FAV 2011 : MA COUR DANS TA COUR

Participated in the 2011 FAV in Montpellier, with the project «My Courtyard in Your Courtyard» (Audience Award).

FAV 2011 Theme: Encounters

INVITATION FAV 2015 : TETRAMAGIQUE

Invited to the 2015 FAV, they were given carte blanche to design a project. Étienne and Marianne, part of the Plux.5 collective, created «Tétramagique.»



TOHRU HORIGUCHI

Higashiosaka (Osaka Prefecture - Japan)

Tohru Horiguchi specializes in contemporary architectural theory and cross-cultural architectural education. Prior to joining Kindai University, he was a Research Assistant under Hitoshi Abe at Tohoku University, including a one-year-term Visiting Scholar at UCLA, an Associate Professor at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto.

Among the maniacs in Japan, he is known as the «architecture film detective» who searches and visits filming locations worldwide using Google Street View, and holds screenings and talk events on an irregular basis in Osaka, Kyoto, Sendai and on YouTube. He recently contributed «Geography of Shinji Aoyama, Film Director» to «The Shinji Aoyama Chronicles» (2023, Little More Co., Ltd.). He has been a frequent contributor to “Architecture + Tectonics Taiwan” on contemporary Japanese architecture.

FAV 2009 : U-CHI-WA

Participation with Tohoku University at FAV 2009 in Montpellier, with the «U-CHI-WA» project.

FAV 2009 Theme: Ephemeral Curiosities



ALVARO GONZALEZ SERRANO & JENNYFHER ALVARADO FIGUEROA

Gonzalez Serrano Studio + *(Madrid, Spain)*
J-AF Architecture *(Pamplona, Spain)*

Álvaro González Serrano and Jennyfher Alvarado Figueroa are Spanish architects whose practice combines technological innovation, academic research, and an international outlook in ephemeral, residential, and interior architecture. Álvaro, holding a Master's Degree in Architecture from the European University of Madrid, has worked in renowned studios in Madrid and Rotterdam. In 2023, he founded González Serrano Studio+, integrating digital manufacturing with traditional craftsmanship and a strong commitment to environmental responsibility.

Jennyfher, architect from the University of Navarra and the European University of Madrid, founded J-AF in Pamplona in 2022, focusing on contemporary construction and residential projects, alongside custom furniture design and international experience in Japan.

Together, they have received notable recognition, including the COAM 2024 Prize in Ephemeral Architecture for "Una mesa elevada en el paisaje» and the Professional Jury Prize at FAV 2024 for their installation The Proscenium of Ephemeral Reflections.

FAV 2024 : 人 THE PROSCENIUM OF EPHEMERAL REFLECTIONS

Participation in the FAV 2024 in Montpellier, with the project «The Proscenium of Ephemeral Reflections» (Jury Prize).

FAV 2024 Theme: Rhythm

VICENTE SPÍNOLA

FRACTAL

Porto (Portugal)



Studied Architecture Porto (FAUP) and Darmstadt (TU-D), graduated in 2008. Since then has developed his activity in Copenhagen, Madrid and Porto.

Co-founder of FRACTAL - a cultural platform that hosts an urban art festival based in Funchal, Portugal - where he has worked as creative director, manager and factotum, of sorts.

With architecture as background, he has been creating spatial installations and sculptures. These focus on the experience of the visitor, rely on optical effects and explore the phenomenology of its space.

The participation as a mentor in this year's edition of the Festival comes from a strong belief in the power and energy of upcoming generations, and in the principle that a cross-pollination of ideas can bring beneficial results to those who are open to this exchange.

Believing that Architecture should be in deep relation to its surrounding, utilitarian but also playful and experimental, his practice explores the subjects of sustainability, ephemerality, flexibility and economy of means, either conceptually or in built form.

FAV 2023 : TWO POINT FIVE PLANETS

Participation in the FAV 2023 in Montpellier, with the «Two Point Five Planets» project.

FAV 2023 theme: Sacredness

NICOLA CANESSA

Genoa (Italy)

« I founded the Goagroup architecture studio in 2008 (with N.Pisani, C.Pisani, P.Raffetto), then in 2015 with P.Raffetto I founded the Go-Up architecture studio, and finally in 2021 I became a professor of urban planning at the University of Genoa.

I was lucky enough to participate in the FAV with both my architectural studies, with good results, and above all with great personal growth. As an architect I have always dealt with the themes of museum design and artistic installations, while as an urban planner the themes of my research have focused on the processes of urban renaturalization, smart city and strategic urbanism.

My experience at the Festival des Architectures Vives, with EXPO D'EXPE (2011) and REFLECTIONS (LGM 2016), allowed me to investigate two themes that I still consider fundamental today: architecture as a collective and dynamic experience, and space as a threshold that generates new and unexpected perceptions. From this research comes the desire to convey to the teams I follow not so much forms to be replicated, but an open design attitude, capable of transforming the space into a device for relationships, listening and awareness. The new challenges we face correspond to those that the two groups of young designers have chosen to explore: on the one hand, the landscape, in particular the urban one, as a place of fragile and regenerative balance; on the other hand, the advanced city, investigated through emerging materials and technologies as an opportunity to rethink the relationship between body, perception and environment. »



FAV 2011 : EXPO D'EXPÉ

A first participation in the FAV 2011 in Montpellier, with the «Expo d'Expé» project (Jury Prize).

FAV 2011 Theme: The Encounter

FAV 2016 (LGM) : RÉFLECTIONS

A second participation in the FAV 2016 in La Grande-Motte, with the «Reflections» project.

FAV 2016 theme : Innovation



LUC LÉOTOING & CHLOÉ MARIEY

**Luc Léotoing Paysage urbanisme,
GRAMA Architecture**
Clermont-Ferrand (France)

Luc Léotoing is a certified landscape architect and Chloé Mariey is a certified architect.

They teach at the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Clermont-Ferrand in parallel with their work as project managers in their respective fields. At the intersection of their disciplines, they develop artistic research that focuses on geological singularities and their associated environments. Like «open works,» their proposals showcase the dynamics of life.

Our approach focuses on the notion of geographies and «geotopes.» Geotopes are portions of territories determined by unique geologies and their associated environments. They provide insight into the evolution and construction of natural landscapes and those that have been invaded by humans.

FAV 2007 : FLOWERS-STILL LIFE (Luc)

Luc participated in the 2007 FAV in Montpellier, with the «Flowers-Still Life» project.

FAV 2007 Theme : Course Games

- + Invited to FAV 2015, Luc was given carte blanche to design a project. Within the Spaces collective, they created «Review.»

FAV 2016 (LGM) : DESSINE MOI UN HORIZON (Chloé)

Chloé participated in the 2016 FAV in La Grande-Motte, with the «Draw Me a Horizon» project.

FAV 2016 theme : Innovation



LES ATELIERS O-S ARCHITECTES

Gaël LE NOUËNE, Guillaume COLBOC & Vincent BAUR

Paris (France)

Les Ateliers O-S architectes are led by Vincent Baur, Guillaume Colboc and Gaël Le Nouëne. The three associate architects, with complementary personalities, frequently collaborate with figures from other disciplines such as the visual arts and landscape design. Before joining forces on common projects, Vincent Baur, Guillaume Colboc and Gaël Le Nouëne gained experience alongside stimulating figures such as Rem Koolhaas, Nicolas Michelin, Christian Devillers, and Brigitte Metra.

The partnership began in 2002 with numerous entries in international design competitions and installations at the Festival des Architectures Vives in 2008, where their projects were often noticed. In 2011, the firm was nominated for Le Moniteur's First Work Prize with the "Decks Bleus" housing project (39 units in Chalon-sur-Saône), and for the Équerre d'Argent award in the Infrastructure category with the park-and-ride project in Rennes in 2024.

Today, Les Ateliers O-S architectes are developing a wide range of public commissions, from social housing to cultural facilities, through which they express a sensitivity to situation, context, and program. Deeply attentive to the expectations and needs of users, O-S seek a responsive architecture capable of offering each individual an experience, an emotion.

The name O-S refers to multiple wordplays, notably Open Source and Operating System, notions that synthesize the ideas of openness and production essential to the development of a project. Through this name, the agency asserts its stance as a group open to dialogue and the expression of every interlocutor. The blending of ideas and proposals thus becomes a means of enriching the project, transforming it, and at the same time revealing the essence of each situation.

FAV 2008 : BACK SIDE FLIP 360°

Participated in the 2008 FAV in Montpellier, with the «Back Side Flip 360°» project.

FAV 2008 theme: In(side)out

ATELIERS A+

Montpellier (France)

Unlike the nine other mentors, all former FAV participants, Ateliers A+ has never before participated in the festival.

Yet their presence this year is a natural fit: since their inception, they have made sharing knowledge a true driving force of their practice. By gradually integrating new partners, regularly welcoming young graduates, and providing them with a framework conducive to their development, Ateliers A+ fully embodies the spirit of sharing and renewal that guides this edition.

Their roots in Montpellier also make them distinguished guests, whose participation will enrich this special edition of the FAV.



Christophe AUBAILLY



Clément RABOURDIN



Fabien THUILE



Gilles GAL



Philippe BONON



Philippe CERVANTES



Vincent NOGARET

Ateliers A+

We are architects, urban planners, landscape designers, product designers, engineers, economists, project managers, visualizers and filmmakers — and we are passionate about what we do. Coming from related disciplines and diverse backgrounds, multidisciplinary lies at the very heart of our architectural practice.

With more than 100 collaborators today, based in Montpellier, Nîmes, Toulouse and Paris, our teams have combined expertise, experience, curiosity and enthusiasm for over 30 years. We design collectively, across all scales, guided by a shared vision born from the creative and collaborative reflection of our eight fields: architecture, urban planning, landscape, environment, design, engineering, economics and management.

Each project is an invention. The collective energy that drives us enables us to deliver innovative and committed projects with a strong social impact. With an average age of 32, our agency welcomes many young graduates each year who challenge our skills and forge their own character. Transmission has always been at the core of our values — within our teams as much as within our leadership.



ELODIE NOURRIGAT & JACQUES BRION

Montpellier (France)

In 2006, they created the Festival des Architectures Vives, with the aim of opening contemporary architecture to everyone and bringing a fresh perspective to the city of Montpellier. Since then, each edition has allowed young architects from around the world to experiment, innovate, and share their vision with the public.

For this special edition dedicated to Transmission, Elodie and Jacques will accompany two teams of young architects to whom they will entrust the creation of a pop-up pavilion in the courtyard of the Saint-Côme Hotel / CCI de l'Hérault as well as a project in another courtyard of the route.

This symbolic project illustrates both the festival's continuity and the desire to share the spirit that has driven it for twenty years.

THE ROLES

THE ROLE OF THE MENTOR

The mentor does not participate as a designer of an installation, but plays a role in transmission and guidance, entrusting them with the mission of:

- Defining, with the team, a specific theme that resonates with the overall theme of Transmission.
- Guiding the team in a process of knowledge transfer.
- Maintaining close oversight of the team's work.
- Assisting the team in preparing their project, particularly by helping them find partners (if necessary).

This role is conceived as a symbolic passing of the torch, a sign of trust placed in the next generation. The final installation remains the result of a collaborative process.

THE ROLE OF THE MENTEE / SELECTED TEAM

The team will be responsible for designing and creating a temporary installation for FAV 2026. The role of the selected team :

- Design and create the installation during the festival in June 2026.
- Work on a specific theme, defined in collaboration with the mentor, as a symbol of the knowledge transfer between them.
- Engage in an independent creative process, enriched by exchanges with the mentor, within a framework of dialogue and mutual trust.
- Be responsible for setting up the project on-site in Montpellier, at the assigned location, during the installation period from June 3rd to 8th, 2026, and for dismantling it on June 15th, 2026.



PARTNERS & CONTACTS

PARTNERS 2026 :



THE MEDIA 2026 :



Festival des Architectures Vives is organized by the Champ Libre association.
A non-profit organization governed by the French law of 1901, chaired by Elodie Nourrigat and Jacques Brion, architects.

FAV 2026 organization: Judith Rossi

