

DOMINIQUE COULON & ASSOCIÉS (AUTHORS/2144706109-DOMINIQUE-COULON-ASSOCIÉS)
MEDIA LIBRARY [THIRD-PLACE] IN THIONVILLE

This project has the ambition of becoming a new model for media libraries.

PHOTOS BY [EUGEN PONS \(AUTHORS/2144635104-EUGEN-PONS\)](#) [DAVID ROMERO-UEDEA \(AUTHORS/2144700085-DAVID-ROMERO-UEDEA\)](#)



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The programme calls the functions of a media library into question, lending it the content of a 'third place' – a place where members of the public become actors in their own condition, a place for creation as well as reception. In association with the basic programme, the building includes areas for displays, creation, music studios, and a café-restaurant. The various activities in the programme blend into each other, creating a dynamic arrangement. The building comes up close to the crown of plane trees – this is the first thickness to act as a filter from the street, apparently playing with this first colonnade of plant-life. The facade serves as an unfurling ribbon that serves as a backdrop to the different universes contained in the programme. At its closest to the street, the ribbon dips, the better to contain it, rising again where it stands further back. In the hollows, the border between the interior space and the urban space is less clear and makes it possible to come closer, to embrace the building visually. The hollow and solid sections produce an ambiguity between inside and outside, questioning the borders of the public space. Space becomes uncertain: it ceases to have clear outlines, and calls itself into question in practical terms.



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Light spreads out along the ribbon, and the ribbon distributes the light to the area right in the heart of the building. A garden ramp offers another escape route to the outside, leading upwards to a summer bar, the culminating point of the architectural promenade. The garden extends the indoor walkway, getting closer to the line of the horizon; the town disappears, leaving just the crown of plane trees to dialogue with the sky. New uses become possible: people can take a nap, picnic, read outside, or gather in a group.



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The building rests on a principle of independent, irregular systems. Stacking these simple systems, each with their own logic, creates tension in the space and in how it is read. In this way, the optical perceptive space eludes the Euclidean space and its preference for straight lines.



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The bubbles contain very specific elements of the programme, such as a storytelling area, language laboratories, places for playing video games, a plastic arts room, etc. They are defined as cocoons where people are cut off from the other universes, escaping from the collective area. The bubbles are the last refuge, the most intimate part of the building. They do not respond to Cartesian logic either. The distance between them depends on their area of influence and on their scale. The colour and the materials of the principal space bring out variations of light and colouring that contrast with the material nature of the bubbles.



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The space is fluid, and the multiple routes offer constantly renewed viewpoints. The promenade turns into a process of revealing the various universes. The unfolding of the outer envelope accentuates this impression of infinite space. In this "ineffable" space, the notion of gravity seems to disappear – the roof and walls appear to float. This sophistication generates a "plastic acoustic" that lends this new place an atmosphere which transports and re-examines the relationship with the body and fluidity. There is no unequivocal reading of the space; the perception one has of it reveals a complexity and an unexpected richness. It is a place of freedom.

minima,
coulon
&
associés

Short Film / 'PZZL' Cultural space [Third-Place] in Thionville, France

de Dominique Coulon & Associés



03:16

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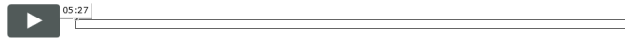
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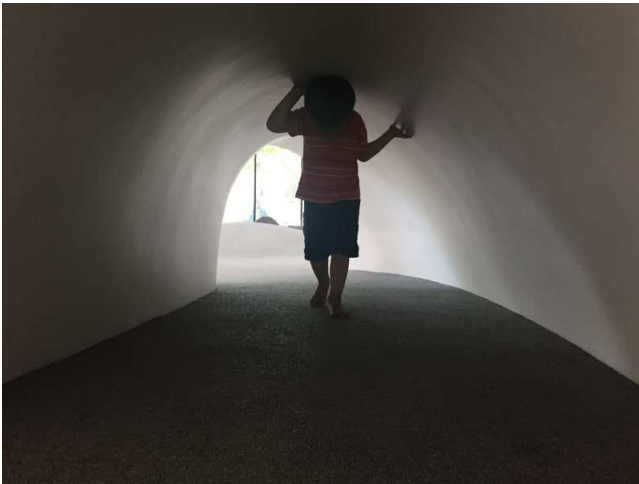
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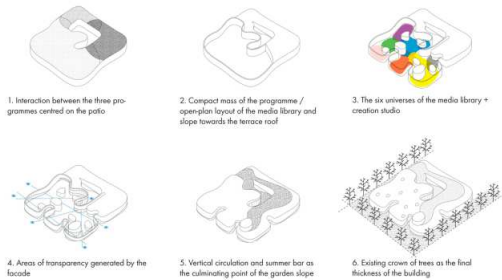
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location plan



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'Word place' media library in Ronville

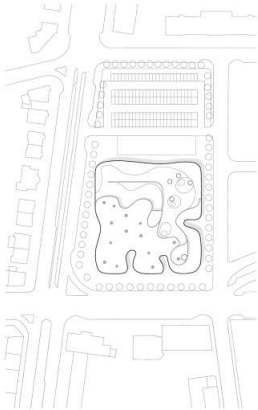


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site plan



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'Word place' media library in Ronville



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ground floor	
entrance / store	1
entrance / reception	2
entrance / library	3
entrance / reception	4
entrance / small library	5
entrance / documentation area	6
entrance / small library	7
entrance / small library	8
entrance / small library	9
entrance / small library	10
entrance / small library	11
entrance / small library	12
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entrance / small library	19

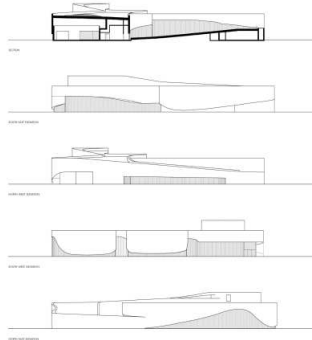
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'Real place' media library in Rionville

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section - elevations

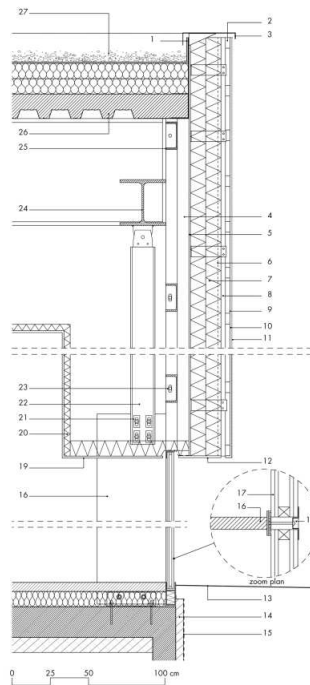
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'Real place' media library in Rionville

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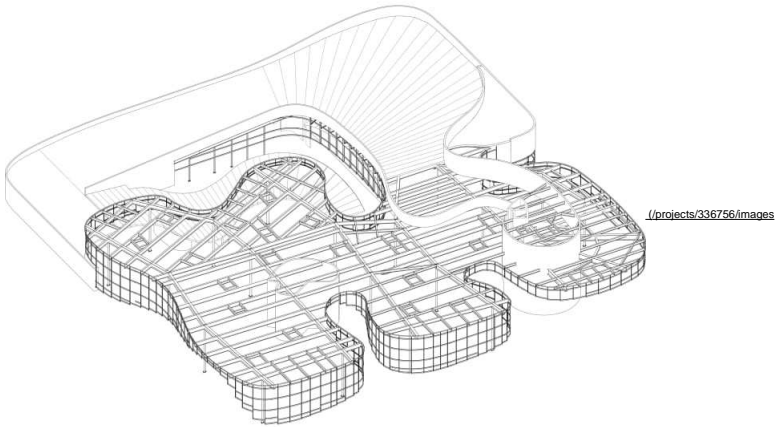


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1. Membrane waterproofing
2. Upper ventilation of air gap
3. Clipping in marine-quality wood and PVC membrane
4. Vertical secondary framework
5. Three OSB panel to support mineral wool serving as vapour barrier - joined with adhesive tape
6. Structure using BioTectec system
7. Insulation using two panels of 200mm mineral wool (integrated fitting)
8. Ventilated air gap (60mm)
9. Synthetic carrying plate in granulate blown glass (12mm)
10. Foundation coating + reinforcement mesh
11. Solid Milano finish coating, smooth appearance
12. Synthetic treatment of walls as for a window label - white painted or inside grille
13. Outdoor ground surface in disabled concrete
14. PU heat insulation (3cm)
15. EPDM film-type waterproofing
16. Sillfiner in mirror-polished steel
17. Curved double glazing
18. Omega-shaped scapopour mounting + silicone
19. Insulated cladding in S4.12 reinforced concrete - variable width
20. Mineral wool (40mm)
21. Assembly by means of rectangular holes for free vertical insulation between the solid facade and the glazing
22. Two UPE (all European standard profiles)
23. Curved profile
24. Loadbearing metal crosspiece between the roof beams
25. Loadbearing metal U-section between the roof beams
26. Composite steel/concrete collaborative floor with steel trapezoidal corrugated concrete slab for a total thickness of 16cm
27. Mineral stone chips

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LOCATION
FRANCE - THIONVILLE

DESIGNER
[DOMINIQUE COULON & ASSOCIÉS //AUTHORS/2144706109-DOMINIQUE-COULON-ASSOCIÉS](#)

PROJECT YEAR
2010

PHOTOS BY
[EUGENI PONS //AUTHORS/2144635104-EUGENI-PONS](#); [DAVID ROMERO-UZEDA //AUTHORS/2144790085-DAVID-ROMERO-UZEDA](#)

CREDITS

DESIGN
ARCHITECTS : DOMINIQUE COULON, STEVE LETHO DUCLOS
ARCHITECTS ASSISTANTS : GAUTIER DUTHOIT

CONSTRUCTION SITE SUPERVISION : STEVE LETHO DUCLOS

LANDSCAPE
BRUNO KUBLER

STRUCTURES
BATISERF INGÉNIERIE

PHOTO
EUGENI PONS, DAVID ROMERO-UZEDA

RENDER
BROOKLYN FOUNDRY

ACOUSTIC
EURO SOUND PROJECT

LIGHTING
BET G.JOST

MEP
SOLARES BAUEN

COST
E3 ÉCONOMIE

CLIENT
VILLE DE THIONVILLE

SUPPLIERS
CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES :
EARTHWORKS ROAD WORKS (COSTANTINI), SPECIAL FOUNDATIONS (SOLS ETANCHE BACHY), STRUCTURE (CARI), METAL STRUCTURE (ERTCM), WATER PROOFING (SOPREMA), EXTERIOR METAL JOINERY –GLASS (MGE / SOCOMET), METAL WORKS (SMF), EXTERIOR ISOLATION AND FACADE (ISOLA), SCAFFOLDING (KAPP), PLASTERING (KUPPEL), INTERIOR WOOD JOINERY (HUNSINGER), CONCRETE SLAB (BATI PROCARRELAGE), TILED FLOORS (BATI PROCARRELAGE), GLUED FLOORS (DEBRA), CAST FLOORING (GUINAMIC), INTERIOR PAINTING CLEANING (APPEL), ELEVATOR (FELLER), GREEN AREAS (ISS), DRAINAGE (COSTANTINI), HEATING VENTILATION (LORRY), PLOMBING DRAINAGE (LORRY), ELECTRICITY (INEO), VDI CABLING (INEO), SCENIC WORKS (EUROPODIUM), AUDIOVISUAL SCENIC EQUIPEMENTS (MICHELSONNE)

PROJECT FACTS

INFO

- CLIENT VILLE DE THIONVILLE
- PROGRAM MEDIA LIBRARY, CREATIVE STUDIOS, BROADCASTING MEDIA ROOM AND AUDITORIUM
- ADDITIONAL NOTES ADDRESS : 1 PLACE MALRAUX, 57100 THIONVILLE LOCALISATION GPS : 49.359122, 6.161338

DATES

- COMPETITION OCTOBER 2010
- BUILDING OPENING SEPTEMBER 2016

DIMENSIONS

- AREA SURFACE 4590 SQM
- BUILDING COST 11 000 000€

ATLAS OF ARCHITECTURE

- [ARCHES \(HTTPS://DIVISARE.COM/ARCHES\)](#)
- [BELOW GROUND ZERO \(HTTPS://DIVISARE.COM/BELOW-GROUND-ZERO\)](#)
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