An assembly of theatres, stacked and slotted together

The film theatres are arranged within the building so that virtually every volume is visible and identifiable. The contents of the project form a sort of vertical sculpture, where the theatres slot into one another like a puzzle. The tiered seating in the theatres is made visible on its underside, forming magnificent stepped ceilings. These ceilings are then extended into the adjacent space to create partially tiered lobby areas: little amphitheatres that slope down towards the theatre entrances. These create spaces for informal projections; supplementary spaces where yet again cinema is present and disseminated. It is almost as though the stalls in the film theatres had reached out beyond their boundaries to welcome the public into a universe bathed in film and projections.

The public is welcomed in a vast space beneath tiers of theatre seating

As already mentioned, the aim was to make the project more fluid and accessible to all members of the public entrance is made via a large hall which runs the full depth of the building and links the Boulevard de Général Laclerc directly to the Rue d’Alesia. Within this vast, light and airy space are all the reception services: first in line from the Boulevard entrance are ticket sales, an information point, automated ticket and information points and refreshments, with a seating area and a café. Beyond these, to the left, is access to the different theatres, above and below, and then a quieter space towards the Rue d’Alesia entrance, with areas for screening films. This sculpted space is tucked into a hollow beneath the tiered seating of one of the theatres above. All circulation interlinks within the majestic triple-height atrium. A series of escalators and walkways behind the facade lead to the different mezzanine levels and upper-level theatres. The public can be seen, and can move around to look at the spaces from below or from above, as well as enjoying views onto the outside world. Within this array of stairs, walkways and escalators, large areas of tiered seating are arranged. These punctuate the public spaces, providing further spaces for sitting and chatting before going in to see a film. With their backs to the facade, these little amphitheatres address the film theatre wall, onto which moving images can be projected and viewed from the banked seating. A sneak preview of the film, for example.

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**Location**
France

**Discipline**
Architecture
Landscape
Urban design

**Program**
Cinemas

**Construction year**
2016

**Gross External Area**
3600.00 M²

**Building Costs**
12000000.00 €