



RENOVATION OF THE 'ALÉSIA' CINEMA



24-Jan-2017

The project has two main aims:

- To showcase the film theatres and visually identify them as physical spaces, as much from within the building as from without.
- To showcase the films, this time directly on the facade. Here the films themselves, rather than the theatres, take their place ...

The facades are covered in a kind of huge curtain of LEDs, which is used to screen a range of animation: film extracts, stills, colours and abstract images can be used to bring the facade to life. These are the means by which the cinema hopes to resume its position within the city: internally, the architecture aims to display the cinema's unusual and spectacular volumes, while externally it envelops itself in film extracts and moving images, which also speak of cinema

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 Leclerc directly to the Rue d'Alésia. 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 cafe. Beyond these, to the left, is access to the different theatres, above and below, and then a quieter space towards the Rue d'Alésia 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 the 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
	Paris
Discipline	Architecture
	Landscape
	Urban design
Program	Cinemas
Construction year	2016
Gross External Area	3600.00 M ²
Building Costs	12000000.00 €