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Parramatta to host world-renowned architect Manuelle Gautrand

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City of Parramatta Council will welcome internationally-renowned architect Manuelle Gautrand to Parramatta for the first time to share her vision and creative thinking behind Parramatta Square's landmark civic and community building.

Manuelle's visit to Parramatta on Monday, June 6 marks the start of detailed planning for 5 Parramatta Square after her 21st century design was unanimously chosen as the winner of an international competition earlier this year.

A consortium of French firm Manuelle Gautrand Architecture and Australian firms DesignInc and Lacoste + Stevenson is behind the crystalline design that features stacks of transparent glass gradually rising to the north-east with a large LED screen for public art projections.

City of Parramatta Council Administrator Amanda Chadwick said it was exciting to have an internationally-recognised architect on board to help deliver a world-class civic building for Parramatta.

"We are pleased to welcome Manuelle to our city and hear about the inspiration behind such an iconic and thought-provoking design. Council's new civic building will focus national and international attention on Parramatta as we get on with the job of building Australia's next great city," she said.

"This year will see rapid progress on Parramatta Square as Council continues to work hard to deliver its vision for what is one of the largest, most exciting urban transformation projects in Australia today."

Ms Gautrand will meet with key staff at Council before giving a detailed presentation on the design of 5 Parramatta Square, which was hailed by the design jury as an "exemplary architectural masterpiece that delivers a 21st century solution within Council's modern smart-city metropolis".

About Manuelle Gautrand:

Paris-based Manuelle Gautrand is the principal architect and director of the agency Manuelle Gautrand Architecture. Her portfolio offers a diverse range of architecture for cultural facilities such as theatres and museums as well as office buildings, housing, commercial buildings and leisure facilities.

Among Gautrand's recent completed projects are the "Origami" office building on Friedland Avenue in Paris and La Gaité Lyrique, an old Parisian theatre transformed into a centre for contemporary and digital arts and music.

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