

Forum of Saint Louis

Manuelle Gautrand Architecture

Located in Saint-Louis (Alsace, France) in the "Three borders" region and in the inner suburb of Basel, the "Forum" dedicated to replace the old "Palais des fêtes" of the town, is a cultural facility designed to host associative, sporting and cultural events.

The land, vast enough, is located close to the city centre of Saint-Louis in an area mixing different scales and uses: it remains a residential area mainly made up of low-height houses mingled with some characterless large-sized collective buildings; but it also includes offices and workshops for small companies, as well as a kindergarten and a primary school.

The project has been designed to fit between these different built scales in the smoothest possible way, by trying to minimize the breaks.

The program also involves strong contrasts between reception/offices/lockers spaces which required small-sized volumes, and the Festival Hall and the Great Hall, the two main spaces of the project which are requiring substantially greater volumes.

Thus, between the relatively heterogeneous nature of the site and the one as well heterogeneous of the program elements, it was essential to work on a play with progressive volumes

that could interconnect with each other while displaying the two key programs.

The project is then made of several distinct volumes, linked up to one another in a way the smaller volumes are placed at the edge of the individual houses, and the more imposing ones placed at the center. At the end there are 13 volumes connected to each other gathered at the center of the site, like the pieces of one single puzzle in this work of compactness and articulation with the environment.

They all fit in a unique writing because they are all covered with the same principles of forms, materials and openings.



The roof of each volume is then systematically made of two slopes, inspired by the design of the roofs you can observe in the surroundings, alternating the orientation of the folded faces sometimes north-south, sometimes south-west, in order to capture a light each time different. The expanded metal, used as a cladding on all the facades, also contributes to this unity, and gives the project its originality.

Several sub-spaces are created within the project: the Festival Hall situated on the north, the Great multifunctional Hall situated on the south, the public entrance halls on the west, the schoolchildren entrance hall on the east, and the storage rooms on the northeast.

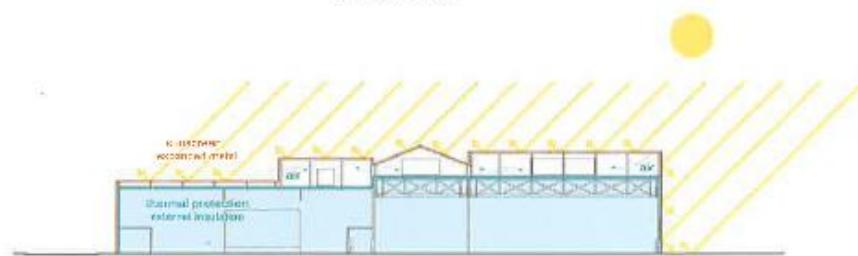
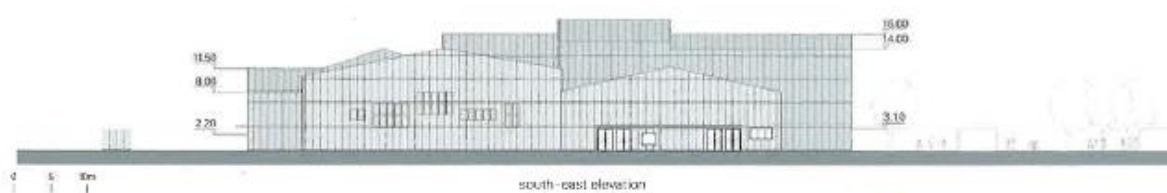
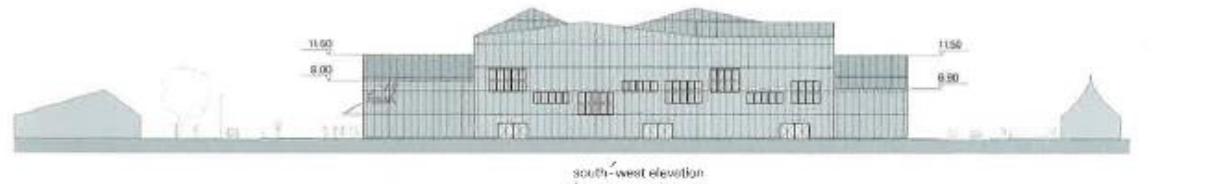
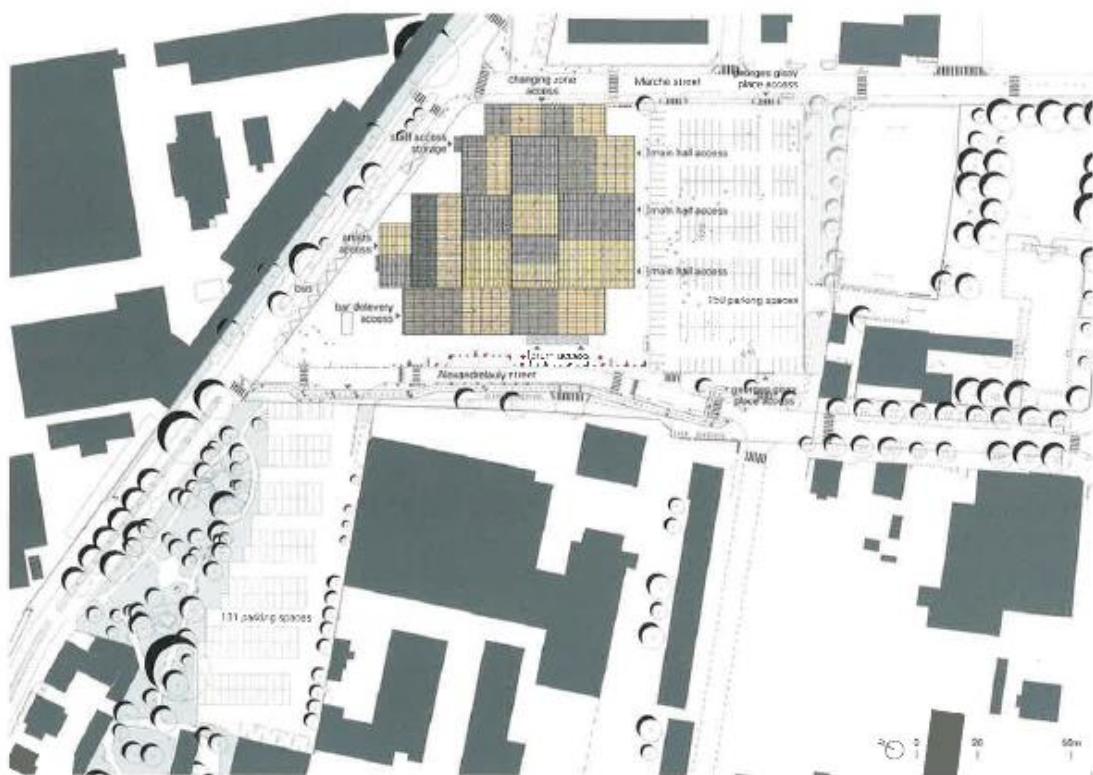
The main issue of the project was to ensure that those spaces

had the possibility to communicate in a more or less direct way according to the program of the moment.

Designed like a puzzle, each space fits into the continuity of the next one, allowing a fluid circulation and rapid flow between the functions, where no corridor or galleries are needed. The flexibility was a fundamental issue of the project, each space is expressing by analyzing the flexibility allocated to it.

The Festival Hall can be opened directly on the Great Hall thanks to their connection, which is required when fairs and big events like the Book Fair are taking place and that the use of the whole building is necessary.





생 루이 다목적 스포츠 센터

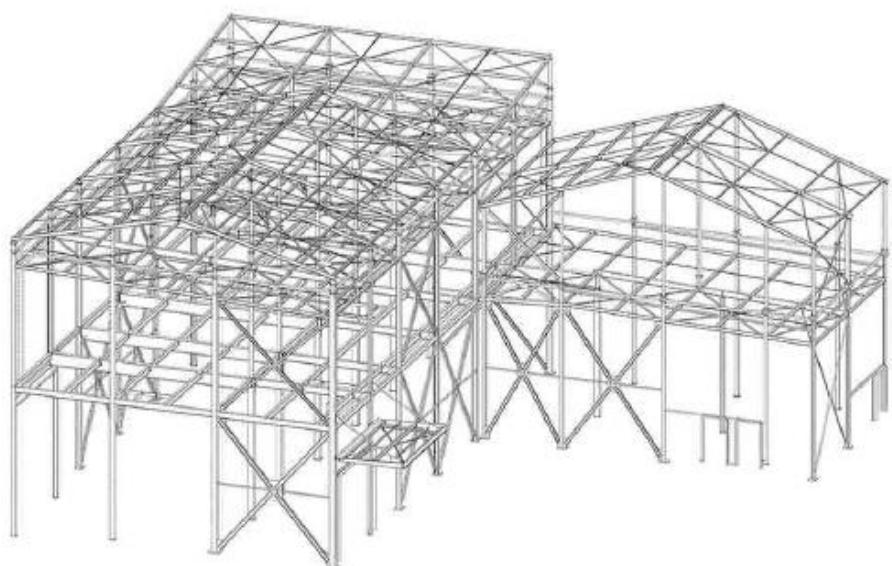
프랑스 동부, 알자스 지역의 생 루이는 독일, 스위스와 가까운 국경 도시다. 최근 생 루이 도심부에 대규모 다목적 스포츠 센터가 분을 열었다. 저층 주택과 특색 없는 고층 건물들이 어지럽게 뒤섞인 도심부에서 새로운 시각적 랜드마크 역할을 해내고 있다.

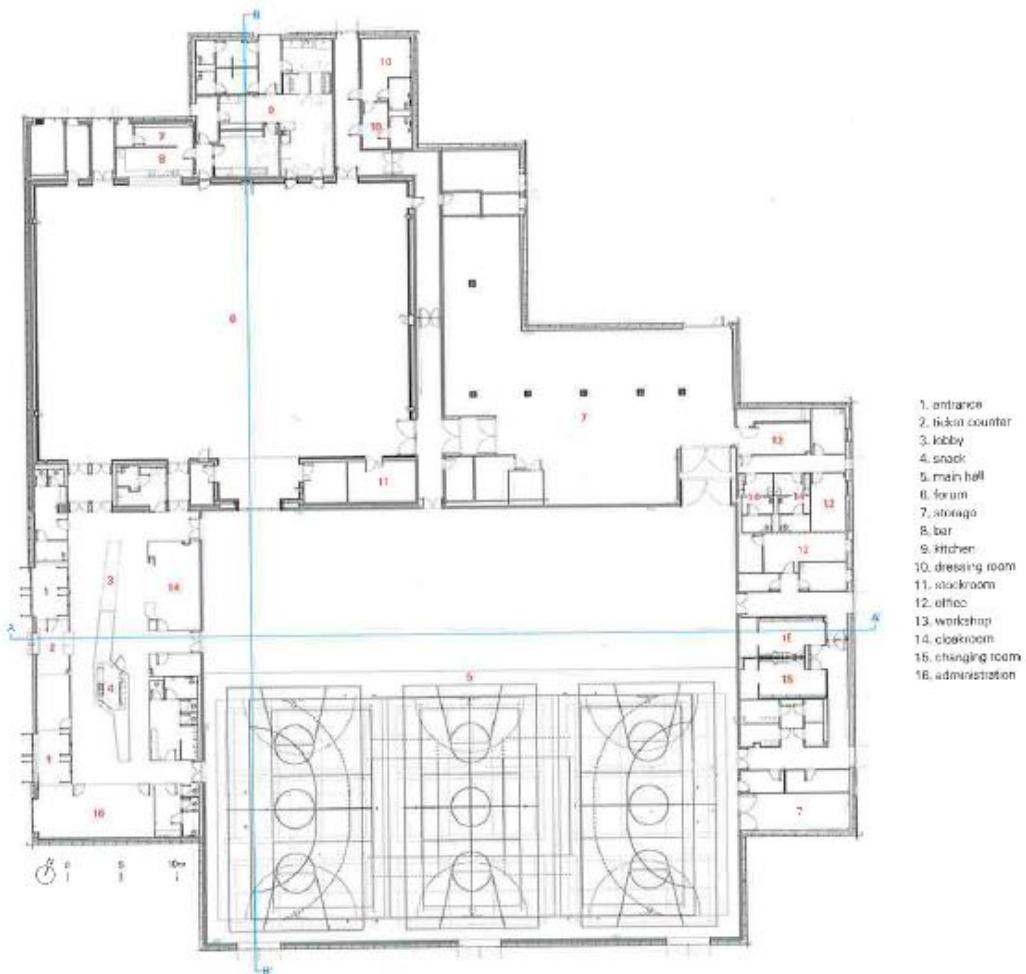
부지 주변이 여수선한 분위기였던 만큼, 건물은 이를 전蹲하면서도 기존의 도시적 스케일을 유지하는 형태로 계획됐다. 건물은 크게 두 가지 성격의 공간으로 구성된다. 안내소, 사무실, 박의실 등의 부대 공간과, 페스티벌 홀과 그레이트 홀로 구성된 주요 공간이다. 두 개의 풀은 대규모 공간을 필요로 하지만 부대 시설은 비교적 작은 면적만 확보하면 되므로, 이 두 공간의 차이를 한층 더 적극적으로 대비시키기로 했다. 즉, 핵심은 두 종류의 공간을 효율적으로 배치하여 다양한 부지 주변의 특성을 긴물까지 연결해 줄, 독특한 형태를 제시하는 것이다. 그 혁법으로 여러 개의 모듈을 끼워 맞춰가며 연결하는 방식을 제시했다. 건물 가장자리에는 비교적 작은 모듈은, 중심부에는 대형 모듈을 배치하면서 총 13개의 모듈을 빈틈없이 하나로 엮어낸 것이다. 이러한 방식으로 북쪽에는 페스티벌 홀이, 남쪽에는 그레이트 홀이 배

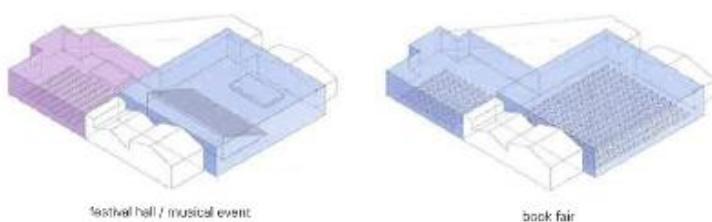
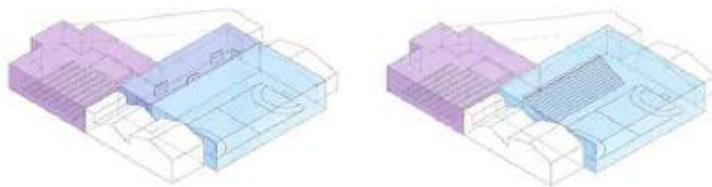
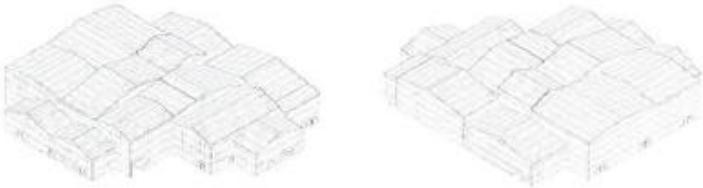
치되었으며, 방문자들의 편의를 고려해 일반인용 출입구는 서쪽에, 즉 샘을 출입구는 동쪽으로 분리다. 공간을 배치할 때 또 한 가지 조작을 달쳤던 사항은 각각의 공간이 지질적으로 연결될 수 있어야 한다는 것이었는데, 이는 모듈들이 퍼를 조각처럼 정확하게 끼워맞으로써 시연스럽게 해결되었다. 각 공간이 직접 이어지기에 불필요한 벽도는 최소화되었으며, 동선 자체도 훤칠 유동적으로 꾸 것이다. 이러한 구조를 적절히 이용해 인접한 페스티벌 홀과 그레이트 홀을 연결하면, 상당히 넓은 단일 공간이 형성된다. 대규모 전시회나 축제를 하기에도 부족한 없는 공간이다.

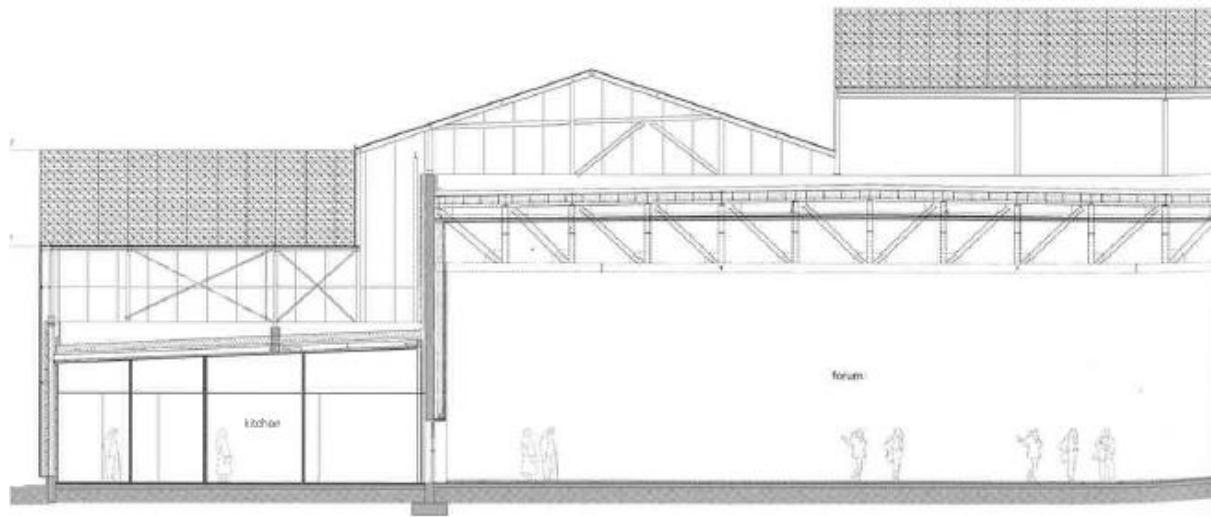
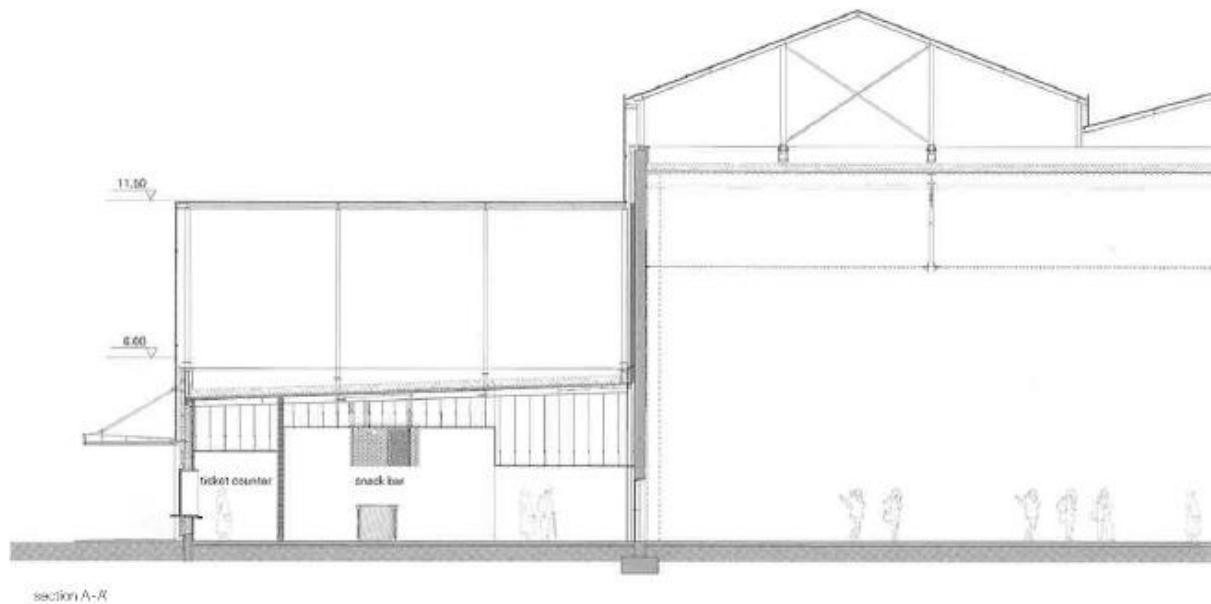
한편 건물을 구성하는 모듈의 크기는 각기 다르지만, 기본적인 형태나 재료, 개구부를 내는 원칙 등은 하나로 통일하여 전체적으로는 통일적인 분위기를 연출했다. 특히 인근 건물에 두루 쓰인 박공지붕을 활용하여 주변부와도 조화롭게 어우러지는 모습이다. 그러나 지붕이 경사진 방향은 모듈마다 조금씩 다르다. 어떤 모듈은 난봉 방향으로 또 어떤 모듈은 납작 방향으로 경사를 주었는데, 그 덕분에 시각적인 재미는 한층 더해졌고 시간대별로 각 내부 공간에 필요한 만큼의 빛이 들어올 수 있게 되었다.



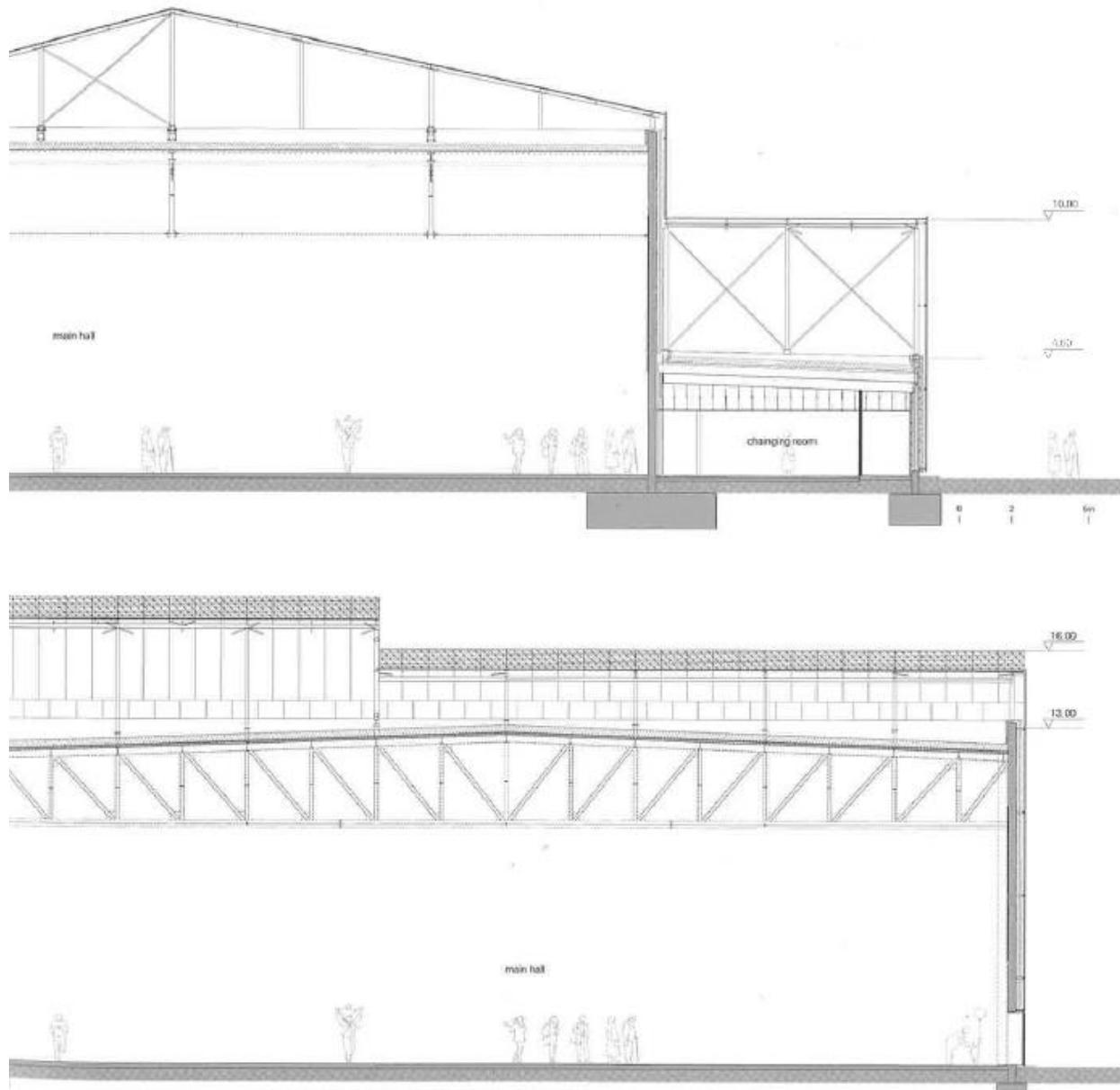








Project: "Le Forum" Sports, associative and events facility / Location: Place Gras, Saint-Louis 6881, France / Architects: Manuelle Gautrand Architecture (Manuelle Gautrand, principal architect, Cécile Ortola, project manager) / Project management: S.E.R.S. / Project team: AIC (structure engineers), ALIO (fluids engineers), CHOLLEY (quantity Surveyor), JP LAMOUREUX (acoustic), CSD-FACES (fire safety), OTCI (roads and networks engineers) / Other contributors: C2Bi (management and coordination, Qualiconsult (technical controller Veritas), H&S Coordination / Main companies: Pontiggia (roads and networks), Urban-Dumetz (structural work, concrete), CABROL (steel frame, cladding). Main suppliers: Metal Deploya (expanded metal cladding), Akzo Nobel (copper pigment), VITRA (chairs), KNAUF (acoustic), MOSD (bamboo parquet floor)



Cient: City of Saint-Louis / Use: great sports/shows multifunctional hall, festival/events hall, reception area, locker rooms, storage area / Gross floor area: 6,713m²
 Great hall area: 1,870m² /concerts/shows configuration: 1,700 seats; sports configuration: 1,000 bleacher seats; sports field: 44x26m; festival hall: 870m², 700 seats; reception hall: 300m²; storage rooms: 460m² / Great hall ceiling height: 13m / Festival hall ceiling height: 10m / Steel frame: maximum range-40m for the great hall, 30m for the festival hall, weight of the frame - around 350 tons / Cost: 0.7 M€ net excl. / Competition: 2010 / Studies: 2011~2013 / Construction (commencement of work): 2013.10
 Completion: 2015.12 (opening to public: 2016.2) / Photograph: ©Guillaume Guérin (courtesy of the architect), except as noted