

Title project:

'Luna St Prex'

Project description:

Luna was developed by ALICE for the 6th edition of the St. Prex Classics festival in 2012. Designed for the Place de l'Horloge facing the clock tower entering the medieval town of Saint-Prex, this ephemeral, fully demountable structure provides the festival with a sheltered space for concerts and dance with a modular capacity of 500 to 700 spectators. This design Research project started in 2011 from a straightforward speculation: Would the superimposition of the classical program of a concert hall with its adjacent foyer spaces and necessary facilities onto the existing urban environment of a small medieval town lead to a spatial sequence with particular qualities and thus contribute to the character of a specific place and event? The second issue centered on an archetypical question: How to shelter an event while leaving it open to the skies, as suggested by the illusionary vaults of the Baroque age? The design stems from a simple idea: the continuous surface in the form of the "Grande Rue" of the medieval "bourg" of St Prex can accommodate all festival-related functions. Beyond the city gate, this ground then folds up into the seating ranks in topological continuity to form a simple yet open and flexible environment. Hence, the gate to the city becomes the entrance to the concert hall and the performance space operates as a plug-in into the medieval city. While for the spectators facing the clock tower the historic façade remains one of the main features of the new structure, a key element of the project is its vast hemisphere, covering the space with a softly convex roof—an illuminated textile dome—providing it with a unique atmosphere and rare acoustic qualities. In the 2014 version, this roof will float above the village, thus opening the concert space, as the ring will frame a portion of the skies above St Prex.

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Engineer:

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Client:

Fondation St Prex Classics

Address:

Lausanne La Côte

Rte de Morges 36, 1162 St Prex

Address project: Place de l'Horloge, 1162 St Prex

Constructed area: 719m²

Volume: 10'000m³

Year: Annual ephemeral (first edition 2012, second edition 2013)

Photo credits: see photosheets

OTHER COMPANIES INVOLVED

Rings and columns

FHS Frech-Hoch AG
4455 Sissach

Balloon

Cameron Ballons Ltd
Bristol BS3 4NH, UK

Stage & Grandstand

Nüssli AG
3250 Lyss

Project Management

Anlag AG
Chillweg 5, 4305 Olsberg

Backstructure

Mesag AG
7204 Untervaz

Technical Director St Prex Classics

Muzengi, Montreux



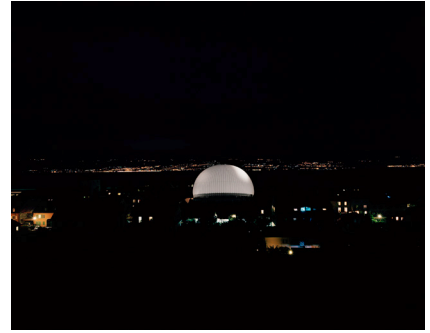
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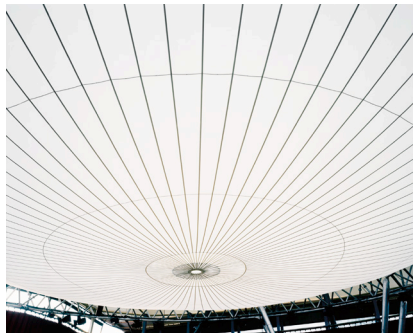
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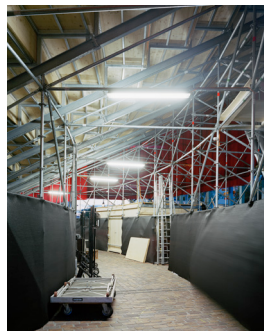
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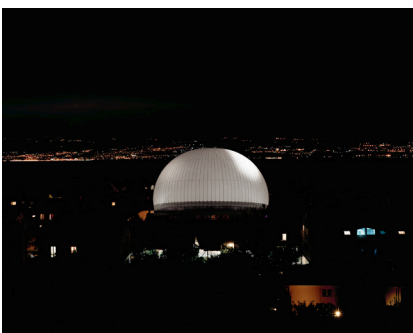
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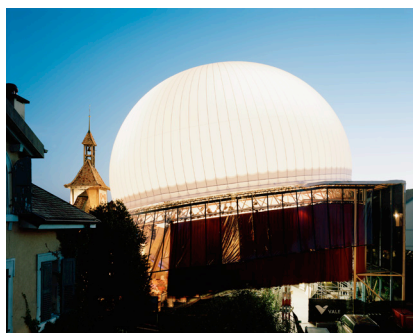
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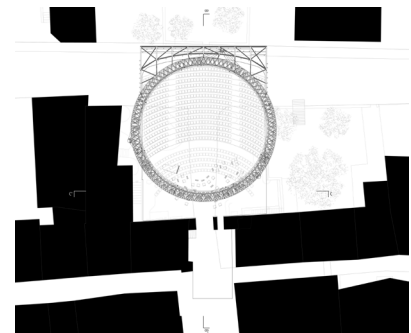
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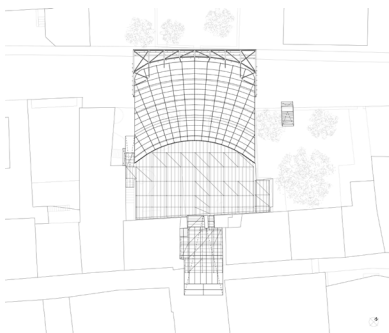
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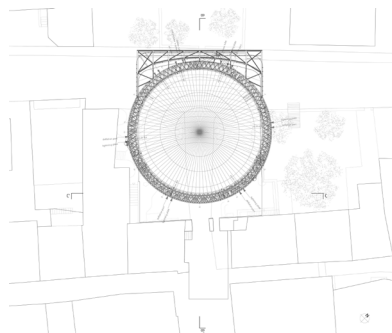
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caption: situation section A-A'
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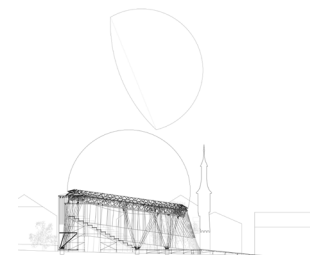
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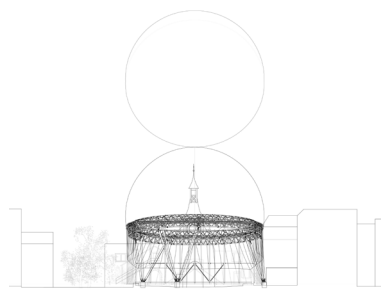
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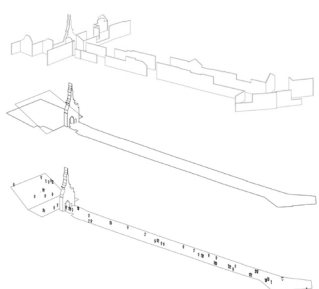
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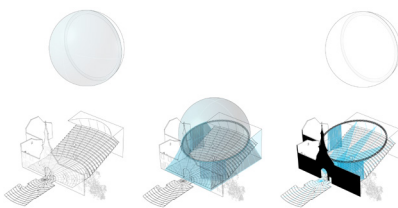
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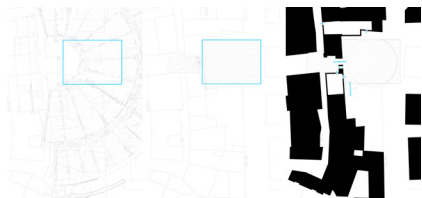
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filename: E1_street as foyer.png
caption: street as foyer
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filename: E2_performance structure.png
caption: performance structure
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filename: E3_stage geometry.png
caption: stage geometry
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