



Art & Science

Archilab - When architecture breathes

By Marie-Laure Desjardins

Saturday, 11/02/2013



Opened for Heritage Days, the new Frac Centre region currently hosts the 9th *Polymorph* edition ArchiLab, real laboratory with the most advanced architectural design *Jenny Sabin.* research. Founded in 1999 by Marie-Ange Brayer, director of FRAC Centre, and Frédéric Migayrou, Deputy Director at the Centre Pompidou, the event presents projects forty architects, designers and artists, chosen to echo the theme: "Naturaliser architecture".

Everything starts at the Gare d'Austerlitz, a corridor leading to the wharf. To the left, a beautiful canvas print catches the eye and deflower the surprise: it is enshrined in an urban landscape outrageously blue and cloudy sky at once. The look does not linger too, needless to wane a representation while the building of glass and metal is just one and a half hour rail. Orleans is our destination. Jakob + MacFarlane designed by the building entrance FRAC Centre, named The turbulence is installed on an esplanade below the street and grafted on old army barracks. Three growths of metal and glass evoke a straight out of a science fiction novel hybrid body. Conceived as a place of interaction with the city and its inhabitants, it has several hundred diodes, true "light skin" designed by the artist duo Electronic Shadow (Naziha Mestaoui and Yacine Aït Kaci). Taking the construction lines of Turbulence, the spots become denser to materialize in turn lines, surfaces, volumes, images. Interactive, product responds to its environment, taking into account climate data and the requests of these creators pop animation scenarios designed by them. Once inside, the surprise was complete. The armor outside turns into a beautiful designed by a tubular metal structure carrying wood panels volume. A welcoming, warm and natural smile is like the place. But already the building is cleared, this eye, definitely always on the lookout, spotted *Polymorph* Jenny Sabin.

Manufactured using a 3D printer, ceramic modules 1300 overlap each other to compose in a selected volume by son stretched to several meters above the ground. The U.S. is interested in architecture's relationship with mathematics and science, especially biology. The project presented analyzes the shift between digital design and materialization. It shows a network of connections directly inspired by the cellular behavior. *"Collaborating with scientists is rare. Should be brought together architects, designers, biologists, engineers ... in the same workshop to develop new ways of thinking, watching the work, or even abolish the borders between disciplines. My goal is to create a new concept"* *Jenny Sabin, Frac Centre* *MacFarlane.*

space of fusion between design and science, offer new formal and material expressions in the field of architecture, taking into account environmental issues, " says the architect.



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Grotto Prototype
Michael Hansmeyer

A few meters away ArchiLab officially begins, edition 9. Apart from a dress rehearsal by Benjamin Dillenburger.

Herpen, the eye, this time no longer has any mark. He slips the *Livepaintings* Perry Hall *Chrysalis III* agency Matsys, through *META-Folly for the Metropolitan Landscape* of ecoLogicStudio immersed in a fascinating shapes and materials. "Architects exposed implement specific strategies in order to overcome the distinction between nature and artifice. Control training principles and specific growth area of living inaugurates a true meta-ecology. This is a profound change in the concept of nature that is so engaged, now inseparable artifice, technical and technological "generation", explain the curators Marie-Ange Brayer, director of the FRAC Centre, and Frédéric Migayrou, Deputy Director at the Centre Pompidou. Among the most spectacular projects include *Grotto Prototype* Michael Hansmeyer Benjamin Dillenburger. Designed specifically for ArchiLab within the collection of the FRAC Centre, this lodge to deliciously baroque appearance is an illustration of the exceptional control offered by the design tools and digital fabrication. This architecture, developed using computer procedures for generating forms, has been obtained thanks to 3D printing techniques. "Digital design will change more radically than previous architecture technological advances," says Michael Hansmeyer, wondering if the architect will have to develop its own programs or if it will simply use those outstanding and also questions the future of architecture as well as the potential ability of the latter to not produce as singular projects. Non-standardization she will become the norm?

For their part, Herwig Baumgartner and Scott Uriu (agency B + U) develop an architecture of nature and technology. Digital tools allow them to combine environmental parameters, including sound and magnetic waves. The *Housing Tower* proposes the creation of an organic building interactive and intelligent. "Outside the building is a direct result of what happens inside. The openings can be opened or closed without mechanical system and a reflective film captures solar energy", say the architects. In the darkness, *Petting Zoo* welcomes the visitor. This robotics and interactive installation from left to right signed Minimaforms is composed of three bright, flexible, vibrating and emitting sounds META-Folly for the Metropolitan

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tentacles. They evolve in space according to the movements of their guests engaged with Landscape ecologicStudio, 2012. them in a real dance. Empathy with the machine is immediate and the urge to caress as you would with an uncontrollable animal. Everyone advance hand! The litany of exciting Housing tower Herwig Baumgartner and Scott Uriu. and particularly enlightening ArchiLab projects could go on and on. But it is now your eye to go practice them.



Contact> *ArchiLab - Naturaliser architecture* until 30 March 2014 at the FRAC Centre, The Disruption, 88, rue du loft, 45000 Orléans, France. Monday to Friday from 10 am to 12 pm and 14 pm to 18 pm. Weekends and holidays from 14 am to 18 pm. Tel. : 02 38 62 52 00. www.frac-centre.fr.

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