

J JACQUES
F FERRIER
A ARCHITECTURE

An overall vision

The projects presented in this exhibition are at the cutting edge of what will be our shared values in the sustainable urban society of tomorrow: they go beyond the technical or doctrinaire, and above all are architectural projects - and, more specifically, projects for architecture in the city.

For this reason, they address questions related to the environment as part of an overall vision that integrates technical solutions into urban contexts: the dense city is the basis for a new approach where people are no longer the playthings of technology but the subject of all its intentions. Density does not mean excluding open spaces or nature; buildings become gardens, and development boundaries disappear in the context of stimulating diversity. It goes without saying that minimized energy consumption on the agenda here, but without being an end in itself: it is the pretext and trigger for original forms of architecture that will change the way we experience and view the city.

Taking account of environmental criteria has also broken down barriers in the way projects are produced. It is no longer possible to design by juxtaposition, and formerly specialized approaches have become transversal and indissociable from usage- and context-related approaches; technology is put into perspective as part of an overall vision of what is represented by living together harmoniously in a metropolis of several million inhabitants. Technology is no longer "on the side" but an integral part of projects: it is becoming less arrogant and more in tune with inhabitants, while continuing to innovate.

In "architecture = durable", Pavillon de l'Arsenal, 2008