



MAISON DE LA CULTURE D'AMIENS
Pôle européen de création et de production

Invitation to tender (ITT)

Creation of a garden in the square in front of the
«Maison de la Culture Amiens»

Deadline for application : 7 décembre 2017



Invitation to tender / Garden- MCA

Maison de la Culture d'Amiens

Place Léon Gontier - CS 60631

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FRANCE

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1. General Context

Amiens is located in the heart of a metropolis with a population of 180,000. It is a city of reconstruction, well known for the wealth of its heritage (architectural, archaeological, monumental and landscape). In the early 1990s, the municipality initiated major projects aimed at redefining public spaces and regenerating the urban fabric. This included the creation of parks and gardens including the Saint-Pierre Park, the creation of a traffic free city centre, greenery in the heart of the city, building a university in the Saint-Leu district, and converting an old dyeing factory to an art school. At the same time a convention was signed with the Ministry of Culture which initiated a wave of artistic commissions which today constitute a substantial collection of works of art. These include the Musée de Picardie, the Jules Verne Circus, the Saint-Leu district and districts in the north of Amiens. Thus, during their travels, inhabitants and visitors can discover the creations of contemporary artists such as Sol Le Witt, Balkenhol, Séchas etc.

Today, Amiens Métropole has oriented its cultural ambitions towards the themes of lifestyle, living together, street art etc. Urban regeneration is expressed through a policy which is attentive to the suburbs, all of which have some sort of cultural centre. The conversion of the citadel into the university campus for the city centre, the classification procedure for the "Pays d'art et d'histoire" and "Jardin remarquable" for the garden of plants, the "ville fleurie" (Classed as 4 flowers by the CNVVF) and most recently the project for High Quality Public Transport (HQPT) are all driving forces where public policies develop an integrated and transversal approach to living together.

This Invitation to Tender (ITT) aims to develop and rethink the place of nature in the city. The artistic study supported by the Ministry of Culture, Directorate General of Artistic Creation is the responsibility of the Direction Regional of Cultural Affairs (DRAC) Hauts-de-France. Its programme is linked to the planned bus stop which will be built on the edge of the square as part of the HQPT.

It has also been linked to the planned bus stop scheduled on the outskirts of the courtyard built as part of the HQPT.

The Amiens HQPT project is not only an optimized urban transport project, it also provides an opportunity to rethink the city in depth according to the HQPT bus route.

4 high-speed, high-frequency commercial bus routes will crisscross the city and provide users with an efficient mode of travel.

In addition, the project seeks environmental excellence by choosing electric buses on the majority of the network and by redesigning the public space to bring more comfort for other transport modes (walking and cycling) as well as urban vegetation, from herbaceous to arboreal.

The site is currently served by the bus routes L1, L3, L4, X11, B6 and B913. It will also be served by the HQPT by 2019.

2. Maison de la Culture d'Amiens: architectural context and cultural project

The Place Léon Gontier

The «Maison de la Culture Amiens» (MCA) is located at 2 place Léon Gontier, near the pedestrian centre of the city.

The MCA and the square date from 1965 and are built over an underground car park. The MCA is located at the corner of a road junction. The municipal team of Gilles de Robien, mayor at the time, launched a major project to pedestrianize the city centre in 1989. In 1993 the place Léon Gontier was redesigned to create an enlarged pedestrianised square.

The current municipal team is involved in a multi-annual programme to connect the pedestrianized area of the City Hall to the Coliseum by adapting the streets concerned (rue Gresset, rue de Cerisy, rue Marc Sangnier).

There is a Vélam station (bicycle hire) and bicycle racks on the square that faces the main entrance to the MCA.

The «Maison de la Culture Amiens»

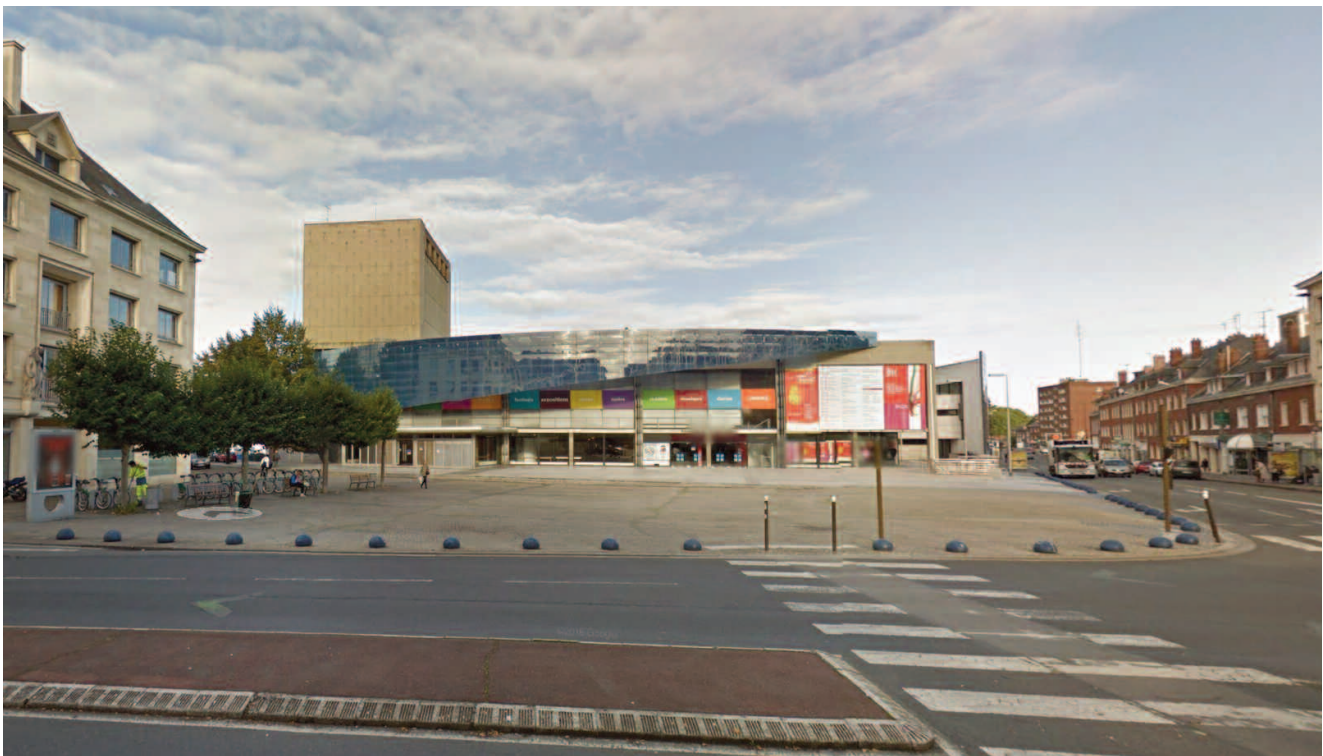
The «Maison de la Culture Amiens» was the first of its type to be built in France. It was designed by architect Pierre Sonrel, assisted by Jean Duthilleul and Marcel Gogois, it was inaugurated on 19 March 1966 by André Malraux, the then Minister of Cultural Affairs.

In 1989, the architects Gilles Duez and Van Hoa Huu, in association with the urban planner Gilles Gaignard and the scenographer Igor Hilbert, transformed, modernized and enlarged the existing building. The facades were glazed with blue glass, giving them a new roundness. The ground floor was mainly glazed and today has an open plan and can be crossed from one side to the other.

Due to its proportions and its location at one of the main crossroads in the heart of town, the «Maison de la Culture» occupies a striking urban position. Its innovative architecture is a marker for the entire population and shows in an unprecedented way the presence of this cultural centre. It has universal appeal, an ambitious artistic programme rich in highlights which takes into account all tastes.

The MCA serves a large area and accommodates all areas of expression with a programme that changes over the course of the seasons (see plan of situation, annex 1).

At the foot of the main façade and main entrance, there is a large square with a granite esplanade.



The internal areas of the House of Culture in relation to the square

- The entrance hall comprises the reception area, the ticket office, the public relations office, the box office at the Orson Welles cinema, the café and the Giacometti exhibition hall.
- The café of the Maison de la Culture is called the “Côté Jardin” it provides snacks, a tea room and also exhibitions and readings. With its large picture windows it offers a clear view of the square. In summer, tables are provided outdoors and customers are served on the terrace of the Place Leon Gontier.

The cultural project of the Maison de la Culture d'Amiens

Expression of an ambition in terms of policy to support artistic creation and dissemination, invested with multiple missions related to the development and awareness of the public, the «Maison de la Culture Amiens» - the only national stage in the county – has to be a hotbed of discoveries that reaches out to the Metropolis and beyond. By its status, its social function and its missions, it contributes to the cultural development of the territory and to its attractiveness.

Since its inception the MCA has favoured emerging or well-known artists, it is a symbol of the story of de-

centralization. Faithful to Malraux's project which was to cover all fields of creativity (live shows, visual arts, cinema, record publishing and more recently landscaping), in 2016 the MCA was classified as European centre for creation and production.

In addition to its missions of creation and dissemination, the "Maison de la Culture" is also committed to a pricing policy and to multiple cultural actions (meetings with artists, workshops, conferences, etc.) to favour access for all.

The Art, Cities & Landscape Festival

In 2010, under the leadership of its director Gilbert Fillinger, the MCA initiated a festival of gardens and an outdoor art exhibition in the Hortillonnages market gardens near Amiens. This festival helps to develop and publicise nature and the green identity of the Amiens agglomeration.

As part of this festival in 2016, an ephemeral garden was created on the square in front of the MCA by the Amiens gardening department.

3. The Artistic element of the order

Using an artistic order approach, sends a strong signal and is seen as an advantage for this MCA project and for the area that it serves. This initiative, inspired by a practice of openness and sharing of resources, aims to qualify the square while proposing a poetization of the public area.

The way in which the expectations are expressed takes into account the characteristics of the cultural project, its artistic identity as well as the morphology of the building and the environmental, urban, human, social and cultural context in which to draw or summon a particular symbol or image.

Compatible with the missions of the MCA the proposal will be the expression of an innovation process, echoing the issues that face society just as much as those expressed in the city project. It will be able to relay the DNA of this "cathedral of culture" imagined and created by Malraux, in particular the questions that artists pose today: those relating to living together, to biodiversity, to sustainable development or quite simply, those born of disparity of urban practices.

The proposal will be adapted to and compatible with the functionality of its immediate surroundings, the square and the surrounding area. Compatible with the open-mindedness of its architecture, it will respect the views of the MCA, its visibility, accessibility and the accessibility of the surrounding area. Thus, it will be adapted to the morphology of the buildings that surround the square.

The proposal will introduce plants that create continuity with the pedestrianised area, open up perspectives towards the park of La Hotoie (zoo) and the place Cerisy (ongoing urban projects that will develop in the long term - see issues map in annex 2).

The garden in the square will mark the access to the MCA, highlight its presence and will underline the future bus station in the square so that travellers have a quality welcome. It will introduce the notions of welcome and hospitality to travellers, as well as to walkers and pedestrians, encouraging them to move towards the façade of the MCA or inviting them to meet up. The proposal is an invitation to slow down, to rest.

The project can be understood as a spatial, temporal and cultural marker: it can contribute to orientation, as a way marker, identification and even appreciation. By its symbolic reach it is a contribution to encounters, relations and contacts between humans, the city and the multiplicity of expressions that it is made up of.

By its physical, artistic and symbolic configurations, the proposal can be a vector or an amplifier of the cultural or citizen project proposed to the local population.

It is also a proposal which, by the way in which it is organised, can offer a point of view, enrich a service or intensify the space. It can be an element capable of relaying a functionality or to facilitate accessibility. By its design and its realization, it will be well perceived, it will meet the expectations of plasticity and the ergonomics of travel and of rest.

The city of Amiens is committed to a "Destination for everybody" classification, it is important to respect the conditions of accessibility to the site. It must also comply with safety standards and other restrictions. The implementation and maintenance will not give rise to any management problems or additional charges. The garden will be arranged in continuity with the pedestrian area, punctuating materials and textures, it

will help to lessen the effect of road traffic and to slow the pace.

The "performative" dimension of the project will be recognized to the extent that it will intensify an aspect of the issues supported by the cultural project of the MCA. Innovative, this expressive presence, unprecedented or poetic, will be compatible with the cultural context of the territory and the main orientations developed by the project of the city.

4. The Implementation Context

The drawing in annex 3 shows the minimum perimeter for the project.

The pre-selected candidate (or team) will produce a preliminary draft which will then be transcribed into an operational project by the services of the City of Amiens, with the assistance of the team. Items that are not part of a routine development of the public space must be monitored by the selected candidate / team. The proposal will take into account the constraints due to underground services, car parking under the MCA, the requirements for maintaining access, particularly for the fire brigade, emergency vehicles, maintenance vehicles and maintenance of the square (see attached annexes).

The trellised lime trees are an integral part of the site and cannot be altered.

Artistic intent may include changes in soil, plants, street furniture and lighting.

The calendar

7 December 2017 (23:59): Deadline for applications

December 11, 2017: The jury will meet

The jury reserves the right to audition one or more candidates before the publication of the results.

21 December 2017: Publication of results

December 2017 / January 2018: Visit to the site with the selected team, meetings with the MCA, the community and the HQPT project management team

5 March 2018 Presentation of the preliminary draft, costed and detailed

The successful candidate (or artistic team) must then specify:

- The technical information (drawings, plans or models, dimensions, materials and equipment)
- A detailed provisional budget for the production and installation costs

Autumn 2018: Installation of the definitive garden station by the services of the Metropole, with the assistance of the candidate or artistic team

February 2019: inauguration of the garden and the HQPT station

Production budget for the completion of the work

The budget for the work is 250 000 € including VAT. It includes re-pointing the remaining paved surface, with the balance used for the completion of the landscape work on the square and monitoring the project.

Remuneration of the selected candidate

The selected candidate or team will receive a lump sum fee of € 9,200 excluding VAT which includes copyright fees and all other expenses relating to the candidate's application.

5. Selection procedures

Eligibility criteria and criteria

This ITT is aimed at landscapers, architects, artists and designers.
All persons participating in the jury and their families are excluded.
Applications may be individual or collective.

Selection procedure

The organisers will select a jury of qualified people: landscape designers, architects, representatives of local authorities (Amiens Métropole, Ministry of Culture ...) those involved in culture and public planners.

Applications will be evaluated and selected by the jury.

The jury will make a selection based on the following criteria:

- Artistic proposal and consideration of contextual issues: 50%
- Artistic quality of the candidate's career: 25%
- Technical and budgetary feasibility: 25%

Application form

Applications must be completed in French or English.

The application should consist of:

- A notice of intent of not more than five pages, which may include diagrams and which must include a 1 / 500 scale drawing.
- An artistic file of ten pages including the general approach of the artist or the collective accompanied by visuals with legends relating to a selection of works.
- A curriculum vitae of the candidate / or the team
- A completed application form

The deadline for applications is December 7, 2017 (before 23:59).

By email to the following address: parvis.mca@gmail.com

AND

A hard copy should be sent to the following address:

Appel à projets Jardin parvis MCA

«Maison de la Culture Amiens»

Place Léon Gontier - CS 60631

80 006 AMIENS cedex 1

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6. Annexes

List of Annexes downloadable on the link :

<http://www.maisondelaculture-amiens.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/annexe-en.zip>

- Annex 1: Layout drawing
- Annex 2: Issues Map
- Annex 3: Topographical drawing
- Annex 4: Network plan for XX 2017
- Annex 5: Plan of the underground structure
- Annex 6: HQPT Project
- Annex 7: Application form to be completed