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An architectural firm is installed for a week in a public space to share ideas and thoughts about the future of our towns. In the heart of this shared space, perfect for meeting and debating, the inhabitants discover the research to improve city life investigated by the Bouphar firm, and take part in a collective thought process.

During one week urban life is reinvented.

Palissades is an installation-show - one that necessarily adapts to fit the context in which it is implanted, using a subtle blend of reality and fiction.

Coproductions and residencies

Pronomade(s) en Haute-Garonne - Centre National des Arts de la Rue ; Derrière le Hublot - Projet artistique et culturel de territoire, Capdenac / Grand-Figeac ; Théâtre de l'Agora - scène nationale d'Evry et de l'Essonne ; Le Parapluie - Centre International de création artistique - Aurillac ; La Paperie - Centre National des Arts de la Rue - Angers ; L'Usine - Centre National des Arts de la Rue (Tournefeuille / Toulouse Métropole) ; Culture O Centre - Ateliers de développement culturel.

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- Thematic -Questions around the urban future

Towns are forever developing. Growing populations, ecological transition, quality of life, living together... many issues are at stake in this urban transformation. To tackle the issues of tomorrows' town planning and development policies are being developed today, drawing up the outlines of future cities.

Aware of the abundance of ideas concerning the evolution of urban lifestyle we wish to reflect upon the meaning of this for each city dweller. We are seeking those small and grand ideas that transform group life to living together as a community.

With Palissades, we have created a space designed to liberate thoughts, allowing each spectator to envisage certain alternatives and also to reveal his own ideas.

- Inviting the imagination into daily life -

Madame Bouphar, graduate of *la Délégation à l'Urbanisme Public*, is an optimistic architect, promoter of participative architecture. She has gathered together a multi-disciplinary team to perform an urban study in direct contact with the population, aimed at enhancing the research carried out by the Bouphar firm around the city of tomorrow.

We all have personal images, influenced by the subjectivity of our own history, spaces that frame our lives, that generate activities. Palissades questions the private, public, urban, peri-urban, rural, present-day and future spaces that concern us all.

In the encounter with Palissades, each member of the public can express their own vision of urban habitat, discover others; the exchange concerning these interpretations bonds, creates links.

Hidden within these boxes of curiosities are different aesthetic universes, poetic scenographies, visual and audible mentions where endearing characters set up their temporary theatre. They bring the Palissades to life, like six harmonics adding definition to the main theme of the desired city: our togetherness.





- Presentation of the six Palissades -

La Coquerie

La Citétube



The Coquerie palissade is a fully functional kitchen. Inside of which the architect Emmanuelle Pouphar in a playfull, sensitive and poetic way, undertakes a public inquest, in line with the users reality and intended to fuel the urban planning considerations of tomorrow.

It is within this warm interior comfort that the exterior space of the city is conjured up.

La Liseuse



Le Cabinet urbain



L'Observatoire



The reading of poetic texts out loud is a powerful instrument in favour of good neighbourly relations.

This reading office is like a cocoon inside of which Honorine Barjac invites the passerby to share the literary word to soften the harsher aspects of urban lifestyle.

Pierre-Eric Voisin leads the public through the history of urban planning going back over the inventions by the men and women who have rendered service to the town : the prefect Poubelle, Robert Binet, who invented the road sign, the pedestrian crossing...

This historic perspective imagined up with Plonk and Replonk encourages the spectator to consider urban life differently, distributing the idea that we are all the inventors of the city of tommorow.

One of the Palissades is occupied by a zoziologue and rings with stories of birds. The expert studies and explains the behaviour of urban birdlife, remarking as he does certain similarities with the urban human being...

Mme Bouphar and her team are working on an alternative to the quadrangular design of contemporary housing. These considerations have brought about a series of circular and modular housing projects, aimed at encouraging the togetherness of urban inhabitants. The model of the Citétube is built up day after day, modified according to the city

facades.

La Somnanville



Sleep is a key composant in defining our own well-being and good neighbourliness toward others. And yet it is all too often mistreated in urban living. The Bouphar Firm has decided to get to grips with this major issue by enrolling a sleep specialist.

The passerbys are invited to take part in the sleep experiments carried out in this small laboratory.



- The relationships with the public space and the public -

Presence insitu for one week

Over 4 days: a poetic public inquiry

The Palissades, provide a real meeting place to discuss the future of urban living, soaking up the thoughts and reactions of its inhabitants. They are the primary target hailed by the performance.

The weekend: a play back performance

The firm Bouphar makes an event of the situation before leaving town. The characters render a performance inspired by the encounters made through the course of the week. The complicity with the local community is quite noticeable for outsiders.

[2 performances a day – duration 90mins – guage: 90 people]

An immersion in the daily life

Due to the presence of the Palissades and the actors a true dialogue is engaged between the surrounding environment, the company and the local inhabitants. Day after day an appointment is made between the public and the inhabitants of the Palissades, provoking dialogue and discussion.

The presence of the six Palissades transforms the public space with its' traditional habits into a convivial meeting space encouranging the local population to live, for a short while, differently.

A progressive installation

The six Palissades are installed progressively in the public space. Two constructions a day go up over three days. As soon as a Palissade has been assembled, its' occupant takes hold of the space. The theatrical performance starts therefore on day one.

The duration, a linking factor

Over the space of six days that the Palissades are mounted the scenography ensures a fertile meeting ground, encouraging exchange and discussion. This is the time necessary for a truly rich and harmonious exchange between the local population and the actors to take place. The physical daily presence of the Palissades allows each passerby to discover, to question, to come and go, to approach and to take hold of the situation.

The mounting of the Palissades breaks a certain routine or monotony, creating a vital dynamic between the actors and those who are actually living in and around the selected space.

Different degrees of implication

By their nature the Palissades allow each participant to chose their own point of view : maybe just a peek through the slats, a peep through the window from the outside or go in, take part more actively.



- Conditions required -

On tour

6 days of performance

10 person troupe3 people arrive 3 days before day IThe remaining members of the troupe a day before day IThe troupe leave 2 days after the last performance date

The sets are transported by semi-trailor truck

Technical requirements

Performance space

Minimum space required approx 25m x 25m Electricity 32A 3-phase with 220V outputs : post, sewage pump, temporary meter Dressing rooms close to the site, with water source and fridge

Rear base

A 200M2 storage space for unloading of the Palissades. The premises must be accessible for a semi trailor truck with an acces gate of at least 3M wide, a water source, electricity and toilets.

Equipment required

8 extension leads (3x 2.5, 25meters minimum) Acces to an A3 colour laser printer (approx. 100 copies to be made) 2 forklift trucks over 3 and then 2 days I flatbed truck VL, approx. 2.4m × 4m over 2 days (a truck with telescopic crane can replace the VL truck with two forklifts) 3 pan extension ladder A dozen 20kg ballasts

Staff

I person surveillance for 6 nights

I fork-lift driver for 3 days

I technician for 3 days for set up and take down

Plants

Liaison with parks and garden department of the town/city Or provision of forty small flowering plants

These are approximative requirements. For a precise evaluation an onsite visit is necessary



- Useful informations and contact -



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Photos credits

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