MAO presents Common Places, a commissioned project by Chilean-French architecture office Plan Común and the Portuguese landscape architect Tiago Torres-Campos. Common Places is a series of brick constructions located in Nove Fužine, a part of Ljubljana where MAO is situated.

Plan Común and Tiago Torres-Campos have designed five multifunctional plinths, which are strategically positioned over the entire neighbourhood: in the museum courtyard, along the river, in the historic garden, in front of the community centre and behind the famous city bus stop, designed by Saša J. Mächtig in the 1960s. The plinths build, encourage and reinforce different uses of public space and create specific relations with the surroundings. They intend to become platforms for contemplation, meeting points, stages for events, concerts or lectures, or simply structures on which to sit and enjoy the communal life of the neighbourhood. In order to encourage passers-by to think about these spaces, Slovenian writer Goran Vojnović wrote short stories about the selected sites in which he reflects youth in the neighbourhood.

The limitations inherent in the project, in terms of timeframe, administrative work and budget, have been transformed into opportunities that concentrated the constellation around the easternmost urban enclave of Nove Fužine and MAO. This allowed for a more focused, even precise set of decisions on the interventions and the public space upon which they act.

The neighbourhood Nove Fužine was built in the 1980s in the eastern reaches of Ljubljana close to the Ljubljanica River, and is today home to some 18,000 inhabitants. Instead of producing a pavilion—a typology over-exploited by contemporary architecture—the authors conceived a constellation of public space micro-interventions related to built environment or pre-existing natural conditions within the Nove Fužine housing neighbourhood. This organized system aims at upgrading a series of common places identified on site by forging meaningful connections with their respective histories, spatial attributes and atmosphere, their cultural role within the structural public space, and social relevance within the community. By working closely together as a
constellation, the interventions also make a gesture toward developing a distinct relationship between the museum's public grounds and its surroundings in an effort to strengthen the connection and encourage unexpected encounters between the local residents and visitors to the museum. Upgrading also becomes an experience, one of expanding the energy of and synergies between the neighbourhood, MAO and BIO 25, as well as promoting to different types of both general and more specialized audiences.

The opening of the exhibition will coincide with the kickoff event for 25th Biennial of Design: Faraway, So Close, also organised by MAO and curated by Angela Rui and Maja Vardjan. The kickoff event will see seven teams of participants start their work with local experts and international creatives: Studio Formafantasma, Matali Crasset, Point Supreme, Didier Faustino, Studio Mischer'Traxler, Studio Folder and Odo Fioravanti.

The exhibition is part of Future Architecture platform programme.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Plan Común (Felipe De Ferrari, Diego Grass, Kim Courrèges and Thomas Batzenschlager), is an architecture office founded in Santiago in 2012 after 6 years of debate and editorial production within OnArchitecture. Plan Común proposes formal strategies to maximize and strengthen the character of public or shared space, understood as a key aspect of architecture regardless of its scale or program.

Tiago Torres-Campos is a Portuguese Landscape Architect and Lecturer at the University of Edinburgh. His activities bridge between practice, research and teaching, and his work has been awarded and published internationally. With interests in landscape, modes of representation and digital and social media, he is currently doing a PhD in Architecture by Design where he investigates the applications and implications of designing time in landscape architecture. He is the founder of CNTXT Studio.

COLOPHON

Authors: Plan Común (Felipe de Ferrari, Diego Grass, Kim Courreges, Thomas Batzenschlager), Tiago Torres-Campos
Professional support: Rok Gerbec, u.d.i.a.
Author of stories: Goran Vojnović
Design: Ajdin Bašić
Project directions: Matevž Čelik, Angela Rui, Maja Vardjan, Maja Šuštaršič
Project Manager: Maja Šuštaršič
Exhibition Manager: Nikola Pongrac
Project Coordinators: Špela Vidmar, Saša Štefe
The project was developed with the kind help of: Department of Economic Activities and Traffic, Municipality of Ljubljana, Department of Urban Planning, Municipality of Ljubljana, Institute for protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia, Moste District Community, Office for Local Self-Government, Municipality of Ljubljana, SPM – Association for the development of community programmes for young people and University Psychiatric Clinic Ljubljana.

The project is part of the Future Architecture platform and Faraway So Close – 25th Biennial of Design, Ljubljana.

WHAT IS FUTURE ARCHITECTURE?

Future Architecture is the first pan-European platform for architecture museums, festivals and producers, bringing ideas on the future of cities and architecture closer to the wider public.

Our goals:

• Think Future. We highlight the emerging generation of talents in various disciplines and explore and share their ideas about the future of cities and architecture.

• Exchange. 14 organisers from 13 countries are creating a pan-European programme with visiting emerging creators and presenting their ideas at exhibitions, conferences, lectures and workshops, in books and on the web.

• Raise awareness. The platform makes complex issues of architecture comprehensible to everyone, and promotes a more sustainable living environment.

• Build commitment. A Future Architecture European Quality label recognizes
organisers who work with aspiring emerging talents and show their commitment to the platform objectives.

The Future Architecture platform introduces and celebrates innovation, experimentation and the ideas of a generation that will design the architecture and build Europe's cities in the years to come. It promotes European innovation, architecture, culture, knowledge and social capital through a single common platform.

WHO IS FUTURE ARCHITECTURE PLATFORM?

Coordinating entity: Museum of Architecture and Design (MAO), Ljubljana (SI)
Members: Oris House of Architecture, Zagreb (HR), Museum of Architecture in Wroclaw (PL), Belgrade International Architecture Week (RS), National Museum of XXI Century Arts, Rome (IT), House of Architecture, Graz (AT), Copenhagen Architecture Festival (DK), Tirana Architecture Week (AL), Design Biotop, Ljubljana (SI), Lisbon Architecture Triennale (PT), dpr-barcelona, Barcelona (ES); Swiss Architecture Museum, Basel (CH), Prishtina Architecture Week (RKS), CANactions, Kiev (UA)

Platform Manager: Matevž Čelik, MAO
Pr & Branding Manager: Anja Zorko, MAO
Financial Manager: Tanja Vergles, MAO
Assistant Manager: Špela Vidmar, MAO
Web & Social Media Manager: Ana Kuntarič, MAO

MORE INFO

www.futurearchitectureplatform.org
info@futurearchitectureplatform.org
+386 (0)1 5484 274

STAY INFORMED

Facebook
Twitter
Instagram
Friends of Future Architecture:

Press contact:
Ana Kuntarič
ana.kuntaric@mao.si
+386 (0)1 5484 274

[Logos of ITD, Motovun, Creative Europe Desk Slovenia, culture agora]