

# A10



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€6.50

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## Start

- Library, Kiev
- Holiday resort, Çandarlı
- Cultural centre, Budapest
- Beach promenade, Esbjerg
- Church, London
- Multi-purpose office building, Hasselt
- Malapolska Garden of the Arts, Cracow

## Ready

- School extensions, Gentofte
- House, Epalinges
- Allotment garden house, Steyr
- House, Bucharest
- Hotel Sotelia, Podčetrtek
- Skatepark, Malmö
- Library, Barcelona
- House, London
- K & D buildings, Klaipėda
- Wine centre, Kalten/Caldaro
- Church, Rome

## &:

- Interview: the domestic world of Donaghy + Dimond
- Wonderland & CCEA cross European borders
- New Beginnings: a survey of trends and transformations
- Instant history: Jean Nouvel's Musée de Quai Branly, Paris

# Sporting transparency

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## City square vs building

**SARAJEVO (BA)** — Following the demolition of the old Sarajka department store last February, the city centre of Sarajevo now has an empty space. This tempting gap has revived public interest in the nature of future development in the city. A group of architects and private citizens have seized the opportunity to launch a campaign to realize a 40-year-old dream by creating a new city square on the spot.

↓ The demolished department store



The four-storey reinforced concrete building was completed in 1975, in accordance with the communist era perception that every city should have at least one centrally located department store to cater to consumer demands. The open space around the building was formerly called Trg Oktobra (October Square).

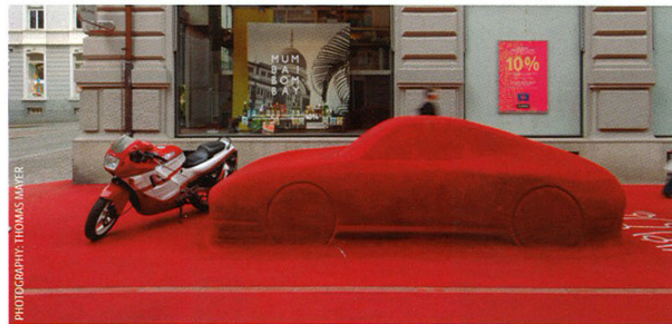
BBI Bank, which bought the site from the city government in March 2003, wants to construct a new mixed-use (hotel, commerce, offices) building on the site. Competitions for the building were held in 2004 and 2005 and a local architect was recently engaged.

Sarajevo is not well provided with open public areas and town planners have long cast covetous glances at this spot as the ideal location for the proposed city square. The site faces the large city park at the intersection of three major roads: Titova, Miss Irbina, and Radiceva. Titova Street, lined with classical buildings from the 19th and early 20th century is considered the most important

artery, while Radiceva Street is a park-lined residential street. The buildings surrounding the proposed square form a ready-made urban elevation with their uniform height, proportions and facade decorations.

One of the greatest advantages in using this site would be the opportunity to connect the proposed square with the park and provide direct access through Radiceva Street to the street running along the Mlijacka river. Viewing the proposed site from a broader perspective, the square would be an important focal point for the merging of the old and new areas of Sarajevo.

Sarajevans now await the answer to a dual question: what will BBI's design for the site look like and might the city government even yet decide to give BBI a new site, so that the area, and the city as a whole, could be substantially enriched by reviving the original concept of a new city square. Hopes are high, but prospects seem poor... (ELSA TURKUSIC)



## Urban carpet

**ST. GALLEN (CH)** — 'As red as the juices that flow inside us,' is how the artist, Pipilotti Rist, described her latest work at its inauguration late last year. For once, Rist, one of Switzerland's best-known artists, was not presenting a video work but a veritable piece of city: an urban lounge. Designed in collaboration with architect Carlos Martinez for the city of St. Gallen, 'Stadt lounge' is a public living room under the open sky, accessible day and night. It contains various pieces of furniture for sitting or reclining, a fountain and a Porsche — all with rounded edges for that typical 'lounge' look and coated with red rubber carpeting — plus a few (real) ginkgo trees. It's a place to relax, exactly what a lounge should be.

The story behind this urban cocoon is less cosy, however. Its location, the Bleichli quarter between the station and the old city centre, was until recently a rather morbid but much frequented part of town dotted with pubs and venues patronized by the alternative culture. A major bank headquartered in St. Gallen levelled the whole quarter in order to build a financial district that is as monumental as it is mediocre. The same bank has now paid the lion's share of the cost of the new 'Stadt lounge', which encloses not only four office buildings and a synagogue and illuminates the streets with suspended 'blimps'. One can't help thinking that the financial backer wanted literally to sweep its past sins under the carpet. Nevertheless, the new public salon, several hundred square metres in area, has enriched Bleichli. People saunter springily along the carpet which is even attracting a few tourists. (AXEL SIMON)

## My first conservatory

**APELDOORN (NL)** — Like many young architects, Johan van de Ven's first design commission was for a conservatory. However, this is not your classic extension to a family home, but a fully glazed bicycle garage built for the City of Apeldoorn. Van de Ven's selection for this job marked the beginning of his own practice, Deven architectuurstudio. The provision of free, secure, sometimes roofed, bicycle garages is designed to encourage the use of bicycles while keeping the urban streetscape free of untidily parked cycles. Van de Ven conceived this still uncommon building type as a cycle machine; the interior is dominated by the highly efficient system of ramps and velovator racks which maximize capacity (700 cycles in all). The resulting spectacle is visible through the transparent facade and given added emphasis by the cantilevered section marking the entrance. Van de Ven's conservatory could also be seen as an extension, but in this case of the environment: the tree-bark effect of the (experimental) melted glass facade foreshadows the landscaping of the surrounding area and produces the same kind of dappled light inside the building as under the foliage of a tree. (KIRSTEN HANNEMA)

'De Serre' bicycle garage, 2004–2005. Architect: Johan van de Ven, Deven architectuurstudio. Client: City of Apeldoorn. Glass facades: 360 Glas BV.



## Nextroom and ArchiNed: double anniversary

**VIENNA (AT) / ROTTERDAM (NL)** — Nextroom and ArchiNed, two of Europe's leading architecture websites, are celebrating their tenth anniversary. Nextroom was founded by Swiss architect Jürg Meister. ArchiNed is an initiative of Dutch architects Piet Vollaard and Robert Winkel.

Both ArchiNed and Nextroom were early adopters of a medium that rapidly developed into a major information provider. ArchiNed's strong point is that it is updated every workday with the latest news on architecture, urban design and landscape architecture in the Netherlands. So comprehensive is its coverage that just about every event, down to a modest lecture in a remote corner of the country, reaches the digital columns of archined.nl. Nextroom.at's strength is its ever-growing database of European architecture which is now available not just on the website but also on PDAs and mobile telephones. There is also a beta version of nextGIS which offers information from the database on road maps. (HI)

[www.archined.nl](http://www.archined.nl), [www.nextroom.at](http://www.nextroom.at)