

Benjamin Colboc and Manuela Franzen have perspicaciously retained the industrial artifacts inherent in the landscape and integral to the social, political, and economic contexts of the neighborhoods of Greenpoint and Williamsburg to gracefully house the program of the East River Community Boathouse.

Benjamin Colboc and Manuela Franzen are principals of Colboc and Franzen Architects in Paris, France. In January, 2004, they received the *Nouveaux Albums de la Jeune Architecture, Session 2003/2004*, saluting the quality of their projects, the pertinence of their architectural, urban, and landscape propositions, as well as their capacity for innovation.

MEMORIES' PHANTOMS

COMMUNITY BOATHOUSE COMPETITION
GREEN HOEK



"Green hoek has its specific history. Surrounded by water, enclosed by ambitious activities, shipbuilding, industry. An incredible potential, disappearing behind the large machineries of a civilization's development. Have all and have nothing. This is irony."

Giving back everything to green hoek means giving back a direct contact to the water. A strong presence, place for reconciliation with what is living in green hoek. We give a considerable space to the water.

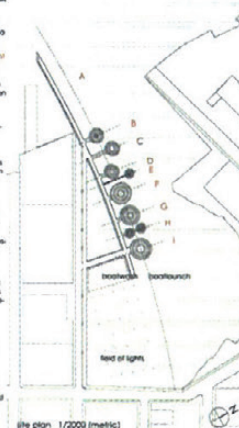
Searching for quality does not mean denying all that existed before, but integrating it in the specific beauty of the place. The gazometers actually implanted on the site are the continuity of green hoek's imposing and industrial history. They integrate their historic, sociologic and formal context. They are familiar to the city's landscape. Why destroy the object of many peoples' interest? memories. Why not transform these undesired, imposing objects into something evoking the mystery of water, of secrets hidden in deep volumes? We maintain these gazometers.

The boathouse program will be restored inside of them. Accessible by large wooden decks, invitation for a walk, water everywhere. Seaside village or industrial artifacts, the status of the gazometers in their transition from economic obligation to cultural event is ambiguous. Formerly a place not to go to... Curiosity leads us there.

The program is freely disposed on several floors. A flexible, modular construction permits different uses: boathouse, restaurant, cultural center. The structure of the gazometers is untouched. Relation to the exterior is assumed by their metallic skin. It's perception, especially the dialogue between the inside program and the outside water landscape, based on notions of view, light, protection and comfort. The partitions vary in density and size, from the breathtaking panorama over the river to the shy glimpses on the surrounding activities.

At night industrial lights indicate activities. Inside illumination transcribes the metallic monoliths, warm coloured reflections of the wooden interior on the dark water. There seems to be fog on the site. The phantoms of green hoek's memories emerge...

- A. promenade
To cut the adventure of walking on water, heading for the horizon and a breathtaking view
- B. green hoek lounge & restaurant
A high quality restaurant in an exceptional surrounding, surrounding atmosphere and views in a location with view on the river and neighborhood
- C. cultural center
A museum and a library aims to discover the history and the development of green hoek
- D. sports center
Completing the boathouse activities, physical center (new ice skating) in two fully equipped gyms around a generous relaxation area
- E. interpretation point
Get the important information on the green hoek activities: how to try out board on the boathouse creek, get made up reservations for the restaurant and get the program of the cultural center propositions
- F. boat house
The heart of the green hoek's nautic activities, centering the club and it's guests around a comprehensive, collective and information space
- G. boat construction
Boat and materials, high quality work, the green hoek impounding history into site
- H. gear storage & rent
of the necessary material to navigate and an intermediate outdoor deck for auxiliary instruction of good seamanship
- I. boat storage



JURY SELECTION

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23