

EXPO.02 - YVERDON-LES-BAINS

1998-2002, Yverdon les Bains, Switzerland



The 'Arteplage' of Yverdon-les-Bains was one of the four sites into which the Swiss National Exhibition that took place in 2002, was divided. A collaborative design team called 'Extasia', led by West 8, won an international competition for the design of this site.

Enormous artificial dunes, six meters in height, are the main organising elements of the design. Wandering between or over these hills, the visitors are confronted with masses of flowers in strong colours and psychedelic patterns, also producing (dis) orientating fragrances. Various facilities are accommodated in rough timber structures, integrated in the dunes. These structures act as 'artificial body-parts' that complete the form of each dune. Each pavilion roof is covered with semi-transparent stamoid, bubble-jet printed with a graphic flower-pattern, reflecting the biological species on the dune itself. An artificial, floating cloud forms an 'objet du desir' in the lake of Neuchâtel, accessible only by vanishing into its white foggy substance.

Because of a natural approach to materials and elementary detailing, every built object on the Arteplage was recycable and taken away afterwards.

client

Expo '02

partners

Diller & Scofidio, Vehovar & Jauslin, Morphing systems, Delux, Techdata

team

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