



TVK

Trévelo & Viger-Kohler
Architectes Urbanistes

23 Rue Olivier Métra

75020 Paris / t.+33 (0)1 47 00 04 62

f.+33 (0)1 47 00 08 85

www.tvk.fr / agence@tvk.fr

Place de la République

Place de la République

Technical sheet

Location

Place de la République. Paris 3rd, 10th and 11th arrondissements

Schedule

Competition winners January 2010

Studies April 2010 - June 2011

Preliminary works July 2011 - December 2011

Works (in phases) January 2012 - Spring 2013

Handover of square 16 June 2013

Handover of "Monde & Médias" Pavilion mid-July 2013

Key figures

Dimensions of square

280m x 120m

Pedestrian area

2 ha

Bus, taxi and cycle lane

7m wide, reduced-speed traffic

Ratio of pedestrians:traffic

Before: 2/3 traffic, 1/3 pedestrians

After: 2/3 pedestrian, 1/3 traffic

Seating

- ground (wide steps + base of statue)

- 24 wooden benches + 1 platform

- "movable" chairs available

Water

- statue basin (3m wide around the base of the statue)

- 276m² reflecting pool (23mx12m) + sprays

Lighting

- 34 lighting masts, 10 of them equipped with "signal bark"

- 19 historic candelabra, restored

Materials

3 sizes of concrete slabs on the concourse (14 cm thick) and on the north and south pavements (12 cm thick):

- large (192x68) in the centre of the concourse

- average (95x34) over the rest of the concourse

- small (48x17) on the pavements

+ "Parisian" asphalt on the west and east pavements (continuity)

Trees

- 134 plane trees

- 18 honey locust trees

- 1 wild cherry (tree of secularism)

- Trees before transformation: 83 on the esplanade / 142 around the perimeter

- Trees in the new square: 97 on the esplanade / 154 around the perimeter

Monde & Médias Pavilion

Volume of 9mx18m (162m²) with 3m headroom surmounted by a 0.75m thick roof providing a generous cantilever (8.7m deep)



Redevelopment of the square



The largest pedestrian square in Paris

TVK - Pierre Alain Trévelo and Antoine Viger-Kohler - hand over the redevelopment of the Place de la République, inaugurated by the mayor of Paris on June 16th 2013.

Due to its exceptional size (120m by nearly 300m), its symbolic dimension as a representative public statement and its location in the city, the Place de la République occupies a special place in the international hub that is Paris.

The redevelopment of the Place de la République is based on the concept of an open space with multiple urban uses. The elimination of the traffic circle frees the site from the dominating constraint of motor vehicle traffic. The creation of the concourse marks the return of calm in an airy, uncluttered two hectare space. The new square, now skirted by motor traffic, creates a large-scale landscape and becomes an urban resource, available and adaptable for different uses. Clear connections with the large boulevards promote a new balance centred on soft transport for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport. The statue of Marianne,

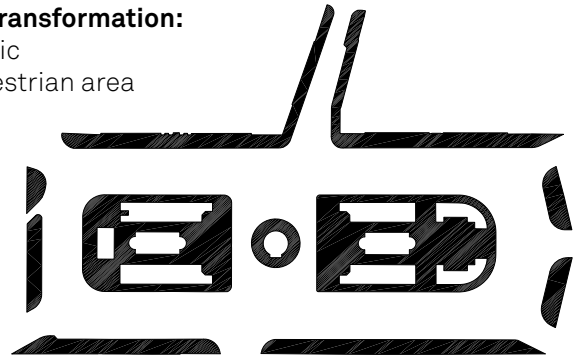
the reflective pool, the pavilion and the rows of the trees form a strong axis. This harmony is amplified by the serene balance of the mineral element and a very gentle slope of 1%. All these elements contribute to both the interpretation of unitary materials in a perennial and contemporary manner and multiple explorations (colours, water, lights) creating different urban ambiances.

The Place de la République is now a new centre of attraction, a place for exchanges and meetings. Two terraces incorporated into the continuity of the square encourage people to sit down and relax. The south-west part of the square houses a 162 m² pavilion also designed by TVK, a unique building, glazed throughout to retain a continuous impression of this singular space. The layout is conceived by NP2F architectes.

The Place de la République is now the largest pedestrian square in Paris.

Before transformation:

2/3 traffic
1/3 pedestrian area



Espace piéton : 35% de la surface totale de la place
soit 12000m²



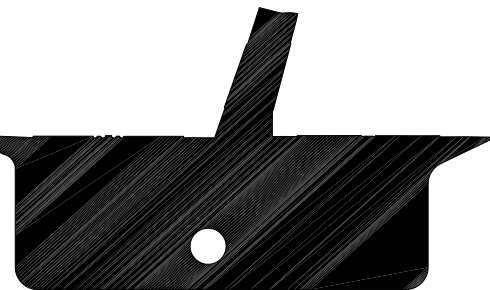
Espace piéton sur le terre-plein central : 20% de la surface totale
soit 6300m²

Today:

2/3 pedestrian area
1/3 traffic



Espace piéton : 70% de la surface totale de la place
soit 24000m²



Espace piéton sur le parvis central : 57% de la surface totale
soit 20000m²



The articulation of public and pedestrian areas

Abandoning the traffic circle model

The redevelopment of the Place de la République is based on a decision to create the largest possible public pedestrian area. Paris was in need of an exceptionally large and versatile public place, like an open field in the heart of the city, a feature found in many other large cities. Also, it was essential to move away from the traffic circle model.

Functional & environmental dissymetry

Two-fold dissymetry, both functional and environmental, is used along the long axis of the square to blend it into the general urban setting.

Motor traffic has been reorganised. It now runs along the southern edge and two smaller sides of the square only. Now that the traffic runs in both directions and the pavements have been widened, the road is much more similar to the large Parisian boulevards.

Unity and balance

The Place de la République is also open to varied groups participating in a very wide range of activities. The aim of the project was to cater for these users by changing the balance between the roadway and the concourse. The most important challenge was to reunify and harmonise the attributes of a city with those of a local neighbourhood.

Traffic flows

Genuine intermodality

The atmosphere of the square is highly dependent on the flow of traffic, and particularly public transport. A lane reserved for buses, taxis and cycles runs along the north eastern side of the square, under the trees, connecting with the Rue du Faubourg du Temple. This creates a smooth flow of traffic and at the same time fosters intermodality. Almost all the bus stops are located very close to the main Metro exits and/or cycle/taxi stations. The vast pedestrian area makes it easy to change from one mode of transport to another.

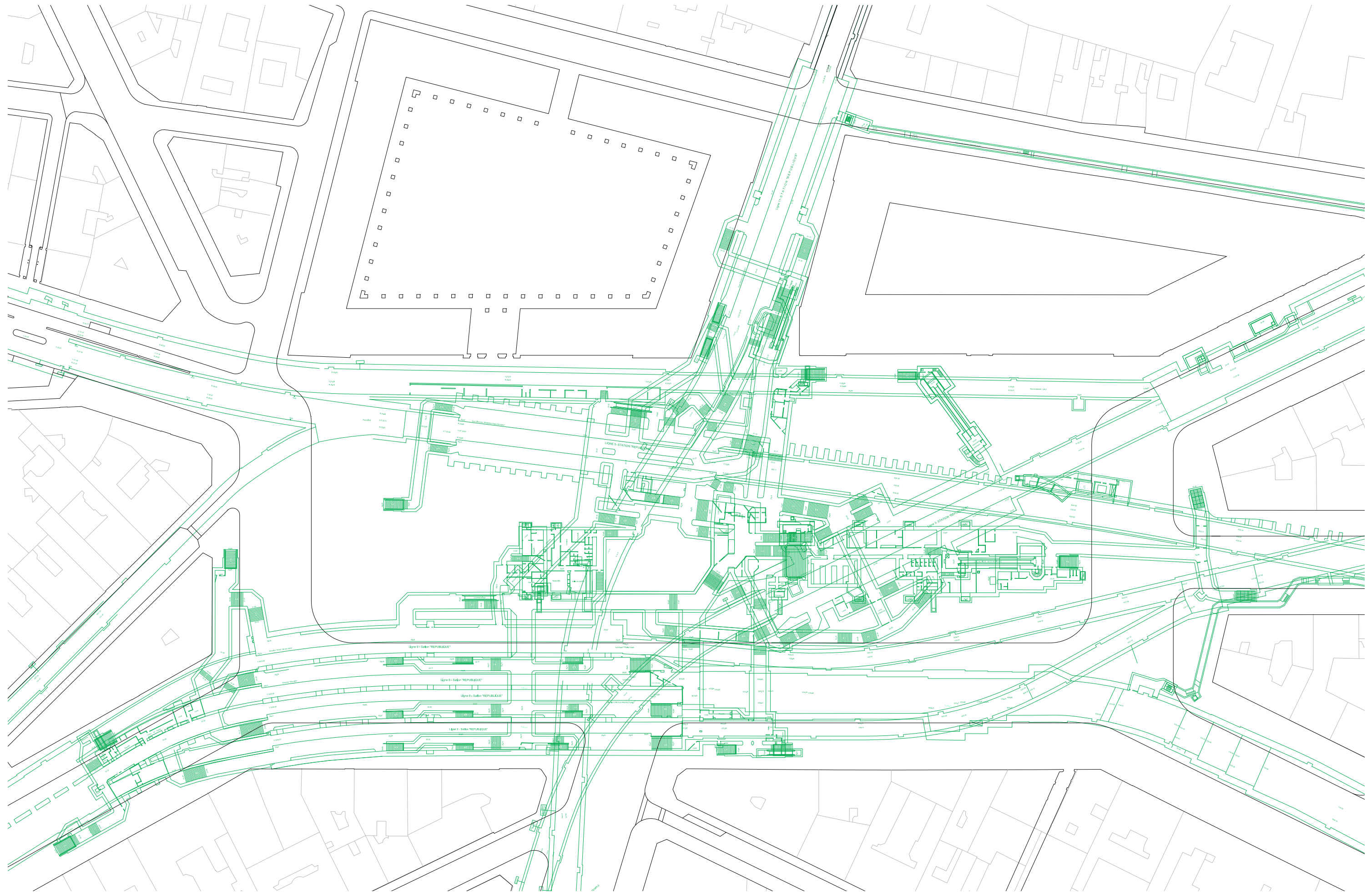
The environmental approach

A comfortable square, conscious of its environment

From an environmental point of view, traffic has been routed through the shaded area of the square to free up a large pedestrian area in the sunny part. The square is comfortable as a result of a strategy that is at once urban, landscaped and architectural. The process is underpinned by the use of perennial materials and economic techniques.

Simple measures have been implemented to prevent the square becoming a "heat island":

- increasing planting and creating a unit of vegetation to provide maximum mass effect;
- allowing the sun to penetrate and positioning the pedestrian areas in the sunniest areas;
- taking advantage of the summer breezes, which are cooled by contact with the sheets of water in the centre and west of the esplanade;
- blocking the cold winter winds by thickening the vegetation in the north;
- using the layout and materials to improve comfort and combat the "heat island" effect;
- supporting and consolidating the usage dynamic in the square to suit the prevailing conditions.



Map of the parisian underground network



Composition of the area & surface

The surface

The surface consists of paving slabs of different colours and sizes. The shady areas of the square are paved mostly in darker colours, while the open areas are generally paler. The choice of prefabricated concrete ensures good performance in all weather, offering maximum resistance to the greatest variety of uses. This material also enables the use of monochrome colours, creating continuity with the surrounding surfaces of roads and roofs.

Three types of concrete paving slabs have been used in the square, reflecting its overall layout:

- "large module" prefabricated slabs in the centre of the concourse, to give a wide perspective and cater for large-scale uses,
- "medium module" prefabricated slabs for the rest of the esplanade along the concourse,
- and lastly, "small module" prefabricated slabs (on a more ordinary scale) for the north and south pavements. The bus lane to the north of the square is made of poured concrete.

Levels

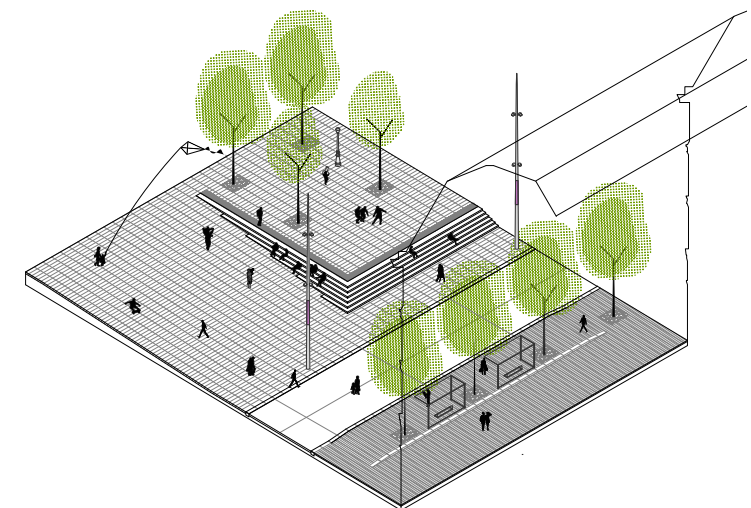
The density of the networks present under the Place de la République mean it also serves as a "roof": the site is home to five Metro lines, sewers, telecom tunnels, etc. The levels create a main movement of great simplicity, vital to the spatial comprehension of the square and an understanding of its vastness. The simple 1% incline of the central concourse reveals two wide terraces at the back of the esplanade, in keeping with the scale of the surrounding area. The terraces continue the concourse but are edged to the north with steps. Between these terraces, the ground drops consistently towards the two large palace buildings and the shared trafficked area (pedestrians, cycles, buses, taxis), providing continuity of traffic flow and excellent accessibility.

A large garden, a large concourse

The square is unified by the single grand compositional movement and the one inorganic surface treatment. This unity helps to indicate three distinct sections: the urban garden of over 2,000 m², planted and organised into several sub-areas; the central concourse of almost 12,000 m² and 35 metres wide with the statue de la République as the focal point; the continuity of all the boulevards, with the road system on three of its sides and the widened pavement (13 metres on the longer side to the south west, which is the busiest side).

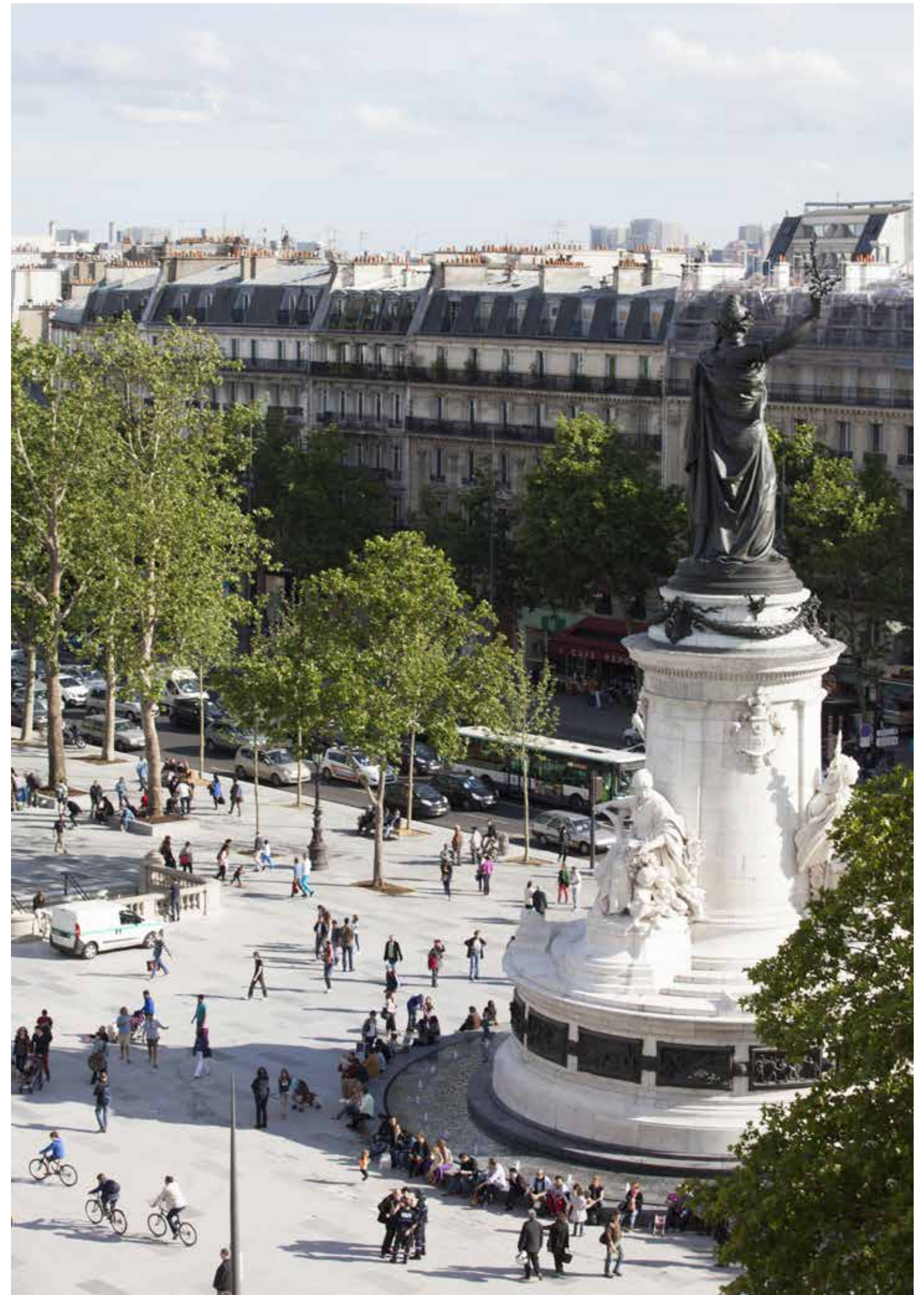
The terraces on the Place de la République

At the rear end of the esplanade, two flat terraces are each marked by a single step on three of their sides, which conducive to sitting and socialising. The new tree planting establishes a specific ambiance. The terraces will be equipped with movable structures expressing day-to-day and local themes, and changing with the seasons (roundabout, toy library etc.). The playground is now located on the east terrace.



Axonometry of terraces







Water

Water - in various forms and with a myriad of uses (climatic, social, recreational, aesthetic) - is a key feature of the central esplanade.

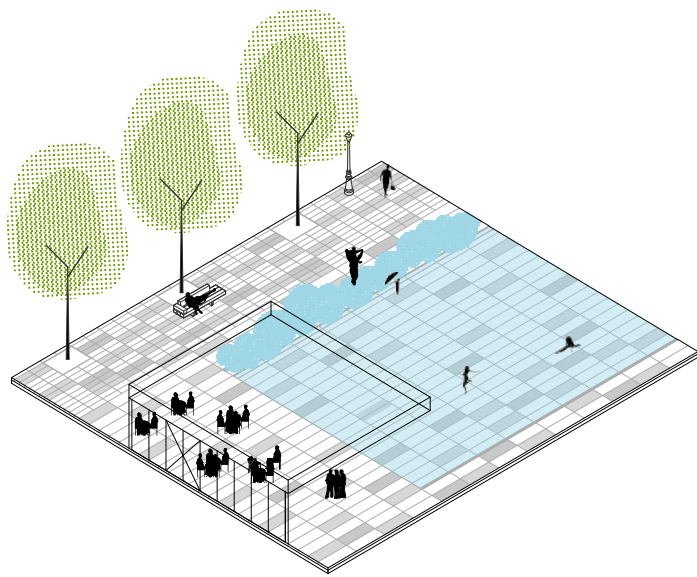
The monument basin

The statue de la Republique dominates the centre of the new pedestrian esplanade. The new base takes the form of a large circular basin, at the edge of which visitors can sit, walk, play, or examine the bas-reliefs. During the summer months, it is filled with water, adding to the number of uses. The base also houses a new lighting system for the statue. Spotlights, sunk under the sheet of water, project moving reflections over the entire monument.

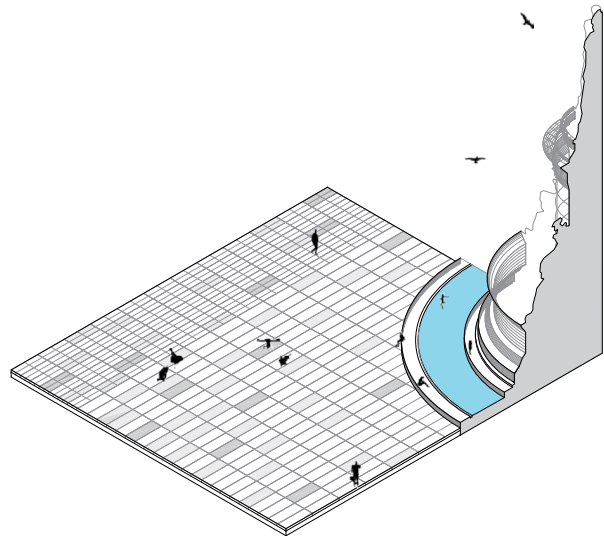
The reflecting pool

On the west concourse of the esplanade, facing the Monde & Médias Pavilion, the theme of water is repeated in a minimal, contemporary version. In summer, a fine sheet of water runs down the 1% slope, covering an area of more than 270m² (23mx12m). Sprays are connected to this sheet of water.

When switched off, they affect neither the topography nor the uses of the concourse, so are almost imperceptible.

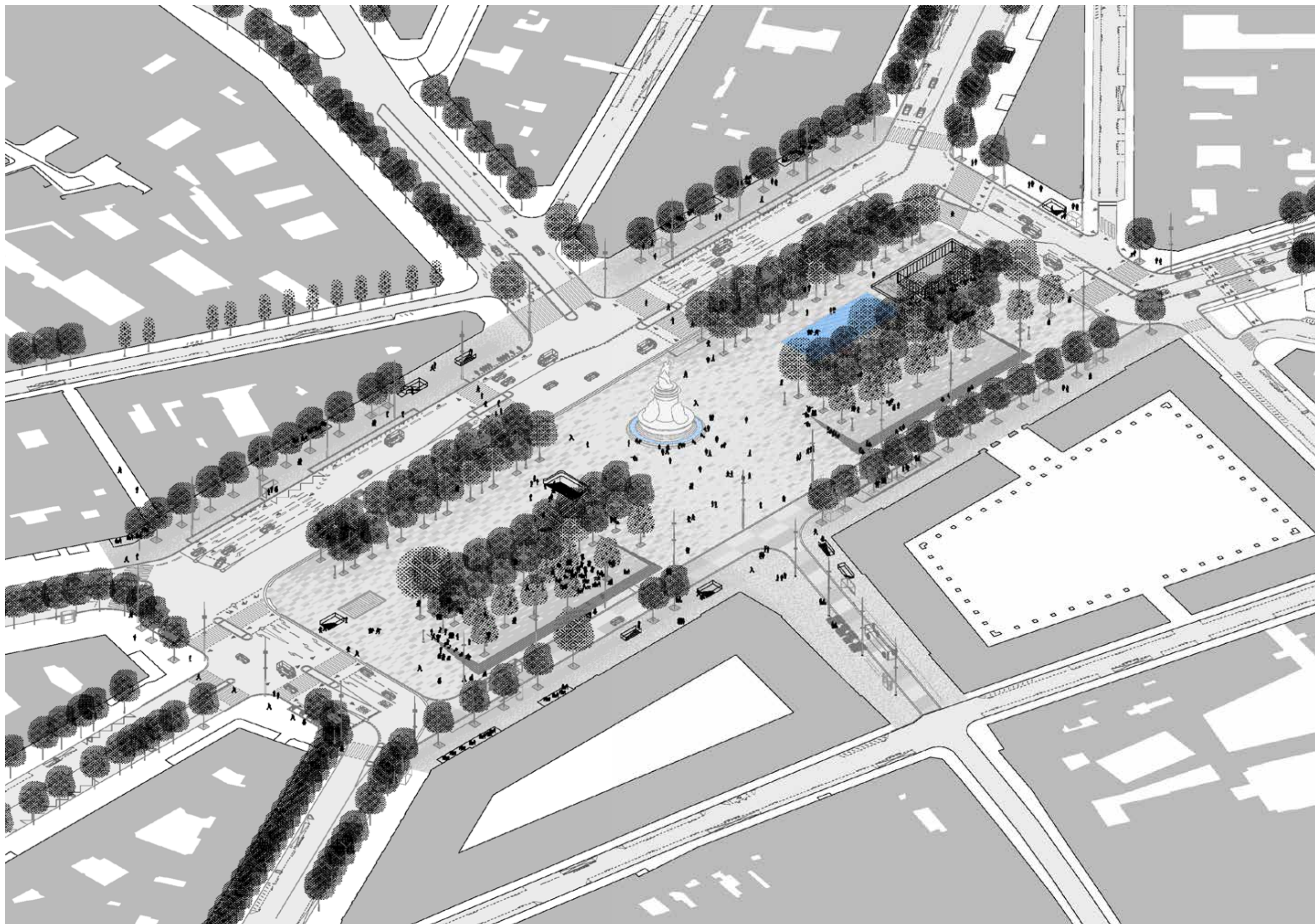


Axonometry of the reflecting pool

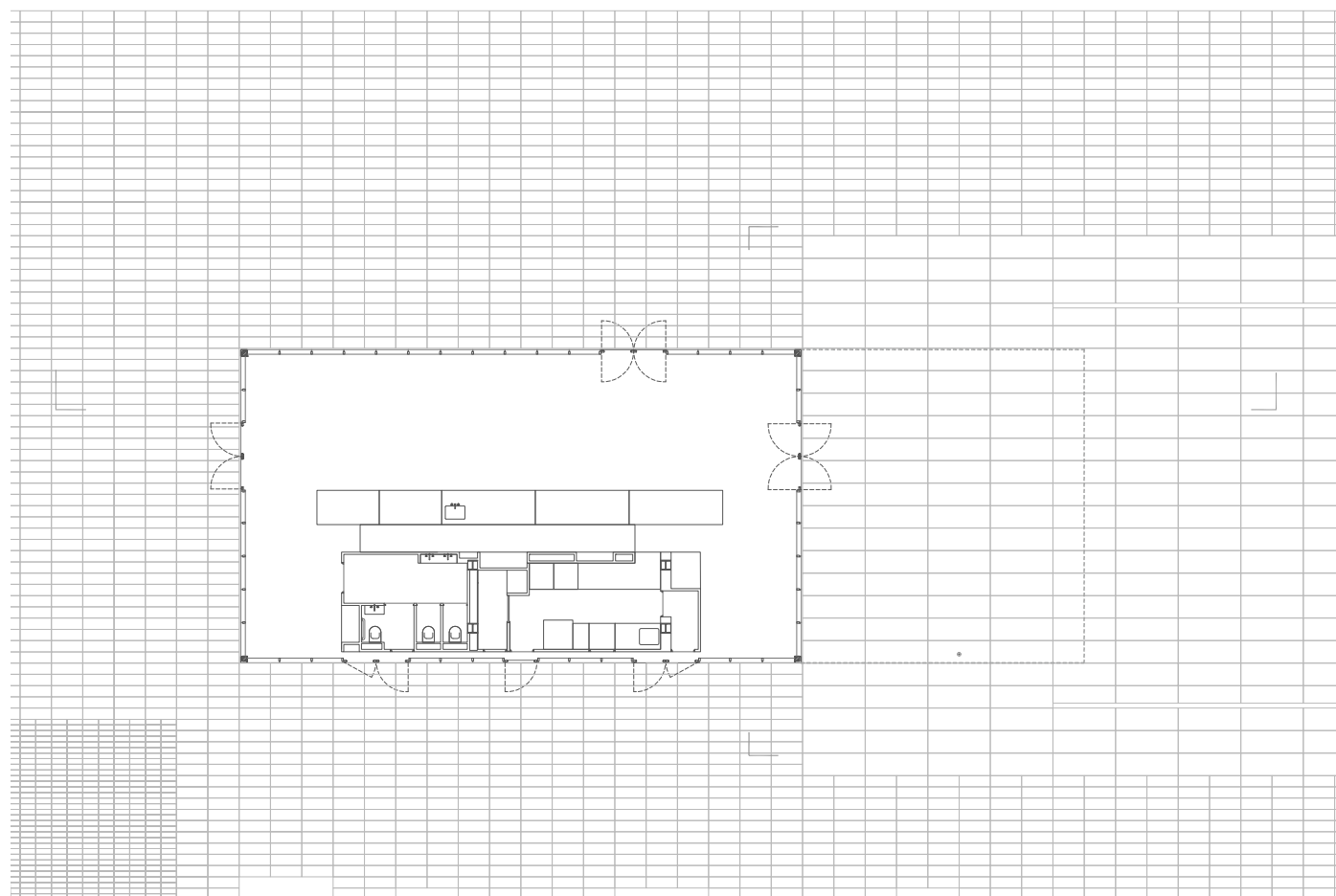


Axonometry of the statue basin

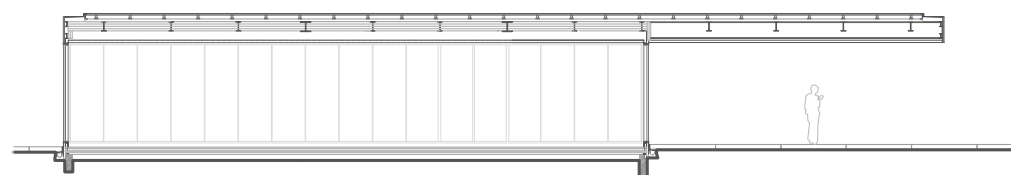




Axonometry of the layout of the square © TVK



Plan: Monde & Médias Pavilion / TVK: Building - NP2F : - layout



Cross section: Monde & Médias Pavilion



Monde & Médias Pavilion / TVK: Building NP2F: layout

The Monde & Médias Pavilion

In line with the principles adopted by TVK in their redevelopment of the Place de la République, the "Monde & Médias" Cafe Pavilion is a perennial building, designed to last. It must be scalable and adaptable, but must also be a strong presence, opening onto the square. It is the only building in the project. The Pavilion is sited on the west concourse, in line with the reflective pool and the statue de la République. It is fully glazed so as not to obscure the view and provides a continuous vista of the square. The pavilion will contain a Monde & Médias themed cafe, consisting of one area selling light snacks and others that can be converted to accommodate events, exhibitions or public discussions. The interior layout is being designed by NP2F Architects.

Handover mid-July 2013



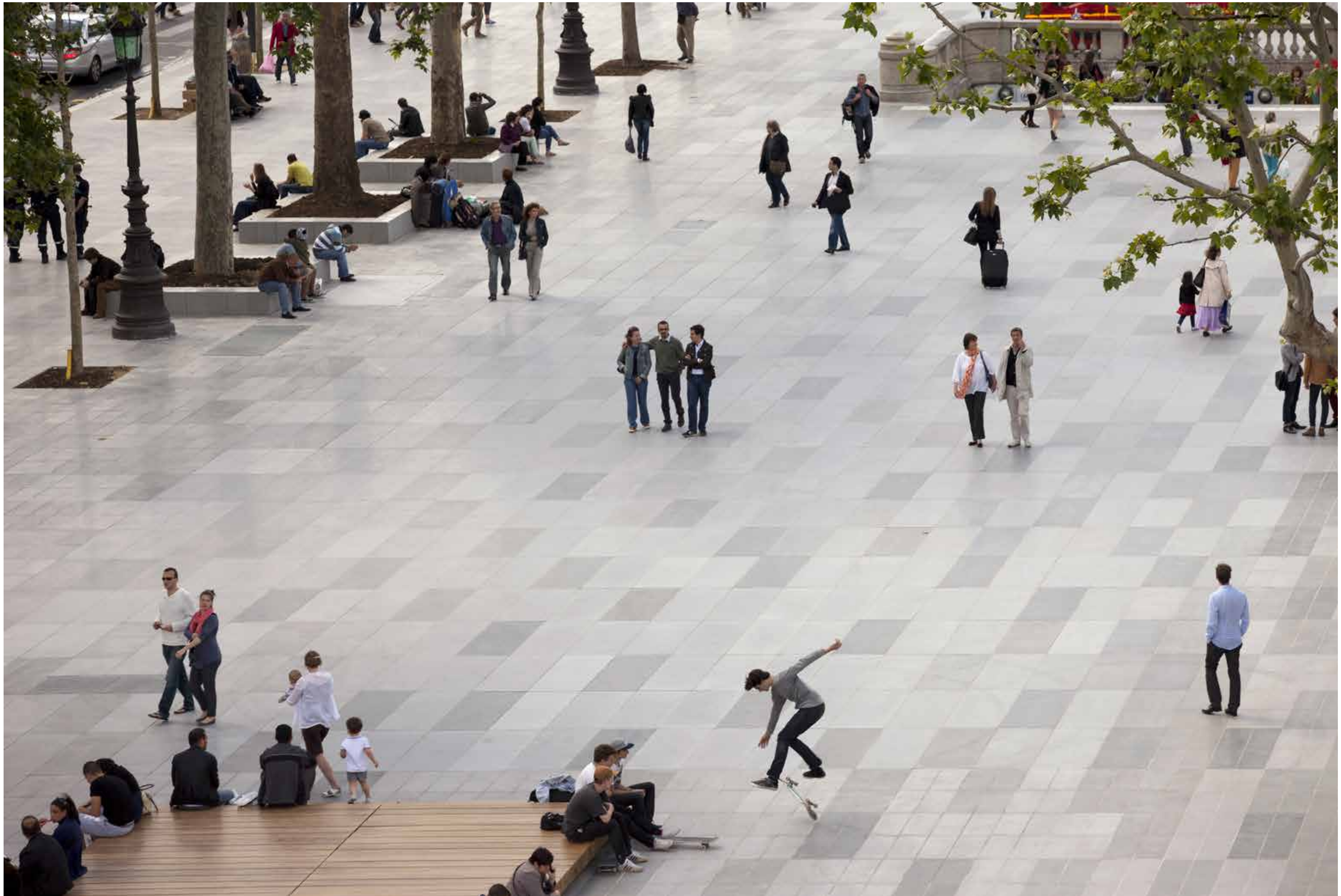
Urban furniture

The square's identity is reinforced by a number of strong characteristic elements such as the large lighting masts set along the edge of the square. They are in keeping with the large scale of the place, and at the same time help to keep a vast central space free of any verticality (except for the trees and statue).

Seating

The redevelopment project provides for three different types of seating, each meeting different requirements:

- the ground, which in itself already offers substantial possibilities for seating on the wide steps to the north of the square and the new base of the statue;
- wooden benches designed by TVK, set along the esplanade and on the peripheral pavements;
- a wooden deck facing Boulevard Voltaire and close to the Metro exit on the central island, also designed by TVK;
- "movable" chairs available to everyone.



Place de la République before the transformation



Place de la République before the transformation



The new Place de la République



TVK ARCHITECTS AND URBAN PLANNERS

Trained in Paris and at Harvard, Pierre Alain Trévelo and Antoine Viger-Kohler founded TVK in 2003.

TVK has gained recognition through its ability to take a new, decompartmentalised look at subjects strongly affected by complex realities, winning Palmarès des Jeunes Urbanistes and Nouveaux Albums des Jeunes Architectes awards in 2005 and 2006, respectively.

TVK now has a very broad portfolio of work and tends towards an open, collective approach, particularly in complex architectural achievements such as the Group Scolaire Olympe de Gouges in Arcueil, the largest ENERGIE 0 school complex in France, a student residence in Arcueil, affordable housing in Arcueil and urban studies improving integration, such as the urban insertion study for the Périphérique, the redevelopment of the Porte Pouchet sector in Paris and the Garonne Eiffel urban project in Bordeaux. TVK is a part of the Atelier International du Grand Paris.

The firm currently has a team of 35 people.

www.tvk.fr
www.République.tvk.fr

NEWS TVK

HANDED OVER IN 2013



58 middle-class housing units at Valenton for Immobiliere 3F

SELECTION 2013



Selection 2013
 Participation in the competitive dialogue for the development of "Coeur de Quartier-Phase 2" for EPADESA and the city of Nanterre

IN PROGRESS



Development of the Garonne Eiffel urban project / Bordeaux Euratlantique

HANDED OVER IN 2013



93 housing units in the Chaperon Vert development zone in Arcueil for Bouygues Immobilier

WORK IN PROGRESS 2013



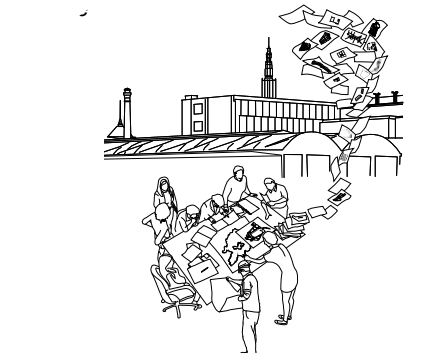
Construction of 134 housing units on the banks of the Ourcq canal for Bowfound Marignan in Paris 19th arrondissement Handover 2014

IN PROGRESS



Atelier International du Grand Paris

SELECTION 2013



Participation in the competitive dialogue for the development of the Saint-Sauveur wasteland in Lille

WORK IN PROGRESS 2013



Construction of a nursing home, local authority housing, day care centre, council flats and creche in Paris 15th arrondissement for SemPariSeine / handover 2015

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Team

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Location

Place de la République Paris 3rd, 10th and 11th arron-
dissements

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Client

City of Paris, Highways Department (Direction de la Voie-
rie et Déplacements)

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Project management

Trévelo & Viger-Kohler, commissioned architects and
urban planners

Pierre-Alain Trévelo and Antoine Viger-Kohler;
Vincent Hertenberger, Project Manager with Agathe Lavielle
Victor Francisco, Pavilion Project Manager

ATEC technical consultants

Damien Bodenes and Audrey Marc

AREAL + Martha Schwartz Partners, landscapers

Christian Weier

CITEC traffic and movement consultants

Philippe Gasser, Alexis Dupont-Roc and Matthieu Bara-
del

JML Consultants, fountain consultants

Jean-Max Llorca

AIK - Yann Kersale, lighting design

Fabienne Maman, Jean-Marie Priol and Clara Ritouret

Transsolar, environmental consultants

Arnaud Billard

Ville Ouverte, dialogue and consulting

Gwenaelle d’Aboville and Pierre-Antoine Tiercelin, with
Samuel Poisson

Segic Ingenierie Mutual Fund

Fabrice Giudici

Square

RAZEL-BEC + CentralPose Lot 1: External works +
laying slabs

Eiffage Energie Lot 2: EP+SLT

Kronimus Lot 3: Concrete slab supplier

Signature Lot 4: Horizontal signage

Linea BTP Lot 5: Vertical signage

Sogea Lot 6: Soakaway pit

Eiffage Energie Lot 7: Fountains

Mineral Service Lot 9: Concrete poured in situ

EMCB Lot 10: Wooden seating

Pavilion

MGE: General works

Pro Logis Lot 1: Earthworks and foundations

ERTCM Lot 2: Framework

MGE Lot 3: External joinery

SMAC Lot 4: Sealing

EMT Lot 6: Plumbing, heating, ventilation

EAMS eLeC Lot 7: Electricity

ETAO Lot 8: Drilling, geothermal

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Contacts

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TVK

Trévelo & Viger-Kohler

Architectes Urbanistes

23 rue Olivier-Métra

75020 Paris - France

T. +33 (0)1 47 00 04 62

agence@tvk.fr

www.tvk.fr

Communication :

Océane Ragoucy

ragoucy@tvk.fr

PRESS CONTACT

METROPOLIS COMMUNICATION

Chloé Habig & Olivia du Mesnil du Buisson

8 rue Legouvé

75010 Paris - France

T. +33 (0)1 42 08 98 85

info@metropolis-paris.com

www.metropolis-paris.com

Visuals

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Credits

Photographer: Clement Guillaume

Perspectives: TVK/Myluckypixel

Plans, sections, axonometry: TVK

Drawings: TVK/Martin Etienne

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