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The Beckmann-N'Thépé agency chose an audacious strategy for the design of the new Marnela-Vallée university library, which resembles a mound of earth "torn from its natural environment," in harmony with its surroundings. Between naturalism and terror, "the Marne-la-Vallée Library Puts us in touch with our dreams - active, joyous, sometimes disturbing, comforting, but always salutary" Aldric Beckmann said.

The new central library was built as part of an ambitious public regeneration project, dedicated to research and further education, and focused on making university centres more attractive.

The nerve centre of the university, the library Will offer a new quality of life for students, with places for 1 200 readers. Suspended above a water garden, large areas of colour juxtapose gold and cement.

The library is located on a remarkable site, the High House Farm. This historic place, which

dates from the 17th century, is surrounded, like the central courtyard, by a moat, two elements which bestow a special atmosphere. The new Marne la Vallée library conforms to the latest environment requirements, and has received the Haute Qualité Environnementale certificate. It has been designed with the conservation and the regeneration of its historic and physical heritage in mind. The contemporary architecture coexists and dialogues with the historic architecture, a confrontation that is dynamic and convivial: the forecourt is home to a work by the artist Krijn de Koning, fulfilling the obligation to devote 1% of the budget for a public building on a cultural intervention.

The two parts of the building are intentionally different. The lower part, the entrance, is simple, light and rectilinear. The materials used are thick glass and steel. This part supports the upper part — the reading rooms. This space, raised earth, in dark brown

cement, is pierced by gilded glass niches and patios which bring in natural light. For Aldric Beckmann, "the rocky fragment of the library asserts a beauty that comes from harmony and seduction which work subjectively on the viewer who is affected and

The interior is calm and white. The main space is generous and open; an atrium, a majestic staircase, and discrete planting link the internal spaces with the external landscape: a water garden and low hills provide the public with places dedicated to reading.

业主 / Client: 马恩-拉瓦莱大学 / Marne-la-Vallée University

客户支持 /Client Assistance: AURIS

景观设计师 /Landscape Designer: Emmanuelle Blanc 建筑面积/Surface Area: 8 670m² + 室外空间/ Outdoor spaces

竣工时间 /Completion: 2012.09

² 3 外景/Exterior view (摄影/Photos, Olivier Amsellem)

首层平面/Level O, plan

二层平面/Level 1, plan



- 6 内景/Interior view (摄影/Photo Olivier Amsellem)
- 7.8 立面/Elelvations
- 9 剖面/Section 10_11 内景/hterior view (摄影/Photos, Olivier Amsellem)





