

Space for all

towards La Fontaine du Bac Landscape



Slow park

The big open grounds of Fontaine du Bac aren't voids to be filled, but habitats to be built.

Beneath the surface, the rich soil- though recently supporting mostly infrastructure- still holds memory and potential to regain its natural functions. Above, it is full of people and life - this is where the landscape potential lies: Connecting ground and community.

"Trees don't make a social environment they can only contribute to the physical surroundings." (Allan R. Ruff)

This quote frames our approach to develop a landscape in Fontaine du Bac. We see our roles not as designing scenery, but as creating conditions for social and ecological life to grow together- an evolution rooted in Fontaine du Bacs own resources. A place for people to extend a feeling of home, and for nature to re-enter the city.

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From control to care

Currently, the landscape is maintained to offer a pleasant and clean image- but this often leaves little left to truly care for. What's missing are opportunities to engage: to smell a flower, witness the changing seasons, or feel the wind in the trees outside your window. The need goes beyond modern maintenance regimes- it's about creating chances to care, feel, and relate. We propose a shift: from a logic of control to one of care and hosting.

Assemblas holds a unique position to lead this transition for Clermont-Ferrand. With more than 250 sites, it stewards a powerful land resource that can become the backbone of new urban biodiversity and Fontaine du Bac a model for regenerative practice- for modernist housing estates across the city, France, and Europe.

A social biotope

Our goal is to cultivate a social biotope: a landscape that evolves through dialogue and active involvement from its community. This means giving a space to research, discussion, and explanation- a shared exploration that takes shape



Inner park

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Urban park

in space. It invites new roles and new relationships in the process and project.

Spatially, we propose to work along the human–nature gradient - from spaces for people to spaces for nature- embracing diversity and coexistence. We aim to build an ecosystem that exists through links between living beings and between environments:

A new urban green space that connects, hosts, and regenerates, both human and non-human life- where there's space for all.