

A LONG WAITED MIXED-USE AND ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX BY THE AEROPORTS DE PARIS

The Paris area airport – Charles de Gaulle – has become the first airport hub in continental Europe because of its advanced technology, its flux of freight and travelers, and its inestimable potential for growth.



- Architects: Philippe Chiambaretta / PCA
- Project: AEROVILLE
- Location: Charles de Gaulle Airport, France
- Photography: Jean-Philippe Mesguen, Philippe Chiambaretta / PCA
- Planning authority: Aéroports de Paris
- Client: Unibail-Rodamco
- Site: Roissy-en-France, Le Tremblay-en-France
- Program: shopping and leisure center, concept multiplex movie theater by EuropaCorp
- Commission: to completion
- Area: 110 000 sqm
- GLA: 84 000 sqm
- Budget: 175 M€ (excluding tax)
- Completion: October 17, 2013

- Principal architect: Philippe Chiambaretta / PCA
- Interior Design: Saguez & Partners
- Façade graphic design: deValence
- Construction project management: Artelia
- Structural engineering: Terrel
- MEP engineering: Barbanel
- Sustainable engineering: Green Affair
- Façade engineering: Van Santen
- Roads system and urban public utilities: SNC Lavalin
- Landscape design: Compagnie du paysage
- Exterior lightening design: Ingelux
- Interior lightening design: Carribou Concept
- Acoustics engineering: Avel Acoustique
- Quantity surveyor: DAL
- Fire safety: CSD Faces



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This airport zone – consisting of 10 business parks, multiple commercial zones, and professional fairgrounds – is the first employment center in the Ile-de-France region, after La Défense, with over 120,000 employees. The *Grand Paris* projects (CDG Express or double loop) will soon reinforce the power of the “hub”, a node of global interconnection, and a threshold for the capital and the country.

This area has suffered from a lack of identity of space and centrality which could offer its users the facilities of a city center: services, shopping, entertainment, and culture. To overcome this absence, *Aéroports de Paris*, in partnership with the Unibail-Rodamco group have for a decade envisioned a long awaited mixed-use and entertainment complex at the fringes of the airport zone, less than 10 minutes by car or bus for employees of the area, and for travelers and residents of Roissy and Tremblay. Less than 30 minutes by car, there is a population of 1.8 million people that is affected by the project, between the highly dense zones towards Paris and the more scattered zones to the north.



Image Courtesy © Jean-Philippe Mesguen

In 2010, Unibail-Rodamco appointed Philippe Chiambaretta/PCA with the design and development of this complex called Aeroville. After less than four years of studies and construction, the project is open today.



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A SITE AT THE SCALE OF A TERMINAL AND A NEIGHBORHOOD

The site of Aeroville is at the edge of the airport zone at the extremities of the paths of Roissy-Charles de Gaulle 2. This plot of 11 hectares in the heart of the freight zone is large enough to contain terminals 2E and 2F, Le Forum des Halles, or part of the Marais district of Paris.



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AN ARCHITECTURAL CONCEPT THAT BRIDGES THE GAP FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE CITY CENTER

The Aeroville mall is designed in the manner of a city rail system, making a clear distinction between the public space and the built environment. The commercial program around the interior streets is fragmented into blocks of varying heights and dimensions referring to the islands of the city. The project is in contrast with the usual proportions of this type of program, flat and uniform, and consistent with its function as a participant to travel and escape. The opening of the building and its character, non-generic and non-repetitive, form a space devoted to commerce, a public form that promotes exchanges and strolls.