THE PLAN

Wilmotte & Associés
Studio Apostoli
Lissoni Casal Ribeiro
Francesco Paszkowski Design
in collaboration with
Margherita Casprini
Antonio Citterio Paucia Viel
Studio Marco Piva
PCA – STREAM | Philippe Chiambaretta Architecte
Hembert Penaranda
Officina Architettonica
studio raro

BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group
AvroKo
Ménard Dworkind
Architecture + Design
Allford Hall Monaghan Morris
Conran and Partners
Vittorio Grassi Architect
and Partners
Garibaldi Architects
Comma Image
Pera Associati
Rizoma Architecture

MPPM
GBPA Architects
WATG and Studio PCH

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LABORDE OFFICE COMPLEX
TRANSFORM, INTERPRET, RENEW
PARIS, FRANCE

PCA – STREAM | Philippe Chiambaretta Architecte

The structure of the new oral partition with large glazed areas maintains transparency, the relationship between levels and conciles, and natural light.
The past and the future, old and new, the challenges architecture faces in the major upheavals affecting metropolises all over the world. All these things require teams capable of digesting in multiple styles at various scales. Founded by architects Philippe Chatrias and PCA – STREAM tackles these upheavals in a two-proposed way: PCA and architect urban planning agency, and STREAM, a department dedicated to research combating 150 researchers from all over the world. For contracts an avant-garde city, Paris has been for many years a construction site where new architectural trends are first tested out.

Labrodes, requiring the transformation of the former royal barracks in Place Saint-Augustin into the headquarters for Cite, France's leading law firm, was a major opportunity for PCA to try its hand as a “mobile” redesign, reinterpreting and renovating an existing, prestigious area of the city. Reconstruction required a number of separate jobs that focused on the structure's historical contrast to today's prevailing contemporary vertical architecture. The building's historical wing along the street, a mock of 18th-Century elegance, was completely restored and adapted to its new purpose welcoming clients. Inside, the building offers some 20 high-technological meeting halls and smaller rooms designed with digital works of art. On one side of the inner courtyard is a modern office building with large windows framed by steel T-profiles typical of Pissarro glass façades. “No5A”, a modern monumental pavilion with a double-height atrium that serves as a connection between old and new, stands between the two structures, flanked by a green garden for moments of socialization or for holding events.

The Labrodes project was the result of meticulous analysis based on four pillars: The first objective was to create a sense of community. For this reason, horizontal flow circulation systems were preferred, elevators grouped into a single area, and kitchens and common rooms distributed on each floor. In addition, a restaurant, a bar and the central “No5A” hall help to expand the variety of opportunities to meet, work informally and collaborate.

Significant attention was paid to physical well-being by installing large French windows that ensure each office enjoys natural lighting. The routes that connect the rooms are positioned to the facade, to encourage chance encounters and exercise. The garden and broad balconies allow people to enjoy fresh air on sunny days, while in order to encourage activity even in bad weather, the structure is equipped with a gym that is open 24 hours a day.

The materials used to build the architectural examples - Charnier or blue Bury limestone, marble and antique bronze for the metal elements - highlight French craftsmanship. Elegantly cut and custom-made decorative objects were chosen to embellish the interior.

STREAM dedicated five years of work, publications and conferences on the fourth pillar of the project: links between the city and nature. Design of the green spaces in not merely a decorative aspect; it requires planning as specific so as for the austerity structures. Biodiversity in the gardens, green roofs, and terraces are essential to wellbeing and comfort. Little wonder that the roof is also a vegetable garden for aromatic plants, while the courtyard offers a place to grab lunch, meet and talk.

A modern monumental pavilion with a double-height atrium that serves as a connection between old and new stands between the two structures, flanked by a green garden for moments of socialization or for holding events.
Rooms are embellished with elegant curtains, custom-made decorative objects and hanging lamps.

The restaurant, cafeteria and library are all cozy working spaces.

CREDITS

Location: Paris, France - Client: SCI ACM Saint-Augustin - Completion Date: 2018 - Gross Floor Area: 10,079 m²
Architect: PCA - STREAM | Philippe Chambrun Architects - Project Manager: Joëlle Gauthier; Main Contractor: Effige

Consultants
Contracting Authority: ACM - Assistant to the Contracting Authority: AB - Contract Supervisor: Arvala
Structural: Kognit - Façades: VSA, Goem - Environnement: Green Air; Plumbing and HVAC: Buffard

All images courtesy of PCA - STREAM | Philippe Chambrun Architects