Superkilen: Digital Mosaic

Martin REIN-CANO
1  Diverse Access

Site: its people, its interests, its needs – all shared
2 Digitally Sourcing the World

References and design in the global design age
3 Man-Made

People from all over the world make a place
4  Digital Second Life

Publication, virtual tour, app and Google
5 About a Digital Landscape

This project is a joy! It is not only original but stunning to behold. It is noteworthy for its aesthetic approach, which is straightforwardly artificial rather than pretending to be natural. (...) SUPERKILEN demonstrates the value of powerful visual and spatial moves while keeping connected to the realities of a contemporary multicultural context: the condition of many European cities. (...) The form of the project grew from a community participation process that led to a clear identity and enjoyable series of spaces. As a formal expression it breaks down into pieces and fits very nicely into the scale of the surrounding area as an interesting patchwork.1

Like a ‘guerrilla approach’, it has created an incredible amount of influence and changed the way people think about and consider projects.2

“(...) We weren’t afraid of creating a tangled forest of symbols. What we wanted was a riotous mass of stimuli.” (Bjarke Ingels)3

The juxtaposition and the assembly of the recognizable elements, shifted out of context or their place of origin, become a metonymy for the ethnic, social and cultural mix of 21st century global cities.4

A version of this park could be created anywhere, born using the same rules and methods, yet each version would be inherently different through participatory input. The landscape of Superkilen fits its urban area, and was built to enhance it. Nørrebro’s complex situation – a demographic island of heterogeneous minorities in a homogeneous country – has forced new thinking for how a public space could be a participative element in urban culture. Superkilen is a precedent for a new way of engaging users in public spaces, in sharing cultures and in the aesthetics of 21st century parks.5

6 Project Dates

PROJECT: Superkilen
PLACE: Nørrebro, Copenhagen
TEAM: TOPOTEK 1, BIG, Superflex
CLIENT: City of Copenhagen and Foundation Realdania
TIME SCHEDULE: Competition 2007: 1st prize;
Planning 2007-2011;
Realisation: 2010-2012

2 REIN-CANO (2013)
3 CIUFFI (2011)
4 METTA (2012)
5 BRIDGER (2013)
SIZE: 2,7 ha

WEBSITE: http://www.superkilen.dk

APP: http://superflex.net/tools/superkilen_app

AWARDS: German Landscape Architecture Awards 2013 (recognition)
red dot Award 2013 (Best of the Best)
Civic Trust Award 2013
Archdaily- Building of the Year 2013
National AIA Award- American Institute of Architects (recognition)
Architizer A+ Awards

NOMINATIONS: Mies van der Rohe Awards 2013
Design Museum of the Year 2013
Årets Arne Award 2013 - Danish Architects’ Association

PUBLICATIONS: Newspapers / Magazines: 80
Books: 10
Websites: 86

References


Photo Selection (Photographers in alphabetical order)

Eskord, Torben; Joosten, Hanns; Lindhe, Jens; da Schio, Maria