WAVES AND LEAVES

Description

We tried to design an experience rather than an architecture, a journey rather than a building, a day in a garden rather than a daily open park. We wanted a space that could become a meeting point for Amsterdam visitors and citizens, an infrastructure between man and nature that would allow people to perceive a new kind of landscape and associate it with contrasting feelings. The project consists in a sort of infinite path, a continuous loop that invite visitors to experience alternatively the feeling of departure, void and the deepening persistence of memory. The project itself is a reflection about memory and loss and tries to get rid of the conventional concept of built architecture. Indeed, through wrapping the park with mirrors inclined towards the interior, its external appearance is determined only by leaves and waves. Aware of the contradictions hidden in this choice, we decided to erase architecture through architecture itself, trying to give form to the void, drawing the spectator into a visual, spatial and psychic experience with a strong impact. We believe that the tactics of the building should disappear from the outside, as a metaphor of a cognitive approach to a world that usually passes through sensory perception. In order to be later appreciated within the materials and details of the interior space. The use of water and canals in the interior part of the circle is meant to communicate a sense of purification to visitors and to connect the path with the system of the city.