

BEALS&LION

Beals&Lyon Architects
Santiago, Chile

THE GARDEN OF FORKING PATHS

MoMA Young Architects Program, First Prize

Category: Parks/ Plazas
Location: Santiago, Chile
Project Year: 2012-2013



dms 33°24'01.8"S 70°34'04.1"W
elevation 700 m

“With the labyrinth as a medium, the project creates a narrative of situations of discovery and surprise, exploring the possibilities of public space by introducing new atmospheres and ambiances”.



The “meeting yard”

In 2013 Beals Lyon Arquitectos built their winning proposal for the Chilean version of the Young Architects Program, a temporary site specific installation which promotes an environment of slowness, a new scale for leisure and the unforeseen in a park that is otherwise insistently being pushed and transformed into a productive and lucrative space.

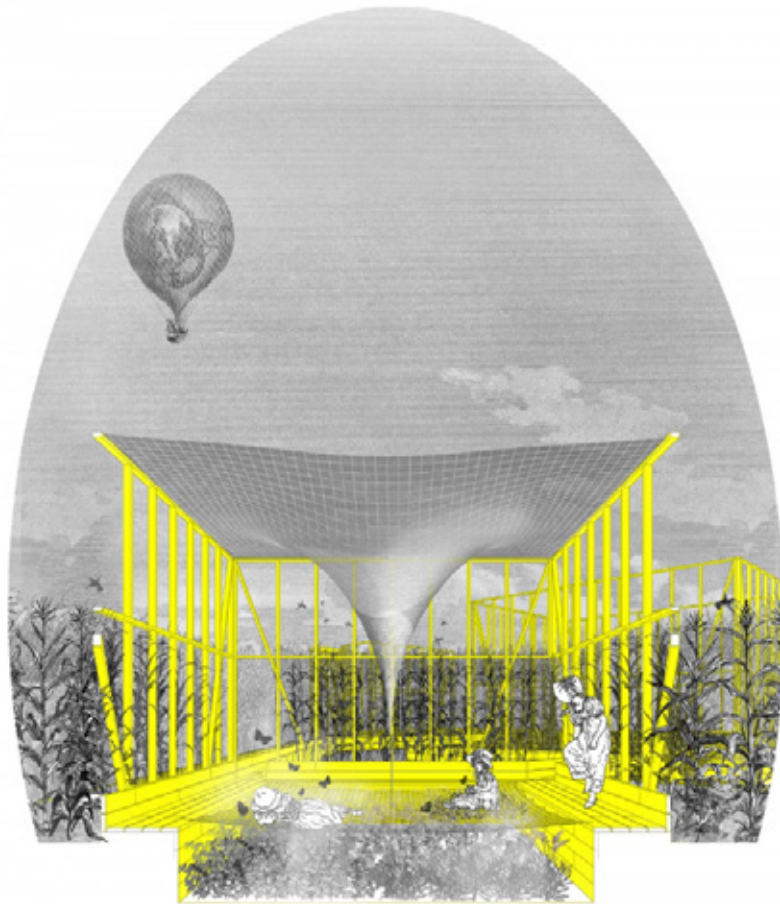
With the labyrinth as a medium, the project creates a narrative of situations of discovery and surprise, exploring the possibilities of public space by

introducing new atmospheres and ambiances. A vegetal mass –a cornfield– is explored through a system of timber paths. Its geometric layout is borrowed from the labyrinth that once existed in the gardens of Versailles, which is scaled and adapted to include a series of rooms or ‘follies’, openings in the path, spaces for unexpected situations and events.

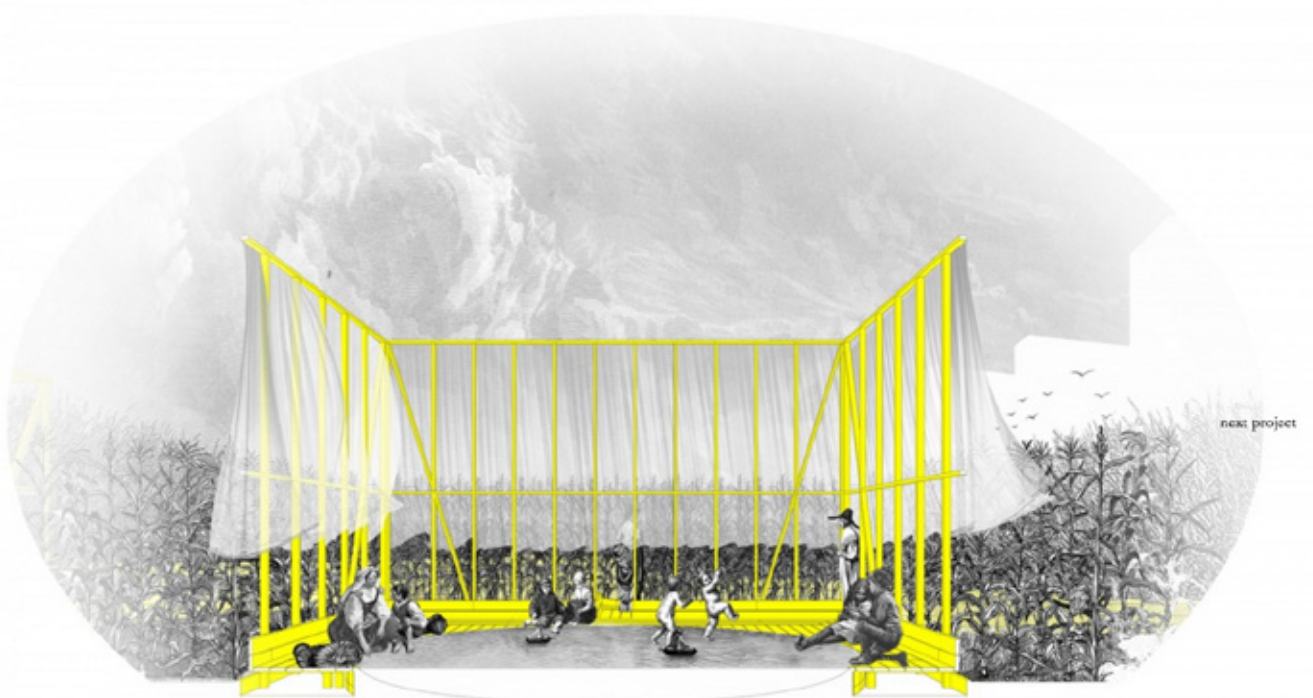
The visitors are encouraged to get lost, leaving the rush of the city behind. This quietness will eventually allow them to perceive in a different way: slow, paused, useless, thus

establishing a connection with their bodies through a novel sensual experience. This could bring a whole new understanding of space, capable of locating the body back at the centre of architecture.

Nowadays, being always on-line, connected and available, mobile technology has mostly erased any space for leisure and quietness. What is lacking today is the space and time ‘in between’, now converted as an imperative space for production by modern society. The otherwise ‘unproductive gaps’, somehow need to be filled.

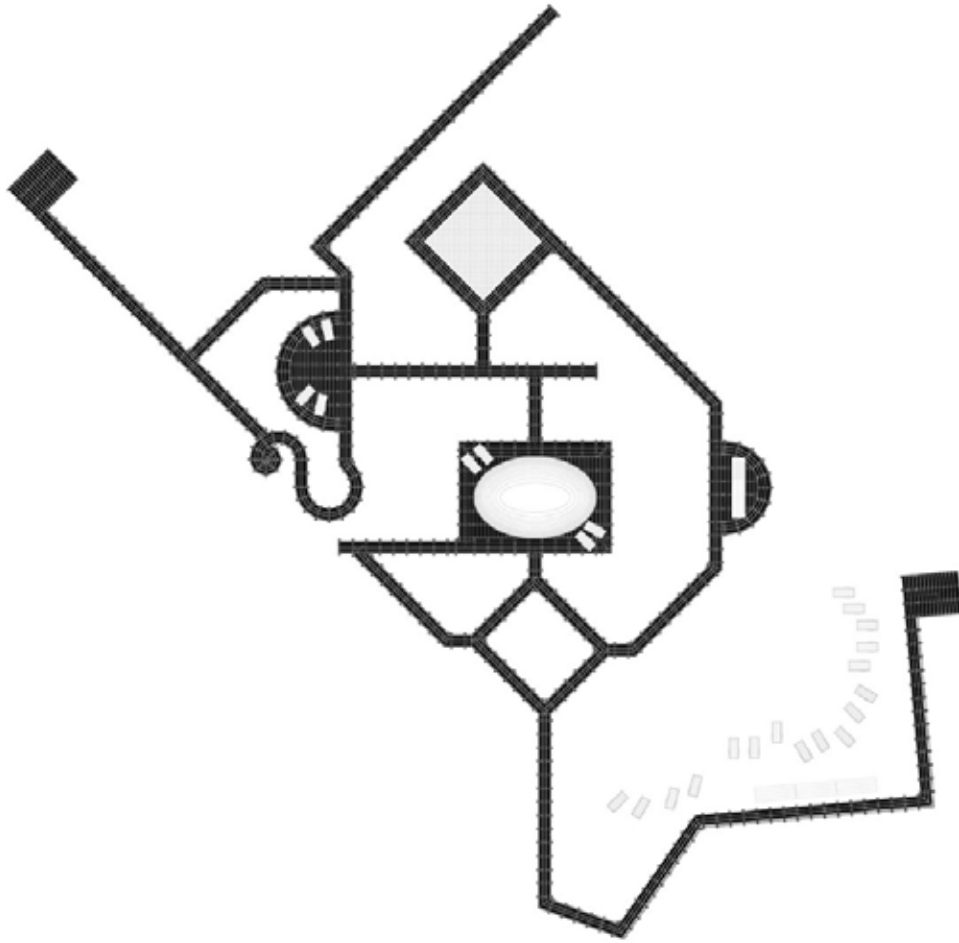


The "aromatic garden"



The "pond"





Plan of the installation and paths



Paths and follies running through the corn field



Credits:

THE GARDEN OF FORKING PATHS
YAP (Young Architects Program), First Prize.
Santiago, 2012-2013

Address:
Parque Araucano, Santiago de Chile

Client:
Cliente: MoMA - PS1 – CONSTRUCTO

Team:
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Collaboration:
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Sources:
Francisco Díaz (ed.), Beals Lyon Arquitectos:
Vacíos Públicos / Public Voids, Arq Monografías,
Santiago, 2016.
<http://www.beals-lyon.cl/projects/INSTALLATION/2070/PLA/>
<http://www.archdaily.com/tag/beals-and-lyon-architects>
<http://architizer.com/projects/the-garden-of-forking-paths/>

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