AGA ESTUDIO est. 2010

Orlando Vásquez Pérez and Gabriel Visconti Caracas, Venezuela

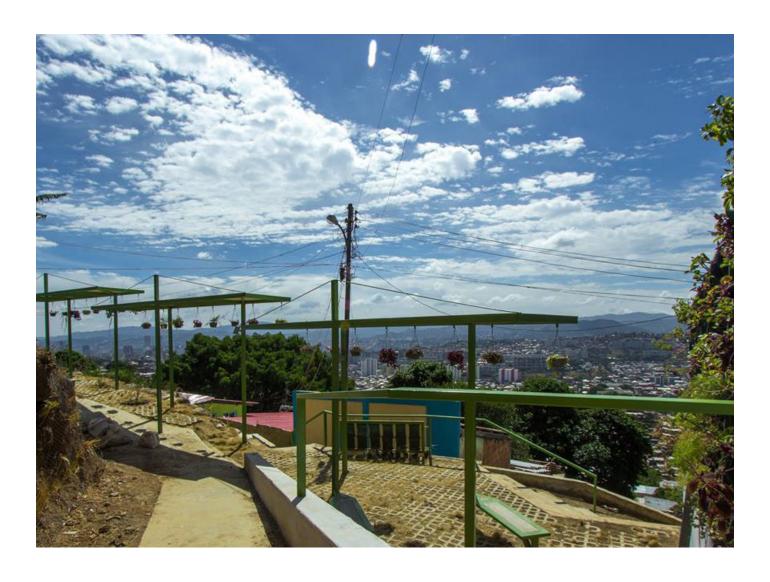
Partner: PICO Collaborators: Colectivo La Teraza | Colectivo Red de la Calle

PLAZA ESTACIONAL

Category: urban voids Location: Los Frailes - Canaima, Catia, Caracas, Venezuela

Surface: 70 sqm Project Year: 2015





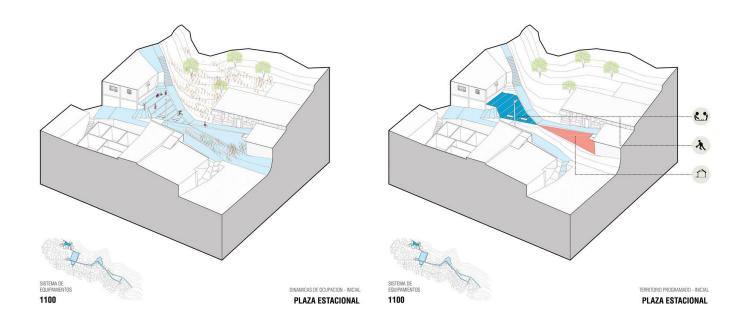
"We're interested in a broad idea of resilience...an engine for a new vision of the community."

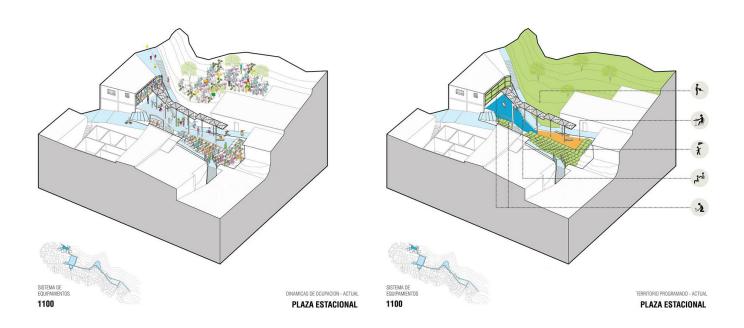
Plaza Estacional, located in the community of Catia, is one of many public-space interventions throughout Caracas' informal settlements. These projects are part of a state-funded initiative, called "1100," to form a network of designed spaces that respond to the sectional specificities and ecological flows of their sites. At the same time, the processes and spaces aim to build capacity and meet social needs. AGA's projects speak to this notion of linked ecological and social sustainability. "We're interested in a broad idea of resilience," says

AGA's Orlando Vásquez Pérez, "how these interventions can encourage the community to maintain and change their space with time."

Plaza Estacional introduces a linear public space in what was previously an interstitial transitional space. AGA's design-build method lends itself to a rapid pace of production, akin to prototyping; in this way, they have to be particularly responsive to the idiosyncracies of the landscape. "The spaces have specific characteristics that we try to formalize and strengthen," says Pérez. In the case of Plaza

Estacional, which is located on a slope vulnerable to erosion, vegetation is used in different ways to stabilize the ground: a vegetated wall consolidates the slope, permeable pavers encourage vegetation that will absorb rainfall, and a diverse planting palette performs ecologically and emphasize the plaza as a space to congregate. The project's simple geometries and discrete elements, such as a shade structure, mark the Plaza as a new kind of space, an "engine for a new vision of the community."





"The spaces have different characteristics that we try to formalize and strengthen."

















