

Client  
Communauté urbaine de  
Dunkerque

Program  
Realisation of a sport and culture  
equipment in Dunkerque

Selection method  
Public private partnership (PPP)

Team  
Groupe-6 architectes (Architecture) -  
NORPAC (Construction firm, Lead  
consultant) - BETOM (Engineering) - MAS  
EA Consultants (Scenography) - PEUTZ  
(Acoustics studies)

Competition  
2012

Surface area  
24,000 m<sup>2</sup>

Construction costs  
100 M€

Location  
Dunkerque



For the Communauté Urbaine de Dunkerque and neighbouring areas, Groupe-6 proposed to create 'a truly multifunctional project' for culture and sport, offering real visual comfort and atmosphere for spectators. Located in the heart of a large-scale urban project, the Arena benefits from high visibility on the scale of the conurbation: visible from the motorway, but also facing the shopping centre that surrounds it, and linked to the Bourbourg canal, it sets the scene thanks to a multifunctional and lively façade, which supports lighting displays, and a characteristic and identifiable volume without equal. Visible, but also legible, on several scales: from afar, the large auditorium establishes its presence with its strong architecture rising above its built base.

From the entrance to the site, with its landscaped

surrounds, it is a gradual discovery, thanks to the tiered levels of the built volumes that naturally guide the views and users to the high entrance forecourt, which provides high-level access. With its modularity, open spaces and high-performance acoustics, the Rose des Sables offers added value in terms of sharing and experiencing the emotion of a sporting event or show. As a continuous arena, it avoids the need for split stands, and offers fixed or retractable bleachers to suit different scenarios. The sports and entertainment configurations face the same direction, opposite the presidential stand. A secondary sports hall, in an atrium position and at the heart of the social areas, opens onto a lively interior walkway that runs through the entire Arena.