



CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES

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PRESS RELEASE

DOMINIQUE PERRAULT CHOSEN FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE PAVILLON DUFOUR AND THE VIEILLE AILE OF THE PALACE.

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JEAN-JACQUES AILLAGON, PRESIDENT OF THE PUBLIC ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PALACE, MUSEUM AND NATIONAL DOMAIN OF VERSAILLES, ANNOUNCES THAT AFTER A COMPETITION PROCESS, THE JURY PROPOSED TO CHOOSE THE PROJECT PRESENTED BY DOMINIQUE PERRAULT FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE PAVILLON DUFOUR AND THE VIEILLE AILE OF THE VERSAILLES PALACE.

AFTER THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL DEPARTMENTS' RELOCATION to the Grand Commun – at the moment under restoration – the Pavillon Dufour and the Vieille Aile of the Palace will be devoted to four main functions: the Cour des Princes basement will be devoted to the visitors' circulations and services (cloakroom, bathrooms...), the Cour des Princes level to the reception, the control and the information centres for the visitors, the first floor to the public services as a tea room. Finally, on the second floor an auditorium and its additional facilities will be realized.

THIS PART OF THE PALACE, HEAVILY MODIFIED DURING THE XIXTH AND XXTH CENTURIES (the framework is made of concrete), includes a very few signs of the historical fittings, but those ones will be preserved. Generally, the treatment of the parts, for which the patrimonial interest is recognized, will be entrusted to the Historical Monuments Chief Architect, Frédéric Didier. So, two architects will work on the Palace. Dominique Perrault will work on the functional developments and Frédéric Didier on the "historical monument" part. The contracting authority assignment of this operation has been entrusted by the Public Establishment of the Palace, Museum and national Domain of Versailles to the Culture Heritage and real estate projects Operator - *Opérateur du patrimoine et des projets immobiliers de la Culture (Oppic)*.

FIVE ARCHITECTS WERE SELECTED TO THE ULTIMATE PHASE OF THE CONSULTATION: Frédéric Druot Architecture, Architecture A. Scaranello, OAL-Edouard François and Francis Soler Architecture. The propositions will be presented next autumn.

THE PROJECT OF DOMINIQUE PERRAULT is characterized by the choice of not double the Vieille Aile façade on the Cour des Princes with a new façade while this commitment hadn't been excluded by the regulation but hadn't been prescribed either. On the other hand, Dominique Perrault decided to create, on this Vieille Aile side, a fault which will allow the organization of the public's way out from the Aile de Midi ground floor.

DOMINIQUE PERRAULT, FRENCH ARCHITECT AND URBANIST, won the international competition for the National French library (1989). This project marked the starting point of an international career. Among others, he realized the Velodrome and Olympic swimming pool of Berlin, the extension of the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg, the Olympic tennis centre in Madrid, the Ewha Womans University in Seoul and the Fukoku Tower in Osaka. He was appointed curator of the French Pavilion for the 12th Architecture Biennale in Venice. Dominique Perrault received many prestigious prizes and awards as the Mies van der Rohe Award (1997), the French national Grand Prix for Architecture (1993), and the "Grande Médaille d'or d'Architecture" from the Académie d'Architecture (2010).