



Museumpark Rotterdam ROTTERDAM | 2015-

Rotterdam's Museumpark site is comprised of three overlapping spaces. These include an existing park dating back to 1927, a sequence of 'garden rooms' completed by OMA in 1992 and a cluster of spaces around the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, the Kunsthal ('Museum of Everything'), Villa Sonneveld, Chabot Museum, the Natural History Museum and the Nieuwe Instituut (formerly the Architecture Institute). The addition of a new art collection-building for the Boijmans Museum by MVRDV prompted the client to approach Gustafson Porter + Bowman to analyse how the park is used and how it could be improved and enlarged with improved access and greener surroundings. Ultimately this led to design work to resolve the space between the existing buildings and provide a unifying landscape approach for the area.

Gustafson Porter + Bowman's design realises the park's value to the people of Rotterdam and improves the integration between the park and the wider urban fabric. It includes the removal of parking from streets running from Westersingel to the Wytemaweg and the creation of tree avenues along Museumstraat and Jongkindstraat. These will create the ambience of a park with small entrance squares for meeting and accessing

the Museums, whilst on Jongkindstraat the creation of a woodland glade with children's play areas and an installation space will serve the residents of the North and visitors to the site.

Our design development has led to plans which include; the mediating of the steep grade change from Westzeedijk by introducing ramped routes to the South of the site; an appropriate entrance to the Kunsthal including flexible café space with water elements; the transformation of the Nieuwe Instituut entrance into an aquatic garden; the introduction of new pedestrian and cycle routes by rationalising the parking and service access; the creation of a small lake garden between the Erasmus MC and the Natural History Museum, allowing for educational nature trails among woodland habitats; the entire rectification of the asphalt platform with planting and sculpted grass mounds to create an accessible green events space in the centre of the park; the introduction of aquatic plants, timber walkways and stepped terraces that will create an aquatic garden surrounded by cafes and restaurants and easy access to the Nieuwe Instituut's covered promenade and its balcony view of the park.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES
Landscape masterplan to encompass the integration of the new collection building into the museum existing park and development of strategies for improved access to the existing parks and museums and strengthened links to the wider city context

CLIENT
Rotterdam Municipality

PROJECT DURATION
2015-

SIZE
1.5ha

STATUS
On site

ARCHITECT
MVRDV

