

A majestic Triumphal Arch - symbol of the triumph of human genius

The International Ideas Competition for iconic landmark for Silicon Valley in San Jose coincides in time with the beginning of an era of experience, when the boundaries between digital and physical world start to blur. This encourages us to connect the Landmark with this new stage in the development of human civilization and to offer a solution that differs from existing examples in its philosophy and aesthetics.

We build our design around the concept that the Landmark is not a frozen traditional monument, but a living, constantly evolving multifunctional space of experience, in which the names and images of the pioneers of the electronics industry find their befitting place, starting with the father of Silicon Valley - Frederik Terman

The territory in which the Landmark is situated, is torn by the merging rivers into three parts. Combining them into a whole working mechanism - without interfering in the topography and in compliance with the competition program requirements - will transform Arena Green from a geographical location into a space of experience.

We find the equilibrium point of the area of the park which fortunately coincides with the point of confluence of the two rivers and place in it a powerful vertical. This is a composition center, able to unite the existing diverse elements and become the new heart of the city - a representative Forum where the citizens of San Jose and their guests will celebrate in the open air every new brilliant success of scientists from the Valley.

The Forum should be appropriately marked in the texture and silhouette of the city. As a rule rivers separate land and bridges connect it. The bridge as an idea, as the unifying element turned into a majestic arch, can cover the Forum, elevate it, make it the new dominant of the city, its semantic and emotional center, an art scene where Past, Present and Future merge into one moment - the moment of experience!

In the center of the Forum, attached to the arc, is the American flag. It seems to draw strength, light and energy from the river and the Valley and give them to all mankind. Treated in openwork steel rod structure The Arch, 60 meters high, 65 meters wide and 225 meters long, does not change the character of the landscape and nature in the area. Its two steps - east and west - fall within the permitted areas for constructive intervention. Through its structure, a distant resemblance to the Eiffel Tower is sought, which is one of the tasks of the competition.

The wall with the names and images of the pioneers of the Valley is in the eastern half of the Forum, facing its center. It also serves as protection from noise on the highway. The service functions are hidden behind it under the highway itself.

The forum is solar! It is lined with multifunctional solar anti-slip flooring made of silicon solar panels, which in addition to the color solution, provides electricity for its operation, absorbs noise, self-illuminates at night, melts ice in winter, etc.

By night the river is lighted to enhance the special effect of the Forum in the area.