



Portals of Ecology / Portails de l'Écologie

Courtyard gardens represent the possibility of ecology as an enclosed, yet complex, universe of living matter. Often understood as discrete from natural landscapes, like forests, the pavilion presents the courtyard as an extension of the jardin de metis, blurring the wild and manicured. It proposes that the space a courtyard commonly delimits can become part of naturally occurring landscapes - enabling a boundless possibility of ecology.

The arches, instead of creating singular openings, become the courtyard enclosure; they perform not as portals themselves, but collectively frame the ecological universe within. The standardised arches of the courtyard begin to deform in proximity to the punctuated vegetation nested inbetween, transforming the rigidity of spatial archetypes towards an interdependent dialectic of ecologies. Visitors are encouraged to meander over a bed of mulch, navigating through the different types of plants, personalising their path and way of experiencing the garden. Following the punctuated and individualised journey, three seats are placed at distinct corners, allowing for observation and contemplation.

Plant List (Suggestive):

1. Maianthemum racemosum
2. Panicum virgatum
3. Deschampsia cespitosa
4. Avenella flexuosa
5. Mitella diphylla
6. Vaccinium angustifolium
7. Actaea rubra
8. Penstemon hirsutus
9. Tiarella cordifolia

Functioning as a nursery for future gardens, punctual planting is implemented in the design in order to keep the different roots systems independent one from the other.

The plant list is still tentative as we would like to collaborate with the Jardin de Métis in order to select the suitable plants that can be dislocated to other Quebecois gardens, once the installation will be decommissioned.

1. arched profile for mesh support [galvanized steel, coated]
2. ground level linear profile for mesh support [steel, coated]
3. mesh [rope]
4. seating module [aluminum, coated]
5. ground socket for arch support [galvanized steel]

