

GOING PUBLIC PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE, URBANISM AND INTERVENTIONS

GOING PUBLIC showcases the creative revival of public space in our urban and rural landscapes. The book's compelling selection of formal and informal interventions, reclamations, and architecture illustrates the current scope and interest in refashioning and repurposing our built environment for public use. The objectives of the featured examples are as diverse as the projects themselves and range from inspiring communication and community experience to devising new means of gathering in and connecting to nature.

From imaginative benches and pavilions in urban centers to contemporary viewing platforms and self-guided trails in rural areas, GOING PUBLIC reveals a diverse range of innovative public spaces achieved with both large and small budgets. In addition to transformations of existing public squares, parks, and waterfronts, the book features original projects such as community gardens, outdoor movie theaters, temporary installations, and lookout points.

Ranging from bold to subtle and from temporary to permanent, the architecture and urban design featured in GOING PUBLIC offers inspiring and surprising interpretations of our public surroundings and natural landscapes.



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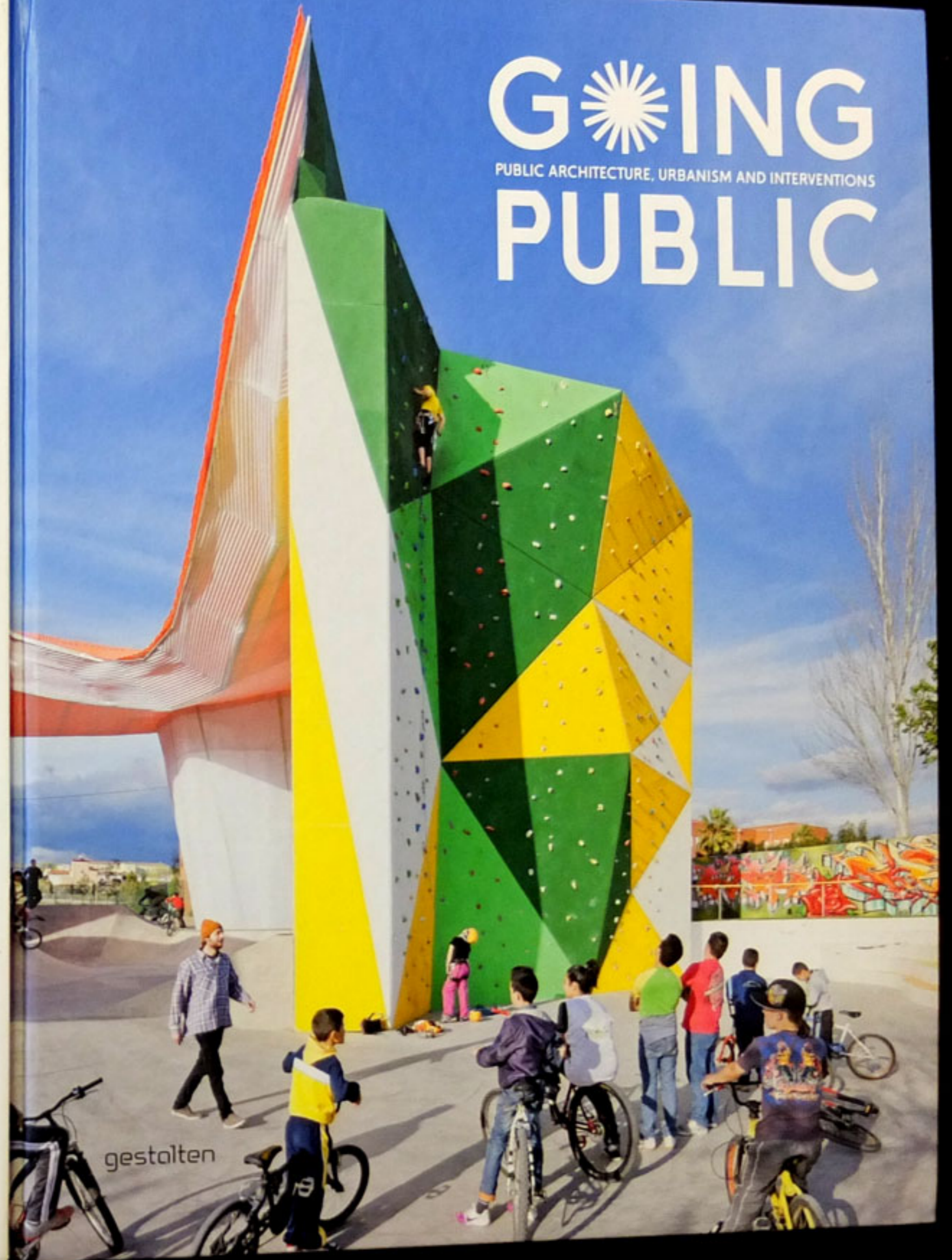
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PLACE AU CHANGEMENT

COLLECTIF ETC.
Saint Étienne, France, 2011

Intended as a preliminary step in the process of redeveloping a vacant site for housing, this project adds value to the place through the mobilization of the local population. The engagement of as many people and neighborhood associations as possible insured the future maintenance and development of the public space. Built by and for the people, resident involvement consisted of a series of workshops, from carpentry and gardening to illustration and furniture making, to achieve the various design elements of the project. Allowing the occupation of a space in transition, the project functions as a type of urban testing ground where the public can directly impact the layout and design of their built environment.



A NOUS LE PARKING

COLLECTIF ETC.
Strasbourg, France, 2011

A one-day-long installation engaged a series of street furniture modules to transform a parking lot into a bustling public space. Experimenting with different configurations of space, the multipurpose modules, which supported myriad activities including ping pong, soccer, and chess, morphed from tables to benches and back again. The simple wooden modules moved regularly according to individual desires, becoming a breeding ground for meetings, exchanges, and social experiments.



HOLDING PATTERN

INTERBORO
Queens, USA, 2011

This completely demountable and recyclable project existed as part of the 2011 PS1 Young Architects Program. To avoid designing and building something that would need to be thrown away after the summer, the project ensured that all of its components would have a second life. In order to achieve this zero-waste approach, the architects created a spatial hybrid composed of elements that institutions in the neighborhood needed and things that could enhance the experience of the MoMA PS1 courtyard. During the summer, these objects sat under a canopy of ropes, generating a soaring hyperboloid surface, from benches and climbing walls to shade trees, each aspect of the installation upon completion was delivered to more than 50 organizations in Long Island City and beyond. Expanding the client base from one client to over fifty, this inspired installation operated as an extensive urban design project for greater New York.

