

Chair of Architectural Behaviorology



Chair of Architectural Behaviorology FS25
Shania Bruder, Rémy Crettenand, Angela Galmarini, Jonas Pfändler, Shanshan Tang, Sining Xu

Public Space Behaviorology in Switzerland Design Studio FS25

Final Review - Promenade and Barbecue Discussion

Public spaces play a crucial role in our civic and urban life, serving as hubs for spontaneous gatherings, demonstrations, markets but also offering spaces for everyday activities such as eating lunch, having a drink, exercising. The functionality of these spaces significantly influences the quality of life for nearby residents. But what defines a good public space?

To answer this question, Students have used the methods of Architectural Behaviorology as well and built upon previous research in public spaces. By observation of well visited public spaces they tried to find the natural, typological and human actors and the rules of interplay between those, which lead to people using a certain place. They have looked at what activities are happening in a public space and how the individual actors are enabling these activities.

This semester, they have placed particular emphasis on the topic of water – whether as a natural element, a resource, a sensory experience within the space - and explored its influence on the behavior and dynamics of public spaces. They have explored the tool of drawing as a way of representing gathered data as well as a tool for design.

We cordially invite you to explore the 12 built installations on May 28th during our final review day. By scanning the QR code, you will find a map allowing you to freely explore and discover the projects. Students will be present at each site to present their project and the process that led to it. Our website will also provide you with more details about our semester and each project.



Date: Wednesday, 28.05.2025
Promenade: 13:00 - 16:00
BBQ Discussion: 16:00 - 17:00

Location: Waldlabor - Honggerberg
Format: Promenade + Barbecue Discussion

Guests: Federico Billeter, Marianne Burkhalter, Adrien Comte, Marius Florianic, Patricia Guaita, Andreas Kalpakci, Romain Legros, Anna MacIver-Ek, Débora Mesa Molina, Arnaud Michelet, Andreas Rudow, Annette Spiro, Alessandro Tellini

DARCH Department of Architecture ETH zürich



1. Water Tank



Gian Christoffel
Laura Frei
Aline Panhuber



Beneath this asphalt and the adjacent meadow lies a stormwater basin and an underground stream. During heavy rain, overflow is stored here—up to 8,000 m³—then slowly released when safe. The front manhole is above the stream, the rear over the reservoir. Two more, 50 m away, mark the outflow into the forest. Though hidden, the stream's sound is made audible through a metal funnel. Sit on a bench nearby, and listen to the flowing, invisible water.

2. Entrance Pond



Lena Hofstetter
Ifadha Ismail
Samira Schubert
Yuliya Degtyryova
Julia Morel
Lena Nydegger



(In)visible connection is a bridge-like structure linking a forest pond to the stream it feeds. Made entirely from locally sourced wood and rope, with no nails or glue, it reflects a low-impact, sustainable approach using traditional joinery. Its zig-zag form offers strength, rhythm, and varied seating heights for all ages. Rope seats invite rest and reflection amidst the forest and water. More than a fence, it creates a quiet gathering space—marking the threshold between the built and the natural.

3. Football Field



Fernando Soares
Linus Ham
Noelle Rüsch
Luis Berka
Giovanny Flores
Etienne Fey



This structure passively collects water and shelters visitors while supporting young trees. Its V-shaped roof panels—30° for dew, 70° for fog—capture airborne moisture. Infusion bottles at each tip show how much water has formed overnight. Visitors can release it to nearby trees. On the other side, a table and shelf face a fireplace, inviting pause and exploration. The installation becomes an ecological and functional device—quietly observing, measuring, and returning water to the forest.

4. Large Pond



Mario Affolter
Noé Capaul
Sina Celli
Cleó de Jong
Marlene Perren
Lara Mettler



A rope stretches between two trees across the pond, anchoring a wooden structure that frames two perspectives. On one side, where no natural canopy remains, a reused sail creates shelter over flat stones—inviting groups to gather, rest, and watch the water. On the other, the structure forms a suspended chair for one person to observe the forest canopy above. The pond's shape and water level determined the design, offering two contrasting yet connected ways to engage with nature.

5. The Plateau



Leticia Davoglio
Luisa Masciali
Chiara Abbondandolo
Neo Miksa
Hector Gentizon
Lorenzo Principe



A drop falls from the sky and begins a visible, audible journey. Rain is caught by the roof and guided through open pipes, which also form the seating structure. This creates a calm space to sit, watch, and listen to the flowing water. As it travels, the water winds through the installation before disappearing into the drainage channel and returning to the ground. The cycle closes. This installation invites visitors to experience the path of water—from sky to earth—through space, sound, and form.

6. Small Pond



Eleah Gollin
Bigna von der Heiden
Alyssa Gubser
Mira Malzanini
Leonie Omereg
Christina Kreutz



A platform extends from the base of a tree out over the pond—forming a small public space. Movable backrests allow visitors to sit in various constellations. A net runs through the entire structure, serving different purposes: at the back, it holds stones that anchor the platform and counterbalance the cantilever; at the front, it supports people, offering a new perspective on the water. The pond comes closer, revealing itself from an unusual angle—inviting pause, play, and reflection.

7. River



Zeno Späth
Laura Rogowska
Gianna Maiszen
Yiran Yang
Jessica Kurtikatu
Yifei Xiao



(In)visible connection is a bridge-like structure linking a forest pond and stream. Made from locally sourced wood and rope without nails or glue, it reflects a low-impact, sustainable approach. Its zig-zag shape adds stability and forms seating niches at different heights, inviting all ages to pause. Rope seats offer quiet spots for reflection, surrounded by water and forest. More than a fence, it becomes a shared space—marking a gentle threshold between nature and people.

8. Red Bench



Paula Jürgens
Julia Bopp
Sofia Thüring
Zeno Wolfsteiner
Joel Koch
Bjarne Buhr



Water becomes experience. This installation lifts river water to a clearing using a hand-powered pulley. It then flows through four basins, each offering a distinct moment—from gentle release to tactile immersion. Visitors control the rhythm through simple mechanisms. Made entirely of 20x40 mm wooden slats, the modular frame also invites sitting, resting, or play. Manual Flow transforms a functional cycle into a direct, repeatable, and shared encounter with water—rooted in its surroundings.

9. Concrete Bridge



Keerthana Kahnavel
Aida Skenderi
Vera Lucas Martins
Josephine Kaiser
Matthieu Berté
Chris Martins Raj



“Flow Intersection” transforms a concrete bridge from a space of passage into one of pause. This wooden shelter, anchored by four pillars and fitted with three foldable seats, invites rest and reflection above a flowing stream. Its textile roof amplifies rain sounds and guides water to the ground. Attached with wooden clamps, the structure leaves no trace once removed. Through sliding seats and subtle design, it offers comfort, shade, and new awareness—punctuating movement with stillness.

10. Water Research Station



Josefina Steuer
Pierrick Ritz
Joy Marti
Clara Cusimano
Leonardo Mühlestein
Lia Danner



The goal of our intervention was to place water at the center, creating a public space for encounter and exchange. We responded to the site to highlight its unique qualities. The structure is oriented toward the river, much like people gathering around a fire—the stream's turbulence recalling flickering flames. We built upon existing elements, preserving them as much as possible. Throughout, water remains the main actor, shaping both the atmosphere and the experience of the place.

11. Wooden Bridge



Aram Godinez
Julian Custer
Alex Schwittler
Severin Finsterle
Giulia Marti
Fabian Zihlmann



This project enhances the connection to nature with a secondary structure suspended beneath the bridge. Resting on the existing foundations, it offers a quiet, intimate space near the water with minimal impact on the site. Unlike the main bridge, this secluded spot invites visitors to pause, sit, and engage with the forest. The path to it gently follows the canyon's topography, echoing existing steps. Open and transparent, the structure creates a fully immersive experience of both river and forest.

12. Storm Damage Area



Dalia Schilling
Alexander Zraggen
Oliver Schierscher
Sara Pagano
Tara Brunner
Linda Weber



As part of a design studio, we built a simple water installation to reconnect people with the river after storm damage cleared this part of the forest. Water flows from the river to three wooden basins: the first and third are open and invite visual and playful interaction; the middle one stores water and links to a fire pit for cooling or washing. Made entirely from reclaimed wood and organic materials, the installation reflects our commitment to sustainability and a deeper connection between nature, water, and people.