when gardens land in the city

The locations have been chosen by scattering seeds over a city map, these gardens will move into their locations on the opening day, and for the inauguration an official party open to the public with events, illuminations, guided visits and walks, things to eat in the gardens, and the involvement of Lausanne’s museums. The 2014 edition of Lausanne jardins is entitled “landing”, and its focus is surprise, originality, diversity and wonder. From 14 June to 11 October, the people of Lausanne will be invited to walk around their city dotted with gardens, and rediscover it by taking part in the wide range of events laid on throughout the summer period. Both locals and visitors will be able to take a look at the city, but with a new eye.

This is the fifth time that Lausanne will devote the year to gardens and nature within the city, with what has become the traditional Lausanne Jardins event which is organised every five years. This year’s event is called ‘landing’, and as one of the city’s flagship event is strongly supported by it. Once again, the 2014 event is playing the originality card. The locations of the urban gardens were chosen by throwing a handful of seeds over a map of the city, which is where the title ‘landing’ comes from. An international competition then received 400 projects submitted from which the winners were finally chosen and invited to create their garden.

18 gardens came from the competition process, 2 being provided by invited designers, 6 created by the co-workers of SPADOM, the city’s parks and gardens department, 2 by the students of ECAL, and 1 by hepia (School of Landscaping, Engineering and Architecture of the Canton of Geneva).

Lausanne invites its inhabitants and visitors to rediscover the city through this event, to grow it, to be astonished and delighted as they set off to discover thirty or so green projects and around 100 events open to everybody. Lausanne-Jardins reminds us of the issues of public spaces and the quality of urban life. What has been planted in the heart of the city is the expression of garden art.

an official and public opening ceremony.

Although we are presenting the 2014 event today, you will not be able to see the gardens until mid-June, when the opening ceremony will take place on Saturday 14 June running until 11 October. Early in the morning, 30 gardens will be arriving in the city centre. The public are invited to celebrate the opening of this event by strolling through the city from garden to garden and taking part in the festivities happening in Place de la Riponne: music, food, reading materials, plenty of events to keep you interested until the official kick-off.
At 5pm we will announce the opening of Lausanne Jardins – Landing before the public officials and our partners: Florence Germond, City councillor and Vice-president of the ‘Association Jardin Urbain’ will make a speech as will Natacha Litzistorf, President of the ‘Association Jardin Urbain’ and the curators, Adrien Rovero and Christophe Ponceau. Following a toast with a welcoming glass provided by the City of Lausanne, a procession, the ‘Walk of the Designers and a testimony to Lausanne’s labels will stage an event in the ‘Pick-up flowers’ garden, a meadow of flowers to pick yourself, designed by Jörg Boner. And when night falls, Romandie will open its doors for an ’electro-green’ evening with DJ Marabout as the MC.

Find the entire programme for 14 June on our website www.lausannejardins.ch

original gardens

From 14 June Lausanne will be showing 29 innovative, poetic creations- in the cathedral, the mountains rise up from the floor as a reminder of the Alps close by. On the paths of the Hermitage Park, glass bubbles evoke the fragility of the plant world. In Place Pepinet, tarmac is hidden by a flower meadow. Higher up in Bessières, the roof of the ‘Retraite Populaires’ is crowned by a glasshouse for growing tomatoes in the heart of the city, while in the centre of the Flon district, pots of sweet herbs are suspended up in the sky on a washing line. Finally halfway between the station and the centre, the Edipresse Tower shows traces of an unusual landing, with a strange container bursting with exotic plants.

Well-known people have also been invited to create their own garden, like Jörg Boner and designer Chris Kabel and his garden ‘Weed pot’, working with his company Eternit which covers empty nooks and walls with multi-coloured wild-flowers.

The Lausanne Parks and Gardens Department (SPADOM) will be beautifying the town with its own designs. Amongst these gardens there are ‘Bubbles’ on the Promenade Derrière-Bourg with large white bubbles of flowers that will fly away and land where the wind takes them.

Finally, Lausanne Jardins is aware of the need to nurture talent, so, in addition to the competition winners, has invited the students of the ECAL (Canton School of Art of Lausanne) and hepia (Geneva School of Landscaping, Engineering and Architecture) to design and build their own gardens. The students from hepia have imagined ‘Roots’ growing in a transitory way from the base of the Chauderon 9 administration building. In the case of ECAL, they are presenting “Garden Balance”, a garden in the form of rocking cages, which manages to balance only through joint participation.

**A wealth of summer events**

We also have planned a wealth of festivities and cultural events throughout the summer, with occasions and illuminations for the Night of Museums in Lausanne and Pully, a surprise appearance the ‘Label Suisse’ festival, a brunch organised with ‘Lausanne à Table’, and Lausanne Estivale (Summery Lausanne) exhibitions at the Cantonal Fine Art Museum and the Hermitage Foundation, a conference at Archizoom, and themed guided visits.


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**Agenda**

**Press Conference**
To celebrate the gardens landing in the city centre, the media is warmly invited to join us for the weekend of 14 and 15 June.

**Saturday 14 June – Official Opening Ceremony of Landing 2014**
A press office is open for your use from 10am to 5pm with documents, information, interview room and WiFi connections available.
We will let you know about its location shortly.

**Sunday 15 June – Picnic lunch and guided press visit.**
The press is cordially invited to the Hermitage Park to enjoy a lunch on the grass and stroll through several of the gardens with Adrien Rovero & Christophe Ponceau and the art historian Matthieu Jaccard.

Please sign up from now up until 12 June at: infrdo@lausannejardins.ch

The press pack, the press releases, the 3 official Landing journals and high definition images can all be downloaded from the press area: www.lausannejardins.ch/presse

**For any further information please contact:**

**Vice-President of ‘Association Jardin Urbain’**
**Florence Germond,** City Councillor, director of finances and of green spaces. +41 21 315 72 00, florence.germond@lausanne.ch

**Curators Lausanne Jardins 2014**
**Adrien Rovero,** + 41 76 481 14 31, adrien@lausannejardins.ch
Christophe Ponceau, +33 6 74 53 95 17, christophe@lausannejardins.ch

**President of ‘Association Jardin Urbain’**
**Natacha Litzistorf,** +41 79 647 99 85, litzistorf@equiterre.ch

Lausanne, 14 May 2014