



Press release

Lausanne Jardins 2019: seeing the city from underneath

The time for fallow land is up. Lausanne Jardins 2019 will be inaugurated on 15 June with a great public banquet. The event's 31 gardens are springing up out of the ground, along a route that tells us about the soil and invites us to see the city differently.

In the middle of the traffic on Place Saint-François, a geyser will soon interrupt the flow of our thoughts. In Valency, an incision will be made in the earth to read its entrails, while in Chauderon, you will be able to play in the earthworms' slide. You might also have already caught a glimpse of the shoots of 1200 loquacious stems that will put on their act in the small amphitheatre on Promenade Jean-Villard-Gilles throughout the summer. In all cases, the scenery is set.

Here and there, the 31 gardens of the 2019 festival are springing up out of the ground, along a route that crosses Lausanne from west to east. The gardens are born out of an international competition as well as of the imagination of public gardeners, students from ECAL (Lausanne University of Art and Design) and Hepia (Geneva School of Engineering, Architecture and Landscape) and world-renowned gardener Gilles Clément – to whom the City of Lausanne will simultaneously dedicate an [exhibition](#). Two installations have also been lent by Festival Annecy Paysage as part of an exchange programme Interreg France-Suisse 2014-2020.

Among them, a 140-metre-long table will host a large festive banquet open to all on 15 June for the inauguration of Lausanne Jardins 2019 at Promenade Derrière-Bourg. The programme features guided tours, dance and music performances as well as feasts. Throughout the summer and until 12 October, the event will also offer free-of-charge entertainment in the gardens: creative and scientific workshops, unusual experiments with *Sauvageons en ville*, short films, concerts, readings, performances as well as other thematic and sound walks.

Meetings with specialists are scheduled to exploit the theme of this 6th Lausanne Jardins festival: open ground – the nourishing open ground, which we only know superficially, although it does not hold that against us, since it watches over us like a mother. Each garden tells us about the soil and its qualities – qualities that change as the route progresses, while the plants change with it.

Lausanne Jardins also focuses on the issue of public spaces as a defining element for the quality of living (together) in the city. The gardens strike a nerve, revealing uncomfortable and abandoned places which, for a few months, are transformed and highlighted – in order maybe to give a few leads on how to recapture the city.

Lausanne Jardins 2019 is an invitation to revisit the city, to see it differently, in particular from beneath.

More information on: www.lausannejardins.ch

For any additional information, please contact:

Natacha Litzistorf, Director of Lodging, Environment & Architecture, +41 (0)21 315 52 00

Monique Keller, curator for Lausanne Jardins 2019, +41 (0)79 412 73 64 (mobile)

Ariane Widmer, présidente de l'Association Jardin Urbain (AJU), +41 79 221 80 23

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