
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

International Festival Garden - Hortillonnages Amiens

JAPAN - FRANCE (Amiens)



La chambre des lisières © Solène Ortoli - photo Y.Monel

AMIENS

Amiens is in northern France in the Hauts-de-France region and is the largest city in the Department of the Somme with 134,000 inhabitants. Amiens is in a great location (Amiens is 1 hour 45 minutes from Paris), but also benefits from a pleasant living environment.

Amiens is the historical and cultural capital of Picardy and has a very rich heritage. Amiens is particularly popular with visitors for its vast Gothic cathedral and its "Hortillonnages". The river Somme runs through the city along with its many canals and floating gardens (the Hortillonnages).

Amiens' proximity to Paris makes the town an important preparation center for the Olympic Games, which will be held in the capital in the summer of 2024. This is why Amiens has been chosen by four Japanese delegations to serve as a base camp for athletes and coaches. The Olympic swimming and table tennis teams will be preparing in Amiens in July. The Paralympic swimming and athletics teams will train there in August 2024.

THE INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL

The International Garden Festival has been held at the Hortillonnages since 2010. It offers landscape creations and works of art accessible to the public, on foot or by boat, on islets of the Hortillonnages in Amiens and along the Somme river. Spread over this exceptional site, these creations pose a poetic, funny or critical but always unexpected look at this complex environment, its history, its future and the link between nature and culture.

This garden festival is organised by the association Art & jardins I Hauts-de-France: it is now part of a larger garden project that extends to the whole of the Hauts-de-France Region, the Grand Est Region and also internationally. Between 50,000 and 60,000 people visit the festival each year. Many prizes have been awarded to different projects created in the Hortillonnages. Many journalists - from France and abroad- follow the Festival: in 2023 nearly 80 of them visited it.

Over the years, a heritage of landscape and art works has been created: some fifty works from previous editions are present on the site and continue to occupy the space. Some of them are visible on the website of *Art & jardins I Hauts-de-France*.

This 15th edition of the *International Garden Festival* will take place from 24th May to 13th October 2024. As part of the next edition of this festival, and to honour the Japanese sports delegations who will be visiting Amiens next summer, the town would like Japanese landscape architects to create a garden.

Japanese landscape designers or architects are therefore invited to apply to this call for bids to create a garden in the Hortillonnages in Amiens.

Below is a photo of a previous garden in the same location.



Water has many voices © Sheena Seeks - Y.Monel

The Festival project has several objectives:

- to support creators
- to develop and preserve natural and man-made heritage
- to query the feeding function of Hortillonnages
- to promote professional integration for young people and people in difficulty
- to participate in economic solidarity
- to develop the touristic attractiveness of the site

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

This call for bids is open to landscape architects or architects of Japanese nationality.

Architects must be accompanied by a person with expertise or experience in the field of plants.

Applicants can be individuals or groups. In the case of collective applications, the group must include at least one person of Japanese nationality.

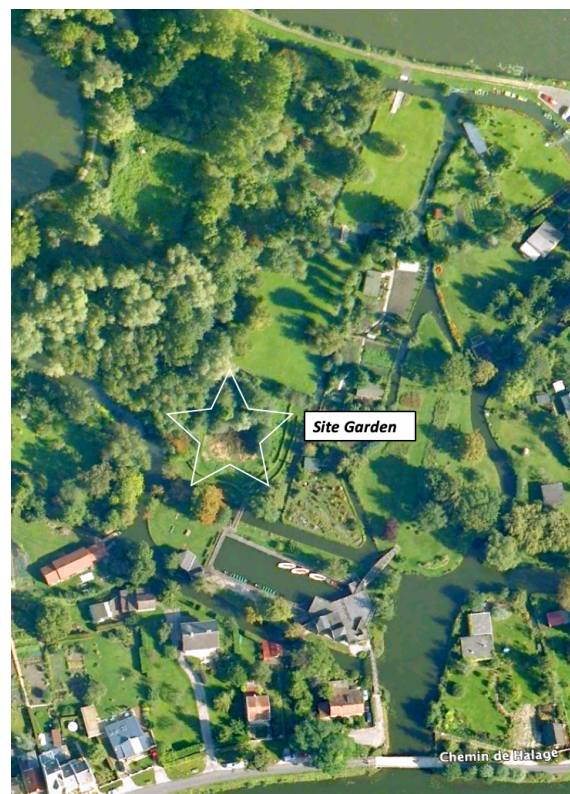
THE PROJECT SITE

The site dedicated to the Garden festival is 95 hectares of Hortillonnages, and more specifically, the Ile aux Fagots and the Etang de Clermont. The gardens are visited by the public, either by foot (the Ile aux Fagots) or by water using electric motor wooden boats (the Etang de Clermont).

Ile aux Fagots is accessible on foot along the towpath that runs alongside the Somme. The global site is made up of several islets linked by bridges. There is also an ancient natural swimming pool. Seven of the festival's former artistic works, gardens or sculptures, are already there.

The Japanese Garden will be held on a plot of land on the Ile aux Fagots.

The site is bordered by a hedge. In the centre is a small pond surrounded by reeds. The pond is currently silted up and needs to be cleaned this winter. Around the pond, the site is wooded.



For this garden, it's important to think about how the public will be able to get around. Visitors arrive at an entrance near the bridge, between the old swimming pool and the plot of land. They leave through another area that leads onto a large lawn.

The future project must take into account the fragility of the site : work to raise awareness or question the preservation of the site. The site has certain constraints for the realization of the works (difficulties to transport the material ...) and for their conservation and evolution. In Hortillonnages, the fauna and flora are protected. Therefore, the use of plant protection products is prohibited. Care must be taken not to introduce invasive plants and to avoid the use of materials that can permanently corrupt the environment.

The maintenance of the future garden needs to be considered from the outset. It should be easy and not require daily maintenance.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

The Artistic Committee will select one garden project based on the following criteria :

- The artistic quality of the applicant's past educational and professional experience / 50%
- The quality of the cover letter / 30%
- The applicant's innovative approach to ecological and environmental issues / 20 %

Generally, for landscape architects, the jury will be sensitive to innovative experiments that encourage inventive approaches. The Hortillonnages can be seen as a productive landscape (market gardening, plant production, energy production, etc.) that generates ecosystem services.

An international jury comprised of qualified members (landscape designers, architects and representatives of Art and Landscape schools) will select applicants.

CALENDAR

Application deadline: the 13th January 2024

Selected applicants agree to:

- from 22th January to 30th January 2024 in Amiens : visit the site where they will be working.
- Accommodation, travel costs and food will be paid for by the organisers for one person.
- on the 22th February 2024 : to present by visio-conference their project
- between 11 March and 10 April 2024 : to take part in a creative residence to carry out their project in Amiens.
- Accommodation and travel costs will be paid for by the organiser for two persons. Food are included in the production costs.
- on the 29 and the 30 June 2024 in Amiens : be present to take part in the Festival's official opening. Accommodation, travel costs and food will be covered by the organiser for two persons.

Duration

The works may be short-lived (i.e., present at least for as long as the works are open to the public, from 24th May to 13th October 2024) or long-lived (open for several editions).

FINANCIAL TERMS

The production budget to create the garden is a maximum of € 20,000 (incl. VAT). This amount is managed with the Organiser.

In addition to this amount, the organiser will bear the costs of travel/accommodation :

- for the preparatory visit / for two person maximum
- for the garden development period / for two persons maximum
- for the launch / for two persons maximum

The amount directly allocated to the landscapers is a fixed fee of 5,500 Euros including tax (VAT). This amount includes copyrights as well as design and development fees.

APPLICANT FILES

The files must be submitted in English or French in electronic form (only 1 PDF document) **before January 13, 2024** (11:59 pm-French time) to the following address : **hortillonnages.avp@gmail.com**

Applicant files comprise:

- A cover letter of no longer than three pages (with a visual / scheme)
- An updated artistic dossier of a maximum of ten pages in A4 format including visuals relating to a selection of works already produced by the applicant(s).
- A curriculum vitae
- The completed registration form
- A copy of the applicant's passport

You can download the call for bids on our website : <http://www.artetjardins-hdf.com>. For your information, the results of the call for bids will be sent to the candidates no later than 17 January 2024.

REGISTRATION FORM - CALL FOR PROPOSALS - JAPANESE GARDEN

This sheet must be completed and submitted with the candidature file before 13 January 2024 (11:59 pm - French time) / Cette fiche doit être complétée et renvoyée avec le dossier de candidatures avant le 13 janvier 2024 (23h59 - heure française)

For individual applicants :

NOM / SURNAME - Prénom / First name :

Nationalité / Nationality :

Adresse postale / Address :

Téléphone / Phone number:

E-mail address :

Site internet / Website :

For group :

Name of group :

Name of group members participants in the project :

Please list the person responsible for the group's communication at the top of the list.

NOM / SURNAME - Prénom / First name :

Nationalité / Nationality :

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