PLAYFUL CITY GOTHENBURG
A PLAYGROUND DESIGN
MANIFESTO

In a playful city Gothenburg, there would be more playful meeting places for all weathers, seasons and times of all day and night. Play will happen everywhere within the walking distance of homes, offices and schools.

At the same time, there is a lot of rain and water is ubiquitous in Gothenburg where Göta River divides our city into two parts. We are surrounded by water. In my design, I want to make it possible to physically interact with the water here.

It is a place to play more and experience water. The water in my playground is accessible, touchable and tangible, incorporating with Göta River and weather change. It is thought to present healthier and active lifestyle and experience different water characteristics.
Lilla Bommen is one of the city’s main attractions along the river. The new footbridge will make the area even more important. By extending the water surface further towards Nordstan, the distance between city and river is reduced.
Rainfall

The playground is shaped by rainwater, which is collected in pools and puddles and led away to the city rain water pipes.

Zones

Gradient of safety is varied in the playground. Challenging zone will provide some possibilities for sports like parkour or free running.

Current

Negativespace

Lowering the plane, which makes it possible for physical interacting with water here. Creating a more appealing shore. The biggest depth of depressed field is 2 meters, remaining an integral part of surrounding.

View

Creating a continuous view and movement in city axis. And there are no symmetric elements. It is an organic park.

Hilly urban landscape

The hills are between 0.6 and 2 meter high. The highest point will not block the nice view to the harbor. And water can stay longer in the ground. At the same time, rolling surface creates more spaces for playing.
Plan 1:200
1 Swimming pool
2 Fountains
3 Big puddles
4 Pot
5 Bike Park
6 Basketball
7 Cave
8 Beach volleyball court
9 Slopes
PART I: PLAY A LITTLE BIT MORE
Change our vision of looking at urban space and Make a detour

Workers / inhabitant

Workers or inhabitant can get access to their working place through comfortable surroundings and much more fun spaces. Better conditions for healthier and more active lifestyles are offered in this playground, the everyday space we inhabit.

For examples, workers can bring their food have a nice lunch with friends at this playground. Or use their lunchtime to have a swimming.

The potential guests

A comfortable place are designed for them to play to stay and play. Slopes(9) is a very ideal place for them to play and move up and down again and again, searching for different sports and interesting space.

The motorist user

Passes through the area on foot or by bike. Much more fun are added to accessibility to dwell and pass through the area. Bike park(8) offers this possibility to them to slow the life down and join other playing people.

Potential users and suggested paths

New Bridge
bike path and green walk
My Playground
A film about Movement in Urban Space

"Architecture is the means and the goal is the maximum evolvement of human life"
"what is fascinating is the way of transforming the city...but we can change the way we are looking at and
the way you use it. And in that way make it your own."
"If you let the physical and organic come in contact with the hard material and unorganic then
something happens. In some way you are transferring a life, energy or identity to the material."

A Good Detour (En god omvej)
It is the path to a more enjoyable and healthier life

Danish Foundation for Culture and Sport Facilities (Lokale- og Anlægsfonden) introduced a
development project entitled "A Good Detour" (En god omvej). "The intent of the competition was to
encourage innovative design and planning concepts that would create better conditions for healthier
and more active lifestyles, especially within the everyday spaces we inhabit."
1 Swimming pool:
The water of swimming pool comes from the Gota river. Only the quality of river water meet standards, the pool will open to the public. So citizens can account how many days they can use this pool. While the natural swimming pool is designed with a purified system. It could be used everyday.
Pot
Here is a center of area activities. Are protected against the wind, it is a very nice place for picnic. Used as an outdoor summer scene or more activities planned with both sporting and cultural character. Here is for yoga, zumba or dancing class. There can be danced and breakdances, or for small concerts.
8 Beach volleyball court
It is like pot but with larger space and soft ground material.

9 Slopes
There is no equipment in slopes. Use topography, water and sand and other natural features to call for a whole different behavior and movement than a flat field. “Hill” landscape integrate a series of new experiences for local citizens.
PART II: PLAY WITH WATER
Play anytime anywhere and Make climate change visible

+10.00 SEA LEVEL  +10.30 TIDE

+10.5 RAINING

+11.2 MODERATE WATER LEVEL

+11.80 HIGHEST WATER LEVEL
Once a day at high tide, visitors will see water flow into a small pool, forming a water curtain.
It is a place for exploring. And it is also a nice place for celebrating rains. When it starts to rain, people go through water curtain then into this cave.
2 Fountains
3 Big puddles

There are various ways to get in touch with water. Rainwater will be collected in puddles before it is led away. And in fountain, two streams of water flow from two-separated highest point. It cascades, swirls, bubbles and meet in the swimming pool.
WATER PATTERNS ON DIFFERENT SURFACES
In rain, smooth concrete is more reflective. While, on rough surfaces, especially with various aggregate sizes, there are shimming lights.
Water level goes up and down in this playground to make it visible for citizens to see the climate change. It would encourage people to think about nature. To encourage citizens to be optimistic, if everything is under control. So when it is flooding, some narrow bridges still connect city to the playground. Some shows and performances could also be organized around this complex topography.
EXPERIENCE WATER

BUGA
Atelier Dreiseitl

Diane Memorial Fountain
Kathryn Gustafson

NATURAL ELEMENTS

Lovejoy Fountain Park
Lawrence Halprin

Lake Project
Junya Ishigami

PUBLIC BATH

Midgårdsbadet

Bathing Ship
Susanne Lorenz

NATURAL LANDSCAPE

Intertidal Zone

Water Curtain in Cave