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Feature: Landscape Urbanism in France
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a+u's July issue features landscape urbanism in France. Since the 1970s, the pioneering generation of Michel Corajoud, Alexandre Chemetoff, Gilles Clément, and Jacques Simon – all profiled on these pages – have brought the modern discipline of landscape architecture in France, and its long insistence on a horticultural approach, into the urban realm. Yet as guest editors Henri Bava and Antoine Picon argue in their introductory essay, this urban turn has its deep origins in agriculture and land management, formal gardens, and the military and civil engineering practices of France's early modern period, in the 18th and 19th centuries. Charles Waldheim further notes that these paysagistes “advocated for a kind of landscape thinking informed by the study of regional geology, hydrology, and ecology in service of flexible urban strategies rather than by master plans.” Featuring 6 canonical works by the pioneers, alongside 17 projects that represent current trends, the issue explores the evolution of a discipline.

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a+u - Architecture and Urbanism – is a monthly architectural magazine established in 1971 that highlights a broad range of the work and activities of top contemporary architects from around the world in a well-presented format.