Arganzuela Footbridge

Madrid, Spain

The construction underground of the highway along the river banks of the Manzanares River provided an opportunity to open up a new urban territory for the inhabitants of Madrid, the Manzanares Park. A number of bridges over the river have been planned. Linking the neighbourhoods on both banks of the river, the Arganzuela Footbridge will be the longest of all the planned bridges and will be for both pedestrians and cyclists. Cone-like in structure, the bridge has two interlocking metal spirals, wrapped by a metallic ribbon. Spaced wooden slats make up the floor of the bridge, allowing the rays of the sun to filter through to the park below. The cones’ geographic location creates a belvedere over the park and the surrounding city as well as an exceptional location from which to admire the famous Toledo Bridge. Shaded during the day, the promenade becomes luminous at night.

Environment: Urban
Material: Stainless steel mesh
Architect: Dominique Perrault Architecte, Paris, France
Engineering: MC2 / Julio Martínez Calzón, Madrid (structure); YPSA, Madrid (mechanical engineering)
Photographs: Georges Fessy
Completion: 2011
Manufacturer: en.gkd.de
More information: perraultarchitecture.fr

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