

Obsolete

Open Call, Lueger Platz.

Vienna, Austria.

March 2010



The Idea...

Is to demonstrate the obsolescence that represents today the monument that honours the Austrian politician Karl Lueger in the square “Karl Lueger Platz” in Viena, Austria.

This proposal goes against any Anti-Semitism or Racism and absolutely disagrees to honour any politician of that kind.

The idea has no intention in any way to remove or destroy the existing structure, instead, it intends to preserve the monument and its strong historical significance in a way that retains the memory of the place but with a new and updated appearance of what it represents nowadays.

This will allow visitors (especially to future generations) to more easily understand why this call to action by the square, as a reaction to current dissatisfaction to the still present anti-Semitism and racism in Austria’s political parties and social groups.

“Tant que les gens croient en absurdités ils vont continuer à commenttre des atrocités”(Voltaire).

The proposal consists of a self-sustaining “structure” which consists of a combination of plants, herbs, vegetables and flowers of different species, origins, etc. growing and living on a crack made by drilling the surface. This organic structure will cover the existing monument as if by the passage of time, and represents the idea of a “multi-racial” community that can absolutely coexist together in the same physical space.

It consists on drilled grooves/channels made on the surface to create a mixture of continuous paths filled with vegetation. It will be deep enough to allow space for soil (10cm app.) and on top of the soil, a metal mesh will be fixed itself to the surface making stable the area where the plants will grow.

On the low part of the statue, at the front, the engraved name of the “renewed” statue will appear in bronze with the date of the making (Obsolete, march 2010) as well as Voltaire’s quote bellow it and smaller.

It proposes to keep the lighting system of the statue as it stands and if is necessary, a metal panel can be place in front of the statue with a short explanation of the intervention.



Site of the Lueger Platz - Proposal



Front relief (creation of the wood and grass area) - Proposal



Figure at the front (man with gas pipe) - Proposal



Samples

