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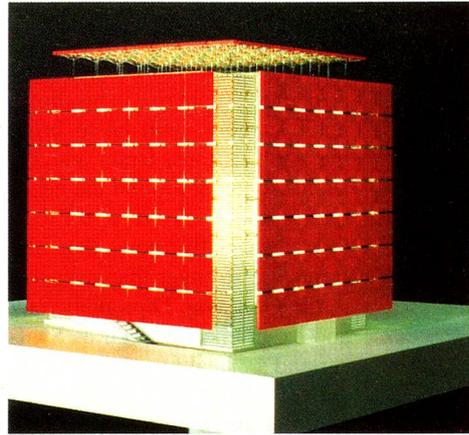
Prizewinning project on display

Swiss architect Cuno Brullmann, who lives and works in Paris and won the "Place of Swiss Abroad" architectural competition, put his prizewinning project on public display in Brunnen on 3 May. Construction of the building will begin after 1991. Two models of the winning entry will be on view in the pavilion erected on the Place of the Swiss Abroad.

Brullmann's prizewinning project fits perfectly into the Place of the Swiss Abroad near the landing stage of the Brunnen promontory. Designed in the shape of a cube, the building will have outside walls of red plates, through which the illuminated interior can be seen, forming a pattern of white crosses. An original feature is the side wall which can be opened to reveal a view of the

Rütli, thus forming an historical link with the old homeland of the Swiss Abroad.

In accordance with the specifications laid down for the competition, the project – awarded first prize by a panel of judges in December 1990 – will be able to be used as a centre in which Swiss living at home and abroad as well as the local residents of Brunnen can meet. It has space for exhibi-



Side view of the prizewinning project. The building can be used as a multi-purpose meeting centre. (Photo: Cuno Brullmann)

tions, concerts and theatrical productions.

Cuno Brullmann is an architect who has made an outstanding reputation for himself in Paris. His activities have included participation in the construction of the Centre Pompidou and he has won

several major architectural competitions in recent years.

All the one hundred entries sent in for the competition will be on show in the Brunnen sports hall from 19 to 28 July.

SSE

Place of the Swiss Abroad officially opened to the public

Inauguration ceremony held on 4 May 1991

The Place of the Swiss Abroad in Brunnen and the Swiss Path were both officially handed over to the public at a modest inauguration ceremony on 4 May 1991. The joint inauguration reflected the solidarity of ideas between the two projects. They will still be there when the 700th anniversary celebrations are a thing of the past and will be the only permanent reminders of that anniversary.

The Place of the Swiss Abroad in Brunnen is the pivotal contribution of the Fifth Switzerland to the Swiss Confederation's anniversary year. It is connected to the Swiss Path and thus expresses the attachment of the Swiss abroad to the "old country".

This point was made by Professor Walther Hofer, President of the "Auslandschweizerplatz" Foundation, in his speech of welcome to the large number of guests who arrived in Brunnen after attending the ceremonial opening of the Swiss Path. The distinguished guests, who included Federal Councillor Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, were, so to speak, standing on historic

ground. It was here in Brunnen that immediately after the victory at the Battle of Morgarten, the Confederate Pact of 1291 was renewed and expanded. The unique location of the Place of the Swiss Abroad, opposite the Rütli Meadow, cradle of the Confederation, also emphasises its historical dimension.

It was natural that speakers at the inauguration ceremony should express their pleasure that the promontory located near the Brunnen landing stage now belonged to the Swiss Abroad. It was they who, through a widespread collection supported by the Confederation, had made it

possible to buy this valuable piece of land.

Unexpectedly for those present – who included local residents spontaneously invited by the



Ulrich Bremi, President of the National Council (left) and Federal Councillor Jean-Pascal Delamuraz (right) in Brunnen.

Swiss Abroad Organisation – Federal Councillor Delamuraz also made a speech.

In happy mood, Mr. Delamuraz took the opportunity of expressing his solidarity with the Swiss Abroad. He thanked his fellow citizens all over the world for their hard work, so essential to the existence of Switzerland. The speaker was applauded when he commented that his compatriots abroad often raised the Swiss flag higher than was the case in their former homeland.

The musical accompaniment to the celebrations was provided by the Fanfare du Pays de Gex, a Franco-Swiss band which travelled to Brunnen specially for the event and played Rossini's "William Tell" and many old Swiss melodies. The climax of the event came when the company joined in a toast to the well-being of the more than 450,000 Swiss citizens living all over the world.

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