

PARK DESIGNER ÉDOUARD FRANÇOIS ANDRÉ

AN EXHIBITION

The exhibition is dedicated to commemorate the 100th anniversary of death of Édouard François André (1840–1911), a famous French landscape architect, a theoretician of the art of parks, a writer and an editor. It is aimed at presenting the audience with É. F. André's unique creative heritage by the means of iconographic material, i.e. historical and present-day photographs depicting parks he designed in European countries, North Africa and Latin America, along with textual information annotating it.

The **1st exhibition stand** presents the title of the exhibition as well as information about institutions that organised it, sponsors, partners and other people who contributed to the exhibition. The stand is illustrated with É. F. André's portrait made by Debat-Ponsan in 1902.

The **2nd stand** is dedicated to a portrait of É. F. André as an artist; listing the most important dates of his personal and creative life, it highlights his exceptional talents, the originality and value of his works as a landscape architect, a theoretician of the art of parks, a writer and an editor. The stand is illustrated with his photograph made in 1895 and a flower *Anthurium andreanum* that he brought from the expedition to South America, along with his own lists of parks that he designed all over the world.

The **3rd stand** presents É. F. André's treatise *The Art of Gardens*, an unequalled book about park design, plant cultivation and maintenance of landscape plants. It is illustrated with a photograph of the first edition of the book in 1879 in Paris, a quote from the book along with one of its colour illustrations – a bird's-eye view drawing of Courcelles Park in Haute-Marne in France.

The **4th stand** introduces É. F. André's expedition to Latin America in 1875-1876 where he explored and described several new species of bromelia. He brought from the expedition a unique collection of unknown plants and described his journey in the book *Around the World* ("Tour du monde"). To illustrate his journey, lithographs from the book *Equatorial America* ("L'Amérique Équinoxiale", 1999) are photographed and presented at the stand.

The **5th stand** presents one of the four É. F. André's projects in Lithuania, a park in Palanga commissioned by counts Tiškevičiai. The project was carried out by É. F. André together with his son René André who reported the process in *Revue Horticole* in 1906. The stand is illustrated with a picture of count Feliksas Tiškevičius and his wife Antanina, and bird's-eye view images of Palanga Park in the twenties and thirties of the 20th century and 2005 along with the facsimiles of letters written by counts Tiškevičiai to É. F. André.

The **6th stand** presents É. F. André's second project in Lithuania, a park of Lentvaris Manor designed at the end of the 19th century. Stylistically the park is heterogeneous; potentialities of relief and water are well explored: views of ponds and mountain stream, water cascades, grottos, palisades, hills overseeing the park are set up. The stand is illustrated with a photograph of the former landlords of the manor Vladislavas Tiškevičius and his wife Kristina as well as images of the park in its palmy days and today.

The **7th stand** introduces a park of Užutrakis Manor designed by É. F. André and located near Trakai. The system of ponds was crucial for the structure of park: there were over 20 smaller ponds connected with each other and with at least one of the bigger ones. The stand is illustrated with a photograph of Juozapas Tiškevičius and his wife Jadvyga as well as the images of the manor and the park at the first half of the 20th century and today. Taken by R. André, a photograph capturing É. F. André's journey from Užutrakis to Lentvaris is also presented.

The **8th stand** is dedicated to É. F. André's fourth park in Lithuania, that of Trakų Vokė. Invited to Trakų Vokė by count Jonas Juozapas Tiškevičius, É. F. André enriched the park with a sense of variety and the signs of his times. To these days, the fundamental structure of the park including three of four gates (all of different styles) is still extant. The stand is illustrated with a portrait of count Jonas

Juozapas Tiškevičius, a landlord of Trakų Vokė Manor, along with images of the manor and its gothic gates to the park.

The **9th stand** presents a famous Sefton Park in Liverpool. Initiated in 1867 after É. F. André won a competition, the park brought him fame all across the world. It consists of 150 hectares of rugged terrain with ingeniously arranged species of local and exotic trees along with smaller plants. The water of the River Mersey flowing into the sea is used to set up cascades. It took É. F. André five years to finish the project. The stand is illustrated with É. F. André 's plan of Sefton Park and the images of the park itself.

The **10th stand** is dedicated to the first rose garden in the world – the Val-de-Marne rose garden. É. F. André was invited there by Jules Gravereaux, a famous French rosarian. Settled in a 2320 sq. metres triangular territory, the rose garden was surrounded by lattices of wattles to pillar the roses. É. F. André's rose garden turned into a real work of art. The stand is illustrated with É. F. André 's plan of rose garden, a bird's-eye view image of the garden along with photographs of the park.

The **11th stand** introduces Buttes-Chaumont Park inaugurated in 1867 during the opening of the Paris World Exposition. It is one of the most beautiful parks in Paris captivating crowds of visitors with its hilly landscape, roman belvedere of Sybil, grottos, rocks, a pond, a suspension bridge and spectacular plants. In Buttes-Chaumont Park É. F. André worked as a supervisor deciding on what flora to plant; he, thus, developed impressive plant compositions that he later discussed in his book *The Art of Gardens* ("L'Art des Jardins"). The stand presents illustrations of *The Art of Gardens* as well as the images of park today.

The **12th stand** presents another two of É. F. André's parks – the City Park in Luxembourg and Weldam Castle Park in the Netherlands. City Park in Luxembourg was developed according to É. F. André's project that he rendered in 1871. The plan introduced not only park paths but also new streets connecting old city with new districts. Photographs of the etchings from *The Art of Gardens* as well as images with today's views of the park illustrate the stand.

The Dutch refer to Weldam Castle Park as a country's representative park. It is still being maintained according to É. F. André's project. The stand is illustrated with photographs of the park.

The **13th stand** introduces É. F. André's works in Egypt, one of them being Montazah Palace Gardens situated on the coast of Mediterranean Sea. The stand is illustrated with photographs of the palace and its gardens made in 1940 and today.

The **14th stand** is dedicated to É. F. André's parks in Czech Republic and Bulgaria. Lednice Castle Park is in Czech Republic near the Austrian border. The park was developed in 1886 just after the reconstruction of the castle. The stand is illustrated with a plan of Lednice Castle and photographs of the park.

Euxinograd Palace Park is situated on the coast of Black Sea near Varna. It took more than two decades to finish the park that was initiated in 1890. It has over 300 species of plants from all over the world that were supposedly selected by king Ferdinand of Bulgaria. The stand is illustrated with photographs of the palace and the park.

The **15th stand** presents two parks in Poland: Potulice and Samostrzel. Initiated by count Casimir Potulicki in the middle of the 19th century, the former one is situated at the North-Western part of Poland. During the Second World War the park was ruined saving only two alleys several hundred metres long. Samostrzel Park was reconstructed according to É. F. André's project in 1880 making it famous throughout Poland. Today the park is rather decayed having only 500 trees left of its former beauty. The stand is illustrated by old photographs of the palace along with images of how the park looks today.

The **16th stand** presents exhibition annotation in English and French and lists all the institutions, sponsors, partners and individuals who contributed to it. The stand is illustrated with É. F. André's portrait, a bird's-eye view image of Palanga Park and a picture of the cover of *The Art of Gardens*.

*The information was prepared by the Centre of Cultural Initiatives of
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