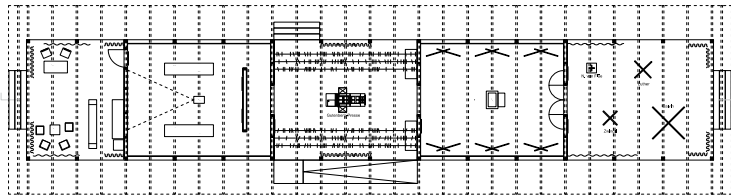


Swiss Reformation Pavilion
Wittenberg, Germany 2017

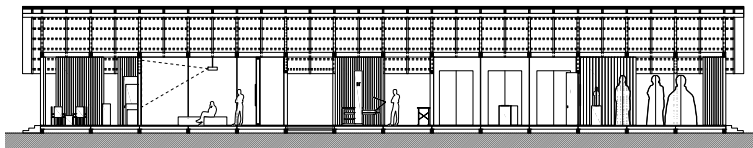




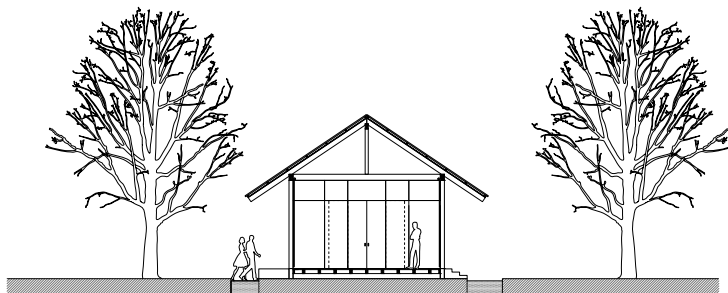




Plan - 1 : 200



Long Section - 1 : 200



Cross Section - 1 : 200

The pavilion celebrates the history of Swiss Protestantism on the occasion of the World Reformation Exhibition taking place in Wittenberg (DE) in 2017 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Built on an elongated and verdant plot in the Luthergarten city park, the pavilion is divided into four spaces: each one is dedicated to a different aspect of the cultural history of the Reformation in Switzerland, focusing on its main protagonists as well as its symbols such as the Gutenberg press. At the pavilion, the New Testament of the latest edition of the Zurich Bible (2007) are being printed each day using the printing techniques from the Reformation era, 500 years ago.

The light construction is painted white, it features a pitched roof supported by a regularly interrupted perimeter of thin wooden beams. The pavilion has no outer walls, a heavy coated fabric spanning the spaces through the pillars offers protection from the elements to the inner enclosures. The green colour of the cloth blends the building within the vegetation around it. The very simple structure reflects on the primary dwelling: a trivial shelter, which mediates between “homeness” and holiness, while suggesting a place of production like a factory, or a sawmill.

Client: Schweizerische Evangelische Kirchenbund - SEK

Programme: Temporary Exhibition Pavilion

Location: Wittenberg, Germany

Architecture: Christ & Gantenbein, Basel

Architecture Team: Emanuel Christ, Christoph Gantenbein; Victoria Easton, Jan Zachmann, Emilia Ionici.

Scenography: Christ & Gantenbein, Fjolla Rizvanolli

Construction: Jens Graube (Fairnet), Andreas Uhlig (Interior)

Curator: Gabriel de Montmollin, Geneva

Artistic direction : Juri Steiner, Lausanne

Graphic Design: Julien Notter, Lausanne (Exhibition), Marie Lusa, Zurich (Key visual)

Concept and realisation of the printing press: Pierre-Yves Schenker, Yverdon-les-Bains

Over the past years, a broad range of private and public commissions has given shape to Christ & Gantenbein's growing body of work - encompassing different scales and scopes from individual residential extensions, institutional buildings, infrastructures and urban master-plans. Award-winning projects such as the renovations and extensions to the Kunstmuseum in Basel (2016) and the Swiss National Museum in Zurich (2016), as well as the Wallraf-Richartz-Museum in Cologne (ongoing) have strengthened the office's expertise in the development of museum buildings. Housing schemes in Paris and Germany, as well as the Lindt Chocolate Competence Centre in Switzerland are, among others, currently on the drawing board.

Founders Emanuel Christ and Christoph Gantenbein, Partner Mona Farag, Associates Tabea Lachenmann, Anna Flückiger, Victoria Easton and Daniel Monheim, together with 35 architects staff the practice established in 1998.

Christ & Gantenbein's work has been distinguished with the best architects 17 Award – public buildings (2016), the Essence Award – Gold Prize (2016), the RedDot Award – “Best of the Best” Prize (2016), the Media Architecture Biennale Awards (2016), the Swiss Steel Construction Award – Prix Acier (2014), the AR Award for Emerging Architecture (2009) and two nominations for the Iakov Chernikhov International Prize (2010, 2012).

Since graduating from the ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology) in 1998, Emanuel Christ and Christoph Gantenbein have maintained a balance between their professional activity and their academic involvement. After lectureships inter alia at the ETH Studio Basel (2000–2005), the HGK Basel (2002–2003), the Accademia di Architettura in Mendrisio (2004, 2006, 2009) and the Oslo School of Architecture and Design (2008), they returned to the ETH Zurich (2010–2015). Research conducted in this latter period culminated in the meticulous exposition of more than 400 buildings in the two monographs *Typology* (Park Books, 2012, 2015). This compendium further inspires and sustains their on-going commitment to the city and its underlying paradigms. In 2016 they taught an option studio at Harvard GSD.