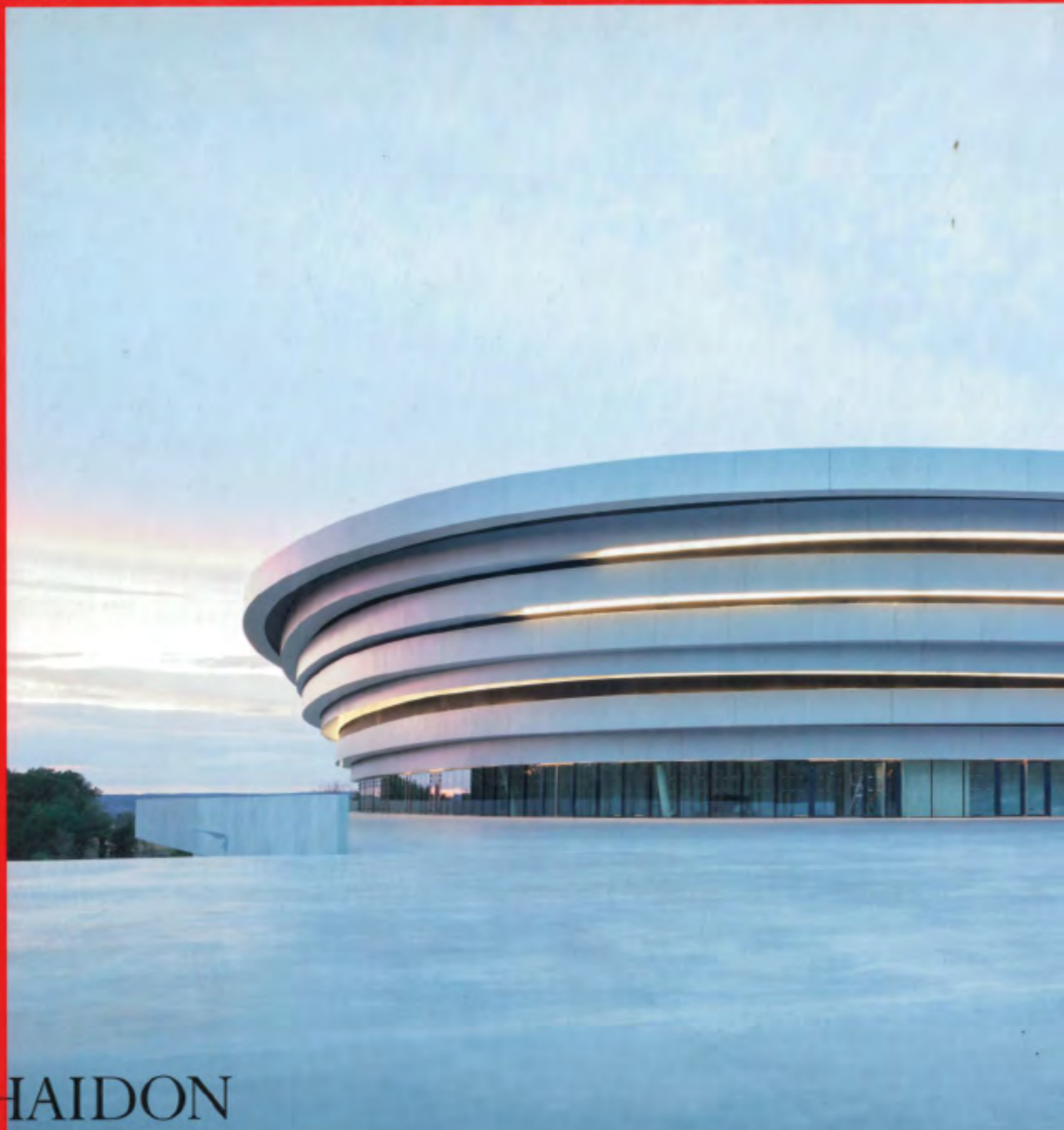


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# Rainbow Bridge

Long Beach, CA, USA

SPF:architects



Located in Long Beach, California, the Rainbow Bridge was opened to the public in December 2017. Over a four-year period, from RFP (request for proposal) to the end of construction, the project underwent dramatic changes in both purpose and design. Two major venues in Long Beach, the Convention Center and Performing Arts Center, required a connection that would allow visitors to circulate freely between the two locations.

The finished project is a spectacular six-hundred-foot (180 meters) pedestrian bridge consisting of seventy-six custom-welded bent-steel ribs framing the top, and approximately 1,200 cubic yards of poured-in-place concrete shaping the base. The bridge canopy features 3,500 color-changing LED node lights, one hundred downlights, and seventy floodlights, all of which can be programmed to music to create different effects.

SPF:architects worked closely with Carl Stahl Architektur to create the custom, three-piece, stainless-steel node clip that allows for the bridge's LED wiring to attach to the canopy.

The Rainbow Bridge draws from Long Beach's history as a dynamic seaside town with its active port and local attractions. The bridge is formally conceived as an abstraction of a breaking wave with a deck that is composed of multifarious strands or eddies of elements that typify a boardwalk environment.

**TYPE**  
TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSPORTATION  
INFRASTRUCTURE

**WINNER**  
POPULAR CHOICE

**PROJECT STATUS**  
BUILT

**YEAR**  
2017

**FIRM LOCATION**  
CULVER CITY, CA  
USA