



# Grand Plaza & Amphitheater

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*Circuit of the Americas, Austin, TX*

*27 acres*

Bordered by the track on three sides, the 27-acre Grand Plaza lies at the heart of the Circuit of the Americas and defines the public experience for most visitors to the new motorsports and entertainment venue. The 3.4-mile racetrack coils around the Grand Plaza and springs out to the east and west, making it the perfect location not only to watch the action of the race unfold, but also to enjoy the amenities contained within. Ideally situated to capture the energy and atmosphere of the Circuit of the Americas, the Grand Plaza will serve as Central Texas' new home for outdoor entertainment.

*2015 Merit Award | American Institute of Steel Construction*

*2014 Best New Major Concert Venue | Pollstar Awards*

*2013 Overall Winner | ABJ Commercial Real Estate Awards*






Visitors enter through a large hardscaped plaza containing the box office and entry gates. Overhead, flags welcome spectators from all nations as the entry plaza opens into the expansive Grand Plaza, with a dramatic view of the Observation Tower in the distance. This strong axial relationship across the Grand Plaza creates a significant moment of arrival to the Circuit of the Americas, establishing a sense of grandeur and place.

From the reflecting pool, a promenade unfolds along the plaza's northeast edge. Large banners and bold graphics punctuate this trellis-covered boulevard, framing the Grand Plaza while integrating the necessary advertising and signage into the design language of the facility.





To the left of the promenade are amenities including concession stands, retail areas, restrooms and the Turn 15 grandstands. To the right is the Great Lawn, which has the flexibility to accommodate a variety of events including festivals, athletics and pre-concert activities. At the end of the promenade, a pedestrian bridge over Turn 16 grants access to the track infield as well as another bridge over Turn 3, thereby allowing visitors to completely cross the track.



Crowded along the sloping grass berm between turns 19 and 20, with the landmark Observation Tower rising in the background, visitors are surrounded by the sights and sounds of the race, heightening the sensory experience of the track and cementing the circuit's identity.

Carved into the topography of the site in order to enhance acoustics and views of performers, the Austin360 Amphitheater is the largest outdoor stage in Central Texas, with 6,671 fixed seats and a total capacity of over 14,000 people. The dramatic backdrop of the 251 foot tall Observation Tower serves as a memorable setting, galvanizing the city of Austin's reputation as the "Live Music Capital of the World."

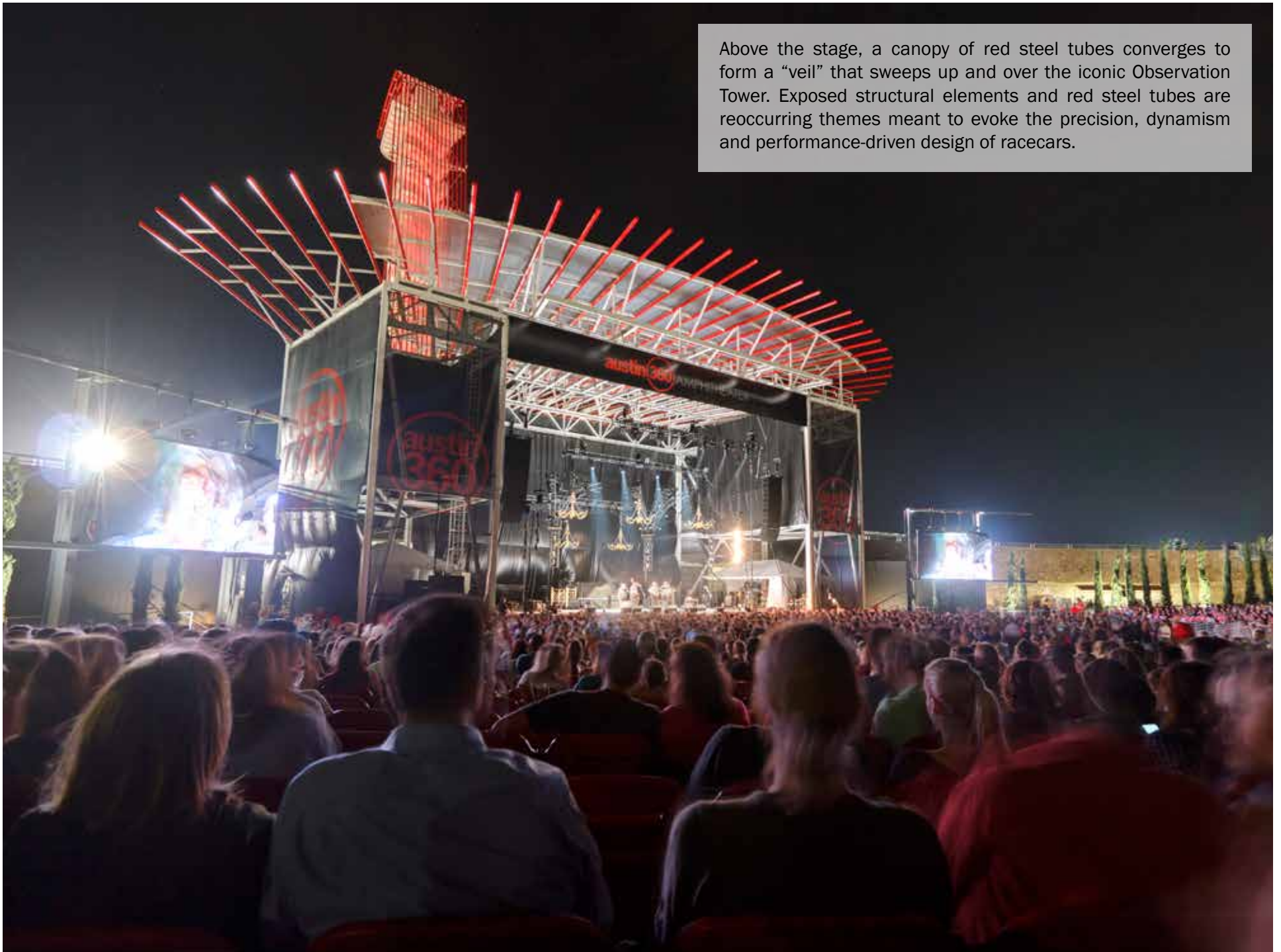


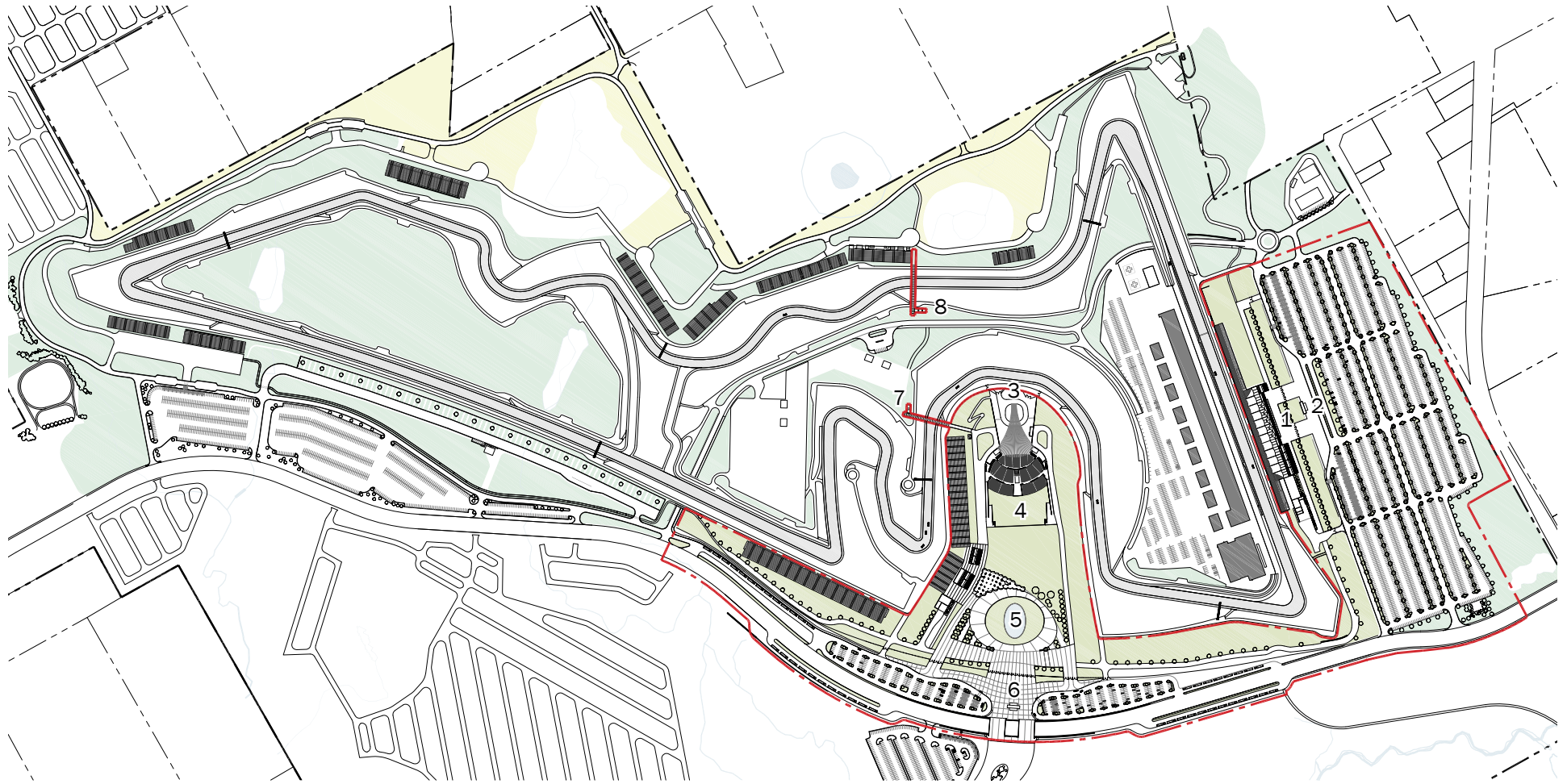
Spectators enter the amphitheater at the back of the lawn and descend toward the stage, passing two tiers of fixed seating. The front center section of the fixed seating is occupied by nine rows of box seats with premium views of the stage. Directly in front of the stage, a flexible floor area provides the option for additional temporary seats, banquet tables or standing room.





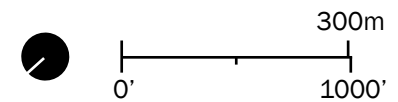
Above the stage, a canopy of red steel tubes converges to form a “veil” that sweeps up and over the iconic Observation Tower. Exposed structural elements and red steel tubes are recurring themes meant to evoke the precision, dynamism and performance-driven design of racecars.

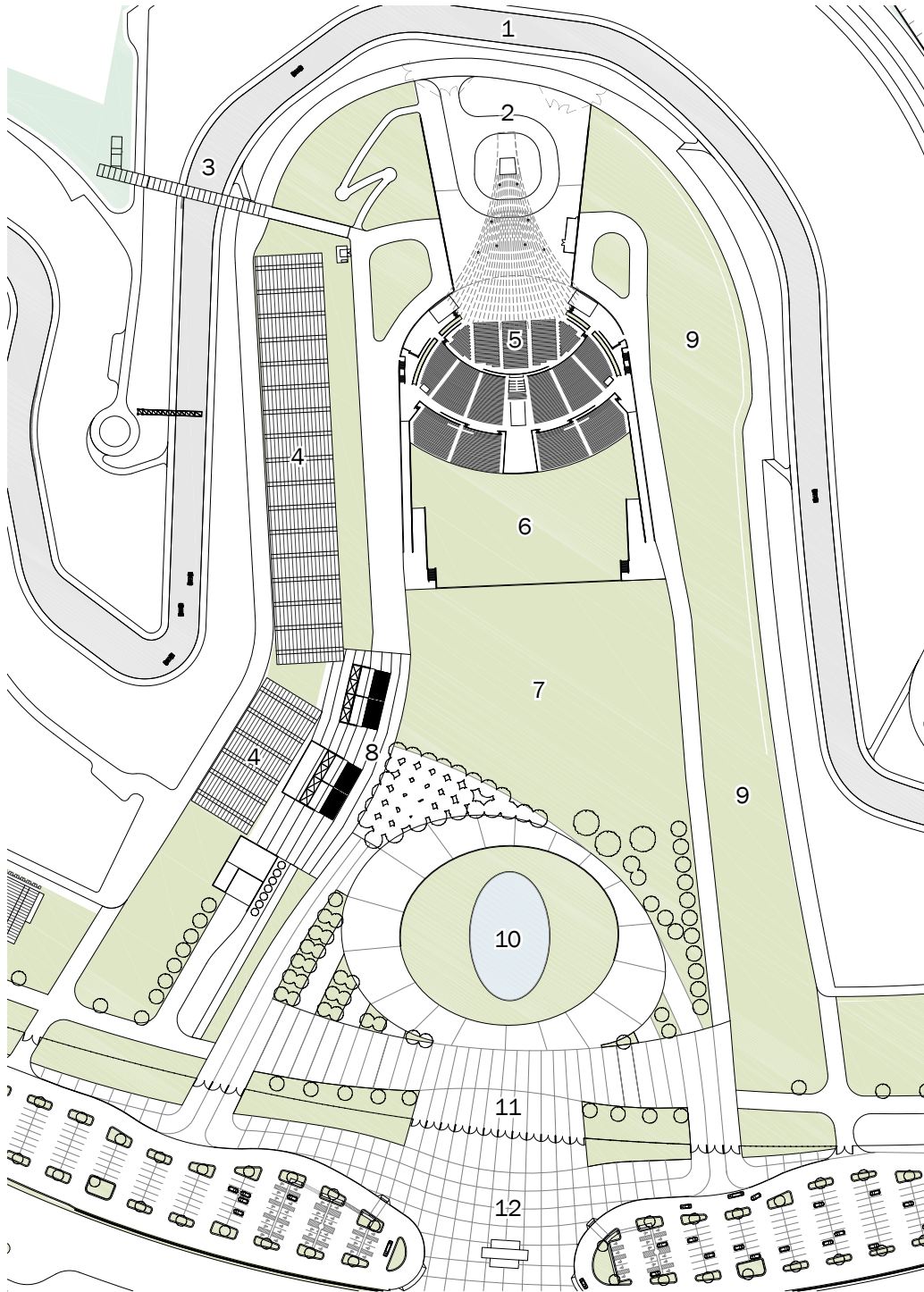




- 1 Main Grandstand
- 2 Ticket Building #2
- 3 Observation Tower
- 4 Austin360 Amphitheater
- 5 Grand Plaza
- 6 Ticket Building #1
- 7 Turn 11 Pedestrian Bridge
- 8 Turn 3 Pedestrian Bridge

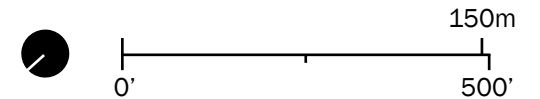
# Master Plan

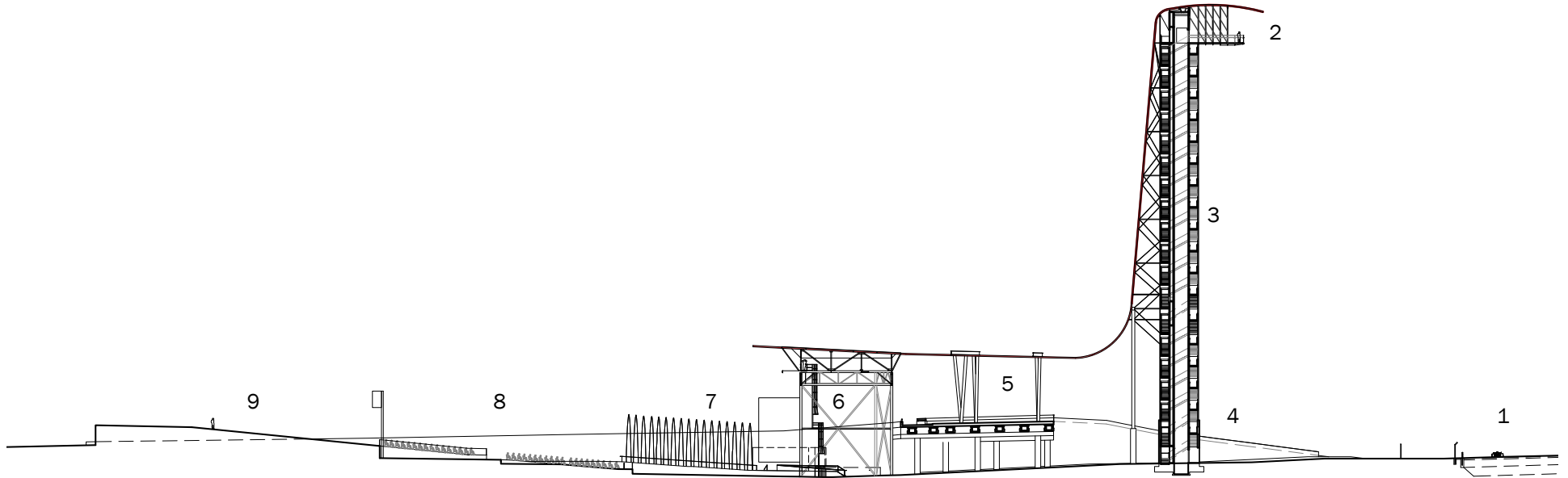




# Site Plan

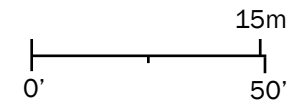
- 1 Track
- 2 Observation Tower
- 3 Pedestrian Bridge
- 4 Stands
- 5 Austin360 Amphitheater
- 6 Lawn Seating
- 7 Great Lawn
- 8 Concessions
- 9 Berm Seating
- 10 Reflecting Pool
- 11 Entry Gates
- 12 Ticket Building





- 1 Track
- 2 Viewing Deck
- 3 Elevator/Core
- 4 Entrance
- 5 Canopy
- 6 Stage
- 7 Floor/Pit Seating
- 8 Fixed Seating
- 9 Lawn Seating

## Section



# Publication Images

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Available Formats:  
Web Ready (1000x1000px, 72 dpi)  
JPEG (200 dpi)  
High Resolution TIFF (300 dpi)

All images © Miró Rivera Architects



01\_Grand Plaza  
Michael Hsu |  
Miró Rivera Architects



02\_Grand Plaza  
Cris Dewitt



03\_Grand Plaza  
Paul Finkel | Piston Design



04\_Grand Plaza  
Ted Parker, Jr. |  
Circuit of the Americas



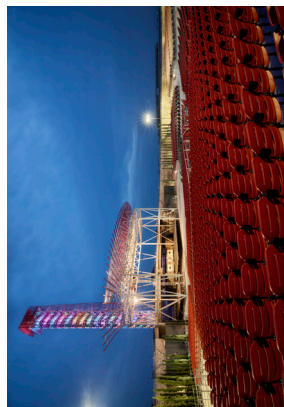
05\_Grand Plaza  
Thomas Segura



06\_Grand Plaza  
Ted Parker, Jr. |  
Circuit of the Americas



07\_Grand Plaza  
Paul Finkel | Piston Design



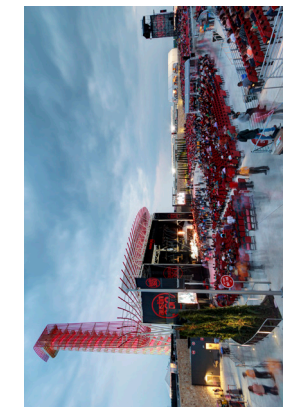
09\_Grand Plaza  
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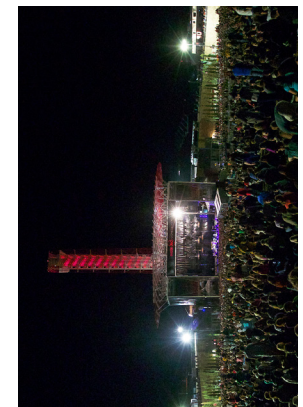
09\_Grand Plaza  
Ted Parker, Jr. |  
Circuit of the Americas



10\_Grand Plaza  
Ted Parker, Jr. |  
Circuit of the Americas



11\_Grand Plaza  
Michael Hsu |  
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12\_Grand Plaza  
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Circuit of the Americas

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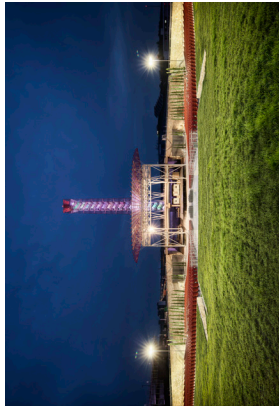
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13\_Grand Plaza  
Michael Hsu |  
Miró Rivera Architects



14\_Grand Plaza  
Courtesy of Dorna Sports



15\_Grand Plaza  
Paul Finkel | Piston Design

# Building Details

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*Client:*  
Circuit of the Americas

*Project Type:*  
Sports & Recreation, Entertainment

*Building Area:*  
27.0 acres

*Site Area:*  
58.5 acres

*Cost:*  
Withheld at Owner's Request

*Location:*  
Circuit of the Americas, Austin, TX

*Awards:*  
IDEAS<sup>2</sup> Merit Award (2015)  
American Institute of Steel Construction  
Overall Winner (2013)  
ABJ Commercial Real Estate Awards

# Design Team

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*Design Partners:*  
Juan Miró, FAIA LEED AP  
Miguel Rivera, FAIA LEED AP

*Senior Associate:*  
Ken Jones, AIA LEED AP

*Associate:*  
Matthew Sturich, LEED AP

*Team Members:*  
Sarah Hafley  
Diana Su

*Additional Team Members:*  
Sergio Botero  
Spencer Cook  
Matthew Helveston  
Michael Hsu  
Shane Pavonetti  
Edward Richardson

# Project Team

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*General Contractor:*  
Austin Commercial, L.P. | Austin, TX

*Civil Engineer:*  
Carlson Brigance & Doering | Austin, TX

*Structural Engineer:*  
Walter P. Moore | Austin, TX

*MEP Engineer:*  
Bay & Associates | Austin, TX

*Lighting Designer:*  
ArcLight Design | New York, NY

*Landscape:*  
TBG Partners | Austin, TX

*Wayfinding:*  
fd2s | Austin, TX

*Acoustic:*  
Acoustic Dimensions | Austin, TX

*Food Services:*  
The Bigelow Companies | Kansas City, MO

# Firm Profile

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Miró Rivera Architects (MRA) is an award-winning architecture practice that brings a high-end, international design perspective to projects of any type or scale. MRA's approach to design is characterized by diverse solutions that reflect the individual client's vision united by a common thread of innovation.

Each project results from careful consideration of the particular requirements of the client, site and program. The firm's comprehensive approach incorporates design at all scales of the project, resulting in a final product that is thoroughly composed and complete. MRA's work is characterized by the innovative use of structural systems, materials and finishes; their designs are dramatic, elegant and highly original.

MRA's work has been recognized nationally and internationally with over 70 design awards including the 2008 and 2006 AR Emerging Architecture Award in London, the 2009 International Biennial Barbara Cappochin in Italy. In 2010 *Architectural Digest* ranked Miguel Rivera and Juan Miró among the top 100 architects and designers in the world.

## Juan Miró

### FAIA LEED AP

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Juan Miró was born in Barcelona and obtained his professional degree at the Escuela de Arquitectura of the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid. In 1989 he earned a Fulbright Scholarship to complete a post-professional Master's degree at Yale, where he was awarded

the William Edward Parsons Memorial Medal.

Juan worked at Gwathmey Siegel and Associates in New York City from 1991-1996. Juan has also worked in Spain with his father, Antonio Miró, as well as Fernando Higueras, Felix Candela and Santiago Calatrava.

Juan has lectured and published extensively on the work of Miró Rivera Architects, the role of the architectural profession in civic life, and issues within Mexican architecture, and architectural history. Juan is an active member of the American Institute of Architects and has served as a juror for AIA design award competitions at the national, state, and local levels. In 2011, he was elevated to the organization's College of Fellows in recognition of his contributions to the profession and to society. Juan is also a Professor at the University of Texas School of Architecture.

## Miguel Rivera

### FAIA LEED AP

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Miguel Rivera was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico and obtained his Bachelor's degree from the University of Puerto Rico School of Architecture. He earned his Master's degree from Columbia University.

In 2005, Miguel was awarded the AIA National

Young Architect Award, and in 2014 he was elevated to the College of Fellows. He is an active member of the American Institute of Architects, and has served as chair for the AIA New York City design awards committee, a juror for AIA design awards in Colorado, Chicago and Alabama and as a juror for the biannual design awards for the Colegio de Arquitectos of Puerto Rico.

Miguel has lectured at The Universities of Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, Veracruz, Tennessee, Buffalo, Louisiana, Munich and UNAM in Mexico. His work has been published in publications including *Architectural Record* and *The New York Times*.

Before forming Miró Rivera Architects, Miguel was an associate at Mitchell/Giurgola Architects in New York City (1991-2000), where he was involved in many award-winning large-scale, institutional projects.



# Media Contact

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