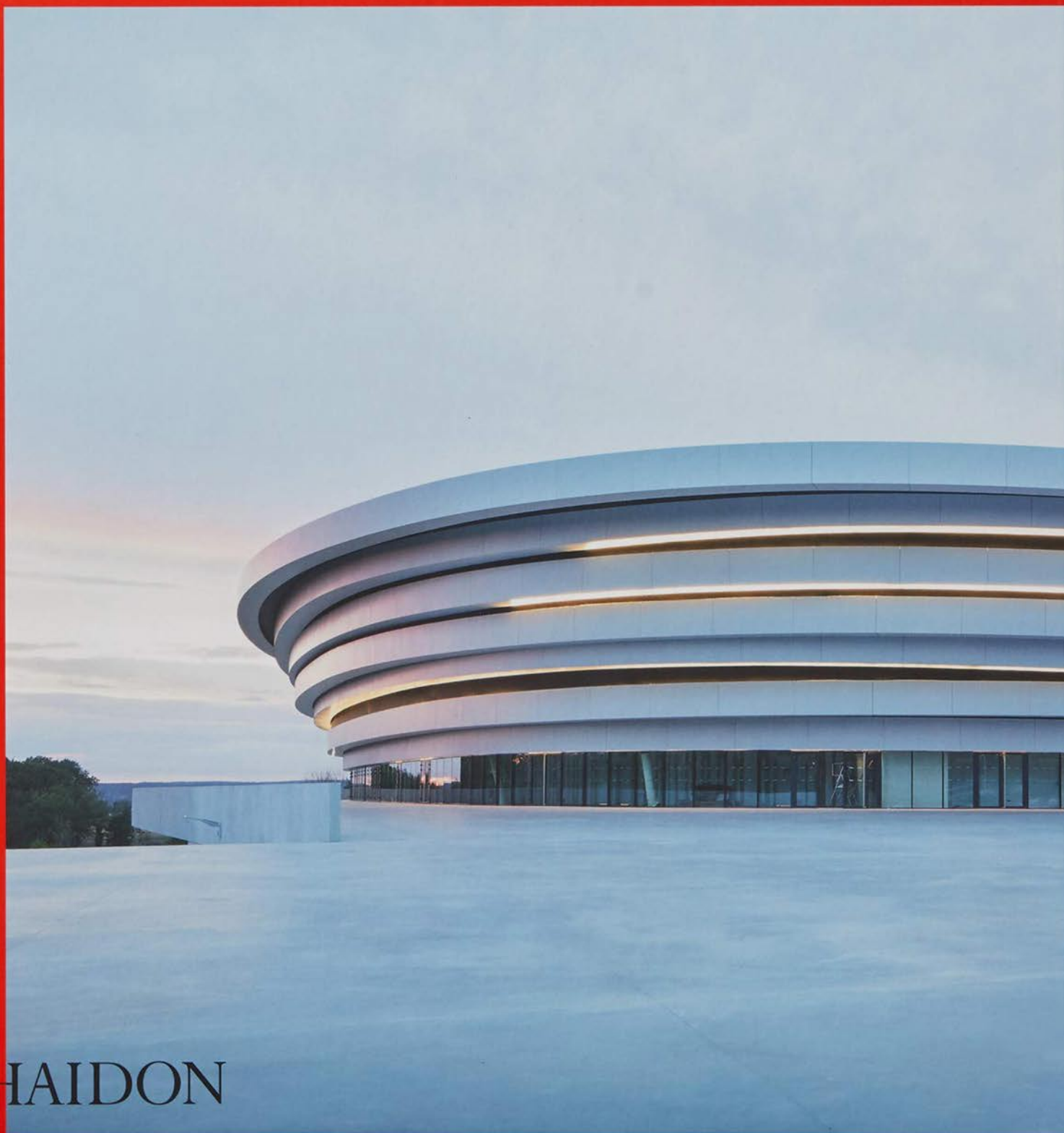


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PHAIDON

Wall of Knowledge

El Jadida, Morocco

Tarik Zoubdi Architecte

The Wall of Knowledge is a middle school in the city of El Jadida, Morocco. The irregular shape of the site and its orientation to the sun suggested a spatial distribution of the project in three main areas: the central area is defined by a building reserved for teaching, which occupies the middle of the plot and serves as a landmark for the neighborhood; the northern area includes all sport facilities, and the southern area is kept vacant for further school extensions.

Walking distances are short, and the facade unfolds to a public plaza, which serves as a social space and a security perimeter. The hermetic and protective

character of the facade is meant to evoke a monumental image. Covered with local stones, it is a tribute to the architecture of the old Portuguese city of El Jadida.

The metallic *mashrabiya* skin, adorned with the "universal alphabet" as a symbol of tolerance, protects the interior from the sun. The central lobby allows quick access to all major locations of the main building through passageways and over footbridges that form an architectural promenade around the central courtyard, like the patios of traditional Moroccan schools.

TYPE
INSTITUTIONAL:
PRIMARY & HIGH SCHOOL

WINNER
JURY
POPULAR CHOICE

PROJECT STATUS
CONCEPT

YEAR
2017

FIRM LOCATION
CASABLANCA
MOROCCO

