

NO

BECAUSE
 SOON YOU'LL
 WANT TO TAKE A
 WALK IN THE PARK

In one sense the Park Station Precinct in Johannesburg is the gateway and arrival point into the city and South Africa. It is the doorstep for a workforce arriving in the city's pulsing heart: Approximately 1 million people pass through it every weekday, and yet the space is fundamentally underused. This is why Zahira Asmal, founder of DESIGNING_SOUTHAFRICA, lobbied the mayor of Johannesburg to activate the public space through a beautifully inclusive and welcoming architectural piece. When the project was approved in June 2013, Zahira commissioned world-renowned architect David Adjaye of Adjaye Associates to work with local firm UrbanWorks Architecture and Urbanism (appointed by the Johannesburg Development Agency) to create a pavilion where people may pass through, engage, rest, meditate, take in the city or get on with their daily lives.

A global architect of African origin, David Adjaye was born in Dar es Salaam



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01 Architect David Adjaye.

02 An aerial view of the Park Station Precinct in central Johannesburg.

to Ghanaian diplomat parents and lived in Tanzania, Egypt, Yemen and Lebanon before moving to the UK at the age of nine. He has become one of the world's most renowned architects, known for his prolific work, sensitivity and appreciation for architecture and public space, having designed similar structures in the UK, Italy, the US and Korea.

The redesigned Park Station Precinct will feature an African Food & Culture Hub, but the pavilion will also be a place of commemoration. According to Zahira, it signifies South Africa's continuous appreciation of the global engagement that also played an important role in our country's liberation.

- To find out more about the project and the programme of events that will run at the pavilion site from February to April 2015, go to designingsouthafrica.com.



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