THE HOUSE OF ARTS and CULTURE The Lebanese-Omani Centre

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1- FORM and PERCEPTION

Lebanon cedar is an important symbol and the form of its cone has an aesthetic value which has been the source of inspiration of the design concept.

''The cone'' is the place where the seeds of the Lebanese cedar generate,

''The cone'' will be the centre where seeds of culture and art are created, shared and spread. It will encourage artistic creativity.

Looking through urban perspective,''The Cone'' will be a landmark with its organic form, texture and plastic value. It will be perceived as a gathering point by the people who live in or who experience the city.

Among the axiel and regular architectural forms of the city, this proposal will be distinct with its organic form . The color, material, light-shadow of the Beirut city will be perfomed by the building itself.

2- FUNCTIONAL and SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

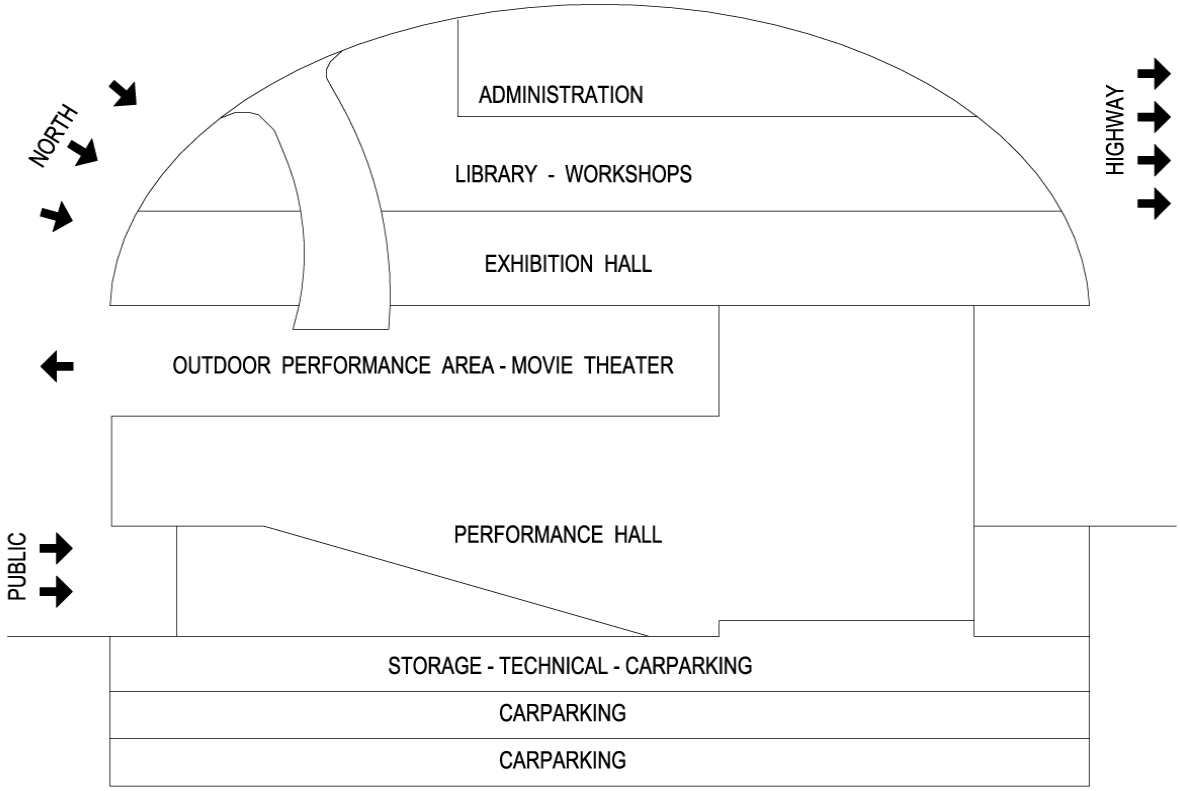
All the spaces planned are organized to be easily perceived and easiliy accessed. Especially the spaces which will be used by large number of people such as performance hall, cinema,outdoor performance and exhibition spaces, are organised in lower levels. Other functions such as library, workshop and administration are organised in upper levels.

Performance hall is supported by an individual entrance which will be used during the closed hours of the centre.

The directions of the spaces are concerned during the spatial organisation. Especially exhibition and library spaces are planned towards north direction to receive proper light. Cafe and workshop (dance,art wokshop,etc) spaces are directed towards the highway for dramatic visual effect. This visual effect will also give the feeling that this building is a vital organism.

The architectural cavities enable visual connection and daylight transfer.Therefore spaces are perceived easily even if they are in different levels and people can have the information of multiple activities going on at the same time.

The supporting functions such as storage areas,technical zones and carparks are planned below ground level.

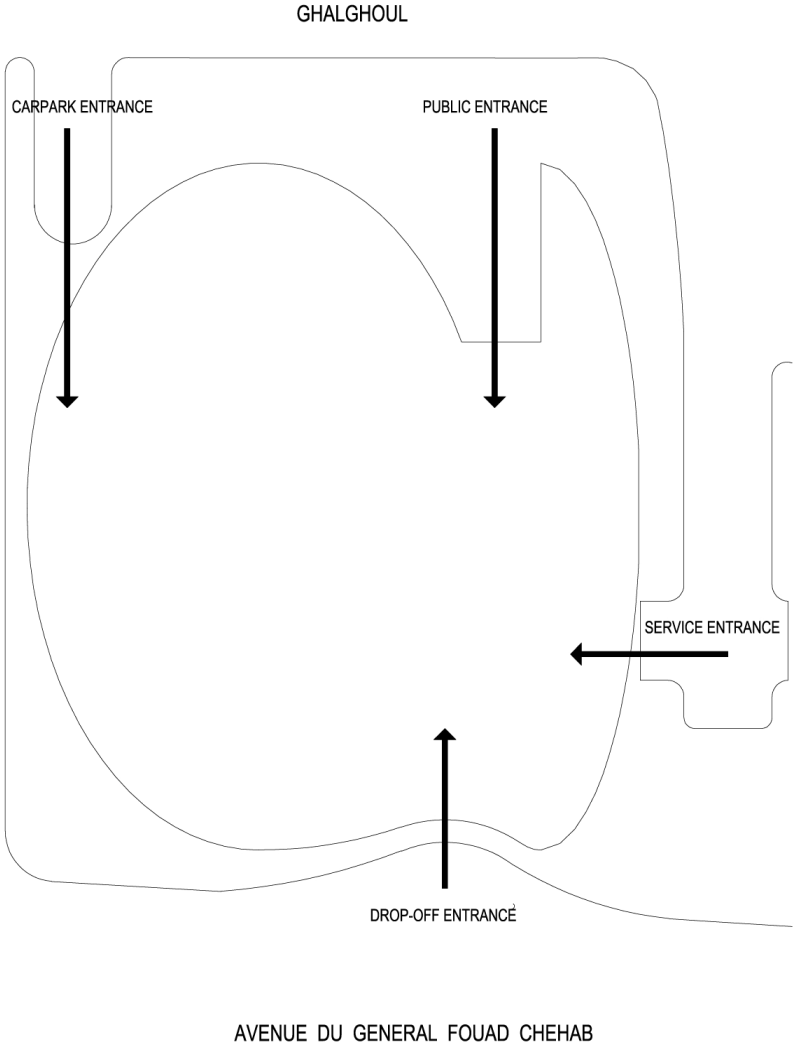


3- ACCESS FROM OUTSIDE THE CENTER

The vehicle access to the centre is through *Ghalghoul* street. An access and egress is planned to the carparks in lower ground levels of the centre.

This access is also supported by another vip enterance planned as a drop-off on *General Fouad Chehab* street, to be used in only special occasions.

The service access is on the side road of *Ghalghoul* street.



4- INTERIOR CIRCULATION

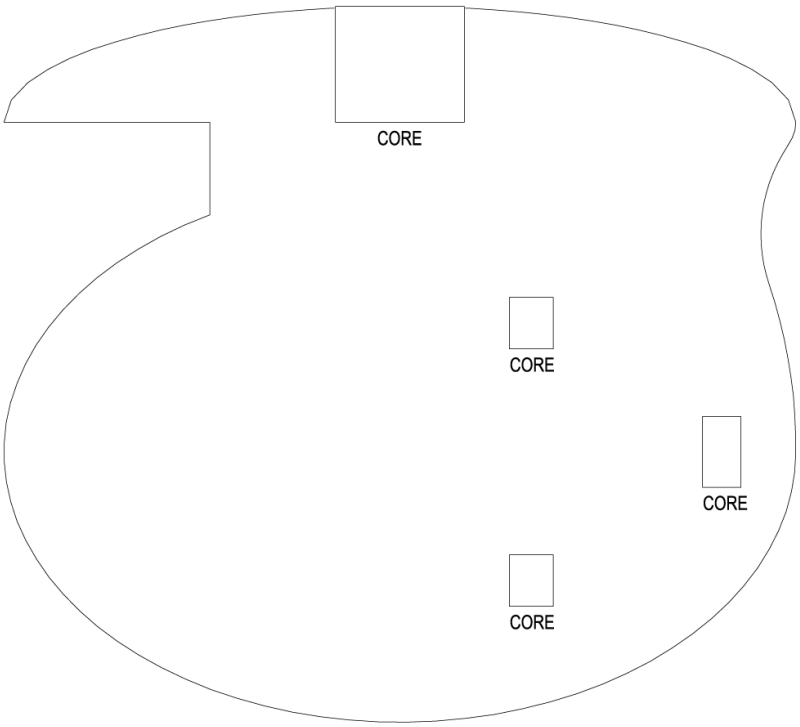
The interior circulation between carparks and public entrance is provided by 2 elevators. These elevators do not function between any other spaces due to security issues.

From public entrance, reception hall and ticket desk can directly be reached. Also there is another entrance to the reception hall from General Fouad Chehab street, which will be used in special occasions.

The pedestrians can reach the public entrance using the escalators.The 3 elevators planned in the reception hall provides a safe circulation to the upper floors. These elevators are supported by a staircase.

There are fire exit stairs on each floor.

Service elevators are directly related with service entrance and can reach other levels of the centre.



5- CONSISTANCY WITH REGULATIONS AND SITE CONDITIONS

The building is planned inside the ‘’*redline*’’. Also the circular form of the building gets narrow on higher levels, therefore the building shell is kept in the height restrictions defined in the regulations. The location of the building is compatible with the site levels. The 0.00 level of the building corresponds to the 31.00 level of the site. Therefore the height of the building is 40m which corresponds to the 71.00 level of the site.

6- TECHNICAL AND BUILDING SOLUTİONS.

The construction system is planned as a mixed structure; concrete and steel.

The basement floor and the floors up to 7.00 levels are planned to be constructed with concrete system.

The floors over 7.00 level are planned to be constructed with steel system.

The shell of the building will be formed with steel structure and will be covered with light metal ,glass,etc materials.

For mechanical and electrical systems, shafts are planned to provide a direct relation between the technical zones of the centre.