

دار الثقافة والفنون The HOUSE OF ARTS & CULTURE  
 المركز اللبناني العماني The Lebanese-Omani Centre

## Introduction

It is typical for Beirut to proclaim back its cultural role in the region through the House of Arts and Culture in the Center of the city, despite the difficult conditions.

The Lot is located in the center of Beirut, aligned with the highways connecting the “East Beirut-majority Christians” to the “West Beirut-majority Muslims” (religious distinctiveness of the culture) and on the edge of the center, defining the boundary between the newly reconstructed part of the center from its periphery (a social class differentiation).

Thus, the Ambition of the project is to create a social, art and culture condenser space that offers channeling the existing intensity of the city and its periphery and create an urban intensification public place.

## Beirut Lebanon

Since the Roman, Beirut has experienced an accumulation of historical layers.

Recently, Beirut has been named the “World Capital 2009” because of its dynamic program emphasizing cultural diversity and dialogue thus sealing the fate of Beirut as a cultural park.

Beirut’s History itself, with its extreme political and constant turmoil is a fertile founding ground for cultural interaction. The country’ historical trauma has been resolved in clubs; Nightclubs are heroes.

## Art in Lebanon

Aside from the independently art and exhibition organization; the Stairs connecting different districts of the city, the abandoned streets and the “Egg” of Beirut have a long history as a Art stage attracting home grown performers and local talent and “Normal people” to see.

How to make an Art building public for all social classes in an age of towers, shopping, and clubs, and for a society driven by politics?

How to make a truly integrated Art and culture House into the very complicated fabric of the cities, region?

## Architecture

First save the “Egg”; save the great abandoned structure that survived the war; as it remains a scare to remember and regenerate. Some crowds love the “Egg” and some hate it; the new House for Art and Culture should collaborate with both crowds.

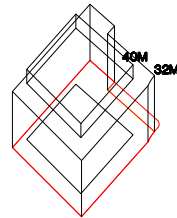
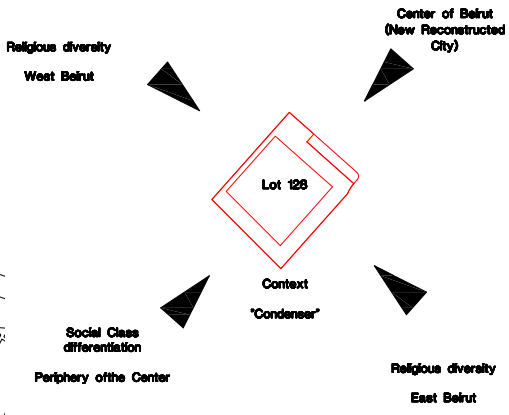
## Efficiency, economical, flexibility and expansion

First a cube, sliced, complemented, split, and then projected.

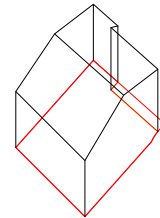
One space taking the footprint area of the building is being considered the Workshop lobby; the mixing chamber between the exhibition and the performance Halls.

Two faces of the sliced cube are wide and inviting, creating a prominent public path.

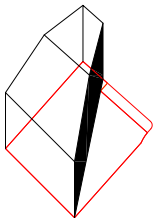
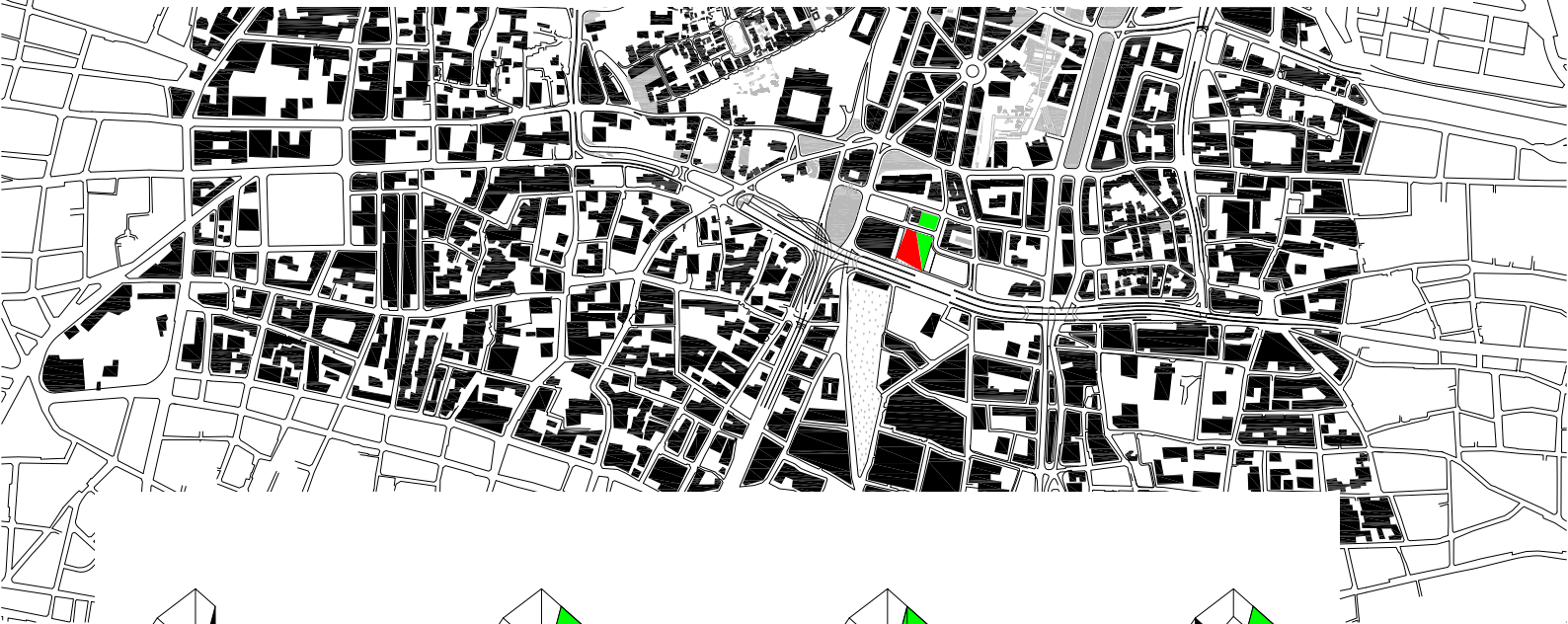
The building is illuminated and revealing it’s inside performance, workshops, exhibitions even to its entire four sided faces sharing its activities with the city and its periphery.



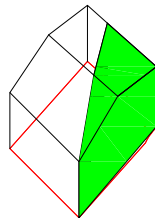
Site Regulation



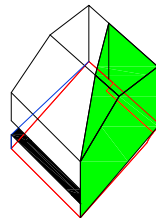
100% Footprint Extrude



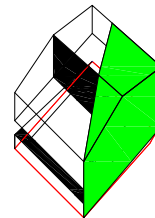
Slice  
(70% 30% rules)



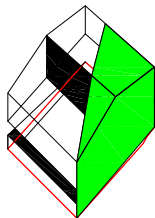
Fill and Complement  
65% 35%



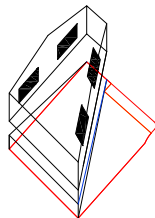
Lift and Create a Public Path  
(Vehicle drop off from Periphery and Pedestrian from the Center)



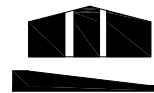
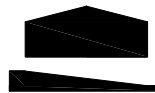
Public Path  
Natural Lite



Public Path  
Natural Lite



Project the Image of the performance of the house



Performance Hall

Workshop Exhibition



Workshop Lobby as a Mixing chamber

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## Double Skin Façade

### Principle

- Consist of two glass skins in building envelope
- Thermal buffer zone to reduce the heat losses
- Ventilation process (ventilated façade) applied for heat rejection/ removal.
- An external insulated double glazing unit and an extra skin applied.



## Energy Saving in different combination

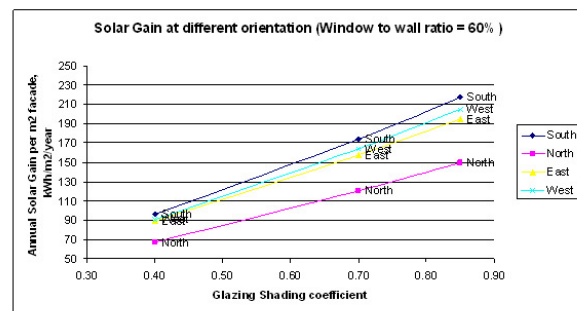
	Outer	Inner	Overall	
			U-Value* (W/m2K)	SC
Option 1	-	Clear	5.4	0.84
Option 2	Corrugated Transparent	Clear	1.44	0.71
Option 3	Corrugated Transparent	Tinted	1.41	0.46
Option 3	Corrugated Transparent	Solar Reflective	1.41	0.32
Option 4	Corrugated Tint	Solar Reflective	1.41	0.27

\* Taken cavity width = 800mm



### Solar load reduction

- Option 2 – around 16% reduction
- Option 3 – around 48% reduction
- Option 4 – around 66% reduction
- Option 5 – around 70% reduction



ARUP