

Here Comes the Bride.

In the House of Arts and Culture For the Peace Process of the Middle East

Concept:

The *BRIDE of the Middle East*, the Lebanon, has been a country of war and peace.

She is now wishing to walk up and be at world peace and tranquility.

The house of arts and culture in Beirut is the place where the Bride comes;

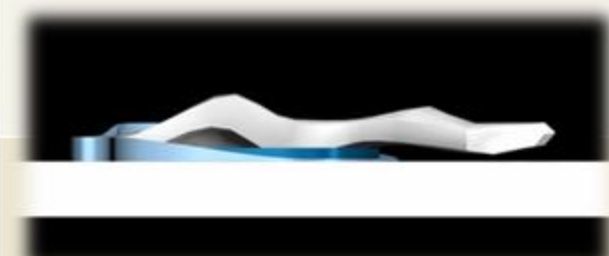
Where people of the world comes together to think about the works of literature, fine arts and history;

their thoughts will grow and make the culture stronger; finally the culture will create a new civilization in peace: a new *Bride of the Middle East*.

It is the story of human beings, the history of Lebanon, The Middle East and rest of the world. The concept of project is made from this glocal energy.

Through the ages, female person has always been a symbol of life and birth.

Here in this project, the effort of this Bride in order to walk up is a metaphor for re- birth, development and growth of thoughts, culture and civilization.



Form:

A free geometry, not Euclidean, a shape that does not follow straight lines of x, y, z paths will have some new potential for the designer.

The possibility of having the most area facing sun light and absorbing energy and light from one side,

using sky reflection, trees, people and other natural elements in glass body of the building that will give double visual attraction in other side,

will boost the main idea.

In order to convert an ideal idea to an ideal architecture is to transform between reality and virtuality.

In other word it is the transformation between form and function and in these transformations deductions and additions are included in a way that does not damage each one.

Most of the details are omitted in here and for example shades in some parts of the form added to control the light and heat using braiding to...

...to make the *Bride* more beautiful.

Spatial Structure:

House of Arts and Culture comprises of various spaces, various in the sense of dimensions, operations and essential needs. In this complex apart from the performance halls, movie theatre and meeting rooms which are possibly considered for the main functions, various sectors such as library, work and training rooms, research and development, administration, staff and management areas, security and maintenance areas exist according to their compatibility and contradiction with each other.

The largest and noisy parts of the complex, the performance halls, with the largest circulations and variety are located totally underground where is easily accessible for the audience to reach from lobby and parking areas. In emergency cases people may exit faster through parking connections.

On the other hand the administration, staff and management, research and development areas are located as much farther that possible to the theaters to keep the tranquility and silence and in between the two, the main entrance, connecting corridors, control areas, commercial spaces and services are designed.

Parts of the building which are under ground are made out of metallic beam structure and will cover with insulated walls. In the upper structure where the Bride will form, double plated light cortex of glass and solar cells are used in conjunction with supporting curved metallic structure.

In this way the vast outer area of the building is used to supply the required energy and heat for the complex. In open areas shades are used to control the light and heat.

In conclusion, apart from having a building with new space proportional to the project goals and its geographical location; the building is also built according to natural standards using natural energies, with recycling techniques to minimize the waste and maximizing energy conservation.



1-With specially thanks, the woman picture used in the posters is photographed by "Toni Frissell" in black & white mood.

2- Here Comes the Bride:

a piece of music which is often played at the beginning of a marriage ceremony, when the bride begins to walk up the aisle of the church.