

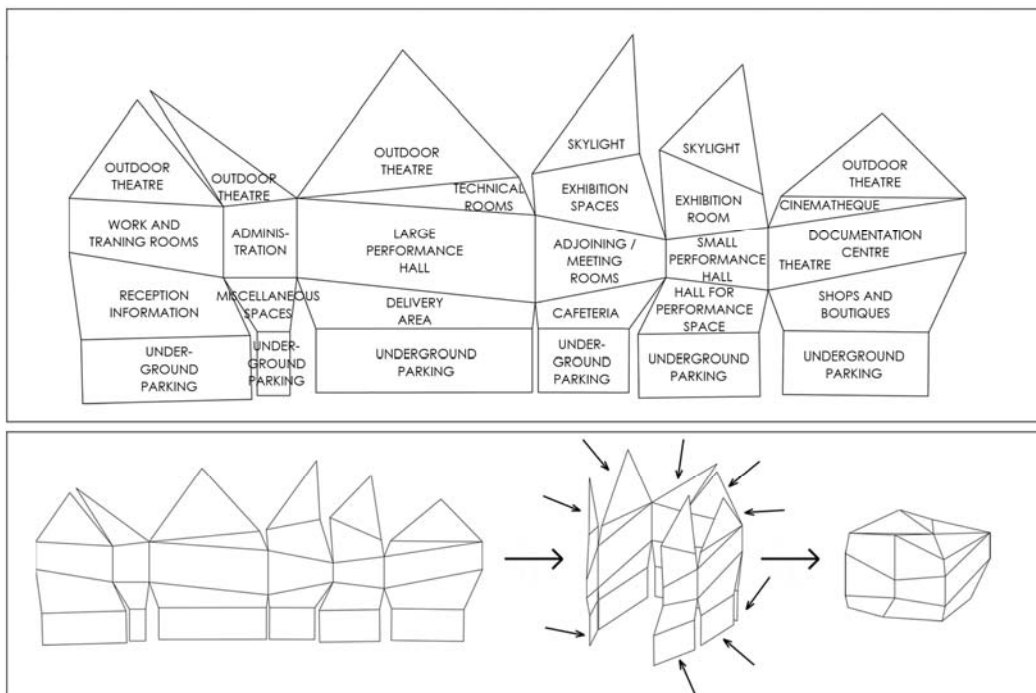
THE HOUSE OF ART AND CULTURE — LEBANON, BEIRUT

1 ARCHITECTURAL OBJECTIVES

The construction of the HOUSE OF ARTS & CULTURE offers the possibility to create a leading place in arts and culture in the Arabic area and the whole world. The proposal offers not only a centre composed of complex functions related to all kinds of art and cultural activities, but also an incubator to attract Lebanese and international creators and professionals from all fields of art, and facilitate the introduction of the Lebanese art and cultural scene to neighboring countries and abroad as well .

How to arrange such complex functions in such limited site, and enlarge the effect of the centre to the users and the whole city of Beirut, moreover, like stated in the general principal, exploit the future of art and culture. These are the first and the biggest questions we considered about, also, they are where our idea come from.

Through actual architectural concept we will realize our idea. First, we transfer the function relations from horizontal orientation to vertical orientation. After this, we can decide the specific form of elevation and size of windows, through which we can get the reasonable architectural form as well as we organize the rational interior space. Then we put the situation of the site into our consideration, a charming and clear form will come out, which is also a true reflection of the whole functional system.



2 URBAN CONTEXT

The site of the project is located in a full expansion district and right up against the “Ring“, the high-speed road that surrounds Downtown Beirut. The unique form will anchor the centre on the ground as a steady rock, making it a landmark competitive to other adjacent building and projects.

As walking by, people will see every face of the centre, which not only represent active urban space, but also show the actives being hold inside. From this point of view, the centre will work as an incubator with full of energy. Everyday the centre will show itself in a different view, which will keep it away from rigidity, routine, conformity, static and turn it into a magnet for the Lebanese and the Arabs. It will project Beirut in the art community and become a leading place of the Arab World.



3 FUNCTIONAL AND SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

The main entrance of the centre is located in the north of the site, which makes it accessible from the ring road and keeps a distance from it, while on the south facade and the west facade are the second entrance for theatres and the service and staff

entrance.

The huge part hanging above the main entrance will lead people into the hall and all the others functions. Near the “Ring” side is the hall for the three performance halls, including the large performance hall, the small one and the movie theatre. The exhibition room is on the sixth floor, with good skylight to fulfill all kinds of exhibitions. As the forming of the architecture, the roof is also composed of several parts that carry different functions. Besides the skylight, an outdoor theatre is placed to hold all kinds of shows and for the visitors to enjoy the incredible view of this marvelous city - Beirut.



4 SUGGESTED TECHNICAL AND BUILDING SOLUTIONS

Being the first centre of its kind in the capital city of Lebanon, the House holds an important responsibility, that's why we propose a firm design. The system of columns and shearing force walls will be used. In the large and small performance halls, there will be huge steel structures, making huge space without columns. On the roof, the roof planting system will work as an important role to guarantee our concept will be

turned into reality.

As described in the program, The House of Arts and Culture will be a major actor in the field of culture, arts and creativity. Its work will be deeply rooted in the history of the country, remembering what Lebanese have already achieved and created and, at the same time, it will be a child of the 21st century, looking towards the future. It will not repeat the past, but will build on it to better project itself in the future.