

Object: Cultural Centre, Beirut

The face and the surrounding landscape composition have ideological content. The face multistage construction has the motifs of Beirut's staged architecture. The middle structure of building is made from monumental stone blocks, the stone having the mountain rock structure. The overstructure above the stone has been made from red glazed bricks (brick as a material is characteristic for Lebanon's architectural traditions), but the bricks used are of a dark red colour, serving for enhanced dynamics of perception.

The brick walls smoothly flow into glass facet structures and easily come into the ambient air.

The visual effect of incompleteness of the building upper part impersonates the historically prolonged feeling of reconstruction, renovation and striving for height, inherent in Lebanon and Beirut's culture.

The combination of bricks, metal structures and glass should have the effect of functioning mechanism, the mechanism of culture movement.

The landscape has been made from stone monumental blocks, interchanging with cascading water planes.

There are a lot of wooden and stone interior elements, finished and decorated with elements of carving.

Principal

Materials Reinforced concrete, aluminum, glass, stone, wood

Number of Floors 15

Over the ground: 10

Under the ground: 5

Area:

Coverage area 1950

Total area 24180

Area beyond the allotted dimensions 315

Dimensions:

Length: 43.0 m; breadth: 43.0 m

South Face height: 40

Eastern Face height: 33 m

Depth: 16

Volume and Space Solution: Solid element rectangular with truncated corners in plan view. In volume: cubic model with facet top.

Structure: Reinforced concrete framework with solid level overlaps. The spectator's hall roof overlap - steelwork.

Foundations: base reinforced concrete slabs.

Layout and functional Solution:

1. Floor 1 -the hall, the cloak room, the reception, the small concert hall, the toilet rooms.
2. Ground floor: the two cinema halls, shops, cafes, toilet rooms.
3. Floor 2: building utility systems, parking.
Floor 2 has the hall, the exhibition hall with transformable partitions, the director's office, the conference hall, toilet rooms.
4. Floors III; IV; V: exhibition halls, the cafe, the foyer, the large spectator's hall, foyer, the cloak room, cafe, toilet rooms.
5. Upper floors:
6 To 9: the book depository, film- and photo- libraries, the management offices, conference halls, toilet rooms.
7. Floor 10: the restaurant, the show-room, toilet rooms.
8. The three underground floors: parking, the maintenance service.

The floors are interconnected by stairways, by the two passenger and one service elevator. The underground floors are interconnected with separate elevators and the stairway.

Interior finish: natural stone, wood/piaster,

glass. Exterior finish: natural stone, brick, glass.