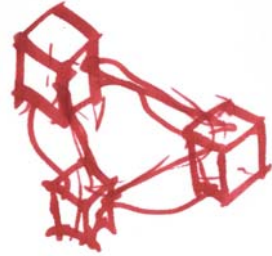


CUBunity

1. Preface

The purpose of the present project is preparation of the proposal on planning organisation of the old Railway Station Vestbanen land site in Oslo (Norway), building of the National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, and also the proposal on locating a new governmental building. The project is executed within the frameworks of the design competition held by the Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs of Norway and the Norwegian Directorate of Public Construction and Property – Statsbygg.



2. General Layout

While estimating the site, we came to the conclusion that the current situation allows not to interfere actively with the developed space of Radhusplassen, nevertheless the building of the Museum creates spatial restriction of the square and "background" for the buildings of the Railway Station Vestbanen. We also retain developed transport streams. Basic walkway streams are formed along the quay, entrances to the shop, the cafe and the front entrance to the Museum lobby are oriented on the quay, tourist visitors arriving by buses get to the Museum lobby from the side of Enga (the Museum lobby has two equivalent dispersed entrances). The area of trees located directly near Enga is retained. From the side of Enga, entrance is provided for office vehicles internal parking and isolated zone for loading-unloading arts in trailers.

3. Architectural solutions

Architectural solutions taken in the project, first of all, are directed on creation of favorable conditions for carrying out exhibitions and perception of the exposition.

At the heart of the Museum composition there are three cubes (with the side of 36 meters), each of them symbolising functional blocks of the exposition. The cube is a box with something inside each. The cube is like Black Square of Malevich. After all, everyone sees in a museum something personal and feels in one's own way. Cube No.1, Cube of Older Arts (facing the quay with its corner), has the name of "grief for the past". Cube No.1 is the cube supporting the composition of the City Hall building. It sets the direction for the front entrance to the Museum. Cube No.2, Cube of Design and Handicraft (on one axis with the Railway Station), has the name of "pleasure". Cube No.2 sets "the memory axis" of the historical function of the area, the direction of the former railway and forms the area on crossing of Munkedamsveien and Dokkveien streets. Cube No.3, Cube of Contemporary Art (facing Enga with its side), has the name of "uncertainty". Cube No.3 recedes from the line defined by the Railway Station building, revealing the direction of streets Enga and Lokkeveien to the City Hall square. Due to the breakthrough of some exposition internal volumes outside of the cube wall, some part of exposed objects (which can be exposed in daylight) are deduced to the façade. Thus the exposition and internal structure of the cube can be seen from the outside.

Inside the cube, the space is organised in such a manner that the cube is not limited to its height, it allows to use the whole volume (analogy: useful area – useful volume), for example, for exhibits with the height of more than 10 meters.

Functional scheme allows to hold excursions and to arrange the exposition both on vertical (in a separate cube) and on horizontal communications between the cubes. Thus the Museum exposition can be formed both in bottom-up direction and horizontally between the cubes, for example, "The Sculpture of Norway, from early to modern". Space of communications (passage galleries) between the cubes is solved as space for carrying out temporary exhibitions.

Due to organisation of the principle of isolation and function between different security zones and due to internal space of the sculpture park (occupying the roof of level 1 between the cubes) and under passage galleries, visitors of the Museum can see internal functions and Museum processes. This will hold educational function. After all, the process of artworks preparation and reconstruction is very fascinating.

Cube walls oriented on the sculpture park are carried out as planes for demonstration of multimedia presentations and open-air activities, so this space is a possible reserve for the further development of the Museum premises. As this development will occur "inside the volumes" it will not contradict with initial architectural shape.

Office buildings act as a background for the Museum, the Museum is a background for historical buildings of the Railway Station.

4. Efficiency

BUILDING OF THE MUSEUM

S total - 48 664.2 m², S used - 42 054.5 m², k=1.16

BUILDING OF THE GOVERNMENTAL BLOCK

Total area of above ground part - 30 136 m²

Total area of underground part - 3 718 m²