

1. PROPOSAL

A LANDMARK MUSEUM SITED IN THE HEART OF OSLO HARBOURLAND - LINKING SEA AND CITY

The NMAAD is strategically situated at the junction of sea and city, close to the City Hall of Norway's capital and the Aker Brygge Harbourside. The siting of the Museum within the cityscape is of the greatest importance. Our decision is to align the building parallel to the axis of the City Hall buildings reinforced by the docks and to select a 15 meters unit matrix mirroring the fjord-side jetties. The Museum will thus harmonise with and enhance the City Hall and Fjord – and be enhanced by them in turn. The complex of *pilotis*-based buildings designed faces the sea. The Temporary Exhibition Gallery rising to a height of 27 meters and the 60 meters high building housing the media hall, library and offices constitute the 'landmark' architectural project with a screen 10 meters high 158 meters long.

2. ARCHITECTURE

DISPLAY AND PROTECTION OF OSLO'S ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

The historical Station Buildings are the central focus of our project in an ensemble of buildings in varied styles. All combine to display the Historic Buildings to advantage and integrate them fully into the project. The Temporary Exhibition Gallery, the newly created garden produce a theatrical effect to showcase them. To emphasize them a third building on the same scale, in a totally contemporary idiom has been designed and situated alongside them.

3. ARCHITECTURE - BUILDING FORM and DESIGN OF OUT DOOR AREA

A LARGE GARDEN AND VAST PROMENADE, WALKWAY OF DISCOVERY, MULTIPLE ACCESS POINTS FOR VISITORS

As the Museum is raised off the ground and close to the preserved buildings, it leaves free 20 000 square meters for a large garden and vast promenade area covering and concealing the ground floor reception and storage rooms. Sloping pathways with a gradient of 5%, convenient for disabled access, lead the visitor on a pleasant walk to a height of 7 meters. An elevator platform-hoist in the centre of the garden communicates directly with the storage and logistical area beneath to vary easily the works exhibited and prepare the stage for open air concerts and theatre performances. The garden is also an arboretum of Norwegian tree varieties, which are individualized as living sculptures. The grass plots conform with the 15 square meters matrix that is thematic to the project. The *pilotis*-structured buildings are themselves conceived as sculptures in their own right. An opening of 60 meters long by 17 meters high, like a vast balcony allows the visitor to look down on the historical Station Buildings, City Hall and the Pipervika Fjord and to reach the Museum entrance. The promenade garden links the office block planned for the rear of the site to the rest of the project. The office block divided deliberately into several units allows easy access and view to the garden. Thanks to this large promenade garden the visitor has a choice of multiple access.

EASY INTERNAL FLOW, A PANORAMIC SUSPENDED HUB

The visitor enters the building beneath the glass sphere entrance and takes the escalator or main staircase to reach the suspended 'Hub', the focal access area to all the galleries, the cloak room and the media hall. accessible by handicapped visitors by lifts. This Hub where sculptures are sited includes rest areas. It is very open and one can enjoy views through and out of the museum towards the historic Station Buildings, the Fjord, City Hall and Oslo City Centre.

CLEARLY DEFINED ACTIVITIES

The different functions of the Museum are clearly identified from the outside, and deliberately differentiated. They have been designed as an iconic signal for the Museum, a sculpture for the promenade garden: a glass sphere entrance hall showcasing the two historic Station Buildings, a 'Vertical Landmark' for the media hall, library and offices accessed separately via the garden, structured on a 15 meter grid, like the permanent exhibitions, a 'Horizontal Landmark' Museum of Temporary Exhibitions, built without interior support 20 meters wide by 108 meters long for maximum possibilities of imaginative scenography, the Old Art and Arts and Crafts Museum, consisting of small surfaces, is spread over three levels with a 5% gradient sloping walkways, the Contemporary Art Museum, is also a three storey building at the top floor level it has an open air terrace for sculpture displays, the Hub linking all these activities, living heart of the Museum.

EASY SERVICE ACCESS, WORKSHOPS AND STOREROOMS

Two service entrances have been provided on the Enga site. In both cases trucks enter covered secure premises to unload works of art and other goods. The first service entrance for works of art is up a 60cms high slope raised to clear sea level. The second service entrance is sited below ground level for bringing in exhibition supplies, timber, screens., etc. Lifts and hoists for the purpose link these entrances with all the exhibition areas and workshops.

LIGHTING DESIGN

The galleries of different shapes and sizes will provide a high quality scenographic experience, alternating moods of tranquillity and totally fresh vistas to the visitor. At various points windows are sited to let in natural light, thought advantageous to certain exhibits. By night the façades will all be enhanced by a variety of lighting effects.