

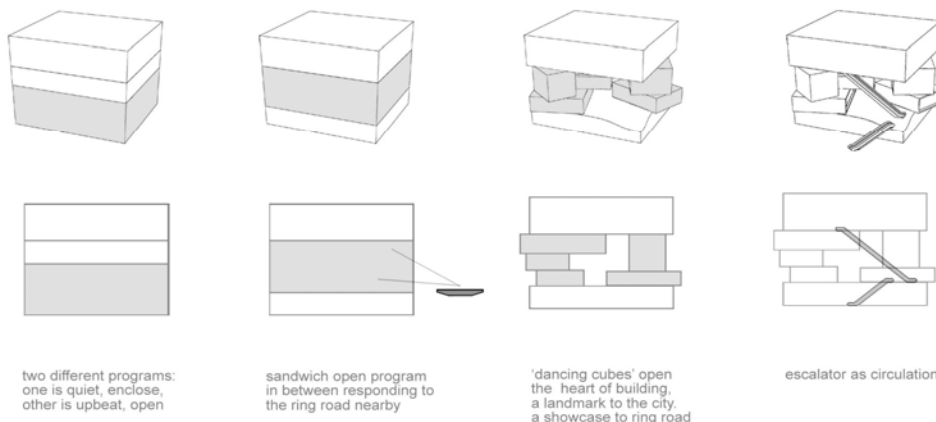
The competition site for the house of art & culture is located right up against the high speed road that surrounds the downtown Beirut, thousands of people will pass by this building every day after its completion.

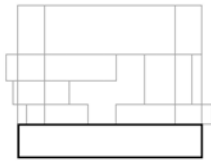
Such adjacency to the ring road provides a unique opportunity for the building. The building should take an active role in people's daily life, it should not just be a container for the culture activities, but also a showcase for what is happening inside to draw people to come and explore, an attractive landmark.

The program is divided into two different types with opposite spatial requirement, one is the performance halls, library and administration which have acoustic concern or privacy requirement, the other one is the exhibition, cafe and workshop area, which will more appreciate open and interactive space.

We propose to sandwich the exhibition, workshop program in between the more quiet and enclose program thus to expose the 'beating heart' of the building to the public, also the box here will be 'dancing' together to form various deck space accessible to public. A showcase space for the culture activity happening inside.

Functionally, the lower part of the building will be small performance hall / meeting room / movie theater, documentation center, administration, cinematheque and miscellaneous space, while the upper part of the building will be the large performance hall and related service, in between these two parts are the 'beating heart' of the building, it will be exhibition, reception, lobby to performance hall and working training area. The two basements will be parking, delivery and technical space.

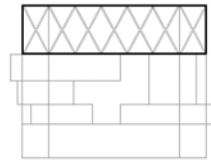




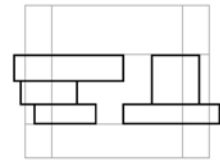
concrete structure  
for lower part



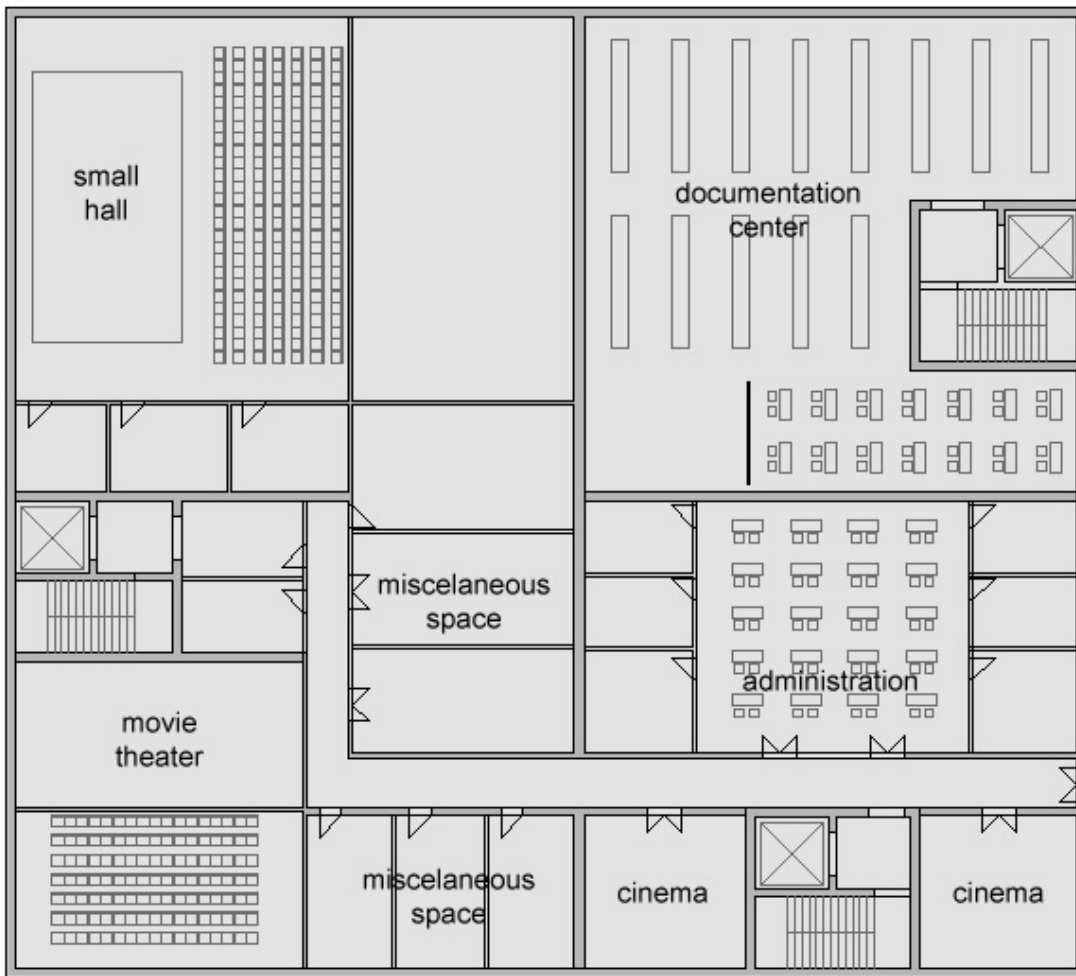
vertical core support  
the upper part



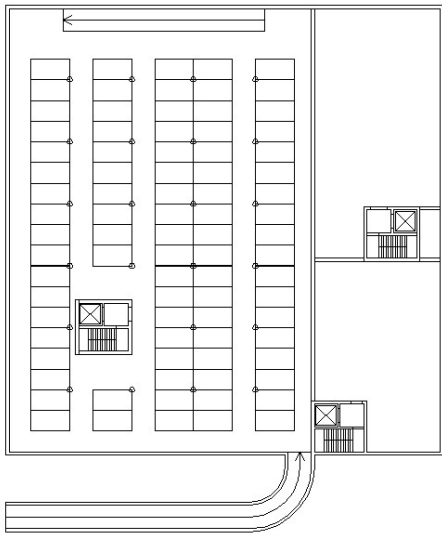
steel structure for  
upper large hall



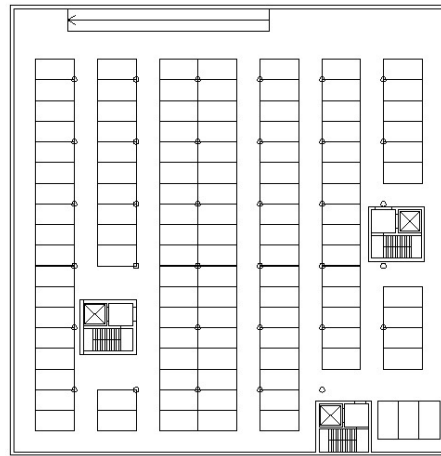
'dancing cubes'  
connected with  
each other



The 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Plan



Basement Plan



Underground Parking Plan

