A CULTURAL PROJECT FOR BRUSSELS CAPITAL OF EUROPE

A MUNDANEUM AS A PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE
GEOGRAPHICAL EUROPE

PAST

POLITICAL EUROPE

CONTEMPORARY / FUTURE
EUROPE: COMPLEXITY OF DIFFERENT SCALES
INTRODUCTION

ANALYSIS

HYPOTHESIS

URBAN DESIGN

CONCLUSION

EUROPE

PHYSIOLOGICAL FEATURES

- STATES' INDIVIDUAL IDENTITIES

- REGIONAL AND LOCAL FEATURES
EUROPEAN UNION MISSION:

Identity and Diversity in a globalised world
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BRUSSELS CAPITAL OF E.U.

REFLECT EUROPEAN FEATURES
BRUSSELS: A THEATRE OF DIFFERENCES

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3 LANGUAGES: DUTCH - FRENCH - GERMAN

ANALYSIS

19 COMMUNES
2 LANGUAGES: DUTCH - FRENCH

HYPOTHESIS

DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS DUE TO THE IMMIGRATION

URBAN DESIGN

FLANDERS
BRUSSELS C.R.
WALLONY

19 COMMUNES
2 LANGUAGES: DUTCH - FRENCH

CONCLUSION
AIM

TO MAKE EUROPE MORE UNDERSTANDABLE

TO LEARN ABOUT EUROPE THROUGH A CRITICAL CONFRONTATION BETWEEN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

TRY TO DISCOVER THE EUROPEAN IDENTITY BY EXALTING DIVERSIFICATION
THE MUNDANEUM OF PAUL OTLET:

UTOPIA FOR A WORLD CITY, A WORLD CENTRE OF COMMUNICATION

IN WHICH ALL THE FACTS OF KNOWLEDGE COME TOGETHER IN A GLOBAL CENTRE AND THEN RIDISTRIBUTED THIS KNOWLEDGE TO ALL PLACES IN THE WORLD

CONCEPT OF PANTOPIA:

IS THE DREAM OF HAVING ALL THE PLACES OF THE WORLD IN ONE PLACE OR EACH PLACE IN ALL PLACES

Michel Serres
COULD EMBODY THE PANTOPIA OF EUROPE
LARGE URBAN INTERVENTIONS

URBAN FRAGMENTATION
URBAN DEVELOPMENTS IS CHARACTERIZED BY SPATIAL DISCONTINUITY

EACH SECTION IS MONO-PROGRAMMED

SHOPPING MALL - GATED COMMUNITIES ARE CHANGING MEANING TO THE HISTORIC CITY CENTRE
OLD CITY

1. The power of one building was directed related to the city boundary
2. THE POWER OF FEW BUILDINGS IS RELATED TO A LARGER NETWORK OF POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS
3. A LARGER NETWORK RELATED TO EXISTING EUROPEAN CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS COULD GIVE TO THE MUNDANEUM THE OPPORTUNITY TO INITIATE COLLABORATION WITH AND AMONG EUROPEAN CITIES AND CITIZENS. IN TURN, THIS WORK HAS THE POTENTIAL TO ESTABLISH THE MUNDANEUM AS A INITIATOR OF EUROPEAN IDEAS
BRUSSELS SHOULD BECOME THE CITY WHERE PEOPLE LEARN WHAT IT MEANS TO BE EUROPEAN CITIZEN
THE MUNDANEUM’S CONCEPT HAS BEEN CONCEIVED TO GET AND REDISTRIBUTE KNOWLEDGE FROM AND TO DIFFERENT PLACES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY.

TO CONCEIVE A PODIUM FOR IDENTITY AND DIVERSITY THROUGH ARTS TO PROVIDE POSITIVE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT CULTURES.
LYRICS AND MUSIC THEORY

INSTRUMENTS MAKERS

ANTONIO STRADIVARI - CREMONA

GOTTFRIED SILBERMANN - FREIBERG, DRESDA
CREATION - PRODUCTION - AND REPRESENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN DEBATE THROUGH ART TO PROMOTE CULTURAL EXCHANGE

TO TAKE ON THE AMBITION OF CRITICAL REFLEXIVITY

TO CREATE A PUBLIC AREA FOR FORUMS AND DEBATE

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

RECOGNITION

ACCES TO CULTURE

CONFRONTATION
DIFFERENT SCALES IN WHICH EUROPE IS INVOLVED
1. **EUROPEAN LEVEL:**
THE LACK OF A CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL IMAGE FOR THE EUROPEAN QUESTION

2. **BRUSSELS LEVEL:**
THE FAILURE OF BRUSSELS’ CITIZENS TO IDENTIFY WITH THE CITY’S EUROPANE FUNCTIONS

3. **E.D.Q LEVEL:**
LACK OF HOUSING AND COMMERCE - ABSENCE OF ADEQUATE PUBLIC SPACE - FRAGMENTATION BETWEEN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AROUND
THE INNER RING IS A MAJOR URBAN SPACE WHOSE PUBLIC SPACE COULD HAVE MUCH MORE PREDOMINANT ROLE
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CITY SCALE
LUXEMBOURG-STRASSE
RUE DE LA LOI
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URBAN STRATEGY

Development area

Gordon Bunshaft of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill

ORIGINAL SITUATION:
2 BLOCKS - 2 PLOTS - DIVIDED BY AXIS
TO COLLECT DIFFERENT FLUXES:
VISUAL - PEDESTRIAN PATH - ROADS

TO BECOME THE ENTRANCE TO THE E.D.Q
A GENERAL FRAME THAT CAN HOST DIFFERENT SPACES AND STRUCTURES
BUILDING CONCEPT

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THEATRE

EXPO

SERVICES

AUDITORIUM

EXPO

OFFICE

ARTIST

SCENE

AUDITORIUM

FOYER

GATE

EXPO
1. PROGRAMMATIC ANALYSIS:

2. SPACES STRUCTURED IN A SINGLE VISION:

3. THE GATE AS AN EVOCATION OF DIFFERENT DYNAMICS:
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LOUIS KAHN

EERO SAARINEN

LUIGI MORETTI
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SERLIO’S TRAGIC SET

CONCLUSION
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LOCATION

PRIVATE

PUBLIC

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FLEXIBLE CLOSED SPACE
SCENARIOS
GATE AS A CENTRAL SERVER

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LIFTS FROM THE SQUARE TO THE TOP SQUARE
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STRUCTURE

COLUMNS

FLY TOWER AND STAIRS

INDEPENDENT WOOD STRUCTURE

HONEYCOMB SLABS
“Each material has its own message and, to the creative artists, its own song”

Frank Lloyd Wright
MATERIALIZATION
STONE STRATA
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**DAYLIGHT**

Sunlight penetration

Lights direction outwards
UNFOLDING OF DIFFERENT STAGE SET

EACH ROOM IS INTENDED TO CONVEY A DIFFERENT EMOTION

SPOTLIGHT SHOW: AS AN ACTOR ON THE STAGE
UNFOLDING OF DIFFERENT STAGE SET

EACH ROOM IS INTENDED TO CONVEY A DIFFERENT EMOTION

A FLEXIBLE USE OF THE SPACE EVOKING AN HISTORICAL THEATRE SCENE
NOWADAYS THE E.D.Q. IS JUST A PLACE WHERE THE POWER AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ARE
THE CAPITAL OF EUROPE SHOULD BE A PLACE WHERE EUROPEAN DEBATE SHOULD BE PRODUCED AND REPRESENTED.
THANK YOU