Centre for Performing Arts

CONCEPT
The Centre for Performing Arts is designed as the centre on the NDSM wharf (Amsterdam-North). The building has a highly public character where a sequence of public spaces bring people together. In this way generation between different visitor groups is stimulated. Meeting and seen and been seen are important themes throughout the whole building.

PUBLIC SPACES
The two entrance areas respond to the environment and create different public spaces. These entrance areas lead you into the building, to the main public space.

The sheltered public space works together with the flexible theatre in the middle of the public space. The theatre partly defines the public space by its technique, column structure and flexible floor.

The theatre can adapt to the different needs of the public space and its surrounding functions. With the curtains closed the theatre really becomes a volume in the space.

CLOSED VOLUMES
The borders of the sheltered public space are defined by the two massive concrete volumes, separating public from private functions. Below the public roof we find the public functions, above the institute and research centre. The office spaces are the most private and are placed on the top layer of the building.

The specific functions and the public space are connected by big openings in the closed volumes and work together as one piece.

SPECIFIC PUBLIC FUNCTIONS
When we move inside the closed volumes spaces get more intimate. These spaces have important structural and visual connections with the different public spaces.

PUBLIC ROOF & WALKING BRIDGES
The institute and research part are situated above the public roof. Moving above the roof is creating totally different atmospheres. You really feel you have moved to a different part of the building, a more private part.

Two transparent walking bridges are connecting the two volumes and create a continuous routing through the building.

This routing has wide corridors with large window openings and contains spacious meeting places.

MEETING SPACES
The meeting places work together with both the horizontal and vertical circulation. The building contains four different meeting places.

In this meeting place the open staircase is placed in the center of the space and stimulates interaction between different disciplines in the institute and research part. The space can also be used as an informal workshop area because of its dimensions.

ATELIER SPACES
The atelier spaces have spacious dimensions and focussed views towards the environment. There is no visual connection between corridors and the spaces to provide optimal focus inside the spaces.

The materialization of the spaces is creating a calm atmosphere inside.

The wooden panels of the floor work together with the side walls. The concrete construction walls work together with the reinforced concrete slabs. This materialization concept is created throughout the whole building.

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