ESPERANTO the mausoleum of books
manifesto
design process
urban strategy
architecture strategy
design
Analyzing the Utopia of the Mundaneum, which is basically the idea of collecting world knowledge in order to achieve world peace, emerge how at its foundations there is an idea of centralization, a sort of superior culture.
This elitist idea, in my opinion, is embodied in two aspects of Le Corbusier’s project: the location of the project in the middle of nowhere and the ziggurat reference chosen for the world museum.
ESPERANTO strongly links the knowledge to infrastructure in order to raise the question of knowledge at urban level
what’s the meaning of building a big library in an era in which the book is endangered by new devices?

process in development

is not a task of the architect to predict what will happen to the book

physical print is growing

books warehouse far from the library/ long retrieval time

new devices could be a serious threat for the book

the idea of a fortress that protect and celebrate the book has been the driving force of my process
Brussels does in fact have an identity, but it is a schizophrenic one. Brussels has **four personalities** that are clashing each other. Each one of these personalities is **incomplete**. Whenever Brussels was trying to embody one of these personalities it was **never able to success**. Brussels is in fact one big **collection of separate sites** unable to relate each other because they are belonging to the four schizophrenic personalities. The identity of Brussels is then in its scars, in its **urban ruptures** which become the symbol of its schizophrenia.
MANIFESTO_view on Brussels
Brussels is city with no transition and the streets acts, according to my view, as immaterial 

borders in the city. This aspect is particularly evident along the north south junction: the tun-

nel built to connect the north a south stations.
MANIFESTO_view on Brussels
the location of the north station in Brussels is relevant in this perspective for two main reasons: is the beginning of the north south junction and the experience of the border is strongly present in the area due to the height of the train tracks that create a barrier.
The border, architecturally embodied by the wall, implies a reaction: the will of crossing it. The verticality of the wall generates a horizontal power. It is exactly this reaction that represents to me the exercise of knowledge.
I want to use the urban power of the wall to express the weight of knowledge and, by contrast, to show the beauty of transmitting it.
DESIGN PROCESS
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DESIGN PROCESS
URBAN STRATEGY_site
URBAN STRATEGY_connections
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY plan strategy
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY_ plan strategy
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY__ short section
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY_ knowledge
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY_ knowledge
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY_ knowledge
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY_ concourse
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY_ study room
ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGY_ access to trains
DESIGN
DESIGN_structure

steel structure stiffened by concrete panels which also offer fire protection.
The HK Automated Library Storage System (ALS) utilizes an automated storage and retrieval machine, and a special integrated software control system to provide fully automated high density media archival. To preserve library collections, the ALS can operate in a controlled environment that has the proper humidity, temperature and is free of dust and other contaminates.

**HOW IT WORKS**

Returned items are collected at a Library check-in location. The Library's system will determine if the items should be sent back to the shelves or returned to the Automated Library Storage System. Items to be returned to the ALS have their barcodes scanned at ALS workstations and the correct bin is automatically positioned in front of the operator for placement of the item in the bin. The bin is then automatically returned to its position in the ALS.

To request an item in the ALS, a patron simply uses the Library's ordering system. The Library's system will automatically request items held by the ALS. In most instances, the item will be waiting for the patron at the designated circulation desk in the time it takes the patron to walk to the desk.

The ALS has the ability to assign items to random locations, maximizing space utilization. A computer system developed by HK Systems records all items' locations for rapid retrieval.
DESIGN the archive
DESIGN service deck
DESIGN plan level +21
DESIGN__section research library
DESIGN: long section study hall
DESIGN_ floor type
Design a black monolith

- This building is a fortress of knowledge, therefore on the outside it should express an idea of impenetrability.
- The inside is the opposite: once you have entered the fortress, you can dispose of its infinite treasure.
- The idea is to have a compact monolith in which the outer faces are black and the inner faces are white.
- In terms of colour, you could imagine black as absorption and white as distribution (the monolith absorbs light - as well as knowledge - from the outside and emits it in the inside).
• the archive is expressed by 25 cm thick black concrete slab able to resist to light bombs attack
• an idea of serialization is expressed by the bas-relief grid
• the systematization of knowledge is expressed by the binary code impressed on the concrete slabs. the numbers are done using glass spheres able to transmit light
DESIGN_ facade
DESIGN_ facade
THANKS