Graduation Presentation
Brussels Studio

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[House of European History]

1 Position
2 Situation
3 Hypothesis
4 Urban intervention
5 Architectural composition
6 Materialization
7 Building performance
In 2008, the European Parliament released the idea to build a 'HOUSE OF EUROPEAN HISTORY', to 'place where a memory of European history and the work of European unification is jointly cultivated, and which at the same time is available as a locus for the European identity to go on being shaped by present and future citizens of the European Union'.

Introduction
1. Position
European Union

a symbol representing the history of European

EU Citizens

a locus to shape the European identity

The Political Meaning
The Architectural Meaning

**European Union**
- a symbol representing the history of European
  - a legible typology / form

**EU Citizens**
- a locus to shape the European identity
  - a public realm for collective rituals
When political space is constituted by the civic practice of citizenship, and consisting of the possibility of encounter, debate, and civic conflict, it becomes public.
Greek civilization, the cradle of Europe culture, had a physical structure of a constellation made of different islands - an archipelage. Its common identity of power and culture was nurtured by links to different colonies. Every Greek city spatially represented the socio-political system as a grouped pattern of distinct parts: the public spaces of the theatre, the Agora and the temples. These public buildings were the collective spaces for social confrontation and discussion, and for common imagination as well.
Unity and publicity are expressed in a looping way.
2. Situation
Brussels and the EU
EU Quarter Before
The area of the existing EU quarter was first planned according to an urban intervention for the further development for Brussels. The Quarter’s early planning was on the design for the king Leopold’s palace, which was used to be the low rise residential building blocks for high class people. The Westraat-Avenue Tervueren axis were designed affect today’s EU Quarter.

EU Quarter Today
Today, The EU Quarter became mainly office area used by the EU, embassy and other supporting professionals. High Office Building sitting in traditional residential grid seems too crowded and the mono program in the area is also pushing Brussels residents and tourists away.

Brussels and the EU
Brussels and the EU
The lack of public spaces and diversity of programs
The lack of public spaces and diversity of programs
Residential and schools

The lack of public spaces and diversity of programs
The Cancer of Bureaucracy - dispersal office space
To be demolished! (the present architecture of the EU)
3. Hypothesis
“The centre of EU Quarter should open up to the public. By enhancing the urban fabric and injecting new programs in the area, the new EU Quarter will be a centre for all. The new Houses of European History will express how EU facilitates unity in diversity.”
4. Urban Intervention
Collective activities
In both an ancient amphitheatre like the Dionysus and a premodern theater like the Scala, audiences are immersed in the event on stage.

I propose to build a theatre complex in the core of EU Quarter.
In both an ancient amphitheatre like the Dionysus and a premodern theater like the Scala, audiences are immersed in the event on stage.
5. Architectural Composition
The site used to be a parking lot, is located in the center of EU Quarter.
Houses used to be in the core of EU Quarter
Composition
Composition
Composition
0. LOBBY / FOYER
1. PLATFORM
2. EXHIBITION
-1. STAGE
-1. TECH
General Arrangement

- Visitors
- Theater staffs
- Performers
- VIP
- Museum staffs
1. Entrance Hall

- Grage entrance
- Garage exit
- Truck garage
- Entrance hall
- Lobby for staffs
- Workshops
2. Platform

- Pedestrian route
- Outdoor platform
- Indoor theatre
3. Exhibition space
Theatre
1. Arena - circular stage

2. Theatron - proscenium stage

3. Proscenium - arch stage

4. Spatial stage
Conclusion

Amphitheatre

Theatre
Exhibition
Preferred Exhibition Space in Precedent Museums

- Prado Museum
- British Museum
- Rijksmuseum
- Dulwich Picture Gallery
Elements in the Exhibition Space

Continuous wall

Exhibition Panel

Natural light
Dimensions in Preferred Museums

- **British Museum, London**
  - 3.5m

- **Prado Museum, Madrid**
  - 3m
  - 7m
  - 6m
Lightening

Natural light  80%
Spot light  20%

Beating by the Media

Spot light  80%
Natural sky light  20%
Structure
steel truss

concrete roof

steel frame

concrete base / core
6. Materialization
Facades of surrounding before urban intervention

Facades of surrounding after urban intervention
The triangle body of the exhibition is cladded with copper panels, while the tree pattern is reiterated in the ornaments of the auditorium and interim spaces.
South elevation

Facade
Interior facade
The non-absorbing surface formed by the stone seats alters sound waves, filtering out some while accentuating others.
Ornamental design of the transition of the spaces
7. Building Performance
Acoustic design
Thank you.