

HOUSE FOR PEOPLE & PUPPETS КЪЩА ЗА ХОРА И КУКЛИ



COVER NOTE

Young Old

Performing and producing shows for diverse age groups and the versatile use of the spaces are valuable artistic ambitions, for us architects a wonderful challenge.

Experimental Puppetry Arts Centre

The title and the program in the brief show the experimental character of the theatre.

We like to challenge producers and actors with spatial solutions to extend their possibilities beyond the usual scope of view of a standard theatre and play freely with our designed spaces.

We see the visitors in a way also as actors, subconsciously playing in the public spaces and maybe even in the halls if challenged by the actors.

Concept

1 + 1 = 3

By positioning the new theatre hall parallel to the older one, with an in-between space similar in size as to regular theatre hall, we create an open air theatre hall for free.

Variable stage settings

These settings open new challenging possibilities for play producers.

In our diagrams we show some schemes.

Dollhouse

The zone connecting the 3 theatre halls houses various public functions, which are required for operating the halls.

At the same time these floors shape a vertical stage where the visitors are acting unknowingly; Strengthened by the spaced canvases, stretched between the wooden columns as arches in variable positions and spans, it simulates a dollhouse facing the city.

Situation

The new theatre spaces are designed on the west side of the existing theatre.

The outline of our design follows the permissible contours of the given plot lining on the west to the Tzar Ivan Assen street and on the north to the General Gurko Street.

The service spaces enwrap the new theatre hall and as such they prevent noise nuisance for the residents across.

By grouping the built areas on the west, the small park east of the location can be fully kept, which we consider valuable for the neighbourhood. Where we have to take out good trees from the west side, we replace them in the park.

The main entrance with the steps stays on the east side. Together with the new foyer they form a linear space as an interior street for the audiences before entering the halls.

Together with the park this entrance gives opportunities to use for a trailer while visitors are lining up. All the spaces open to public are on the same level to guarantee accessibility.

Sustainability

The wooden construction is demountable and reusable. The curtainwall system even so.

The roofs are covered with moss sedum over a water retention system.

Solar PV panels are mounted higher on carriers to give the sun way to the planting.

The cladding for the hall is made from air dried fibre cement panels, during their life span the panels absorb CO₂.

For the installation we propose a heatpump with geo thermal energy storage. It requests a higher investment on the installation, which can be reduced by EU subsidies. It saves costs for gas in the future. All together this could make the theatres largely independent from energy providers.

Architecture

The existing theatre with its relatively closed box volume counterbalances the transparency of the new areas.

Lights reflectively shine on the surface of its facade, making it a bill board for coming venues

In the new extension lights shine from inside out where visitors move on several levels.

The rhythmic wood construction, the free hanging floors and the transparency on the north side simulate scaffolding, of course in an aesthetic way. Especially in the public zone we introduce canvas arches which are to be attached between the double beams spanning in 2 directions. With these hard and soft architectural use of materials, we invite and challenge the theatre staff to compose this space thematically related to plays and other events. The visitors are subconsciously, in a way, actors in the scenery created by the wooden construction and the canvases with their messages and images printed on. It looks as if visitors are moving around in a grand scale dollhouse.

The volume of the new theatre hall shines through the transparent zone and finally rises above the surrounding construction giving space to the rehearsal room. The copper colour cladding matches with the wood construction.

The connected stage storage makes it possible to serve the 3 halls simultaneously. Together with other service spaces a round walk without entering the halls is possible.

A big sliding door can open the new theatre hall to the yard.

The openings in the existing hall do the same, though limited in size by the construction.

These serve the versatile use of the halls.

The yard serves a number of purposes.

- Extension of the urban space under full control of the theatre. The stretched foyer/café is the sluice in between the town and the theatre. The doors on either side can be opened to serve a preferable setting according to the needs of the staff.
- Terrace of the café. The circular bar serves inside and outside.
- Open air performance hall, exhibition space and event space.

Construction

During construction, the existing building remains fully operational, which helps to make the business case feasible.

Density indicators

- Building density (elevation+0.00) : 660m²
- total built-up area: 1912m² (overground 1348m²)
- total landscaping area within the boundaries of the plot and building: 1100m²

Cost estimation

North West Europe pricing 2023-07-15					
Area	sub zone	m2	€/m2/pc > ex vat	subtotal	mark
A ENTRANCE ZONE	A1 Entrance	212	2.150	455.800	high space with glassfacade
	A2 Desk and Box-office	0	0	0	in existing
	A3 Storage space	8	590	4.720	
	A4 Cloakroom	0	0	0	in existing
	A5 Restrooms	22	1.200	26.400	
	A6 Café & Bar	18	2.150	38.700	high space with glassfacade
	A7 Storage	8	590	4.720	
B MAIN HALL	B1 Performance Hall	284	2.560	727.040	high space with complex installation
	B2 Wings	22	1.200	26.400	
	B3 Storage	83	860	71.380	
	B4 Sound & light box	21	1.950	40.950	
	B5 Technical booth	5	1.000	5.000	
				0	
C OFFSTAGE	C1 Dressing rooms	57	1.600	91.200	
	C2 Restrooms	29	1.200	34.800	
	C3 Rehearsal space	256	1.930	494.080	
	C4 Administration	105	1.600	168.000	
	C5 Residential	105	1.750	183.750	
	C6 Installation room	22	1.990	43.780	HVAC heatpump costs are part of space costs
	C7 Toilets	12	1.200	14.400	
				0	
SUBTOTAL 1		1.269		2.431.120	
				0	
D YARD		260	180	46.800	
E WAREHOUSE		376	850	319.600	
F PARKING		235	950	223.250	
SUBTOTAL 2		871		589.650	
TOTAL		2.140		3.020.770	
ADDITIONAL	pv panels on roof	420	75	31.500	
	green roof	510	60	30.600	
Key number	All costs are key numbers for comparable volumes of this function (modest materialisation) including 25% for installations (geothermal heat pump) in North West Europe. In a next stage we adjust these numbers to the local situation in Bulgaria. Then we also include more precise numbers on all the elements, level of finish, installation etc.				
Surface	The surfaces are bruto, they include construction spacing				
Circulation	The surfaces include circulation space.				