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MX_SI

**MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM OF LUCENA (CORDOBA, SPAIN)
PIECE OF ARCHITECTURE BY MX_SI ARCHITECTURAL STUDIO
BASED IN BARCELONA**

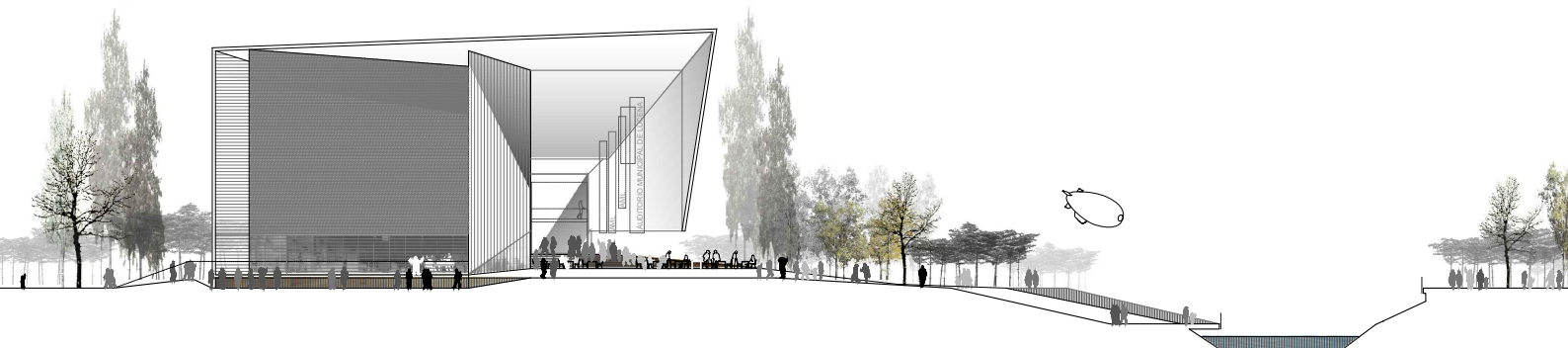


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The architects Boris Bezan, Mara Partida and Héctor Mendoza, members of the architectural studio MX_SI based in Barcelona, in 2006 were the winners of the open, anonymous and public ideas contest to design the Municipal Auditorium in Lucena. The project directs most of the spaces towards the river and is known for acknowledging and recovering the natural environment.

The construction of the building, using local industry, underwent adjustment in terms of dimension, variety of uses, rational structure and construction system, hence managing to be delivered on time but coming in at under half the anticipated budget without compromising the main spirit of its architecture.



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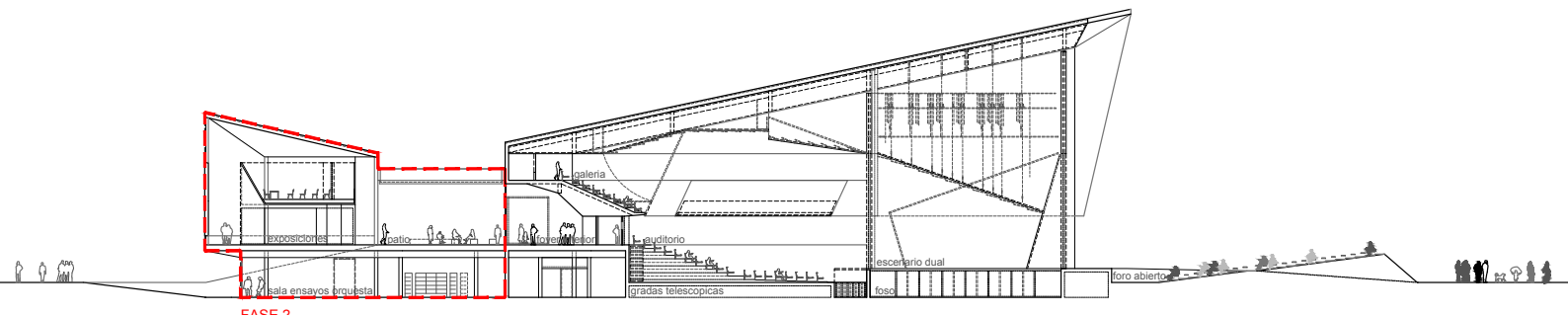
The building project housing the Municipal Auditorium at Lucena recognizes the importance of the proximity to the river, the city's exhibition centre and integration with the landscape as well as the extreme climatic conditions of the area.

The walk along the river provides a spatial sequence based on different gradients of open, semi-covered, covered and enclosed spaces. As a prelude, a large space or open forum is created for crowds to congregate at concerts and outdoor events. Access to the building is via a ramp with a porch overhang recreating a foyer terrace to enjoy the views of the river and generates a cool, shaded microclimate that encourages not only the auditorium public to stay, but those from the city as well. The terrace-foyer culminates in an enclosure or patio that leads into the closed spaces of the building.



The shape of the building is simple yet forceful; it identifies with and integrates into the landscape, as just another pavilion incorporating itself into the urban planning of the exhibition grounds. The new facility gives a new entrance image on the access routes into the city. The building consists of two main architectural elements: a solid base and light roof. The base acts as an extension of the topography which can be adjusted, if required, to integrate with the environment promoting the continuity of public space and the landscape towards the inside of the building. The light roof is detached from the base, allowing striking spans and openings to bring in the interior spaces.

The auditorium is designed for maximum flexibility to accommodate different types of programs. The large open space or forum located in the access area benefits from the facade of the auditorium that can be opened and the stage projected to the exterior. The interior of the auditorium has been carefully designed in response to the acoustic requirements and with the incorporation of telescopic grandstands to obtain a multipurpose room with a flat floor for all kinds of events and entertainment needs. The functional versatility of the stage, with varying dimensions and equipment, enables different artistic disciplines to be hosted.

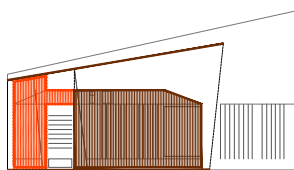


Economics, Tectonics and Outward appearance

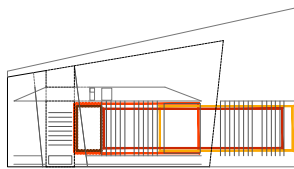
The structure is designed carefully to absorb the large gaps that a programme of this magnitude demands, in an economic and reasoned manner. The construction of the building, enshrouded in the midst of economic crisis, forced a rethink regarding the phases of construction, with a more efficient, lightweight and economical construction system, supporting the local industry. A special light-weight acoustic cover system mounted on trays was used to remove any secondary beams or structural reinforcement elements that would be subject to increased cost and structural load. Moreover, the facade consisting of variable section aluminium trays, allows a quick and dynamic assembly to close the building, optimizing time and costs.

The construction of the building *underwent* adjustments in terms of dimension, variety of uses, rational structure, construction system, hence managing to be delivered on time but coming in at half the anticipated budget without compromising the main spirit of its architecture.

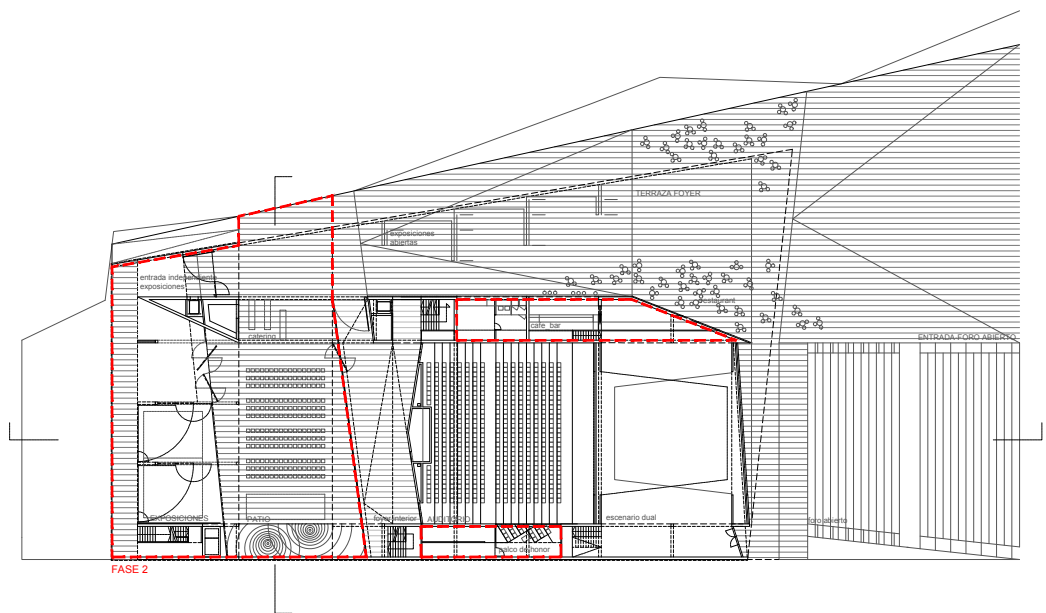
Of the four floors to be equipped, two have been fully executed and equipped during the first stage, housing main elements such as dressing rooms, the pit and storage area and an indoor and an outdoor dual stage. The second phase will see the completion of the first floor with a conference room, press room, gallery and boxes and amphitheatre.



FASES DE CONSTRUCCIÓN
 FASE 1 Construida
 FASE 2 No construida



FLEXIBILIDAD AUDITORIO
 F1 auditorio polivalente 800 butacas (gt+ galería + palcos)
 F2 foro abierto 1200 espectadores aprox. (aire libre)
 F3 escenario dual, espectáculo dentro/ fuera
 F4 galería separable, mini auditorio



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CREDITS

Dates: 2012 - 2015

Site: Lucena, Córdoba, España

Total Surface: 6.700 m²

Phase 1 Surface: 4.500 m²

Original Budget: 12.000.000 €

Phase 1 Budget: 4.125.000 €

Client: Lucena Town Hall

Architect: MX_SI architectural studio
Mara Partida, Boris Bezan, Héctor Mendoza

MX_SI Collaborators:

Elsa Bertrán, Filipe Fonseca,
Oscar Espinosa, Olga Bombac

Structures: BOMAIMPASA

Fluids: JG Ingenieros

Acoustics: Arau Acústica

Stagecraft: Scenic Light

Photographer: Pedro Pegenaute

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EL ESTUDIO

MX_SI es un estudio experimental de arquitectura, formado por Mara Partida, Boris Bezan y Héctor Mendoza, con base en Barcelona. El estudio se fundó en 2005 al recibir el primer premio para la construcción del Centro Federico García Lorca en Granada, actualmente en construcción. El despacho enfoca su trabajo principalmente en desarrollar concursos públicos tanto culturales como en centros históricos. Poco a poco, su actividad creativa ha ido consolidándose al ganar numerosos concursos nacionales e internacionales como European 8 en Goteborg Suecia 2006, Auditorio de Lucena Córdoba 2006, centro de arte ROG en Ljubljana 2008. Así como, al obtener el reconocimiento a su obra con premios nacionales como el Premio Nacional de Arquitectura Española 2013. En 2014, han sido finalistas de galardones como el Premio de Arquitectura de Finlandia, el Young Architect of the Year en Inglaterra y obtuvieron el Merit Award del North American Wood Design Award de Canadá en la categoría de internacional, entre otros. Este último año, 2015, han sido galardonados con el Premio Plecnik (Eslovenia) y nominados a los premios Mies van der Rohe 2015 y al Iakov Chernikov International Award, que selecciona a los mejores arquitectos menores de 44 años.

MX_SI se mueve sobre la base de la continua búsqueda de la esencia de la arquitectura como lógica y diálogo entre estructura, geometría, contexto y expresión visual y espacial. Su trabajo se caracteriza por su versatilidad en resolver complejos programas, en entender las necesidades del usuario, del contexto y de la materialidad en conjunto. Y demuestra una gran sensibilidad por el tiempo, para integrar lo nuevo con lo existente al mismo tiempo que subraya las cualidades plásticas de sus proyectos y del lugar.



MX_SI: Boris Bezan, Mara Partida and Héctor Mendoza.

www.mx-si.net

Copyright photos: Pegenaute

Contact:

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POCH

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