EUROPEAN ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW CITY CENTER IN ATHENS
ΣΥΝΟΨΗ ΤΗΣ ΕΚΘΕΣΗΣ

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Το «πλατύ ευθύγραμμο χιλιόμετρο» της Πανεπιστημίου διαμορφώνεται σε πεζόδρομο με απλό τρόπο σαν ένα απλό τρόπο σαν ένα απόλυτα διακριτό και ξεχωριστό σύνολο στο κέντρο της πόλης. Οι απαραίτητες χρήσεις του ξεχωρίζουν όσο πιο διακριτικά γίνεται με μικρές αλλαγές στην πλακόστρωση, ώστε να μη διασπάται η ενιαία εντύπωση και η λειτουργική ενότητα του μεγάλου αυτού αστικού κενού που γίνεται ο σημαντικότερος δημόσιος χώρος της Αθήνας. Ο πεζόδρομος σκιάζεται, δροσίζεται και «υπογραμμίζεται» από μια eco-stoa με ΚΑΤΑΚΟΡΥΦΟΥΣ ΚΗΠΟΥΣ που δίνει χρηστική αξία στο μέσον του και δημιουργεί έναν υπερυψωμένο περίπατο ανάμεσα στα κλαδιά των δένδρων. Το πάνω ήσυχο περίπατο επιτρέπει την θέαση των όψεων των δυο πλευρών από διαφορετική οπτική γωνία χωρίς την λειτουργική και αισθητική όχληση των ισόγειων των κτιρίων. Το πράσινο που δεν προτείνεται στο επίπεδο του δρόμου, χάρη της απόλυτης λειτουργικής ενοποίησης, αποδίδεται στον δημόσιο χώρο με τον παραπάνω μέσω των προστατευμένων κατακόρυφων κήπων. Αυτοί δίνουν την δυνατότητα συνεχούς αλλαγής του προσώπου του και ενώνουν μια δυναμική «λεπτή πράσινη γραμμή» στον χώρο και στον χρόνο τα πολλαπλά layers του ιστορικού δρόμου σε όλο το μήκος του.

CHARITY canopy + BIKE center, AMUSEMENT point, SPECTACLE scenes, EXHIBITION place

Με κεντρικό άξονα τον μεγάλο πεζόδρομο μια σειρά από επεμβάσεις σε κομβικά σημεία του αστικού ιστού διαχέουν στον δημόσιο χώρο μια αλυσίδα αλληλοσυμπληρούμενων λειτουργιών και δομών σκίασης που συχνά απλώς ενισχύουν την ήδη διαμορφωμένη αστική δραστηριότητα του κέντρου. Στην Ομόνοια προτείνεται μια μεγάλη πέργκολα από ΑΝΑΚΥΚΛΩΜΕΝΟ πλαστικό καφασιών για εκδηλώσεις αλληλεγγύης από οργανώσεις. Στην Πατησίων και την Β. Αμαλίας σε σημειακές στάσεις για πεζούς που επαναλαμβάνονται ρυθμικά στην πορεία προς τα μουσεία, χρησιμοποιείται ο ΦΥΣΙΚΟΣ ΕΛΚΥΣΜΟΣ και ΕΥΚΑΜΠΤΙΚΑ για δροσισμό και ενεργειακή αυτονομία αντίστοιχα.

MEETING area, OPEN LIBRARY garden, COOL stations, SPEAKERS corner, INFO boxes

# Στην Ακαδημίας χωροθετείται ένας βραχόκηπος με καθιστικά πάνω σε φαρδιές μακριές λωρίδες πατημένου χώματος που εξασφαλίζουν ΥΔΑΤΟΔΙΑΠΕΡΑΤΟΤΗΤΑ. Μια μακριά πέργκολα με αναρριχώμενα φυτά προστατεύεται από τον νοτιοδυτικό ήλιο και ενοποιεί τις πίσω όψεις των κτιρίων της Τριλογίας.
ABSTRACT

ECO-STOA, GARDENFLOW, URBAN FRESHENER, GREEN FRIEZE, “CITYPEDE”

The “wide, linear kilometer” of Panepistimiou street is modulated in a simply way in a pedestrian road, like a totally distinctive unit at the city center.

The necessary utilities are singled out, with slight alternations at the tilling, so that the total impression and the functional unit of this urban gab, which becomes the most important public space of Athens, not to be interrupted. The pedestrian road is shaded, cooled down and “underlined” with the help of an eco-stoa with VERTICAL GARDENS that bestow a functional value at the middle of the road and create an elevated “promenade” between the tree limbs.

The upper, quieter walk allows the view of the facades, at both road-sides, from a different angle without a functional and aesthetic nuisance from the buildings’ ground floors.

The planting that is not suggested for the street level, in favor of a completed unification, is given generously to the public space through the protected vertical gardens. They are those which give the opportunity of a continuous change to the public space face and unite with a dynamic “thin green line”, through space and time, the multiple layers of the historic road at its’ full length.

CHARITY canopy + BIKE center, AMUSEMENT point, SPECTACLE scenes, EXHIBITION place

With the large pedestrian road as the central axis, a line of interventions at the urban net focal points, diffuse a chain of inter-completed facilities and shading structures, which often just support the already formed historic city-center activities.

# At Omonia a large scale pergola is suggested made out of recycled plastic crates, suitable for solidarity organizations’ events.
# Also, here is where the capital’s main bike trails point is placed.
# At the end of Panepistimiou street lies a entertainment space with four “waterfall” gates like evaporative cooling "curtains".
# At Dikeosinis square two small spaces for spectacles and musical events are created, inside and over an urban geothermal tomb.
# At Korai a shaded exhibition space with two lateral halls made from photocatalytic material is formed, that cleans the atmospheric pollutants. The same material is used vertically as a louver at office buildings facades and also as a foraminous element for suspensions at the street level.

MEETING area, OPEN LIBRARY garden, COOL stations, SPEAKERS corner, INFO boxes

# At Acadimias is sited a rock garden with seatings on wide long lines of packed soil, which secure the WATER-PERMABILITY. A long pergola with climbing plants protects from the south-east sun and unifies the back facades of the Trilogy buildings.
# Behind National Library at the public park, an open magazine-case is designed for reuse of the printed material.
# At Patision and V.Amalias, at punctual stops for pedestrians which are repeated in pace while heading for the museums, NATURAL CONVECTION is used along with FLEXIBLE PHOTOVOLTAICS for cooling and energy autonomy respectively.
# At the beginning of V.Sofias takes place a EXENTED TREE-PLANTING with double tree-lines in shapes that separate the utility zones while subdividing the urban space.
# At the three sun-exposed sides of Syntagma square a row of piers with olive trees sustain an INCREASING DENSITY pergola and suspend screens with information.
The eco-stoa of Panepistimiou street
General principles, utilities and the ECOlogical IDentity of the project
From Omonia square to "palace of Troy"
Stations and tiling
Around Syntagma square
An ATHENS walk under the shadow of time and space

"...of many persons he saw the cities and got to know the morals..."

The third lyric of Odyssey is referring to the wisdom that one gets through the acquaintance and understanding of different customs and needs, which leave their mark to the structures man makes in space.

The most important contrast that diverse our needs in the public space are the relation between sun and shadow.

In north regions, people seek the sun for activities, for which in Athens shadow is needed.

E. Tsiller Architect
1837-1923

A. GARDENFLOW for the largest pedestrian street of the city center

Eco-stoa, at its full length (900m) has vertical gardens of 5m high. And that is how a green pavement is created without getting fragmented by implanted areas.

"...the attention of all citizens of Athens should fell to the combat against the unbearable heat during the summer months...for which we suggest the installation of awnings along the most central and probably the most crowded streets, under which the pedestrians would be able to relax protected from the excessive heat." The future Athens and the shaded streets

↑ JULIAN OPIE (video art)
Through the oldest times the architectural element that express the mediterranean semi-outdoor lifestyle the most, is **stoai**

**eco-stoai**
That is the reason why in the middle of the large pedestrian street a long contemporary eco-stoa expands,

The linear large stoai organises and unifies the fragmented urban space like a backbone which combines the buildings arcades.

The existing arcades of Panepistimiou buildings.

The planting at each side corresponds to a square surface of 650 m².

**OH, CAPTAIN, MY CAPTAIN**

If you want to live in an ideal society

A second, elevated walk, with width of 2,5 m, 8 m over the street level, offers a different public viewpoint of the urban space.

You should behave as if you were already living in it.

Isolation and relaxation are offered among a noisy city center, inside the eco-stoai's enclosed gardens (2,4 x 4,4 m), with climbing plants at four different points.

Athens was the birthplace of the classic anthropocentric philosophy, with schools such as Academia, Lyceum and Stoai (stoa), at which the conversations were taking place at gardens full of arcades.

Later at East, gardens and parks were designed based on philosophical subjects and reports that let the connection between the 'natural' walks and conversations be read as a way of the ideas development.

Under the eco-stoai, bar and restaurant tables and chairs are allowed at four specific areas, with dimensions 2.4 x 14.4 m.
The vertical gardens, at their full length, present a huge availability. Seasonal changes, through different forms and plantings, cultivated in this way, the possibility of an unending renewal of the main city face.

Inside the architect's mind and his working space

A three dynamic NARATION is created by the size and the complexity of the whole intervention through the urban net, with the large walk as an axis. Each public space consists of a STAR of:

a) a constellation of SELF-SUPPORTING urban utilities
b) a constellation of ECOLOGICAL STRUCTURES, educational for the citizen,
c) a constellation of HISTORIC REPORTS OF VALUE, expressed by the form and content of the interventions.

PHILOTEHNOS
the one who supports people's interests

PHILOXENOS
the one who takes care uncertain the foreigner visitors

PHILOPROODOS
the one who loves progress

PHILOLOGOS
the scientist who studies a specific language and literature

PHILOMATHEUS
the one loves learning and pursue of knowledge

PHILANTHROPOS
the one who helps altruistically his fellow man

PHILATHLOS
the one who loves sports

PHILOS
the person who likes flavors or supports something

PHILOSOFRAS
the one who seeks through sense and logic the truth and wisdom

PHILOSOFRAS
the one who loves music

PHILOSOFRAS
the one who loves fine arts

PHILOSOFRAS
the one who loves aesthetics

PHILOEKOS
the one who loves nature
On the large façade of the parliament, which protects the green zone, information for each building and the most important events is etched.

The thin "green line" separates the commercial and the most important architectural works that expressed them. It's an educational walk through time.

The most important buildings of the edited area, dating back to the 20th century, a post-revolutionary renovation for Greek nation. According to the contemporary European streams and for reasons of a national identity boost, a mirror facing classic antiquity was raised, so that its reflection would be produced.

The modern interventions are based on reports which are not from the original sources of the city's classical past, so that the remaining 20th century vaunts to be fulfilled.

There is no other capital in the world like ATHENS, where the main axis, of length of 1km, connects two areas which host the two outskirts of the social net. And night in the middle stand the buildings - emblems of the mental science and knowledge. Omonia square from "queen" of the provinces was transformed into the center of the drug addicts, homeless, prostitutes and illegal immigrants' meeting point is now the lobby of the "grand hotel" for all the city's outcasts.

An important heritage burdens Panepistimiou str. It used to be the crossroad of history, the central stage of various social forms and other claims and political events.
charity canopy
At Omonia square, a large canopy is constructed, meant for activities of charity organizations. The whole canopy is symbolically made out of recycled, colorful, plastic crates that look like pixels, recreate a human form, a sign of solidarity’s value.

amusement point
The celebration of sport successes ended up with the fans jumping into the fountain that used to be in the center of the square.

This opportunity is now restored by 4 water gates at the final part of Panepistimiou street.

OMONIA gates PLAN

AXONOMETRIC

DIKEOSINIS square PLAN

INFO-POINT Shapes and qualities of the center’s shades

YOU ARE HERE

Patissoni of dawn

Amalies of music

V. Sofias

Syntagma

NORTH-EST ELEVATION
At KORAI street a space for outdoor exhibitions is created, under a high pergola made out of perforated photocatalytic air-cleaning plates. The same surface, used vertically and horizontally, functions both as a dividing wall with spitter, at street level, and as a sun-protecting element for the building facades on which it is also suspended.

exhibition place

At Dilosinias square an urban mound is created (with a cave) to increase at maximum the planting of the area and to provide two spaces available for events. One shaded, ...

spectacle
...and one at direct contact with the large pedestrian road.

scenes
The spectators sit at the slopes where the geothermal cooling chimes end up through the piping inside the hill.
Behind and between the trilogy buildings, three pavements with linear zones of packed soil in the middle, re-create, at the same point, the environment during the neoclassic monuments’ era. Sittings of natural boulders are crisscross in the form of 24 alphabet letters and above them the shadow of a wooden pergola, once again with the shape of letters.

That is how the continuity of the poet’s language, the language of his two epic poems, the province of eastern literature and the language we speak nowadays is expressed.

open library garden

Behind the National Library a fenced park follows the building’s volumes. A long linear table of COR-TEN, mending among the shadows diagonally through space, with table-legs as magazines’ cases, functions as an open library with stable concrete sittings.

The central zone is covered with gravel while the rest remains with soil.

We return at the architect’s office to look at TOP MODELS of city objects.

At tramways stations the metallic pergola rises 30cm above the glass roof so that a freezing air stream would be created.

FFff!
The wooden pergola, over the poet's rock garden, which underlines the unity of the brothers Hansen buildings, is interrupted by the metro entrance and the structure that marks it.

Behind the Trilogy

Natural materials
SOIL ROCKS WOOD

At the structure with the letter icons over the dirt road, also grows climbing plants.

At that area the existence of the underground metro station doesn't allow other kinds of planting.

Across Eolou and Patisson street sittings are placed successively with twin "towers" of natural convection.

The sun heats the highest, dark part and in that way creates a cooling stream reinforced by the upper narrow opening.

The two sitting benches revolve to either follow the shadow or to face each other and create a sitting place available for a larger company.
Along V. Amalias avenue seats among with urban equipment are placed under a large lighting powered by flexible photovoltaics on plastic membrane providing shadow.

"We favor the night, because it erases the needless details just like the memory.
J. L. Borges"

Five parts vertically with different drillings establish a lighting column which disappears downwards.

"LIFE STYLE\n\n\nLIFE STYLE\n\n\nLIFE STYLE\n\n\nLIFE STYLE"

SITTINGS, RUBBISH BINS, WATER FREEZERS

"LESS"

A part of Panepistimiou (24\textsuperscript{th}*84m) among with the corresponding part of eco-stoa, is designed in full detail and is repeated eleven times, with slight alternations, forming in this way the whole pedestrian space.

TILING

10 \textit{squares} in front of interesting buildings

\textbf{lines of planting}

the urban equipment under the eco-stoa

\textbf{lines of white affixed gravel that mark the space of the tram rails}

\textbf{parietal lines in front of the shops' windows}

the basic, large, white, concrete slab of size 2.40*2.40 is divided in smaller parts that mark the different uses of the pedestrian road.

In front of 10 buildings with historic or aesthetic significance the tiling alters in shade and direction.

\textbf{J.H. Fuseli: 'The Artist in Despair of the Splendour of Ancient Ruins', 1778-80}
At Omonia square, 4 metallic structures with ground stands on wheels transfer...

Ideal for a public space with multiple utilities and intense activity.

The wide width of the street is divided into 13 parts, 11 of whom have a width of 2.4m. The rest 2, which are embodied to the already existing planting, have a width of 1.2m.

Tiles of white concrete with dimensions 2.4*2.4m.

The sparse tree-lines across the two sides of the street are completed with trees that density.

A corridor at the size of two tiles, which means 4.8m width (at the upper, widest part of the street reaches the 7.2m) follows the pedestrian street and the eco-stoa at its full length, without a single obstacle.

There are 30 ‘squares’ in front of important small or medium size facades. That makes a contrast to the linearity of the pedestrian road.

Those parts work as open stages for performances.

The side of the tram rails, with width of 3 tiles, lines of white gravel differs slightly because of the two 1.2m width placed at the roadside so that a unity will be succeeded.
At each road vertical to Panepistimio, one to two tree lines are planted...

...with different types of trees, so that the views
along the "walk" would be enriched.

Photos testify the old image of V. Sofias avenue, when at the
beginning of the avenue was a wide pavement with tree
lines.

The most central point of the
contemporary Athens, where
lay the most important state
activities, is the best place to
express the establishment
legend of the patron goddess
and the silver-leaves olive tree.

At the square's perimiter
the pedestrians' movement
takes place under the sun.

Eco-stoa is a simple,
large, unifying, urban
element on which lay
the interventions,
and which in many
cases helps facilitate
the already existing
historic utilities of
the Athens' center.

The large space between the pedestrian road
and the Trithea remains as it was, in total
agreement with the style of the buildings.
At the wide
pavement 4 double
tree lines like hugs
define distinctive
spaces with grand-
stands suitable for
conversations and
debates.

The square consists as well
the core of the touristic side
of Athens and that's why at
the piers are placed inter-
active screens providing all-
kind of information for the
country and city.

The main pedestrian road with its simple,
open form and with the significance it gives
to a natural and ecological
element is a comment
of equality
and provision of the same urban qualities among the different
social groups that co-exist at
Athens' center.

The most famous Sophocles' tragedy be-
queathed the Antigone prototype, the one
who resist to her uncle's Kreon power when
she believes his decisions come in contrast
with the unwritten social rules.

While Syntagma square is ready to "host"
mass concentrations, at V.Sofias avenue are 4
open-air spaces for assemblies and orations.

info boxes for tourists

A structure with piers-pots
for olive trees that suspend
a metallic pergola with, increasing density is proposed.

SYNTAGMA square

A "PERISTYLE” SQUARE

Eco-stoa consists a linear park that combines the two
largest green lungs of Athens, Pedio Ares and
National Garden.
TO BE CONTINUED
in a second phase
...OR NOT
EUROPEAN ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW CITY CENTER IN ATHENS

CHARITY CANOPY ATHENS BIKE CENTER

PHILO LAMIA

AMUSEMENT POINT

SPECTACLE SCENES

PHILO MOUSOS

CHARITY CANOPY ATHENS BIKE CENTER

PLAN SCALE 1:300

SECTION S2 SCALE 1:300

NATIONAL BAN

DISOLED STOLL

NATIONAL BAN

ARISTOTLE

FARRONICOI STREET

SECTION S4 SCALE 1:300

SECTION S3 SCALE 1:300

SECTION S1 SCALE 1:300

OMONIA square

OMONIA water gates

DIKEOSINIS square

eco ID recycling