28 Years Euregional Prize for Architecture

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28EAP28E
AP28EAP2
8EAP28EA
P28EAP28
EAP28EAP

Intercultural Center Aachen

Participant info

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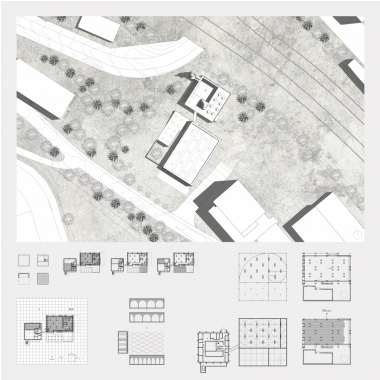
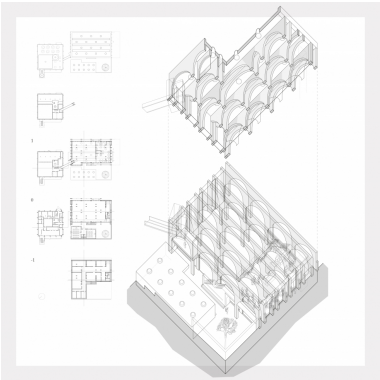
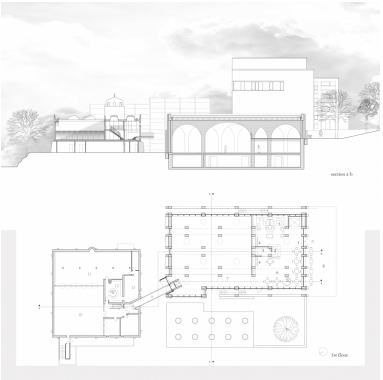
Institute: RWTH Aachen

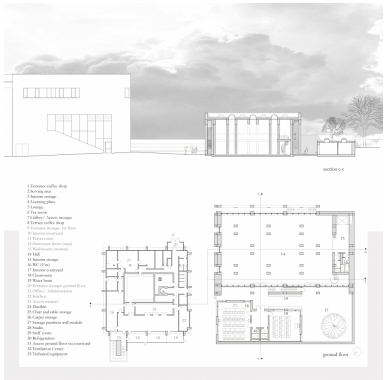
Project info

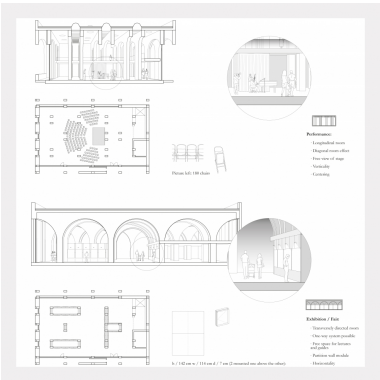
For several years, the Islamisches Zentrum Aachen (IZA) has desired the extension of the Bilal-mosque. Until today, there are controversial discussions about the extension of the building, not least because the IZA is wrongly accused of having “fundamental tendencies“. At present, the discussions are more relevant and precarious than ever.
The extension of the building will make the mosque both an educational institution and a meeting point. A place of mutual interaction of different cultures and religions. It will serve to minimize existing prejudices and to improve a mutual understanding of different cultures within our multicultural society.
The Bilal-mosque solemnly opened 1967 and, therefore, refers back to the era of Rudolf Schwarz and Dominikus Böhm. In 2012 the Bilal-mosque received monumental status.
The mosque was built by reason of an initiative of the student committee. At first, it was rather meant as a “Madrasa“, which is a training centre. On the basis of this idea, I developed my outline, which refers to the oriental motif “Souks“ (bazar) and the traditional “coffeehouse“.
The bazar and the coffeehouse are both elementary parts of the islamic culture. The bazar is traditionally connected with the mosque and is an important place of exchange for different people. The coffeehouse, however, is one of the first public places of the oriental urban structure.
The core structure of the Islamic Centre is a hall. Depending on the cultural program, it can be used for different occasions. For example, it can be used for events with stage program, for exhibitions, bazars or trade fairs. Moreover, it can also function as a prayer room. On the two great Islamic feasts, the Breaking of Fasting and the Feast of Sacrifice more than 2.000 Muslims can use the hall to pray and celebrate.

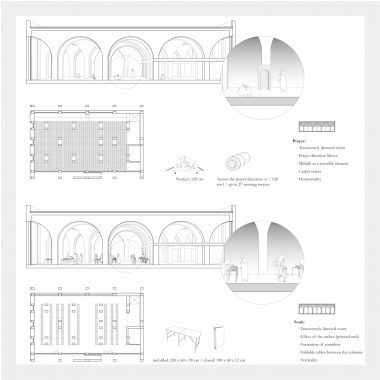


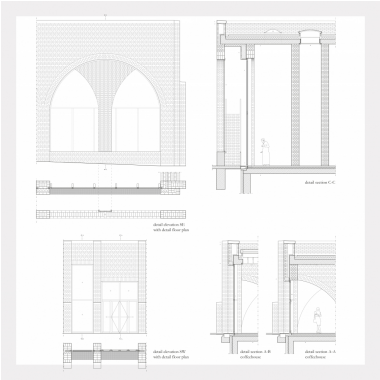



sections a-b
1st floor


section c-c
1 Entrance coffee shop
2 Serving area
3 Kitchen storage
4 Learning plan
5 Lounge
6 Toilets
7 Gallery / Annex storage
8 Terrace coffee shop
9 Entrance storage, 1st floor
10 Access courtyard
11 Prayer room
12 Prayer room (men)
13 Wudhu area (women)
14 Wudhu area (men)
15 Kitchen storage
16 WC (Ø)
17 Service courtyard
18 Classroom
19 Dormitory
20 Kitchen storage, ground floor
21 Office / Administration
22 Library
23 Access stairs
24 Dwellers
25 Chair and table storage
26 Carpet storage
27 Prayer position wall module
28 Studio
29 Staff room
30 Dwellers
31 Access ground floor via courtyard
32 Ventilation Center
33 Technical equipment
ground floor


Performance:
- Longitudinal room
- Diagonal room effect
- Free view of stage
- Verticality
- Gathering
Plexus left: 180 chairs
Exhibition / Fair:
- Transversely directed room
- One way system possible
- Free space for lectures and public
- Partition wall module
- Horizontally
h / 142 cm w / 115 cm d / 7 cm (2 mounted one above the other)


Prayer:
- Transversely directed room
- Prayer direction Mecca
- Mihrab as a movable element
- Carpet roads
- Horizontally
Seat(s): 120 cm
Arrow: the prayer direction: w / 120 cm l / up to 27 moving meters
Scale:
- Transversely directed room
- Effect of the arches (pointed arch)
- Formation of members
- Foldable tables between the columns
- Verticality
unfolded: 200 x 60 x 90 cm / closed: 100 x 60 x 12 cm


detail section C-C
detail elevation 8E
with detail floor plan
detail elevation 9F
with detail floor plan
detail section A-B
coffeehouse
detail section A-A
coffeehouse