

TJLJAA

Art Labyrinth of Public Space

When considering an objective for the expansion of Radvilia Palace into a contemporary art museum, we began by studying the city and what was already there.

We found that Vilnius has an abundance of cultural programming. The city boasts an array of museums, galleries, performing arts and entertainment venues and has one of the largest standing examples of a medieval old town, gifting the urban precinct an uncounted collection of public plazas and parks. In many ways, the city is itself, a museum. A mixture of old and new exhibits and public spaces.

So what does a city like Vilnius need with another museum?

It needs a museum centre. A microcosm of the cities artistic cultures and histories combined in a single site that can champion new and old arts throughout Vilnius.

To do this, we propose an Art Labyrinth of Public Space that can be used year round.

Reminiscent of the streets of old town, the new public space will be a celebration of the arts, the city, and its people. The updated palace will encourage exploration of both the museum and the city as a whole.

The Galleries

Contemporary museums are designed under the notion that there is a friction between art and its environment. Most gallery's are designed to block out their surrounding environments concluding that they detract from the galleries works. Our submission puts forward an alternative. A space that compliments art *because* of its environment.

The basement level offers two gallery types - "Extraverted" and "Introverted". The first is open, both horizontally and vertically. A long winding path that carves its way through the plaza above, opening up to the sky to reveal the palace to the gallery and its art to the city.

The "Introverted" galleries are more enclosed. These are hidden, offering a curatorial respite to compliment its counterpart. Long skinny corridors, skewed rooms, rectangular boxes. Each room offers a unique opportunity to reimagine the museums collection and see it anew.

There are of course many pieces of art made specifically with a white box gallery in mind, particularly more contemporary pieces. The South Western Pavilion has been resurrected for this reason. This will hold the most flexible space, large and open, the giant spaces can be divided up as desired or used to house extra large installations.