

SI-11698



NEMUNAS ISLAND IS THE REAL PARK OF KAUNAS

Nemunas Island is the main park of Kaunas, the best recreational zone for taking a stroll, doing sports or enjoying nature.

WHY ANOTHER BUILDING?

The Island has already one building, the Zalgiris Arena.

What if, instead of designing a new building, the proposal follows what is already there, (the guidelines of the site) to find a natural connection with nature, with Nemunas Island?

The proposal takes advantage of the natural slope and the different topographical levels of the island. Following the main road that crosses the island from the Zalgiris Arena east to west. The New Nemunas Island Museum will take advantage of the natural slope that already exists.

Circular perforations will allow accessing the Science Museum from above creating at the same time an open-air space to host Science screenings and events in the summer.

The main road that crosses the island from east to west divides the park in 2 different topographical levels: +28m to the south; +24m to the north. The proposal takes advantage of the main road circulation and the natural slope to allocate the Science Center.

The upper limit of the Center is an extension of the park, a horizontal green plane in which constitutes the top entrance.

Circular perforations allow accessing the Science Museum from above creating at the same time an open-air space to host Science screenings and events in the summer. Ground access is a green platform able to generate outdoor activities in summer, in which those who come from the Zalgiris Arena will access from above and those coming from the city bridge will access to the ground floor.

While Natural Science and Astronomy study celestial objects, references to the stars and the sun have been present in a multitude of architectural projects since the beginning of time; a presence that has oscillated between its magical, religious and romantic character.

This proposal offers a new sun for Kaunas, a bright, shining sun that evidences the fact that **Science is always awake searching for new answers, in an island where the sun never sets.**

We would like to design the Science island Museum as a landmark that symbolizes Nemunas Island. We believe that a landmark of a new era, rather than simply being an object of prominence, should be like an oasis where everyone, locals and visitors, feel the energy of the environment. It requires an appeal that naturally leads us towards this place, as if discovering an oasis in the desert.

The Museum is an intermediary between Nemunas Island and Science.

Activation

Evoking gravity, weightlessness and nature, we try to find ways of giving concrete expression to phenomena that is usually invisible.

In the Ground floor, The lobbies, entrance areas and public circulation spread outwards towards the park and Kaunas and engender transitional spaces.

On the roof, the circular access points are like public stages and natural seating areas, appearing in the park and also engaging with the Science activities in the Museum.