



The SIK is an extrapolated geology, a mille-feuille, comprising suspended layers taken from the landscape of Nemunas Island. The museum towers over the island, facing the furthest peak of its west side. The choice of this area for the museum complex draws on our wish to maintain the island as a pristine natural habitat.

On the ground, SIK makes for a visually unpredictable landing point, a magnetic pole where the island's trails and east-west paths all converge. The urban idea unfolding in this part of the city, in the wake of this new museum area, is to establish a new connection to the land, physical and emotional alike, facilitated by fine-tuned urban features.

The proposed museum stands 25m-tall, with four floors above ground, functional basement and rooftop terrace overlooking Kaunas city. 25 layers of light structured shelving system are inserted in between these floors, with platforms superimposed one on top of another, spaced 1 meter apart.

The form and function of these platforms are the main generating force behind the building's organic shape. The inner excavated spaces culminate in a unique phenomenon, the first ever science museum to apply the theoretical information and become a huge laboratory, its architecture a working display in its own right.

Though towering, the building shall have a lightweight, cloud-like feel to it, split and reconstructed by suspended green platforms, giving an illusion of antigravity and relieving the building's mass.

The idea we introduce here means creating a space that can guide visitors, or make them lose their way, according to heuristic processes. In order to acquire new knowledge, it is perfectly possible to trail a clear mental and spatial path, but we may equally rely on our intuition, drawing on present, contingent circumstances. This structure was thought out so as to allow visitors to establish a unique visual dialogue of their choice with the place.



The building and its curvature inspire visitors from the outside, while the smooth paths of its interiors plot a clear direction. These walkways inhabit the unexpected crossings of the main paths, green platforms and hollows, which combine together to create intermediary spaces and paths, just like those found in gardens or inside a living organism.

The vegetation-exhibit ratio, as well as their nature and relationship, shall be determined according to curating needs, and, of course budget considerations. The gardening and maintenance of the green platforms is made easy with the lightweight, easily removable substrate trays.

The plants in the trays are to grow in different spots. Once it's time for the current exhibition to make place for another, trays can be removed and planted around the island and city, or exported abroad, thus setting up a unique collaboration with botanic gardens worldwide.

Another unique element is the option of artificially manipulating weather conditions in particular sections of the green platforms. The cooling and heating systems shall allow to propagate plants regardless of present weather conditions. Beyond live demonstrations of the diverse climate conditions, extensive parts of the building may bloom on even through rough winter months.

Here we have an opportunity for new type of curating work, where numerous inspiring options come together.