Z33 House for Contemporary Art Hasselt, Belgium

Unlike most art museums, Z33 takes pride in its non-monumental brick building from 1958. Rather than being an icon for the city, the museum treats their structure like a playground for artists, allowing them to cut through walls, paint over floors, and add on to its exterior. As opposed to a polished plinth for the arts, the building is an active participant in the artmaking process.

Instead of creating a icon next to the idiosyncratic existing building, SO – IL's proposal inherits the existing building grid, and extends it. A logic of corner openings creates a systematic way of moving through the old and new building together. Both buildings are very different in material character, but united in a consistent ideology of movement. The corner openings allow surprising views through the building to the garden behind, and allow endless combinations of gallery flows, easily accommodating multiple small shows or fewer large ones. The old and new spaces become characters in one spatial narrative.

Client Z33 House for Contemporary Art

Location Hasselt, Belgium

Program Exhibition spaces, theater

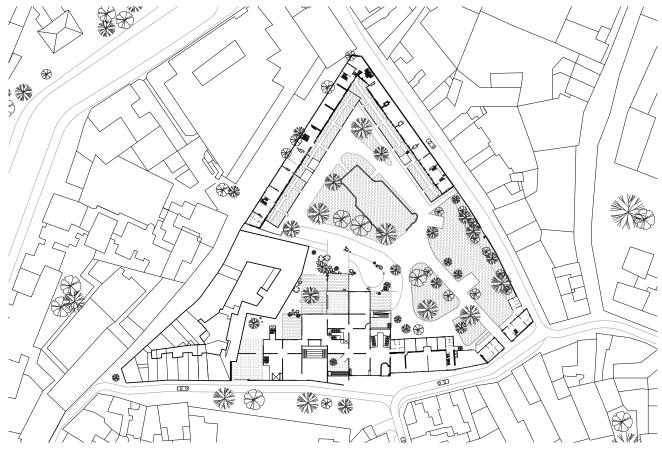
Area 3.000 m² / 33,000 sf

Status Competition 2012, second prize

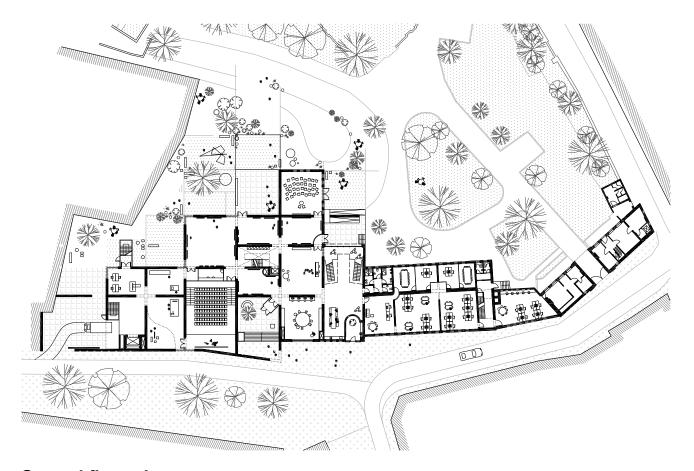
Team Florian Idenburg, Jing Liu, Ilias Papageorgiou, Ted Baab,

Nile Greenberg, Thilde Bjorkscov, Ivo Hoppers

Collaborators Structural Engineer: Util



Site plan



Ground floor plan



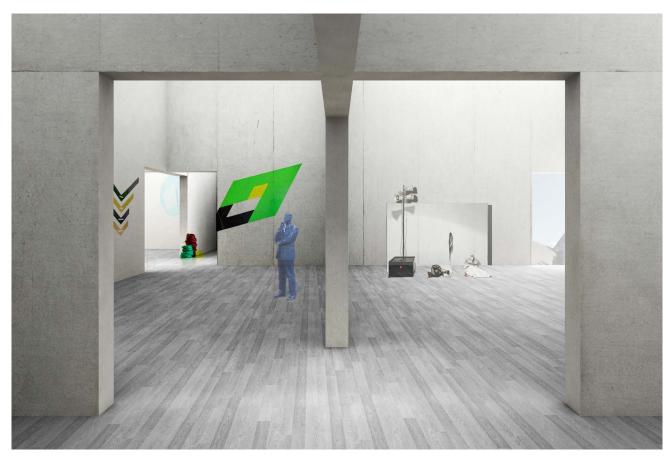
View from street



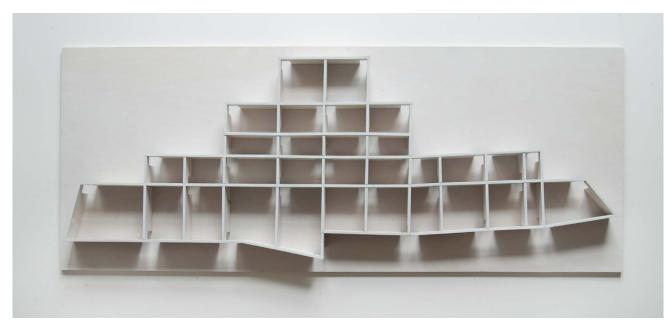
Typical corner opening



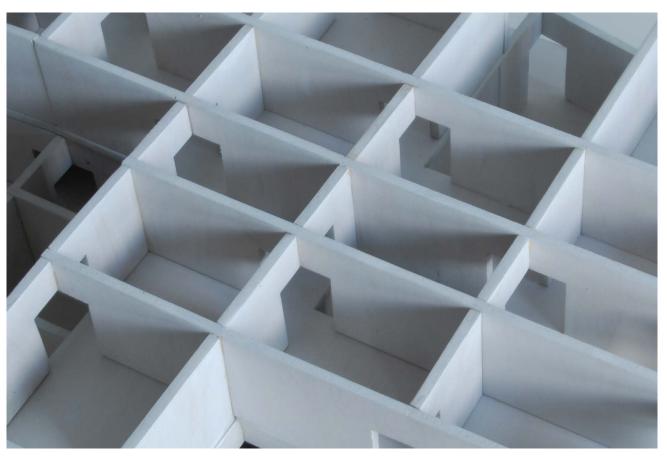
Gallery



Gallery



Model



Model