

ON TUESDAY THE 26TH OF MAY
WE ARE PROUD TO WELCOME
YOU TO THE

**THE
VOLKS
ARENA
20
20**

THE DAY OF THE VOLKSARENA

There are many days in the year, many of which seem similar and time does not seem to be passing.

But, **four times a year, when the season changes**, there is a big happening that awakes the city of Zurich - four times where the citizens of Zurich, the workers of Zurich and the people in office of Zurich look each other in the eyes - and talk and listen.

In the dawn of the day, Zurich starts moving. Accompanied by music and color, the manifesto-parade weaves through the city, people carry pieces from storage in the city departments that together would later complete "The Volksarena" in the heart of the city - on the Agora. Democracy after all equals the principle of the people's assembly on the square. This is nothing less than exactly that.

The "Day of the Volksarena" is when current states, decisions and developments are presented, and changes are discussed - every department of the city is obligated to attend and to present in live action to the faces of Zurich: People in office stand nakedly revealed and honest. Anybody can bring an issue to the political stage and everyone has the right to request someone else to take position - the challenged one, again, is obligated to attend.

The Manifesto is a central part of the Volksarena. Each, of the nine departments, keeps one - the 10th manifesto belongs to the Day itself, it ensures and secures the democratic equality of spatial presence and of the political act.

On those days, the Agora is **dressed for the occasion** and turned into a stage of curiosities. Preceding and following meals, gatherings and happenings are held and hosted in the surrounding Agora structures.

From afar people see the fog-like structure shining red over the roofs. **"The Volksarena"** is the central spatial structure that hosts the people and the main event. The structure is temporary, yet very specific - it belongs to the Agora and it belongs to the event. Four times a year, that very spot in the city is reserved only for "the Volksarena".

The Arena is for the people at last, therefor everyone has its duty: Each time, **people are drawn** at random and elected to be the ones to **erect the foundational columns** of the structure that supports everyone. The day will come when everybody has had their turn.

Live action in the Volksarena aims at concentrating the attention of those within it, to commit people to one another and to enable everyone to **voice their demands**.

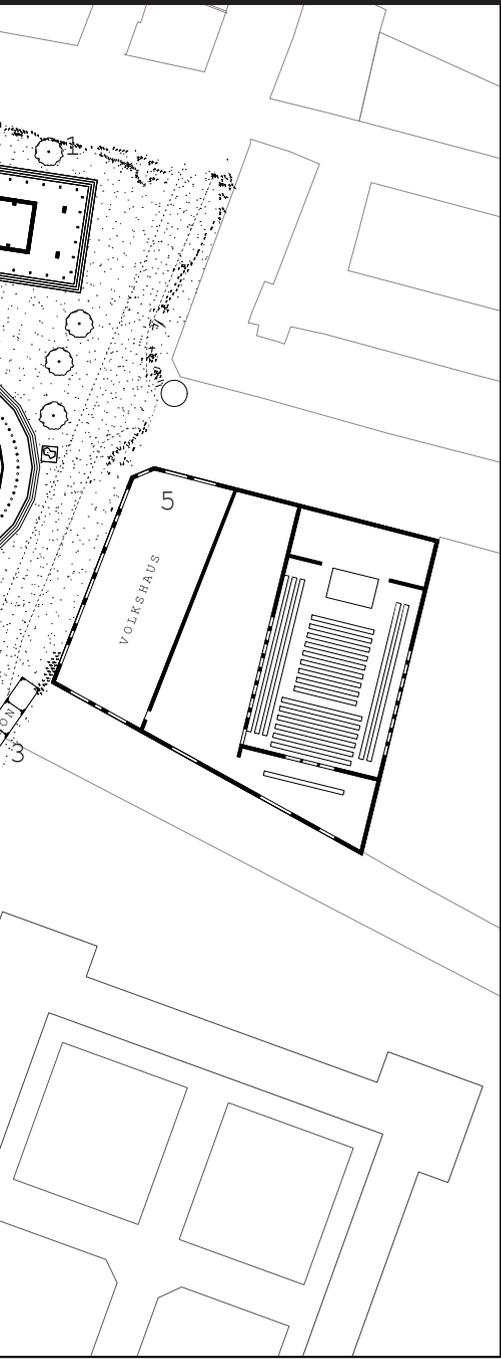
At last, it's time to vote.

At the end of every "Day of the Volksarena", just before the sun sets, and people's shadows on the membrane of the Arena disappear, people vote on the respective Manifesto. This is our direct democracy.

Let the talking begin

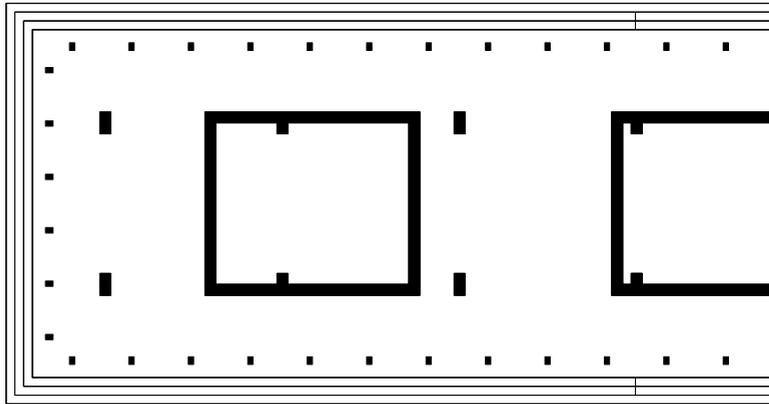
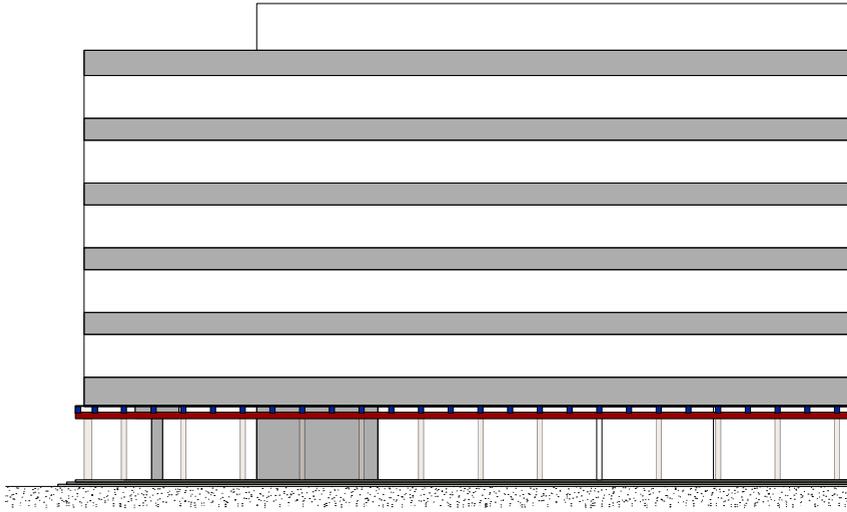
THE 10TH MANIFESTO OF "THE DAY OF THE VOLKSARENA"

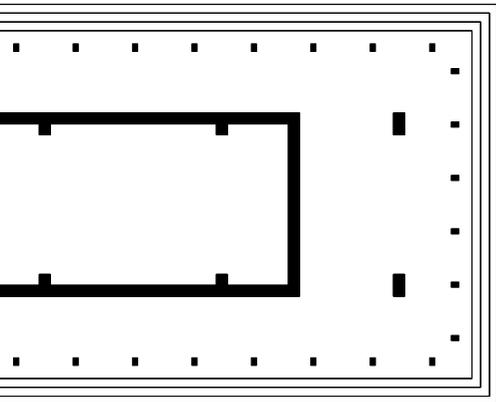
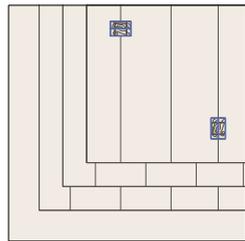
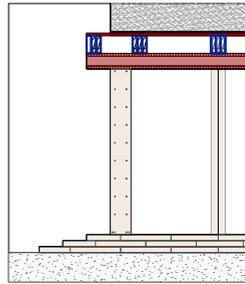
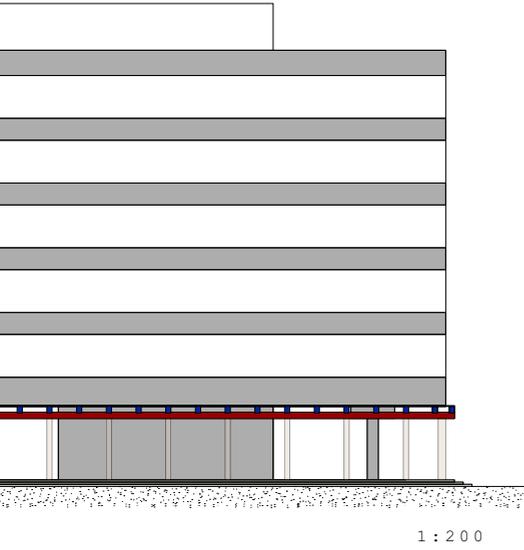
1. The event happens four times a year, when the season changes
2. Everybody is welcome
3. All included buildings are public for the day
4. Food and beverages are sold without profit, brought food is allowed
5. People are drawn to erect the foundational columns
6. Every department has to attend and present
7. Everybody can voice their demands
8. People that are challenged to take position, are obligated to attend
9. Everybody can vote and everything can be voted on
10. The manifestos must be voted on and are seen as the moral code



1. TEMPLE OF DEMOS
2. NORTH STOA
3. PROPYLON
4. BEMA
5. VOLKSHAUS
6. YOUTH'S ARENA
7. THOLOS
8. CHOROS
9. KANZLEI TEMPLE
10. AGORA STATION
11. STOA KANZLEI
12. STOA POIKILE
13. LYCEUM
14. XENIX
15. SOUTH STOA
16. VOLKSARENA

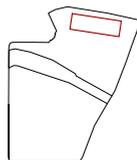
ELEMENTS



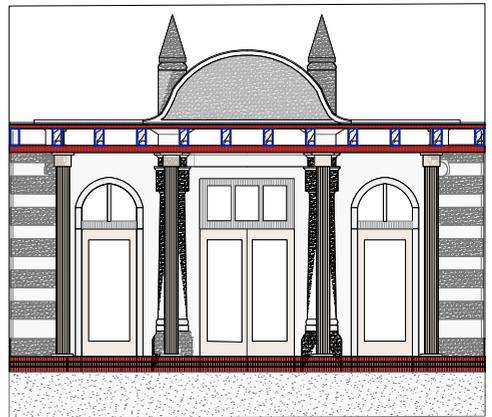


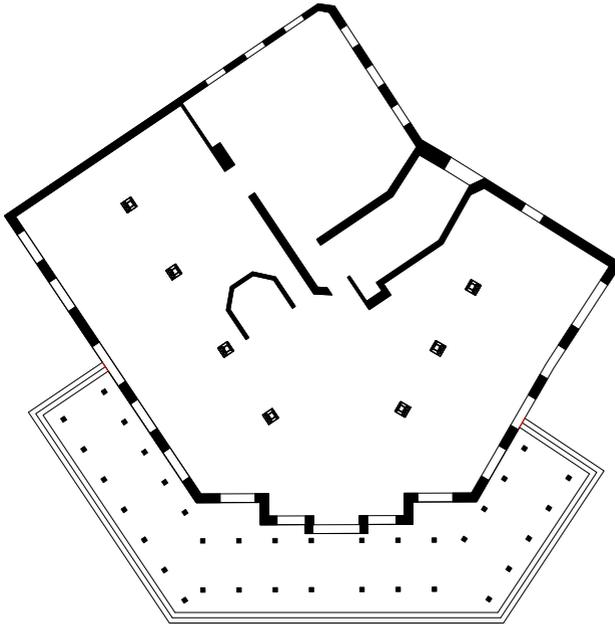
THE TEMPLE OF DEMOS

The big heavy roof
creates a space of calm
and a space to retreat
from the big open space



ELEMENTS

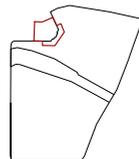


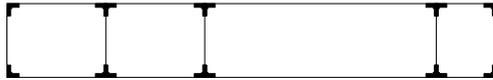
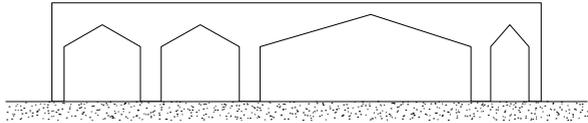


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NORTH STOA

The North Stoa finds itself under the leaf of old trees and creates a transitional zone where one can observe the happenings on the bema or agora.

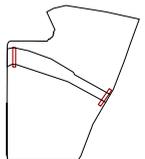


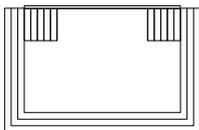
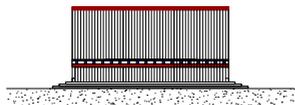


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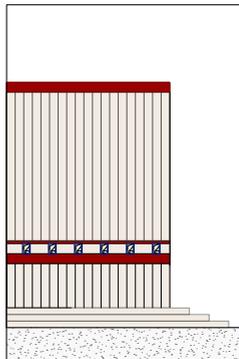
THE PROPYLON

On both sides of the Panathenaia the Propylon marks the step onto the Agora





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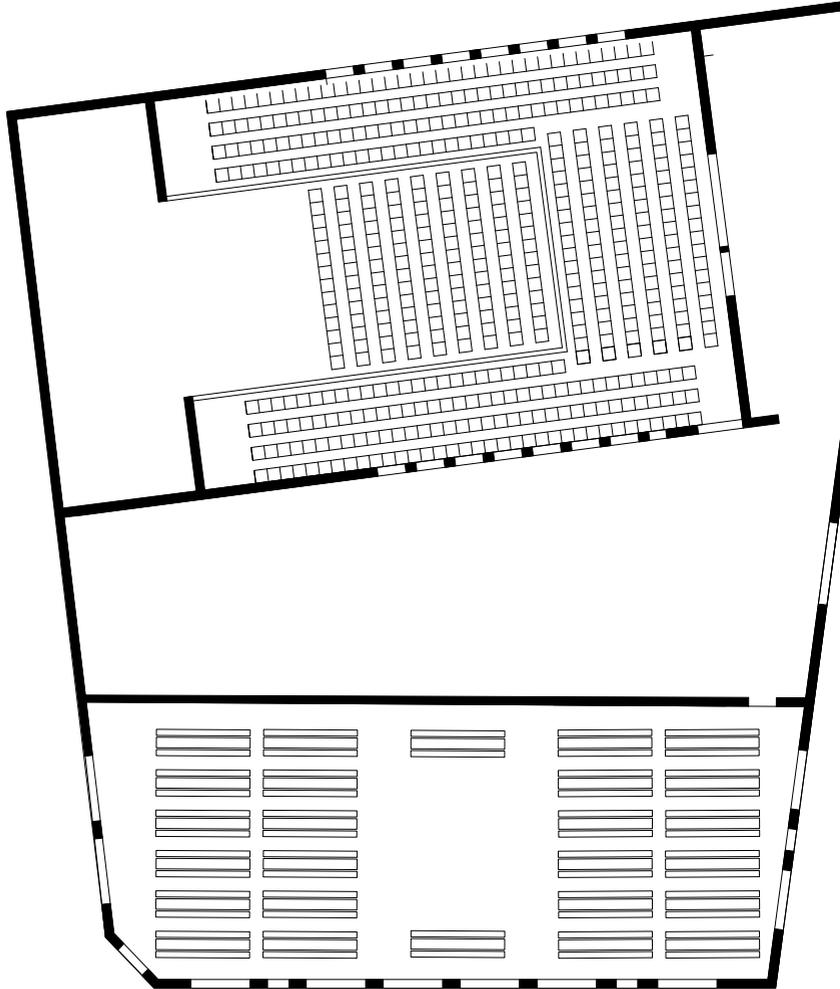
B E M A

bēma means both «platform»
and «step»

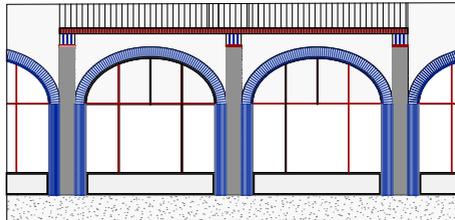
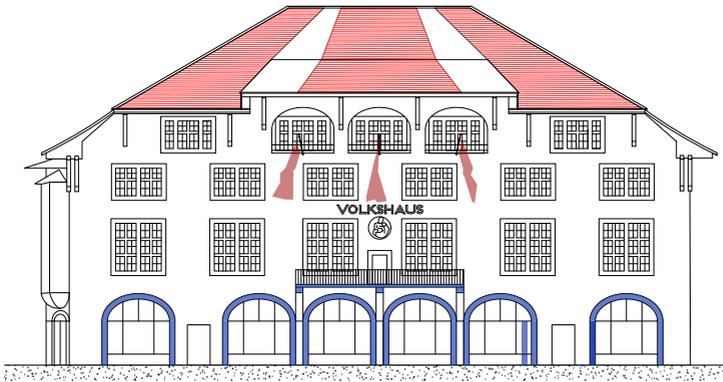
The Bema offers a small
platform outside the
theatre from which
everybody can be heard at
any time. It invites
intuitive, spontaneous
expressions.



ELEMENTS

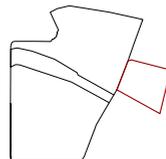


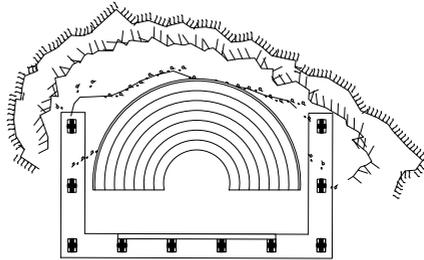
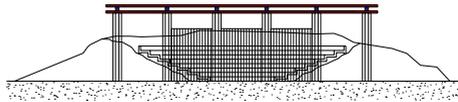
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THE VOLKSHAUS

After the voting in the Arena, this is where everybody can join the festive meal. The front opens and the canteen offers affordable, healthy food to Zurich's people.



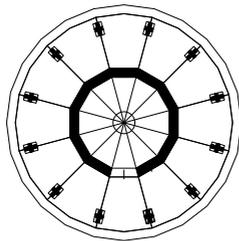
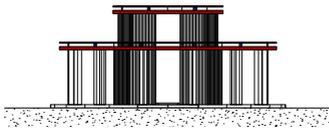


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THE YOUTH'S ARENA

The youth learns early to get comfortable with voicing their thoughts, this is their stage.

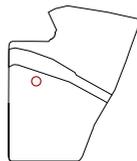


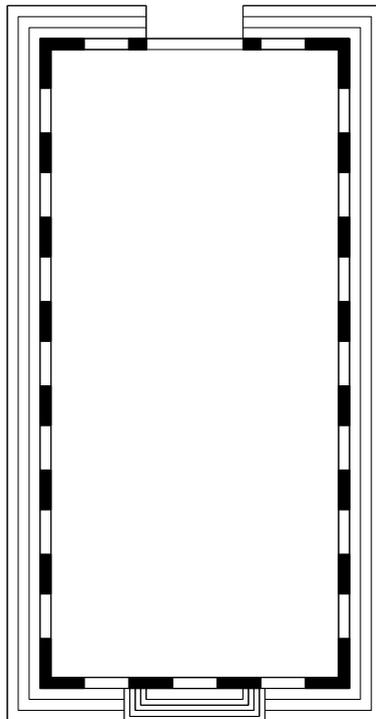
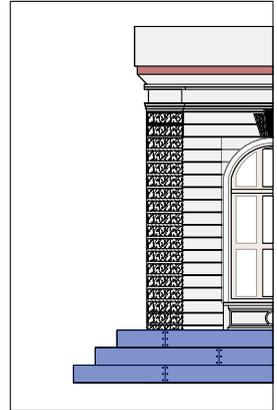
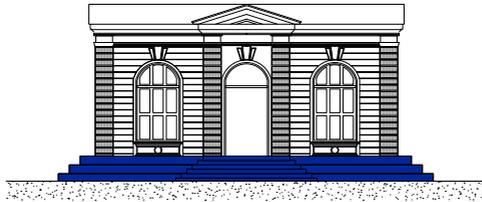


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THOLOS

In the center of the Tholos one finds the fire around which people can linger, warm up and connect

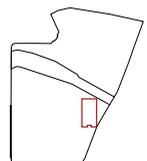


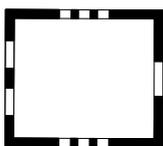
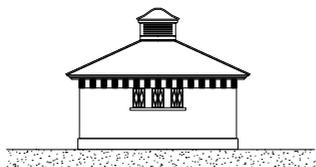


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CHOROS

This is where all day music is playing, and people are dancing. When the sun is down and the agora clears out, the last one dancing can find their spot here.

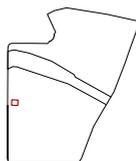


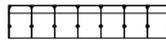
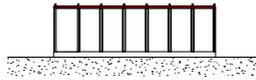


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KANZLEI TEMPLE

A Cabinet of curiosities

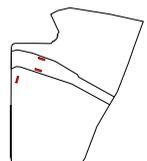


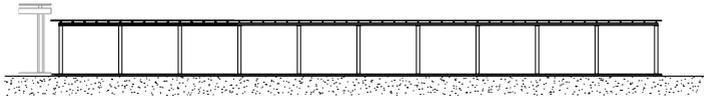


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AGORA STATION

Though the Streets have cleared, Zurich's blue and white Tram bring the Volk, through the Propylon, directly to the Agora Stop/Station in the center of the city





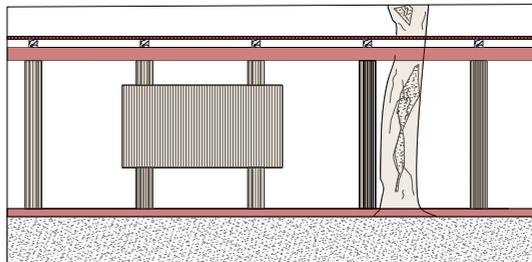
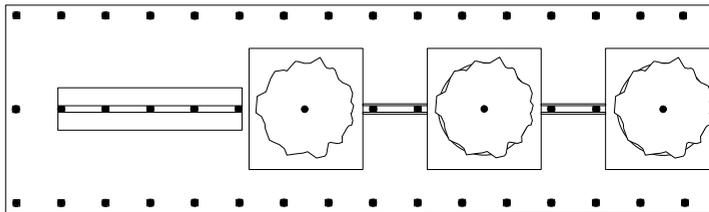
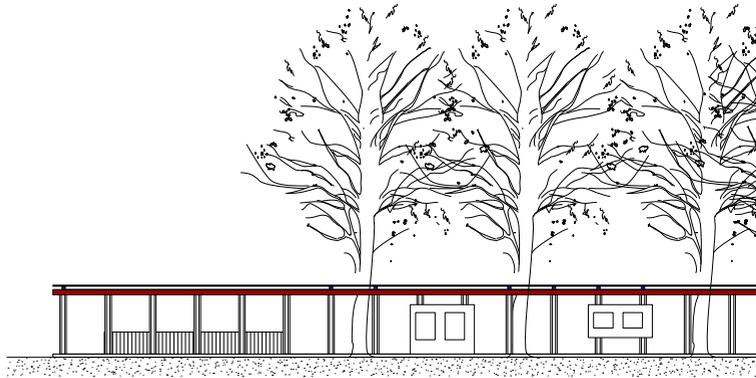
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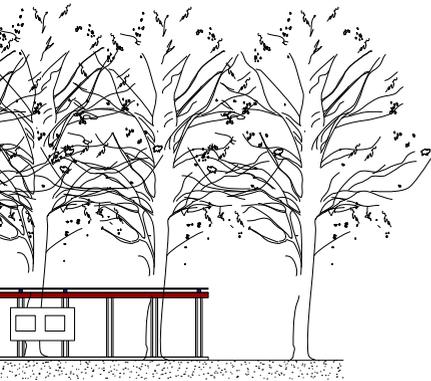
STOA KANZLEI

A small stoa that creates
a middle partition in
south part of the agora

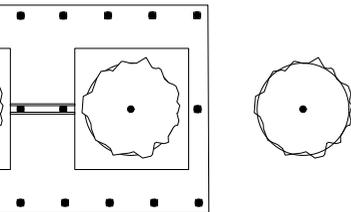


ELEMENTS



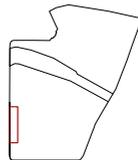


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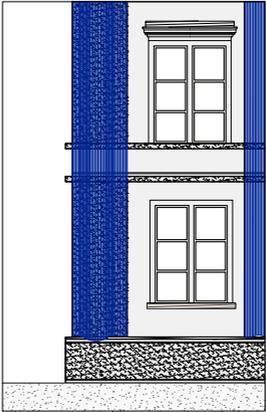
**STOA POIKILE**

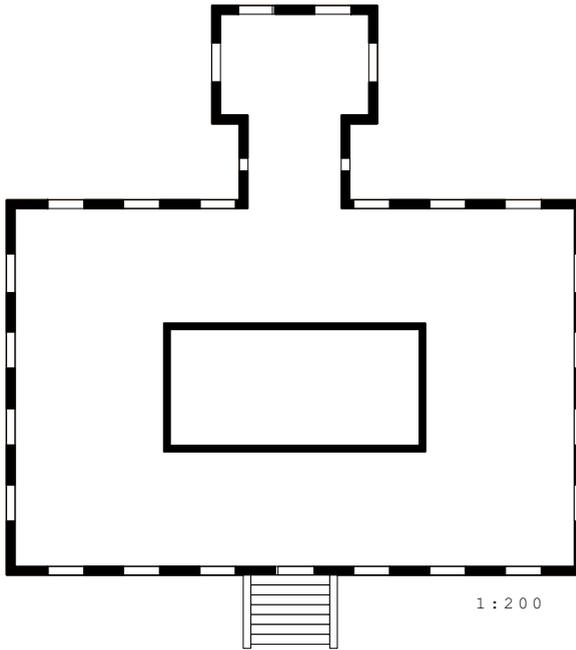
Equals the **Painted Porch**

The Stoa Poikile holds the paintings, documents and photographs of the history of the event, the manifestos and the Volk for people to enjoy and to remind everyone of its purpose

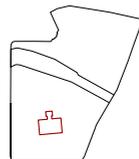


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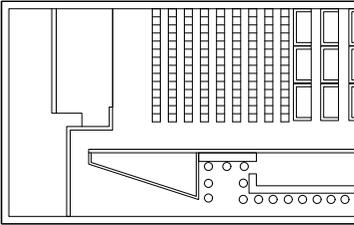
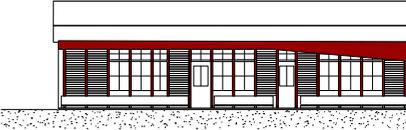


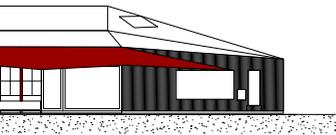
**LYCEUM**

Is a big structure with many rooms, that can be used by anybody for the day to host a workshop, have a reading, do some craft or even a collective meditation - it offers space.

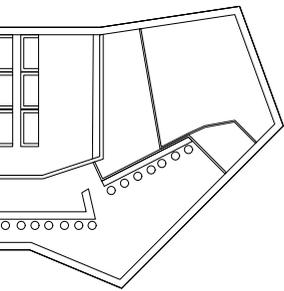


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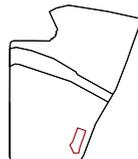




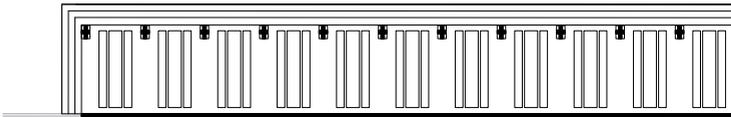
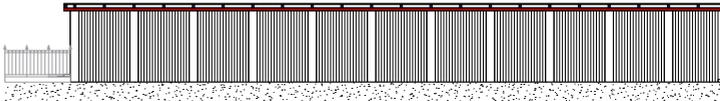
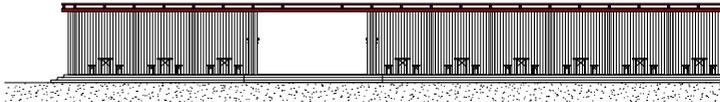
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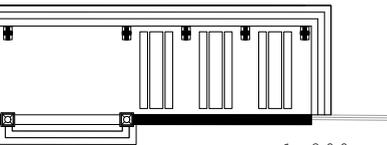
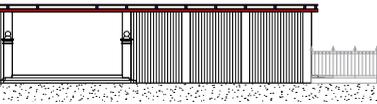
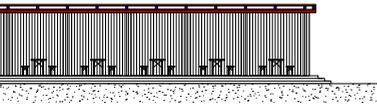
**THE XENIX**

The sun protection is marked red in the color of the day to invite everyone in, where relevant movies matching the theme of the day are projected.



ELEMENTS





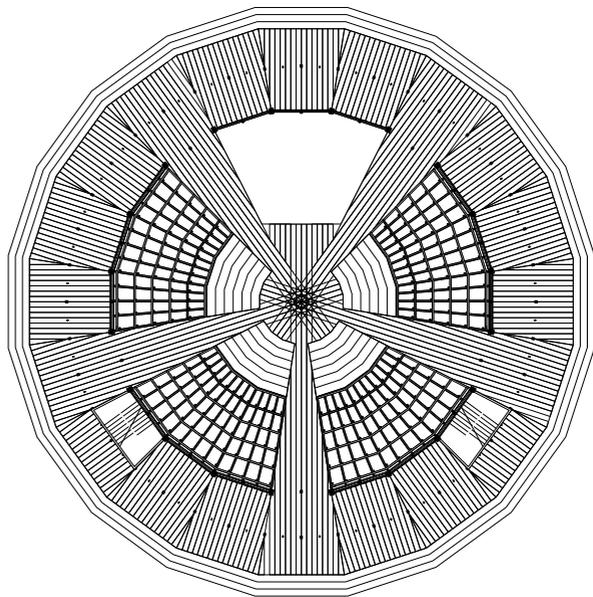
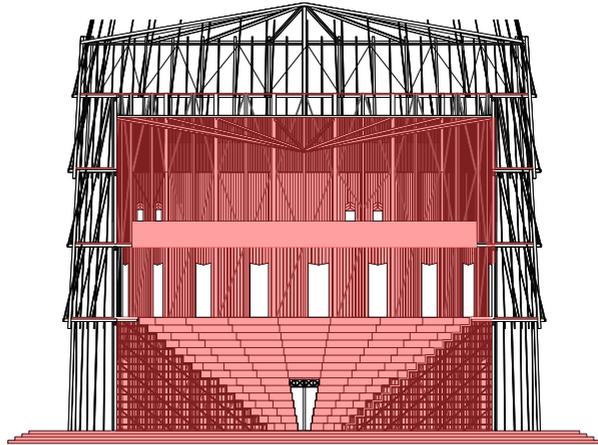
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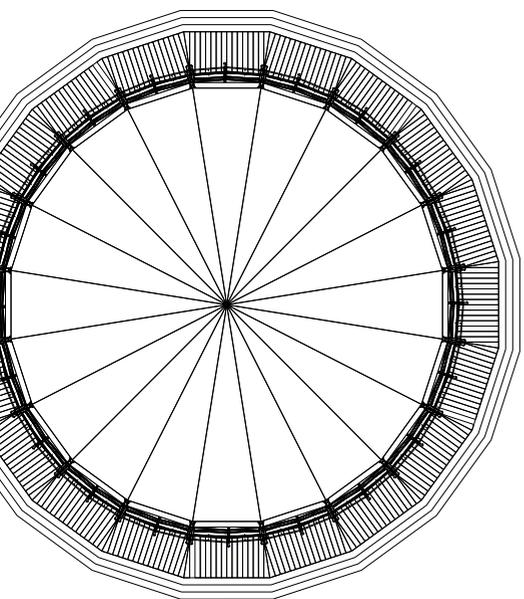
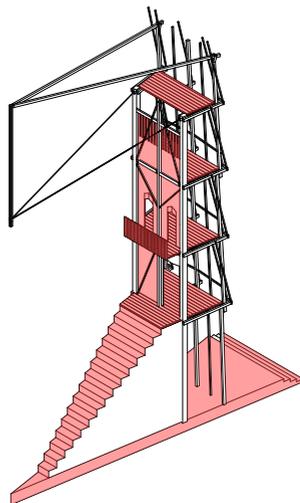
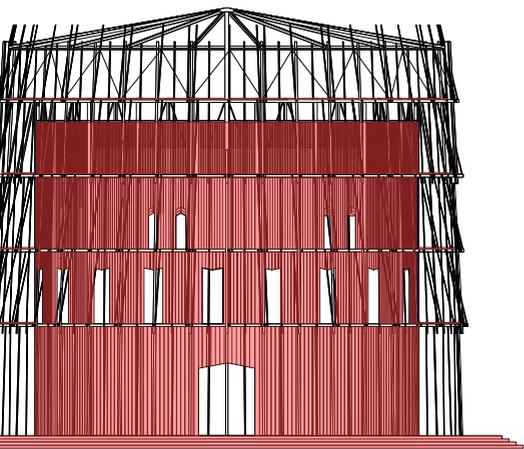
SOUTH STOA

The South Stoa at the very end of the agora, holds the other more informal dining spaces. The structure offers protection against rain, snow and sun where on long collective food banks, the volk unites over a meal



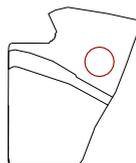
ELEMENTS





THE VOLKSARENA

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**THIS IS A
MANIFESTO
FOR
ARCHITECTS**

1. **QUESTION YOURSELF!**
Ongoing critic of oneself and the status quo is what's constructive – Be critical, even of your own success.
2. **NO PARTICIPATION IN SPECULATIVE PROJECTS!**
Be political advocates in the matter of public welfare, public space and affordable space for many – Who can profit and afford your architecture?
3. **DEMAND DIVERSITY OF ACTORS IN DECISION MAKING AND USE!**
More dialogue, more youth.
4. **LEGISLATE!**
Enter into Discussion with Rule-Making and Application
5. **DO NOT OVERDETERMINE SPACES OR PROGRAM!**
The value of architecture is not tied to its use – «aedificia hominum esse causa constituta in promptu est» (Leon Battista Alberti, 15th century)
6. **USE YOUR ARCHITECTURAL KNOWLEDGE FOR SUSTAINABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BUILDING CULTURE!**
Origin of building material and grey energy are of importance – beauty is no longer enough!
7. **INSIST ON THE CREATION OF A UNION THAT ASSURES JOB SECURITY AND SOLIDARITY WITHIN OUR PROFESSION!**
Do not accept anything other than an ethical production of the built environment – Equality, Fairness, Compensation and Security for Architectural Workers
8. **DEMAND THE „WETTBEWERB IM OFFENEN VERFAHREN“ AS THE RULE!**
Demand support for young, inexperienced or small offices and the veto for wrong doings.
9. **OBLIGE TO THE VENUSTAS, THE INTRINSIC POWER OF ARCHITECTURE!**
„Any intervention implies destruction, destroy with reason and joy!“ (Luigi Snozzi)
10. ...

This is one reality, not THE reality – demanding is change, demanding is power

THE VOLK HAS ARRIVED