



INTRODUCTION

Veve, the Norwegian word means “to weave”, expresses the core concept of our project: weaving together the history of the city, people’s memories of the city and its traditions.

The museum guides inhabitants and visitors to rediscover the city of Trondheim from new perspectives, offering a variety of itineraries across a multi-level building.

Situated in the west of the historic city center, the museum project presents an exceptional opportunity to enrich Trondheim’s cultural landscape. From the urban scale, the project proposes a green cultural axis connecting with key cultural landmarks. Two additional pedestrian shortcuts are designed to allow people to cross the site conveniently in their daily life. The museum and the theater form a central “crossroad” where these paths converge. Public spaces are also created on higher levels to offer panoramic views of both the city and the sea.

The Museum will play an important societal role to the city, borough and inhabitants in the next century. Our proposal offers an extroverted 24-hour-museum, connecting daily life of the locals with generous public spaces on all levels.

URBAN CONCEPT



VEVÉ introduces a new cultural promenade (*diagram 1*) that links key landmarks from Gamle Bybro bridge in the east to Ilen Kirke church in the west. Meanwhile, the promenade can serve as a green axis (*diagram 2*), adding to the existing urban landscape. This green cultural axis and revitalizes the riverfront, bridging fragmented parts of the historic city. Three main strategies guide this green cultural axis:

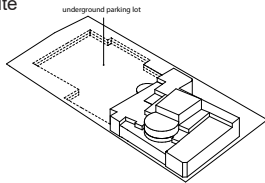
1) **Widening sidewalks** with local plants and urban furniture to enhance walkability and conviviality. At the same time, it increases green space and provides small habitats for flora and fauna, promoting biodiversity.

2) **Reducing car traffic** by decreasing the width of the road for vehicles to prioritize bikes and pedestrians, creating a quieter and healthier public realm.

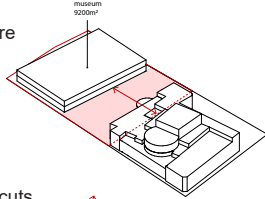
3) **Harmonizing elevations and materials** to strengthen architectural coherence and identity. The height of the museum blends perfectly into the urban environment.

ARCHITECTURE CONCEPT

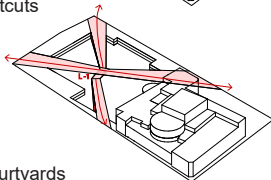
1 Existing Site



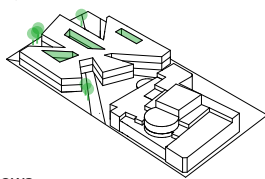
2 One Square



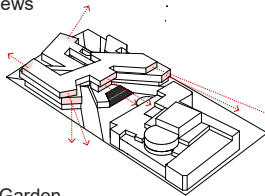
3 Two Shortcuts



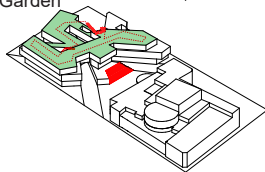
4 Three Courtyards



5 Multiple Views



6 Sculpture Garden



The site of Leüthenhaven, which is now a parking lot with two underground levels, is about to become the cultural hub of the city. In our proposal, six strategies are developed to achieve this goal:

1 The underground parking lot can be reused for museum functions. A descending road is designed to reach the underground level, bringing natural light to its future functions.

2 In order to interact with the theater audience, a square is created between the museum and the theater for outdoor events. Terraces and café-restaurant are placed in front of the theater stage to dynamise the square.

3 Two diagonal shortcuts will keep the site a moveable public space. The transparency of the ground floor plays an interactive role for the interior and exterior spaces.

4 Courtyards are integrated into the museum to bring pockets of breathing space and refresh the urban environment. The courtyard on the U1 level collects rainwater from the site to the water reservoir on the U2 level.

5 The museum is oriented in multiple directions for a visual connection to the city and natural landmarks. These framed views are parts of the museum experience.

6 For a low-threshold museum, the rooftop is designed as a sculpture garden for outdoor free exhibitions. Large stairs are made to lead people up to the rooftop. A rooftop bar can be found as people explore the sculpture garden.

Weaving public space

Veve is as much about landscape as it is about architecture. The museum acts as an urban stage and a social platform embedded in the city's natural and cultural flows. The landscape design is socially oriented, creating pocket spaces that attract and gather people.

A new square is built as a link between the museum and the theatre, serving as a flexible community space. Large stepped terraces facing the open stage provide seating and a meeting place.

Two diagonal shortcuts at different levels are created by opening part of the underground parking. These paths connect different parts of the city and add new public courtyards below ground.

The sunken courtyards bring natural light underground, improve movement, and enlarge public spaces. With saved and replanted trees, the courtyards offer shaded places to relax and enjoy nature, helping to keep the city cooler. Architecturally, the semi-open courtyard, together with the intersection passages and the square, maximize the openness and porosity of the ground level.

Reuse and recycle

The project reuses the existing parking structure to extend the life of the construction. The conserved parking structure is opened up by a ramped path connecting to the ground floor. The courtyard brings the light to this floor. Part of the museum's storage becomes visible for the public using the passage. So does the conservation atelier, which allows people to see the process of the restoration.

The bike parking, facing to the secondary entrance of the museum, encourages people to come by bicycle.

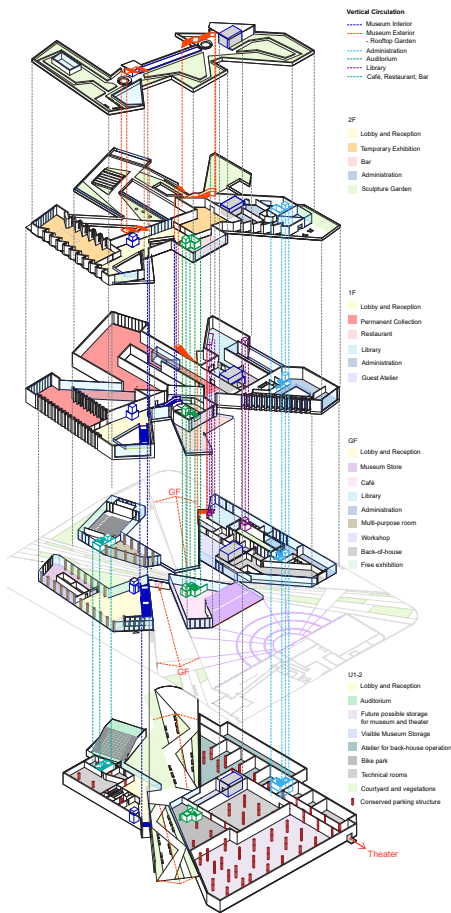
Furthermore, some of the existing trees on the site are preserved and included in the new landscape. The rest are moved to the new courtyard. Together with the new plantations, they create a bio-climate environment on the site.

Programs and circulations

The ground floor is designed to be open and transparent. With two roads and one square, the site allows a large flow of people to pass by every day. Glass curtain walls with a wooden structure create an interactive boundary between the inside and the outside. The museum, café, auditorium, multi-purposed room, museum shop and library all have separate entrances on the ground floor, allowing flexible opening times and different programs to use the same space at different times.

Programs can change from day to night, keeping the site alive 24 hours a day. The café can become a bar or club, the auditorium can turn into a cinema, and the library can be used for evening classes. The central square hosts events like festivals and markets.

The design carefully frames views of the city from inside the building, giving visitors new ways to see and connect with the urban surroundings. Openings and paths are planned to guide people while revealing important sights and natural elements.



Programs and circulations



Museum scenophy and light design



rooftop garden

The rooftop is turned into an open museum space where people can enjoy exhibitions, events, and social time. The space adds more uses to the museum and becomes a lively place with wide views of the city, helping culture and city life come together. Schools can also use the site to learn about nature and sustainability, making the museum a place for public education.

Scenography and light

The museum proposes an interior scenography and an exterior experience for visitors. By studying the TKM and the NKIM, the interior scenography aims to create a dialogue between light and artwork. Each gallery offers a distinct spatial and atmospheric character. A guest atelier is located at the end of the permanent gallery, where families can share a creative moment together.

Outdoor stairs, start from Repslagerveita to the first-level roof garden, and up to the rooftop of the museum, guide visitors through a free sculpture exhibition tour. A terrace with a fjord view allow visitors to take a break and enjoy the view. Visitors can choose to enter the

public part of the museum as they wish. The free experience is completely flexible.

Throughout the entire exhibition design process, we were guided by one main goal: to present the artworks in the most respectful way possible through the design of the space, focusing on the essentials and shaping the visitor's journey.

Structure and materials

The building's structure is primarily based on a wooden framework, a renewable and low-carbon material chosen for its strength and flexibility. This choice also helps the project be better for the environment and showcases the skill of local wood builders. The interior used wood finishes to create warm and welcoming spaces.

The facade is made of brick, referencing Trondheim's architectural tradition. The mashrabiya allows the brick facade to breathe and hide the interior of the museum. This cladding gives the building a strong identity and visual coherence with its historic surroundings. Beyond its aesthetic qualities, brick offers excellent durability and good thermal inertia, thereby contributing to interior comfort and the building's energy performance.

Energy and Ecology

The project uses sustainable methods to reduce environmental impact and improve urban nature. Rainwater is collected from courtyard basins and reused for watering plants and cooling, saving water and using resources wisely.

The courtyard also acts as a cooling area by using plants and water features to lower heat, improve the local climate, and make the space more comfortable for visitors. This eco-friendly design helps the building remain resilient and supports biodiversity in the city.

CONCLUSION

VEVE is not only a museum - it is a civic landscape. It stitches together memory and modernity, nature and infrastructure, culture and daily life. It embodies a shared space where Trondheim's past and future are in continuous dialogue. By reweaving the threads of place, program, and people, Veve becomes a catalyst for a more connected, inclusive, and resilient city.



Museum Lobby

