

# The New Sundsvall Arts Centre/ Theatre

"The obscurely uttered is the obscurely cogitated, (...)"  
 Essias Tegné, 1782-1846

A functional "parasite" extension, enhancing the existing twenty year old Kulturmagasinet, is the proposed as an architectural solution. Orientated by the existing urban web, the urban activity, linking the Sundsvall Town with Selångersan River, it is showed in its maximum potentiality. An exterior "piazza", interrelating the proposed architectural solution offering summer performances and outdoor activities outstands as one of the newly created meeting urban spaces linked with pedestrian pendulous circuits and cycle paths granting urban activity and a conquest of land extending the City limits on a quest of the Baltic Sea.

The old port factories, stores and warehouses, as in other maritime cities, claimed initially to be centre for trade, in the present days those are no longer so considered and in fact being a damaging factor to the life quality of the residing citizens.

It is proposed that such area, with these characteristics, in Sundsvall shall now be taken as an extension for cultural activities. The clear formal design of this new volume is also important bearing the consequence of dealing with different surrounding scales, resulting synthetically in two different "bodies" distinguished by program hierarchy. For the new building, facades with mirror and reflection characteristics were chosen in order to enhance the surrounding architectural décor and style of the Kulturmagasinet, with intended movement freedom.

The public main entrance, at Packhusgatan, stays at its present location. Other two major accesses are created being the first at Hamngatan, along the proposed piazza and the second, acting also as emergency exit, in south-east side. The main entrance, at Packhusgatan, welcomes all visitors, assisting and guiding them to the different program activities on display.

The new "piazza" shall one of the limits of the future commercial and residential area to be developed to the West, along the Selångersan, river, promoting the social contact between residents and visitors and also becoming an open stage space for urban events. In parallel with Selångersan River the building concept synthesises and helps to understand the organization of the surroundings and its proximity as well its own scale.

## Kulturmagasinet

Four Warehouses, majestic and imposing, dating from the 1890s linked by a crossing glass building which received the 1987 the Europa Nostra Award for its sympathetic restoration. With peruse decoration on its facades, Kulturmagasinet follows the Sundsvall old architecture style. This memory reference helped for the town in identifying geographically and culturally its own history. Important, or even, imperative was to keep untouched this special landmark, and extending it in such a way as to preserve its integrity, without the area to be considered losing its historical characterization. To achieve such objective it was by creating, respectively, a kind of visual leisure compression and decompression inside and outside the building, emphasising proportionally the importance of the Kulturmagasinet's facades, considering the building as being also a performing stage to the town and its guests. It is intended that Kulturmagasinet maintains its major activities. The library and Museum shall not be moved. There shall be an amalgamation of activities such as Administration Departments, performance stages and working areas which shall be linked and interrelated.



Main Entrance

## Distribution

The separation of the functional organization from the public service was considered as an essential requisite. The building is organized by means of vertical accessibility allowing continuous access to each independent floor.

For the accessibility to the floors there are stairs and elevators equipped with systems against fire hazard, with safety and security protection. For goods delivering there is a spacious and adequate service elevator to each floor.

The parameters for organizing the interior plan distribution as anchored in several indoor ambiances. From wide open areas to corridors with glass walls promoting communication and visual contact between the individuals in different activities, although maintaining other spaces shut.

The functional areas are, mainly, formed by large corridors, some of them up to 3 metres wide, allowing large pieces to move without problem; also conceived to allow, when ever necessary or required quick exit mainly in the event of emergency.

Each floor has its own environmental characterization by the amalgamation of different activities:

Level -1 - Parking + Stage Basements + Technical facilities  
 Level 0 - Public Spaces + Restaurants + Auditoriums + Exhibition areas + Staff & Delivery + Actor's area

Level +1 - Workshops + Ateliers + Storage Rooms  
 Level +2 - Administration + Youth Activities (Panorama View)

It was also intention to dot the building with free space flexibility aimed to respond to big groups such as visiting schools or thematic seminars and conferences.



Aerial View

## Winning Bodies

### The Arts Centre/Theatre and the Kulturmagasinet

Clearly and since the early beginning there it was our basic concern and aim to create the correct organisational implant linked to the right program organisation. The rigid cross configuration of the Kulturmagasinet inner street helped in resulting that the new building became an extension of the circuit.

The creation of an inner garden to open sky gave, also, the motto for an homogeneous and acceptable linking between old and new, helping the introduction of natural light and air flow, as well as permitting a view, at safe distance, and contemplate, in all its splendour, the KV Skulpturen façades.

Interior environment and physical sensation related to the external surrounding were imperative as a matter of "living" in the public areas. Halls, theatres and auditoriums helped to synthesize the environment relation therefore establishing anchoring visitor's areas.

The ground floor is mainly for the general public, offering services and desk information as well as being important accesses with distribution halls granting full accessibility to all areas and to the public. Also being an essential requisite the separation of the public, in general, from the staff such condition was also taken into consideration.

It was even important to synthesize detailed planning between Kulturmagasinet and the new centre in order to relate different activities as one, interlinked, interactive, safe, and environmentally diverse, with easy information and accessibility, all working for a singular propose: independent use for the different activities with space flexibility and given autonomy.

The proposed building interacts also with the new E4; noise reduction is induced by its design concept and at the same time welcomes transients.

The proposed building interacts also with the new E4; noise reduction is induced by its design concept and at the same time welcomes transients.



Aerial View



Site Plan 1:1000



West Elevation - Main Entrance



Auditoriums 1+2 Main Foyer

Modern concept at the same time within conservative environment is how we define the two main and major bodies to meet this particular requirement.

Having the possibility of using exterior as background the city panorama, the auditoriums aim to interact with the surrounding environment.

Large and well proportioned window frames, which can be opened in an informal and sympathetic movement, show without fear and complexity its interior, although in some instances it shall not be possible to achieve such aim, the reason, through its flexibility, remain completely shut.

**Outdoor Areas**

Within the north-west entrance footpath a defined esplanade welcomes the visitors, and major users, to the Art Centre/Theatre + Kulturmagasinet.

This esplanade gives access to a restaurant and to a coffee and bar shop, and

in itself offers an open air space where visitors and theatre goes can freely stay and where, events may take place as well as, granting to those within a status of leisure associated to a calm atmosphere, whenever the weather so allows.

Such different inner space it can be used by visitors and others, during the winter months, with the KVSkonertenin the background it transmits to those through natural daylight not only in the most innermost areas evoking a pleasant and calm "winter garden" environment.

During the late spring, summer and early fall it can be also use for outdoor activity and for a relaxing esplanade promenade.

Pedestrians can walk and cyclists can cycle between green limits protected by beautiful and tall pine trees without losing the sense of environment interrelation with the possibility of having a view of the Baltic Sea provided they follow the same paths.

In the "green" or "the white arenas" small events can take place in next to the adjacent building.

It was also proposed to redefine the shore limit eastwards of the new E4.

A marina for small boats and crafts can be located there; sailing in the bay, crisscrossing with early morning runners racing between two peers or readers laying in small grass dunes, in the warmer months are suggestions for the inhabitants, visitors and users



Indoor Communication Aerial View

The proposed building in itself has been designed in a way to orientate the visitors not only by its concept but by visual and clear signals, allowing large and/or groups the use of its space freely.

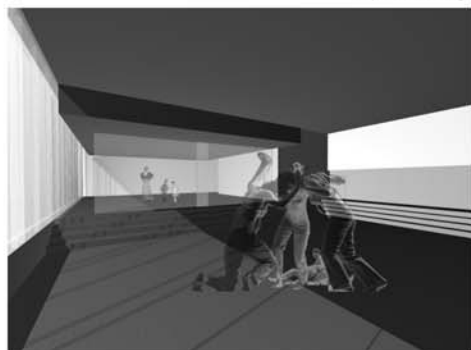
The internal circuit as a unit will be emphasised with light at different heights. Light shall also dominate the inner space by its power and luminosity; being partly absorbed not only by inner concrete wall cover but as well as by white stucco and the ceiling variation.

Users shall be also oriented by dialectic colour line paths and different sound floors along wall with its rhythm variations; simple, with a strong contrast and easily readable, it will guide visitors through all areas; a thin lines tonalities of red for the auditoriums and different yellows identify the Kulturmagasinet.

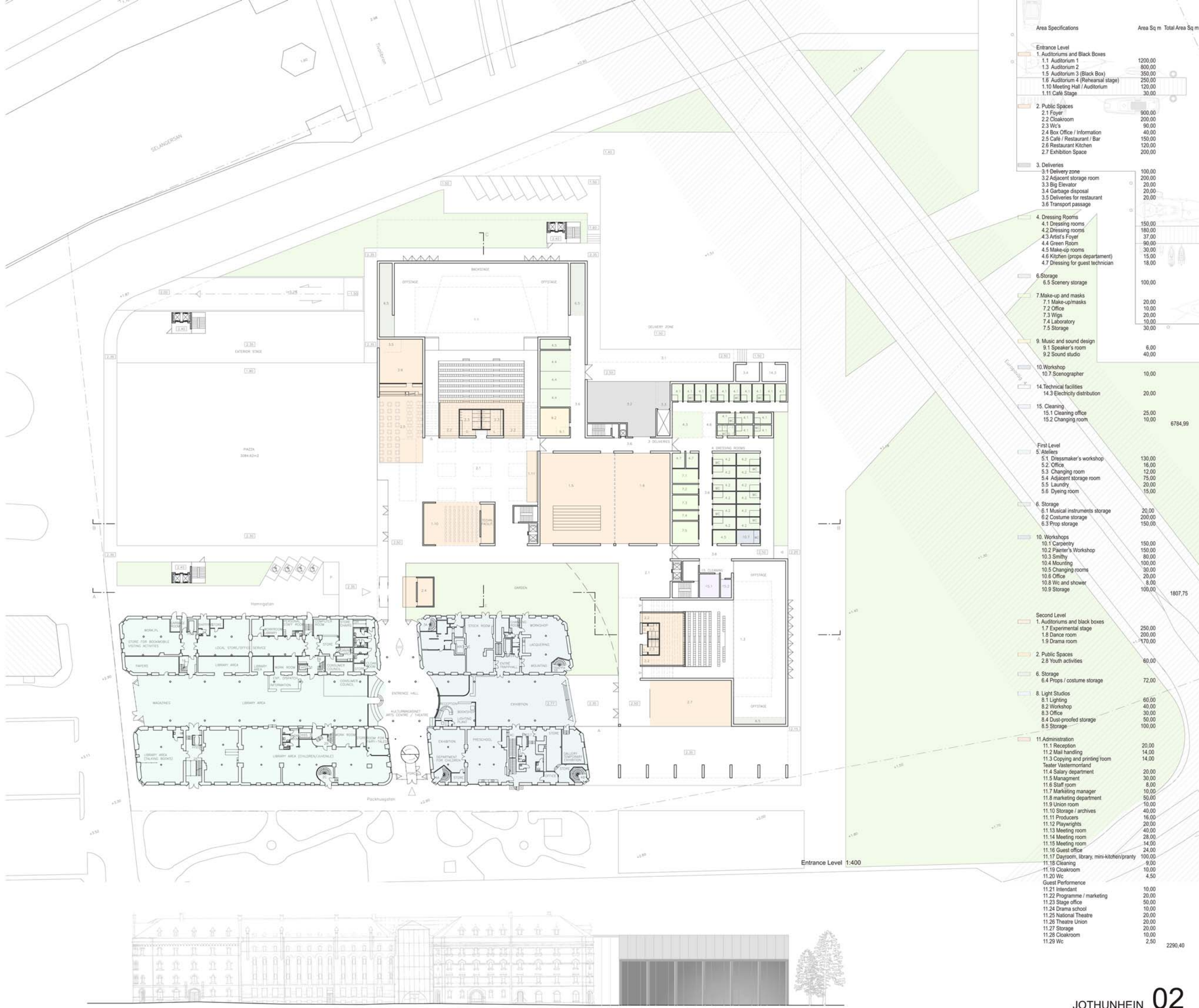
The sound propagation it will be of high importance not only in orientating people but and as well as defining space hierarchy, which it is mostly made by ceiling variation and cover material absorption. Each different distribution hall shall also have a general information showing where one is as well as the nearest emergency exit.

The furniture disposition shall be in accordance with each area distribution and in such way that can be considered as "independent islands" for the comfort and privacy of the visitor.

Strong and noble texture material contrasts is considered and desirable.



Experimental Stage

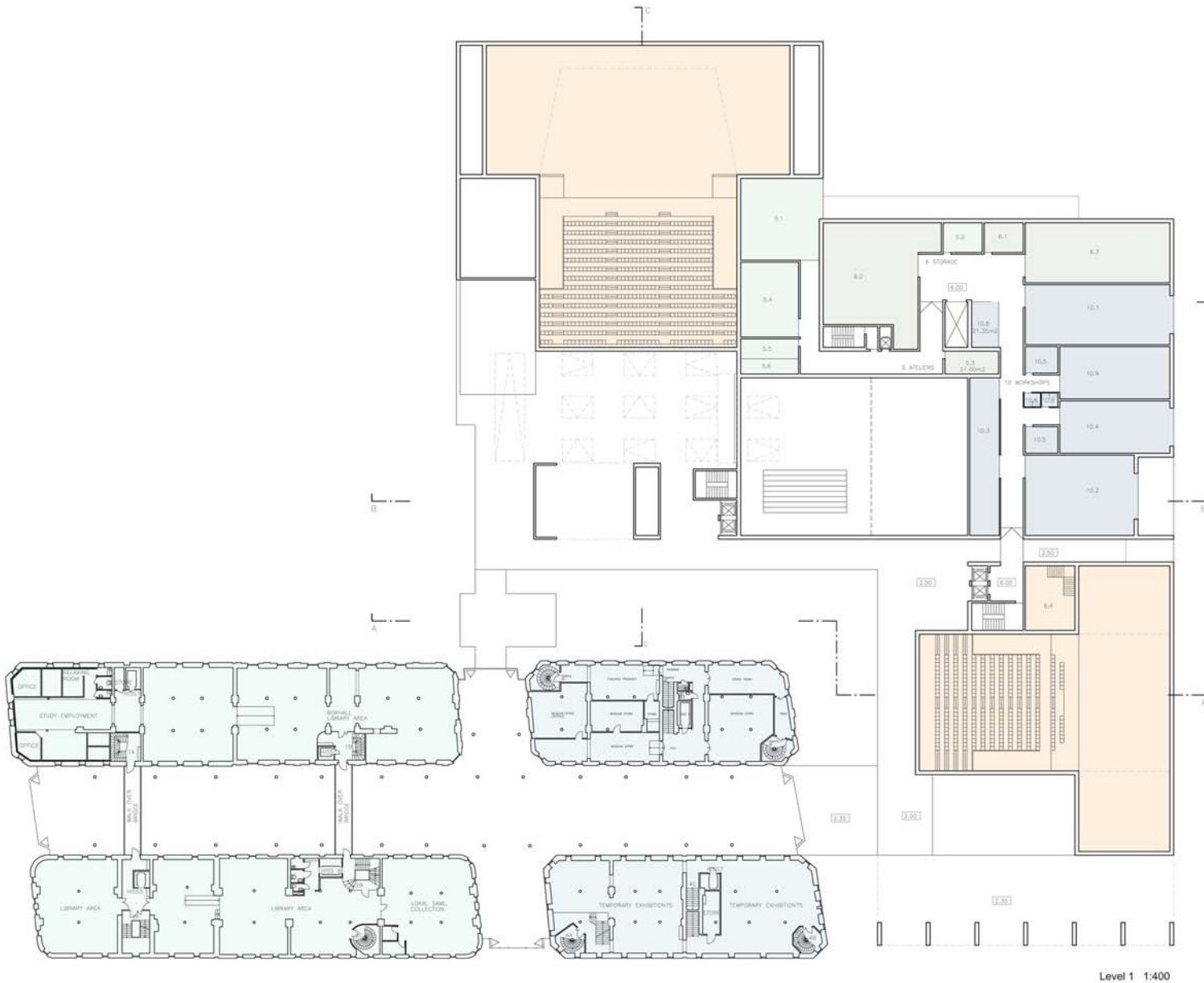


| Area Specifications                         | Area Sq m | Total Area Sq m |
|---|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>Entrance Level</b>                       |           |                 |
| 1. Auditoriums and Black Boxes              |           |                 |
| 1.1 Auditorium 1                            | 1200,00   |                 |
| 1.3 Auditorium 2                            | 800,00    |                 |
| 1.5 Auditorium 3 (Black Box)                | 350,00    |                 |
| 1.6 Auditorium 4 (Rehearsal stage)          | 250,00    |                 |
| 1.10 Meeting Hall / Auditorium              | 120,00    |                 |
| 1.11 Cafe Stage                             | 30,00     |                 |
| <b>2. Public Spaces</b>                     |           |                 |
| 2.1 Foyer                                   | 900,00    |                 |
| 2.2 Cloakroom                               | 200,00    |                 |
| 2.3 Wc's                                    | 60,00     |                 |
| 2.4 Box Office / Information                | 40,00     |                 |
| 2.5 Cafe / Restaurant / Bar                 | 150,00    |                 |
| 2.6 Restaurant Kitchen                      | 120,00    |                 |
| 2.7 Exhibition Space                        | 200,00    |                 |
| <b>3. Deliveries</b>                        |           |                 |
| 3.1 Delivery zone                           | 100,00    |                 |
| 3.2 Adjacent storage room                   | 200,00    |                 |
| 3.3 Big Elevator                            | 20,00     |                 |
| 3.4 Garbage disposal                        | 20,00     |                 |
| 3.5 Deliveries for restaurant               | 20,00     |                 |
| 3.6 Transport passage                       | 20,00     |                 |
| <b>4. Dressing Rooms</b>                    |           |                 |
| 4.1 Dressing rooms                          | 150,00    |                 |
| 4.2 Dressing rooms                          | 180,00    |                 |
| 4.3 Artist's Foyer                          | 37,00     |                 |
| 4.4 Green Room                              | 60,00     |                 |
| 4.5 Make-up rooms                           | 30,00     |                 |
| 4.6 Kitchen (props department)              | 15,00     |                 |
| 4.7 Dressing for guest technician           | 18,00     |                 |
| <b>6. Storage</b>                           |           |                 |
| 6.5 Scenery storage                         | 100,00    |                 |
| <b>7. Make-up and masks</b>                 |           |                 |
| 7.1 Make-up/masks                           | 20,00     |                 |
| 7.2 Office                                  | 10,00     |                 |
| 7.3 Wigs                                    | 20,00     |                 |
| 7.4 Laboratory                              | 10,00     |                 |
| 7.5 Storage                                 | 30,00     |                 |
| <b>9. Music and sound design</b>            |           |                 |
| 9.1 Speaker's room                          | 6,00      |                 |
| 9.2 Sound studio                            | 40,00     |                 |
| <b>10. Workshop</b>                         |           |                 |
| 10.7 Scenographer                           | 10,00     |                 |
| <b>14. Technical facilities</b>             |           |                 |
| 14.3 Electricity distribution               | 20,00     |                 |
| <b>15. Cleaning</b>                         |           |                 |
| 15.1 Cleaning office                        | 25,00     |                 |
| 15.2 Changing room                          | 10,00     |                 |
| <b>First Level</b>                          |           |                 |
| 5.1 Dressmaker's workshop                   | 130,00    |                 |
| 5.2 Office                                  | 16,00     |                 |
| 5.3 Changing room                           | 12,00     |                 |
| 5.4 Adjacent storage room                   | 75,00     |                 |
| 5.5 Laundry                                 | 20,00     |                 |
| 5.6 Dyeing room                             | 15,00     |                 |
| <b>6. Storage</b>                           |           |                 |
| 6.1 Musical instruments storage             | 20,00     |                 |
| 6.2 Costume storage                         | 200,00    |                 |
| 6.3 Prop storage                            | 150,00    |                 |
| <b>10. Workshops</b>                        |           |                 |
| 10.1 Carpentry                              | 150,00    |                 |
| 10.2 Painter's Workshop                     | 150,00    |                 |
| 10.3 Smithy                                 | 80,00     |                 |
| 10.4 Mounting                               | 100,00    |                 |
| 10.5 Changing rooms                         | 30,00     |                 |
| 10.6 Office                                 | 20,00     |                 |
| 10.8 Wc and shower                          | 8,00      |                 |
| 10.9 Storage                                | 100,00    |                 |
| <b>Second Level</b>                         |           |                 |
| 1. Auditoriums and black boxes              |           |                 |
| 1.7 Experimental stage                      | 250,00    |                 |
| 1.8 Dance room                              | 200,00    |                 |
| 1.9 Drama room                              | 170,00    |                 |
| <b>2. Public Spaces</b>                     |           |                 |
| 2.8 Youth activities                        | 60,00     |                 |
| <b>6. Storage</b>                           |           |                 |
| 6.4 Props / costume storage                 | 72,00     |                 |
| <b>8. Light Studios</b>                     |           |                 |
| 8.1 Lighting                                | 60,00     |                 |
| 8.2 Workshop                                | 40,00     |                 |
| 8.3 Office                                  | 30,00     |                 |
| 8.4 Dust-proofed storage                    | 50,00     |                 |
| 8.5 Storage                                 | 100,00    |                 |
| <b>11. Administration</b>                   |           |                 |
| 11.1 Reception                              | 20,00     |                 |
| 11.2 Mail handling                          | 14,00     |                 |
| 11.3 Copying and printing room              | 14,00     |                 |
| Theater Västernorrland                      |           |                 |
| 11.4 Salary department                      | 20,00     |                 |
| 11.5 Management                             | 30,00     |                 |
| 11.6 Staff room                             | 8,00      |                 |
| 11.7 Marketing manager                      | 10,00     |                 |
| 11.8 marketing department                   | 50,00     |                 |
| 11.9 Union room                             | 10,00     |                 |
| 11.10 Storage / archives                    | 40,00     |                 |
| 11.11 Producers                             | 16,00     |                 |
| 11.12 Playwrights                           | 20,00     |                 |
| 11.13 Meeting room                          | 40,00     |                 |
| 11.14 Meeting room                          | 28,00     |                 |
| 11.15 Meeting room                          | 14,00     |                 |
| 11.16 Guest office                          | 24,00     |                 |
| 11.17 Dayroom, library, mini-kitchen/pranty | 100,00    |                 |
| 11.18 Cleaning                              | 9,00      |                 |
| 11.19 Cloakroom                             | 10,00     |                 |
| 11.20 Wc                                    | 4,50      |                 |
| Guest Performance                           |           |                 |
| 11.21 Intendant                             | 10,00     |                 |
| 11.22 Programme / marketing                 | 20,00     |                 |
| 11.23 Stage office                          | 50,00     |                 |
| 11.24 Drama school                          | 10,00     |                 |
| 11.25 National Theatre                      | 20,00     |                 |
| 11.26 Theatre Union                         | 20,00     |                 |
| 11.27 Storage                               | 20,00     |                 |
| 11.28 Cloakroom                             | 10,00     |                 |
| 11.29 Wc                                    | 2,50      |                 |
|   |           | 6784,99         |
|   |           | 1807,75         |
|   |           | 2290,40         |

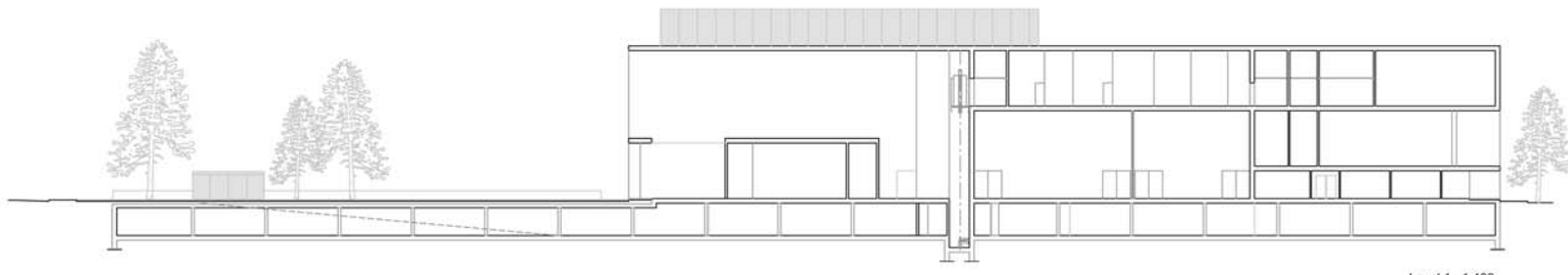
Entrance Level 1:400



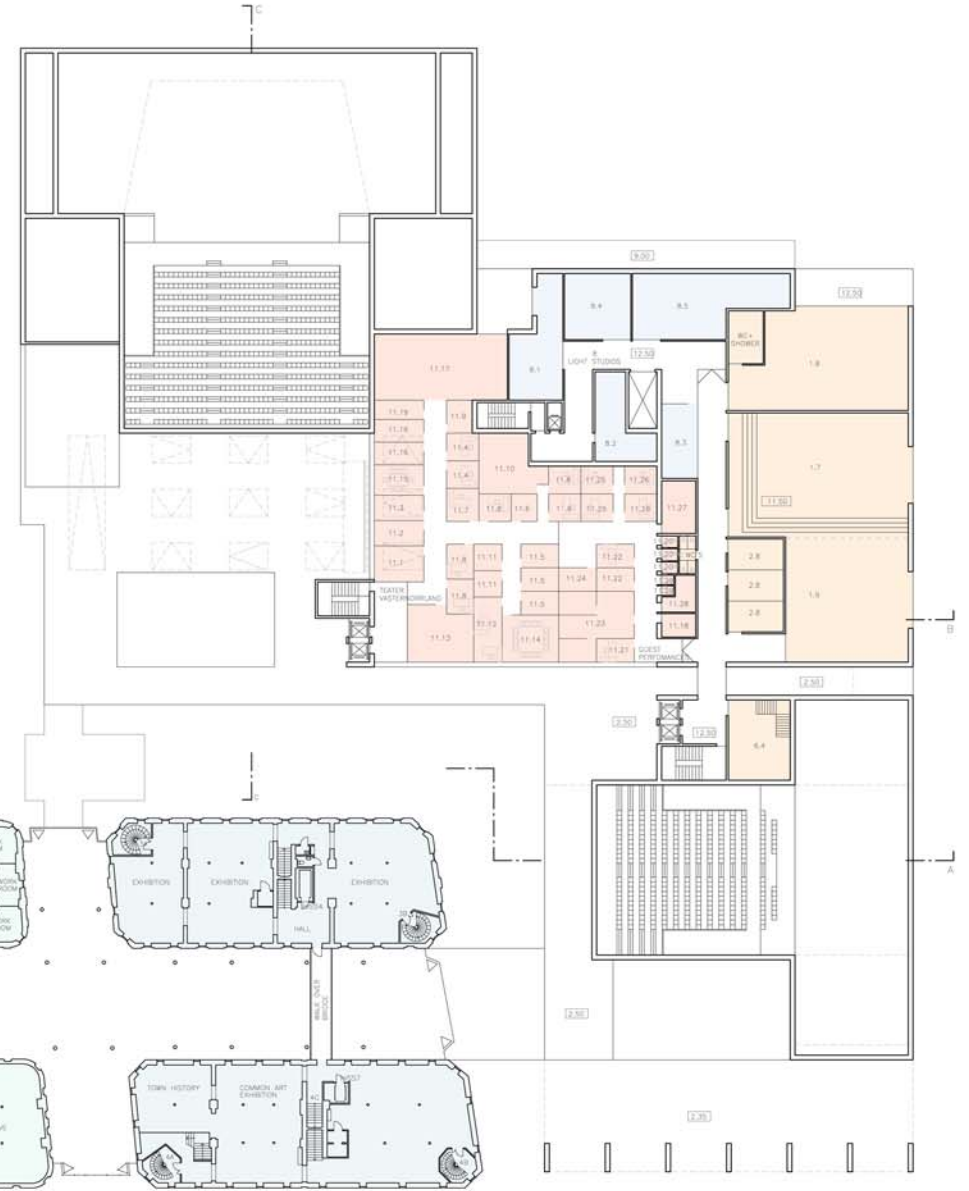
South Elevation



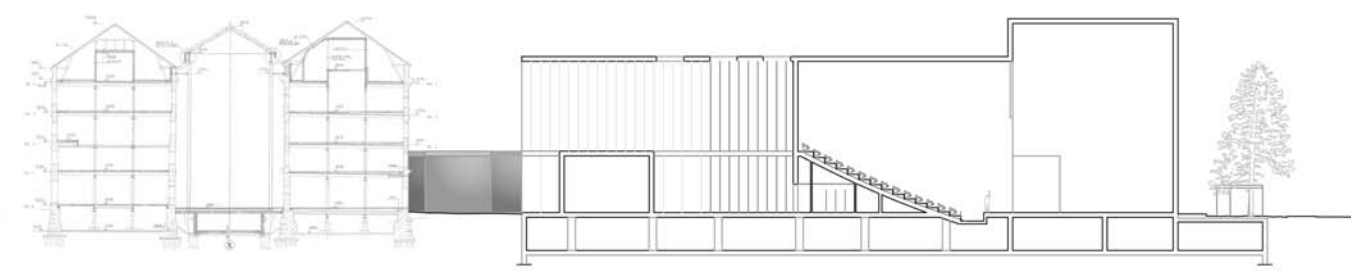
Level 1 1:400



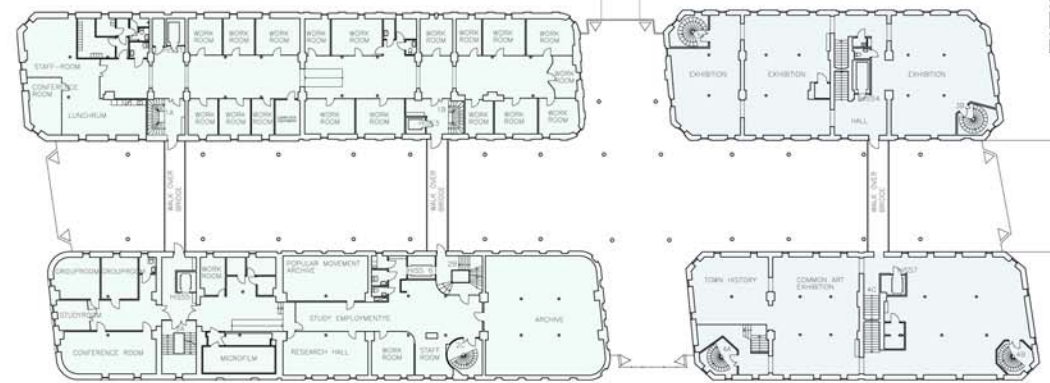
Level 1 1:400



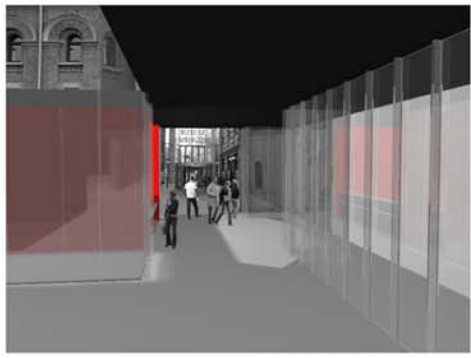
Level 2 1:400



Section C



East Elevation



Main Indoor Entrance - Hamngatan

**Entrance/Building Connection**

All the public entrances at Packhusgatan and/or at Hamngatan suitably conceded to permit the easy access of disable people. Front of the main entrance there is a non parking area specific to drop off visitors within ten meters of the entrance also a restricted area for special vehicles used or require to transport disable people or for emergency vehicles as well as a bicycle park. The staff enter the building by any of its doors since they are to be equipped with modern identification technology based on finger print and/or eye identification, thus facilitating the entrance and movement of both administrative personnel or maintenance staff. This is also offers comfortable working environment as he staff can have access to any door thus avoiding the necessity of going round the whole building to enter the designated door at its entrance time. The Kulturmagasinet it will maintain its exterior access topology. Independence of space managing will be maintained; although for safety reasons all the remaining entrances are to function as emergency exits.

There are has been two interconnecting factors between the new building and the existing old buildings. The first on the north-west side along the "piazza" in front of Selangensan River to be considered the main entrance through which all visitors, groups or people in general enter and a second one open air, on the south-east side (directly in front to the old town) which shall be also to be considered as a emergency exit.

Translucent glass is a prerequisite, granting the design continuity from the new building to the Kulturmagasinet. Extended facades with reflection and at the same time absorbing the surrounding environment it will be the main design identification of the new Arts Centre/Theatre.



Piazza View - Hamngatan

**Façades**

The heavy light brown stone frame of the roof is lightened by glass facades. They are in the same material as Kulturmagasinet's inner building. Glossy and some times translucent the glass will put into evidence the scheme of the interior of the building. Façades are an exterior urban communication, and in this case they "... allow to see and to be seen...". The structure that helps to support these glass walls will be mounted with interpretation of the adjacent Kulturmagasinet of different façade rhythm.

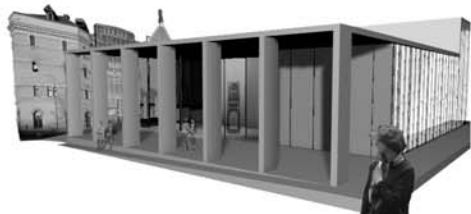
**Structure**

Since the terrain where the proposed building stands is 2 metres above sea level and the car park is situated in its basement, 1,5 metres below sea level, the foundations must be supported on piling, and it is from such that the frame structure must rise, made up of steel flat bars acting as columns appearing as normal partition walls covered by cement or stucco plates. The building façade, supporting structure, is mainly for glass acting as climate and environment defence.

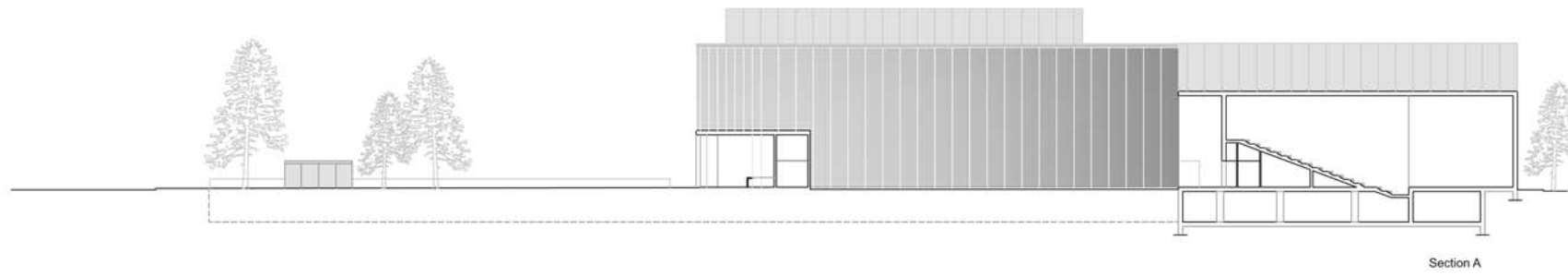
**Sustainability + Ecology**

The climate charts concerning Sundsvall clearly show low quantity of solar days versus highly numerous cool and freezing days. The wind direction is predominant from the east, meaning from the Baltic Sea, with its pros and cons, thus having the building concept and materials to guarantee that the façades must have over and above the normally applied products, additional thermal isolation to prevent the consequences of the freezing wind blowing from the North and East. The approach for the comfortable use of the facilities with low energy spending is:

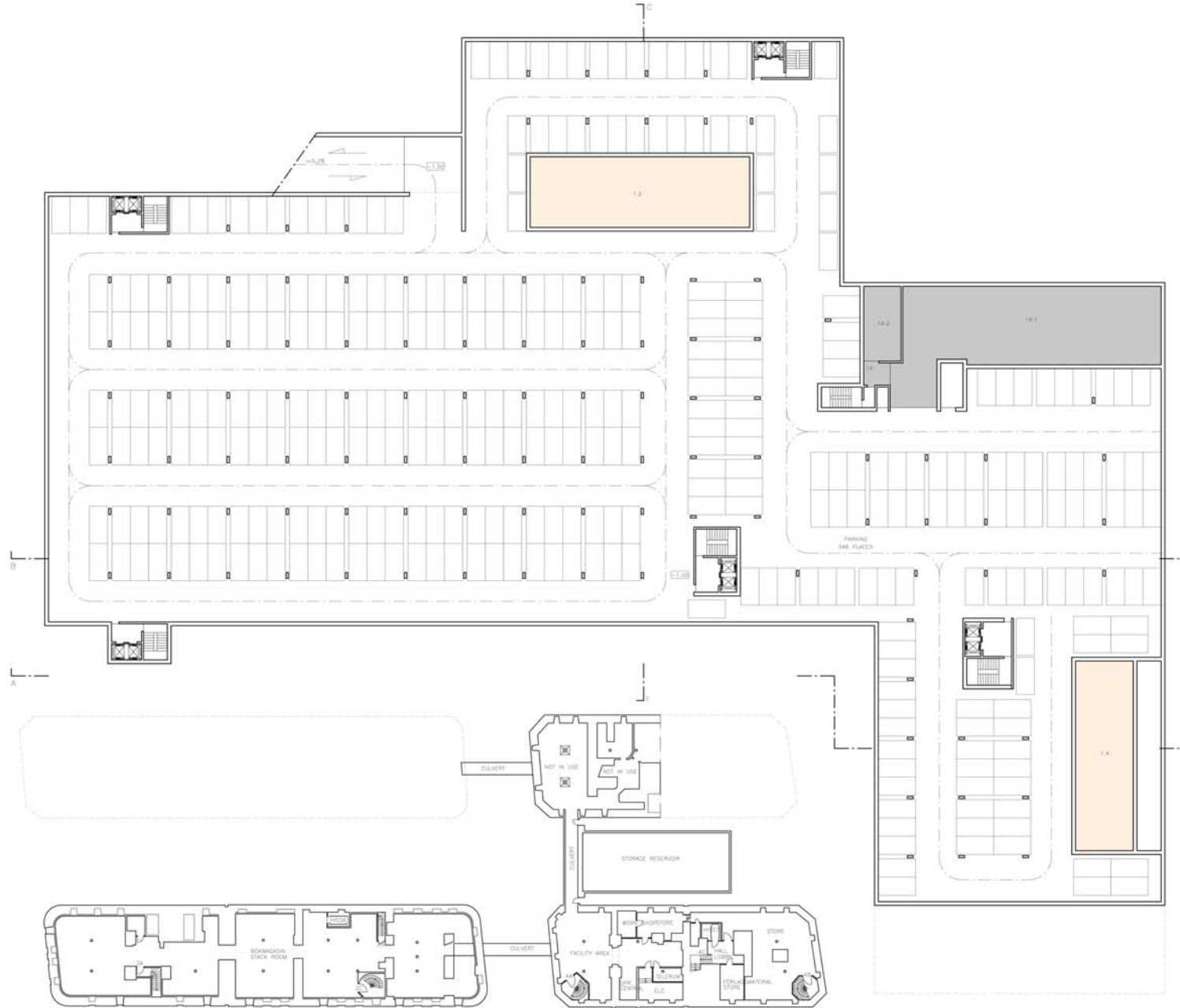
- The building will be oriented in accordance to maximum solar exposure.
- Reducing thermal losses by fitting triple glazed façades
- Ventilation with latent heat recovery and controlled openings to the exterior
- Use of geothermal energy for cooling
- Control humidity through the inner garden with predefined plant species adequate for such propose
- Integrated photovoltaic system located on the roof to decrease the energy supply, for the illumination, with substantial long term gain



Exhibition Foyer - Packhusgatan

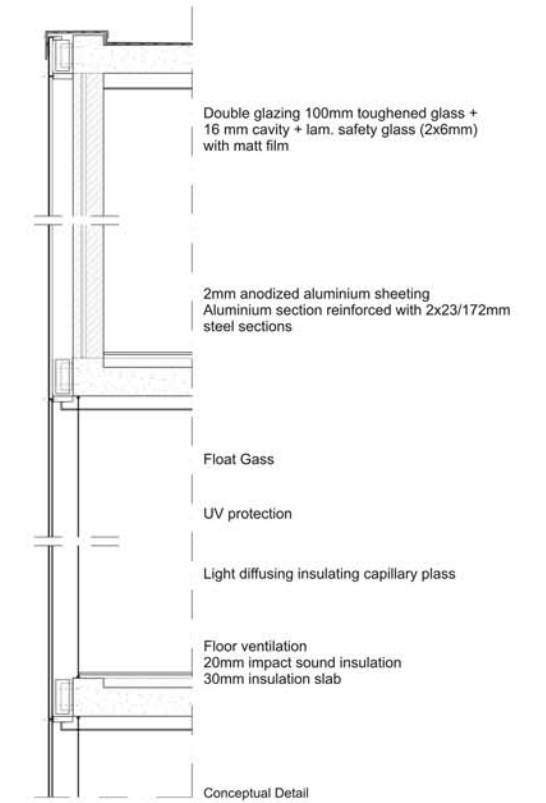


Section A



Underground Level 1:400

| Area Specifications               | Area Sq m | Total Area Sq m |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Underground Level                 |           |                 |
| 1. Auditorium and black boxes     | 300,00    |                 |
| 1.2 Stage basement                | 215,00    |                 |
| 1.3 Stage basement                |           |                 |
| 14. Technical facilities          |           | 1047,35         |
| 14.1 Ventilation                  | 400,00    |                 |
| 14.2 Ground heat exchanger        | 50,00     |                 |
| <b>Total Area of the Proposal</b> |           | <b>11930,49</b> |
| 16. Parking (354 places)          | 9622,05   |                 |



Double glazing 100mm toughened glass + 16 mm cavity + lam. safety glass (2x6mm) with matt film

2mm anodized aluminium sheeting Aluminium section reinforced with 2x23/172mm steel sections

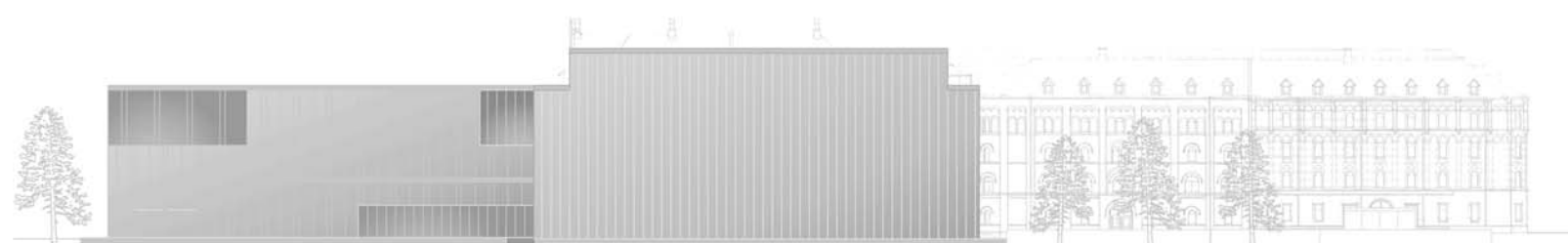
Float Gass

UV protection

Light diffusing insulating capillary glass

Floor ventilation 20mm impact sound insulation 30mm insulation slab

Conceptual Detail



North Elevation