

CREATIVE CENTRE IN OVIDIU SQUARE

The project, located in Ovidiu Square, has the purpose to transform the peninsula into an active space, by giving back to the communities the right to the city. The project is a creative center dedicated to cultural, social, artistic and archaeological activities that recovers three key areas of the peninsula in order to reintegrate them physically and functionally into the urban fabric. The particularity of the sites is that, although they are separated on the square level by other buildings, they are united on the sea level by the green area and the steep coast, creating a continuous space for communities interaction: a common space.

Based on three specificities of the peninsula: the ethnic diversity, the ruins of the ancient Greek city of Tomis and the art movements that are in the verge of disappearing, the program defines three objectives to achieve: an area for creative arts and artists (the mirror), one for experimental archaeology (the ruin) and the most complex and rich with activities area: the ethnic mosaic of communities (the gate).

The program gives the possibility of each one of its components to function independently and simultaneously, by creating accesses to each of the various services and uniting them through a green outdoor space.

1. The platform for creative arts – proposes the metamorphosis of a space used for cars and a house left to ruin into a space for art performance, exhibition, workshops of art and studios for artists. A central spine separates and links, in the same time, the public area of the exhibition and workshops with the artist's studios.
2. The experimental archaeology area – revives an archaeology site of the ancient citadel of Tomis into a space for experiments and research (labs, workshop classes and exhibition room) with a slender volume that takes the shape of the blind wall of the neighbor building and opening the perspective to the sea and the ruin.
3. The ethnic mosaic of communities area – the most complex and important part is related with Ovidiu Square, opening towards it and creating a gate between the city and the sea, but in the same time creating a distinct plaza of the communities' platform, around which the volumes develop. It creates a variety of indoor and outdoor spaces that gives to the communities the freedom of using them with creativity and imagination, becoming a space for play: meeting rooms for ethnic groups, auditorium, projection rooms, and ethnic cuisine classes, ethnographic performances of music, dance and literature.

The materiality and the volumes are inspired by the context: the buildings from the peninsula create a collage of forms and textures. The volumes embedded in the coast are blending in the landscape because of the stone finishing, while a white composition of volumes arises from the square level with two vertical accents made of corten steel that are the connectors of the creative centre.