

## AUDITORIUM AND CONVENTION CENTRE OF ARAGON, Zaragoza/Spain by Nieto Sobejano



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### Project Details:

*Limited Competition 1st prize 2005*

Location: Zaragoza – [Spain](#)

Type: [Cultural](#) - [Public](#)

Client: Government of Aragón

Architects: [Nieto Sobejano Arquitectos](#), S.L.P. – Fuensanta Nieto – Enrique Sobejano

Project Architect: Patricia Grande

Collaborators: Carlos Ballesteros – Mauro Herrero – Sebastian Sasse – Alexandra Sobral – Lucía Gigante

Site Supervision: Nieto Sobejano Arquitectos S.L.P. – Fuensanta Nieto – Enrique Sobejano – Miguel Mesas Izquierdo,

Technical Architect – U.T.E. Máster / Técnicas Reunidas S.A.

Structure: NB 35 S.L.

Mechanical Engineer: R. Úrculo Ingenieros Consultores, S.A.

Fire Prevention Systems: 3i Ingeniería Industrial

Acoustic: Higiní Arau

Facade Engineering: Ove Arup & Partners

Scenographic Equipment: Chemtrol

Models: Nieto Sobejano Arquitectos S.L.P. – Juan de Dios Hernández – Jesús Rey

Photographs: Aurofoto S.L.

Roland Halbe – [www.rolandhalbe.de](http://www.rolandhalbe.de)

Fernando Alda – [www.fernandoalda.com](http://www.fernandoalda.com)

Project: 2005-2006

Construction: 2006 –2008

GRC & Ceramic Panels: Drace – Cumella – Grupo Entorno

Expanded Metal Panels: Industrias Imar, S.A.

Construction Company: U.T.E. Sacyr – Brues – Ideconsa

“The new Auditorium and Convention Centre portrays a fractional and varied profile – ascending and descending – in dialogue with the different spaces housed in its interior and manifesting expressively the presence of natural light and the meeting point of the building with the ground. Like a white shining cover, a great roof gently envelopes the different structures sheltering a large interior space – fluid and continuous – which demonstrates the public and institutional character of its purpose.

Three main blocks to house an auditorium, a multi-purpose pavilion and modular halls are connected to each other via a large common vestibule which links the different areas. The convention hall was conceived with the intention of leaving upper tier and mezzanine independent of each other which will mean a hall for 1500 persons will also be compatible with conventions for smaller numbers. The exhibition pavilion was used during Expo 2008 as the Water Platform since its location, with the possibility of independent access, allowed it to be used for exhibitions (one or two simultaneously), for seminars or diverse events. The modular halls comprise an area

which could be used during the International Exhibition as a press centre, offices or meetings rooms if required, whereas now it can be subdivided into multiple halls or seminars of greater or lesser size. A large subterranean storey houses the service areas, installations, dressing rooms, storage areas, kitchens... guaranteeing operation as a centre with the necessary characteristics without interfering in the public spaces of the building.



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Geometry, structure and construction are part of this proposal for a single combined concept. The necessity for rapid execution did not present a problem, rather being the reason for the architectural concept itself. Strict geometric modulation, the preference for using prefabricated building structures which lend themselves to being repeated, the choice of a structural solution based on metallic girders with powerful lights and finally, voluntary restriction in the range of materials, are all arguments for a strategy which allowed us to dominate the structural, geometric and construction preconditions which impact on the process.



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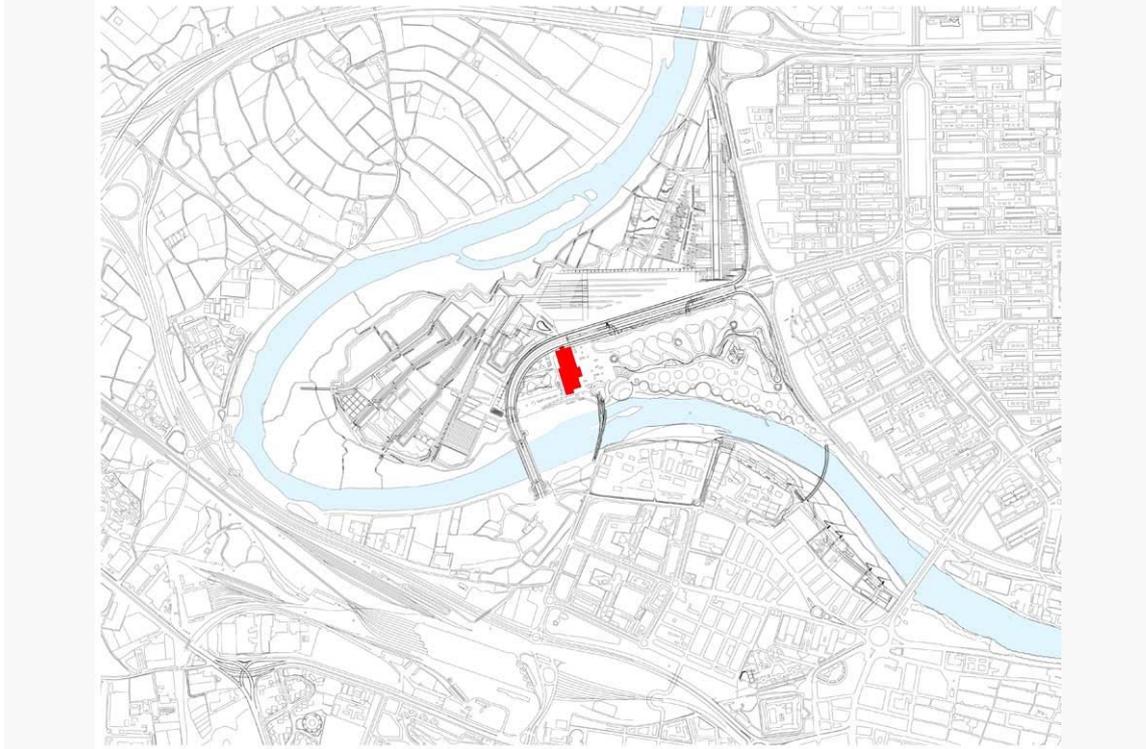
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The interior spaces respond to the same gradation of textures and colour. Metal and concrete cladding in vestibules and public areas coexist with continuous tiling and glass divisions. The main auditorium also contributes to the drive for luminosity and clarity with its materials. To the exterior, large glass fronts alternate glazed panels and metal lattices integrated in the façade with transparent sections for the elevation to the square which enhances the perception of the open and public character of the building.

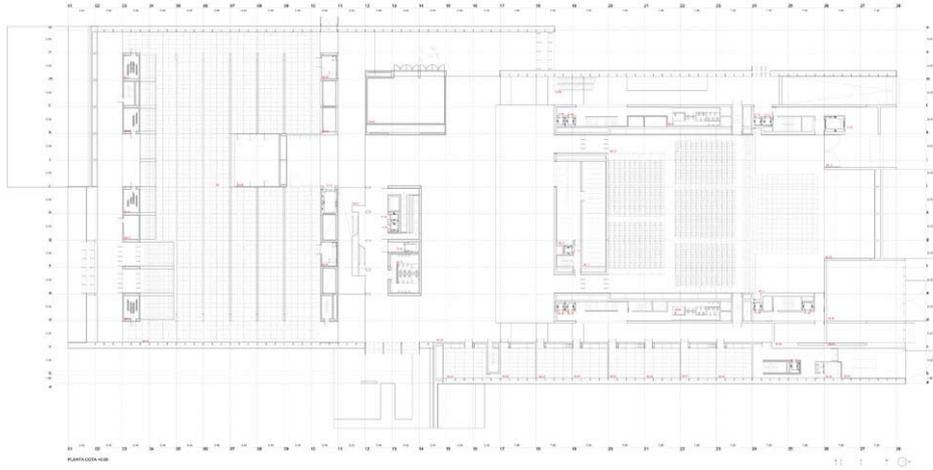
The brilliance and clarity of the image of the building which dominates during the day has its counterpoint at night when the Convention Centre appears as a landscape of solid light emerging from the ground: the metaphor of an intangible condition which – perhaps unconsciously – we imagined from the beginning for this building." *Enrique Sobejano – Fuensanta Nieto*

Watch the Video: Auditorium and Convention Center of Aragon by Nieto Sobejano [here](#)

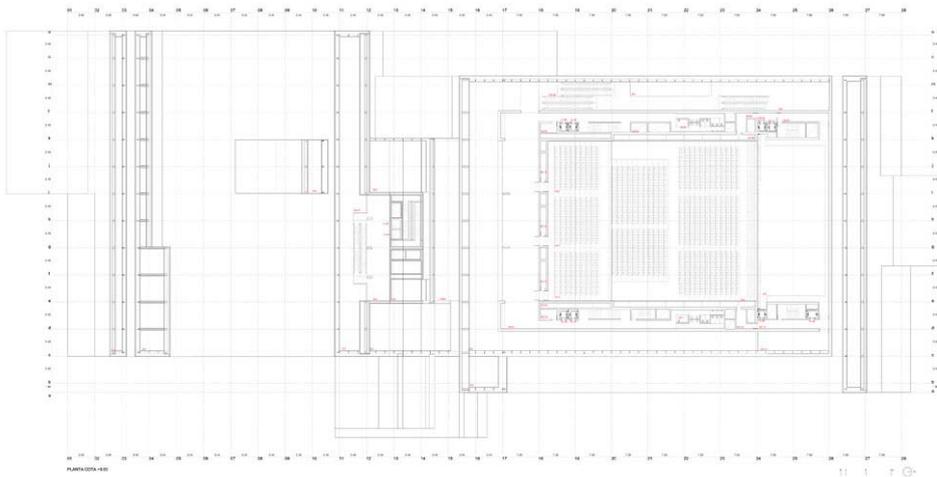
Drawings:



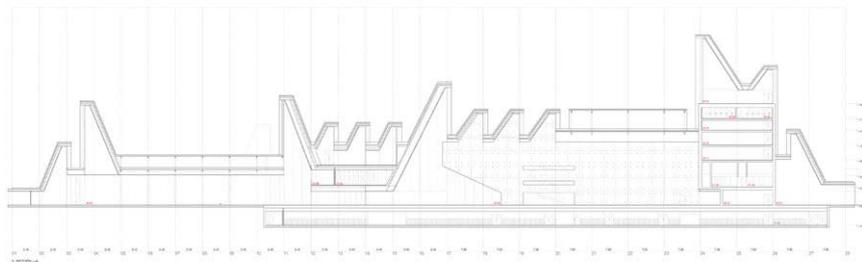
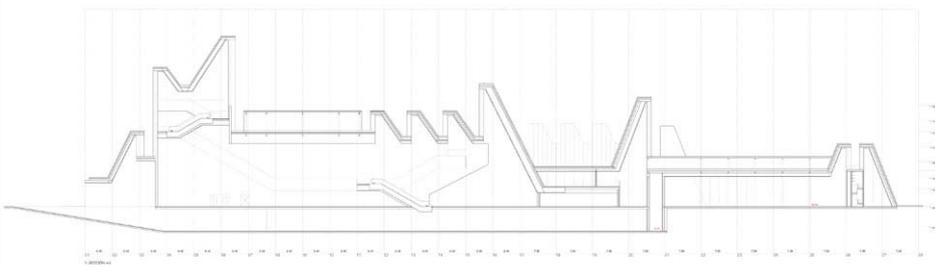
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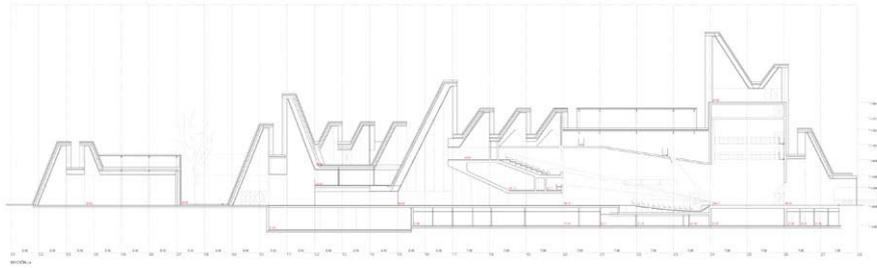
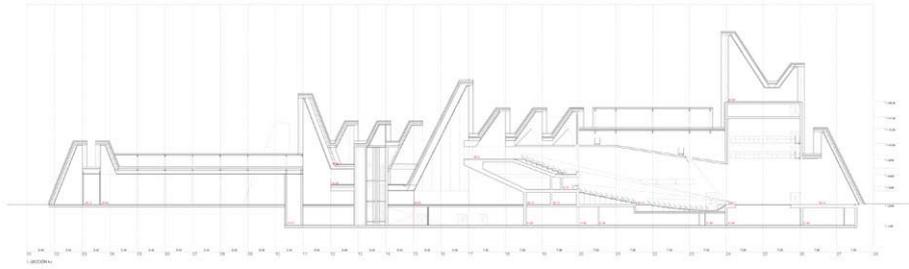
click image to enlarge - Plan 0



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