

Steven Holl Architects



ADDITION AS SUBTRACTION: Mumbai City Museum's new North Wing addition is envisioned as a sculpted subtraction from a simple geometry formed by the site boundaries. The sculpted cuts into the white concrete structure bring diffused natural light into the upper galleries. Deeper subtractive cuts bring in exactly twenty-five lumens of natural light to each gallery.

The basically orthogonal galleries are given a sense of flow and spatial overlap from the light cuts. The central cut forms a shaded monsoon water basin which runs into a central pool. In addition to evaporative cooling, the pool provides sixty per cent of the museum's electricity through photovoltaic cells located below the water's surface. The white concrete structure has an extension of local rough-cut Indian Agra red stone.

The circulation through the galleries is one of spatial energy, while the orthogonal layout of the walls foregrounds the spectacular Mumbai City Museum collections.



AL_A



Using the power of absence to create connections between the old and the new, a sunken courtyard or aangan, taking inspiration from the deep and meaningful significance of the Indian stepwell, is embedded between the existing Museum building and the new North Wing.

The courtyard is a metaphor for the cycle of the seasons, capturing the dramatic contrasts of the climate in the fabric of the museum. It is a metaphor for the cycle of time, where people can rethink their place in the world in a space for contemplation and a place for art and culture.

Encircling the aangan is the Mumbai Modern gallery. It forms the beating heart of the Museum, arranged to amplify the inheritance of the recent past and tell a story that is constantly being reshaped on the streets of the city.

The courtyard intersects with the North Wing at a threshold that captures the iconography of place, with a series of ramps, leading to the rest of the museum, which celebrates the theatre of the journey and a pilgrimage to the secular temples of art and history.



(The following teams complete the shortlist, displayed in alphabetical order)

Nieto Sobejano Arquitectos



Our proposal can be described in essence, as a large garden structure in the park, an undulating roof scape evoking images concealed in our memory of 'Umbraculum', greenhouses and zoo constructions. This light and porous shelter generates not only the new building's formal and volumetric expression, but it also combines space, light, and structure, providing shadow to the spaces below. The variable undulated profile of its section attends to the different uses of the building, the will to introduce natural light, and the search for transparency and visual connections to the garden. Each vault is similar to its adjacent one, but with varying height and radius, adapting either to the inner program or rising above to highlight the voids that traverse the interior space as well as incorporating the existing courtyard buildings. The cuts in the curves of the roofs generate terraces or patios that allow the trees to grow through.



OMA



Conceptually we created a New North Museum Wing that doesn't occupy much of the ground plane of the site. It lifts itself up from the site to create an open connection from the ES Patanwala Marg to the existing museum and to create direct visual connections with the city and the zoological gardens. The New North Wing also roots itself into the earth to provide well protected and conditioned special exhibition spaces. The museum therefore acts as a flower for the city, while the supporting facilities - the open air foyer and the Mumbai Modern - are wrapped around the heart of the flower, holding the overall concept together. The stepped sculpture garden flanks the building and allows for different degrees of intimacy and sculpture display which are accessible from the public spaces around the museum and the exhibition galleries of the museum itself.



Pei Cobb Freed



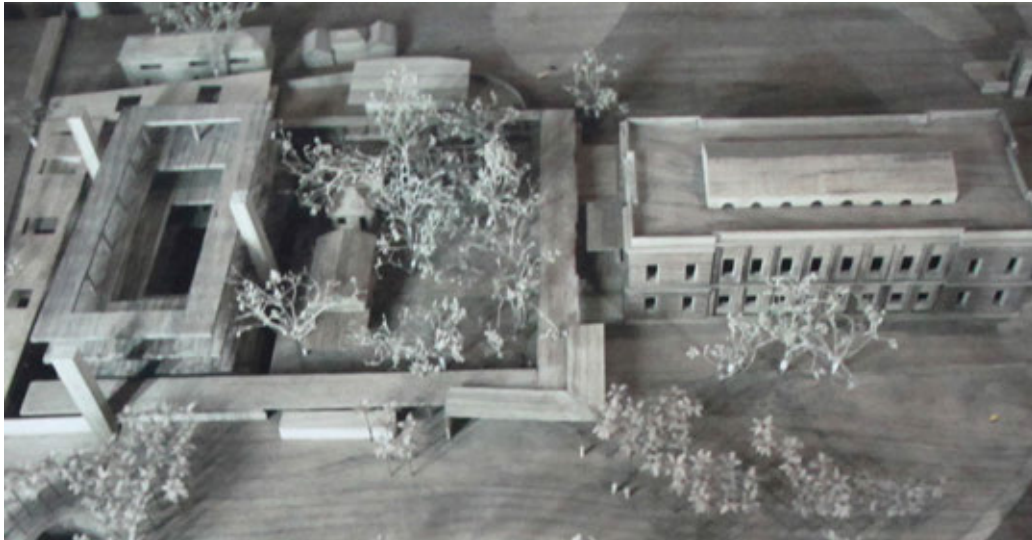
We envision for the Mumbai City Museum a landmark building, activating a renewed campus, set within a reinvigorated park precinct – wherein dialogue among an extraordinary landscape, a 19th-century Beaux Arts colonial building, a group of 20th-century informal structures, and a 21st-century state-of-the-art museum give voice to the rich, layered, dynamic, and complex life of the city the museum serves.

This assemblage is focused around a redesigned Museum Plaza – imagined as the social and functional heart of the museum, and counted among the most important public spaces in all of Mumbai. The North Wing's unique shape and distinctive saw-tooth expression are drawn directly from context, while the building's orientation, internal organization, materiality, and systems are highly calibrated to climate, daylighting, and energy conservation.

Our response – modern, efficient, sensitive, graceful – celebrates program and place; gives confident form to the high ambitions of the museum's curatorial, educational, and community programs; and affirms the museum's enduring contribution to Mumbai's civic and cultural life.



Studio Mumbai



The gesture of the Mumbai City Museum is to create a calling, a sign, an invitation, a holler, a signal set out in the sky to be viewed as a beacon, barometer, language, an expression of our collective enterprise.

A series of frames, a network of walkways, labyrinths, courtyards, gardens, fountains, rocks, birds, trees, rain, water, vistas, views, scents, sounds, city, sky, ground, earth, landscape, a window between our interior and exterior world.

Mumbai, a city in constant flux, has its own ebb and flow. An expansion and contraction, cut and fill, a city continually constructed and dismantled, expressive and responsive to the culture of its time. Our aim is to collect this depth of field between past, present and future. In collecting the apparent debris we endeavor to reclaim, recuperate and synthesize an expression relevant to our time.

For the museum extension we seek a strategy that , through its built form, carefully considers and engages the complex relationship of place and space between the museum, its ground, its relationship to the city, the people, its immediate environment, and to places near and far.

The Museum itself is an embodiment, an expression, an archive, an observation, of a city and its culture as it was once, is at present, and will be in time to come.



wHY



Water, Cultural Weavers

Concept

An ecological oasis and a vibrant cultural hub

This expansion unites the Museum site with the entire park and provides the most vibrant cultural programs indoor and outdoor.

Not just buildings, but the entire Site is the new Museum.

Planning

Respecting the height of the Historical Building, the new building is designed as weaved groundscapes intertwining with the gardens while maintaining an open, multi-level flow of activities surrounding the central Rain Gardens.

The galleries are planned with full flexibilities while the Mumbai Gallery provides the elevated art experience in the panoramic view of Mumbai.

Design

Local craft heritages inspire the design; weaved handicraft informs concrete roof structure, Indian textiles the roof panels, Indian stepped wells inspire the water-harvesting Rain Gardens.

Merging local knowledge with global innovation, key design elements are unique sustainable features; water harvesting and passive cooling, ventilation and large projecting roof.

Sustainability, Uniquely Mumbai.



Zaha Hadid



The new North Wing to the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum offers a unique architectural opportunity - to juxtapose the built legacy of Mumbai's colonial past with a contemporary annexe representing the pulse of a multicultural and rapidly changing global city.

As two physically and programmatically distinct buildings, they have the potential to initiate a dialogue between the contemporary and traditional history of the region. The new wing emerges from this discourse as a bold, modern civic building wrapped in a highly textured veil of traditional building blocks - respectful of the existing building and yet defining its own area of influence.

The fluid landscape initiates the dialogue by putting in its centre the People's Plaza. It forms the core public place of the museum grounds and as the main entrance welcomes people and creates a forum for the exchange of ideas - a centre of interaction for Mumbai's citizens and visitors. The Sculpture Gardens and Seasonal Reflecting Pool allow the space to maintain its role within the city as a quiet place of reflection and contemplation.

