

UNYT

OPERA BY THE SEA

Opera House for Estonia.

<https://competitions.uni.xyz>



Img 1: A ballet performance - Today.

Premise

Performances are art in motion, demonstrating the concept of creation and experience. They are ever-changing and ephemeral. Arts in general, along with performing arts was revived in the 15th century in Italy and then started to spread to Europe. Within a century it was popular throughout the continent, featuring music, dance and plays, attracting the masses for a new form of entertainment. This led to the emergence of professional theatrical companies in England. It continued to attract new expertise and talent in modern society.

Musical plays like opera were extensively performed and celebrated. Soon, performing arts became a doorway to experience arts of different forms like **broadways**, **ballet** etc. The first ever public **opera house** was constructed in the **Teatro San Cassiano** which opened its doors to a paying audience in **Venice** in **1637**.



[Img_2](#): London Opera House

Classic Opera

The popularity of the theater plays and opera shows, created a new typology of structures called “**Opera Houses**” across the Europe. They became the cultural center of a city housing legendary artists and performers.

The operas house in Italy, **Vienna, Germany, England** were some of the first constructed buildings that displayed grandeur. They were often placed in the commercial district of the city. Attending an opera was a social occasion that displayed the prosperity of the upper middle class. [The auditorium and stage were lit with chandeliers that hung from the ceiling and the audience was as visible as the performers](#), they would converse and indulge in activities and pause in between to listen to the performance.

Opera house was identified as an **iconic architectural object** of their respective cities.



Img.3: Sydney Opera House.

Modern Opera

Opera Houses after the 19th Century were seen as cultural hubs of the modern society, constructed for more than just performances. Its utility was exploited using design ideas that allowed a multi functional structure. They housed **conferences, auditoriums, museums** and **eateries** for the landmarks they had become.

Opera house in Sydney is one of a kind architectural icon of its time designed by **John Utzon** for creating a legacy for Australia. It comprises of multiple performance venues, which together host over 1,500 performances annually, attended by more than **10.9 million** visitors in **2016-17**. Economic contribution of Sydney Opera was estimated to be **\$1.2 billion**.



Img 4: Linnahall Arena, Estonia

Brief

Opera houses of **Valencia**, **Almaty**, **Beijing**, etc were built subsequently in the 19th Century designed by architects Santiago Calatrava, Norman Foster and Paul Andreu respectively.

Designing an Opera House (*cultural hub*) of today that encapsulates the architectural style of 21st Century to create an icon that lasts for decades ahead is a challenge in itself.

How is the demand of cultural preservation served by architecture in the modern society?

The challenge here is to design an “**Opera House**” for Estonian Capital Tallinn to mark their legacy and create a cultural center.



Identity

Structure must be an icon for the city of Tallinn, Estonia



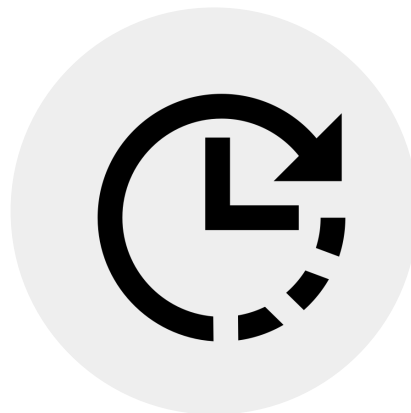
Functional

Tourist friendly visitor space having versatile functioning



Public Function

Structure must create public engagement for the visitors



Future

How the Performance center will traverse through next 5 decades of estonia.

Objectives

The following objectives can be a point of beginning to conceive this design. Participants can assume their own contexts and users before initiating their design process.

Auditorium

Concert Hall, Conference Rooms, Green Rooms etc.



20%

Seating for 2000 people in the main Concert Hall

Services

Staff, Administration, Pantry, Kitchen, Information Center, Washroom etc.



15%

Public Engagement

Museum, Gallery, Open Spaces, Eateries, Souvenir Stores,



20%

Programmatic Outline

The programme of the **Opera House** must include the above mandatorily. However, the participants are free to add other programmatic facilities depending on their design. *Parking need not be included in the design requirements.*



Tallinn, Estonia

Estonia, is a country on the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea in Northern Europe. It is bordered to the north by the Gulf of Finland, in the west by the Baltic Sea with Sweden on the other side, the south by Latvia, and to the east by Lake Peipus and Russia. Its capital and largest city is Tallinn, with a population of 1.3 million. After centuries of successive rule by Germans, Danes, Swedes, Poles and Russians, a distinct Estonian national identity emerged in the 19th and early 20th centuries.



Img 5: Aerial View Linnahall, Estonia

Linnahall, Tallinn

Linnahall, 'Tallinn City Hall, originally known as V. I. Lenin Palace of Culture and Sports, is a multi-purpose venue in Tallinn, Estonia. It is situated in the harbour, just beyond the walls of the Old Town, and was completed in 1980.

The proposition of constructing an opera house was supported by the fact that the current state of Linnahall is questionable, and its location in a prime area of Estonian capital makes it considerably significant. It makes up one part of the view of our capital from the sea.

The Ministry of Culture in Estonia has been planning to develop the area since past few years and seeking funds to do the same. They are a nation with a well known music culture, and are eager to develop a symbolic structure to last decades.



Img 6: Site Map

Site Plan

The site chosen for this challenge is in close proximity to Linnahall Stadium, that serves a perfect location for an “**Opera House**” overlooking the Gulf of Finland. This enables the authorities to restore the **Linnahall Arena** as a **Heritage site**.

FAR 1 | Site Area ~21000 m² | [59°26'54.8"N - 24°45'27.9"E](#)



DUBAI, DUBAI



HARBIN, CHINA

Guidelines

You have to deliver an architectural outcome on the following site, based on the given outlines.

- Recommended number of sheets/presentation images/boards:

5 (Five) of size [**2362px x 3544px**] or [**400mm x 600mm in 150 dpi**] in portrait digital format (**JPEG only**).

Minimum 3 (Three) & No maximum sheet limit. Each image should be less than **15MB**. (Do not submit PNG format)

Minimum requisite submission are sheets/boards + Cover image containing:

- Site plan (Compulsory)
- Key conceptual sections x 1 (Minimum)
- 3D views x 4
- Cover image / Thumbnail of size 2000px x 1000px or larger in aspect ratio 2:1.
- Answering 6 FAQ's#
- This is the link for new file sizes, [here](#).

#The FAQ's have to be answered as instructed in the FAQ document in the 'additional resources folder'.

Deadlines

Discover the competition schedule and deadlines on the competitions page or on this link - [Schedule](#).

Resources

This competition contains additional resources that contains a set of files useful to complete the competition submission. This folder is made available on your profile dashboard automatically as soon as you register.

This additional resources folder of this competition contains: Submission Format files in PSD | AI | InDD, FAQ Questions, High Res maps, and CAD file of the site plan.

Rules

- + The competitions is open for **students and professionals** from all the disciplines of design.
- + The team limit for this competition is **4 members maximum per team**.
- + You can register more than one team but they have to be registered separately.
- + Ensure that the final sheets submitted **do not include your name or any other mark of identification**. Your submission is linked to your user account which stands as your identification.
- + This is a design **ideas challenge only**. There is no built commission/realization associated with the problem.
- + In case of publication in yearbook we will reach out separately for selected entries.

Pro-Tips

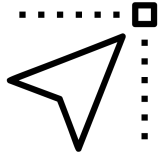
- + Use exploded views to discuss multi levelled conceptual models better.
- + Mention sheet number on corner of every sheet.
- + Plagiarism of any idea / form / design / image will be disqualified with a notice.
- + All the sheets or images will be viewed on a digital device. **e.g.** Laptop screen or projector. Uploaded sheets or images will not be physically printed for evaluation. The submission hence should be prepared for digital viewing only.
- + Submit JPEG images only. (PNG will not function)



Awards

Grants of up to a total of **20,000\$** can be won on this challenge. Learn more about the full conditions on the competition page [here](https://competitions.uni.xyz).

The entries will be judged by an international jury of the competition on the following criteria:



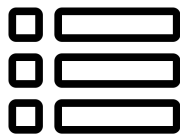
Presentation

The fundamental to a good entry is a good presentation.



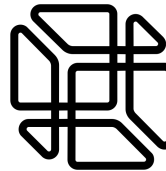
Concept/Idea

Quality of thought and intent in pre-design phase.



Spaces/Programme

How the spaces are calculated and ordered.



Design Outcome

The final architectural outcome of the solution.

Judging Criteria

The judging panel can also add other criteria based on their internal discussions - which will be in line with the problem statement. Participants are advised to fulfil above given criteria first in their design.

About



Unyt serves as a part of UNI in the realm of **typological discoveries**. It intends to break the fusion of traditional design barriers and methodologies by making it a platform for experimentation. It embarks on mobilizing ideas where creators can elementally question the buildings we create. It is a research initiative dedicated to providing opportunities for designers from all domains to explore ideas that go beyond the restrictions of usual architectural discourse.

Queries: support@uni.xyz

Discover other competitions: <https://competitions.uni.xyz>

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Discover FAQ's about this competition on our help forum here: <https://help.uni.xyz/>

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