

2017-2018 Faculty Design

Vegas Altas Congress Center
32416

The "Vegas Altas" Congress and Exhibition Center grows in an ambiguous peripheral location, in a land that is both urban and agricultural boundary. The architectural proposal is intended to highlight this timeless condition of building belonging to the Vega as a free-standing building, floating in the countryside like a giant bale of straw with a flat horizon. On one hand, it is a building that hides its status growing underground. The program is drawn on a half-buried ring that adapts to the terrain and to the boundaries of the plot, but hides his condition to visitors. A cubic volume rises categorically and boldness. The only building perceived above ground, appropriate for the required visibility and representability. Thus, reinforces its urban character, iconic, with a platonic geometry of a perfect cube, but in turn loses its built character, as it is a field sown of strips of vegetation. Its surface is ripped with skylights that lights the underground spaces. The building gives ample public space to the town with a green cover over most of the program and a square with a sloped ground serving both to create an access to the building and to perform as an outdoor auditorium. On one hand, it is introverted, hidden and neutral in its earthy materiality, offering a garden that is the actual main facade. Alternate large trees with herbaceous straw-consistency plantation with low need for land and irrigated with recycled water from the basement. At the same time it is outgoing, as it seeks both to see from the roof terraces as to be seen wrapped in a woven web of ropes. The use of naval ropes for the façade shading is at the same time a technological transference and a feature that is deeply connected with the local culture and environment.

Vegas Altas Congress and Exhibition Center. Villanueva de la Serena, Badajoz, Spain

The "Vegas Altas" Congress and Exhibition Centre grows in an ambiguous peripheral location, in a land that is both an urban and an agricultural boundary. The architectural proposal is intended to highlight this timeless condition of a building belonging to the Vega as a free-standing building, floating in the countryside like a giant bale of straw with a flat horizon, free and fertile. This intervention gives an ample public green space to the town with a green cover over most of the program and exhibition halls. The cube wrapped in a woven web of ropes is the only building perceived above ground, appropriate for both the visibility required and also to absorb the large volume needed for a stage box. This field formed of strips of vegetation with herbaceous straw-consistency plantation and its surface ripped with skylights that lights the underground spaces constitutes the true facade of the building.

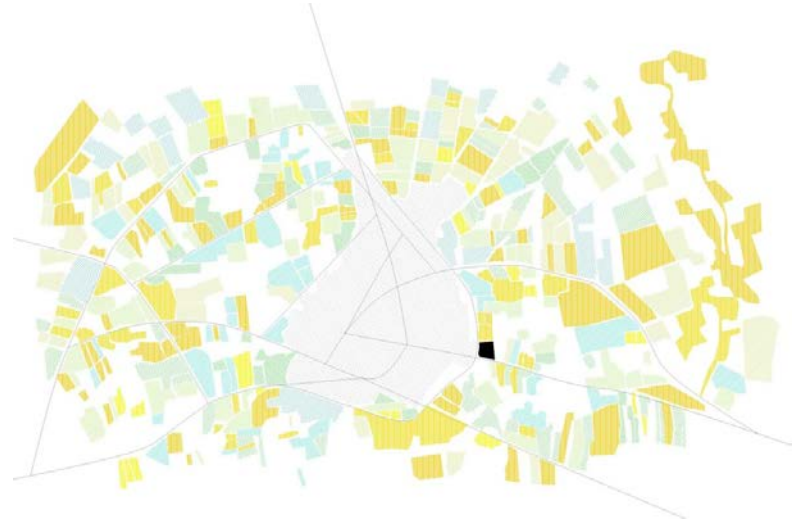
On one hand, it is a silent object that aims to go unnoticed, but at the same time lights to be visible on the horizon, a lighthouse in the sea of the Extremadura's field. In the different floors of the cube stands different accesses for both artists and the general public, administration, rehearsal rooms and a restaurant located on the top floor, a vantage way to become a city reference. It is intended that the cube accommodate the uses capable of being used with a different schedule than the rest of the building, taking advantage of their independence to multiply its programmatic flexibility.

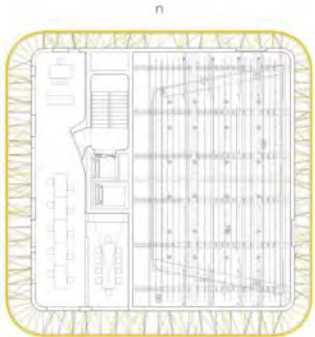
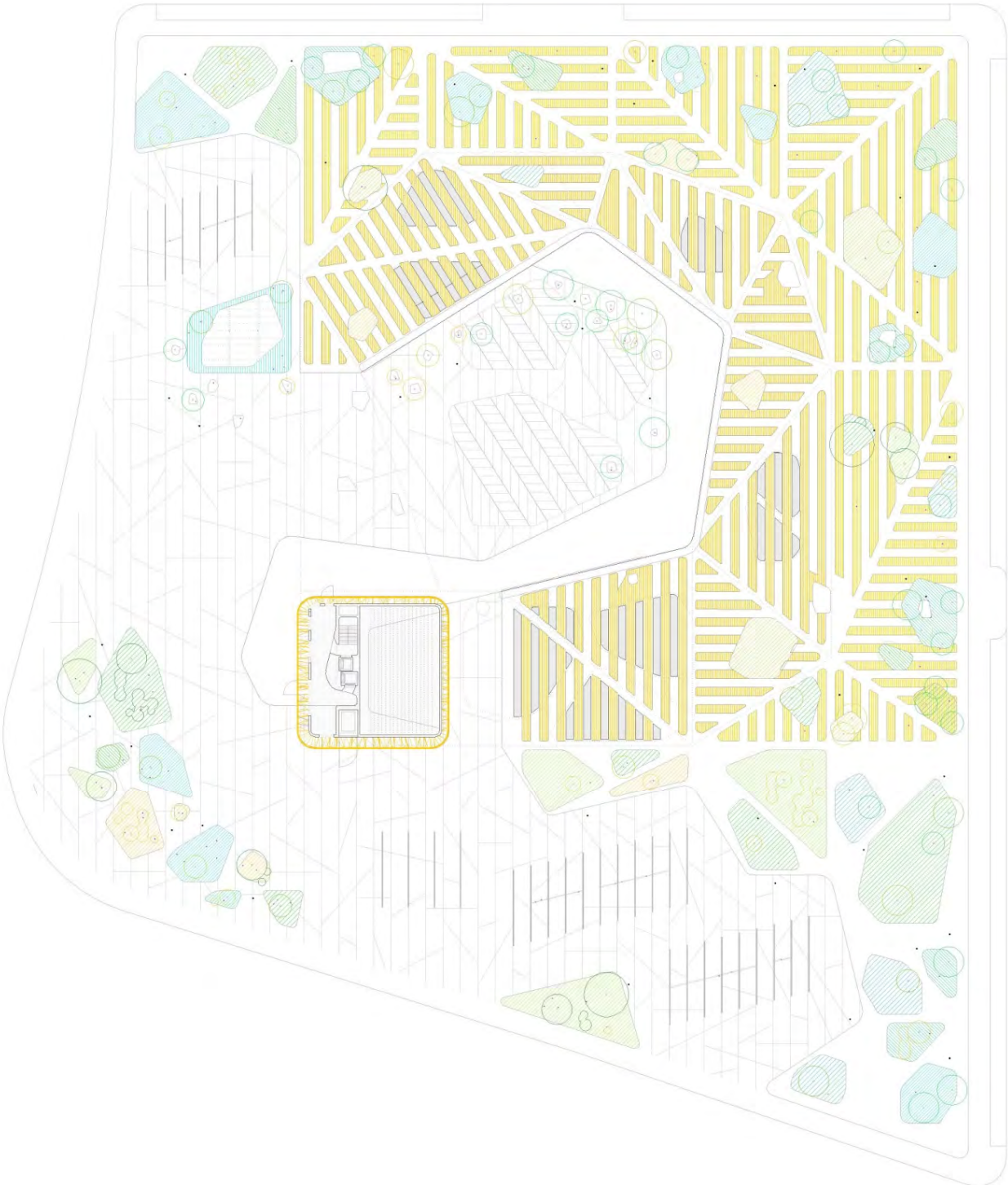
On the other hand, opens a crack around a ramp access square. The entrance hall is a polyvalent space in fluid connection with the outside. Its layout can be used for multiple purposes, such as temporary exhibition hall. The pillars supporting the roof of this architectural exhibition space can function as support for exhibitions, transforming its structure in furniture. An expanded liquid and continuous public space with the auditoriums at its ends, which bind on the opposite side by the area of services and facilities serving backstage, divided into three levels closing a ring under the ground and serving both auditoriums.

The architecture proposal adheres to the climatic conditions of the environment. It has a high thermal inertia through the concrete walls and green cover to maintain a constant comfortable temperature in winter and summer.

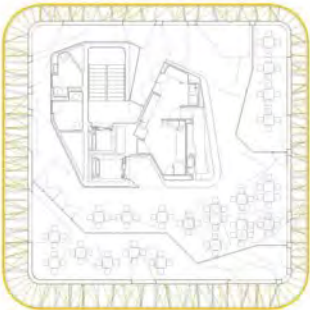
The entire tour around the exhibition space is accompanied by a white, tense and warped mirror sheet of fiberglass and silicone, which extends the space reflecting an unreal environment. Auditoriums are made with green coloured polycarbonate that by the effect of indirect lighting becomes a water world without a precise dimension. On either side, there is a material ambiguity in the general configuration of the building, in the tone of the concrete that is the same of the surrounding land, in the colours of vegetation transferred to the threads that make up the ropes of the facades and the watery nature of the interior finishes. There is also a fluctuating atmosphere where spaces change its character from daylight to night, from east to west, from natural to artificial.

(All Photos copyright Jesus Granada except those differently labeled)

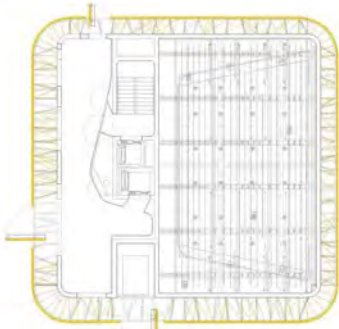




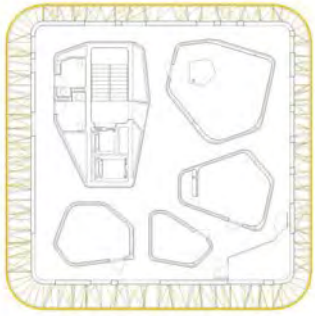
PLANTA 1. OFICINAS



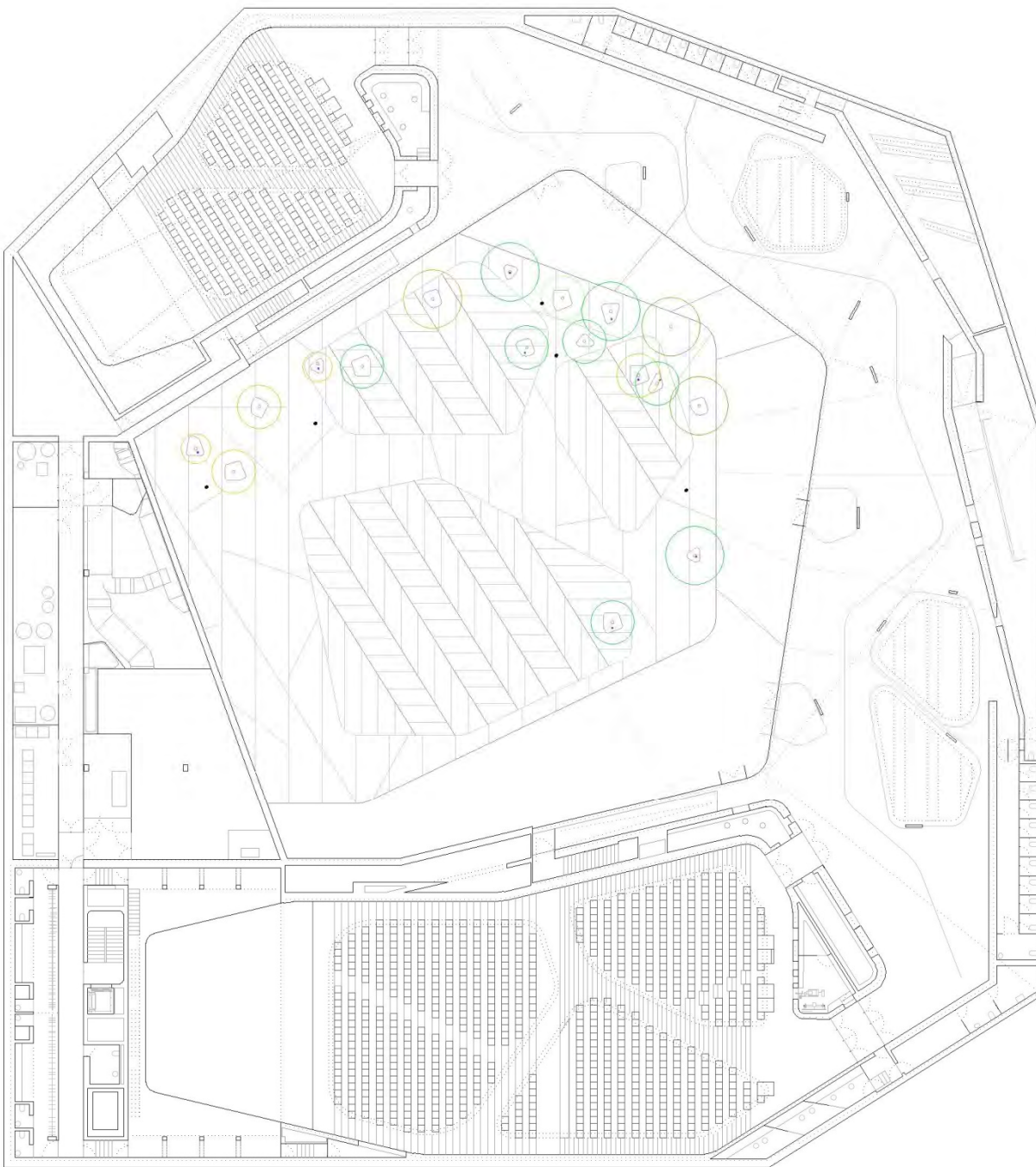
PLANTA 1. REUNIONES



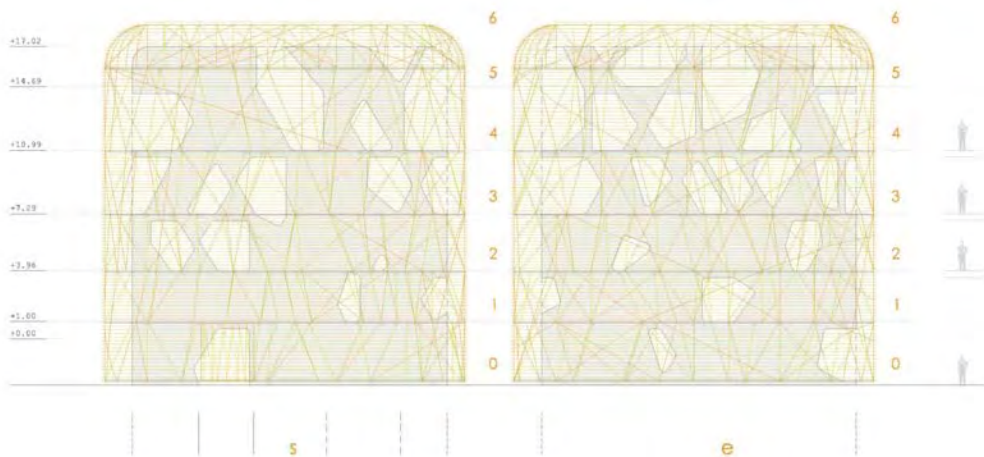
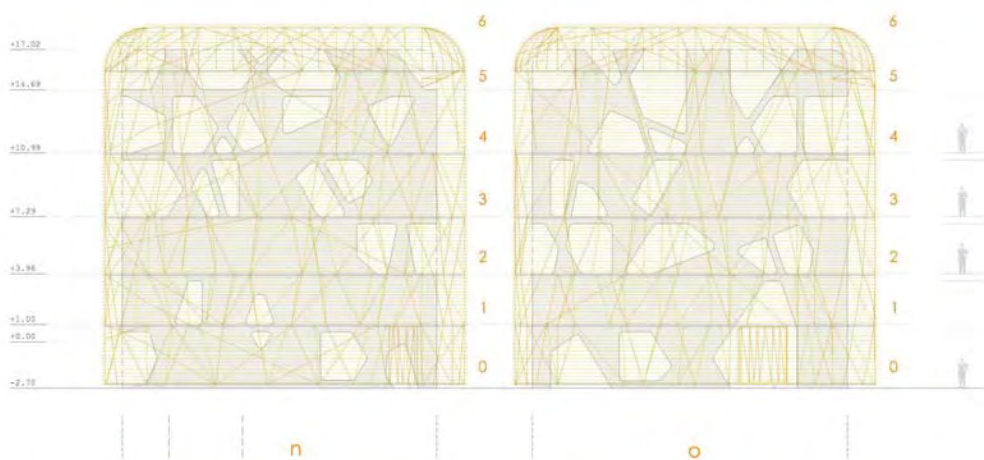
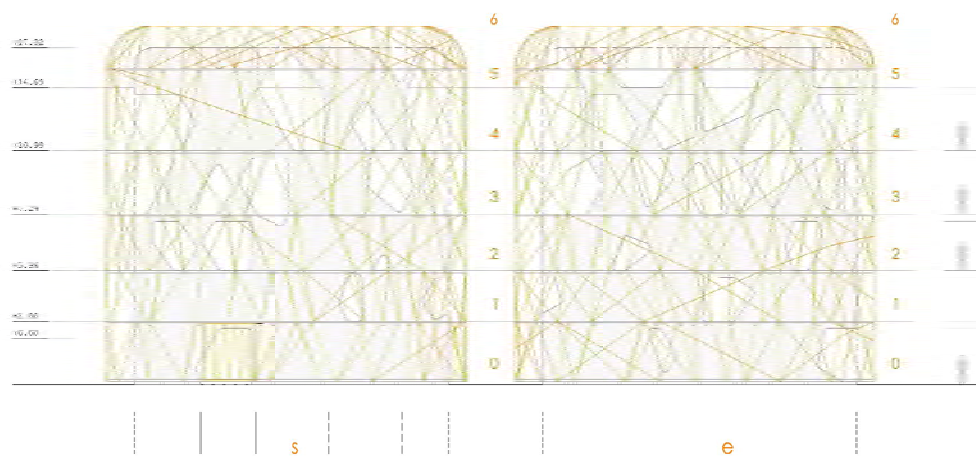
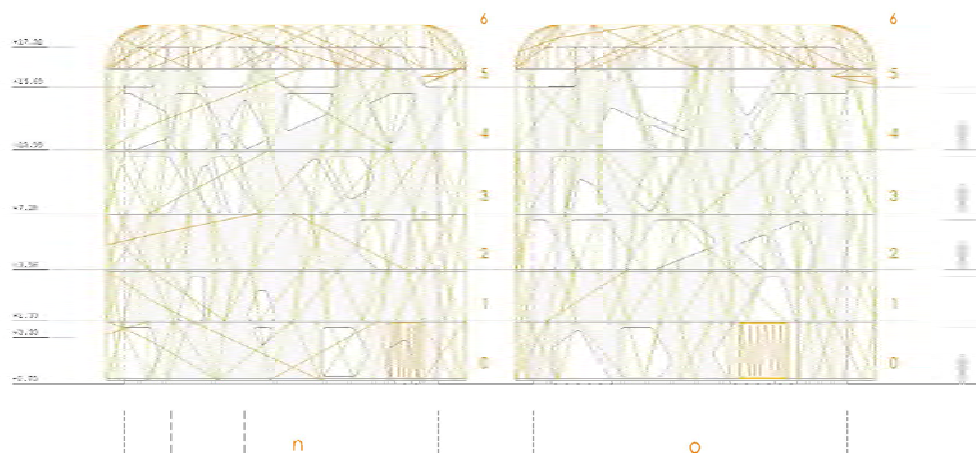
PLANTA 1. VESTIBULO



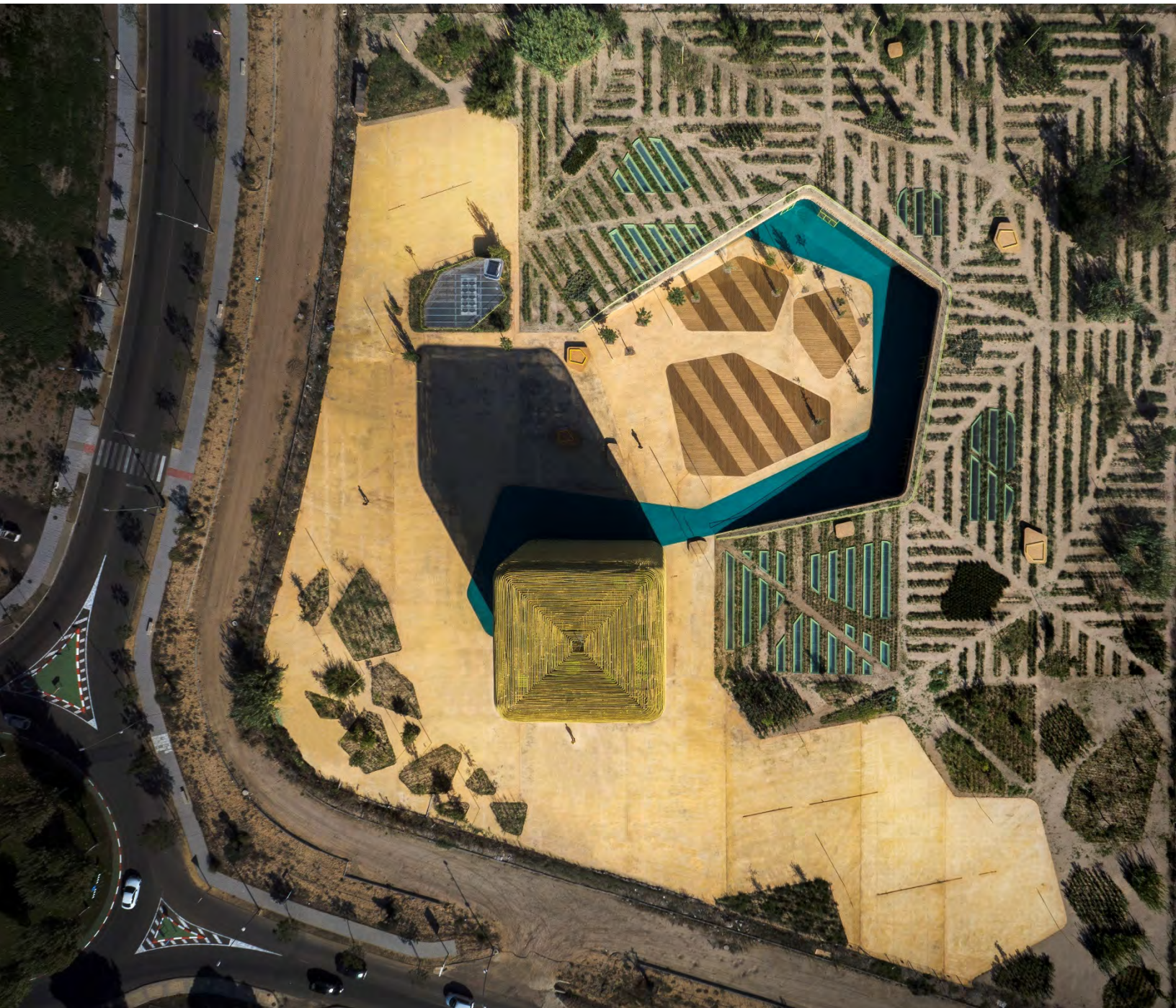
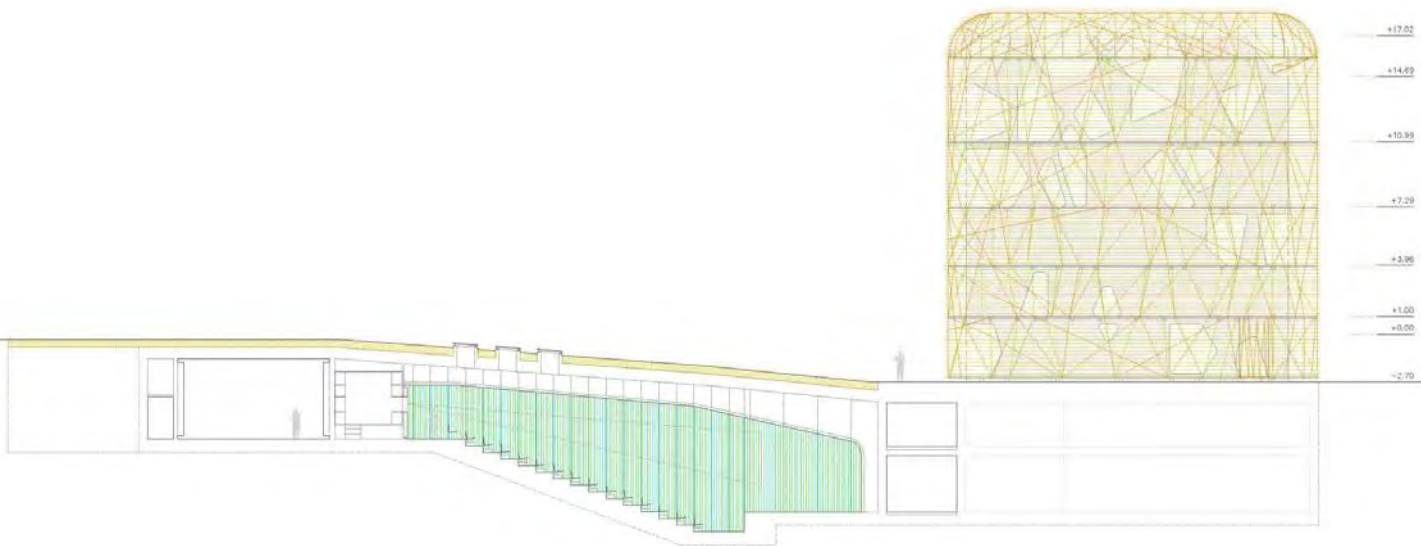
PLANTA 2. SALAS DE EXPOSICION

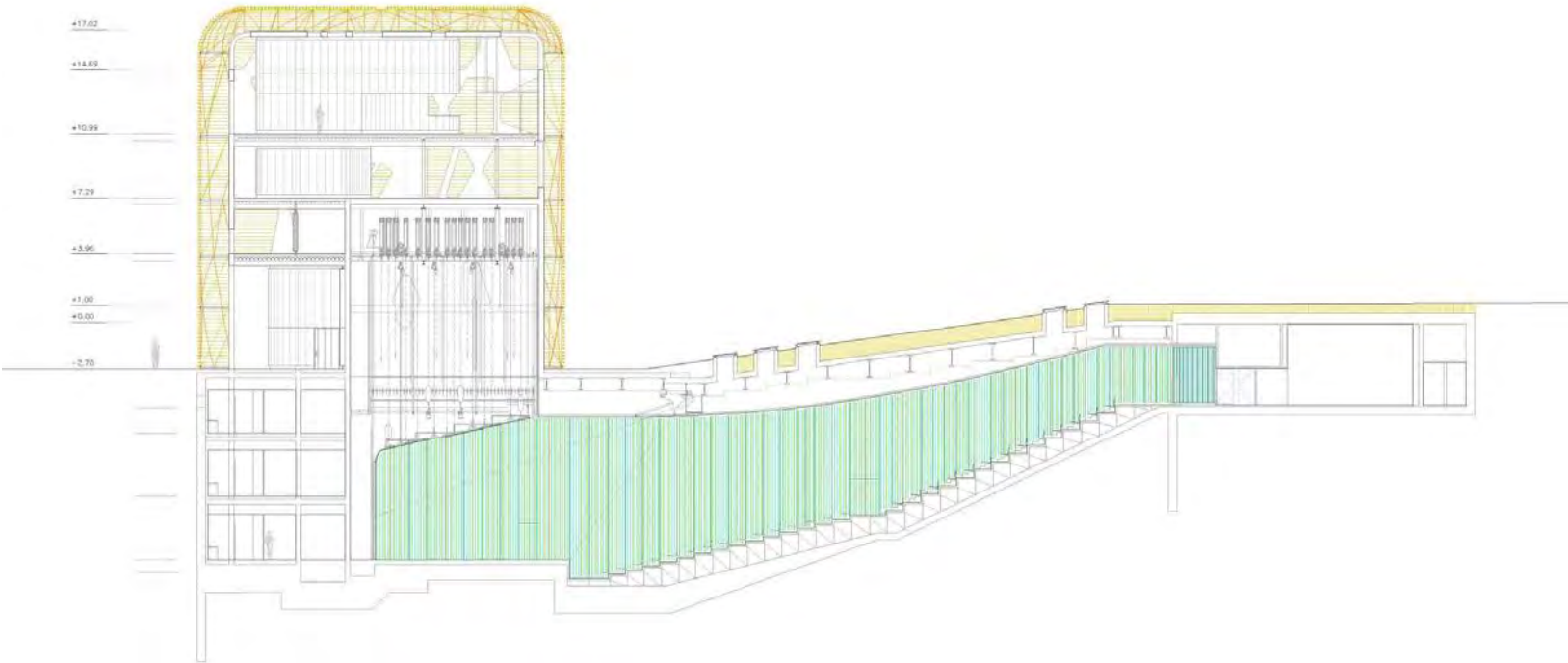


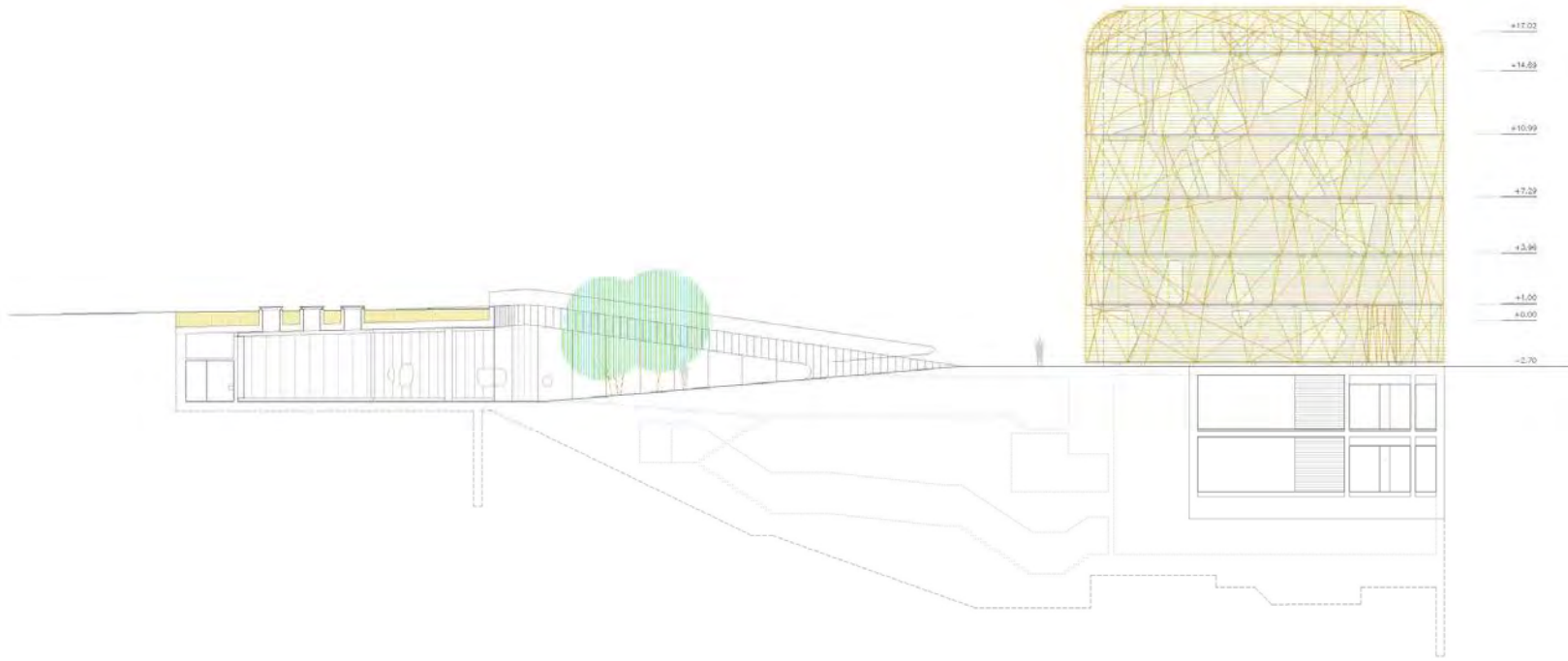


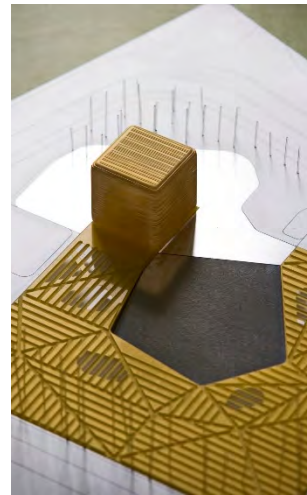
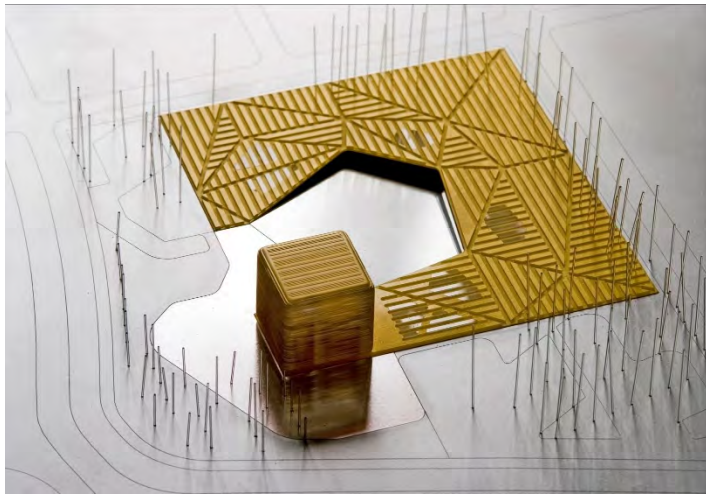
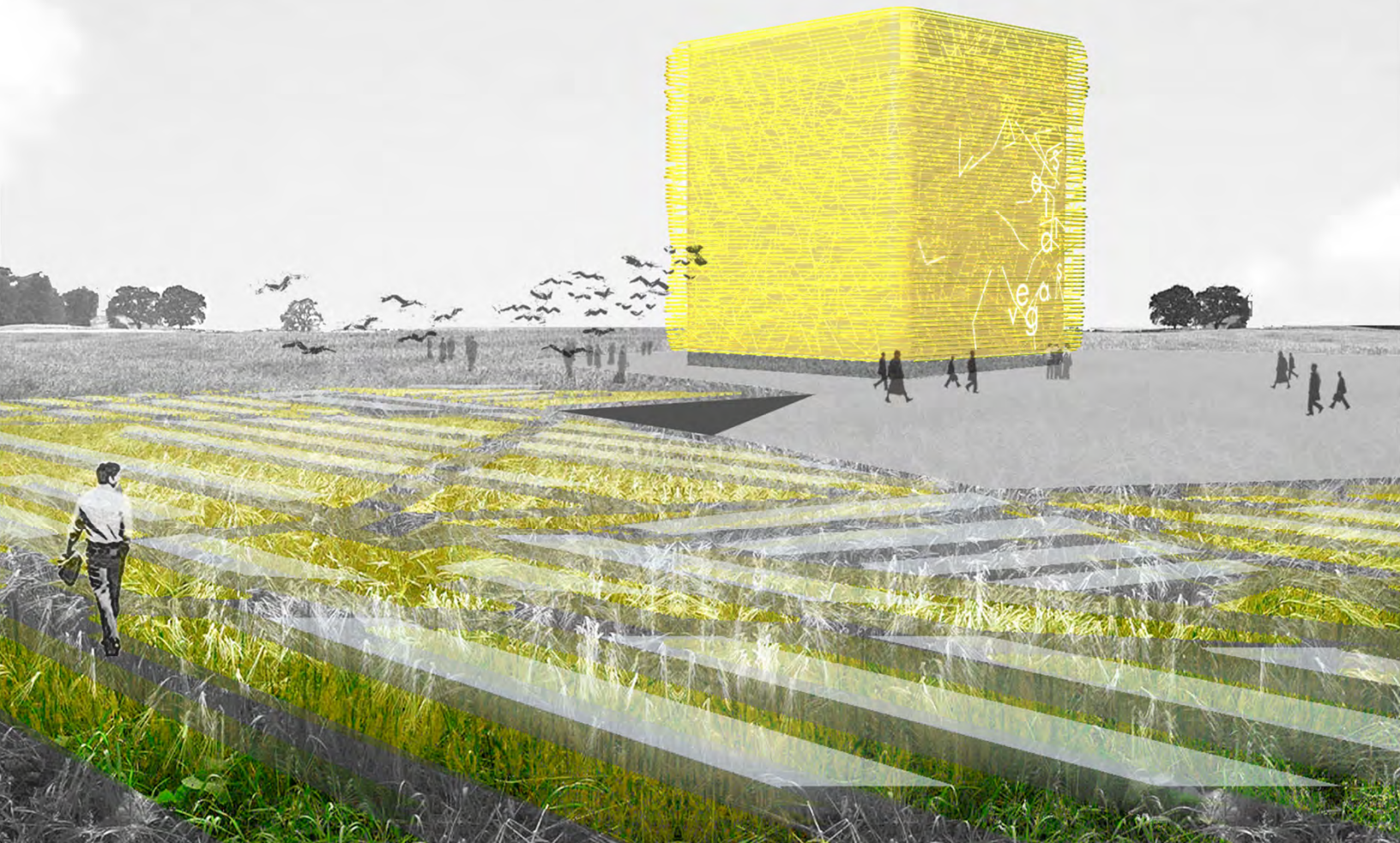


Vegas Altas Congress and Exhibition Center. Villanueva de la Serena, Badajoz, Spain











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