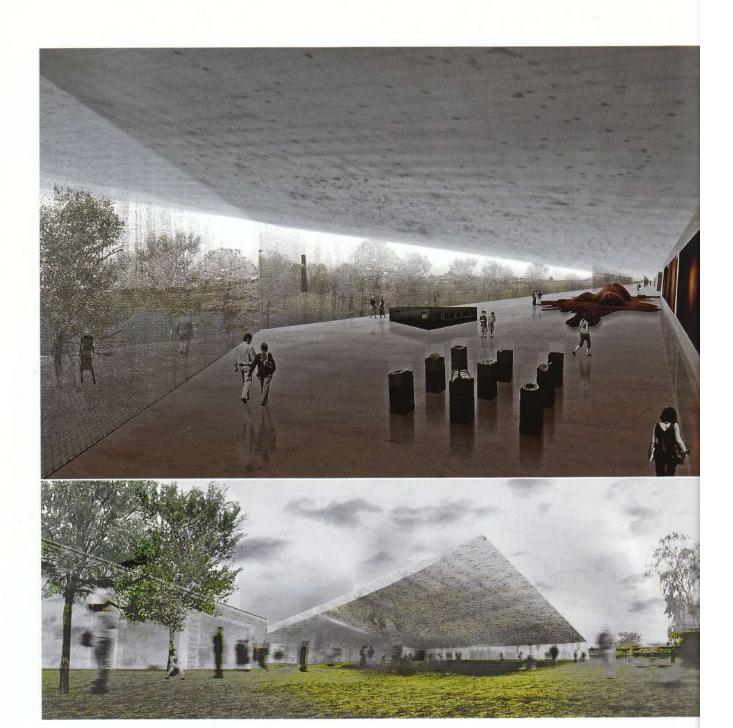


MAKIO HASUIKE & ALEXANDER KONSTANTINOV @ MONITOR APRIL'06 MII



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THE ESTONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM WAS FOUNDED IN 1909 WITH THE GOAL OF CREATING A TREASURY OF ESTONIAN G TURE, A NEW MUSEUM COMPLEX WILL BE BUILT IN TARTU, THE SECOND LARGEST CITY IN ESTONIA. THE WINNING PROJE BELONGS TO A GROUP OF ARCHITECTS BASED IN PARIS AND LONDON — LINA GHOTMEH, DAN DORELL AND TSUYOSHI TA AMONG 108 COMPETITION ENTRIES, IT WAS PROBABLY THE ONLY ONE THAT WENT BEYOND SOLVING PURELY FORMAL PRO LEMS. THE NEW MUSEUM IS LITERALLY INTEGRATED IN THE UNIQUE HISTORICAL CONTEXT; ITS STRUCTURE IS BASED ON ABANDONED AIRFIELD PLATFORM REMAINING FROM THE SOVIET ERA. THIS GIGANTIC CONCRETE RAMP CREATES A 73M-W AND 5KM-LONG STRETCH, CROSSES TWO LAKES AND DISSOLVES IN THE LANDSCAPE. THE PROJECT UTILISES ITS 1KM-LO FRAGMENT — A FUTURE PLATFORM FOR LARGE-SCALE EVENTS AND ARTISTIC INTERVENTIONS, AND A CANOPY ROOF FOR MUSEUM. THE GLASS WALLS, MIRROR-FINISHED FROM THE OUTSIDE AND TRANSPARENT FROM THE INSIDE, CREATE A RE TION BETWEEN THE MUSEUM AND THE NATURE, AN ELEMENT THAT IS INSEPARABLE FROM THE ESTONIAN CULTURE; I LAKES WILL BE VISIBLE THROUGH THE TRANSPARENT INSERT IN THE FLOOR. COMPARED TO THE SCALE OF THE CITY, THE SC OF THE MUSEUM COMPLEX IS SO IMPRESSIVE THAT IT WILL BE ABLE TO PUT TARTU ON THE INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL M ANOTHER BENEFIT COMING FROM THIS PROJECT IS THE POSSIBILITY TO BRING LIFE TO CURRENTLY UNDERDEVELOPED OF THE CITY. A SMALL-SCALE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSIGNED TO THE EAST SIDE OF THE MUSEUM WILL HELP IN FUNDING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE AREA. THE NORTH WEST SIDE IS PREVIEWED AS A CULTURAL AND EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT, WHILE THE AREA DIRECTLY SURROUNDING THE MUSEUM WILL BE CONSERVED AS A «GREEN» FORESTED PARTY.