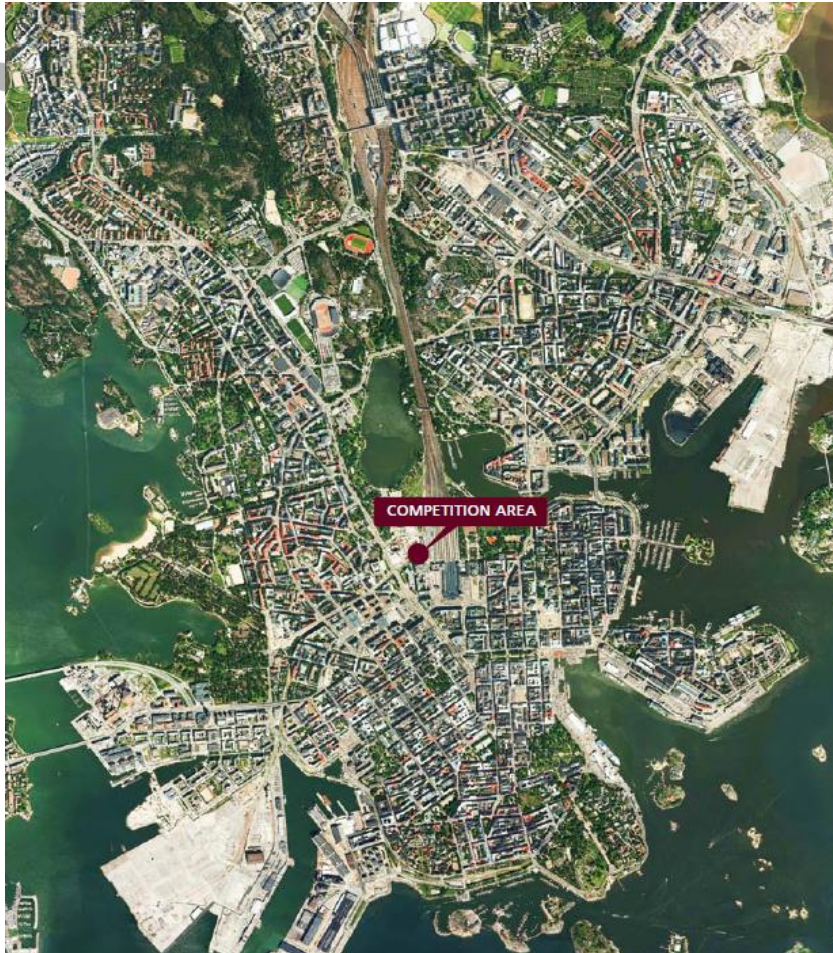


Library concepts to competition winners



LIBER LAG 2014

Session 2

Helsinki Central Library Project

Pirjo Lipasti

Chief Planner

Helsinki City Library

7.5.2014

Public libraries are important in Finland

- High appreciation to reading and knowlegde
- Public library movement in the 19th century was an important element in building the nation; another movement was for public schools
- High number of library users compared world wide
- *The goal of public libraries is to serve citizenship;* to promote reading & literature. Enlarged tasks like offering working space and organising a variety of events



2,5 million

10 000



Library Is the Most Popular Culture Service

- Helsinki University Library – The New Main Library Kaisa
 - visits 6500 a day
- Library 10
 - visits 2000 a day
- Turku City Library – The New Main Library
 - visits 5000 a day
- Apila–Library in Seinäjoki
 - visits 2000 a day



A brief glimpse into history of the project
Mikko Leisti: Central Library - The Heart of Metropolis, 2008

“In Finland public spaces aren’t designed for people. Usually they are empty squares and monuments. Public space should be for us all: street kitchens, sofas, creative nudges, peer learning and so forth. We need space and tools, that could be used for people’s own events, action and ideas.”

-*Arto Sivonen*, urban culture activist & marketing manager



The Heart of the Metropolis - Helsinki Central Library Open International Architectural Competition 1/2012 - 6/2013

Goals:

- Supports the library's new functioning concepts
- A mark of excellence in the urban landscape and architecturally enduring
- Reinforces Helsinki's positive cultural image
- City of innovation

The competition was a part of the World Design Capital Helsinki 2012 programme



We received 544 entries
for the open international architectural competition.



First price:


“Käännös” by ALA Architects

Shared third prize

“Kasi” by Verstas Architects

“Liblab” by Playa Architects

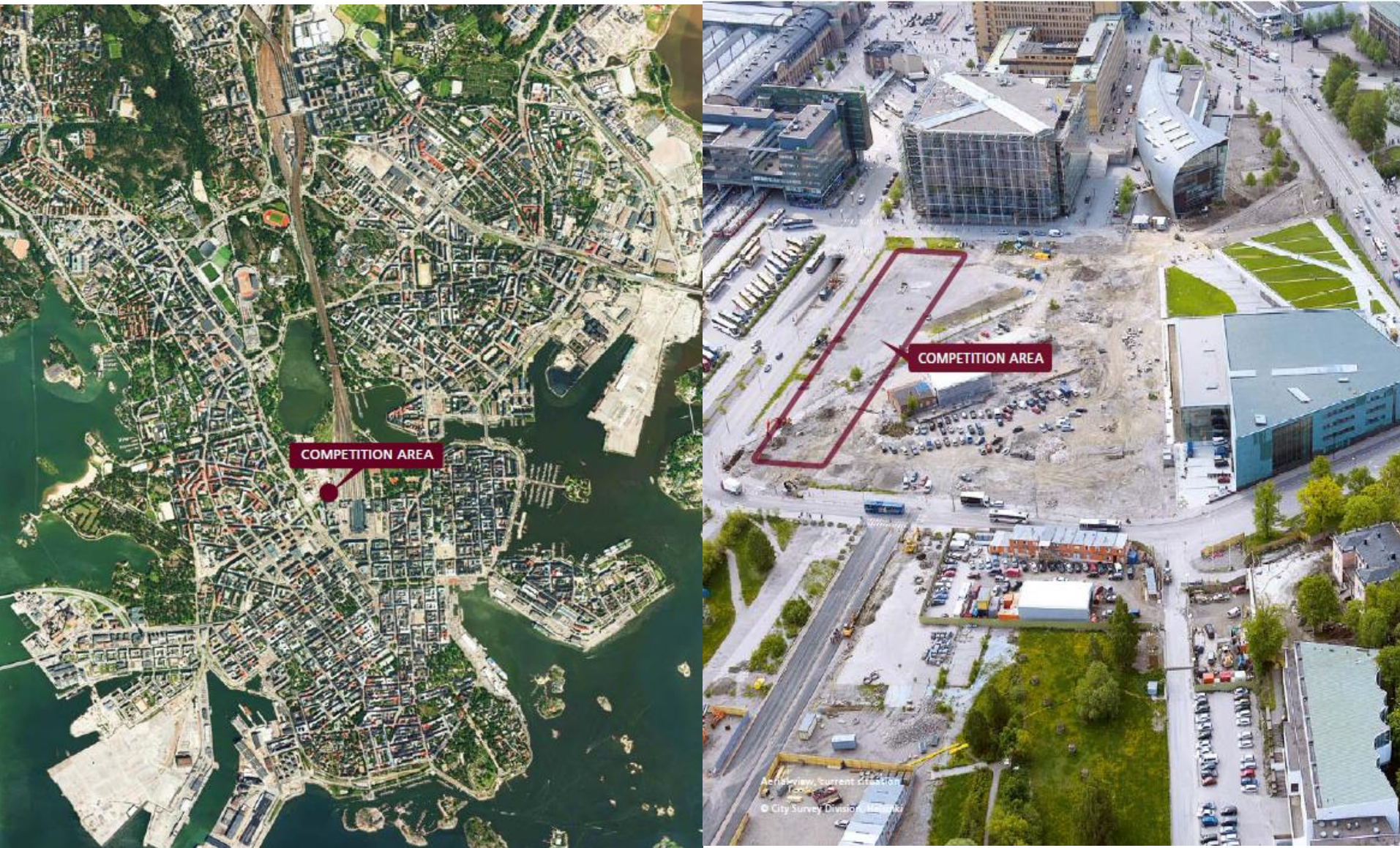
Five honourable mentions were awarded



“The Central Library will be completed in 2017/ 2018 to celebrate the centennial of Finnish independence. The library is the Finnish Government's official centennial project”.

Minister of Culture and Sports
Paavo Arhinmäki, 14.6.2013

Töölönlahti city block – a symbolically significant location right in the heart of Helsinki next to Parliament Building, Museum of Modern Art, Music Hall and Sanomatalo



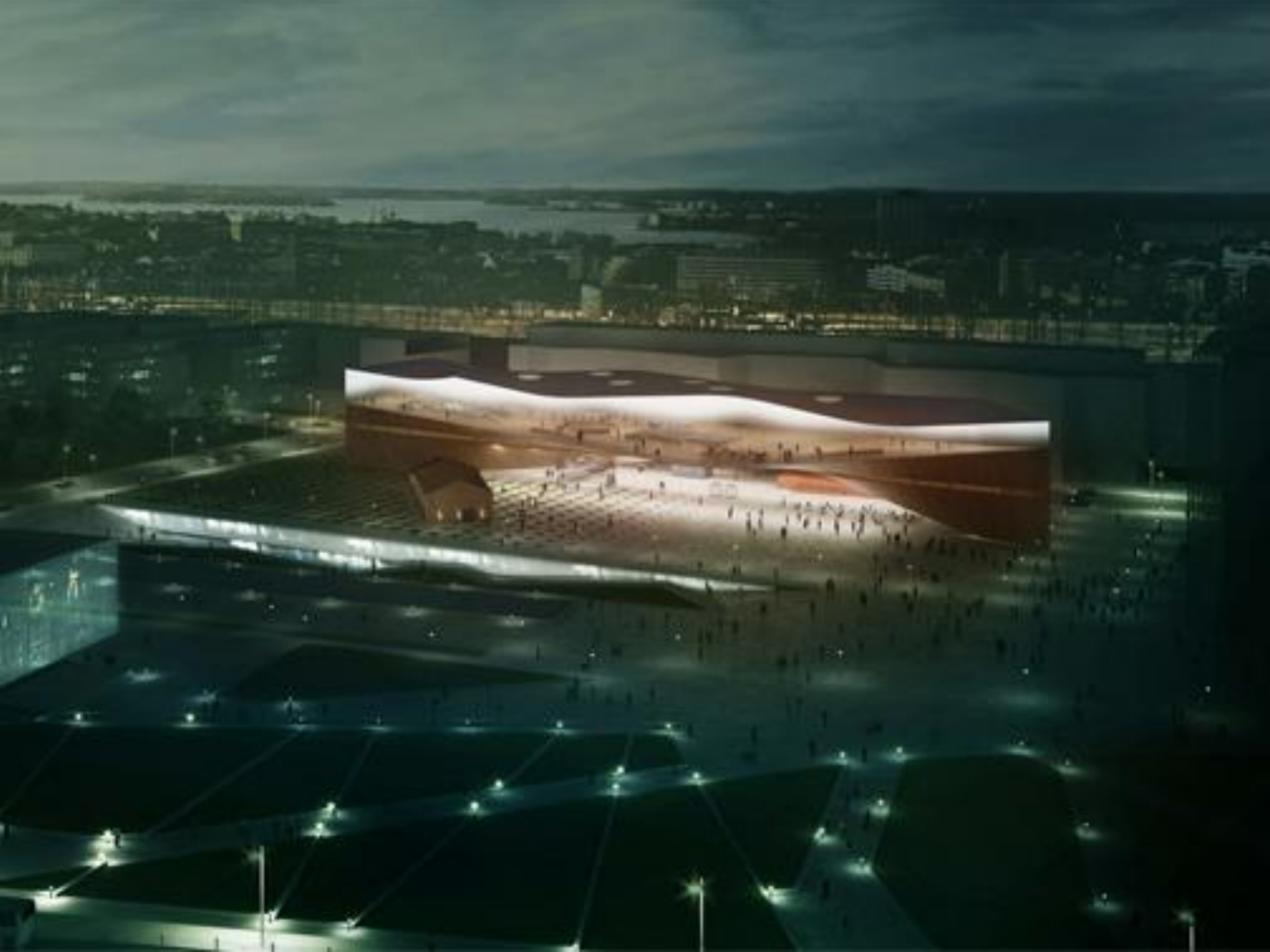


The Best Bits from The Competition Programme



| Meeting- and lounge area 440 m² | Stage 30 m² | Pop-up-infos 100m² | Cinema 490m² |
Multi-purpose hall 350m² | Lobby areas 150m² | Back Stage 40m² | Living lab 200m² |
Exhibition spaces 300m² | Café 200m² | Restaurant 300m² | Interactive spaces 240m² |
Living rooms 500m² | Children's World 600m² | PersonalOffice-area 400m² | Studios 160m²
| Makerspace 100m² | Listening, viewing, games room 230m² | Music, recording and
videostudio 400m² | Service-points & collection area 1600 m²

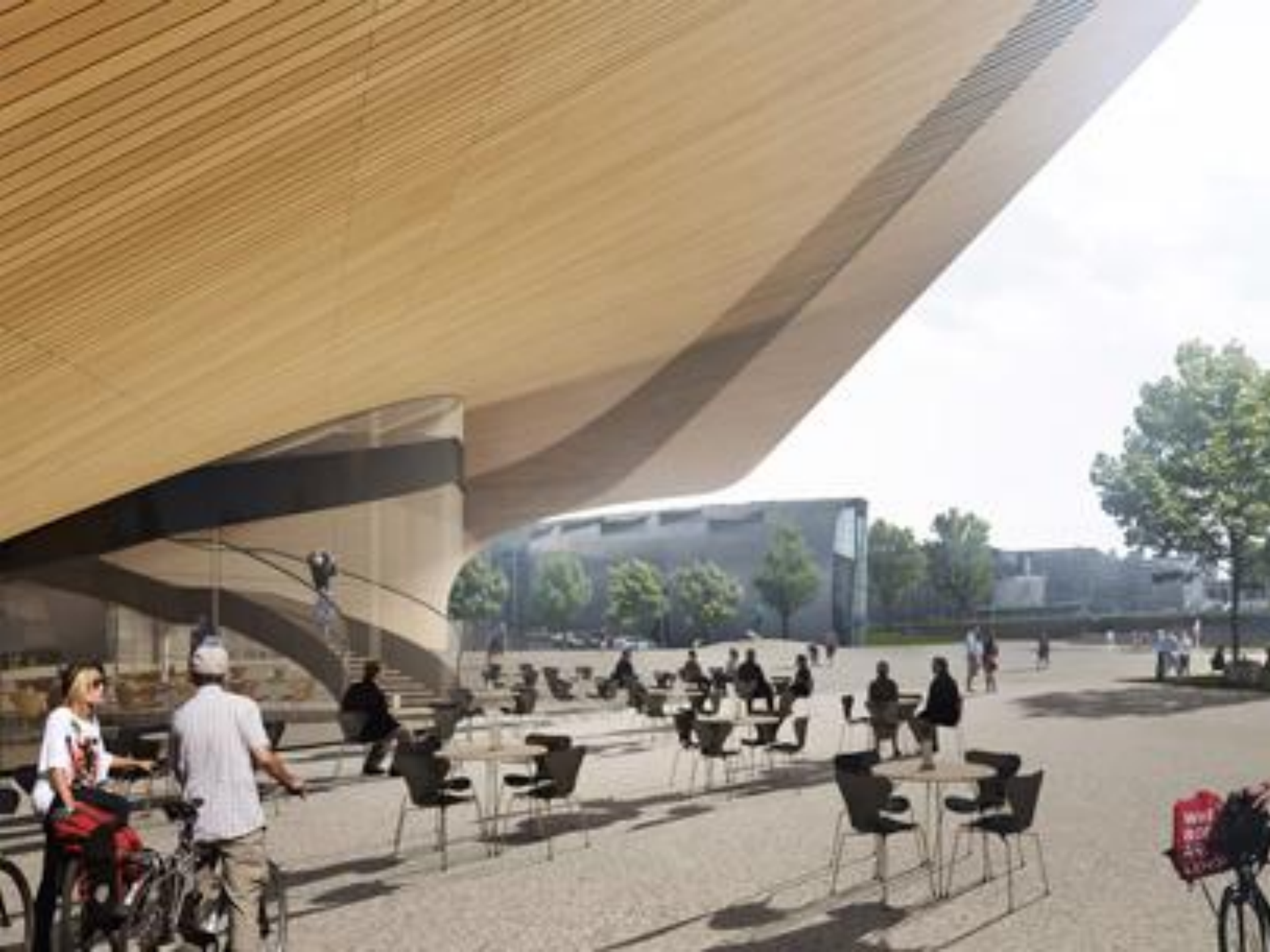






Why We Need the Library of The New Era

Open, non-commercial, public space - 2.5 million visits annually
Information and skills for a more functional society
Rich city experience created by the residents themselves



Why We Need the Library of The New Era

The book's new life - a house of reading in Töölönlahti
Pioneer in intelligent everyday life
A library for all senses - a new programme every day





An extensive terraced area, called “citizens’ balcony”, is linked with the top floor. It adds, from many different viewpoints, a symbolic gesture to the form of the building and beckons the library users to take time to relax.



One of the strengths of the proposal is the rather different moods on the three floors of the building. Access from the ground-floor level to the upper floors creates a distinct, yet at the same time surprising, spatial sequence.



The first floor has a workshop-like character and offers an inspiring centre for diverse functions, which conveys 'doing things' and 'activity'. The functions are present in an informal way and are both easily approachable and easy to use.



The top floor is beautiful, light-filled and pleasant. Exciting views open up from the spaces into the surrounding scenery. The free forms of the ceiling articulate the space pleasantly.



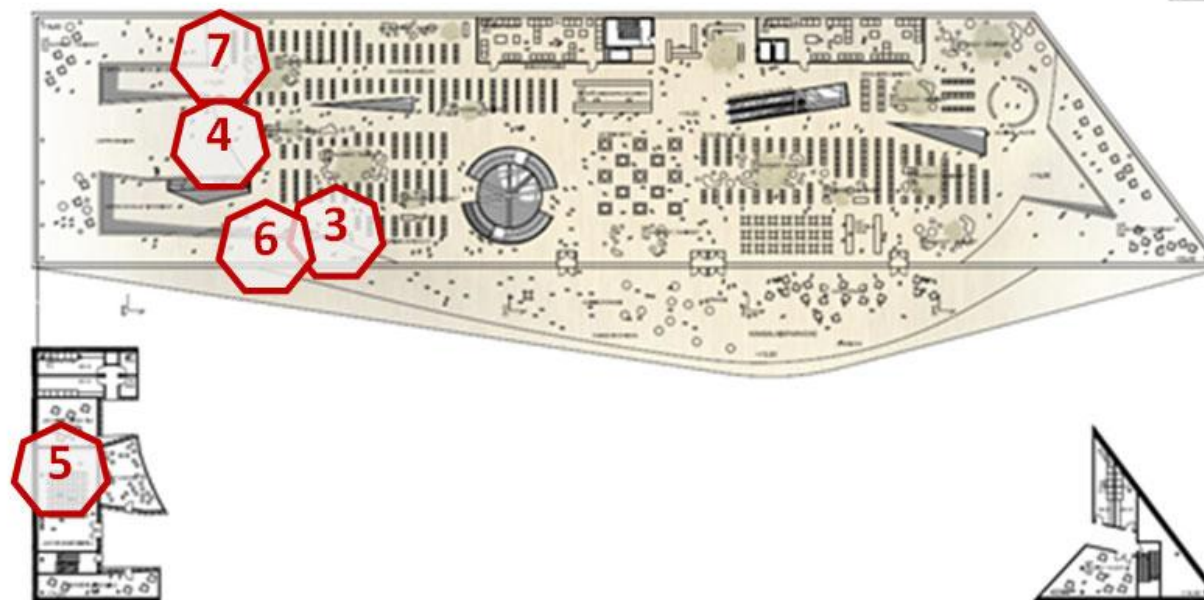
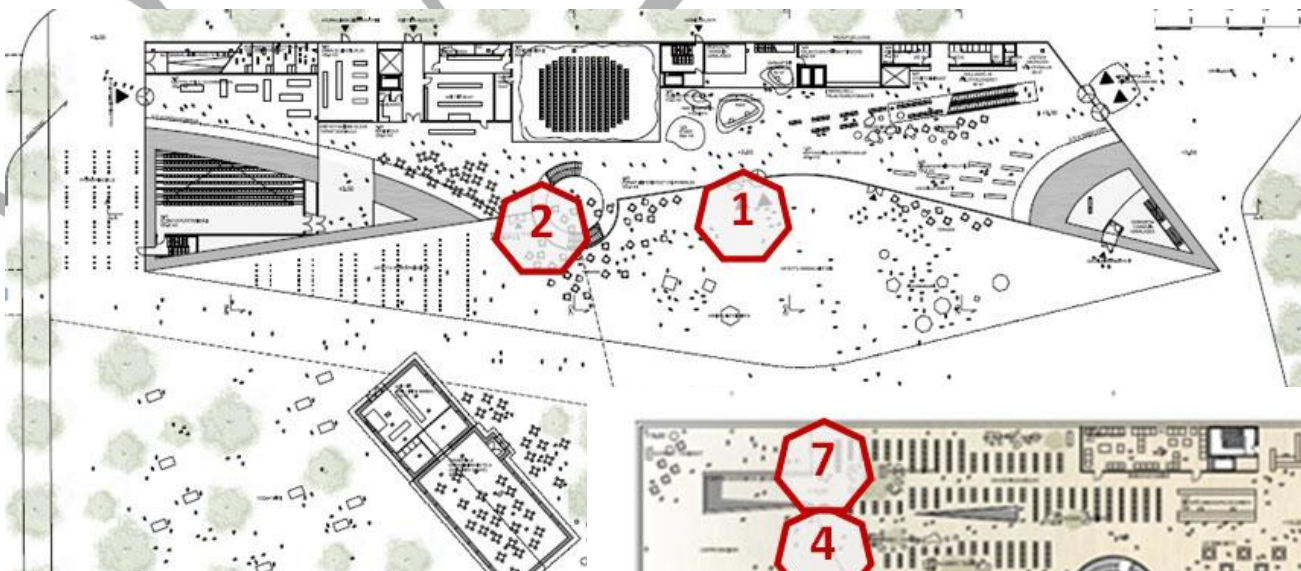
The library will be extremely eco-efficient, so called “zero energy building”.

Facts and figures

A hub of knowledge, skills and stories

- 10 000 visitors a day, 2,5 million a year
- 10 000 m² of the library of the future
- Collection 200 000 items
- Long opening hours, even 24/7 - part of it
- Construction cost 96 million Euros. 16 Million is still missing
- Site location: near Töölö Bay, Helsinki

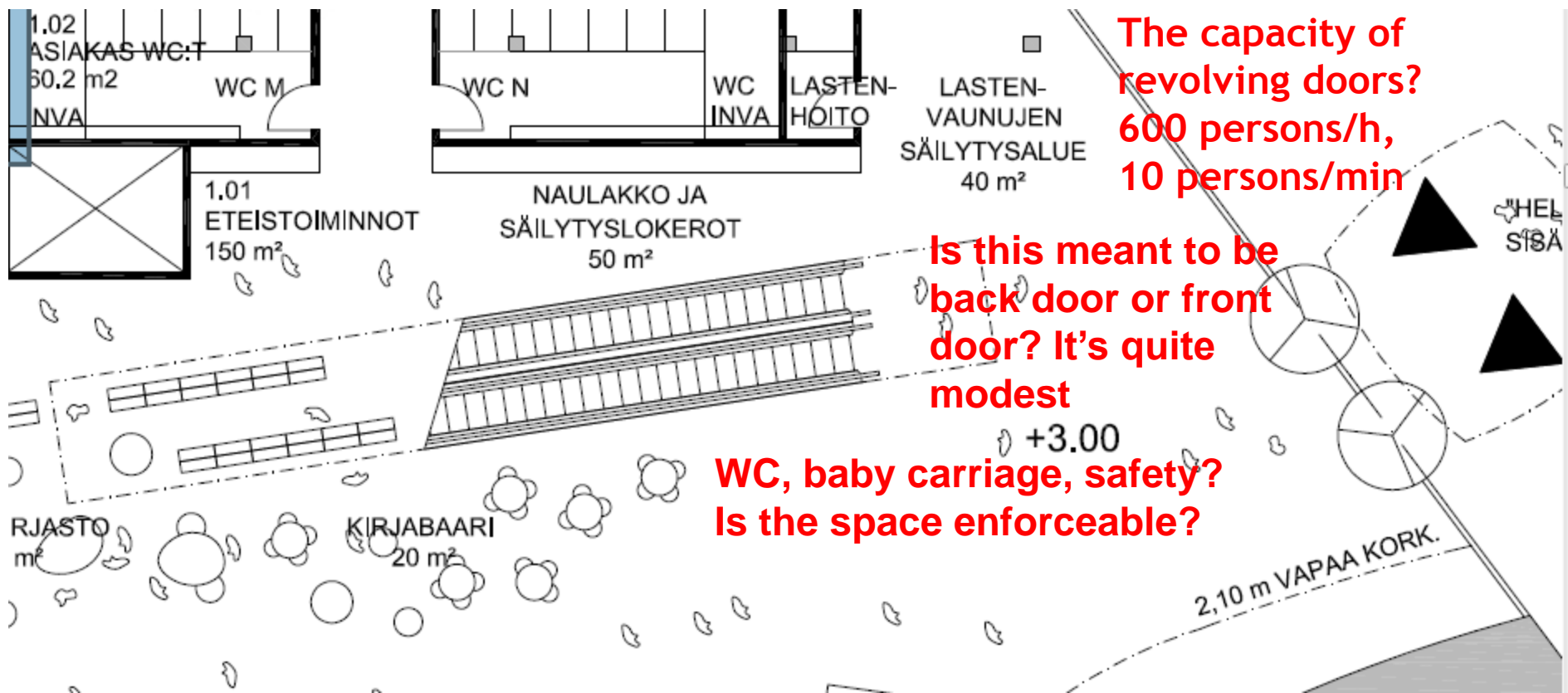
Customer path: school class



3. KESKUSTAKIRJASTO JA OSAPOIKUJAT RAAPPOEN ALUELUKUSTA TILASTO 1:500

KESKUSTAKIRJASTO

2017

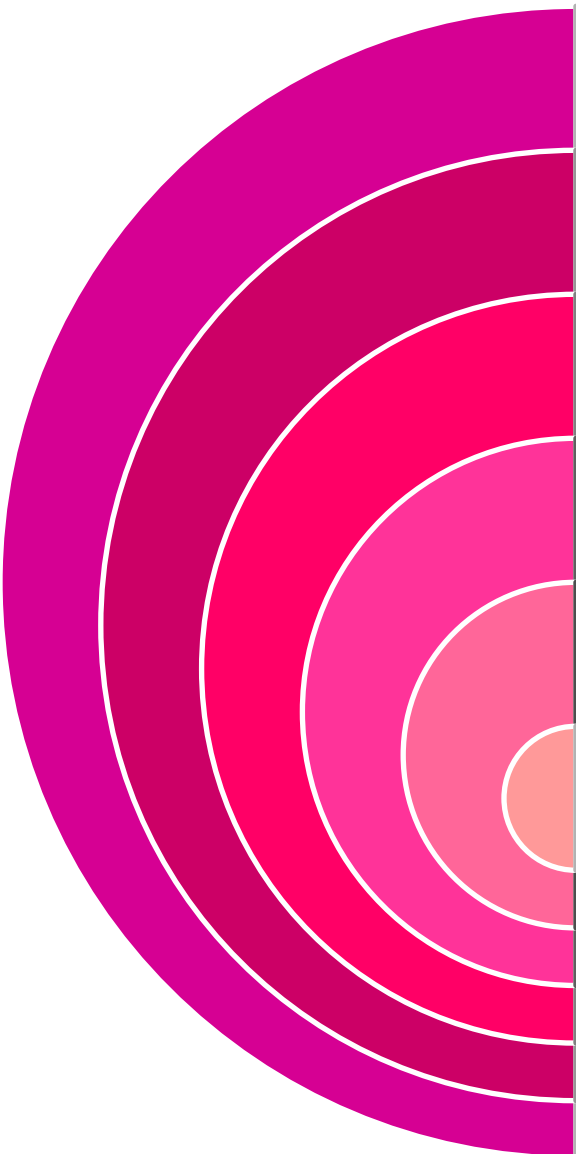


The capacity of revolving doors?
600 persons/h,
10 persons/min

Is this meant to be
back door or front
door? It's quite
modest

WC, baby carriage, safety?
Is the space enforceable?

An imaginary Monday event calendar of the library



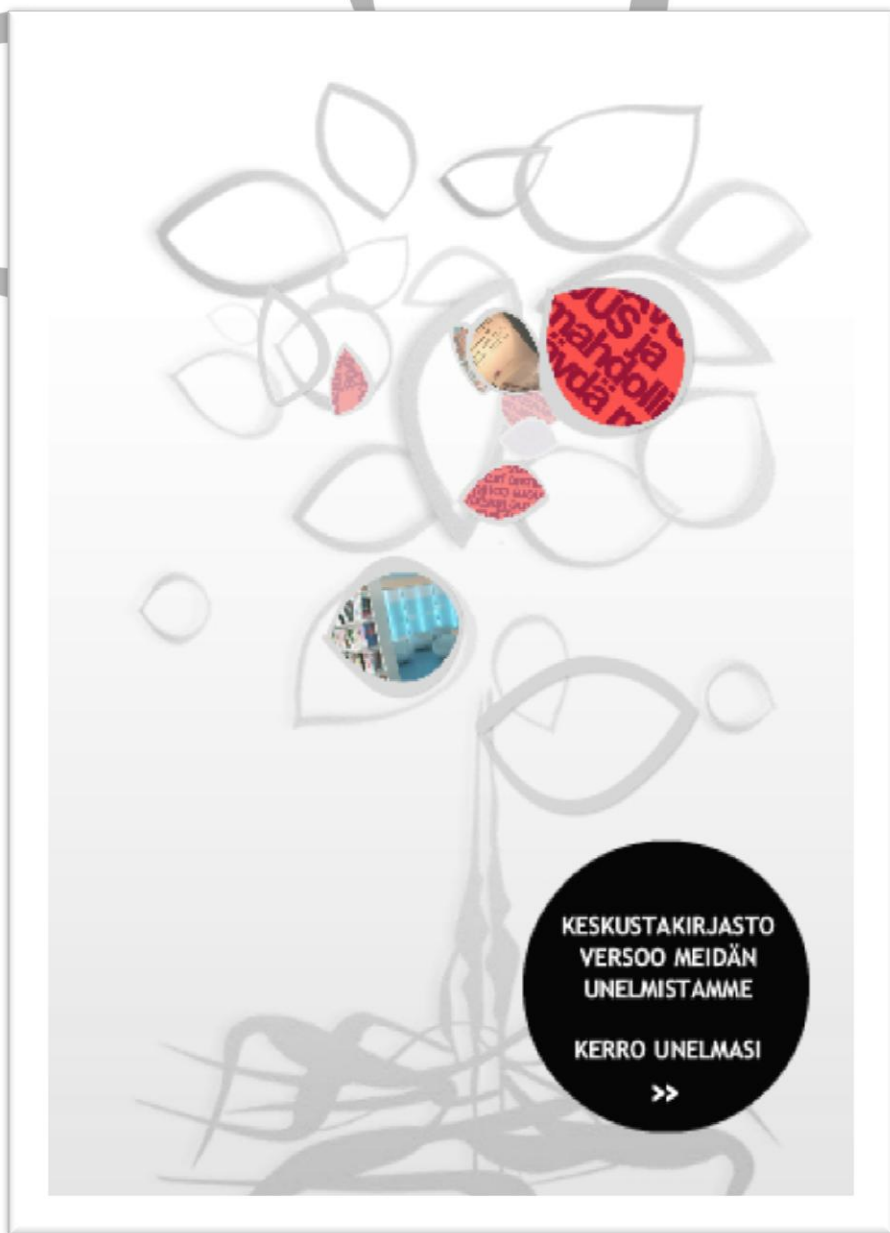
SOS Children's villages meeting, at 18-20, Tove Jansson-meeting room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finnish language discussion club, at 17-19, Multiculti-area
Detective stories workshop, at 16-18, lobby/ oasis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of Parliament – series, at 18-20, free speech area
Rocky Horror Picture Show, at 12-14, cinema	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Photographers meeting, at 16-18, studio
Lecture: Banksy's art and vision, klo 9-11, multipurpose hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual arts meets education , at 11-13, Flow-workshop
Finnish Business Culture, at 11-13, Feeling good –meeting room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading together: Travel books, at 12-14, Maria Jotuni –teamwork room
Climate food-weeks, all day long, restaurant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debate club at 17-19, interaction space

The schedule

- The project plan is ready for the decision making 9/2014, legal 3/2015
- Construction begins 11/2016
- The opening ceremony 6.12.2018

Building the Central Library openly together





KESKUSTAKIRJASTO
VERSOO MEIDÄN
UNELMISTAMME
KERRO UNELMASI



KESKUSTAKIRJASTO

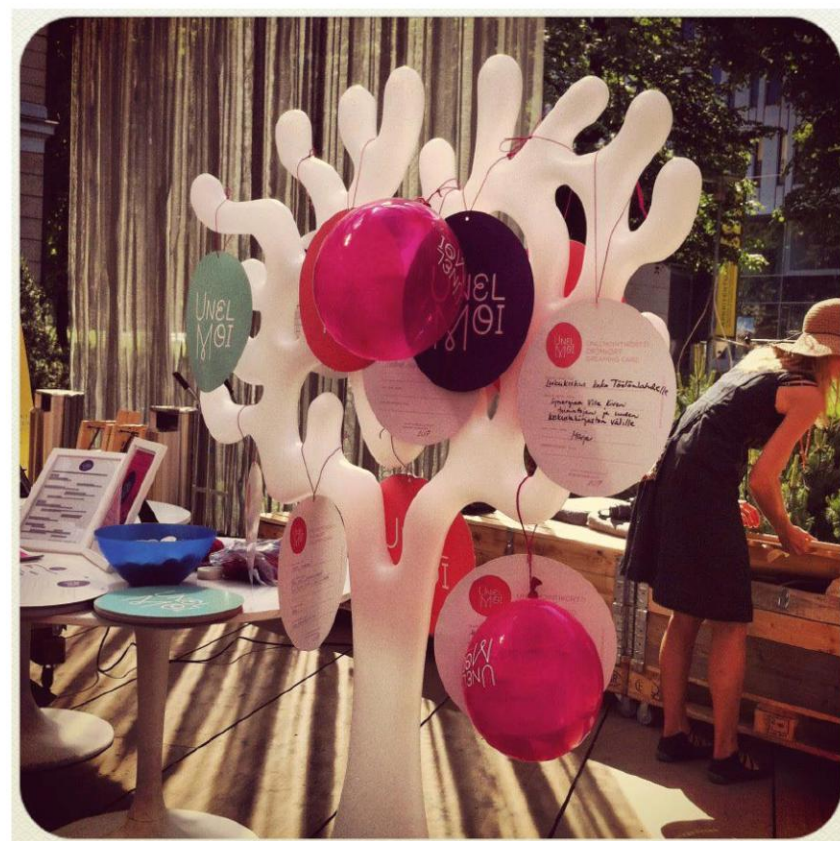
2017



10.5.2014

KESKUSTAKIRJASTO

2017



10.5.2014

Building the Central Library openly together

Citizens' ideas and wishes (almost 2300 by now)

- Space for relaxing, slow life
- Space for happenings, work shops, city culture, DIY
- Space for working
- Concepts for peer-to-peer learning and for sharing
- Place for families and dialogue between generations
- Open for all, a non-commercial meetingplace



Central Library - a Flagship for All The Libraries



Operations of the Central Library are already being created in pilots and projects with the help of local libraries and libraries also nationally.



Coffee and
poetry. We wish
to have a place
where we could
make poetry,
read it, and
drink coffee
beside it.

- Mari & Mai

KESKUSTAKIRJASTO

2017



**A free place to
work and meet
people in relaxed
athmosphere.
Like a cosy living
room but in the
centre of the city.**

- Stella

Tapaamiset / Nainen / 25-45 / 12.11.2010



7

TYKKÄÄ TÄSTÄ



ilmianna



**A room for
meditation.
A sound
proof space
with soothing
colors.**

- Maaria

Uutta ja yllättävää / Nainen / 25-45 / 1.7.2011




3

TYKKÄÄ TÄSTÄ



ilmianna




**Hopefully an
art workshop,
where one
can write and
bind one's
own book.**

- axel

Oppimisen ilo / Mies / 25-45 / 25.8.2010

19

TYKKÄÄ TÄSTÄ



**Beautiful and
cosy, not cold
and sterile. Offers
books, music and
movies. A quiet
oasis where the
rustle of history
is present.**

- Mimi


Aarteet / Nainen / 46-65 / 15.6.2011

1

TYKKÄÄ TÄSTÄ



ilmianna



Cushioned reading room, where tea is served, and where there are soft and comfortable corners to read peacefully.

- kirjastokissa

Aarteet / Nainen / 25-45 / 9.1.2011



4

TYKKÄÄ TÄSTÄ



ilmianna

Speaker's corner.

- dixi

pimisen ilo / Mies / 25-45 / 25.8.2010

9

TYKKÄÄ TÄSTÄ



ilmianna



HARE YOUR IDE



**A place for
informal
exchange of
knowledge with
informal and
released spaces
to make it
happen.**

- Nathalie

KESKUSTAKIRJASTO

2017

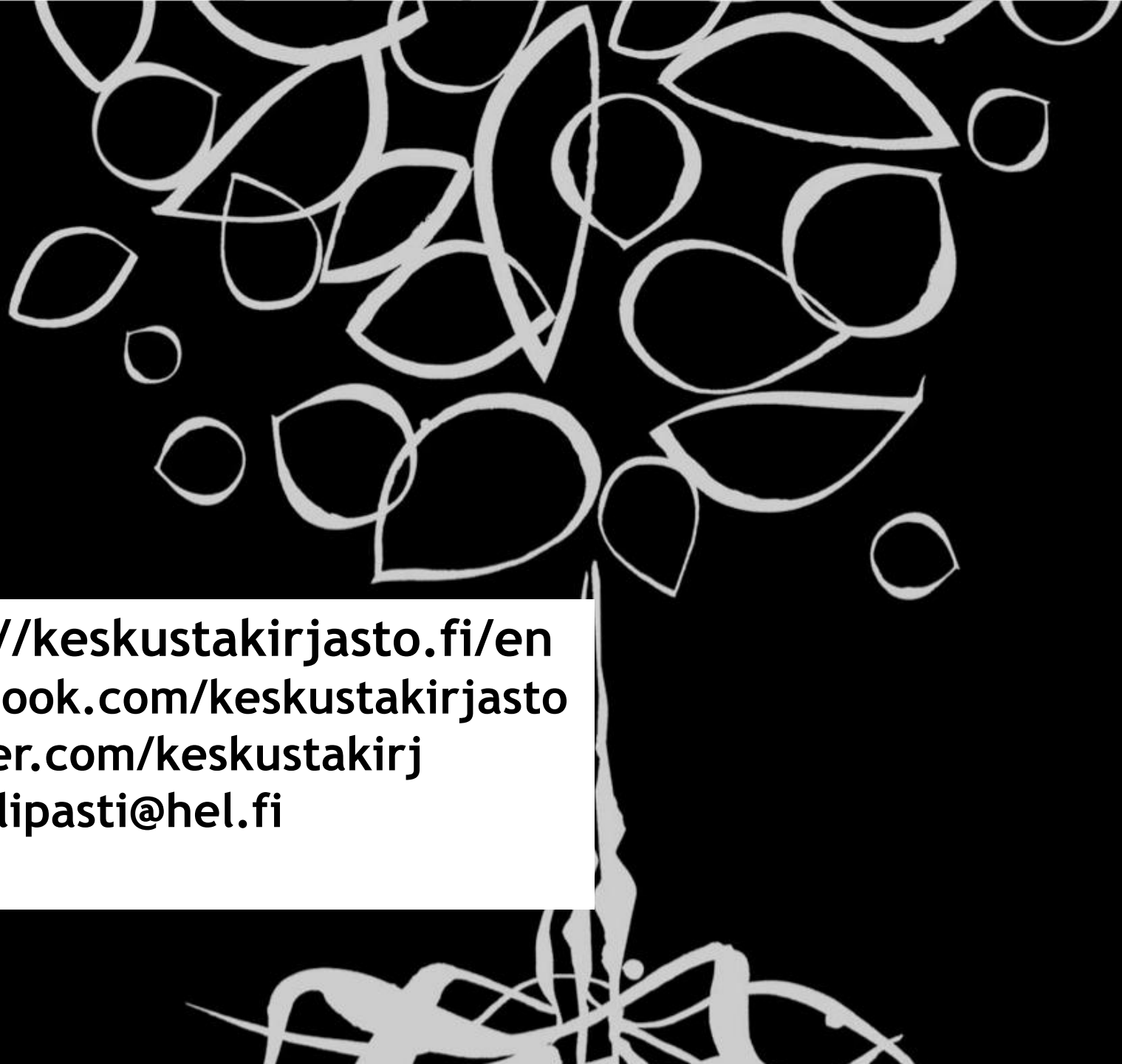
The library is an *enricher* of
ideas and *thoughts*,

where by *sharing*
knowledge, skills
and stories

we *together* create
a *new* civic society.

Vision of the
Helsinki City Library
KESKUSTAKIRJASTO

2017



<http://keskustakirjasto.fi/en>
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