

ZARIFI HAIDAR MARIN

Urban Designer - Architect - Illustrator

Zarifi Haidar Marín is an Architect, Urban Designer and a self-taught Illustrator based Lebanon.

With a BS in Architectural Engineering (2005) from the Beirut Arab University and a MS degree in Urban Design from the American University of Beirut (2016), Zarifi has accumulated over 18 years of valuable experience as an architectural and urban design consultant, playing a pivotal role in leading the design, development, and management of diverse projects in Lebanon and the region. She has also taught at the Beirut Arab University, delivered lectures at the American University of Beirut, and participated in various design workshops and researches across Lebanon and Europe.

Additionally, she is an accomplished self-taught Illustrator, having contributed to award-winning children's books and other publications.

Passionate about art and design, Zarifi is now fully dedicated to freelance illustration, finding joy in inspiring others through her creativity. Her current aspiration is to explore the convergence of urban design, architecture, and illustration within academia, contributing meaningfully to the educational experiences of aspiring architects and designers.

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ZARIFI HAIDAR MARIN

Work Samples

1. URBAN DESIGN

2. ARCHITECTURE

3. ILLUSTRATION

1. URBAN DESIGN

ACADEMIC WORK

UD1

RE-CONCEPTUALIZING INFRASTRUCTURAL BREAKS: BEIRUT'S INNER CITY RING ROAD AS CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Masters of Urban Design Thesis.
American University of Beirut, 2016.

UD2

HEALTHY SAIDA: PRESERVATION, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT & INTERCONNECTION OF SAIDA'S NATURAL AND BUILT HERITAGE

Urban Planning and Design Workshop.
American University of Beirut, Fall 2013-2012.

UD3

OLD CITY OF SAIDA: MONUMENTS RESEARCH AND MAPPING

Saida Urban Sustainable Development Strategy.
Medcities, 2013.

UD4

DPUSUMMERLAB: ROME OCCUPATION CITY

Urban Planning and Design workshop.
University College London in collaboration with
Laboratorio Arti Civiche. Rome, 2012.

PROFESSIONAL WORK

UD5

MOSUL: HOUSING FOR BUILDING A CITY OF RESILIENCE

Rifaat Chaderji Design Competition.
Almimariya Architects & Designers for Sustainable
Development. Beirut, 2017.

RE-CONCEPTUALIZING INFRASTRUCTURAL BREAKS: BEIRUT'S INNER CITY RING ROAD AS CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

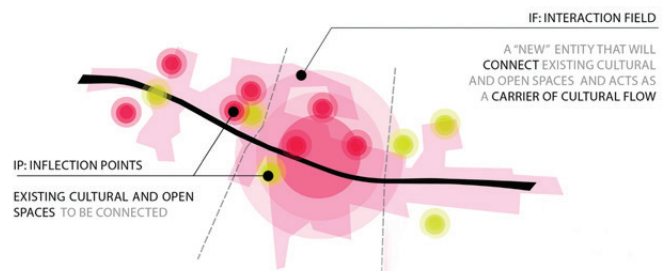
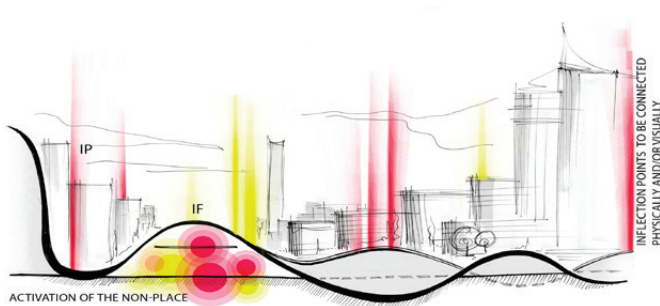
Masters of Urban Design Thesis. American University of Beirut, 2016.

The term "infrastructural breaks" stands for the irregular urban conditions resulting from the imposition of traffic arteries on inner cities fabrics. In the 1950s and 1960s, road-building schemes addressed the increasing need for facilitating accessibility in and out of inner cities without any instrumental engagement with ecological processes or with the socio-cultural needs of communities. The imposition of such traffic arteries disrupted the physical and social fabric of the neighborhoods they traversed. Taking the southern section of Beirut's inner city ring road as case study, this thesis attempts to explore how the Fouad Chehab highway can be re-conceptualized from an infrastructural break into an integrative cultural edge linking the city center to its adjoining districts.

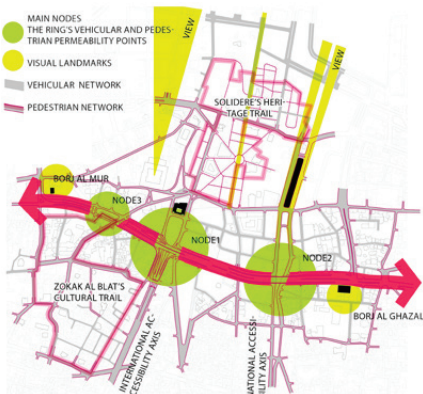
This thesis is a conceptual, design-centered investigation that aims at exceeding "customary frames of understanding" (Schwarzer, 2000) by bringing together theoretical, analytical, and design knowledge from different disciplines. By working along the intersection of the design disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture and urban design, the thesis critically explores the emerging fields of Architectural Urbanism and Landscape Urbanism to articulate specific design strategies that embrace the site's complexity and uniqueness.

Link to thesis:

<https://justzhm.files.wordpress.com/08/2016/zarifi-haidar-low-res.pdf>



Design concept and initial visualization



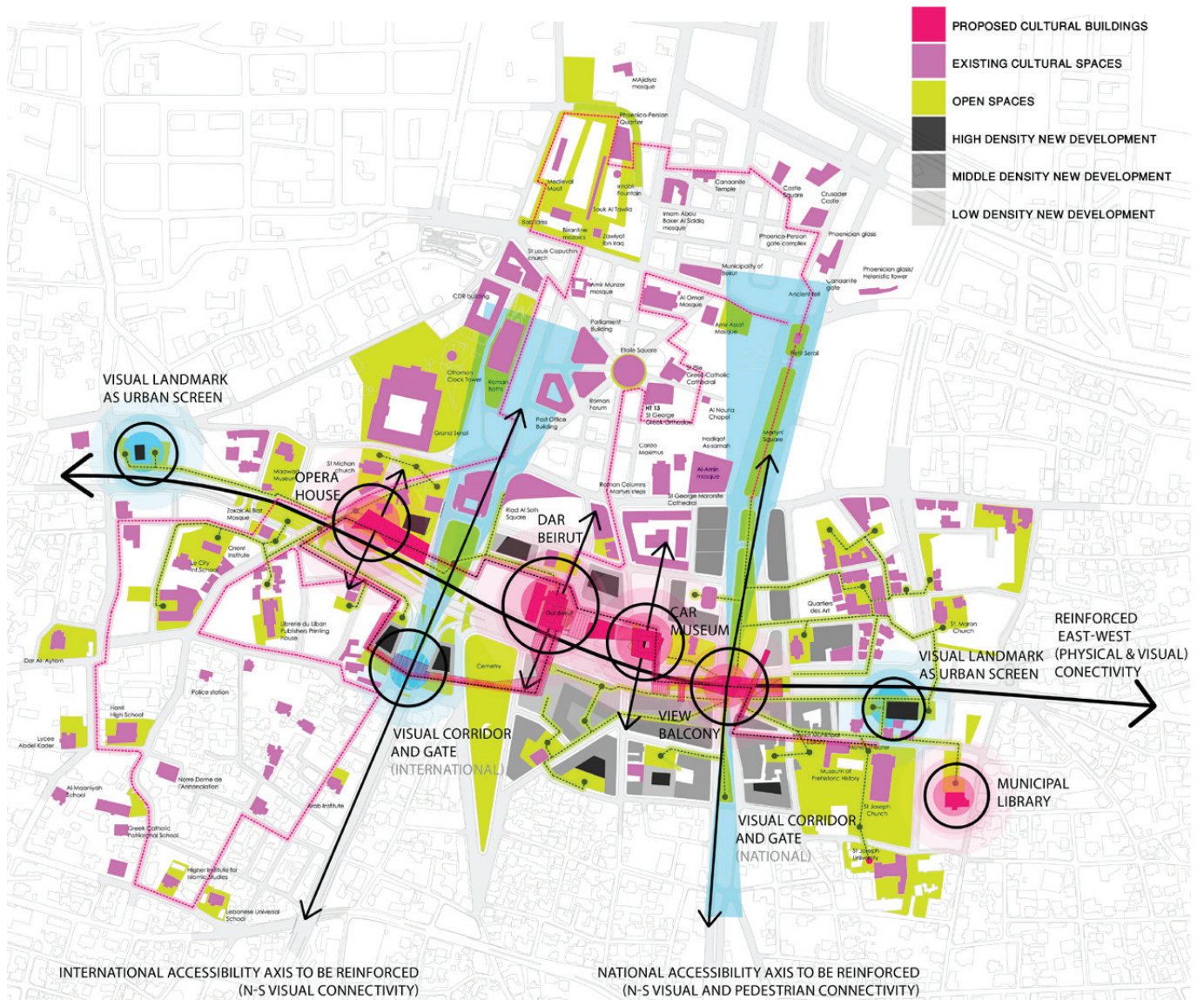
Connectivity



Cultural spaces



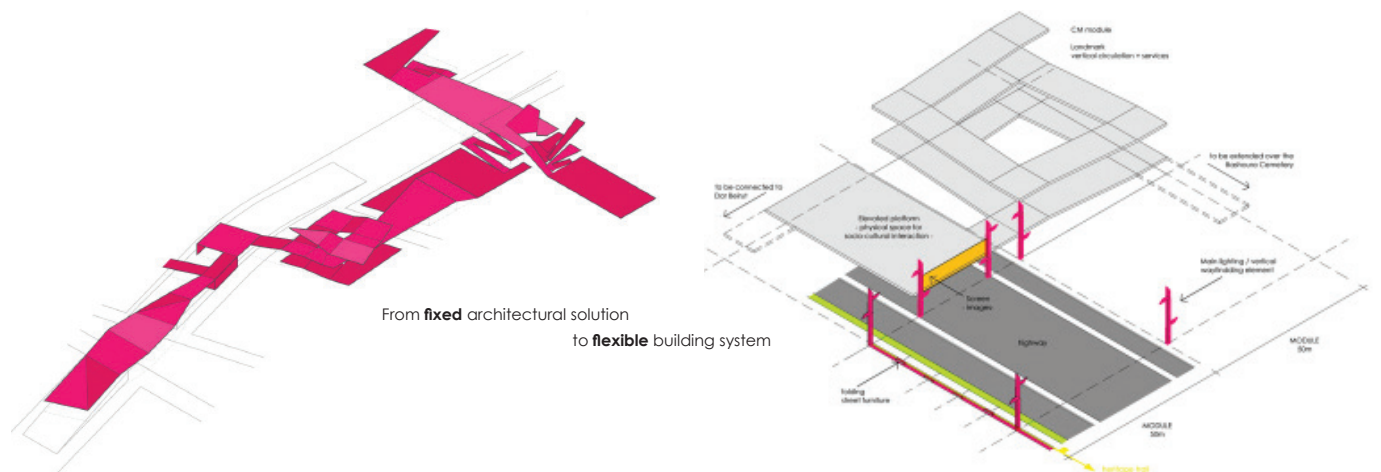
Open spaces



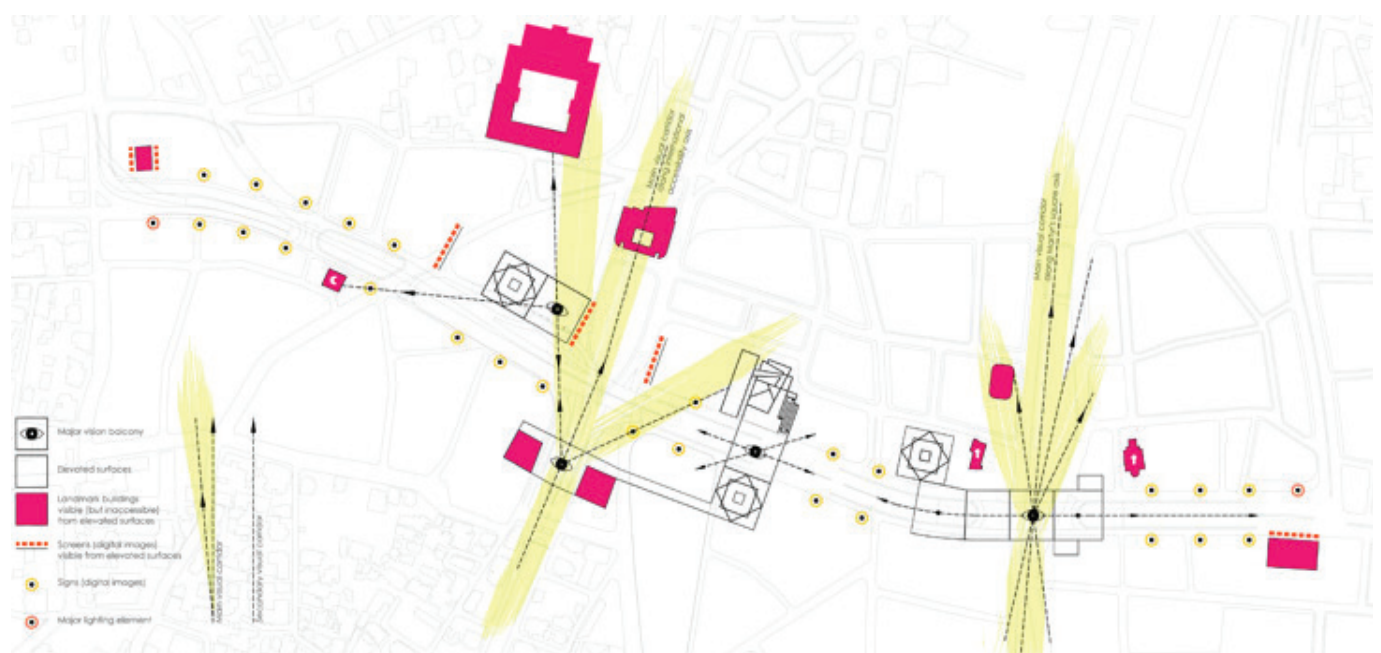
Strategic master plan



Revisited design - cultural infrastructure

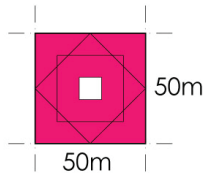


Revisited design - spatial strategy



Revisited design - visual strategy

New Modular Building Type

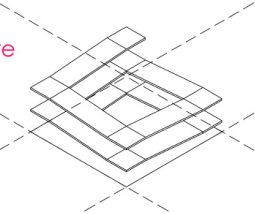


C court / core

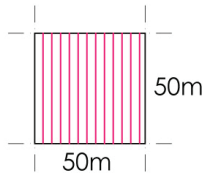
G ground

1 1st level

2 2nd level

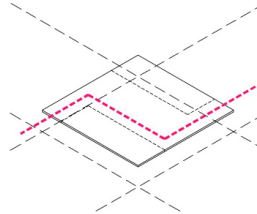


New Modular Elevated Platform



B bridging

A activity



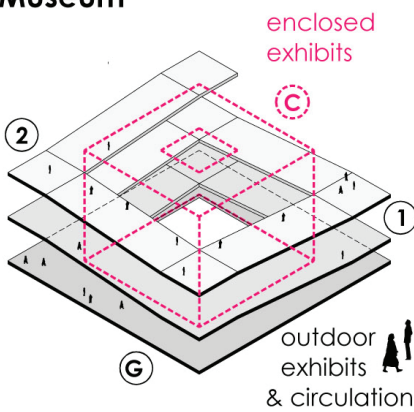
Existing to be Rehabilitated



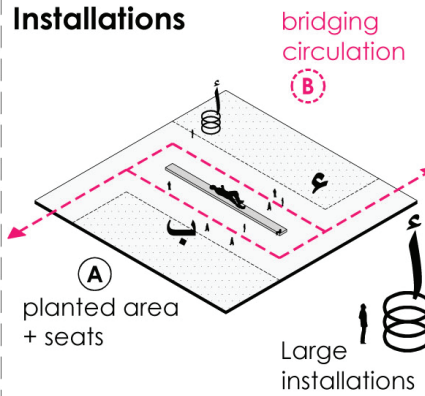
i.e. 1
Mar Mansour
Church



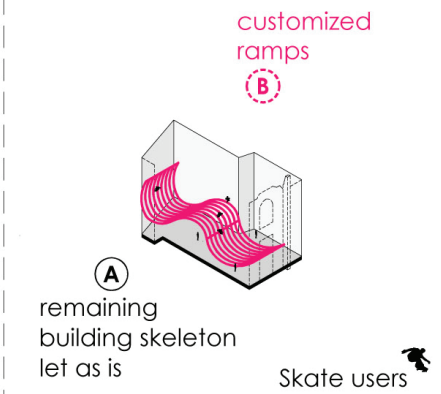
Museum



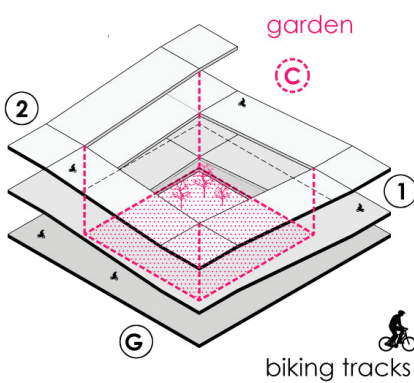
Plaza and Temporary Art Installations



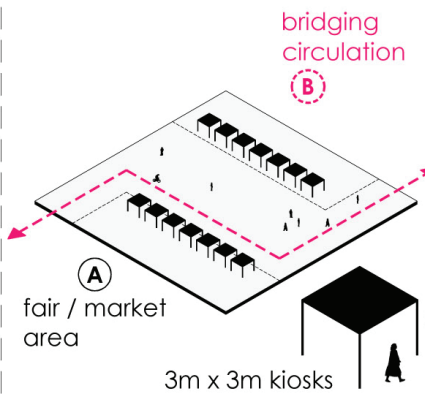
Skate Park



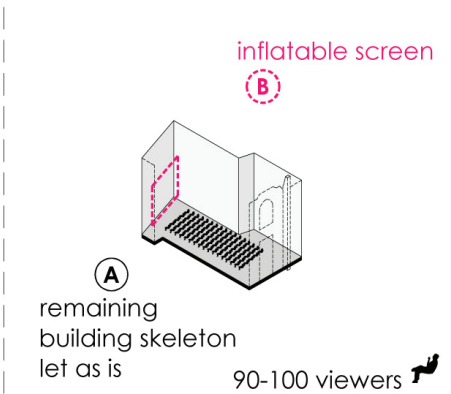
Biking Park



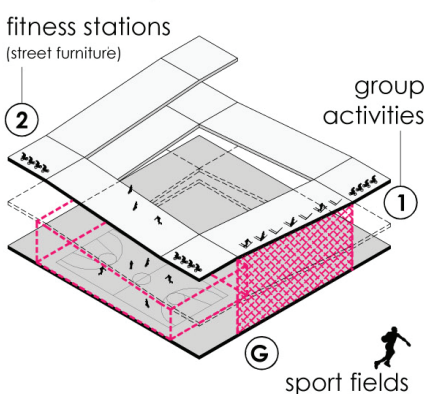
Art Fair / Farmers' Market



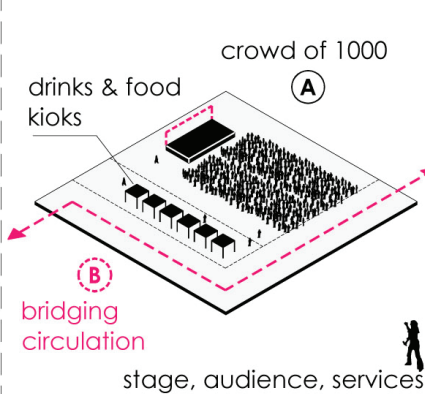
Outdoor Cinema



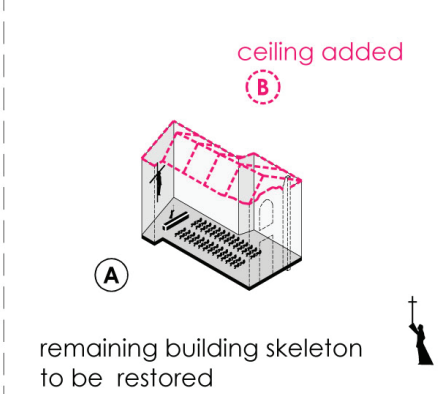
Vertical Gymnasium



Concert Venue



Church



Urban development strategies and interventions proposed during “Saida’s Old City: Which Urban Development Strategy?,” an urban planning and design workshop dictated by Mona Harb and Omar Abdulaziz Hallaj at American University of Beirut.

The main outcomes of the studio were: (a) comprehensive documentation of an urban setting through a variety of mapping and analytical tools, (b) analysis of the multiple layers

making up the built environment, independently and relationally, (c) identification of urban issues vis-à-vis urban planning and design theories, (d) conceptualization and suggestion of integrated urban strategies using appropriate sets of planning tools and design elements, (e) development and detailing of all the components of the urban intervention strategies, and (f) professional presentation and argumentation of findings orally and via maps, visuals, and narrative reports.



Design concept



Master plan and street sections

OLD CITY OF SAIDA: MONUMENTS RESEARCH AND MAPPING

Saida Urban Sustainable Development Strategy. Medcities, 2013.

A research and mapping contribution for the Medcities Strategic Diagnosis Report on Cultural and Natural Heritage lead by Howayda Al-Harithy, PhD, Architect and Giulia Guadagnoli, Urban Planner.

The first part of this contribution comprised updating the list of monuments inside the old city of Saida and their relevant maps. The production of these maps, which were categorized according to monuments' type, condition, age and ownership, required field visits and surveys aimed at: (a) verifying and updating data collected from previous studies, (b) recording of unlisted landmarks and monuments inside the old city,

and (c) expanding the lists to include diversity of cultural and natural sites, buildings and open spaces, gardens, cemeteries and maqams.

The second part of this contribution comprised the recording and mapping of unlisted heritage areas outside the old city of Saida, an exercise aimed at recognizing the city's diversity of building types and ages – which is not limited to the listed monuments dating from before 1750.

Link to report:

Saida Urban Sustainable Development Strategy, Diagnosis Report on Cultural and Natural Heritage – Medcities



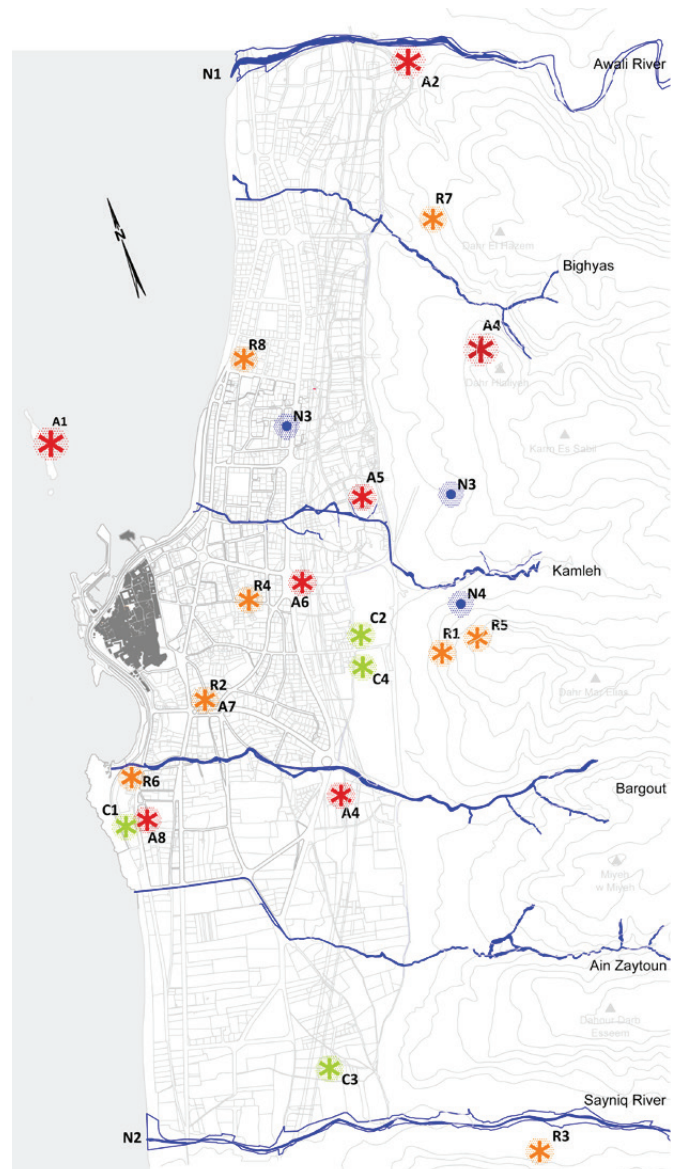
Land Citadel



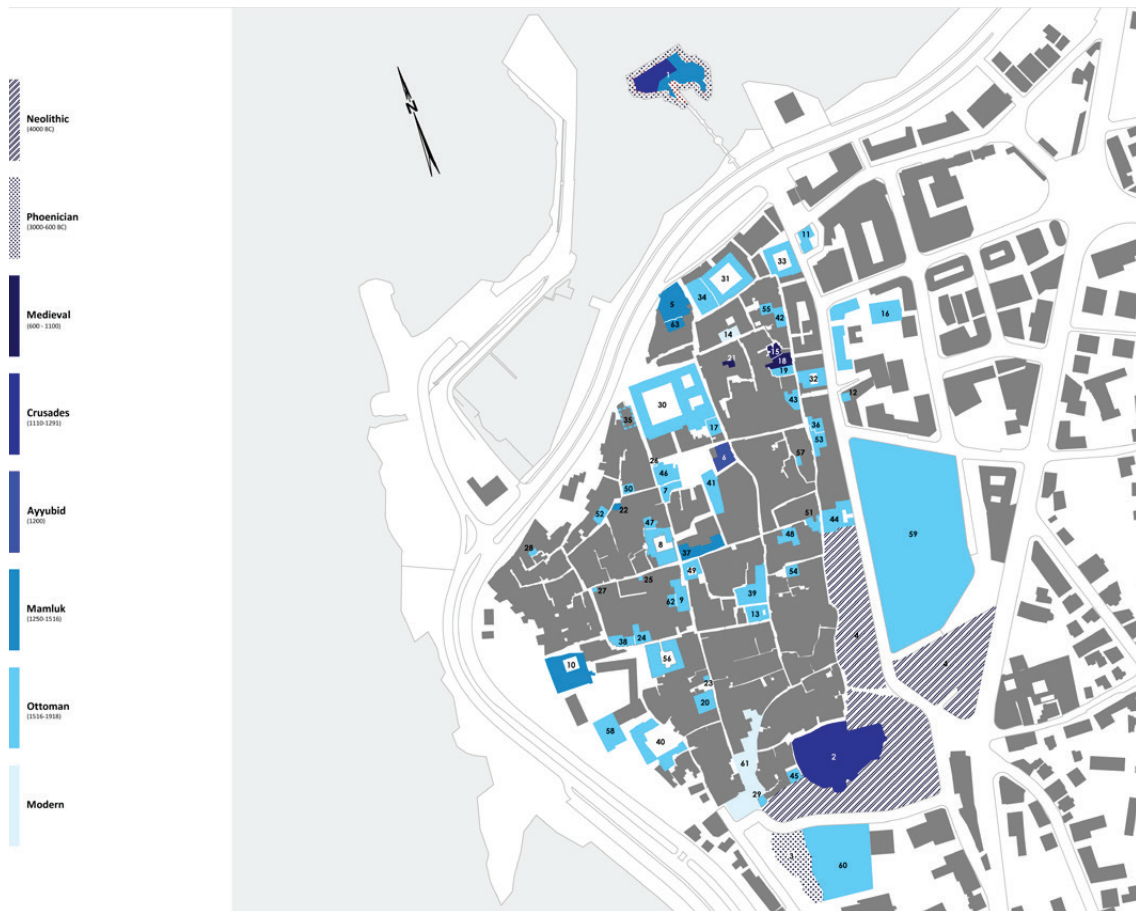
Land Citadel



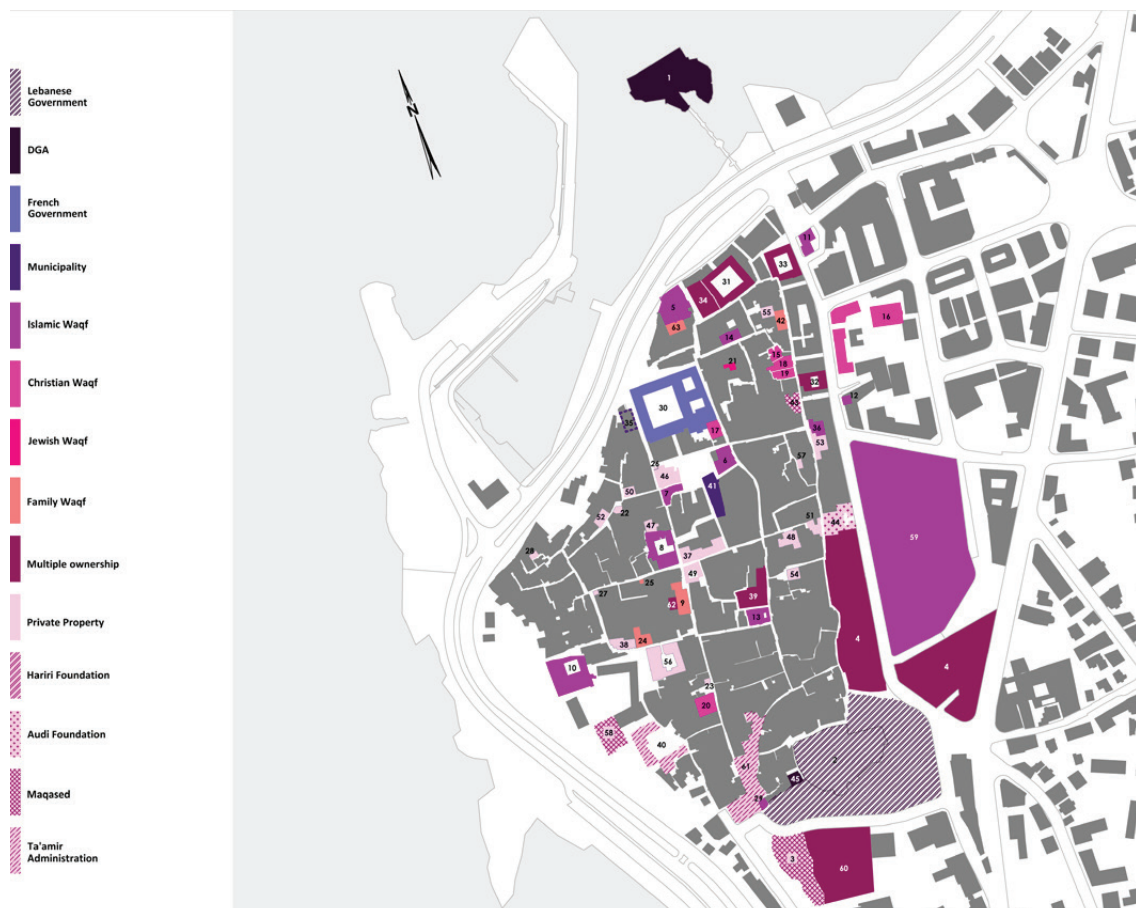
Riad Al-Soloh Palace



Heritage sites outside the Old City walls



Mapping of Saida Monuments by Age



Mapping of Saida Monuments by Ownership

DPUSUMMERLAB: ROME OCCUPATION CITY

Urban Planning and Design workshop.

University College London in collaboration with Laboratorio Arti Civiche. Rome, 2012.

"dpusummerLab: Rome Occupation City" was a week-long urban workshop focused on occupied spaces throughout the city of Rome. It took as main case study the occupation of Porto Fluviale, an abandoned military base which was occupied in 2003 by 80 (Italian, North African and South Americans) homeless families. An occupation that did not only provide a housing solution for these families but also an opportunity to explore the issues of cohabitation and connection to the rest of the city. This opportunity was grabbed by the dpusummerLab team, who investigated ways in which the Porto Fluviale residents could achieve a heightened sense of acceptance in the area while promoting a degree of public awareness through the "opening" of their inner courtyard as a "shared" space for the city.

One of my contributions during the workshop was aimed at overcoming the fortification image conveyed by the architecture of the building through working on its façade. Why not coloring the façade as a way to catch people's attention and proudly share its inhabitants' intercultural identity?

In 2013, the walls of Porto were actually covered with the colors of the rainbow by Blu, a famous Italian graffiti artist. The intervention, which took place without any official authorization, was completely self financed by the building's residents, without any institutional support.

Link to report:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/development/programmes/dpu-summerlab>



Preliminary visualization of Porto Fluviale's façade



Mural executed by Blu (photo: fotografiaerrante)

MOSUL: HOUSING FOR BUILDING A CITY OF RESILIENCE

Rifaat Chaderji Design Competition.

Almimariya Architects & Designers for Sustainable Development. Beirut, 2017

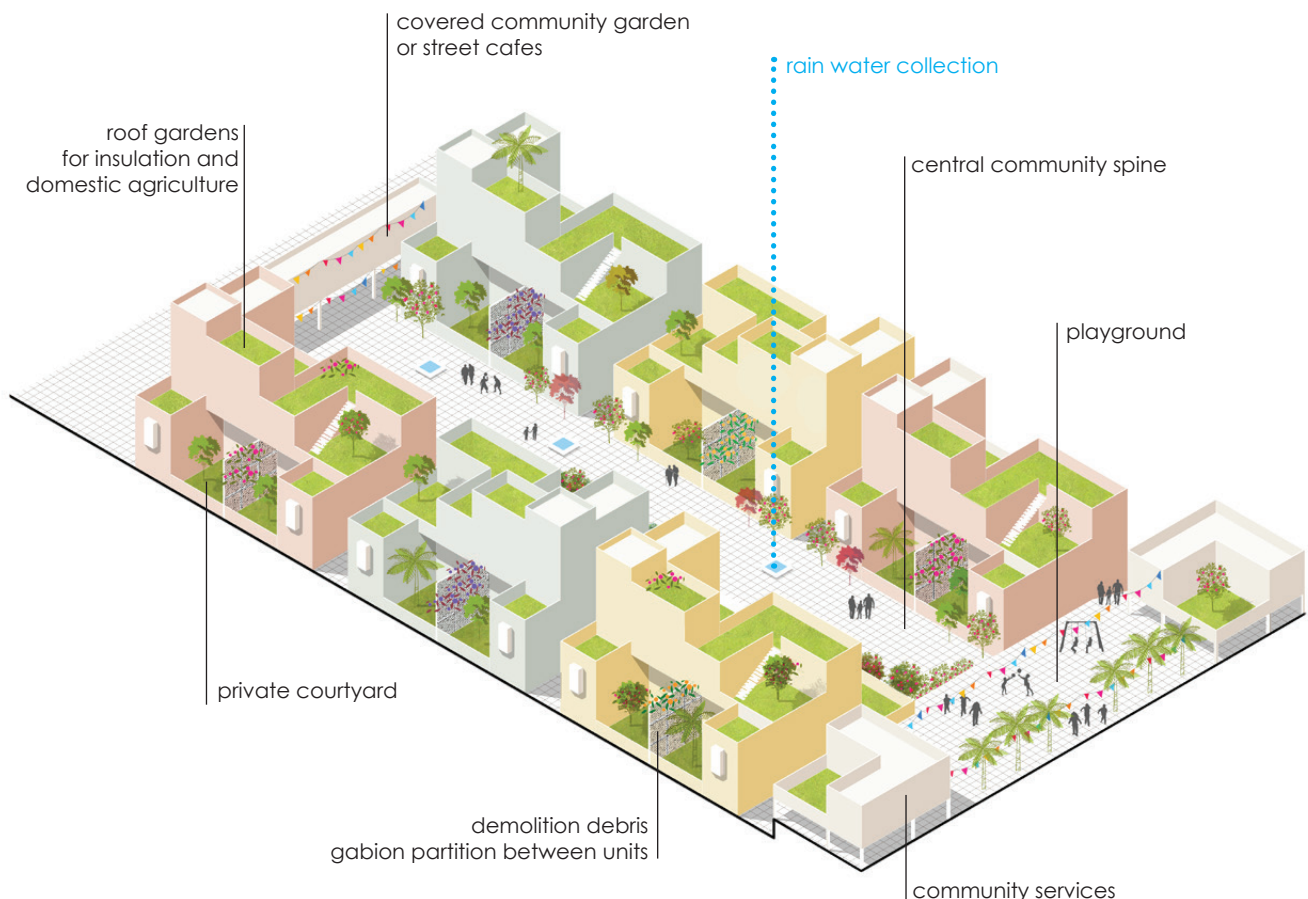
Competition entry for a housing and rehabilitation strategy that considered the situation of post-ISIS Mosul from initial emergency housing to a full-fledged sustainable neighbourhood development.

Resilience is targeted through a multilayered strategy, starting with the design of the actual unit and culminating with the city as a whole through an approach of connectivity of space and time. Connecting with time, meant learning from the built heritage of the place. Therefore, the environmentally appropriate, resource efficient typology of the courtyard was adopted. This typology, while preserving the family privacy, brings nature into the heart of the home and can also support small scale agriculture. This economic opportunity, in the context of Mosul, is crucial to empower the widowed women of the city. The units can be stacked, attached and assembled to form new city blocks with densities

reaching 72 units per hectare. These new city blocks were designed to fit within the existing street network, thus preserving the original structure of the city and reconnecting it to its history.

At the core of the blocks, however, are new green community spaces with an infrastructure of rainwater harvesting under. The green community spaces help create a sense of place and belonging and rebuild social connections and trust, both of which are fundamental to the resilience of any community.

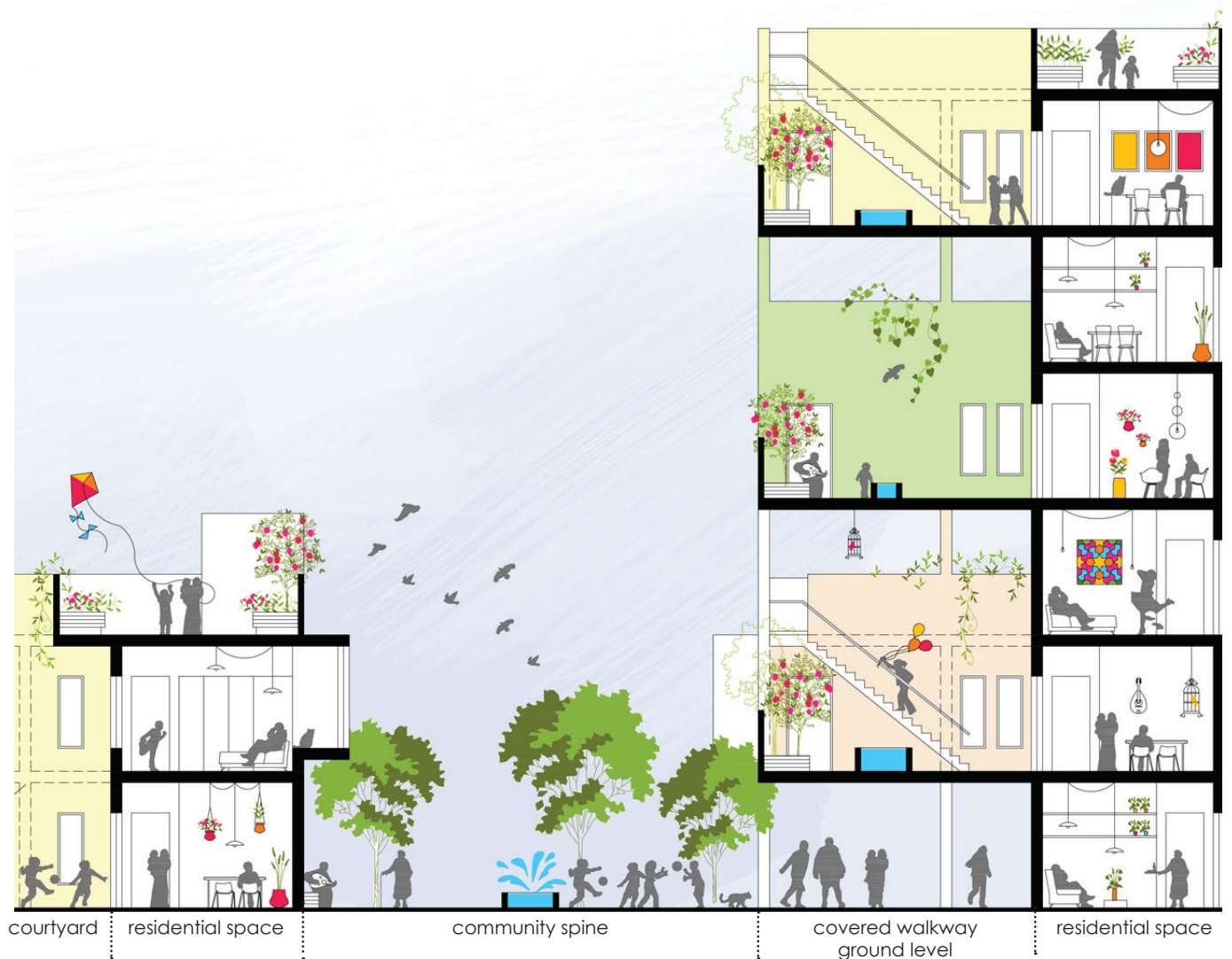
Open green spaces go from private to the semi-public to the public, building neighborhoods and supporting a green network across the whole city, the larger home. Therefore, housing becomes a tool to build communities and connect the city offering the inhabitants possibilities for growth and resilience.



Community building blocks - Isometric view



Community building blocks - transversal section



2. ARCHITECTURE

PROFESSIONAL WORK

AR1

AIN ANOUB PHYSIOTHERAPY AND ELDERLY CARE CENTER

Architectural design and design development.
Al-Mimariya Architects and designers for Sustainable Development.
Beirut, 2017-2019.

AR2

BAHRI GARDENS II

Architectural design, design development and construction management.
Said Jazairi Consulting Office.
Beirut, 2009-2013.

AR3

BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY - TRIPOLI CAMPUS

Architectural design, development and execution.
Said Jazairi Consulting Office.
Joint Venture with Dr. Mohammad Saidi.
Tripoli, 2009 - 2013.

AR4

BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY - DEBBIEH CAMPUS

Architectural design, development and execution.
Said Jazairi Consulting Office.
Joint Venture with Dr. Mohammad Saidi.
Debbieh, 2005-2009.

AIN ANOUB PHYSIOTHERAPY AND ELDERLY CARE CENTER

Architectural Design and Development.

Al-Mimariya Architects and designers for Sustainable Development. Beirut, 2017-2019.

Proposal for a 1700m² site and 700m² complex including assisted living accommodation, communal spaces, day-care, clinics and physiotherapy facilities. The project was commissioned by a local NGO and aimed at providing elderly care and community services while incorporating income generating functions and energy efficient design solutions to ensure its sustainability.

The site is located in Ain Anoub, a small village on the outskirts of Beirut. In such a peripheral location, the project design responds to the need of elderly residents to spend their free time together

and supports their strong sense of community. The main design idea consists of having a series of interconnected buildings that surround and create gardens of different characters. A unifying path links all major spaces on site, strengthening social bonds while also functioning as a strolling promenade that evokes a sense of mystery and curiosity as one moves from one space to another. Each building incorporates different open and green areas so that the inside and outside spaces are constantly relating to each other, establishing an open dialogue between nature and architecture.



Site plan and project phasing



Phase I building - exterior perspective



Phase I building - roof garden



Phase I building - interior perspective

AR2

BAHRI GARDENS II

Architectural design and construction management of high end residential building.
Said Jazairi Consulting Office. Beirut, 2010-2013.

Architectural design and construction management of a 24,000 sq.m. project consisting of high-end residential facilities and a commercial platform.

Located at Raouche facing the Pigeons Rock, a landmark that unmistakably represents the city of Beirut, the Bahri Gardens II was design by SJCO according to the highest architectural standards.

The project consists of 23-floors, each housing a 560 m² apartment. It also contains a luxurious entrance lobby, an outdoor swimming, a recreational center, gardens, 3 parking spaces per flat, driver rooms and storage facilities.

Client: Bahri Group, A&H Construction & Development
Interior Designer: Claude Missir



Perspective view - back side



Perspective view - front side

Main entrance lobby
(image: Claude Missir)



Apartment entrance
(image: Claude Missir)



Apartment living area
(image: Claude Missir)



Master bedroom
(image: Claude Missir)



BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY TRIPOLI CAMPUS

Said Jazairi Consulting Office | Joint venture with Dr. Mohammad Saidi
Tripoli 2009-2013.

The Beirut Arab University is one of the prestigious private universities in Lebanon. The project brief was commissioned the project of developing the new University Campus in the city of Tripoli, 85 km north of the Capital Beirut.

The design project comprised the preparation of the campus master plan in addition to designing the educational buildings which included faculties and administration, in addition to the various services and needed infrastructure.

The Project consists of 6 buildings housing the different faculties. The 6 blocks are connected with a continuous bridge on the second level to facilitate the circulation between buildings. An underground parking covers the lot to serve students and faculty members.

Services undertaken:

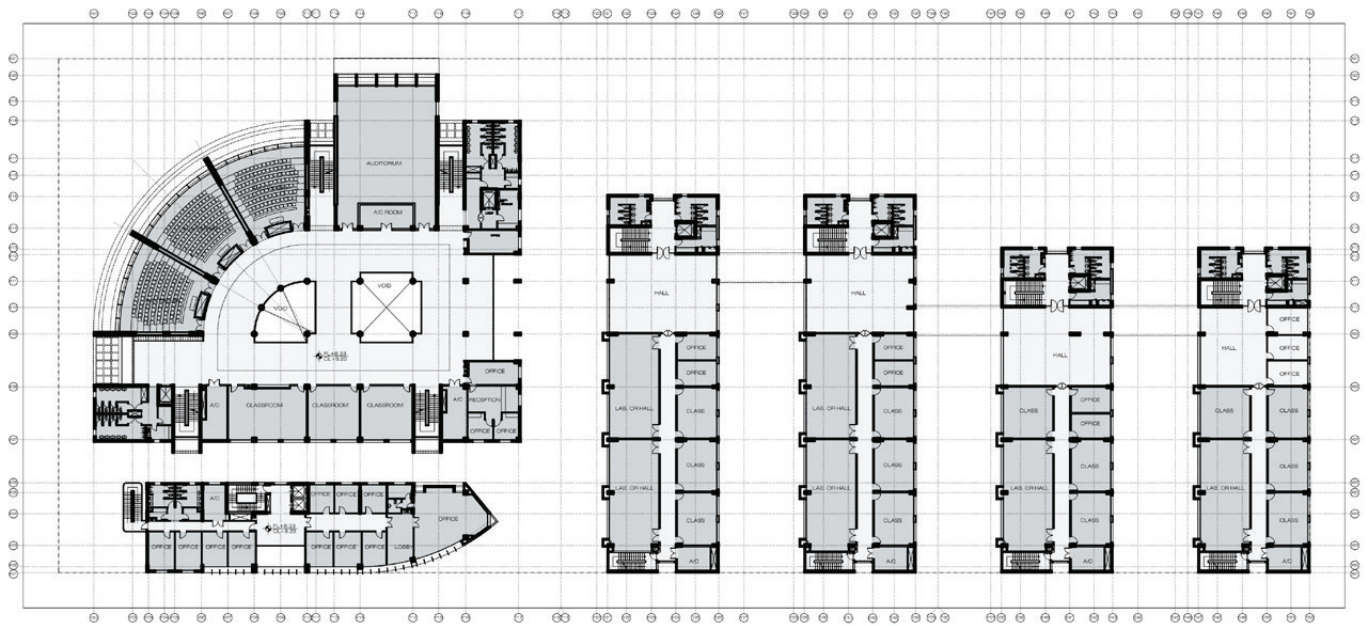
Design, execution drawings, site supervision and project management



Perspective view - front side



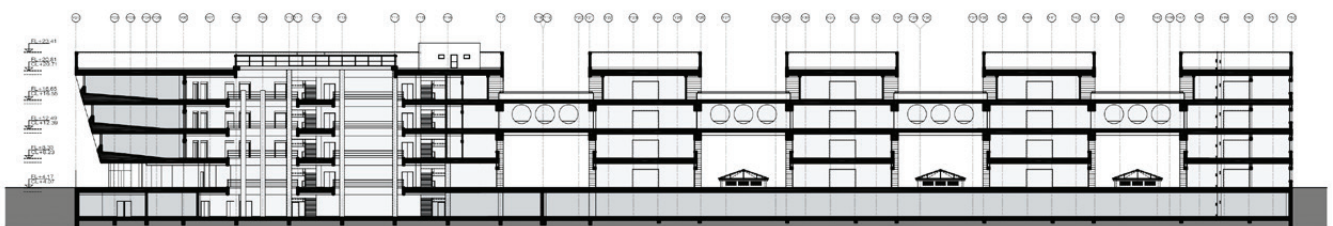
Perspective view - back side



Ground floor plan



Front elevation



Transversal section



Link between buidings

BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY DEBBIEH CAMPUS

Said Jazairi Consulting Office | Joint venture with Dr. Mohammad Saidi
Debbieh, 2005-2009.

The commission involved the design, construction and project management of a university campus on a 1,353,000 m² site located in Debbieh, 33 km away from the University's main campus in Beirut. The brief included creating a master plan for the campus, designing the educational buildings (consisting of faculties and administration), accommodation buildings (for students and faculty members), indoor and outdoor sports facilities, as well as all necessary infrastructure and services.

The design was developed and executed in three phases:

- Phase I: Faculty of Architecture, administration and dormitories buildings.
- Phase II: Faculty of Engineering building, Faculty of Sciences building, mosque, dormitories, and power block
- Phase III: indoor and outdoor sport facilities, sciences laboratories, sewage treatment plant, storages and water tanks.



University campus master plan



Faculty of Architecture



Mosque



Faculty of Science



Faculty of architecture - Main entrance

3. ILLUSTRATION

PERSONAL WORK

IL1

RAS BEIRUT ILLUSTRATED MAP

They Draw & Tavel: Mapping Special Places Contest.
Beirut, 2019.

IL2

BEIRUT IS...HETEROTOPIA

"Beirut Is" collective exhibition.
Glorietta Gallery. Beirut, 2016.

IL3

SKETCHES

Beirut, 2019

PUBLISHED WORK

IL 4

MY TRIP TO JORDAN

Illustrated book published by Published by Noura Publishing.
Dubai, 2022

IL 5

MY TRIP TO LEBANON

Illustrated book published by Published by Noura Publishing.
Dubai, 2022

IL 6

THE STRANGE CREATURE ("الكائن العجيب")

Illustrated book published by Asala Publishers.
Beirut, 2017

IL 7

EN YOU GET ANGRY | ÖFKELENDİĞİNDE

Illustrated book published by Asala Publishers, Beirut, 2015
Published in Turkish by EDAM, Istanbul, 2016

IL 8

HOW GOOD IS TO SLEEP ("ما أحلى النوم")

Illustrated book published by Asala Publishers.
Beirut, 2011

RAS BEIRUT ILLUSTRATED MAP

They Draw & Tavel: Mapping Special Places Contest.
Beirut, 2019.

The map was included in the next TDAT book, a compilation of the 100 best maps submitted to the Mapping Special Places contest. The book will be available in early 2020.

« This place is special to me because it is where I studied and now spend most of my free time. We do not have many green or open spaces in Beirut but the American University neighborhood has it all: a botanical garden –which is also a cat haven,

heritage buildings, an archeological museum, art galleries, excellent restaurants and coffee shops, a weekly farmers' market and, last but not least, the seaside cornice – a beautiful promenade that leads to the iconic Rauche rocks site. One never gets bored in this area, never! »

Link to online map:

<https://strol.com/viewer/1577388419/>



Ras Beirut. Digital illustration.

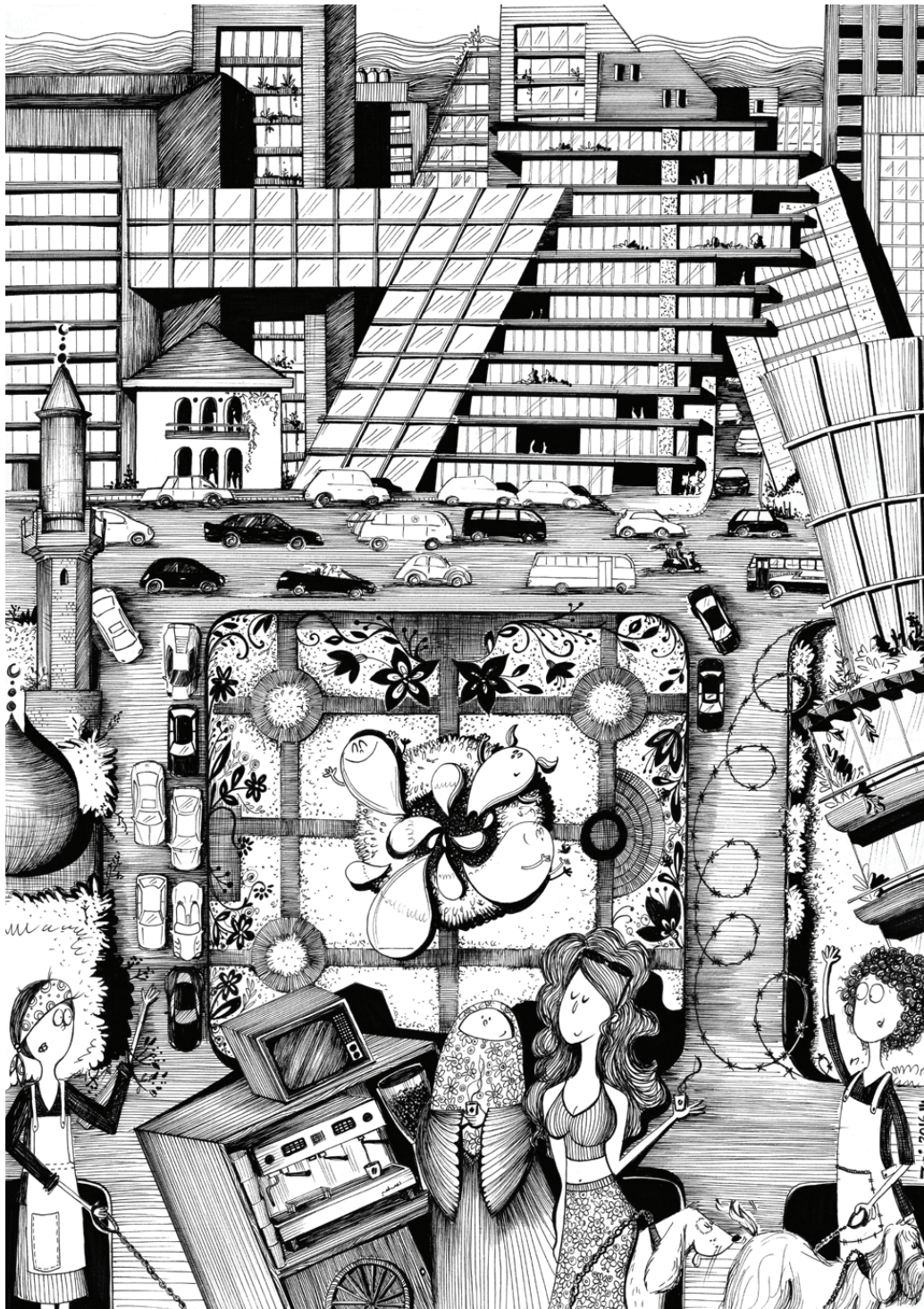
BEIRUT IS...HETEROTOPIA

"Beirut Is" collective exhibition.
Glorietta Gallery. Beirut, 2016.

The city is conceptualized as a heterotopic space in the Foucauldian understanding of the term: a space that functions in non-hegemonic conditions.

It is perceived as an alternative site – paradoxically a capital city, not a site at the peripheries like

the prisons, mental institutions and schools Foucault speaks about - where people's past and memories of the city as a site of everyday life overlap with its present appropriation by the real estate sector and with its controlled mobility and monumentality.



Beirut is...Heterotopia. Ink on paper. 42cm x 59.4 cm

SKETCHES

Personal work.

Beirut, 2008 till present.

“My motto is, ‘A doodle a day keeps the psychologist away,’ jokes Zari Haidar Marin (@justZHM), an architect, urban designer and self-taught illustrator living in Beirut... Besides doodles, Zari shares photos of Beirut’s buildings on Instagram, which show the city’s rich heritage and diverse architectural details.”

“Beirut is also a city of controversy and continuous troubles,” she says. “My posts come as either an attempt at sharing Beirut’s richness and beauty, or a reaction to whatever is happening in the country.”

Excerpt from interview by Instagram (2015)



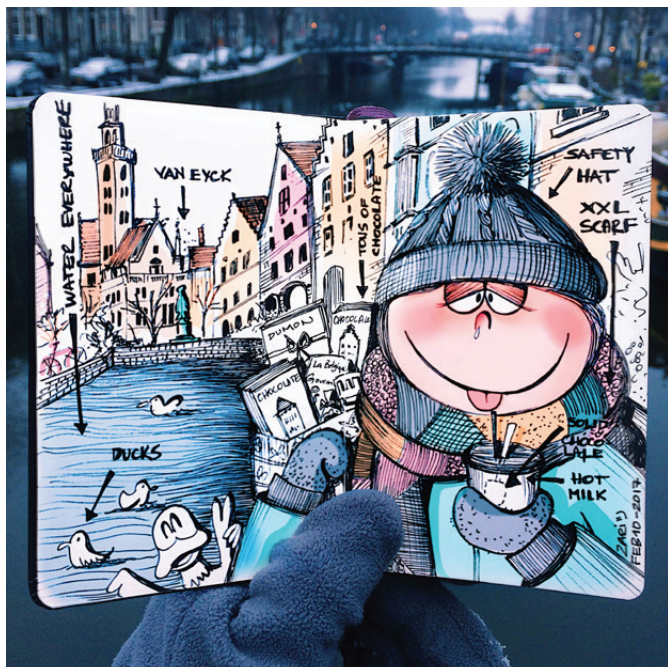
Clemenceau. Colored pencils on paper



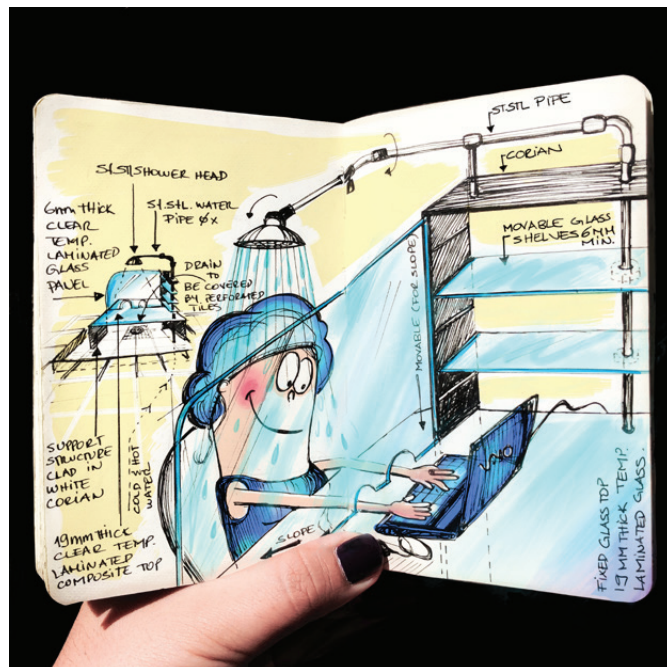
Gaudi's Casa Milà. Ink on paper



Clemenceau. Colored pencils on paper



Bruges. Ink on paper, digitally colored



Shower-desk. Ink on paper, digitally colored

MY TRIP TO JORDAN

Illustrated book.

Published by Noura Publishing. Dubai, 2022.

"My Trip to Jordan" is part of "Kitabi", a series of bilingual personalized children's books about Arab heritage. Each book in the series features a magical storyline that takes its readers on a unique adventure while giving them space to get to know their country, its beauty, stories and significance.

The books aim to inspire children and their families to feel closer and more connected to their Arab roots.

Writer: Samar Mahfouz Barraj
www.joozoori.com



Book spread. Digital work, 56cm x 23cm



Book spread. Digital work, 56cm x 23cm

MY TRIP TO LEBANON

Illustrated book.

Published by Noura Publishing. Dubai, 2022.

"My Trip to Lebanon" is part of "Kitabi", a series of bilingual personalized children's books about Arab heritage. Each book in the series features a magical storyline that takes its readers on a unique adventure while giving them space to get to know their country, its beauty, stories and significance.

The books aim to inspire children and their families to feel closer and more connected to their Arab roots.

Writer: Samar Mahfouz Barraj
www.joozoori.com



Book spread. Digital work, 56cm x 23cm



Book spread. Digital work, 56cm x 23cm

THE STRANGE CREATURE ("الكائن العجيب")

Illustrated book.

Asala Publishers. Beirut, 2017.

A spaceship got closer to Earth. It roomed around all the countries. It went North and South, and landed in our playground. A strange creature got out the space ship, He didn't look like human. He was short and covered with straight fur. We taught him how to take a bath with a soap and sponge. He dressed like humans and he put on clean socks.

Writer: Sana Shabbani.

Subject: Difference, Accepting the Other, Cleanliness.

Link: <https://asalapublishers.com/product/the-strange-creature/?lang=en>

اُتَدَى مَلَايِسَ إِنْسَانٍ وَجَوَارِبَ نَظِيفَةً.
شَمَمْنَا رَائِحَتَهُ، مَا أَحْلَاهُ !



17

16

Book spread. Colored pencils and markers on paper



عَلَّمْنَاهُ كَيْفَ يَغْتَنِي بِنَظَافَتِهِ، وَوَضَعْنَا أَغْرَاضًا فِي حَقِيبَتِهِ.
اسْتَحَمَ بِالصَّابُونَةِ وَاللَّيْفَةِ.
أَمْضَى بِالْمِيَاهِ الْمُتَعِشَّةِ وَقَتًا طَوِيلًا، حَتَّى فَرَكَ جِسْمَهُ
وَنَظَّفَ أَشْنَانَهُ الْكَبِيرَةَ.

15

14

Book spread. Colored pencils and markers on paper

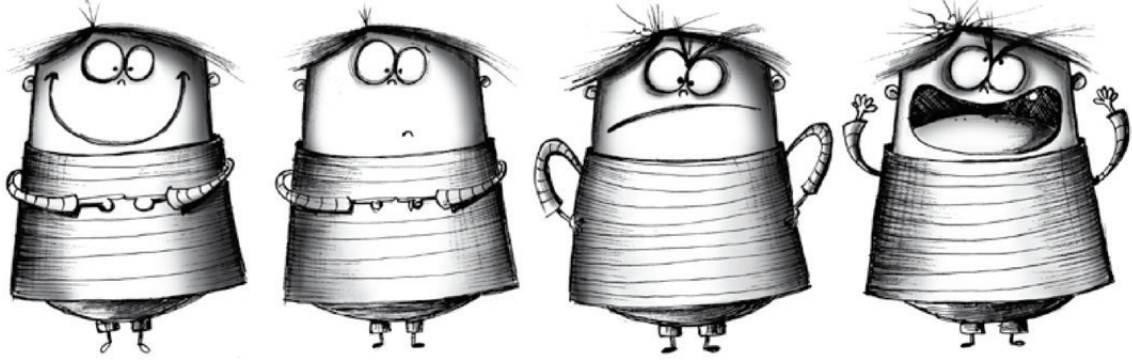
"Have you ever felt so angry that you wished you could break everything around you? Have you looked at the mirror and found that rage has turned you into a monster? If that is the case, welcome to the club and just listen to my story" What do you look like when you are angry?

"Best Production" Etisalat Award for Arabic's Children Literature in 2013.

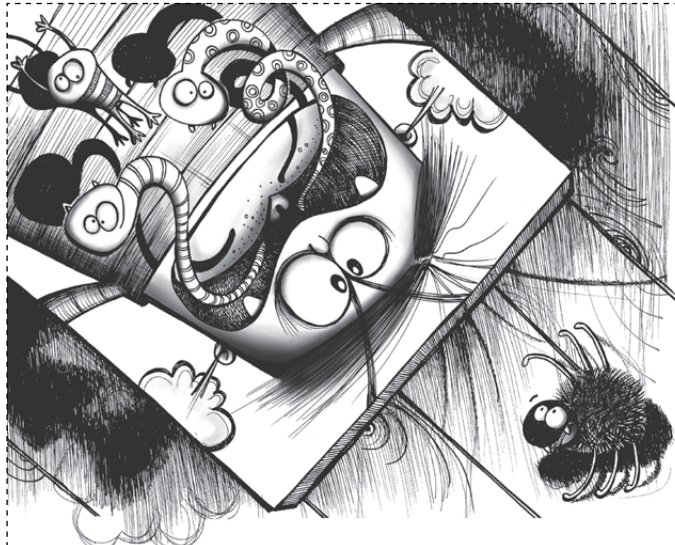
Writer: Dunyazad al-Saadi.

Subject: Anger management, creative expression.

ISBN: 9786051691558



Book endpaper. Ink on paper



بالتأكيد فعلت! لكيتك لم تتذكر أن تنظر إلى وجهك في المرآة وترى نفسك كيف تبدو كالوحش! لذلك انضم إلي يا صديقي في «نادي الغاضبين» بعد أن تقرأ حكايتي:

هل غضبت يوماً وشعرت أنك مظلوم ولم يسمح لك أحد بالدفاع عن نفسك؟
أو حرمت من شيء نتيجة لذلك معاقب؟ أو ربما تلقيت أمراً لم يعجبك لكن عليك تنفيذه؟
هل تمنيت أن تكسر شيئاً أمانك أو كسرتة لذلك غاضب؟
أو ربما ضربت أحداً أو غضضت يدك وشددت شعرك!



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HOW GOOD IS TO SLEEP ("ما أحلى النوم")

Illustrated book.

Asala Publishers, Beirut, 2011.

"Hisham loves to sleep, that is why he is always late to school. But when he is faced with the obligation to wake up by himself, he gets an ingenious idea; do you know what it is?"

International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) honor list, 2014.

Writer: Samar Mahfouz Barraj

ISBN: 9786144024119



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