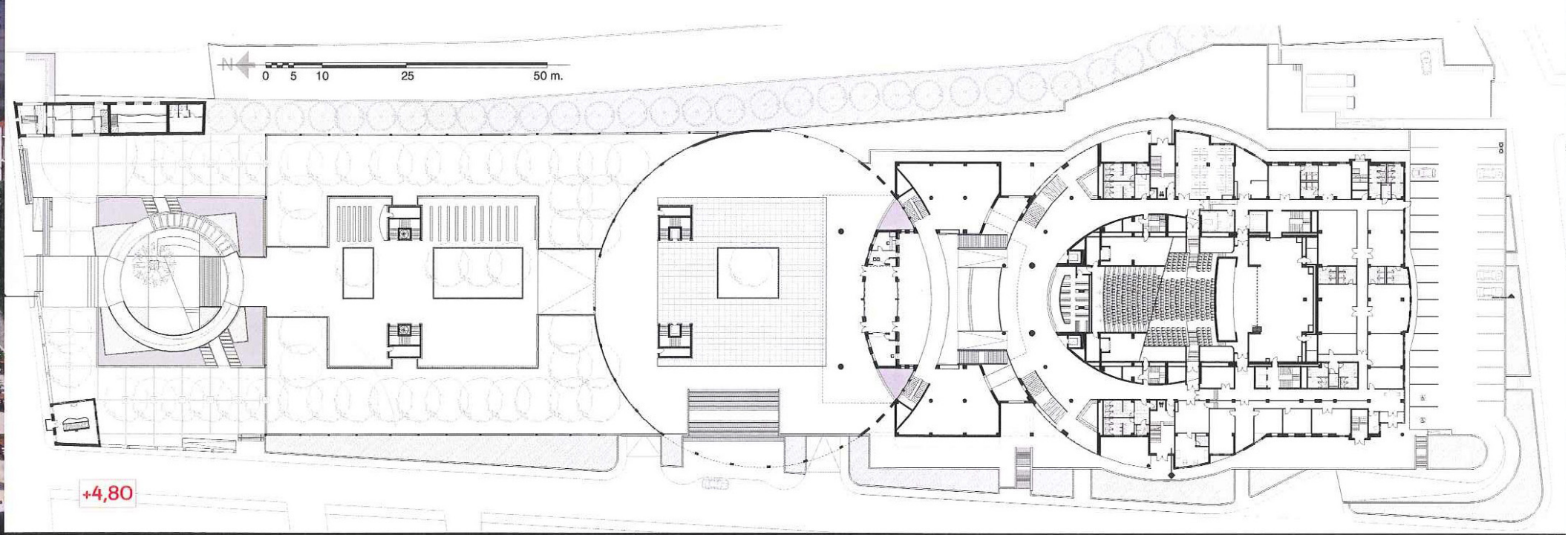
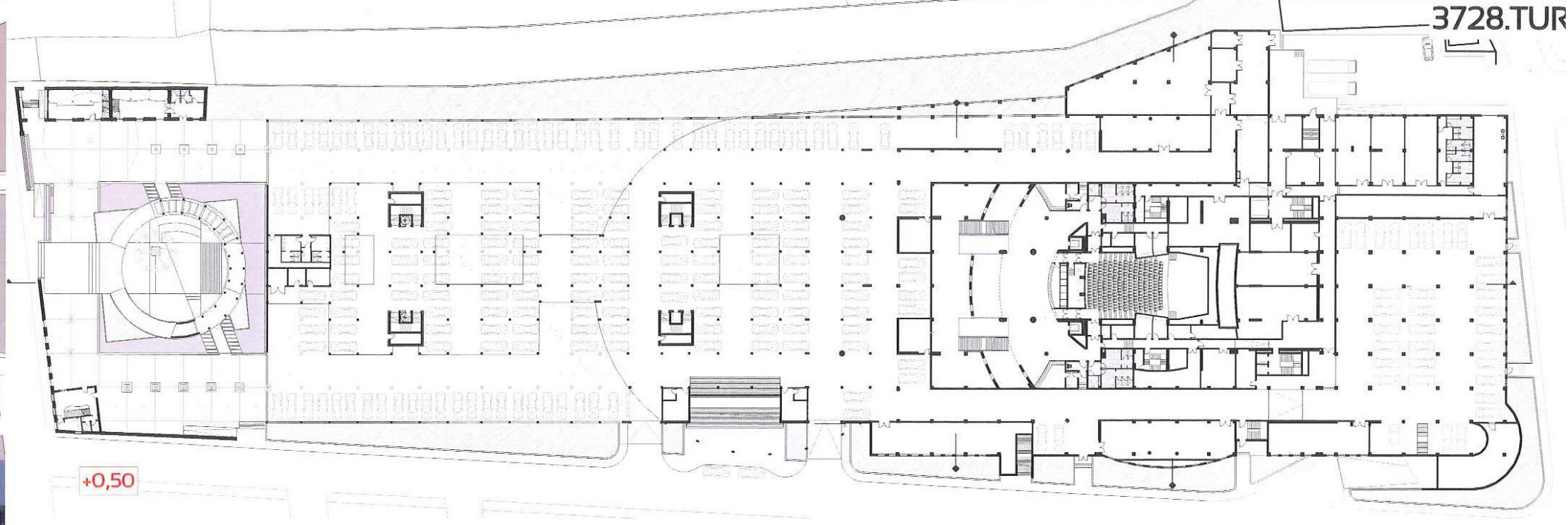
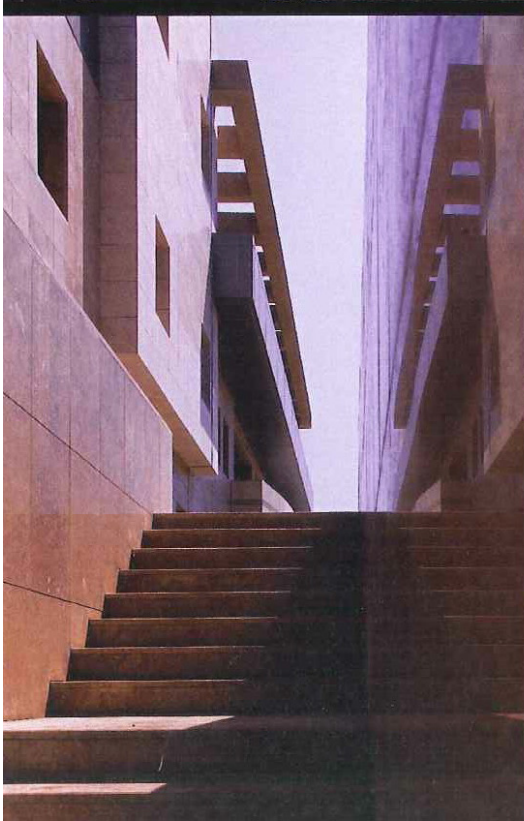
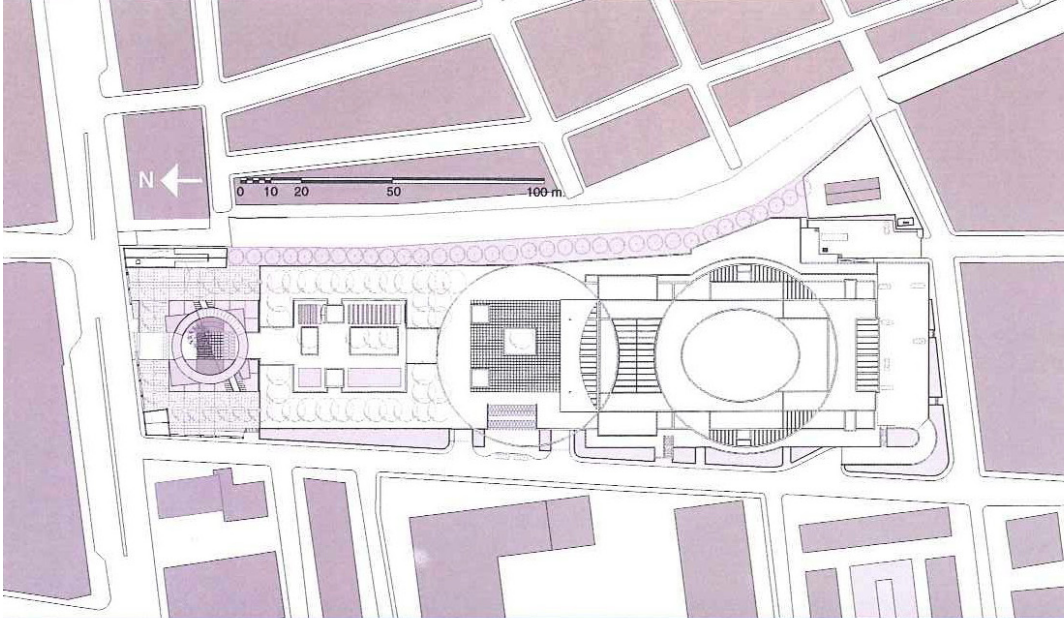


Ahmed Adnan Saygun Arts Centre	
Mithatpasa Caddesi No. 1087 Güzelyali Izmir, Turkey	
Architects	Tevfik Tozkoparan, Emre Ulas Izmir, Turkey
Clients	Izmir Metropolitan Municipality Izmir, Turkey
Commission	2000
Design	2000 - 2002
Construction	2006 - 2008
Occupancy	2008
Site	19,008 m ²
Ground floor	10,275 m ²
Total floor	27,950 m ²
Costs	19,040,029 USD
Programme	Containing two concert halls, five galleries, offices and cafés, the arts center is conceived as a platform for communication rather than an insular cultural institute. The reinforced concrete structure is set on piled foundations to avoid earthquake damage and is faced in Turkish travertine marble. It is subtle and reserved, giving focus to the performances it contains and providing relief from its chaotic urban context. Key to this is a new public space that extends from the centre, creating a recess in the dense fabric of Izmir. This new ‘urban stage’ encourages artists to borrow views from daily life and vice versa, intrinsically connecting the center with the city.
Building Type	Cultural Facilities
2010 Award Cycle	3728.TUR





Ahmed Adnan Saygun Arts Center project is the result of an architectural competition organized by Izmir Metropolitan Municipality. The initial idea of design was to create an urban space which would regenerate the dense, chaotic urban context which was surrounding it. Before this project, the site was an abandoned junkyard of public buses. To regain this area, the basic proposal was to provide an alternative ground distinct from the daily life level. In other words, during the design process the main concern was to develop a project in urban scale rather than an arts center building itself. Accordingly, the program of the Arts Center extends to the platform which serves as a stage in urban scale, while the platform slides into the building which contains two concert halls (1150 and 243 seats), five exhibition galleries, meeting rooms and cafés open to public. Besides the main building, on the north end of the site by the main street, two early twentieth-century buildings restored for hosting a music library, CD & book store together with gastronomic facilities.

Ahmed Adnan Saygun Arts Center performs by hiding itself. Instead of displaying aloud the Arts Center, it is preferred to retreat itself from high residential blocks around which act like a fortress wall of the city of Izmir, in order to make a recess in the dense urban context. Distinct from an introverted entertainment center and an isolated museum, what it is imagined and built aims to provide an urban platform of communication which bring together citizens and artists.

