THE BUILDING

Conceived as a metaphorical lighthouse, the Foundation’s office building and cultural centre in Ramallah is an embodiment of its commitment to innovation and excellence in content and form. In addition to work offices, the A.M. Qattan building will house state-of-the-art public facilities that will host the Foundation’s events and activities and those of collectives, individuals and organisations who may wish to use them.

FACILITIES

Leila Migadi Al-Qattan Library

Our library, which occupies two floors, offers a significant collection of books, periodicals, film content and form. In addition to work offices, the building is fitted with soundproof partitions, blinds and audio-visual equipment to suit workshops, lectures and conferences. A meeting room has direct access to an outdoor terrace, garden and lobby that can all be used during functions.

The Gallery

A 412m² exhibition space designed with the highest technical standards and programmed to host different types of art exhibitions. The exhibition space is flexible and can accommodate several smaller exhibitions. It is equipped to cater to different exhibition needs and can alter environment, lighting, partitioning, and more.

Theatre

An intimate, well-designed space with retractable seating, a drop-down screen and control room. This space caters to 120 people and can be used to host talks, music, theatre and movies as well as trainings and rehearsals for dance and theatre companies.

Studies

There are three well-equipped studios in the building geared towards cultural and educational practices, such as the performing and visual arts as well as educational resources development. These are to be used by the Foundation’s programmes and by outside individuals, collectives and organisations. The sizes of the studios are as follows:

- Studio 1: 73m² in F (-1)
- Studio 2: 73m² in F (-2)
- Studio 3: 65m² in F (-1)

Experimental Classroom

A classroom that is open for experimentation, exploration and innovation in modern educational practices. Equipped with the needed tools and equipment, this space offers researchers, artists and educators the place to work with teachers and schoolchildren to create and test their own experiences.

Restaurant

Situated on the main terrace of the building with a wonderful view of the surrounding hills, this restaurant is a mash-up of social, cultural and gastronomic experiences for our audiences and visitors to enjoy.

Guesthouse

The Foundation has incorporated a two-room residence space in its new building. Each room has its own bathroom and can host one or two individuals; the two rooms share a common living space and kitchen. With an independent entrance, the Guesthouse opens to a garden. The space is scheduled to host local and international guests through seasonal residency calls.

Outdoors

The premises offer several gardens and terraces that intertwine with the main structure, harmoniously blending with the surrounding landscape and offering additional activity space. There are three terraces, all facing south and overlooking a lush valley of olive tree orchards. The premises offer several gardens and terraces that intertwine with the main structure, harmoniously blending with the surrounding landscape and offering additional activity space. There are three terraces, all facing south and overlooking a lush valley of olive tree orchards.

The gardens are divided into two zones: the terraces and the external landscape terraces.

Courtyards

The source of inspiration in the design of the courtyard spaces are the Palestinian urban gardens of the early 20th century. Palestine has a rich urban history to draw upon in domestic architecture, urban gardens and urban dwelling. The courtyard gardens celebrate the tradition of garden building for leisure and enjoyment and reference a specific aesthetic sensitivity developed in Palestinian dwellings. The gardens are characterised by the use of productive and ornamental plants in addition to aromatic varieties of vegetation—such as jasmine, Arabian jasmine and roses—that resonate with the cultural and artistic psyche of the people of Palestine and the region. Furthermore, the much-loved vine trellis in our old premises in Ramallah was replicated in our entrance courtyard to continue the tradition of conversation and ideation under the vines.

The first building to be registered with the Palestinian Higher Green Building Council is the Pink House. The Pink House's external landscape recalls the traditional agricultural terraces and olive orchards of Palestine. A collection of olives, native trees and aromatic plants populate the terraces and slopes; some of the trees that were removed from the site during construction have been replanted around the building.

External Landscape

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Outdoors

The premises offer several gardens and terraces that intertwine with the main structure, harmoniously blending with the surrounding landscape and offering additional activity space. There are three terraces, all facing south and overlooking a lush valley of olive tree orchards, that can host outdoor activities and shows. These are sized as follows:

- Terrace 1: 450m² on the Ground Floor
- Terrace 2: 240m² on F (-1)
- Terrace 3: 320m² on F (-2)

The gardens are divided into two zones: the terraces and the external landscape terraces.