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Published: 16/10/2015 05:29 PM

Architectural Design Competition: A Museum in the Making



The Association for the Promotion and Exhibition of the Arts in Lebanon (APEAL), a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and supporting Lebanese artists, has launched an international architecture competition for a new modern and contemporary art museum in Beirut. The competition is open to innovative Lebanese architects from all over the world.

APEAL is looking for an innovative architect that can design and make a reality the museum that they envision as a “multidisciplinary hub of art and design dedicated to showcasing modern and contemporary Lebanese culture,” a haven for Lebanese artists to display their artwork.

The museum is set to open in 2020, and aims to bring “together diverse populations and narratives from the region and beyond. The museum will be built on land owned by Saint Joseph University in Beirut, which is located across from the National Museum in Achrafieh.

The competition consists of two phases:

Phase 1- All interested architects are required to submit their qualifications by January 4, 2016.

Phase 2- Shortlisted architects will be invited to submit design proposals.

Competitors will be judged by a jury of renowned international and regional experts, chaired by Lord Peter Palumbo, Chair of the Pritzker Architecture Prize, includes Zaha Hadid, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Julia Peyton-Jones, Rodolphe Khoury, Lamia Joreige, and Fares Al Dahdah, in addition to representatives from APEAL and Université Saint-Joseph.

According to APEAL’s statement, “the finalist will be an exceptional architect who identifies with the project values and understands the significance of designing a cultural institution in the current urban, social, economic and political context of the country and region.”

It is wonderful to see that APEAL is giving architects of Lebanese origin an opportunity to contribute to the arts and culture scene in Lebanon, especially since being an artist in Lebanon can be quite challenging at times.

For more information on how to participate, visit: www.AMuseumInTheMaking.com