TAICHUNG CITY CULTURAL CENTER
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This proposal lifts 62,996 m² museum of fine arts and library into three interconnected “Floating Green Lanterns” tethered by three separate structural cores.

In contrast to conventional cultural centers, which often sprawl in a series of isolated objects, these Lanterns bridge two cultural entities and create a dense network comprised of museum, library, and amenity spaces. Outside, a cascading series of interconnected roof gardens constitutes this network’s façade. At strategic moments, the roof gardens connect to sponsor the megastructure’s collective and ecological activities, and at the same time, to structurally resist seismic loads like a tripod.

A 3-dimensional matrix of stepped boxes shift in plan and section to maximize porosity and natural ventilation. Above, the web of stepped roof gardens connect into a “Living machine,” which filters and cleans the building’s gray and black water as well as housing on-site composting. The volumes connect internally to create a natural ventilation stack effect, while the sectional and urban deployment of the Lanterns enhances prevailing breezes and reduces humidity. The building is situated to take advantage of solar absorption chillers to cool and de-humidify the conditioned spaces.

PROJECT
Fine Arts Museum, library

SIZE
62,730 sq ft (6670,000 sq ft)

CLIENT
Construction Bureau, Taichung City Government

LOCATION
Taichung City, Taiwan

COLLABORATION
ARAL 10, Buro Happold

VALUE
$81 million

TEAM
Lourenço Rebelo de Andrade, Daniel van Dyk, Nicolas Haenquin, Andrew Heil, Tomas Jankus, Katerina Platsouka, Christopher Purpora, Marta Rodrigues, Joey Yeh