The author deals with the conversion of a former tram depot into a modern multipurpose center accommodating a number of social, commercial and cultural facilities, with a focus on youngsters, special needs children and the elderly.

The project is based on a comprehensive analysis of the site, its history, architectural/urban and social contexts, and is supported by a respectable amount of sources and research. Author takes into account local history of the site and urban development.

Project portfolio consists of 71 pages. All drawings vital to understand the design are included - plans, sections, elevations, axonometries as well as visualizations.

Author’s effort not to merely design a building, but - more fittingly - to create a space responsive to the needs of contemporary society, results in designing a lively space that also meets the requirements of special health and social needs community. It is indeed the socially responsible approach I appreciate as a major asset of the project. Author demonstrates her skills by designing a very nice landscaping abundant with poetic details at various parts of the site. The plans are well arranged and clear.

The project comprises a large extent of building types ranging from restaurants to museum, workshops, exhibiton and market halls, and therapeutic garden. That in itself is definitely an apt approach, but it brings a lot of claims to the functional aspects of architecture. While it is accurately based on both analysis and creativity, it is my opinion that the project leaves some functional and/or technological aspects undefined (i.e. parking facilities, food-or else delivery routes, vent/heating facilities). These issues are nonetheless to be perceived as an acceptable side effect of the project’s fine ballancing between the realms of architecture, urbanism and applied sociology.

Recommended grade of assessment: Very good - B

Ing.arch. Tomáš Hořava
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