

CASABLANCA MARKET



Normal day at the market square – a local meeting point for the neighbourhood.

PROJECT:
**Casablanca
Sustainable Market
Square**

TYPE:
Market Square

CLIENT:
Open Int. Competition

LOCATION:
Casablanca, Morocco

SITE:
Site area: 790 m2

PROGRAM:
Movable market stands

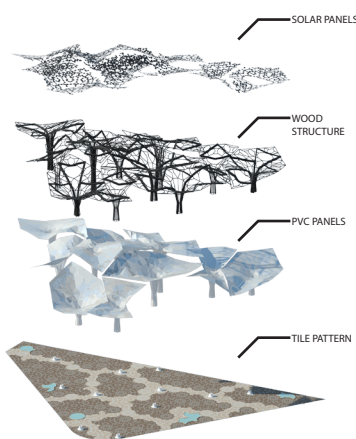
COMPETITION
ORGANIZER:
[AC-CA]

PRIZE:
Honourable Mention

PUBLICATION:
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PLAN OF THE MARKET SQUARE



EXPLODED DIAGRAM OF THE TREE LIKE
STRUCTURES

The proposal for the new Casablanca Sustainable Market Square (CSMS) focuses on implementing as many aspects of the idea of "Sustainability" as possible. Each sustainable element is to supplement each other, creating a small social and environmental micro relationship – the market square.

Large tree like structures cover almost the entire project site, protecting the market square from the climate, providing optimal conditions for market activity during the day, and restaurant and cafe activity in the night. The "trees" adapt to the changes in the sun conditions from day to night. They respond with levels of transparency in order to control the amount of direct sunlight in the market area. At night, the entire installation turns completely transparent, revealing the wooden structural elements.

Until recently, the general understanding of the complex Islamic world of geometric star-and-polygon patterns, the so called girth tiles, was believed to be created by merely using a straight edge and a compass. However, recent scientific studies have discovered that, the generation of these patterns was far more mathematically advanced, and that it was most likely based on a decagonal and quasi-crystalline mathematical understanding - the Girth Tile.

This mathematical understanding of the medieval Islamic world is the foundation of the CSMS architectural concept. CSMS is developed through the use of the girth tiles as a constantly present design method that elevates its purpose from pure ornamentation to a method of developing architectural composition, spatial organization, structural elements, integration of sustainable technology and strategies, to the planning of flow of people. The result is a highly contemporary and technologically advanced design solution, rooted in a strong regional architectural history.



Inside the market square - diffuse light from the "trees" creates the perfect condition for market activity.