Jury Review

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The proposal is an exemplary display of the institutional approach for an Academy of Arts by the boldness of its form and by the formality in the language of its components such as the towering columns, stepped terraces, hard waterscapes and corridor-compartment based circulation.

Strict and rigid formalities, however, are very rightly compromised in the overall configuration as the complex modulates the programme into the topography in order to achieve homogeneity with the surroundings. It displays a conscientious approach to surface earth management of the site which would have benefited much more for ground water management as well if there were not as much hard surfaces covering the ground.

Prominent formalities within the design are further offsetted by pockets and layers of relatively whimsical display of geometry and colours around the complex and seemingly based on well-established lexicons of known artists such as Mondrian. The design, therefore, succeeds in being more about the curatorship rather than the creation of arts.