

**Centro Congressi al Duomo  
International Concept and Design Competition: Call for proposals for the  
ICLAB Intercultural Creativity**

**(L)AbLOg**

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**Technical Report**

**Area 1: Entrance canopy to provide access to the ICLAB premises**

**(L)AbLOg**

A canopy is the first entrance and waiting area of any space. Besides, it is a shield for the shelter, where people confront with the inner space. It is where the interior and the outside meet as Juhani Pallasmaa refers to the door handle as the first haptic space in architecture (Pallasmaa, 2012). A canopy creates a visual sense, however it is a space between understanding and meeting, a canopy provides an open space where one waits, breathes, get acquainted and departs. It is a meeting place with the building. Regarding the height of the hotel, a human-scale canopy provides a close gathering space.

Departing from the idea of connecting all senses, (L)AbLOg aims to form an overlapping senses regarding the dynamism and diversity of ICLAB. (L)AbLOg is a canopy creating a vibrant display of ICLAB identity through a visible and spatio-temporal character. In order to negotiate the identity of the premises, a horizontal oriented and bulbous shaped canopy that marks the glass entrance. The canopy displays the character of the ICLAB is represented within the logo shaded on it. The material of the canopy is white PMMA (Poly (methyl methacrylate), plastic acrylic material resembling glass. Therefore, (L)AbLOg resembles a cloud of thoughts suspended to the ICLAB entrance.

The canopy design consists of three white bulbous shaped white acrylic forms displaying ICLAB logo through its shade strips on its entrance façade. During a sunny and bright daylight, the strips drop a shadow of I, C and LAB on the ground and on the glass façade opening to the lift. During nights and cloudy weather, the led lights mounted inside the forms highlight the logo and the canopy, marking the entrance, thus providing a strong sense of identity of the premises.

Covering a length of 100 x 400 cm and with a height of 40 cm. the canopy is hang from six points with steel supports to the above structure displayed in the Project Hypothesis drawings. The overall height of the canopy is 295 cm from the ground level (+0.00).

**Reference**

Pallasmaa, Juhani (2012). *The Eyes of the Skin: Architecture and the Senses*, Wiley, Chichester, West Sussex.

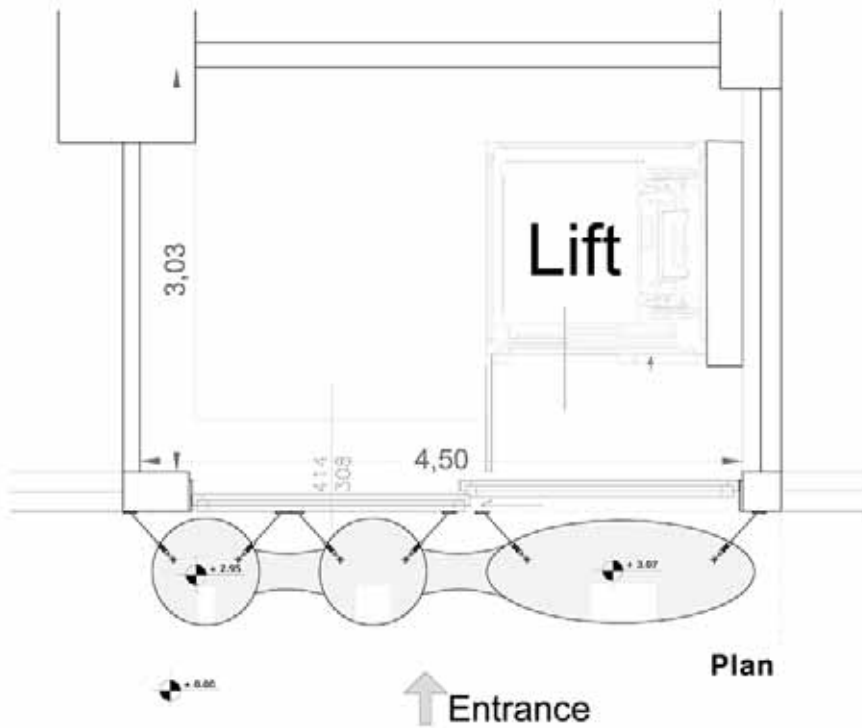
# (L)abLOg

## Centro Congressi al Duomo FIRENZE ICLAB Intercultural Creativity Laboratory

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Entrance

