



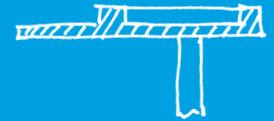
RAMP

A ramp is a luxury. It travels through time, collecting moments of arrival and departure, its line through space touching all parts and mixing adjacencies.

By nature it is an open vessel that defies containment. The horizon always shifts; a structure for a ramp must not seek to trap the metaphor but allow its release.

Columns placed obliquely to the line of travel of a ramp provide such release, giving a continuous mode of instability to the section. What happens in the ramp of the Kunsthal from 1st floor level to the roof is exactly this.

In section it may look hopelessly out of balance. But the structure is designed as a double cantilever.



On plan, on each side of the diagonal, an equal amount of load restores equilibrium to give overall balance.

A grillage of strong upstand beams supports the ramp slab, evening out the distortions and twists due to the asymmetry.

