

EUROPA

Vilnius, Lithuania, 2002-2004

The idea to form an architectural hill on the right bank of the River Neris was conceived in 1964, and revived at the beginning of the 21st century during an economic boom. The 120-metre cylindrical business centre (1) marks the apex of the new centre, and complements the White Bridge. Visible in views and from the streets of the Old Town and Naujamiestis, it met with negative reactions, as it changed Vilnius' skyline. The compositional axis of the shopping centre (2) is a spacious passage with a curved glass roof, recreating an impression of the Old Town's streets, and flowing into the square (3) that connects all the buildings. The development was finished as Lithuania joined the EU, and became a symbol of the new centre of Vilnius. The project was prepared and realized in a very short time amid economic restrictions, so it could be a little underexploited, but the main aspects, the composition, the flows, and the square, still seem right to us today.

Name	Europa
Purpose	Administrative-commercial complex
Location	onstitucijos pr., Vilnius
Area	43 500 m ²
Project	2002-2003
Construction	2002-2004
Client	UAB Hanner, Vilnius City Municipality
Architects	Audrius Ambrasas, Vilma Adomonytė, Donatas Malinauskas, Rasa Ambrasienė, Jovita Petkuvienė
Interior design	Darius Juškevičius
Structure	Jurgis Sidaravičius, Bronius Žymantas, Aleksandras Kirjanovas

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