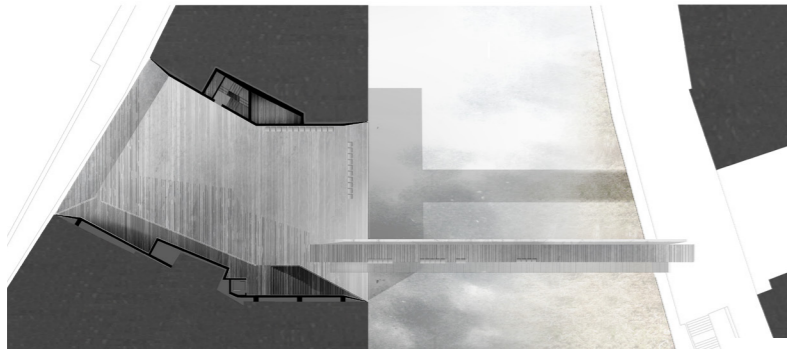


SITUACION 0 20m



Ripoll, crossed by two rivers Ter and Freser, used the energy of the water flows to forge steel and to become a reference in the tradition of the metallurgical industry and in the "Catalan Forge", known throughout all Europe. Leaning on the bordering wall of the river Ter, the former cultural center Theater "La Lira", later demolished, recovers its public character through a "void", a square, reminiscent of the great scenario filled with public life, a place of confluence, a place of departure and arrival. A crossing void, shaped by a single matter: steel. This material, in a register of multiple shades, changes from pavement to shading element and roof, in continuity with its vibrant sides, colonized by ivy and flashes of light. An interior made with rhythms of matter and void, of matter and light, that pattern the movement as we cross it. Opened to the river as a new door from which access the old part of the town, the square connects to the other side through a footbridge, gently anchored, which becomes a transition element but also a living space, where to sit is to let yourself be suspended over this incessant flow marking time. The balcony over the Ter, which is the wall that encloses the river bed, contains a multipurpose space which is accessible from the square, through a staircase leading down. A part of the town is reconquered, a void is sculpted to become public space. The public building creates public space and in the end, the spirit of the theater remains.

'LA LIRA' THEATRE PUBLIC SPACE IN RIPOLL, GIRONA
 RCR ARANDA PIGEM VILALTA ARQUITECTES / J. PUIGCORBÉ