

SAUDI EMBASSY EL CAIRO - EGYPT



Credits

Category: Public

Client: Governmental Authority of Arabia

Location: El Cairo - Egypt

Architect: Buro Happold

Type of work: Exterior Lighting and urban lighting of the perimeter area

Lighting Design: Filippo Cannata

Lighting Design Team: Cannata&Partners

Completed: in progress

At night the building of the embassy turns into a bright signal that reflects in the Nile, it becomes a contemporary lighthouse of Alexandrine memory whose light tones and chromatic contrasts don't enter in conflict with the adjacent district. Our intervention focused on the relation between light and geometry of the Arabic historical architecture, we tried to bring out the dualism that this constructive approach establishes with light. Light filters from the great hollows characterized by a complex geometry and projects shades; light in the Arabic architectural culture is a small bright hollow surrounded by the shadow. In the night, the kingdom of the shadow, gets new shades and unexpected shines, the bright scenography makes the whole façade transparent, and from afar everyone can perceive the monogrammed message that it hides in its geometry: a message of cohabitation and mutual understanding. Light, geometry and repetition are the three elements infinitely reiterated, they drive the observer in a mystical run.