The Flamenco dance is an intricate blend of elegant, flowing movement, and staccato rhythmic motives.

...This is the concept that is abstractly represented by my design for a Flamenco Dance Centre in the heart of Madrid. The rhythmic displacement of the timber batten cladding enriches the Centre with gradual flowing curves. This design feature allows for a delicate manipulation of light and shade within the building, creating mesmerising patterns to inspire the dancers.

Nestled within the eastern facade of Madrid’s well-known Plaza Mayor, this centre for dance provides a cultural hub for the historical square. The design espouses two complementary uses for the building, seamlessly intertwined. During the day a specialised museum of Spanish dance, while at night the exhibition spaces become a backdrop for passionate Flamenco dance classes. The presence of sliding mirrored built-ins make this transition possible as they hide the museum after sunset. The building also features a small theatre where performances can be enjoyed, which flows into a cocktail bar with sweeping views over Madrid.

The café downstairs is there for those wishing to absorb the atmosphere of the Plaza, with animated shade and a sense of enclosure provided by the cantilevering shade structure. This design is a contemporary reinterpretation of the traditional stone collonade that wraps the square. The structure is mechanised so that it can be opened or closed, creating a unique facade and transition space at night. The new 'timber arch' and ephemeral qualities of glass are used to reflect the building's rich context.

The atrium to the south draws in natural sunlight through the flowing rhythmic cladding while providing legibility of all the floors. The roof terrace enjoys maximised north light and a magnificent view of the plaza, the shade evoking the unravelling loose threads of a Flamenco dress.

The building is intended to provide a vibrant, inspiring public space that promotes Madrid's rich cultural identity and provides for the city's bustling 'night' lifestyle.