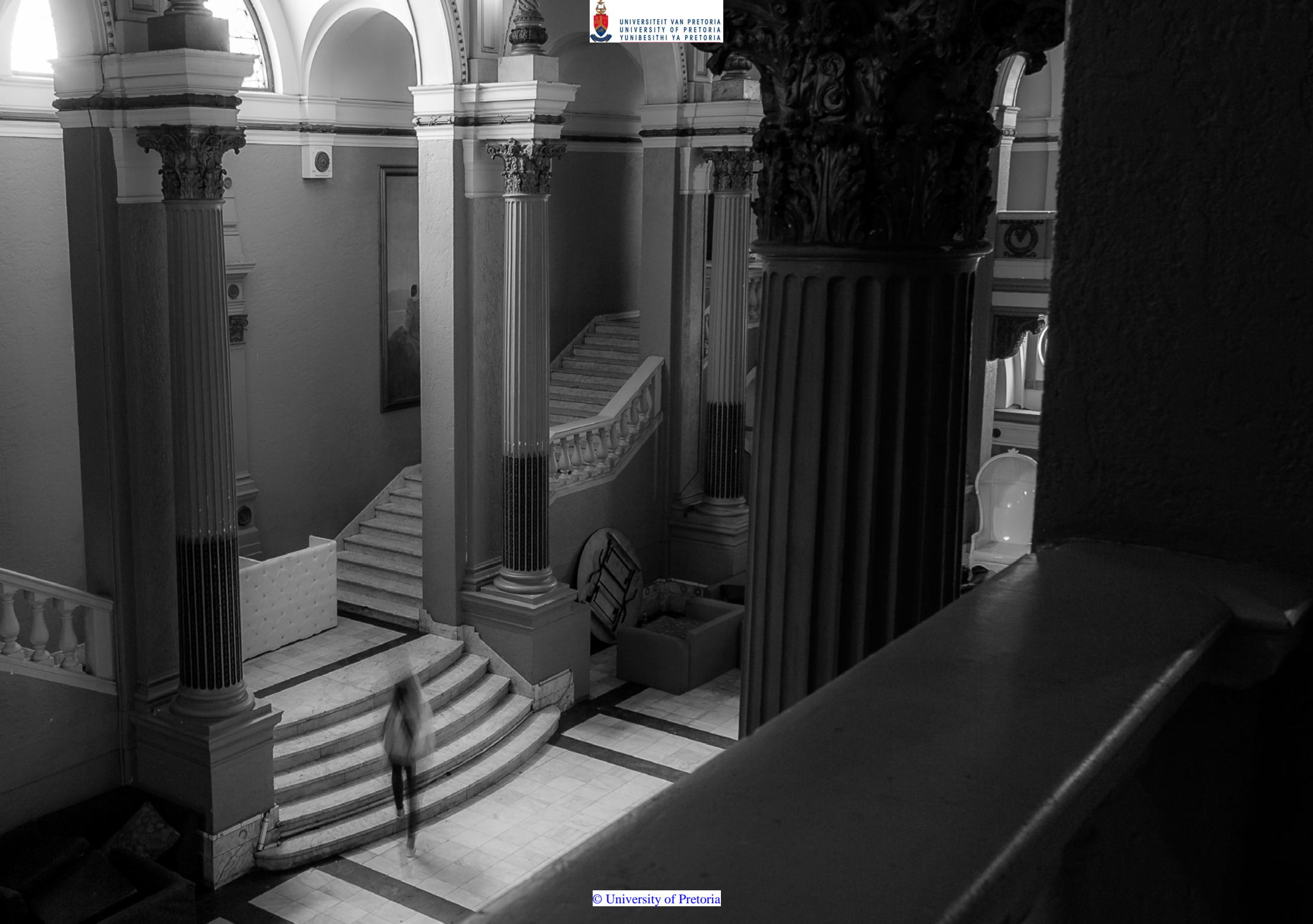


C O N C L U S I O N





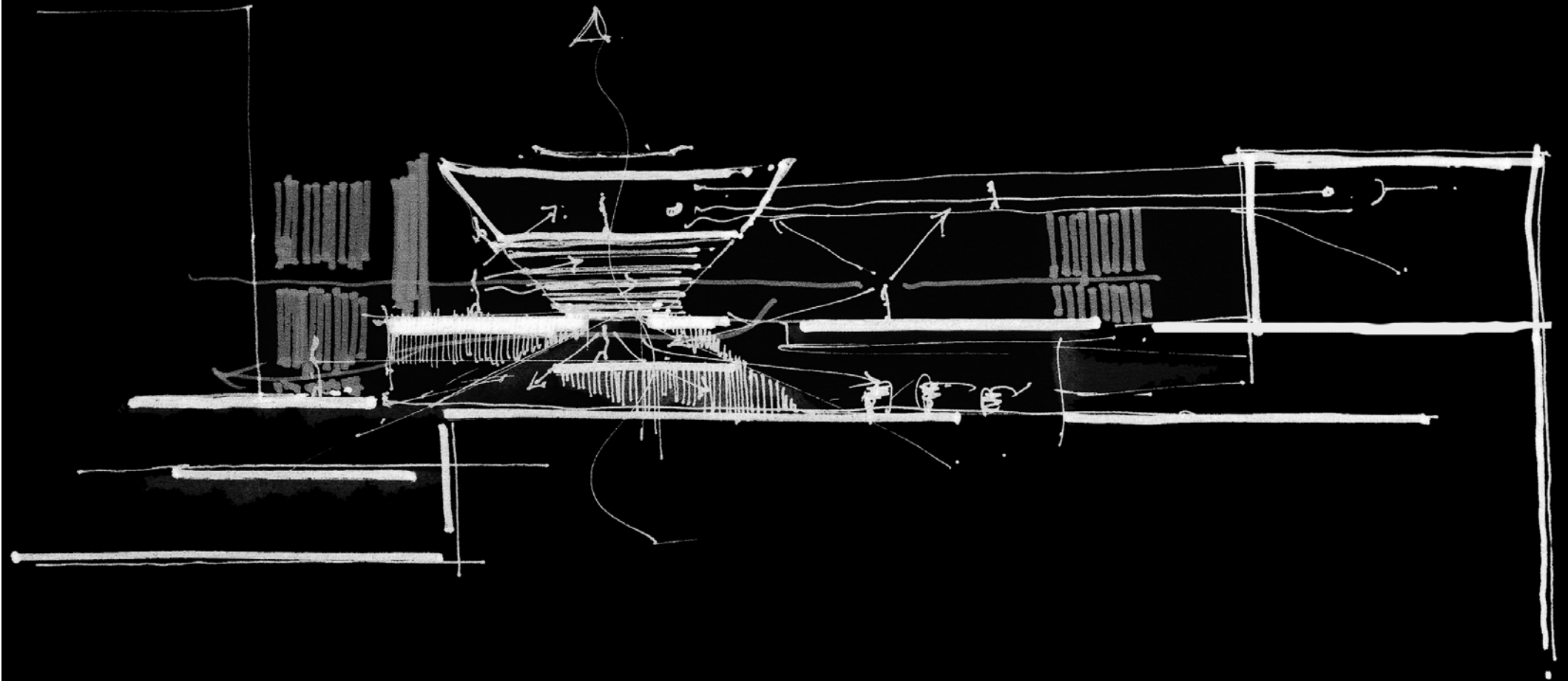
“It takes an understanding of how architecture can contribute to the design, new forms of access to politics and new spaces for the common. To design new walls, even if this means destroying others, capable of defining other forms of partaking and redistributing places and spaces for fomenting access for communities and peoples to their political destiny that is the government of themselves.”

(Gomes, 2014)

Addressing identity of Capitol Theatre, a relic within Pretoria, cannot be done without the addressing the identity of context. The public identity ultimately shapes the urban condition, however this condition is shaped by a lack of public identity as much as it shaped by an active public identity. The architecture of this dissertation is designed to contribute to the urban fabric and maintain relevance within it context. This achieved through facilitating the advancement of the public identity. The South African Constitution is unifying symbol of identity for all South Africans

and the effective occupation and advancement of this symbol empowers the people. This need not be restricted to protest but by how spaces in the city are appropriated for the everyday by the public.

As long as an architecture remains relevant, its heritage remains valuable. The appropriation of heritage fabric must highlight the existing heritage, and the way in which previous and current identities have impacted or responded to this heritage. The way in which physical and programmatic adaptation are conducted have to guided by an understanding the historical importance and current value. The current program of the Capitol Theatre is that of a parking garage, which implies that it has lost its value and identity. Reinstating this value can only be done through a change of program and insertion of a new identity as the urban condition nor the public's current identity have a need for a theatre of this size. The Theatre's value lies in the experience of the escapism and can be used to enhance the new program by creating a new context, removed



from external pressures and influence, in which to discuss the advancement of the Constitution and the public's identity.

With retaining the experience of the heritage, the issue of the internal scale of the auditorium provides the biggest challenge and one that has not been completely resolved. Occupying the auditorium to its full capacities on a regular basis is unforeseeable although it may only be partially occupied the intended experience of the heritage is maintained and imparted upon its occupant. Perhaps the void of the auditorium provides the space for a future investigation, a new layer of identity or program to be applied.

