

## NACHAAT A. S. OUAYDA BARCH '87

Managing Partner, IDEA sarl – Consultants  
Beirut, Lebanon  
www.ideacon.com

### my inspiration

Natural light has always been and will always remain the greatest inspiration for me in my work. Light is the soul of a structure or space, be it natural or artificial. Light (emitted or reflected) is in a state of permanent, perpetual mutation that shapes our world from an intangible nothingness to a vibrant and dynamic tangible fullness. I consider that architects do not create space; we just entrap space. Space has always been waiting for us to create the right circumstances to preserve a certain ambience, state and/or involvement of time in space.

### how AUB shaped my career

AUB equipped me with a basic analytical approach to life in its social, academic, and professional aspects. The rich and diverse environment taught me to re-question the obvious and to reinvent the invented. AUB cultivated a critical yet positive character tamed by a humbled self confidence. Simply, it gave me the right tools for a successful career.



### projects that define my work

Banque du Liban Annex, Ras Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon; Medgulf Insurance Head Quarters, Solidere, Beirut, Lebanon; Um Uthaina Mall, Amman, Amman, Jordan.

## SAMI IBRAHIM MARKUS BARCH '70

Associate, IDEA sarl – Consultants  
Beirut, Lebanon  
www.ideacon.com

### my inspiration

The American architect, Frank Lloyd Wright's transition and development during his professional life, has been the basis of a lifelong challenge for me. I have tried to develop in a manner similar to his.

### how AUB shaped my career

AUB provided me with an all encompassing background that I have drawn upon to meet the challenges of changing times and technologies within the framework of our past. Our rich heritage and environment impose constraints on modern architecture. We should rise to the challenge, each within his field, for a better way of life.

### projects that define my work

Melkart College, Louaizeh, Lebanon; National Evangelical Church of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon; Halim & Aida Daniel School of Tourism & Hotel Management, University of Balamand, Balamand, Lebanon.



## PROJECT R THE RUBBLE HOUSE

Ouayda and Markus worked together on the following (very cool) project:

- Rapid • Reactivation • Return •
- Rehabilitation • Relief • Relocation
- Reunite • Remolding • Republic •
- Repetition • Resettlement • Resistance •
- Restoration • Reconstruction • Remodeling
- Rubble • Rural • Revival •

About 1,000,000 displaced... More than 120 bridges destroyed... Majority of roads disrupted.

The genesis of the rubble house concept was an urgent response to the tragedy of the July 2006 war in Lebanon. The significant destruction and the substantial leftover debris created the immediate need to deal with the resulting environmental, social, economic, displacement, and logistical issues. Hence, the idea of turning a disadvantage into an advantage started to materialize. The concept of using destruction rubble for reconstruction was a simple and straight forward solution. This simple concept revolves around the idea of entrapping rubble in wire mesh cages and further developing the Gabion system normally used for retaining walls, in order to build up single story structures in the rural areas of the south of Lebanon.

