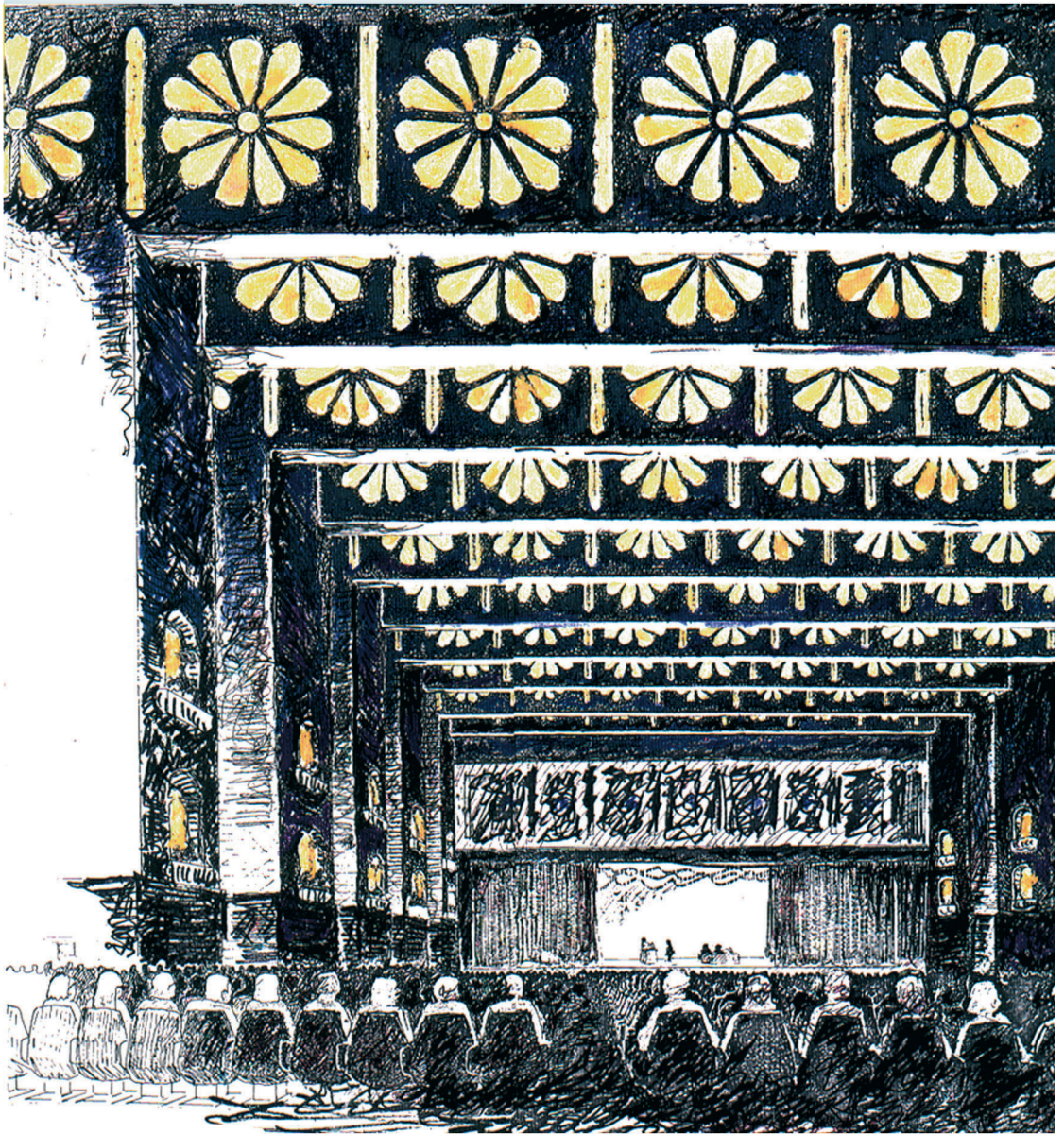
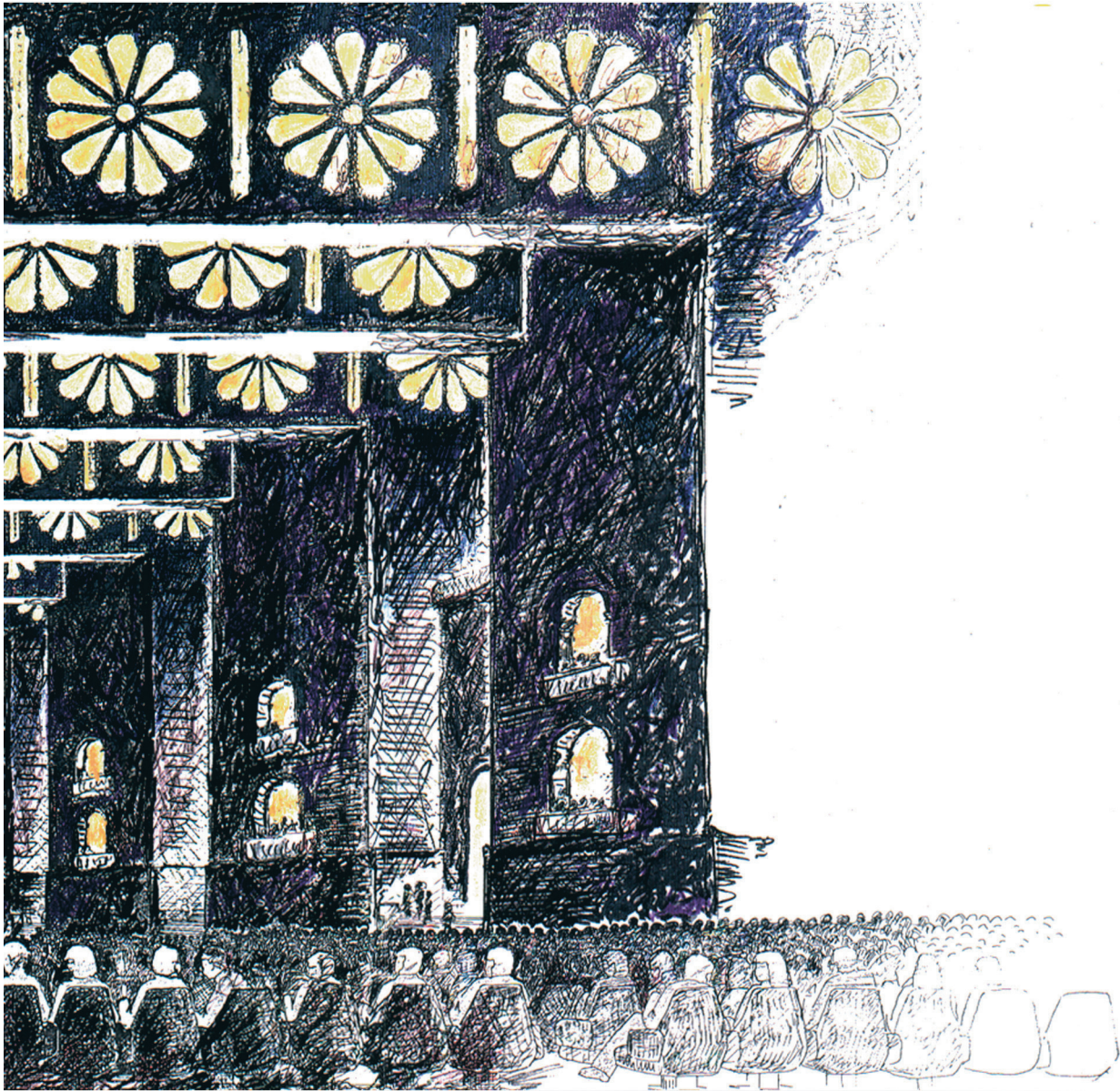




10 / TRANQUILITY EVEN IN THE HUGE



*Tokyo Forum, interior of the Assembly Hall, a massive room, 50 meters by 70 meters, the columns so large that they each contain rooms at different levels. The giant chrysanthemums are pierced in the precast Vierendeel box beams, and illuminated. It is hard to imagine such a gigantic space as being tranquil at all. However, I believe the very simple repetition of the shining, highly symmetrical, and simple, huge blossoms pierced in the steel with soft yellowish light*



*shining through them, the very slight batter on the massive columns, the blue tones in the blackness of the finish, and the rooms and arched openings within the huge columns themselves, all create a series of scales of fine structure, increasing detail—yet made so simply that with care in the working through, they might indeed become tranquil.*  
Christopher Alexander, Artemis Anninou and Annie der Bedrossian, 1989.