Abstract...

This thesis attempts to investigate the role of urban connections and interfaces within the city. It tries to seek out how architecture may play an integral part in the Information Age where information, news and mass media are rapidly becoming dominant factors in global politics and economies.

Does this necessarily mean that the media is the only container of information? Do the producers of these information have a faceless identity aside from the messages that are sent through their medium? Is this the only medium that the information may be carried and disseminated through? And why does this information seem to flow in one direction? Is there a possibility of greater interaction between the sender and the recipient?

The proposed vehicle is that of the Asian Business News Broadcast Centre that produces satellite broadcasts across the globe. It attempts to answer these questions posed, as well as break the perceived conception that a media production facility is isolated and possesses a faceless identity aside from that which is seen through the viewers screens. This Centre recognizes the potential for the production facility to take on an urban role and become a social hub where the public may be able to participate actively in the production of the information.
This level of openness and public interaction is highly unusual in the present state of other information and news organizations whose aims seem to exclude the public from all aspects of their operations, allowing them only to participate only as consumers of the final product. Must the requirements of security and privacy always demand that the public be completely shut out?

This thesis rejects this notion completely and proposes a production facility where the public is an integral part of the operations, forming a source of information as well as a receiver of it, actively participating in its day-to-day running. It intends to project a sense of openness that allows the public to participate and contribute along with the news teams as they produce their segments, as well as for the staff of this Centre to feel part of the city for whom they are reporting. To become a truly public building that can contribute to the urban fabric as well as gain from it.