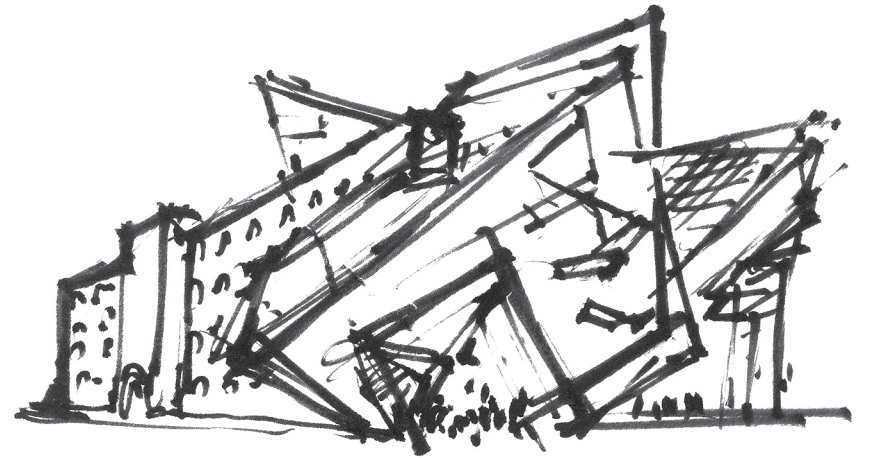


## 2007

With William Thorsell's appointment as the ROM's Director and CEO in August 2000, the Museum's earlier efforts to realize a master plan took concrete shape. Under the title Renaissance ROM, he launched a transformative expansion resulting in 388,000 square feet of new architecture and renovated heritage spaces, including permanent galleries for every major collection of the Museum and doubling the number of objects on display.

Following an intensive international search for an architect, Thorsell commented on Daniel Libeskind's winning design: "It created a landscape of desire inviting people to come in." Partially inspired by the ROM's mineralogy collection, Libeskind's concept featured five interconnected crystal structures, and was soon named the "crystal" for its form and shape. Construction began in 2003 and the Michael Lee-Chin Crystal officially opened on June 2, 2007. ■



**2001** | A detail of one of Daniel Libeskind's nine napkin sketches submitted as part of the architect-selection process.