



*The idea of a National Museum for Lebanon dates back to 1923, when the first "committee of friends" was put together. Members of that committee included Alfred Sursock, Marius Hanemoglou, Albert Bassoul, Omar Daouk, Camille Eddé, Ali Joumblat, Henri Pharaon, Georges Vayssie, Assad Yunes, Hassan Makhzoumi, Joseph Farhi, Georges Corm, Jean Debs, Wefik Baydoun, Jacques Tabet.*

*Following a design competition, architect Antoine Nahas was commissioned the project in 1930. A second architect by the name of Prince Ringuet was to closely collaborate on the project. The site for the museum's eventual construction was donated by the municipality of Beirut and work was completed in 1937. The National Museum's inauguration, scheduled for 1938, never occurred due to world war events of the time. A small opening ceremony took place on the 25th of March 1942.*