NAEJUNG PARK

Selective Works 2020-2024

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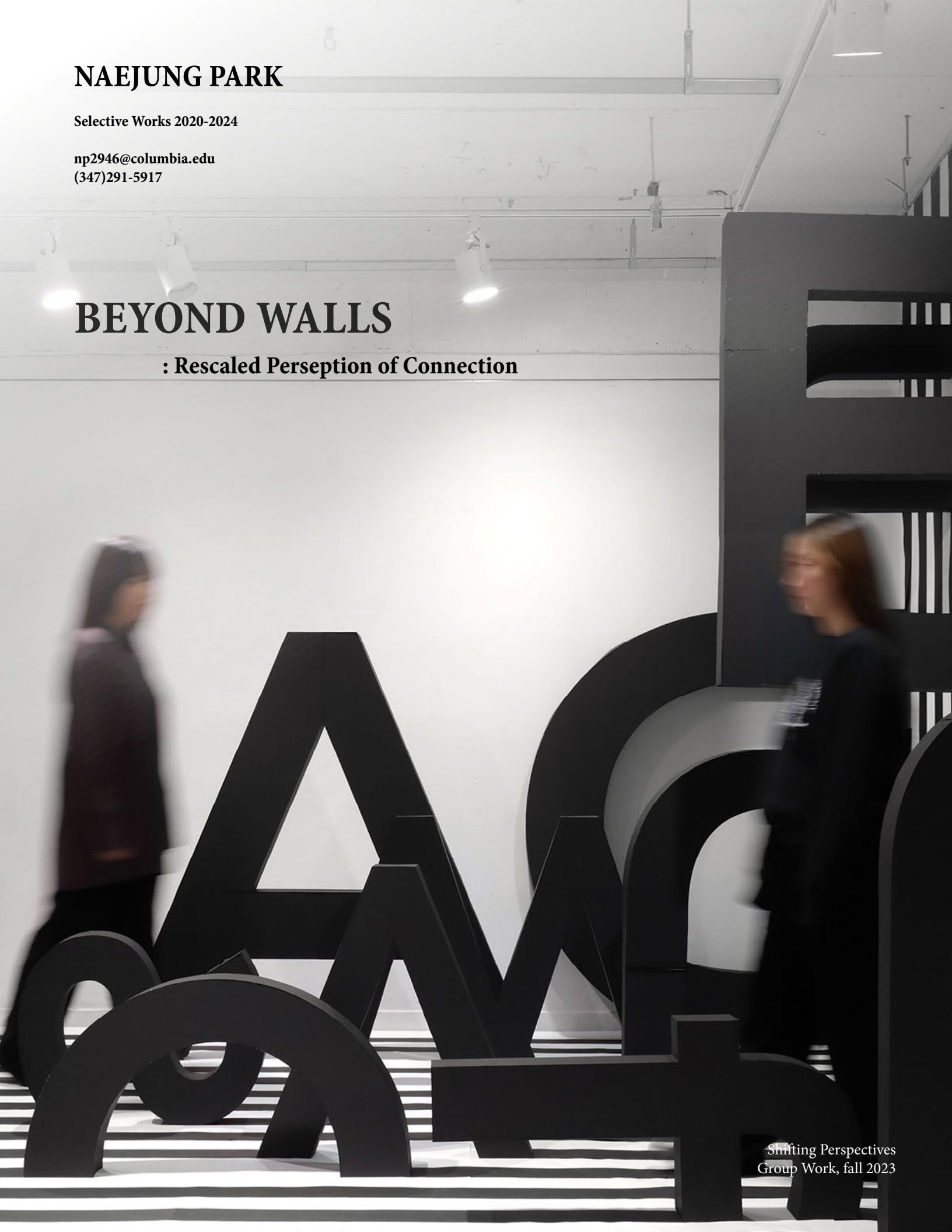
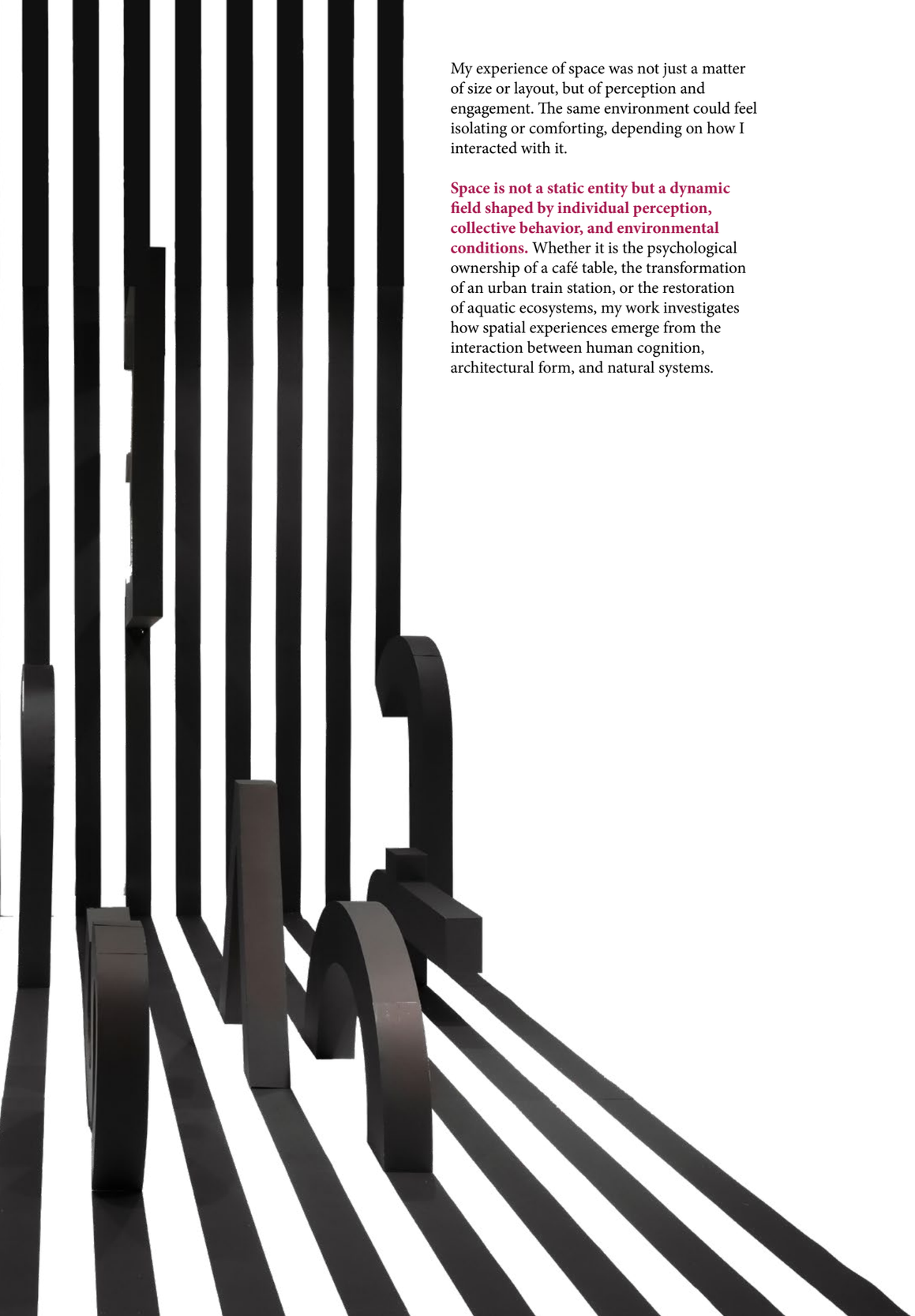
BEYOND WALLS

: Rescaled Perseption of Connection



Shifting Perspectives
Group Work, fall 2023



My experience of space was not just a matter of size or layout, but of perception and engagement. The same environment could feel isolating or comforting, depending on how I interacted with it.

Space is not a static entity but a dynamic field shaped by individual perception, collective behavior, and environmental conditions. Whether it is the psychological ownership of a café table, the transformation of an urban train station, or the restoration of aquatic ecosystems, my work investigates how spatial experiences emerge from the interaction between human cognition, architectural form, and natural systems.

01 Eternal Flow

Transforming a Mundane Station into a Temple of Cycles

02 Floating Carpet

Regenerating Wetlands, Restoring Biodiversity

03 Immersion Seed

From The Wound of Pitch Lake, A Seed of Regeneration

04 Turn-Stack

Rhydmic Facade Through Rotational Modularity

05 In the Wake of Air

Where Dust Remembers, and Fragments Shape the Whole

01 Eternal Flow

Transforming a Mundane Station into a Temple of Cycles

Personal Work

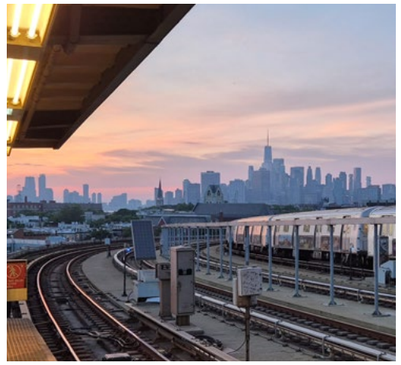
Project Type | Academic
Professor | Michelle Shofet, Larissa Bellic
Date | Summer 2024
Location | Smith-9th St Station, Brooklyn

Smith-9th St Station before renovation

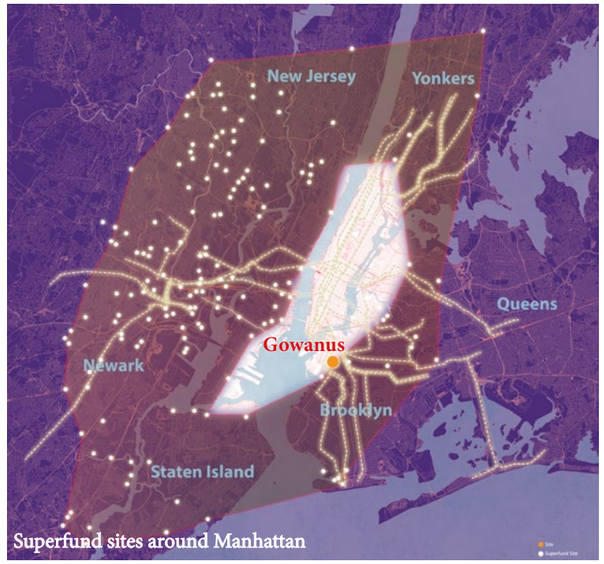
The Manhattan skyline, often celebrated as a symbol of human triumph over nature, and the Smith-9th St Station from which it can be viewed, are not mere coincidences. They are the inevitable products of nature's cyclical processes, involving bedrock, mountains, rivers, humans, and the universe, accumulated over millions of years. In reality, the Manhattan skyline itself is a part of nature, born from the same natural forces. We are perpetually surrounded by nature.

Manhattan skyscrapers could be constructed due to strong bedrock of post Alpine mountaion, and relatively weak bedrock of Brooklyn caused the buildings in Gowanus to be low-rised. Industrialization changed Gowanus creek to Canal, and made the station to be built in 87.5ft height. The Gowanus Canal became severely polluted during its industrial phase, eventually ending up with unknown creatures living in its black mayonnaise.

At Smith-9th St Station, visitors witness the natural cycles embodied in the Manhattan skyline—and are given a moment to reflect on the Gowanus Canal, which bore the cost of that urban ascent.



Views from Smith-9th train station

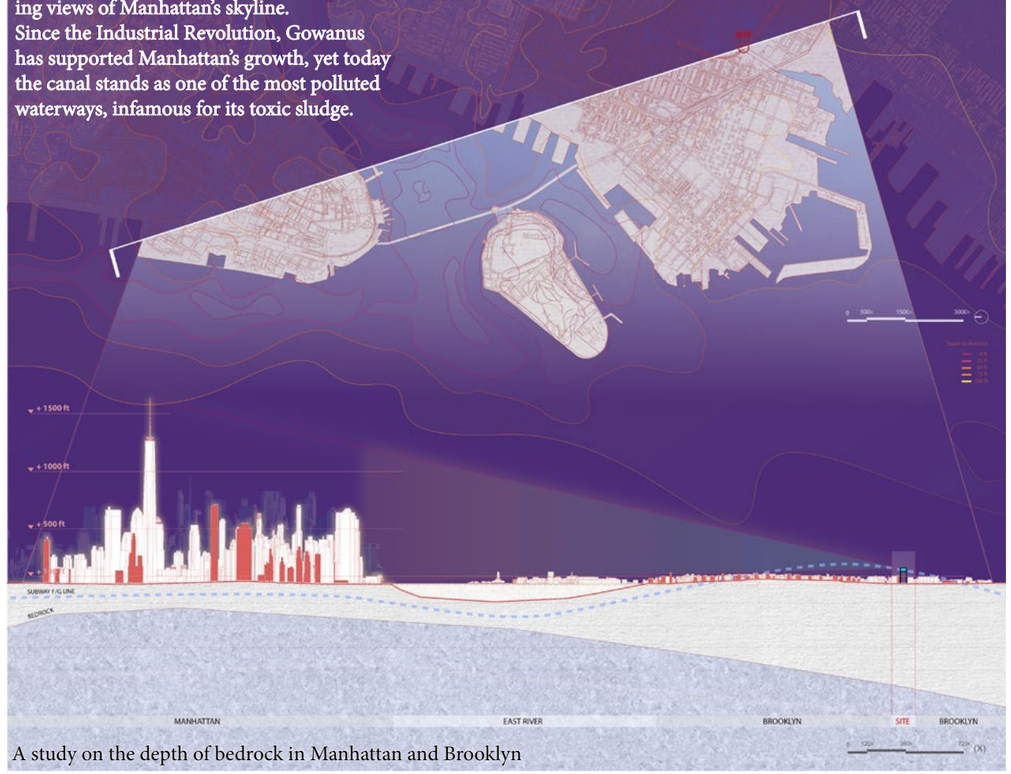


Superfund sites around Manhattan

The Cycle of the City

Manhattan's solid bedrock enabled clusters of high-rises, while Gowanus, with its weaker soil, remained low-rise. Over time, Gowanus Creek became the Gowanus Canal, above which a subway line was built—framing views of Manhattan's skyline.

Since the Industrial Revolution, Gowanus has supported Manhattan's growth, yet today the canal stands as one of the most polluted waterways, infamous for its toxic sludge.



A study on the depth of bedrock in Manhattan and Brooklyn

Mundane Temple

The train station can be like a temple, but instead of venerating a deity, it is a place to observe and feel awe towards the sacred entanglement of all things.

Materials

The ascent to the station resembles the approach to a temple, and the platform serves as a sacred space where regular rituals take place. Various materials abstractly represent natural elements that influence the view from the station.

Foundation Era

Bedrock
Bedrock
Gowanus Creek - Soil
Gowanus Creek - Water
Gowanus Creek - Water
Gowanus Creek - Soil
Gowanus Creek - Tree
Gowanus Creek - Tree
Gowanus Creek - Tree
Gowanus Creek - Water
Gowanus Creek - Water
Gowanus Canal - Water
Gowanus Canal - Water
Gowanus Canal - Water
Gowanus Canal - Chemicals
Gowanus Canal - Chemicals
Smith-9th St Station
Smith-9th St Station
Black Mayonnaise
Gowanus Canal - Chemicals
Black Mayonnaise
Black Mayonnaise
Black Mayonnaise

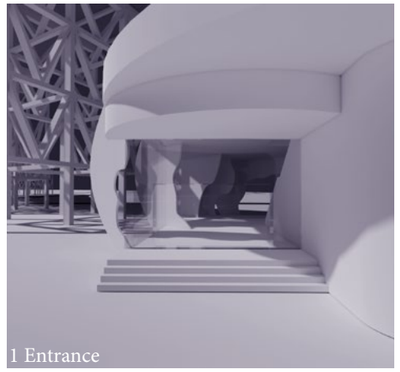
Excavation Era

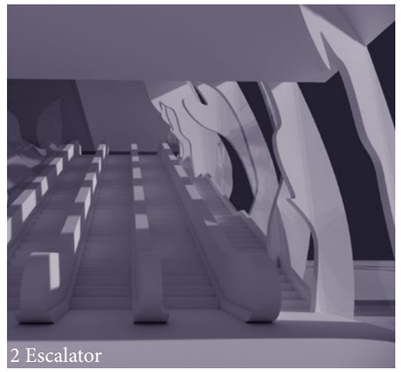
Contamination Era

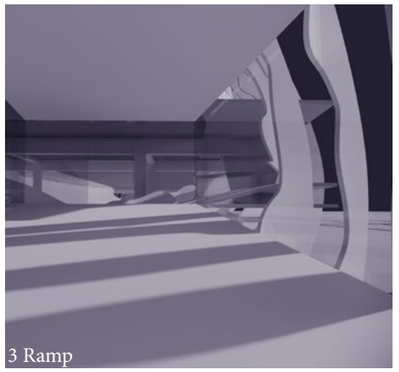
Reckoning Era (Present)

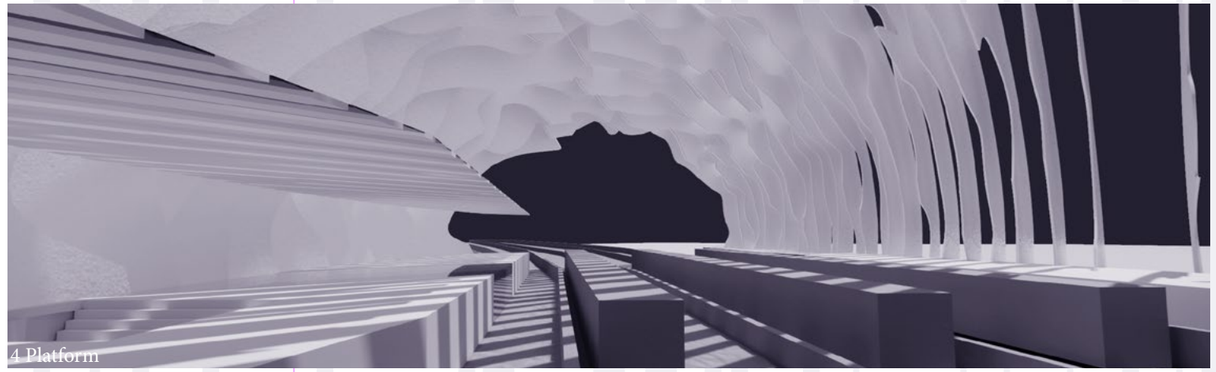
Black Mayonnaise
Black Mayonnaise
Unknown Creatures
Unknown Creatures
Unknown Creatures
Black Mayonnaise
Black Mayonnaise
Black Mayonnaise
Sun
Sun
Sun
Sun
Train
Train

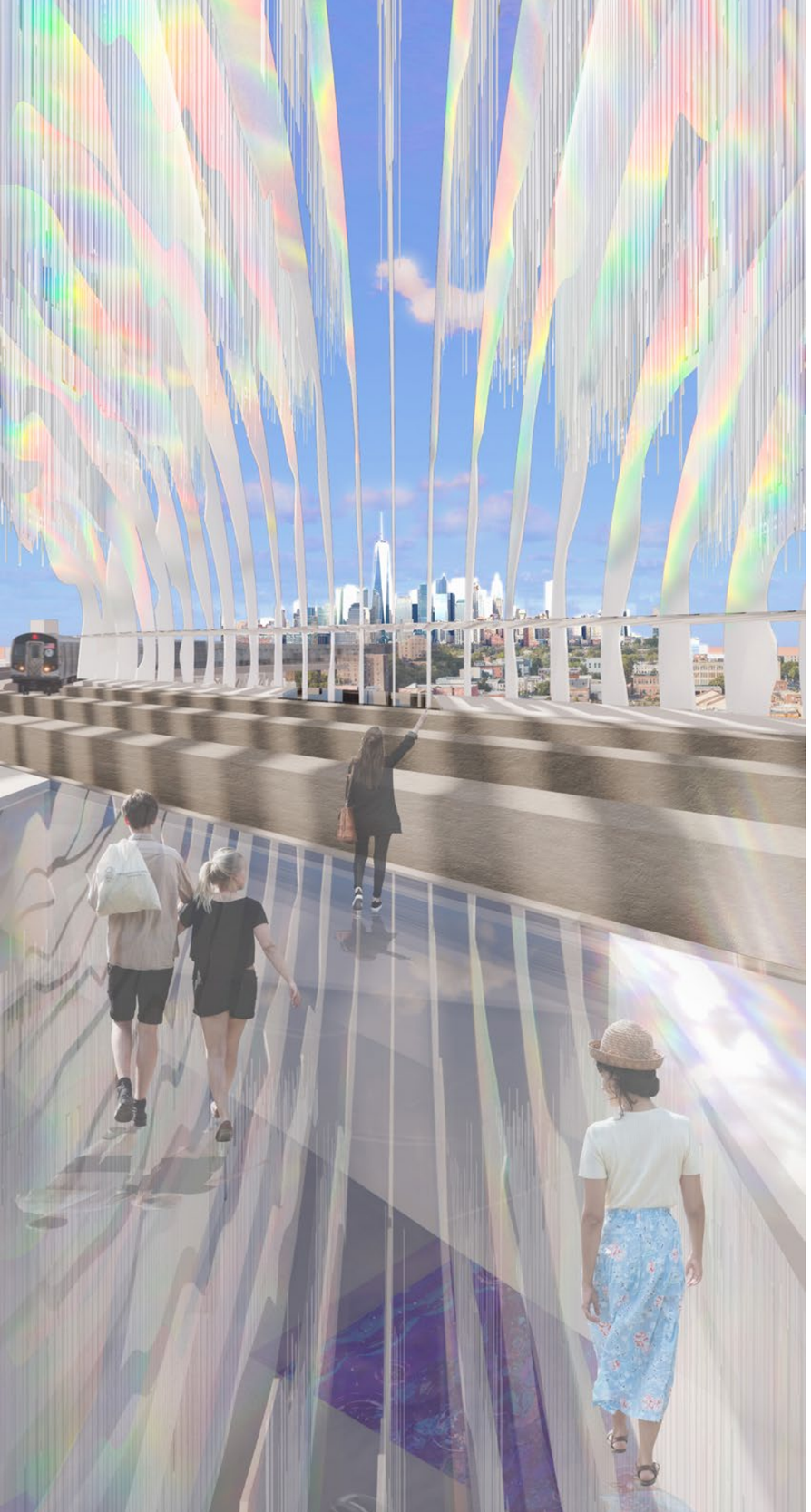
The Cycle of Light and Shadow

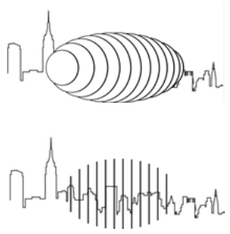

1 Entrance


2 Escalator


3 Ramp

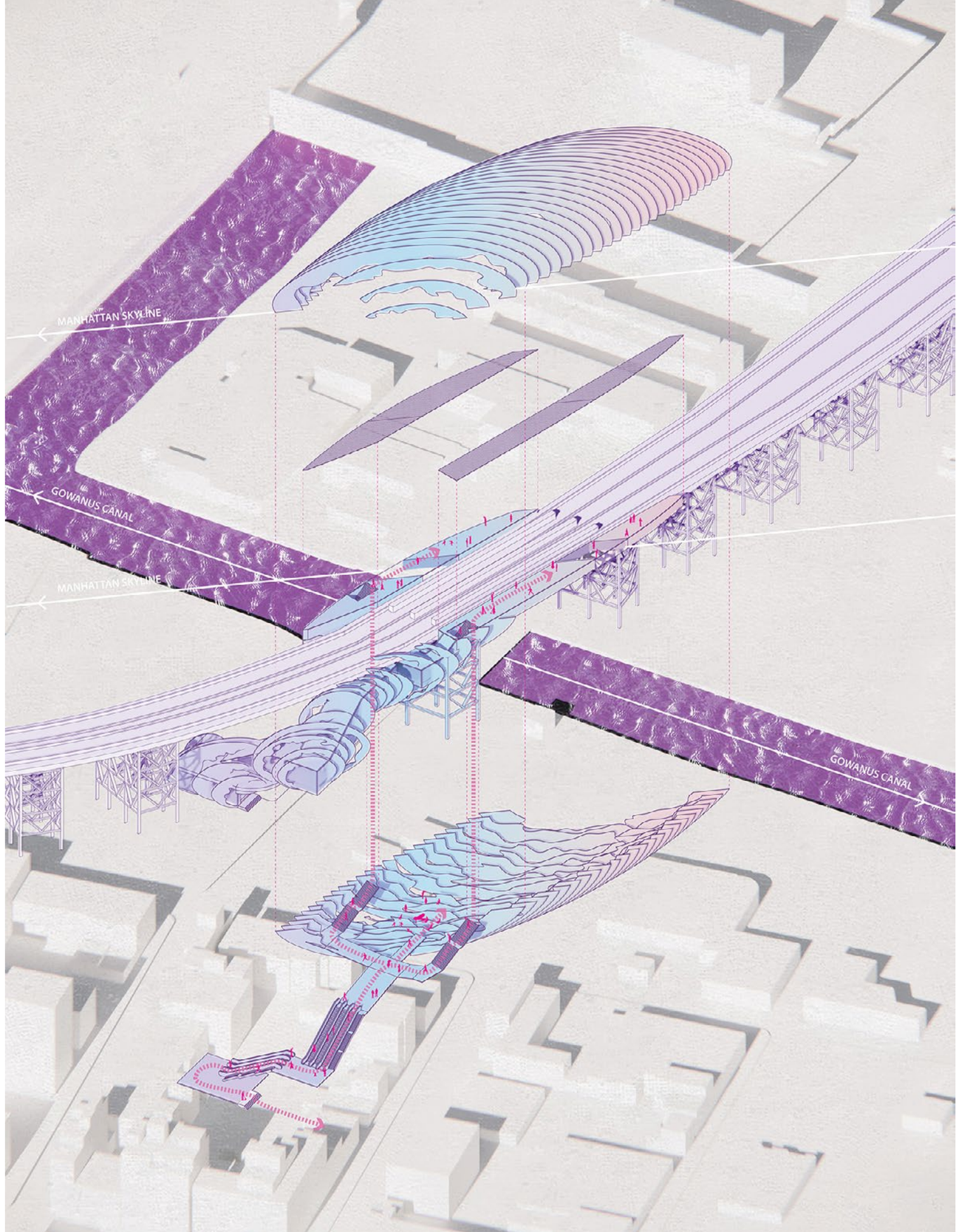

4 Platform





Frame

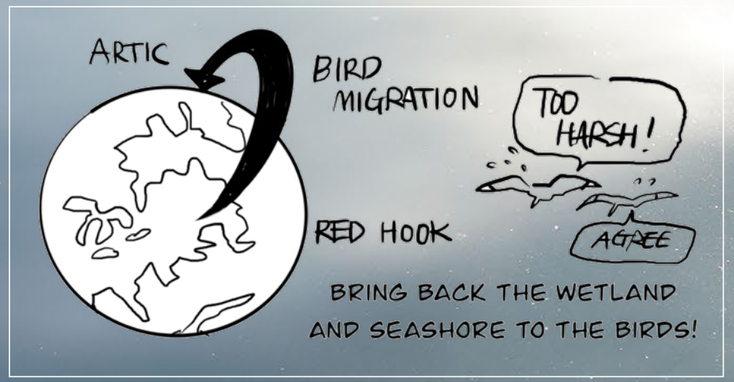
Deep, continuous louvers open up the view when seen from a specific angle, guiding people to simultaneously take in views of both Manhattan and Gowanus.



02 Floating Carpet

Regenerating Wetlands, Restoring Biodiversity

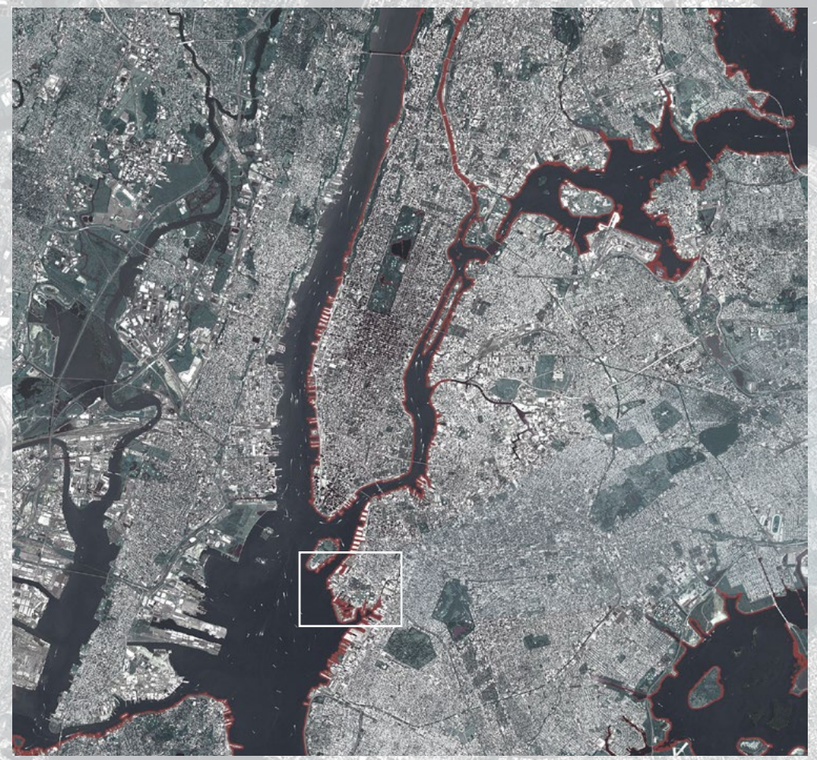
Group Work
Project Type | Academic
Professor | Emily Bauer
Date | Fall 2024
Location | RETI-center, Brooklyn



Concept Sketch

Seed bomb, inspired by jellyfish with a flat surface on the floating head and dense tentacles hanging below, was intended to create a flexible miniature that can be adapted to the aquatic ecosystem.
The woven cork and rope structure can expand as much as possible from 2ft x 2ft as a drinking fountain or resting area to a big spawning ground or nesting area.

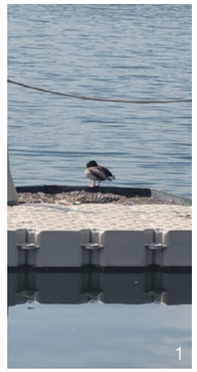
The project is designed to restore wetlands to Gowanus. This artificial wetland will provide a resting place for birds, a habitat for aquatic creatures, and a natural filtration system for the ocean. Native plants that help purify the polluted waters will grow and become a shelter and nesting area for native and migratory birds in Gowanus. Specifically, it will provide a home for Canada Geese that fly to New York to lay eggs during the breeding season. Beneath the surface, the varying depths created by the cork ropes will accommodate species such as oysters, kelp, and crabs living at different water levels, fostering biodiversity. We hope these small attempts will restore the marine ecosystem and return the wetlands to Gowanus.

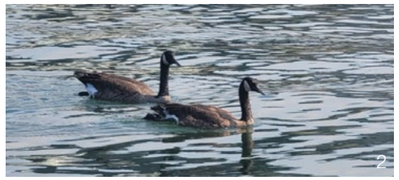


Seashore of New York

New York's 520-mile seashore is mostly finished cheaply and quickly, and severely polluted.

The seashore ecosystem's destruction threatens migratory birds' survival.



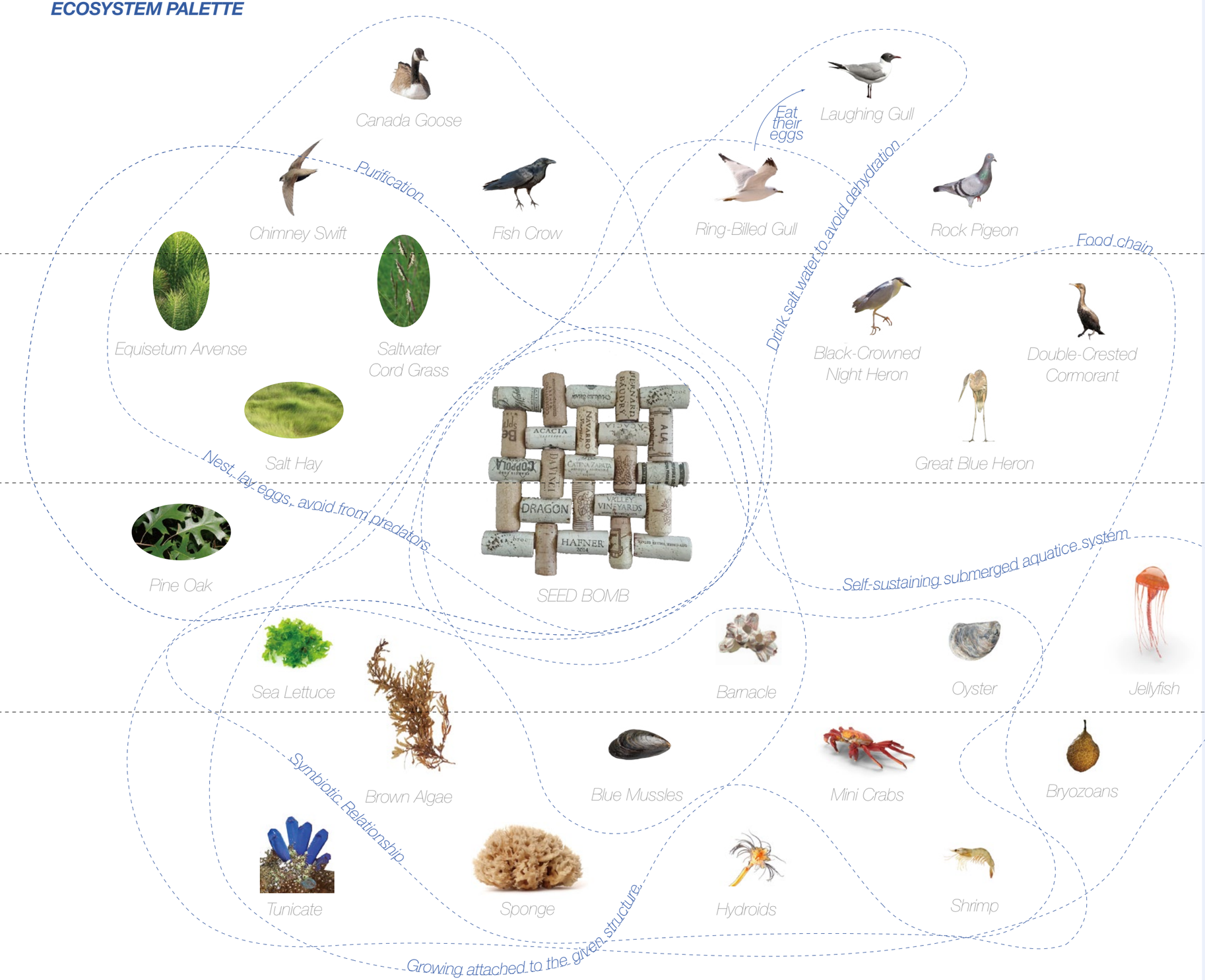


1 Bird resting on the artificial floating, 2 Canada goose swimming on the river, 3 Dead bug on the polluted river, 4 Aquatic ecosystem on rope (layered), 5 Waste corks in Reti Center

The Red Hook, Brooklyn is located near migratory bird habitats.

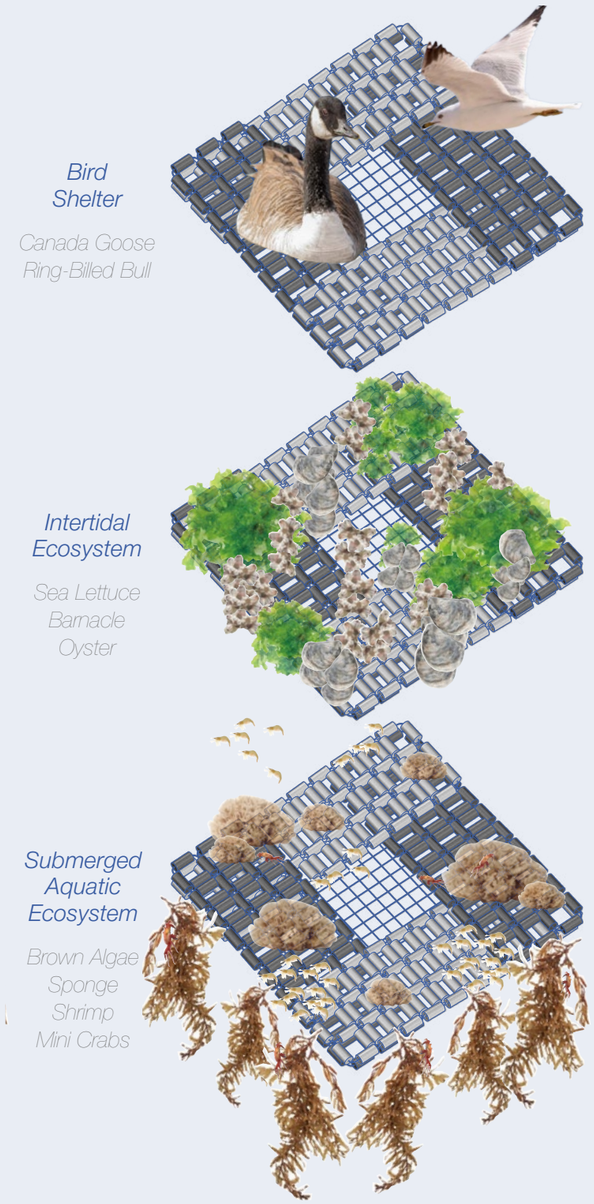
Based on the Reti Center, which researches floating landscapes made from waste cork, we propose a new type of artificial wetland concept.

ECOSYSTEM PALETTE

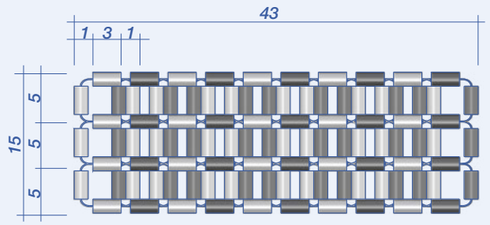


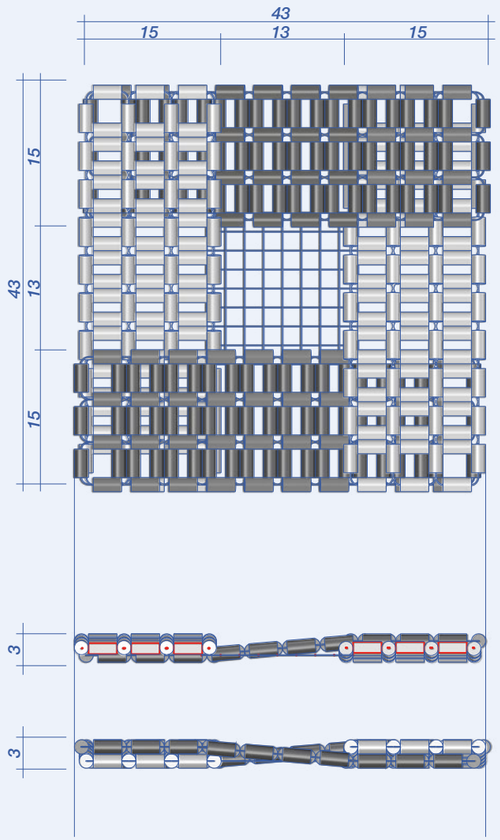
USER CASE

The top of the garden will offer the birds a sanctuary surrounded by purified water and grassy areas, while the underside will support various aquatic organisms at different depths. Like an iceberg, we expect a thriving aquatic ecosystem to form beneath the floating structure.



DIMENSION





FABRICATION

MATERIALS

Clip (1)

Nylon Rope (1)

Cork (450+)

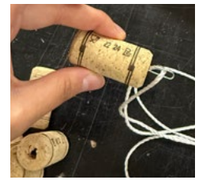
10 Drilled Corks
3ft Nylon Rope

(for 1 Module)

PROCESS

1.
Prepare at least 450 waster corks and sort the corks by similar size and shape.

2.
Use the electric drill to make a hole in the center of the wastecork.



3.
Straighten the paperclip like a needle, hang the thread on it, and pass it through the center.

4.
Using 10 corks, you can make one module of weaved corks.

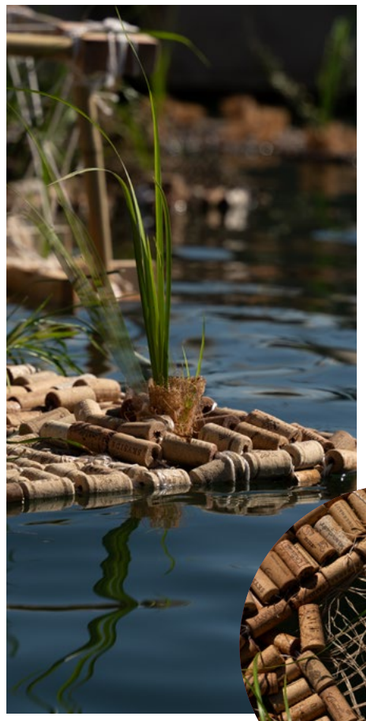
5.
Duplicate this steps for 10 time.

6.
Twist and overlap the modules together to form a rectangle with 10 units across, then pass the thread through the edge sections once more.

7.
Duplicate this steps for 4 times.

8.
Weave 4 pieces and play with the density.

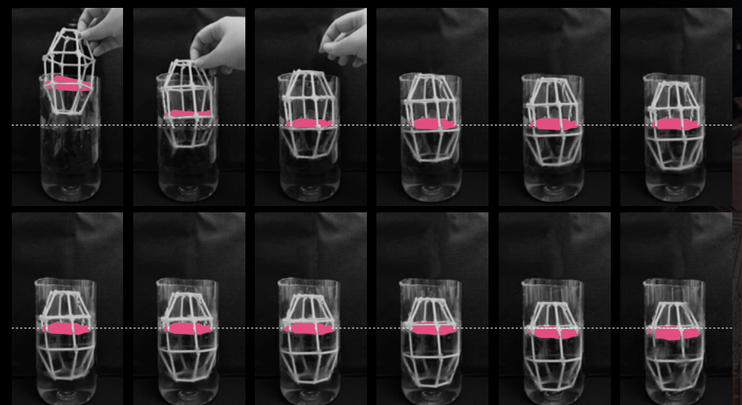
9.
Plant some vegetation.



03 Immersion Seed

From The Wound of Pitch Lake, A Seed of Regeneration

Project Type | Academic
Professor | Mireia Luzarraga
Date | Spring 2025
Location | Pitch Lake, La Brea, Trinidad



Sinking structure experiment

Pitch Lake is a mysterious natural asphalt lake, formed by nature over hundreds of thousands of years. Yet since the colonial era, its resources have been exploited without limit, and the laborers of this land have likewise been consumed.

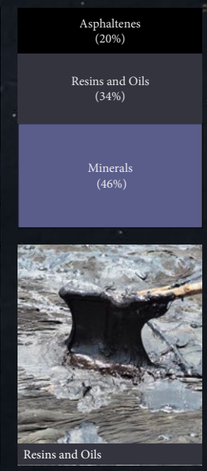
We propose to plant a seed of healing and restoration in this wounded black lake. Through Immersion Seed—a sensory bath, a sanctuary for birds, and a habitat for microorganisms—we envision a space where Pitch Lake may be regenerated and returned to its community.

Trinidad's Pitch Lake is a vast black lake where natural asphalt forms over time.

At first glance, the black, swamp-like surface may appear mysterious, toxic, or even dangerous. But in reality, it's a vibrant ecosystem where various lifeforms coexist, and a place with the potential for healing. This restorative potential comes largely from the pitch's mineral-rich composition.

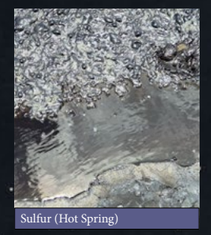
The pitch includes minerals such as volcanic mud known for its skin-healing properties, sulfur compounds, silicates, and other nutrients essential for plant life.

Pitch Lake, La Brea

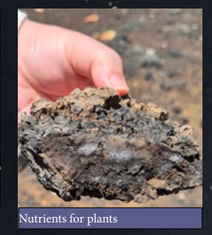


Asphalenes

Resins and Oils



Sulfur (Hot Spring)



Nutrients for plants

Colonial Era - 2025

2025 - 2100

After a long time..

SECTION
SHOWING RELATIVE POSITION
OF LAKE SURFACE FOR

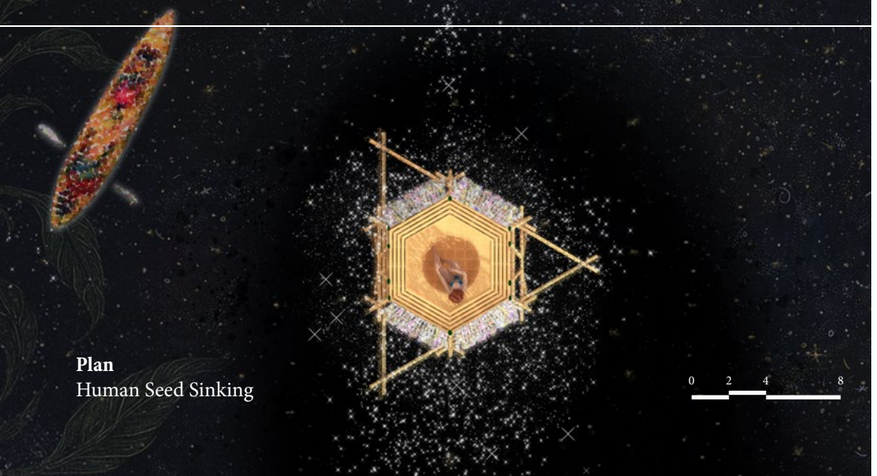
1893	-	137.01' Elev.	120 Acres
1902	-	135.8' -	103 -
1906	-	130.0' -	123 -
1915	-	124.25' -	110 -
1918	-	122.13' -	103 -
1925	-	115.1' -	93.24 -

Old shore lines hypothetical.

Sinking architecture , Feeding Biomass

Immersion Seed is designed to submerge into the pitch. While the skin and bamboo frame slowly sinks, the sensory experience within the interior space continues.
Once a full cycle is completed, the device will gradually descend beneath the pitch, becoming a habitat for microorganisms and beginning its transformation into the very material of pitch.

Roof Plan
Human Seed (Top), Bird Seed (Bottom)

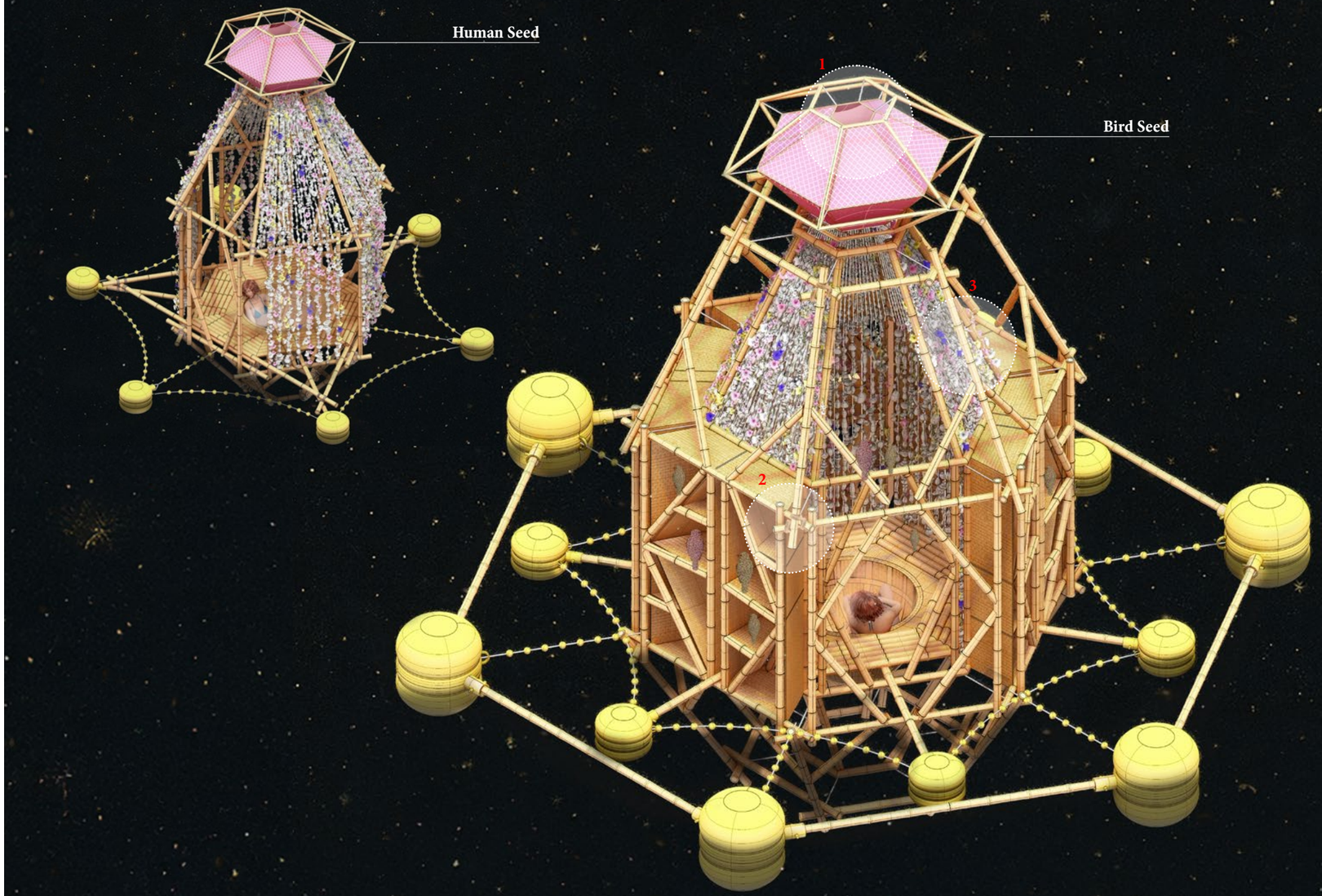


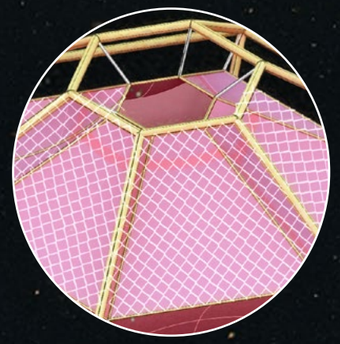
Plan
Human Seed Sinking

Build to Sink, Built by Hand

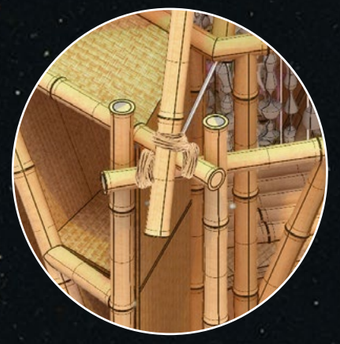
The entire structure is built by hand, using traditional, low-tech methods without relying on large-scale machinery.

Crucially, Immersion Seed is not imposed by external systems. All materials and construction techniques are designed to be manageable by local communities.
The economic benefits from this new form of device remain entirely with them—supporting a shift toward self-determined, decolonial futures.





1 Rain Catcher

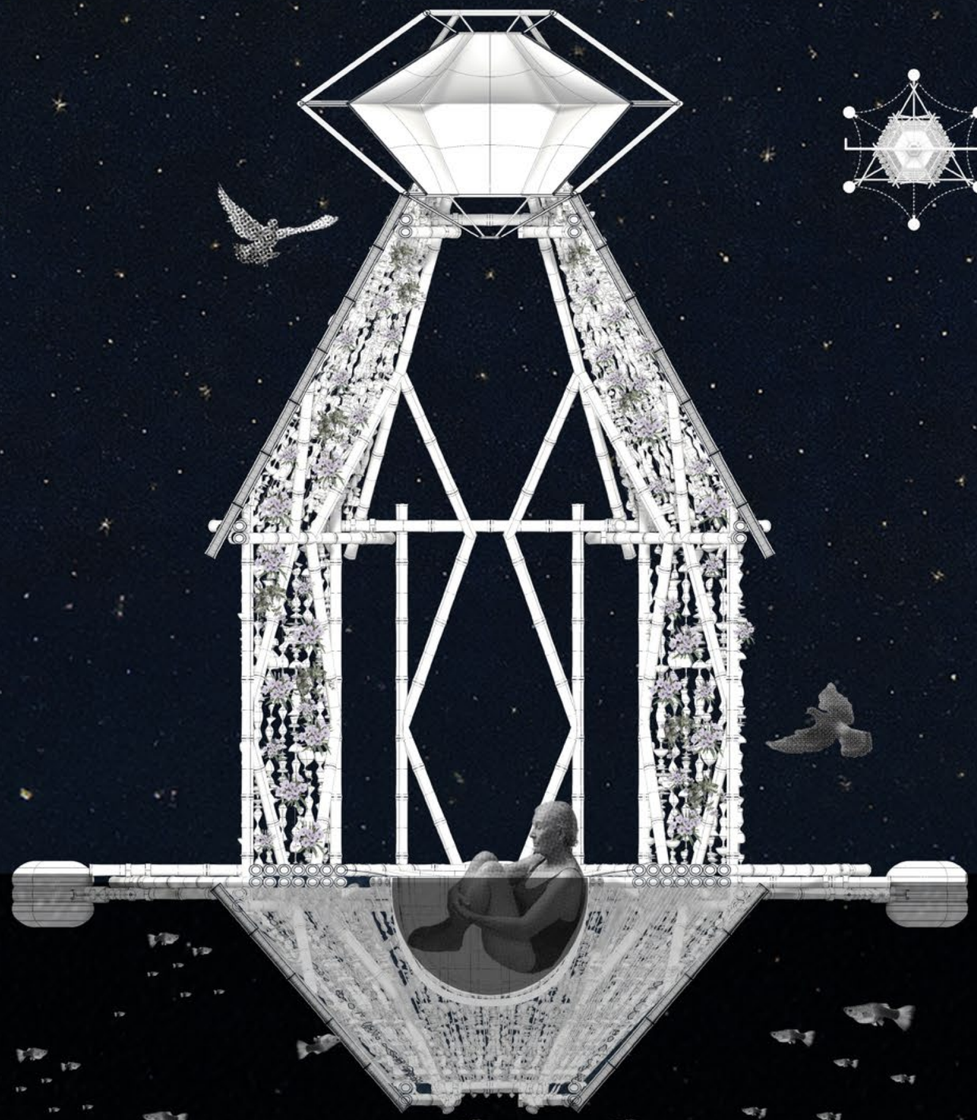


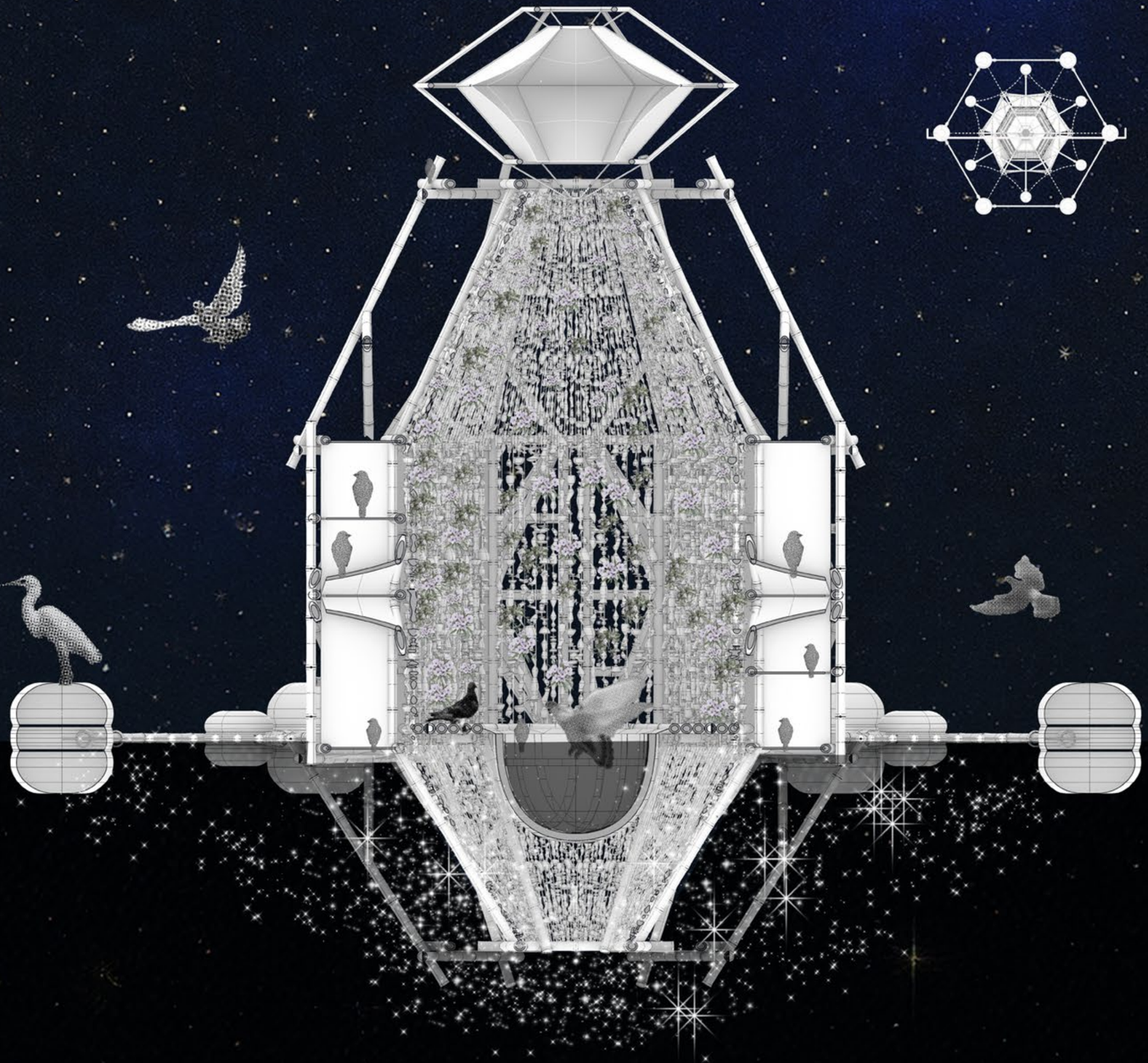
2 Bamboo Tying

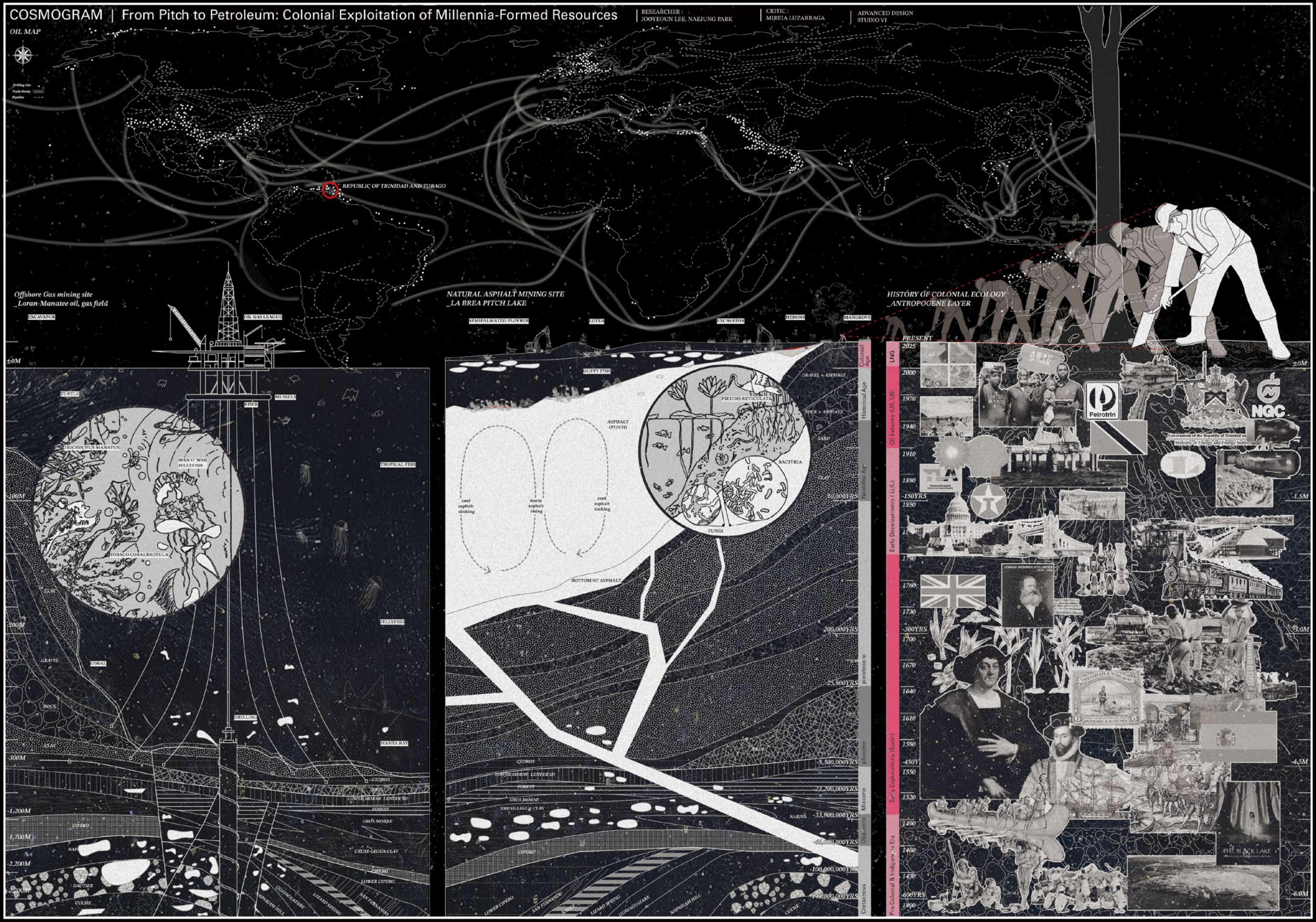
3 Outer Skin, Cellulose+wild flower

A Bath, Design for Sensory Experience and Transscalarities

Immersion Seed offers a non-exploitative way to experience Pitch Lake through bathing, using the heat of the pitch and nearby hot springs. Two types of seeds connect microorganisms to the broader ecosystem. The Cellulose Flower Skin nurtures microbial habitats, while the Bird Seed provides resting and bathing spaces for endemic birds.






COSMOGRAM | From Pitch to Petroleum: Colonial Exploitation of Millennia-Formed Resources
RESEARCHER : JOOYEOUN LEE, NAEJUNG PARK
CRITIC : MIREIA LUZARRAGA
ADVANCED DESIGN STUDIO VI
OIL MAP
REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Offshore Gas mining site
_Loran-Manatee oil, gas field
NATURAL ASPHALT MINING SITE
_LA BREA PITCH LAKE
HISTORY OF COLONIAL ECOLOGY
_ANTROPOGENE LAYER
EXCAVATOR
OIL GAS LEAGUE
SEMIPALMATED PLOVER
LOTUS
EXCAVATOR
HERONS
MANGROVE
PRESENT
±0M
TURTLE
MUSSELS
RISER
TRICHECHUS MANATUS
MAN O' WAR JELLYFISH
TROPICAL FISH
TOBAGO CORALBROTULA
JELLYFISH
CORAL
GRAVEL
ROCK
DRILLING
MANTA RAY
CEDROS
FOREST
GROS MORNE
CRUSE-LEGUA CLAY
CIPERO
LOWER CIPERO
GAUTIER
CUCHE
-100M
-200M
-300M
-1,200M
-1,700M
-2,200M
GUPPY FISH
ASPHALT (PITCH)
cool asphalt sinking
warm asphalt rising
cool asphalt sinking
BOTTOM OF ASPHALT
PSEUDIS RETICULATA
BACTERIA
FUNGI
GRAVEL + ASPHALT
ROCK + ASPHALT
SAND
CLAY
10,000YRS
200,000YRS
25,800YRS
5,300,000YRS
23,200,000YRS
33,900,000YRS
66,000,000YRS
100,000,000YRS
145,000,000YRS
NARIVA
LOWER CIPERO
SAN FERNANDO
LIZARD SPRING
NAPARIMA HILL
Colonial Age
Historical Age
Neolithic Age
pleistocene
pliocene
Miocene
Oligocene
Cretaceous
LNG
Oil Industry (U.K., US)
Early Developments (U.K.)
Early Explorations (Spain)
Pre-Colonial & Indigenous Era
2025
2000
1970
1940
1910
1880
-150YRS
1790
1760
1730
-300YRS
1700
1670
1640
1610
1580
-450YRS
1550
1520
1490
1460
1430
-600YRS
1400
±0M
-1.5M
-3.0M
-4.5M
-6.0M
Petrotrin
NGC
THE BLACK LAKE
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

04 Turn-Stack

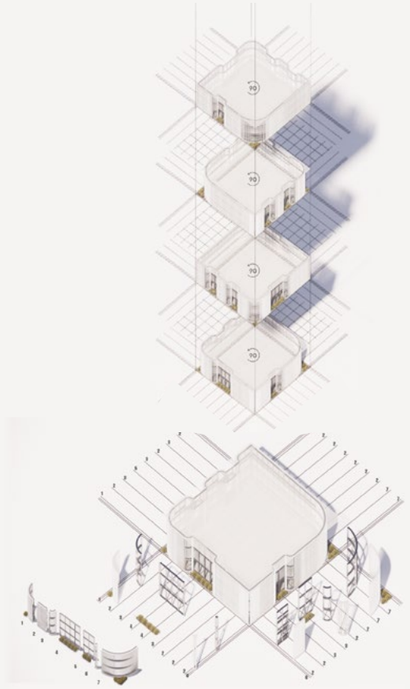
Rhydmic Facade Through Rotational Modularity

Group Work
Project Type | Academic
Professor | Joe Brennen
Date | Fall 2024
Location | 1227 Broadway, New York

Rotating Plans

The project explores the relationship between modular repetition and rotation in high-rise architecture. The stacked, rotating structure alters the facade's form from various viewpoints, creating a continuously shifting visual impression. The curved surfaces interact with light and shadow, enhancing the depth and movement of the facade.

This design approach goes beyond mere aesthetics, enabling a systematic strategy that considers structural efficiency and adaptability. By breaking away from the static verticality of high-rise buildings, it demonstrates how simple geometric operations can generate complexity and spatial richness, proposing a new architectural typology.



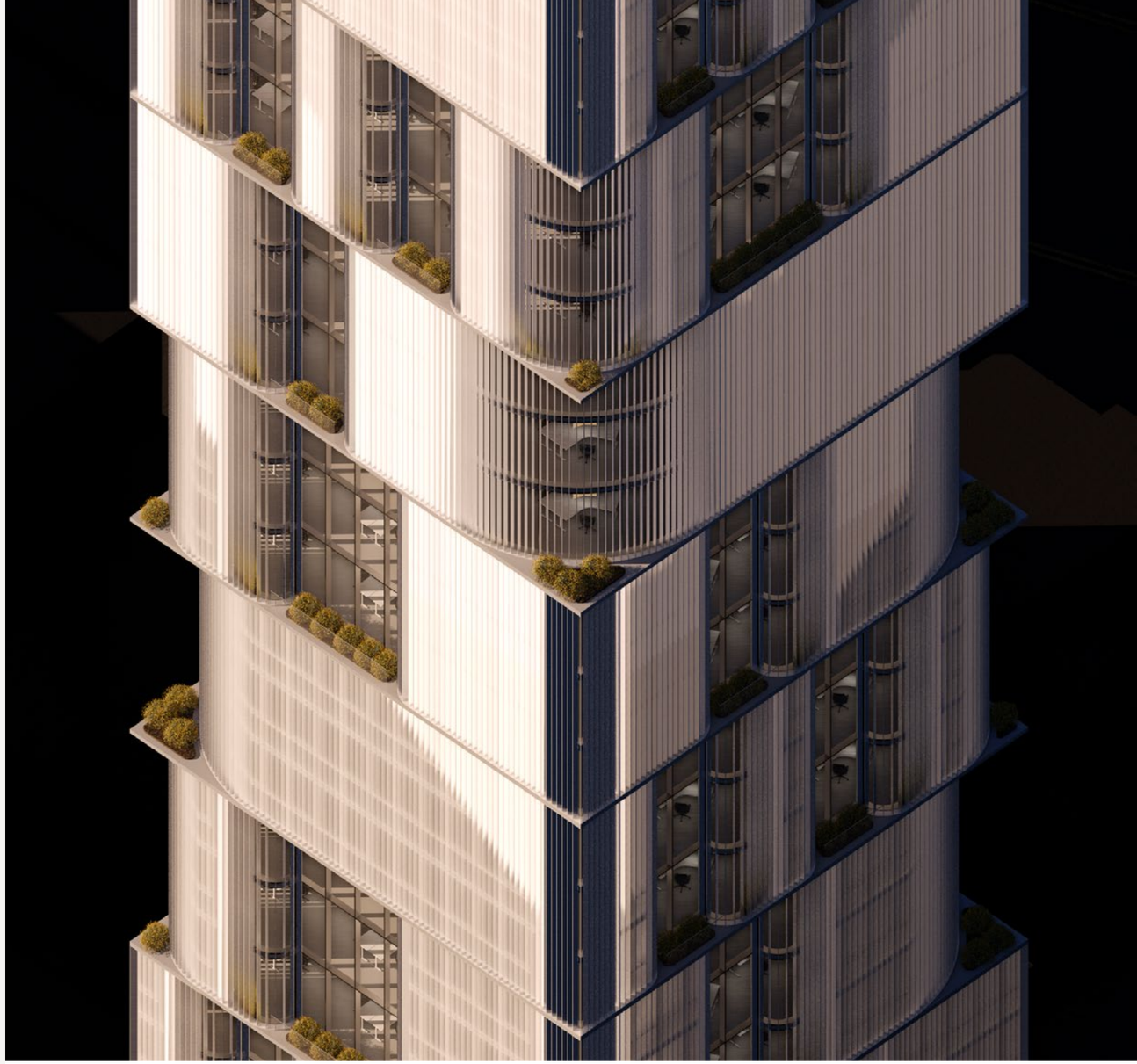
Modular Facade

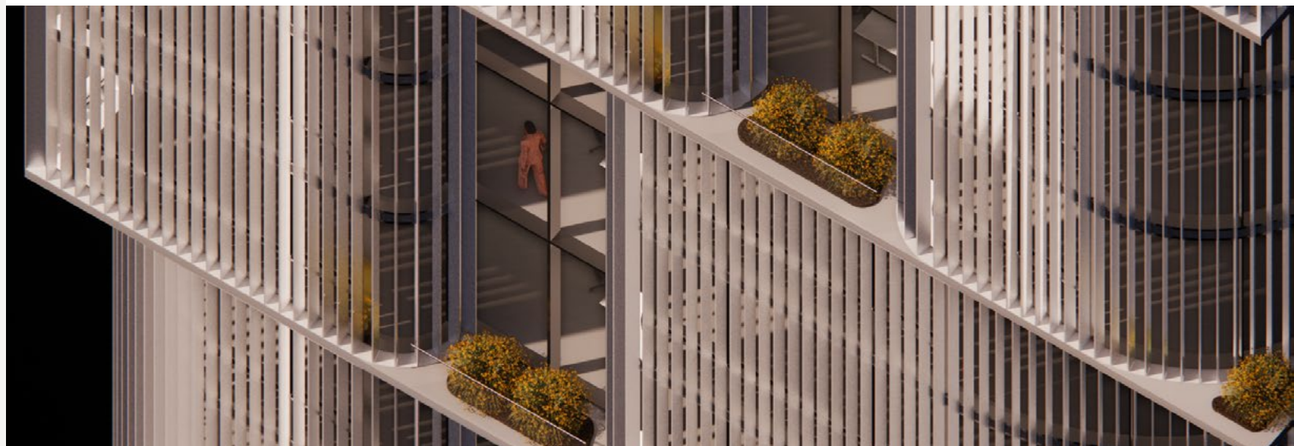
Each set's façade is composed of seven modules. These modules are strategically combined to determine the building's floor plan, ensuring optimal green space and daylight conditions.

Each floor accommodates a total of four residential units: two units for two-person families and two units for four-person families.
As the floor plan rotates, variations are introduced, such as slightly expanded rooms or the addition of terraces. This offers a wider range of residential options, enhancing spatial diversity and adaptability.

0 1 2 4

Floor Plans





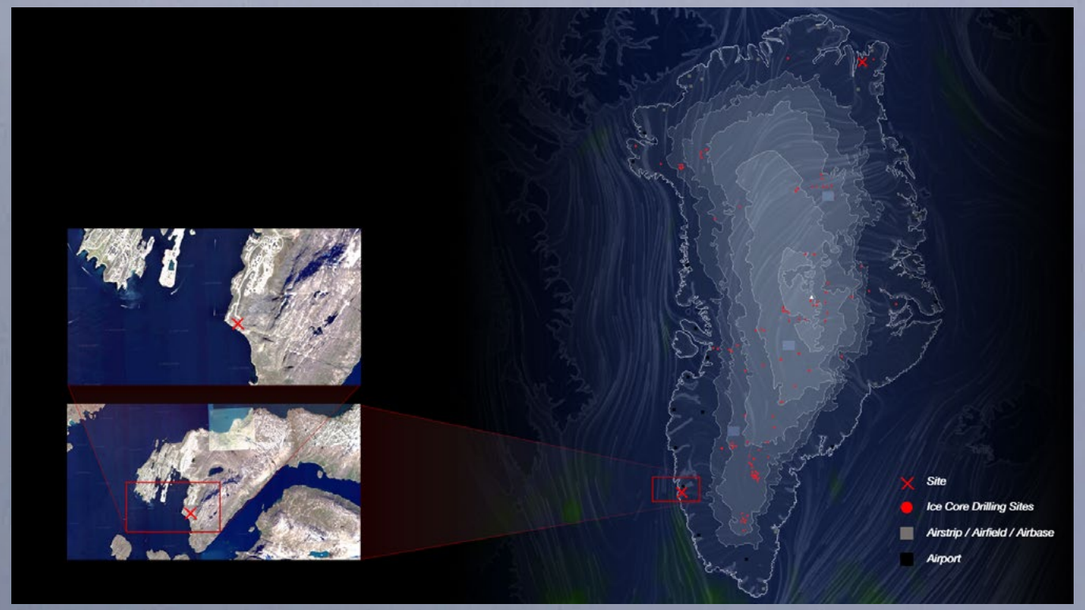
05 In the Wake of Air

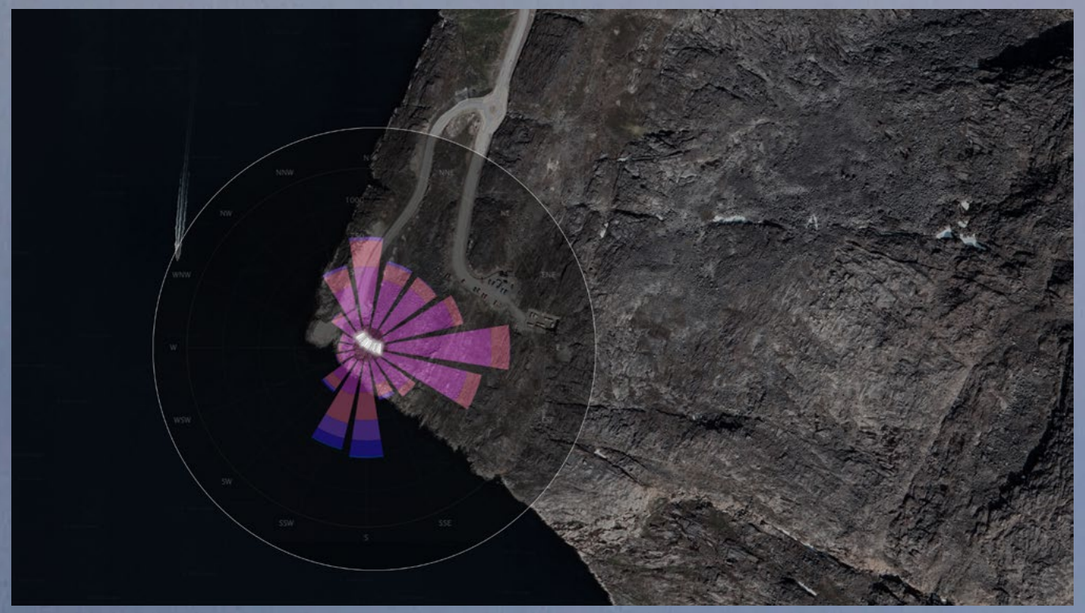
Where Dust Remembers, and Fragments Shape the Whole

Personal Work
Project Type | Academic
Professor | Leslie Gill, Khoi A. Nguyen
Date | Fall 2025
Location | Greenland

Smith-9th St Station before renovation

This project focuses on designing a research facility in Greenland that archives atmospheric dust and ice cores to track global air pollution trends. The facility aims to uncover the origins of pollutants, including radioactive substances, and predict future patterns influenced by global warming. Located on Greenland's northeastern and southwestern coasts, the site selection considers prevailing wind directions to capture dust from diverse regions while avoiding local pollutants. The building integrates advanced filtration systems for dust, light, and heat creating varied environments suited to the needs of researchers and programs. Dust collected from the Arctic atmosphere is analyzed to identify pollutants' atmospheric journeys and their impact on ecosystems. Ice cores serve as historical archives, revealing layers of pollution dating back to the Industrial Revolution. A nonprofit organization operates the facility to ensure transparency, with findings publicly disclosed to raise awareness about the global impact of industrial activities. By combining past and present data, the project highlights the relationship between regional pollutants and global airflows, fostering accountability and encouraging sustainable practices.
Through its approach, the facility serves as an archive and a platform for education, collaboration, and advocacy, addressing the urgent challenge of atmospheric pollution.


Site
Ice Core Drilling Sites
Airstrip / Airfield / Airbase
Airport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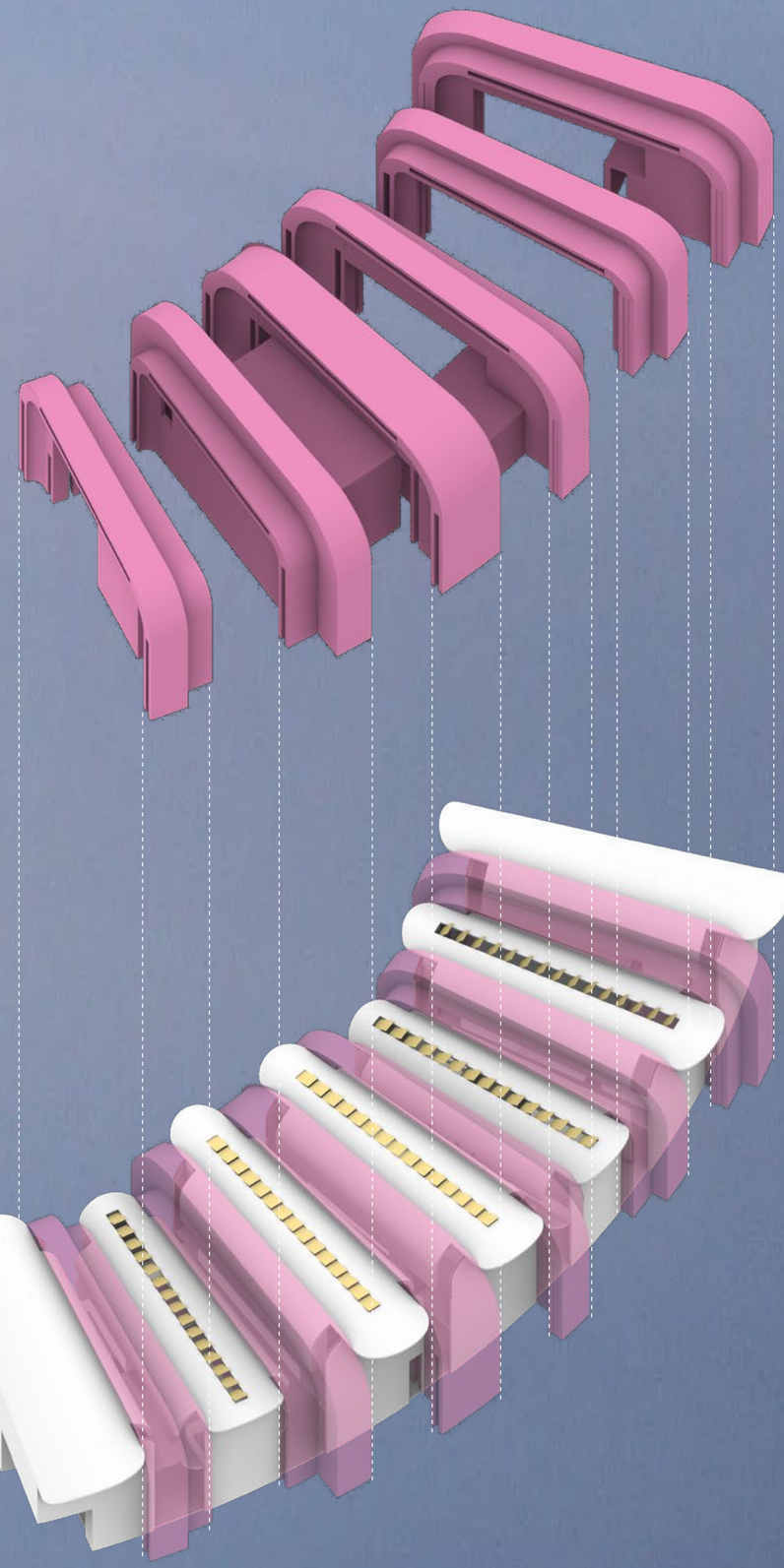

Cold

Dark

Dirty

Warm

Bright

Clean

Research	Archive	External Affairs