

The Guggenheim is a fine art itself!

I visited *The Guggenheim* in New York City last May and was impressed by the design of both its organic exterior as well as its internal structure full of geometric shapes. The building from the outside is round and slightly bigger on upper floors than the lower floors (Fig. 1-2) . Once inside, it is full of geometric shapes. The lobby and the main exhibition hall is a giant six level circular spiral (Fig. 3). Visitors can take the half circle shaped elevator (Fig. 4) to the top floor and then follow the ramp (Fig 1; Fig 9) to walk down the exhibition area, all facing inward. There are no external windows in the exhibit hall and all the natural light beams down through the twelves parts roof windows on the center top (Fig. 3; Fig. 9). The stairs behind the elevator are in a right triangle space, next to some sofa in circle shape (Fig. 5-7). The restrooms are also either in a half circle shape (Fig. 5) or a shape of a circle got cropped out by another. In the third floor, there is Cafe 3, which is in a smaller circle shape with their window framed by a half circle on the top then split vertically in half (Fig. 10). The library on the second floor could be accessed through a keyhole shaped door (Fig. 11). All the roof windows, fan, desk, bookshelf are curved as in the curve of a circle (Fig. 12). It makes the visitors feel like they got trapped into a world of a middle school Geometry textbook. The designer uses circles and triangles in every aspect. I see no square or rectangle inside this building. Its exterior is amazing and functions like a giant sculpture to the New York City street scene. This building is not just a palace that hosts fine arts, it is a fine art itself!

Illustrations

Note: All images, except Fig. 1 floor plan, were taken by the author during his May 18, 2023 visit.

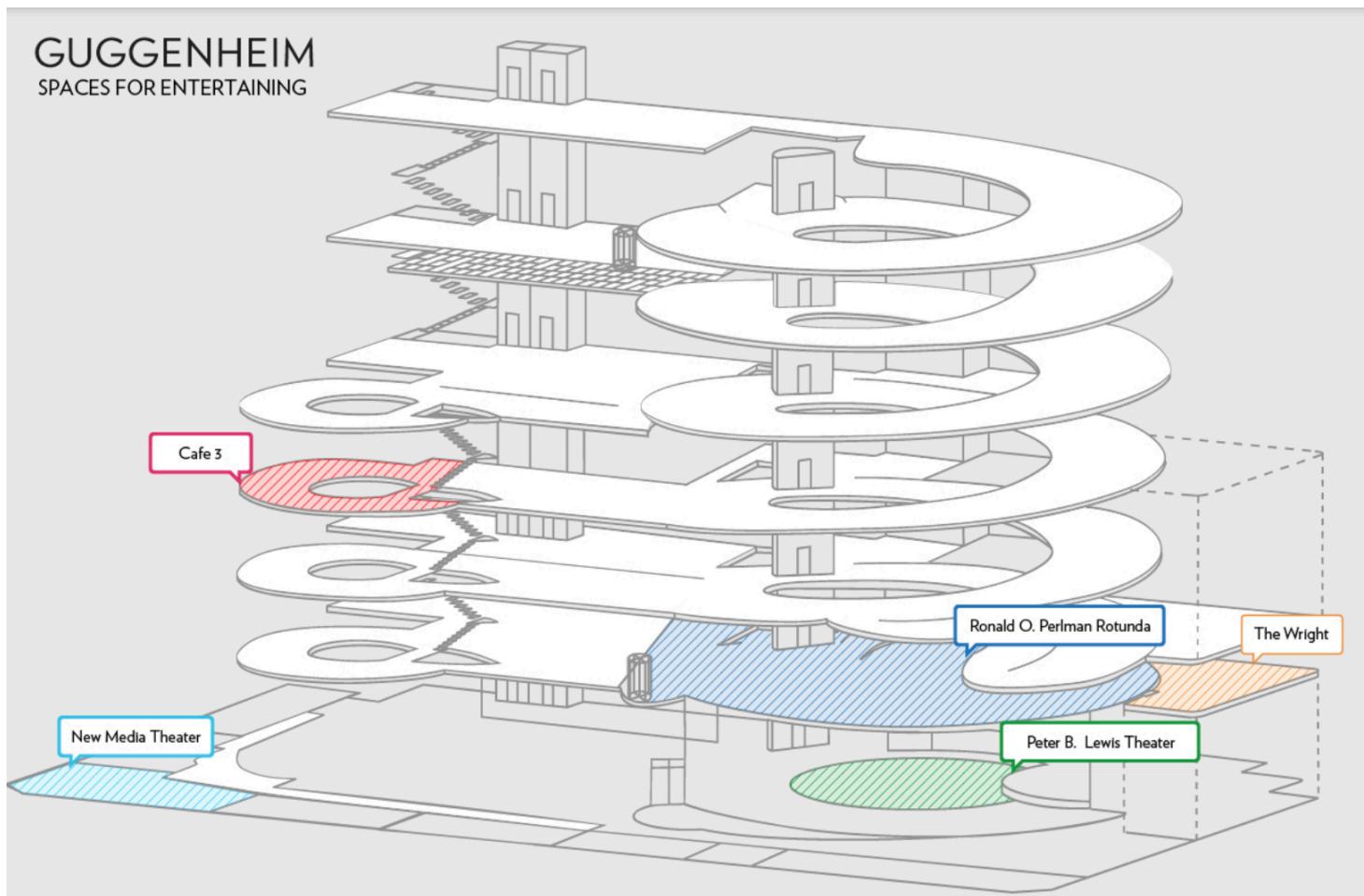


Fig. 1: The Floor Plan in Three Dimension View (<https://www.guggenheim.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/guggenheim-host-an-event-floor-plan-2015.pdf>)



Fig. 2: Author stand outside *The Guggenheim*



Fig. 3: The center lobby inside *The Guggenheim*



Fig. 4: Inside the half ciricle shape red color elevator



Fig. 5: The author inside the half circle shape single person restroom

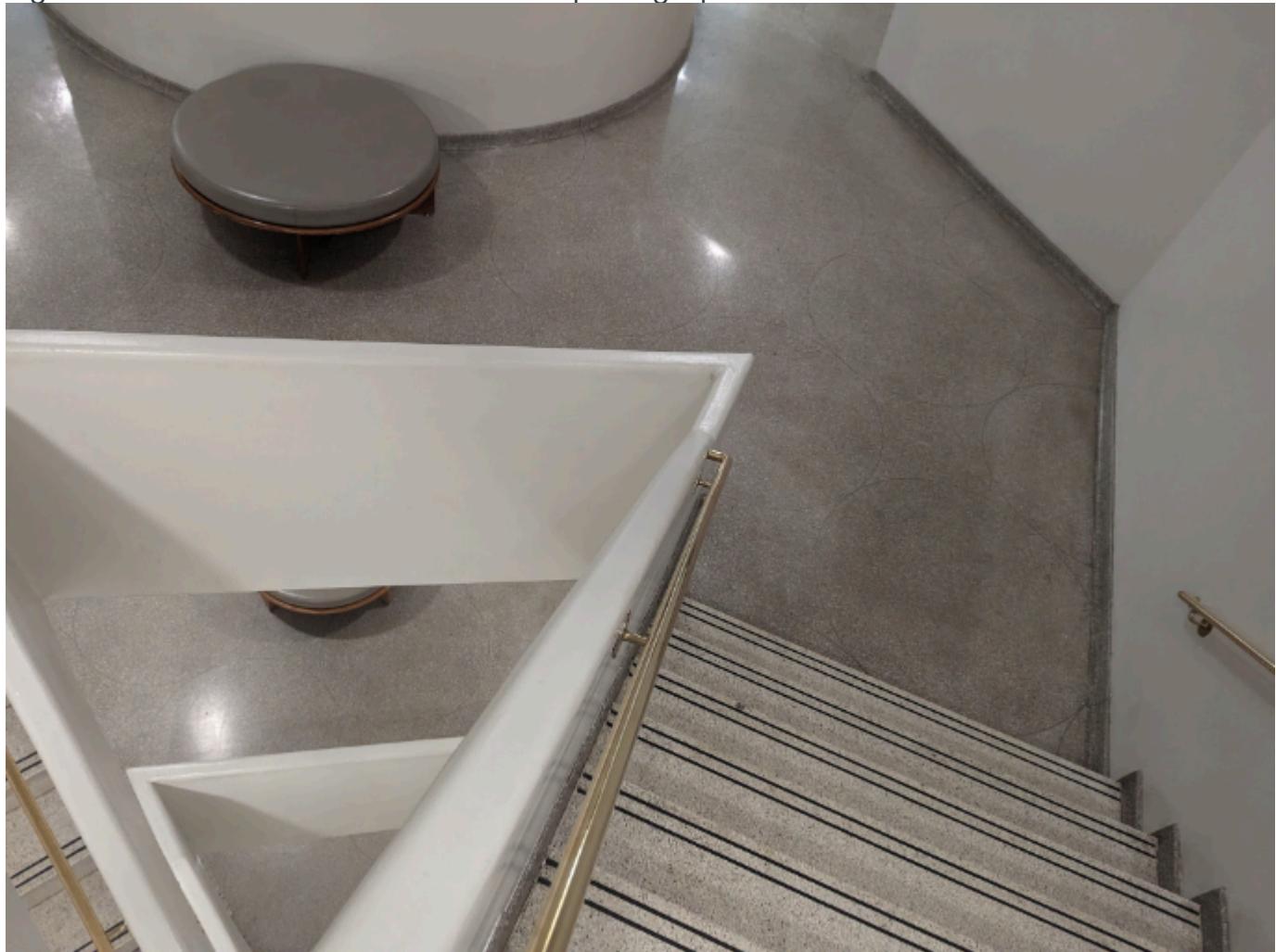


Fig. 6: The trianglar shape stair case and the circle shape sofa on each entrances

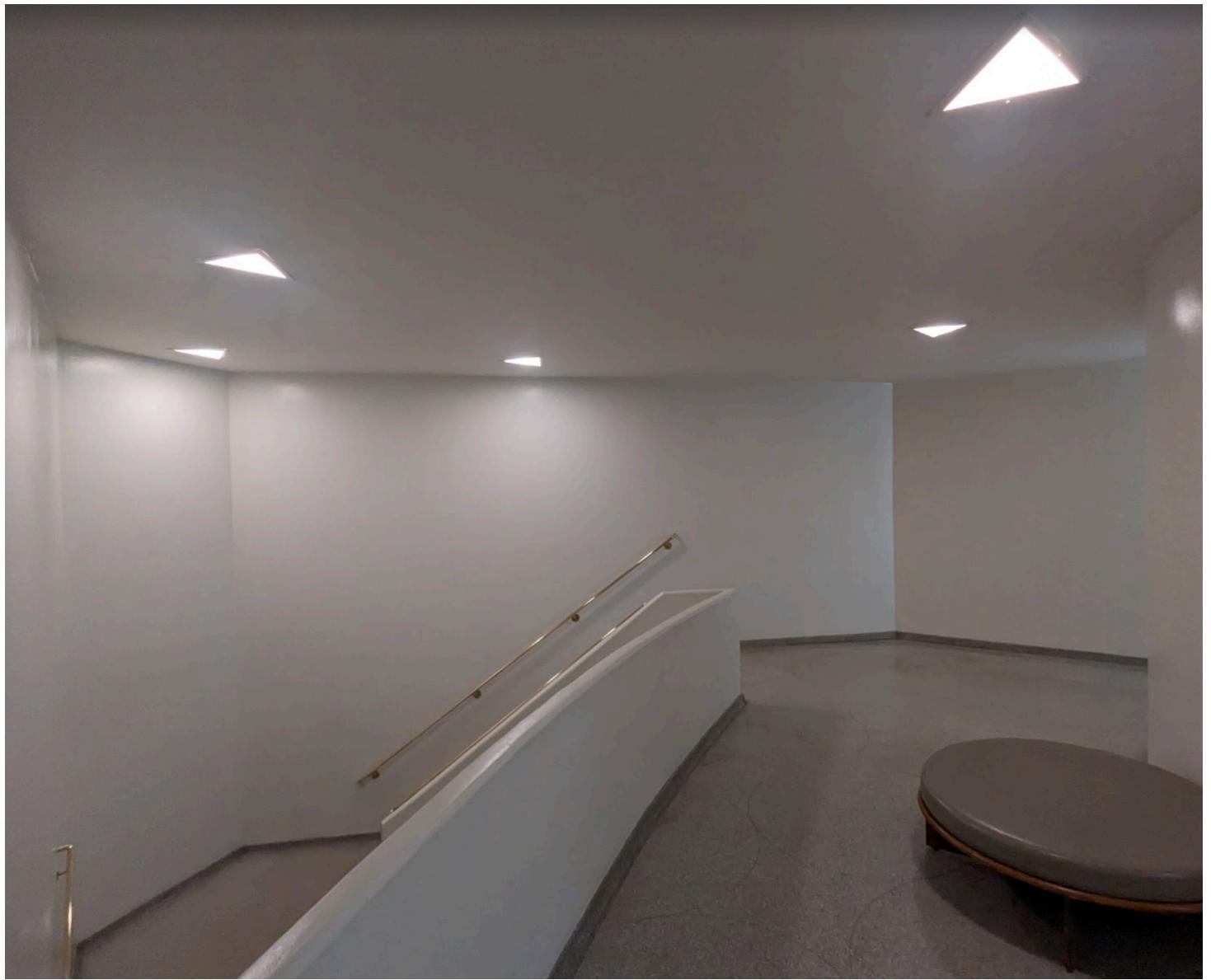


Fig. 7: The light in the trianglar shape stair case are all in triangle shape.

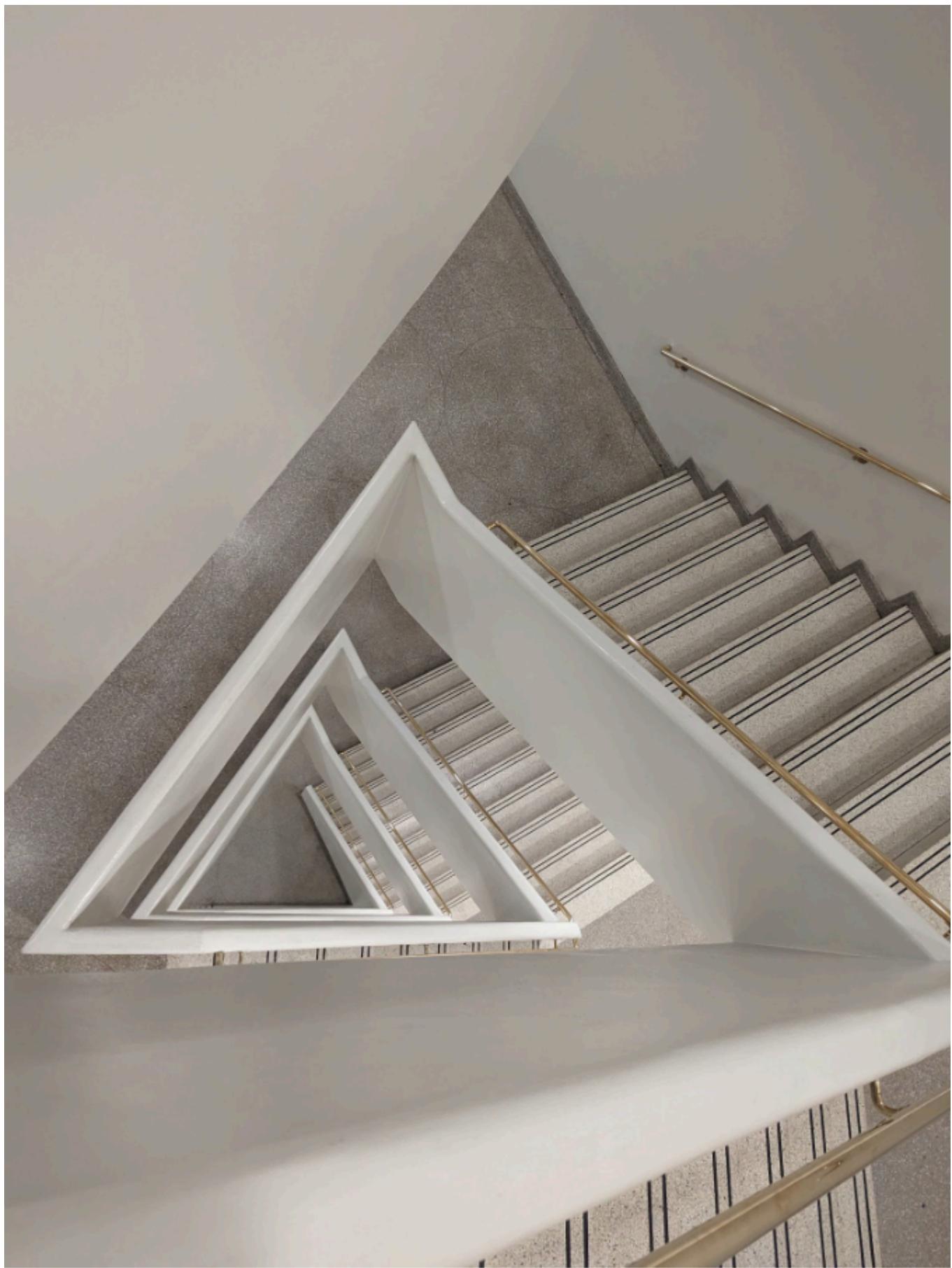


Fig. 8: The trianglar shape stair case



Fig. 9: The windows on the roof, looking from the ramp in the sixth floor



Fig. 10: The Cafe 3 in the third floor and the window design.



Fig. 11: Inside the circle shape library, the keyhold shape door on the left.

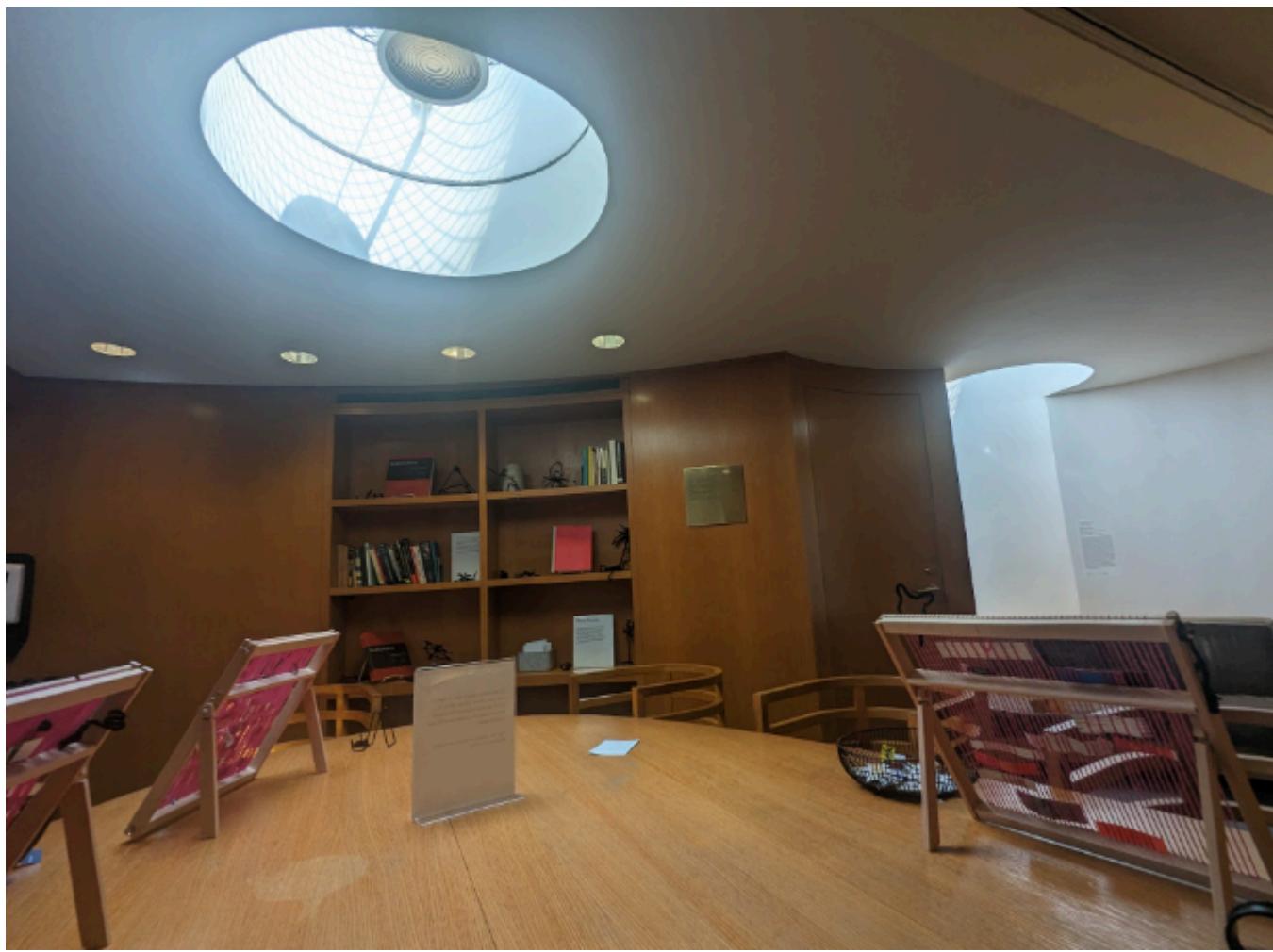


Fig. 12: Inside the circle shape library. Everything is in ciricle shape.