



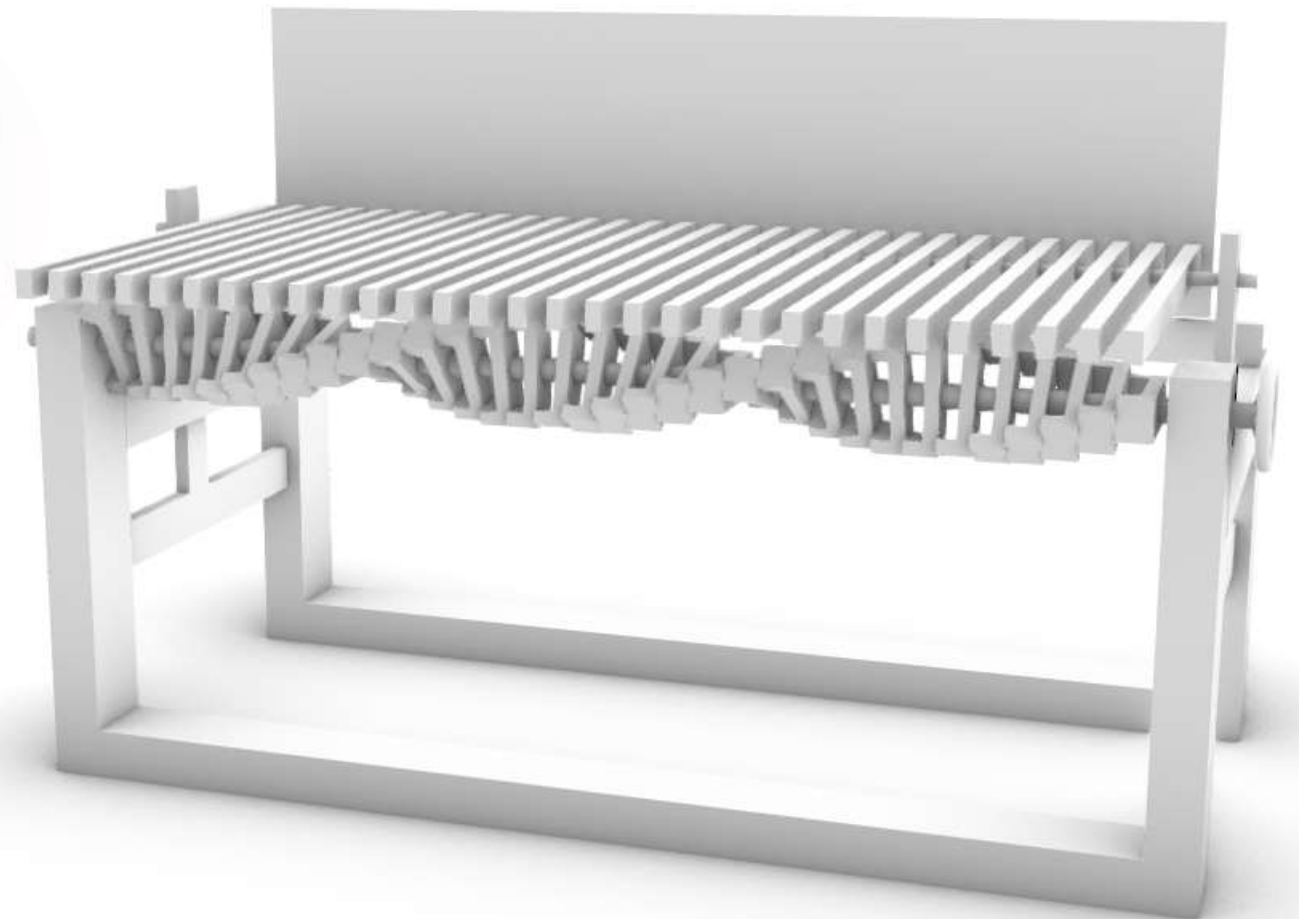
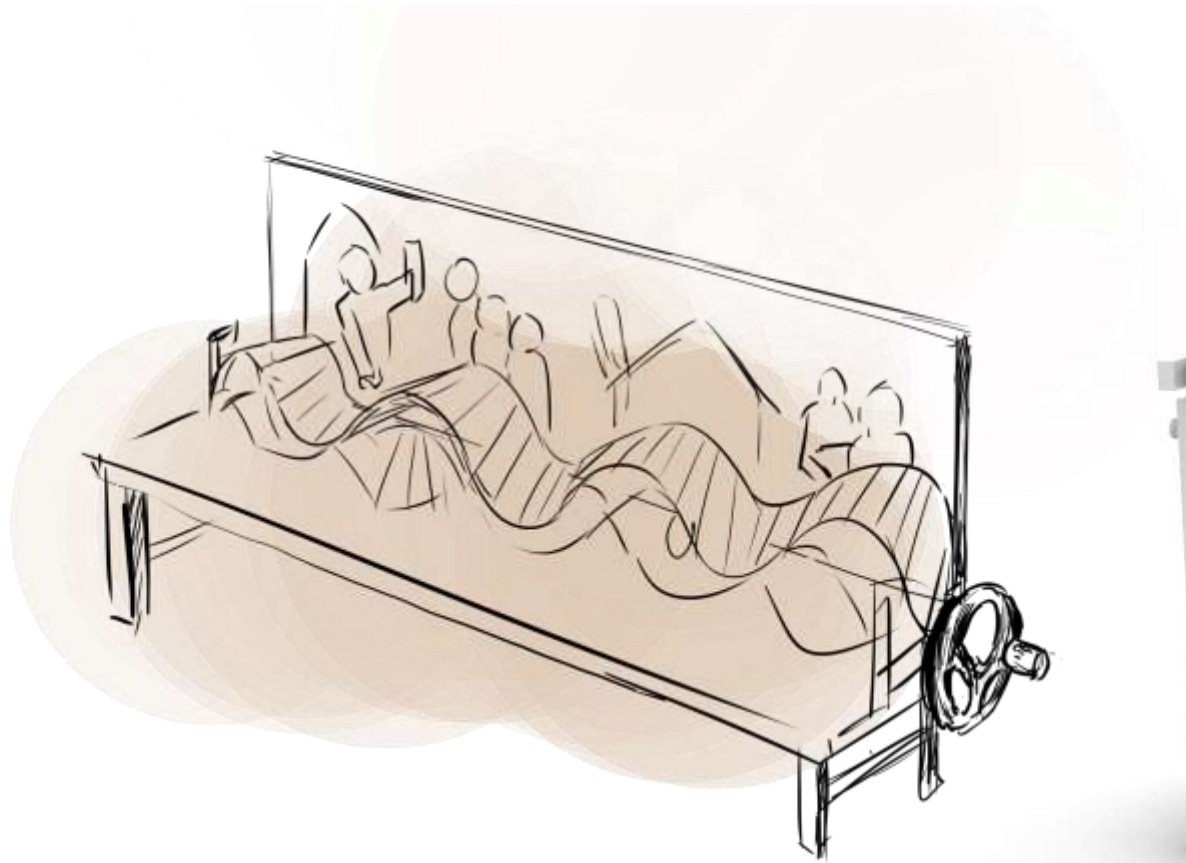
# FLOW OF HISTORY

Unit 8 || The Charterhouse

Zishun Wei

22004998

— An abstract interactive art installation aims to trigger new visitors' interest in learning about the history of the Charterhouse. —





# History of the Charterhouse

the Charter House (Visit on Friday)

History

- 1348-1349. Black Death burial ground
- 1371-1538. Monastery. (dark cells)
- Tudor Mansion → Thomas Howard
- Queen Elizabeth I went to the Charterhouse for 4 days
- Thomas Sutton. 1611 by Act of Parliament. Set up the charity.
- 1611 - present. Almshouse and School
- Bomb damage during WWII. Restoration

Project

- Reception, ~~museum~~ museum, Chapel cloister
- People engage & interact with the site
- Demographic

Resident talk

- since 1611. Almshouse? Social Service? Pay on rent now
- Want to join? Application & happy with it to do people?
- Fully over. Getting lost → Graphic Design?
- community
- For both visitors and residents. Doors, demographic,
- Living individually. Family & friends can live in the guest room.

Become a brother? Single, over 60, (Anglican)

- Has to be Anglican and go to chapel twice a week before

Interpretation of key space

- Products for the shop: "Charterhouse through time"
- How to attract people to visit?
- Rubbing Austin and surface?

not just a museum. Place, home.

- What is a museum? Artificial Space, heritage.
- Where people show off their collection, quite private
- What is a museum for?
- Policy & planning. Share to others. Doing part?
- What happens in museum?
- Intention.
- Why go to museum?

Enrichment Entertainment Expression Perspective Stimulus Affirmation

A social activity, people exchange & experience exhibits through culture

- Cultural Capital
- Personal individual motivation
- Social cultural interpretation
- Physical attraction, exhibit design
- Dwell time. Average time. How to engage more? on label or priority?

Groups

- Factious Arte
- Interaction
- Involve Community
- Workshops
- Engagement
- App
- Cover other

PRESENT

1941

HIT BY A BOMB

1872

SCHOOL MOVES TO A NEW SITE

1611

THOMAS SUTTON SCHOOL & ALMSHOUSE

1371

CARTHUSIAN MONASTERY

1348

BLACK DEATH

# Carthusian Monastery



## MONKS

The Charterhouse is so called because between 1371 and 1538 the site was a monastery, belonging to the Carthusian order of monks.

Founded in 1084 by St Bruno, the Carthusian order was especially austere, requiring its members to live in silence and solitude. The monks' cells were built around a communal cloister but each lived as a hermit, spending their time in prayer, contemplation and scholarly work such as copying manuscripts. At its height, the London Charterhouse housed 26 monks, along with 40 priests and lay brothers who looked after the daily needs of the holy men.

The monks were revered by London's citizens, who gave money and goods to the monastery in return for prayers.

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CARTHUSIAN MONK, 1470

3:00am Go to the Priory Church for *Lauds* or Dawn Prayers

6:00 am *Prime* or Early Morning Prayer in the cell. Walk in the cloister, praying and speaking to no-one

9:00 am *Terce* or Mid-Morning Prayer in the cell. Solitary work copying manuscripts or reading

Midday *Sext* or Midday Prayer in the cell. First meal of the day (vegetable soup poured over a slice of bread). Tend the cell's garden or attend to other household tasks.

3:00pm: *None* or Mid-Afternoon Prayer. More solitary work

6:00pm: Go to the Priory Church for *Vespers* or Evening Prayer. Second meal of the day (fish and fruit).

9:00pm *Compline* or Night Prayer, before retiring

Midnight *Matins*: prayers in the cell.

## Quote

*'Nunc lege, nunc ora, nunc cum furorie labora  
Sic erat hora brevis et labor ille levis'*

[Now read, now pray, now work with fervour  
Thus the hour will be short and the labour sweet]

Inscription above a monk's cell at the London Charterhouse

# Context Research Water Map



Islington



The Charterhouse

1430s

Replaced 3 times

Using water as a clue, intertwine the history of different communities that have lived on this land.





# User Research

Older People	12
Middle-Age People	5
Young People	8

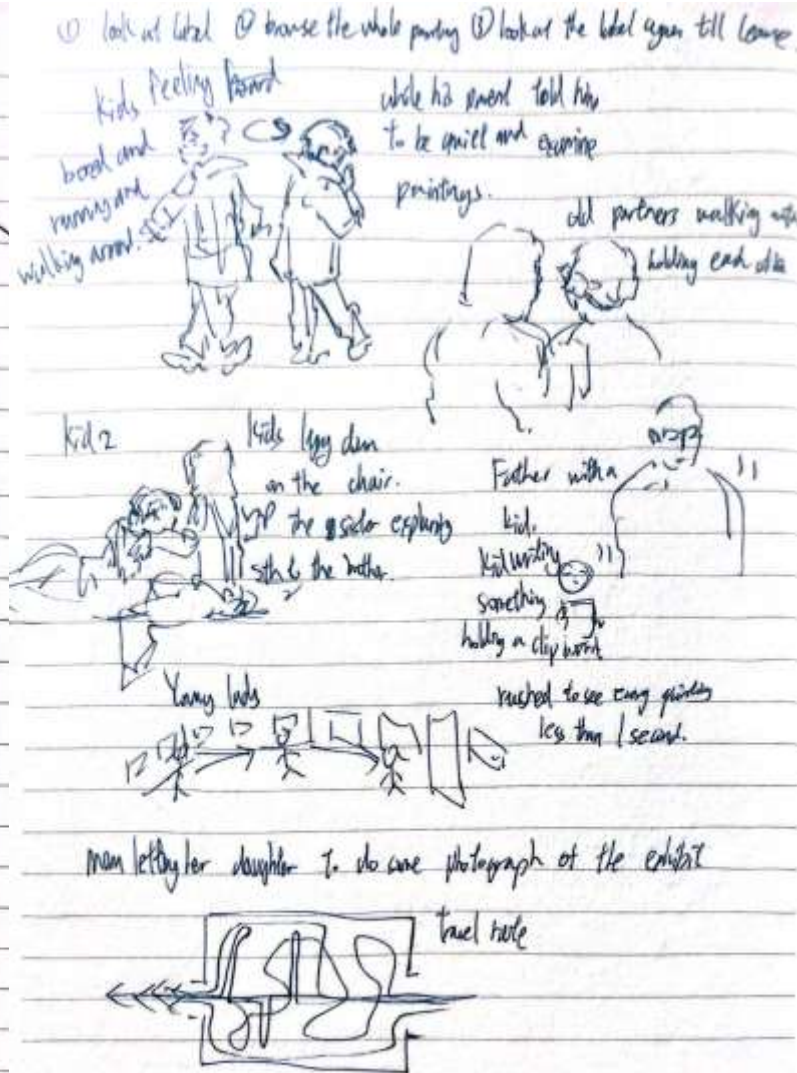
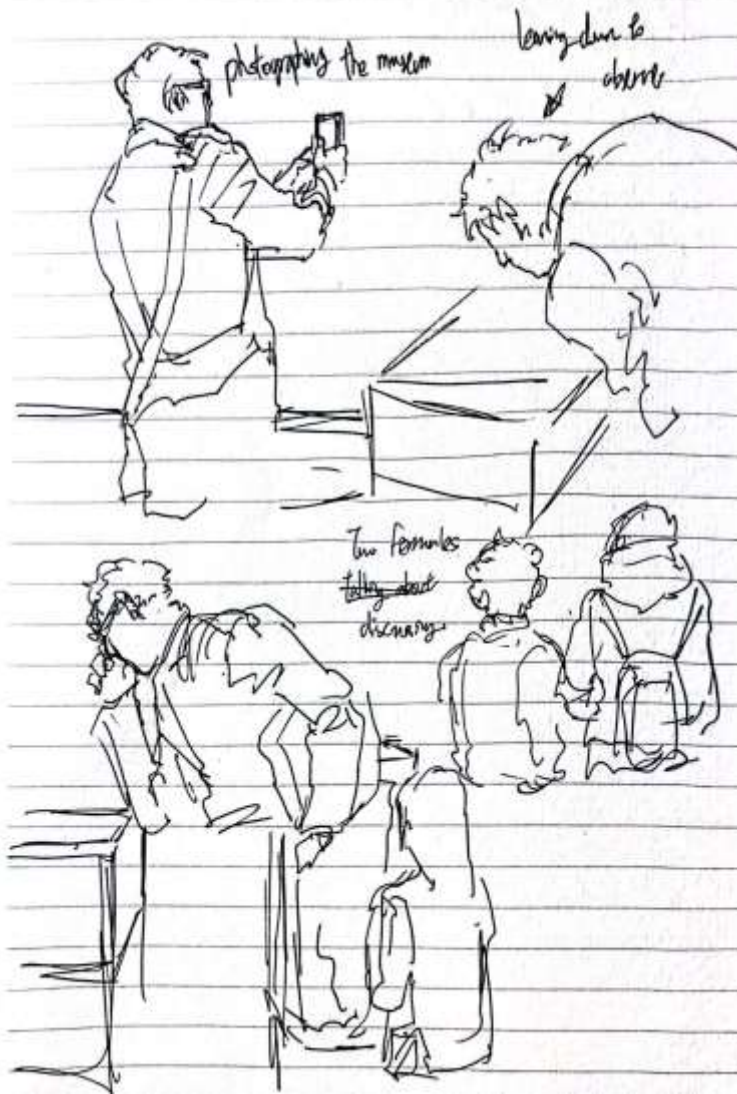
An simple observation of visitors within 1 hour.

1. A great range of new visitors and elderly.
2. People seems more focused on the ancient historical construction itself
3. Older people would appreciate the beauty of the garden and flowers
4. First time visit people would ask the front desk for further information
5. Most people would directly walked into the chapel cloister
6. Grouped up people tend to discuss with others when visiting.



# Audience Behavior

Charlotte Observation



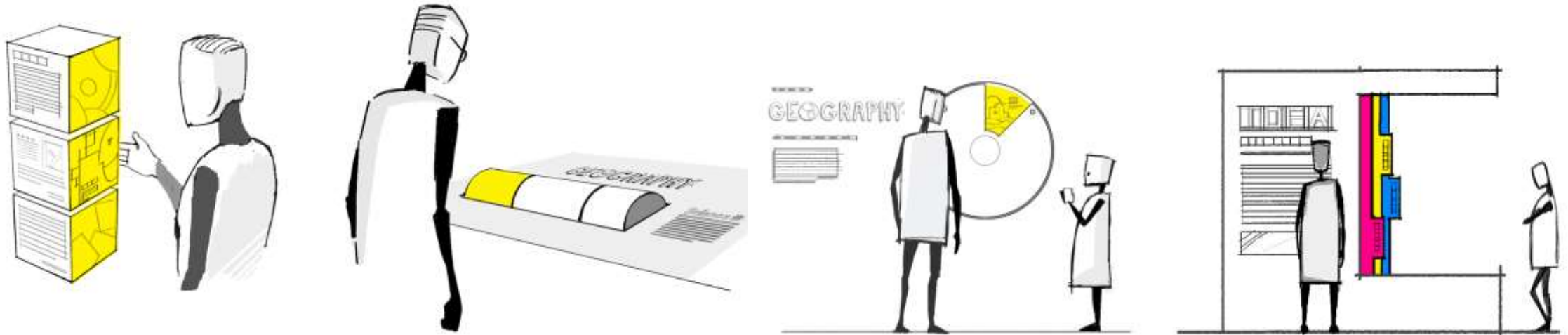


# Current Museum Display



The space inside the museum is small and narrow. All the interpretations are sticking on the wall with small font size. It is hard for people to see unless they bend their body to stay closer to the labels.

# Research of Interactive Mechanics





# WAM Interactive



‘Besieged’, 2023

Audio interactive

Medieval padlock | Turning the key activates a poetic description



Bathymetric Globe, 2023

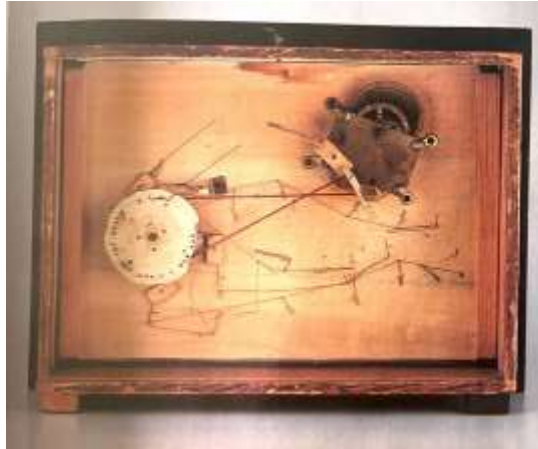
Documents the bathymetry and topography of our planet

Visitors can explore through sight and touch

# Automaton



‘A New Year’s Song’, 1890s  
Germany, Drawn by Luis Wain  
Sand-powered automaton



‘Barecats’  
Paul Spooner and Matt Smith





Automata and Mechanical Toys  
Rodney Peppe

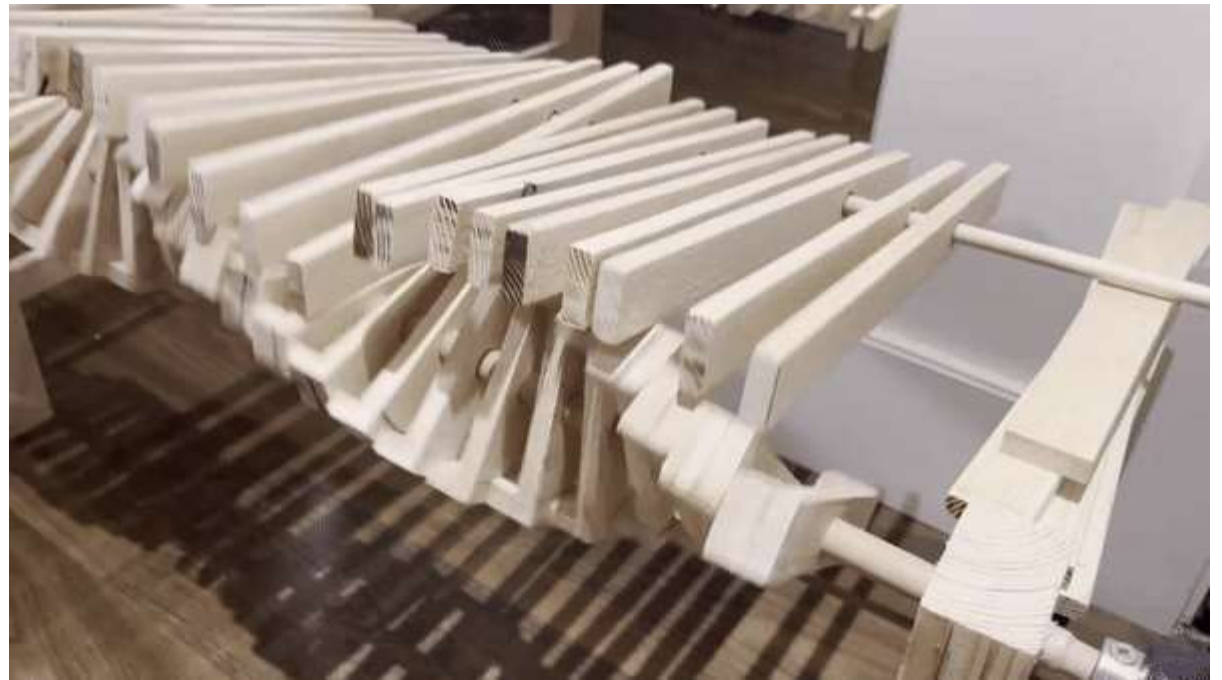
# Wave Machine



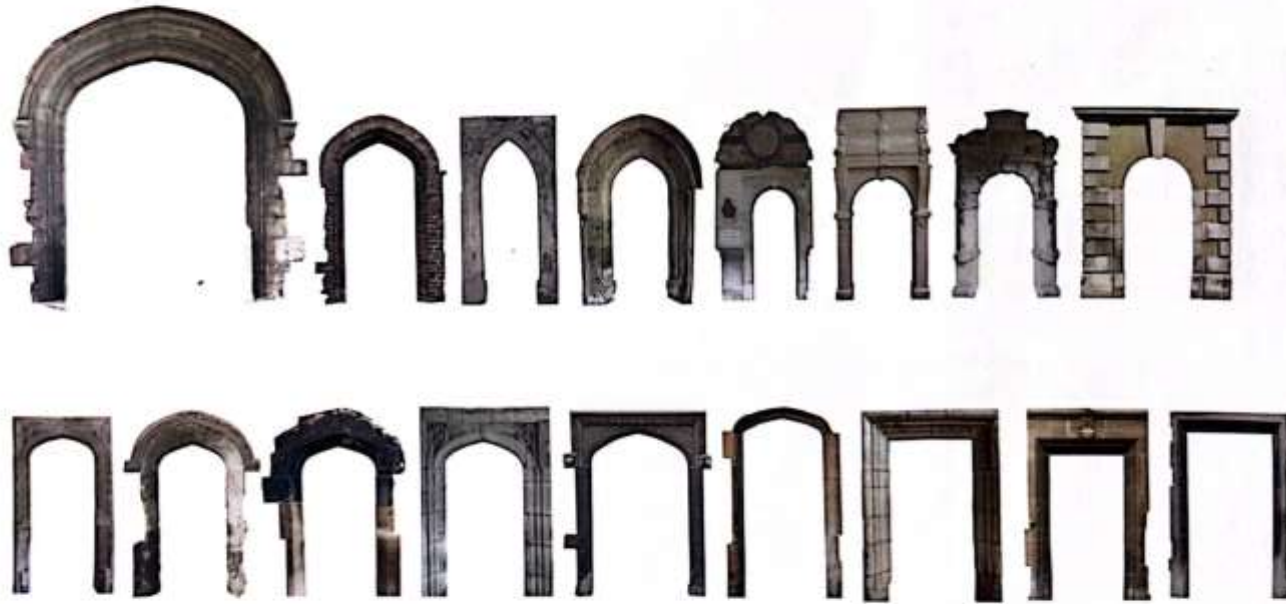
Peter Markey



# Study of Wave Machine Structure



# Study of historical figure



Top row (from left):

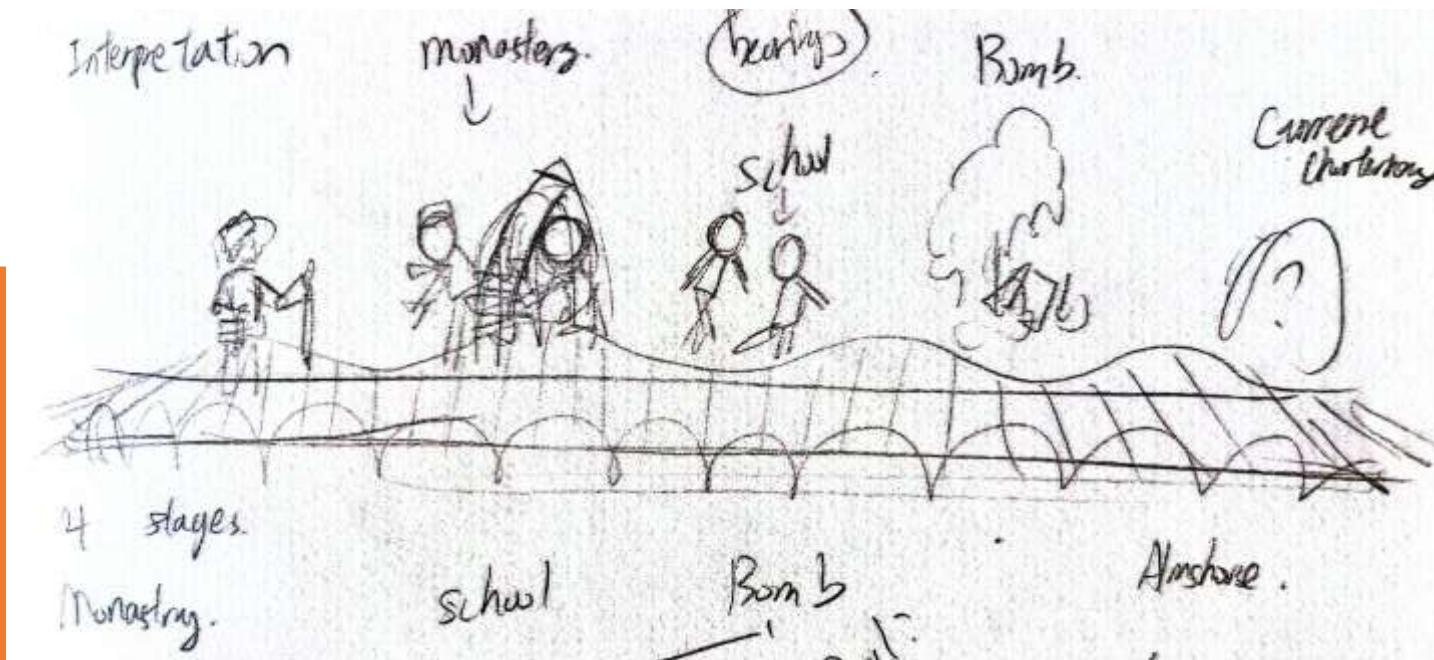
The Gatehouse; doorway by the Gatehouse; Cell B in the Norfolk Cloister; entrance to the Old Library; Chapel Cloister (north side); Old Library, entrance to the Norfolk Cloister; Chapel Cloister, (east side); Master's Court (north porch)

Bottom row (from left):

Staircase Hall (first floor); Master's Court (west side); entrance to Wash-house Court from the west; Staircase Hall (first floor); Master's Court (south side); entrance to Chapel Cloister; Staircase Hall (ground floor); Master's Court (north side); Chapel Court (east side).

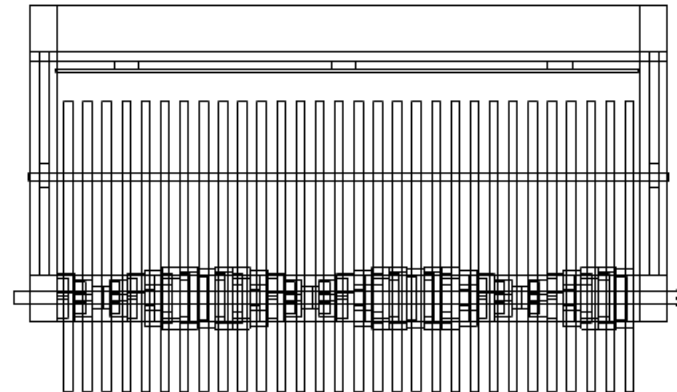
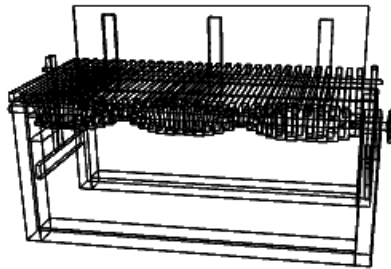
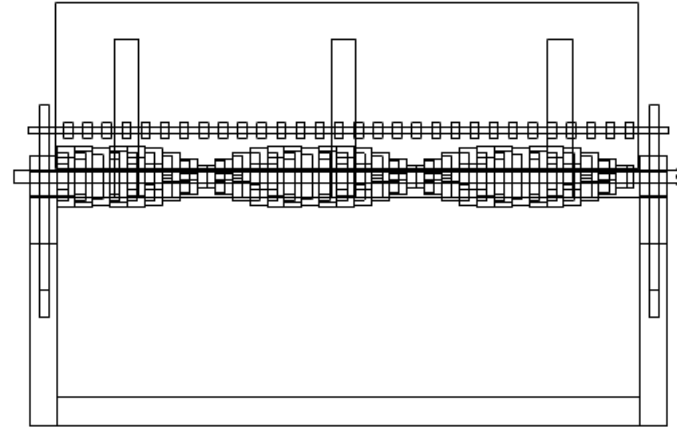
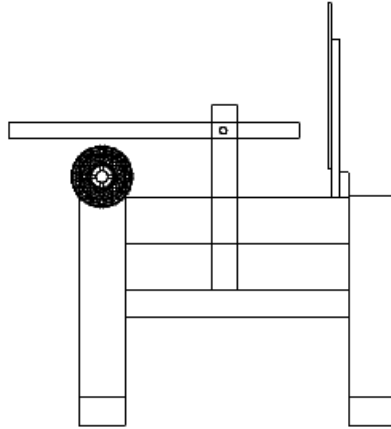








# Technical Drawing



Artist: Zichun Wei  
Date: May 2024  
Size: 50\*80\*50  
Material: Pine, Elastic string, Plywood, Acrylic

# Flow of History

An interactive installation symbolizes the history of the Charterhouse.

Water, as the source of all life, has played an important role in transforming this land from a resting place for the deceased into vibrant communities for the living. "Flow of History" is an interactive installation aims to trigger people's interest in learning about the history of the Charterhouse. Inspired by the water map, this device portrays the historical evolution of communities established upon the water system of the Charterhouse. The wooden structure gradually moves in a wave-like pattern when turning. By engaging with this interactive device, audience can experience and learn the history timeline in a visual way.





# User response



- | People would turn the handle first, then discover the moving picture.
- | If one person from a group play with the installation, the person would gather the others to check this out.
- | Some people (especially elderly) cannot figure out how to use initially.
- | Lots of people respond to the sound it made. Some felt noisy but some love the sound.