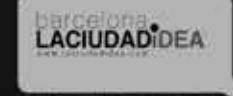


Recentering
Mumbai



Bridging South



**ALTOON
PARTNERS**

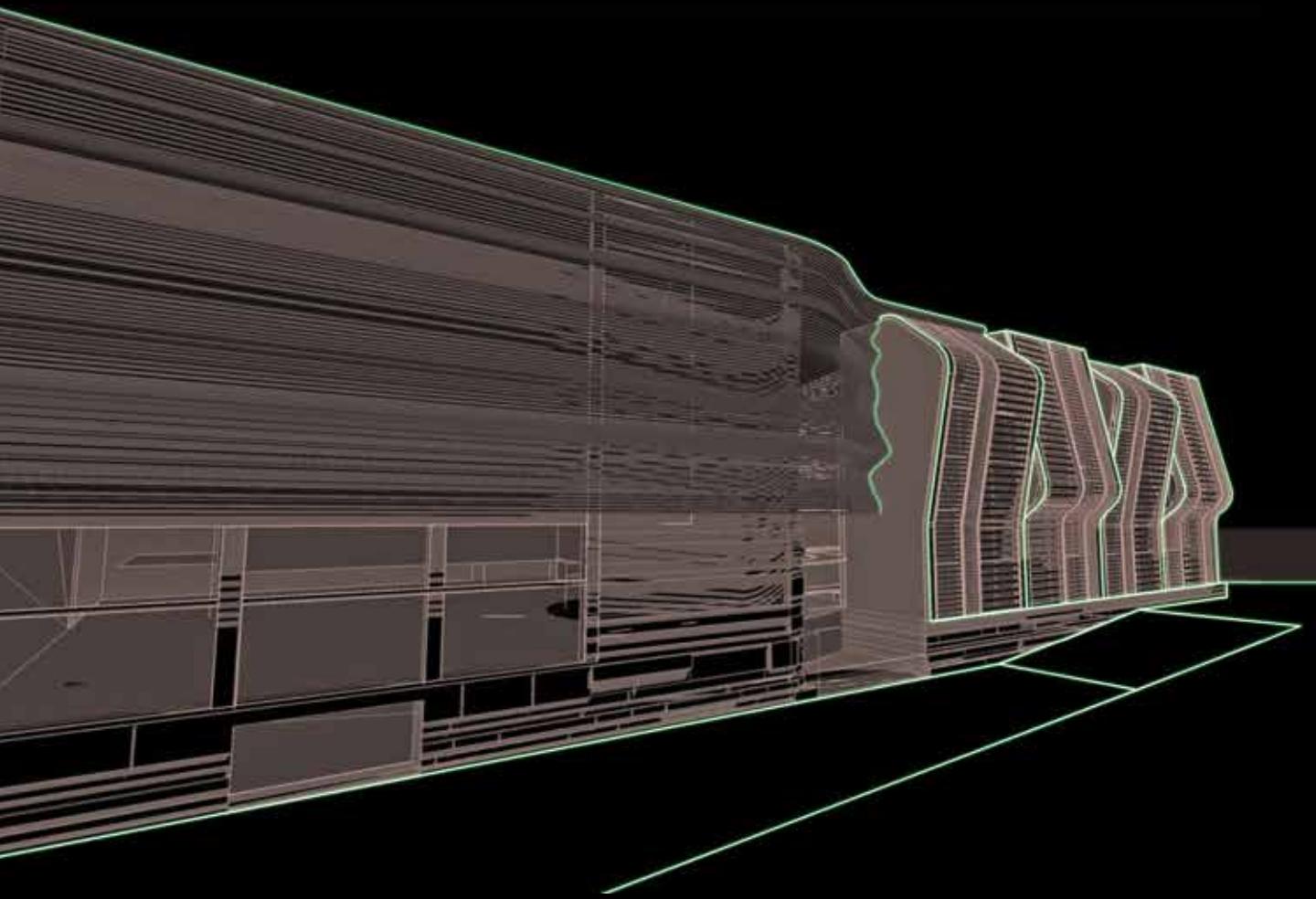


AARTI C SHARMA

URBAN DESIGNER + ARCHITECT

aartics@gmail.com •••••

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AARTI C SHARMA

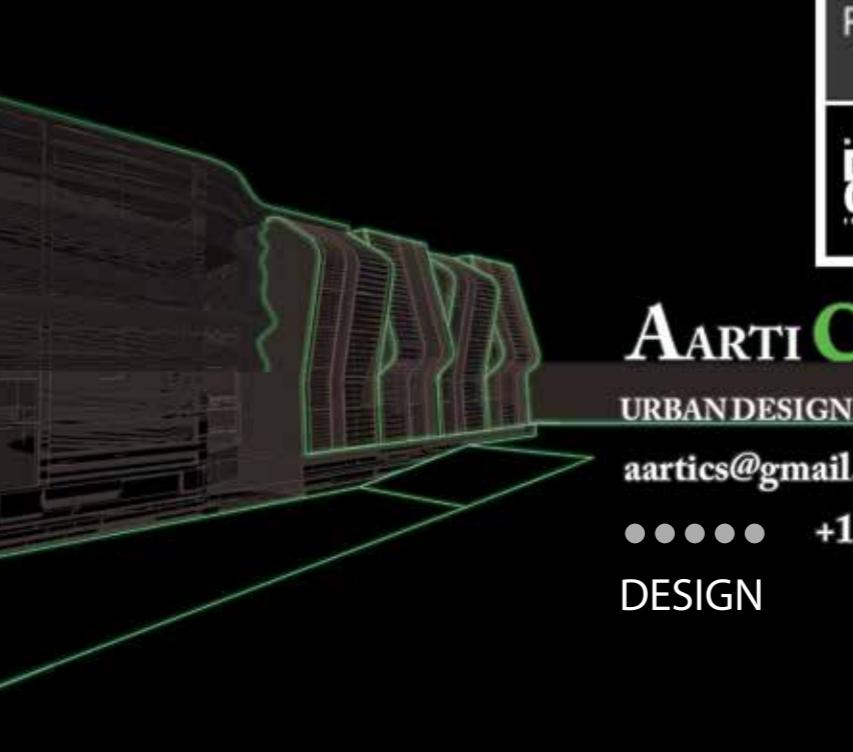
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DESIGN PORTFOLIO



BRIEF SAMPLES FROM:

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE: 4+ YEARS

URBAN DESIGN

URBAN DESIGNER + ARCHITECT | Amsterdam, The Netherlands
ALTOON PARTNERS
RETAIL BASED MIXED-USE & INSTITUTIONS

January 2012 – July 2012

PROJECT DESIGNER | Baltimore, Maryland, USA
DEVELOPMENT DESIGN GROUP [DDG]

MIX-USE PLANNING, ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

August 2007 – February 2009

PLANNING

ASSISTANT URBAN DESIGNER | Rotterdam, The Netherlands.
STUDIO FRANZ_ZIEGLER

Spatial design, Masterplanning & Architecture

August 2011 – January 2012

URBAN DESIGN + PLANNING + ARCHITECTURE CONSULTANT | Self, USA
INDEPENDANT CONSULTANCY [RTC]

URBAN DESIGN, ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

August 2012 – Present

ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECT | Mumbai, India
ARRIS ARCHITECTS

Architectural design for Entertainment & Leisure

June 2006 – June 2007

ARCHITECTURAL INTERN | Mumbai, India
DESIGN INSIGHT

Architectural Research and Design

Dec 2005 – June 2006

DESIGN, WRITING AND ACADEMIC WORK:

M.Sc. URBANISM | EUROPEAN POSTGRADUATE MASTERS IN URBANISM
[E.M.U] – T.U.Delft, The Netherlands: September 2009 – July 2011

* ReCentering Mumbai * Bridging Saida [Lebanon]

* Rotterdam H20dAM * Barcelona – La Ciudad Idea

BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURE
Sir J. J. College of Architecture, University of Mumbai - 2006

GRAPHICS, BOOKS & PRODUCT DESIGN

ClipArt - Illumine Knowledge Resources
Product Design Competitions - DesignBoom; Elle Decor
Book | 'POT, POTTER, PROPHET' - with Prof. Y.D. Pitkar (Unpublished)



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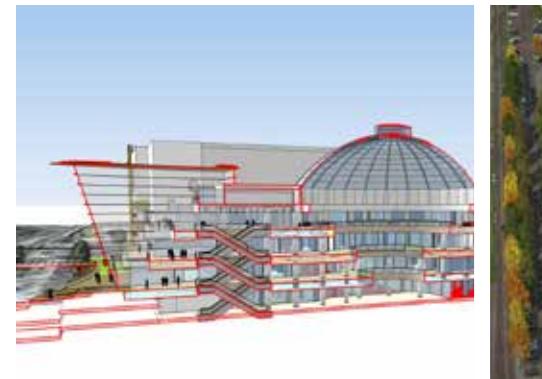
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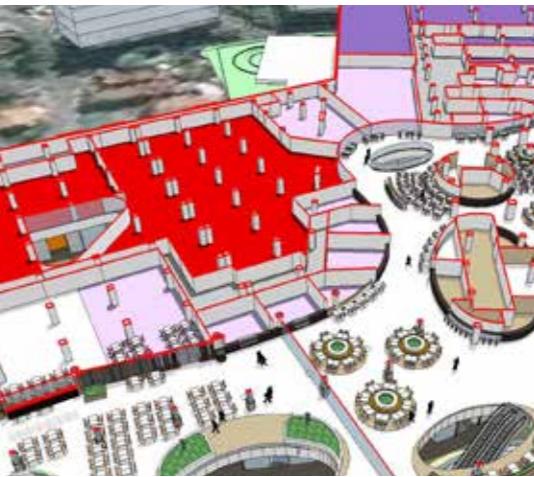
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THE TWO ENTRANCES BALANCED BY THE DOME FORM THE NEW COMMUNITY THOROUGHFARE FLOW + CONNECTIVITY TO ADJACENT NEIGHBORHOODS; OPTIMISING OUTREACH FOR ALL RETAIL AREAS



IN+OUTDOOR GARDEN FOODCOURT & PERFORMANCE AREA



CONFIGURING NEW FLOWS IN A 1930s STRUCTURAL SYSTEM



DESIGNING FOR A NEW IDENTITY WHILE AMPLIFYING THE EXISTING HISTORICAL IDENTITY



INTRODUCING NEW GEOMETRIC ORDERING LOGIC DEFINING CONNECTIVE/ CONTINUATIVE FLOW
PLAZA ROMANIA
DESIGN TEAM - Altoon Partners LLP, Amsterdam
RETAIL + LEISURE
LOCATION Bucharest, Romania

47000 m² Urban retail project in Bucharest of an existing mall losing market share. Originally the building is a Communist "hunger-circus" / foodcourt. The client needs a repositioning of the malls quality for improving customer base. Structure of the historic building is to be maintained.

The central idea is to provide an extended 'garden' for the close community, as family comfort and customer loyalty. The closed box mall was then reconfigured to open itself as a new 'garden thoroughfare' which also pays identity homage to Romania's famous urban parks and gardens.

CONTEXT

REASON

EXPERIENCE

SPIRIT

We derived a new architectural order with the dome as focal center and working on its 'centripetal radial idiosyncrasies'. This system became a strong part of the identity we were building. Working closely with branding and lighting consultants, this theme tied us all as a team.

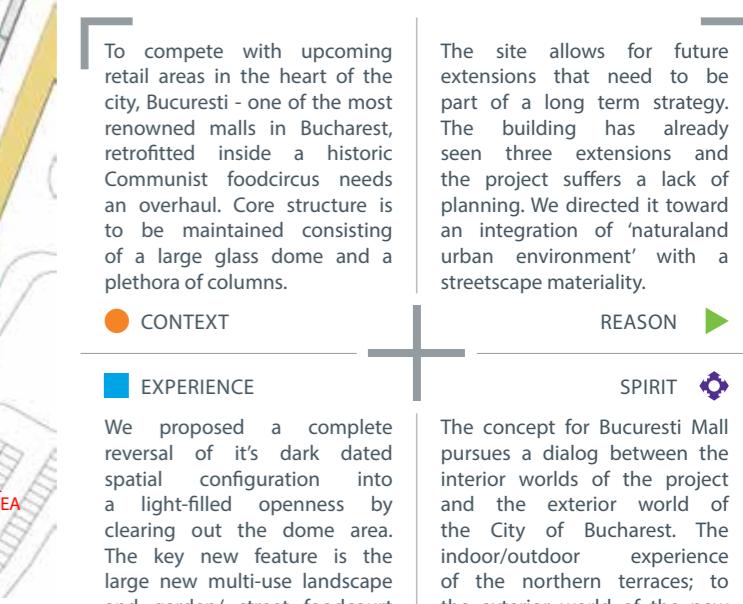
Although the heavy historic structural system was a difficult constraint, the new layout and proposals for its materiality was like an intake of fresh air and the clients were happy to see that this mall could become a community icon, which could last in their lifestyle for a long time.



SECTIONAL PERSPECTIVE



GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF NEW PROPOSED EXTENSION OF BUCURESTI MALL; AN ADAPTIVE RE-STRUCTURING OF A COMMUNIST ERA 'FOOD-CIRCUS'- FOR INCREASING MARKET SUCCESS



The concept for Bucuresti Mall pursues a dialog between the interior worlds of the project and the exterior world of the City of Bucharest. The indoor/outdoor experience of the northern terraces; to the exterior world of the new garden plazas that extend out toward the community.

PROPOSED PLAN AND SAMPLE STREET SECTIONS FOR THE THE NEW "STADSBULEVARD" THROUGH ASSEN, SHOWING KEY AREAS POTENTIAL FOR RENEWAL

STADSBULEVARD [CITY BOULEVARD] FLORIJNEN
PROFESSIONAL: STUDIO FRANZ ZIEGLER
URBAN RENEWAL WITH LANDSCAPE PLANNING
LOCATION: ASSEN, THE NETHERLANDS

CONTEXT **REASON**

The city of Assen in the Netherlands is going to have an upgraded highway and Transit proposal right in the heart of the city, to bring in more densification. The citizens demanded an improvement of their urban quality in parallel, thus hiring Studio Franz Ziegler for proposals. FZ proposed a central Boulevard profile, enriching the entire central axis, and connecting new areas of urban renewal. This included dedicated pedestrian, bike, public transport and traffic lanes and connecting them to key landscape inserts for improved water management. This was presented for citizens to debate over as a scaled model presented at a public assembly.

EXPERIENCE **SPIRIT**

The schematic proposal became a platform for citizens to debate upon in the form of a full scale 11 m model presented to the city

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C SHARMA

AARTI C SHARMA



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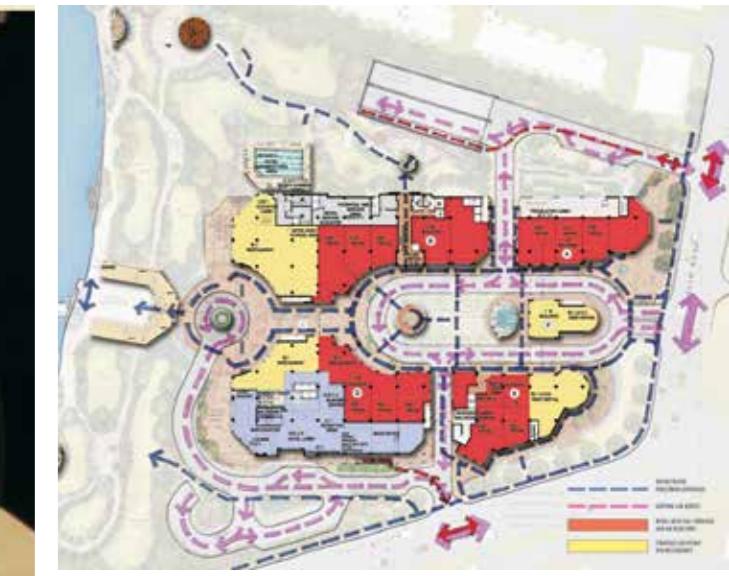
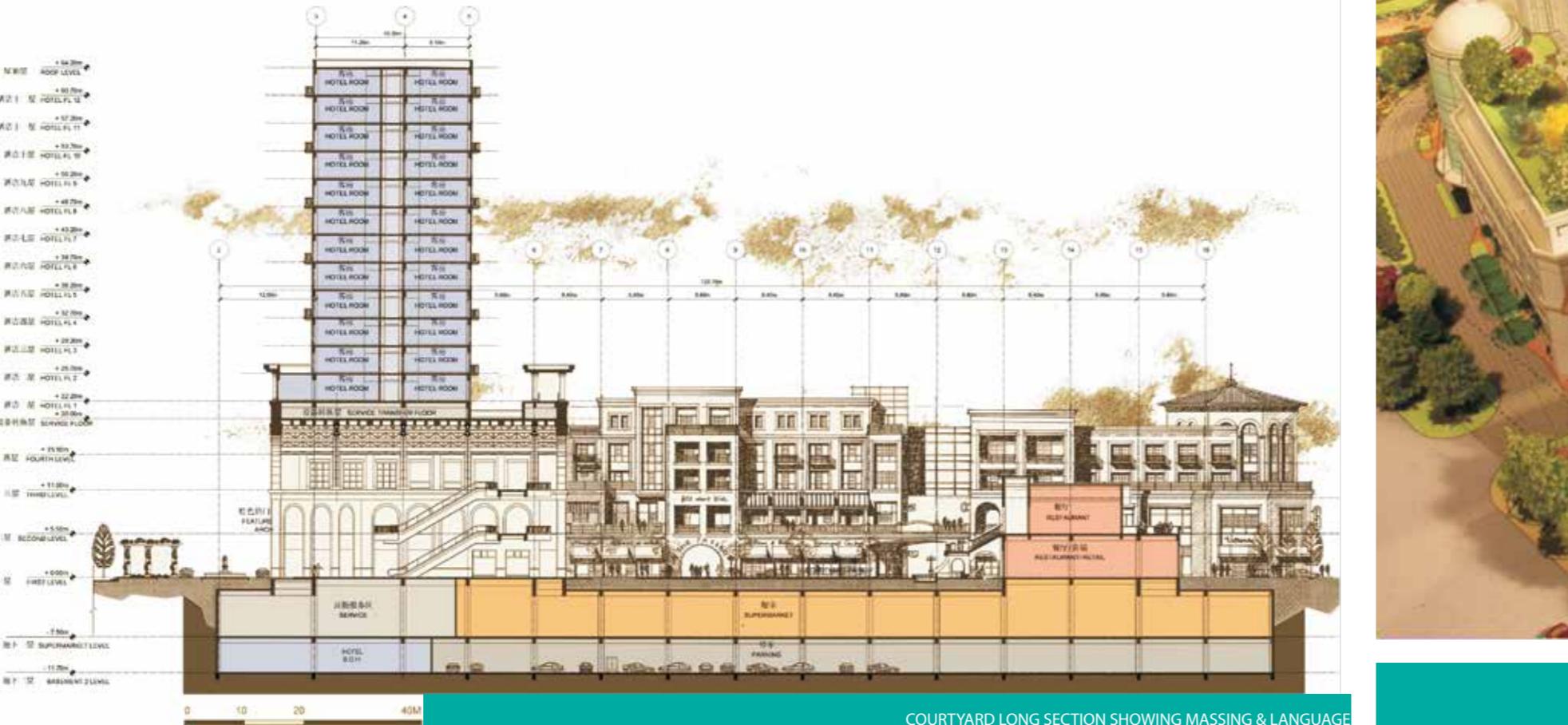
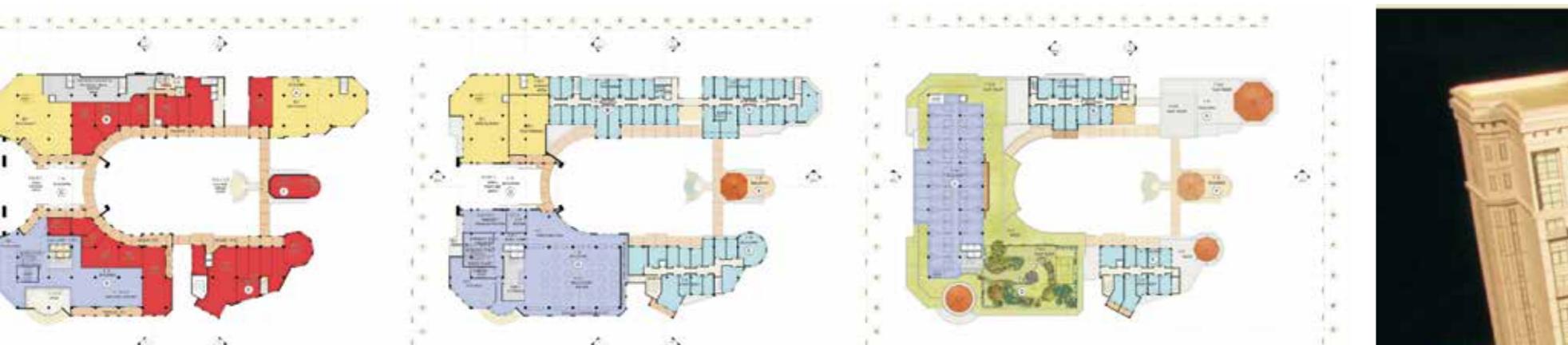
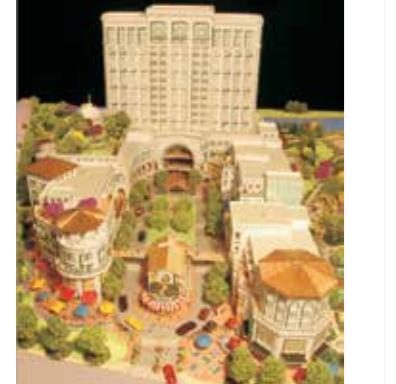
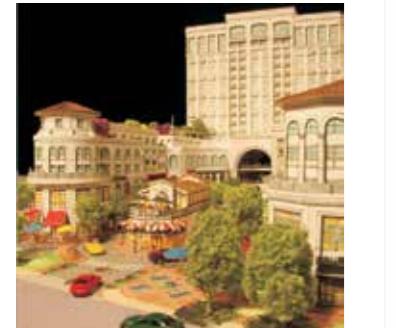
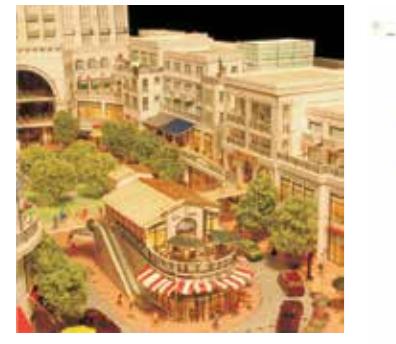
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JINQIAO TOWN
PROFESSIONAL - Development Design Group
RETAIL/ RESIDENCE/ HOSPITALITY/ COMMUNITY MIX USE
LOCATION Shanghai, China

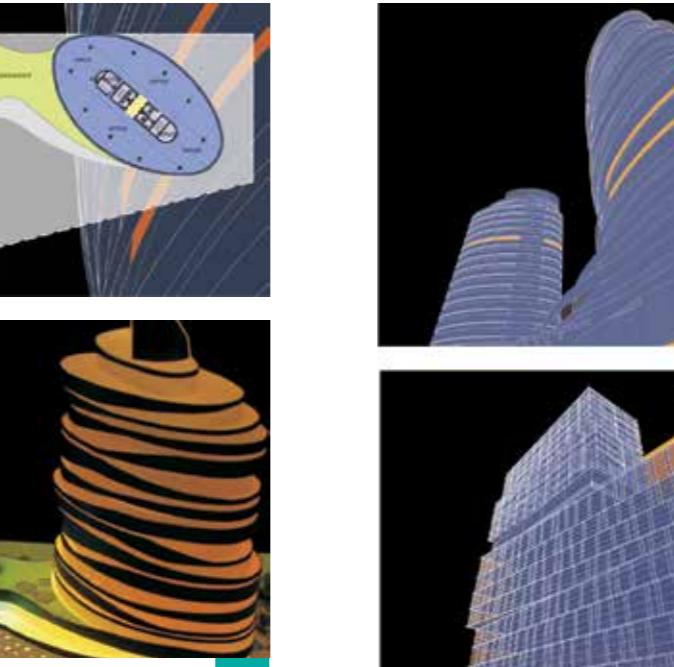
Jinqiao Town is a proposed community town center in Shanghai, China, set amongst surrounding existing residential towers. It is flanked by an urban park connecting to a neighboring waterfront. Program has retail, hotel tower and residential apartments.

Reason: Continuous shopping frontage without dead-end in a loop. Central green courtyard park leading through the focal point arch of hotel tower to the amphitheater, riverside promenade, parks and contemplation spaces.

Spirit: Bearing the language of a warm old town, enclosing the included community and leading them to the river, the orchestrated flow should make anyone want to return, stay, and feel safe and comfortable, ensuring the success of Jinqiao town.



TERRACES SCHEME: Ellipsoidal plans stacked and offset creating terraces on each level.



SKY-GARDEN SCHEME: High rise single tower housing both programs.



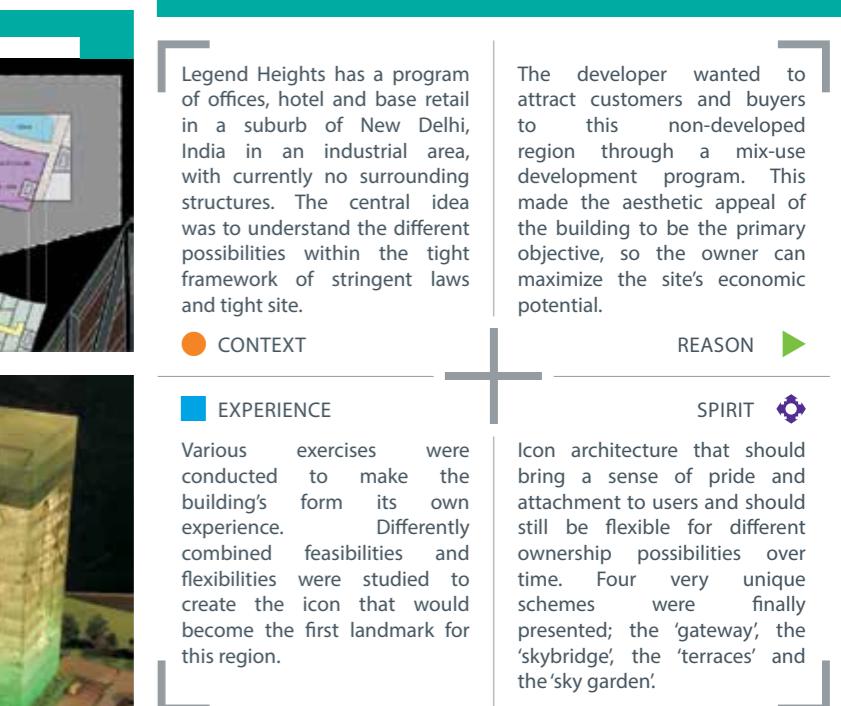
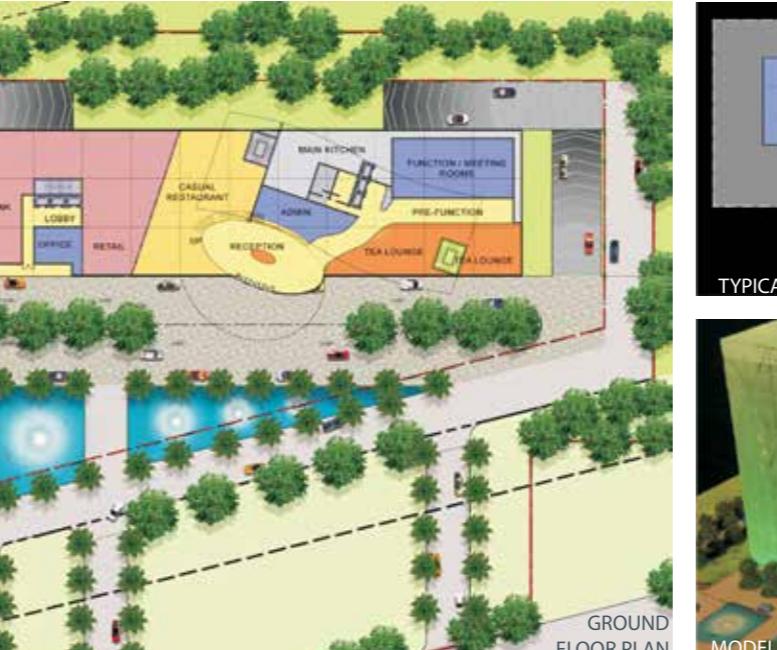
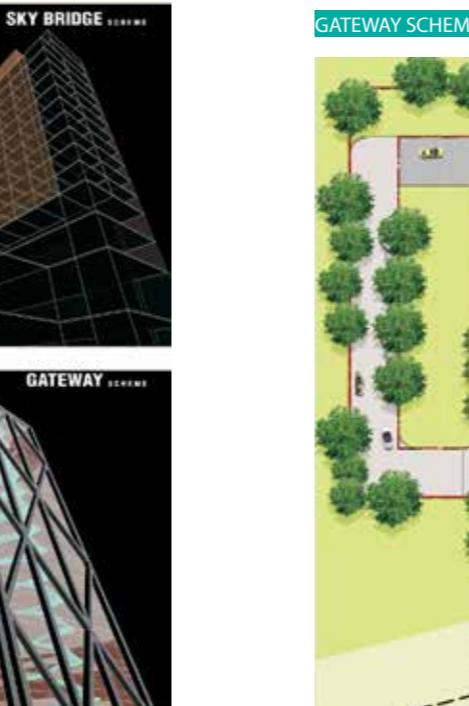
LEGEND HEIGHTS, DEVELOPMENT DESIGN GROUP INC



SKY-BRIDGE SCHEME: Office tower & hotel are glowing boxes connected by sky bridge.



GATEWAY SCHEME: Office tower wraps around hotel block like an open picture frame.



Icon architecture that should bring a sense of pride and attachment to users and should still be flexible for different ownership possibilities over time. Four very unique schemes were finally presented; the 'gateway', the 'skybridge', the 'terraces' and the 'sky garden'.

Legend Heights has a program of offices, hotel and base retail in a suburb of New Delhi, India in an industrial area, with currently no surrounding structures. The central idea was to understand the different possibilities within the tight framework of stringent laws and tight site.



The developer wanted to attract customers and buyers to this non-developed region through a mix-use development program. This made the aesthetic appeal of the building to be the primary objective, so the owner can maximize the site's economic potential.



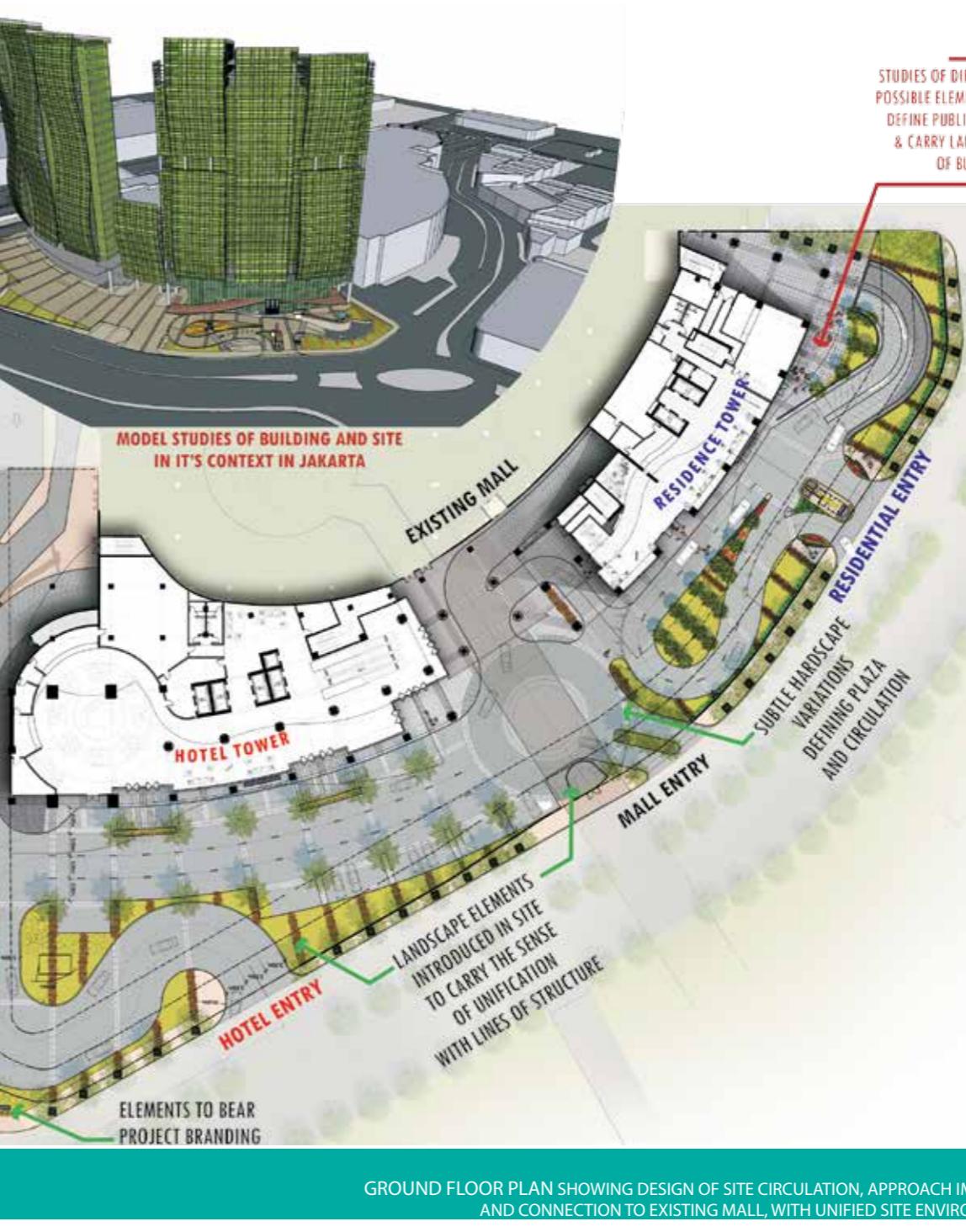
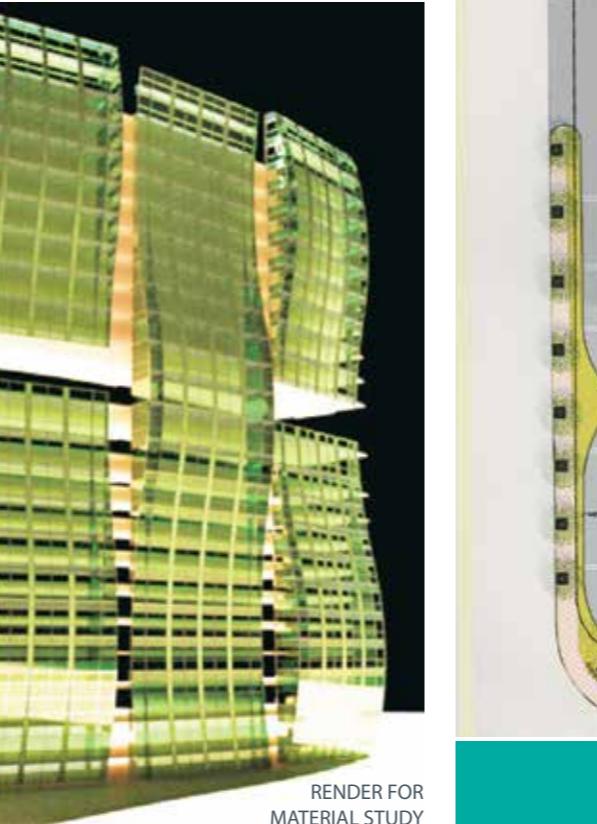
Various exercises were conducted to make the building's form its own experience. Differently combined feasibilities and flexibilities were studied to create the icon that would become the first landmark for this region.



EXPERIENCE



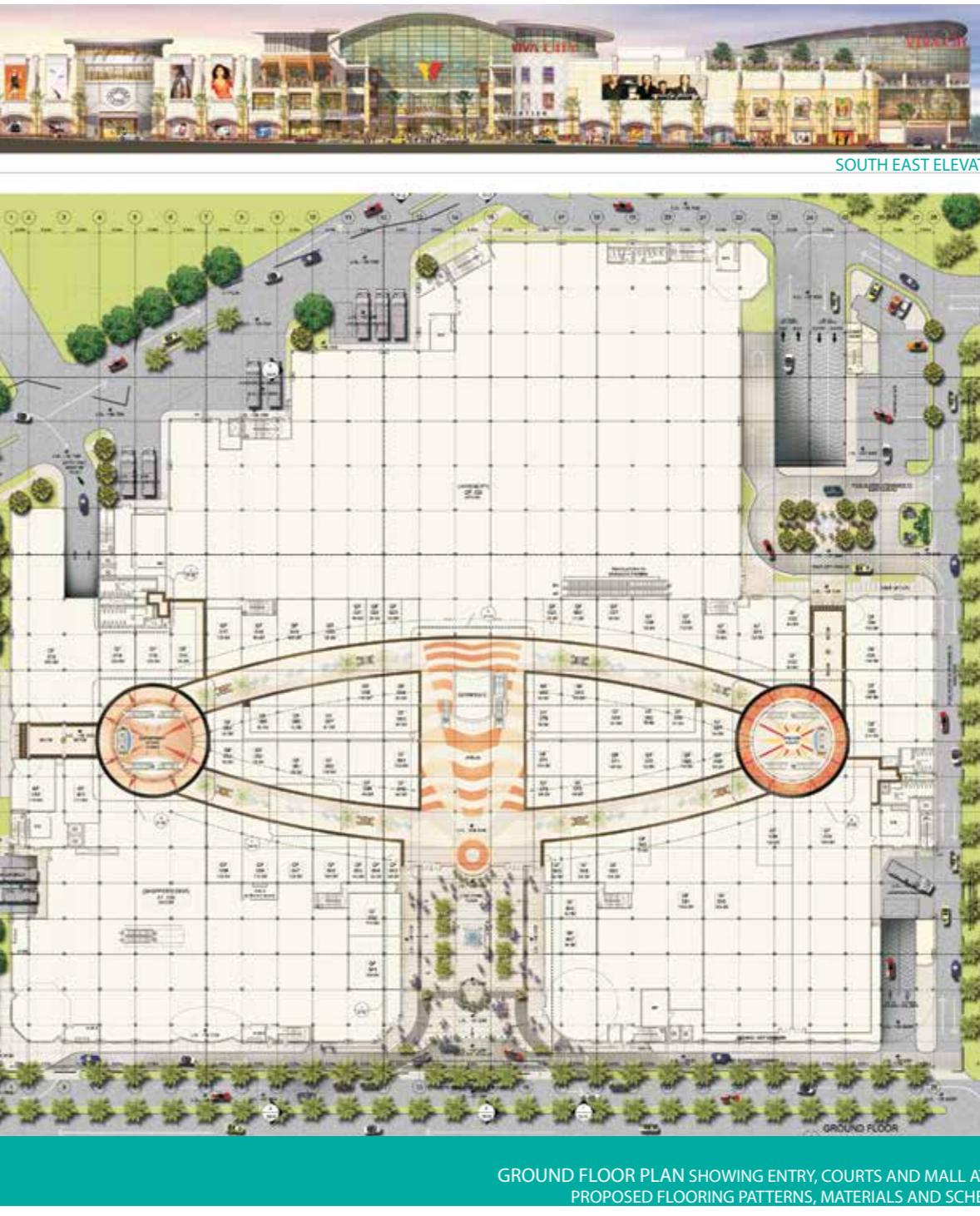
AARTI C SHARMA



Pondok Indah is a luxurious hotel and residential tower addition to the existing mall complex; situated right in the heart of Jakarta, Indonesia. Responsibility in the design team primarily included site circulation, approach concept, and landscape design.

● CONTEXT
■ EXPERIENCE
Primarily understanding the way dense traffic could be directed clearly into site and using the very tight site to its maximum potential to make public space, plaza and sense of place. The radiating lines enforces it's visual strength and appeal, in a subtle optical perspective.

◆ SPIRIT
Pondok Indah would be an iconic structure. It necessitated design development to include detailing of site elements and features of building to carry forward the strong wave lines of the building, and create a sense of branding through the approach.



VIVACITY
PROFESSIONAL - Development Design Group Inc.
RETAIL ARCHITECTURE - INTERIOR DESIGN DEVELOPMENT
LOCATION Thane, India

Vivacity is a proposed shopping center along an important corridor in Thane, India. Its schematic design has won awards for its retail architecture. The shell and design development has been completed, and the project has reached the Interior Development Design.



The palette respected local materials which would be easily available. The patterns for the landscaping, flooring, and courts are based on the festive theme followed by the shell of the building. Some of the geometry used in the patterns are derived from the logo and branding.



Thane is facing a rapid change with innumerable shopping malls taking up all the built space. While this building is also essentially the same environment, its language is simple and subdued, much like Thane, and just simply blends an open fresh well-lit community experience.

POSTGRADUATE MASTERS: M.Sc. URBANISM (2011)

[E.M.U.] STUDIO PROJECTS

EUROPEAN POSTGRADUATE MASTERS IN

URBANISM : TU DELFT + UPC BARCELONA +

KU LEUVEN + IUAV VENICE

The E.M.U is a Two year Inter-University Postgraduate M.Sc. in Strategies and Design for Cities and Territories. The structure allowed me to pursue a semester each in UPC Barcelona, KU Leuven, UPC Barcelona and a workshop in IUAV Venice, which is an all encompassing exposure.

● CONTEXT

■ EXPERIENCE

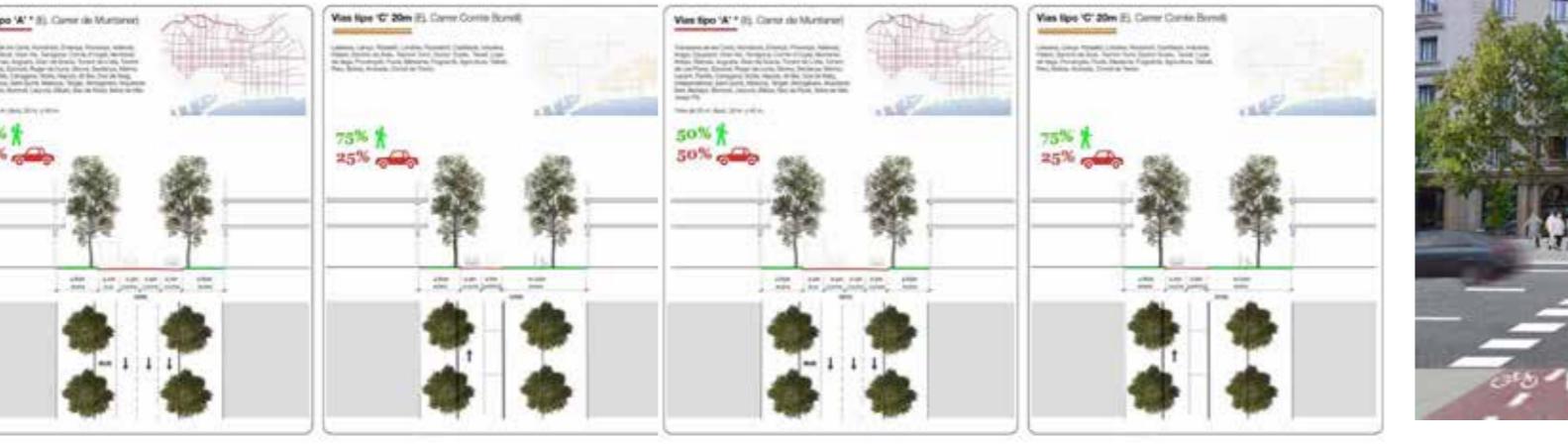
Joint European Postgraduate Master in Urbanism is focused on issues which reflect contemporary challenges within cities and territories like Climate Change, Post-industrial sites, Cultural landscapes, Territories of Dispersion, Mobility and Network Cities and more.

REASON ►

SPIRIT ☽

I would not know how to summarize the experience of getting to live in Belgium, Italy, Netherlands and Spain to study Urban planning from well-renowned specialists in beautiful European contexts. That travelling, living and interactions gave me a special perspective of urban life.

■ EXPERIENCE



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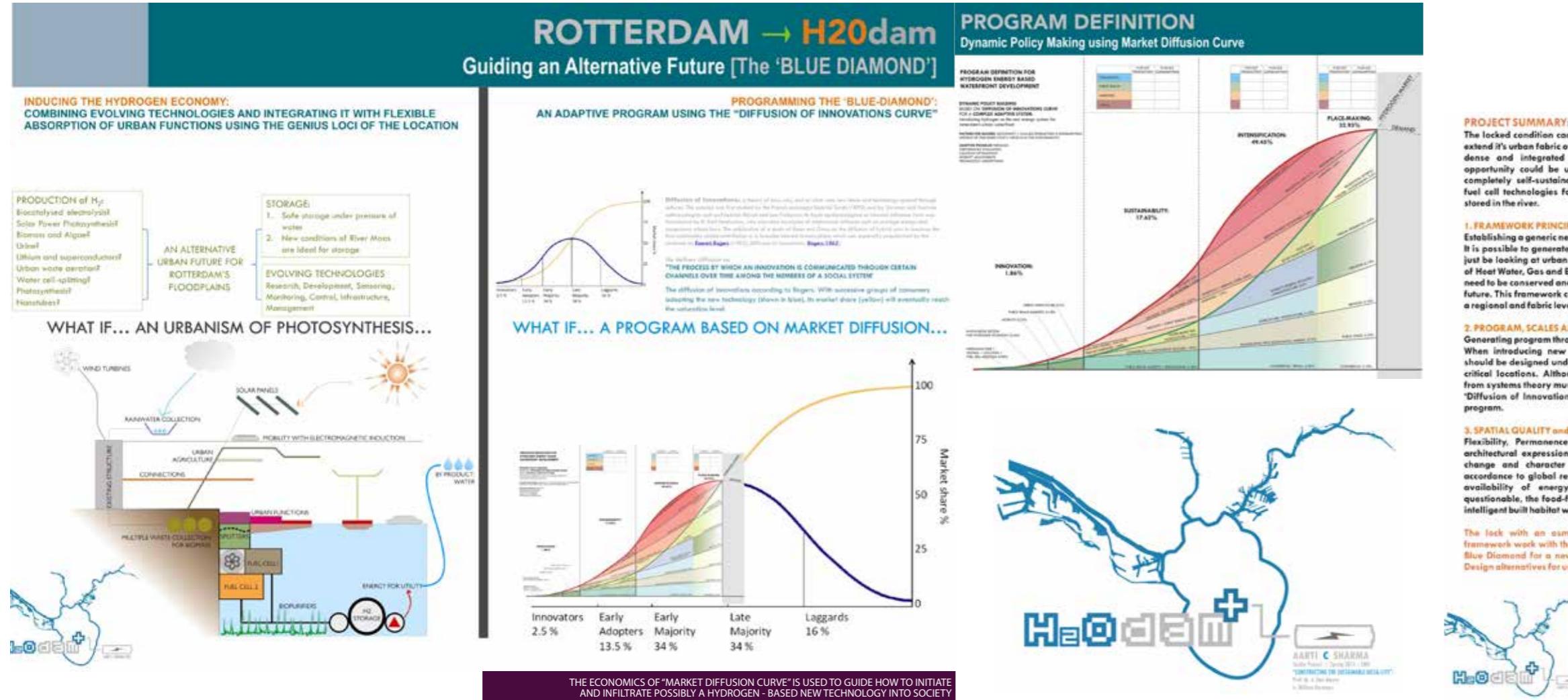
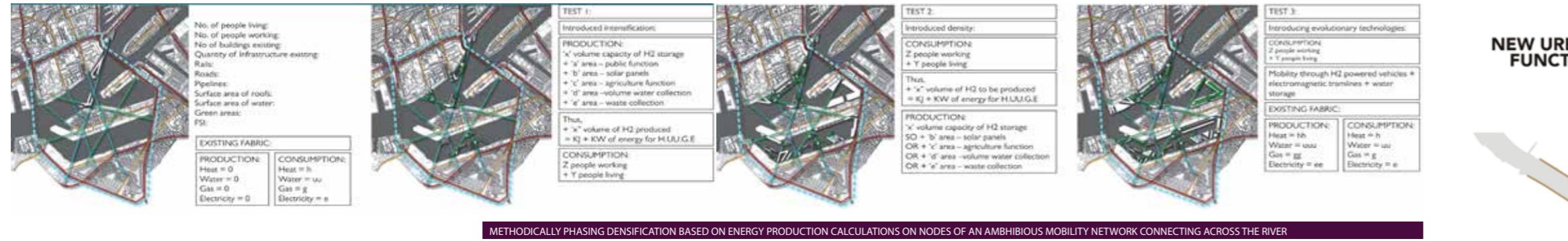
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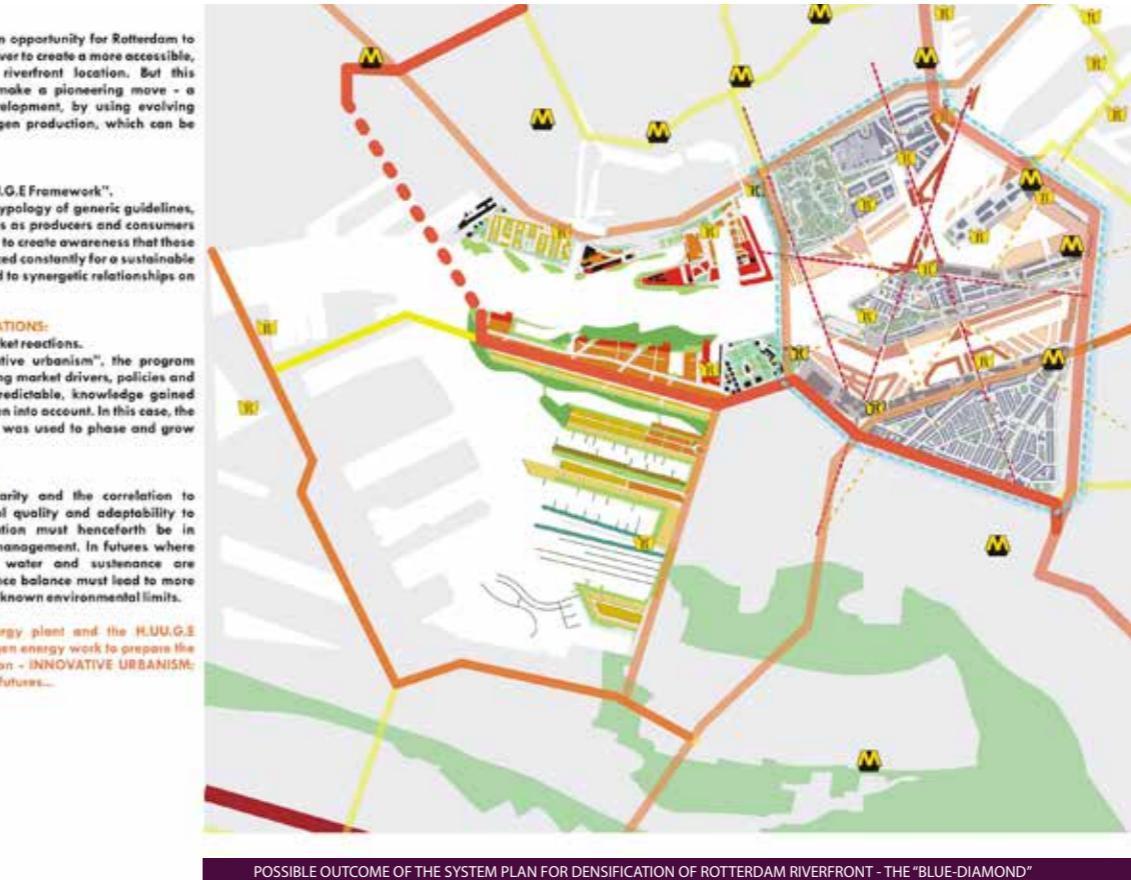
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NEW URBAN FUNCTION + **EVOLVING TECHNOLOGY** = **INNOVATIVE URBANISM**



"BLUE DIAMOND ROTTERDAM" HAS A PROGRAM BASED ON EVOLVING TECHNOLOGIES TO DENSIFY BASED ON CALCULATIONS OF HEAT, WATER, GAS AND ENERGY GENERATED [H.U.U.G.E FRAMEWORK]



THE NEWLY DENSIFIED ROTTERDAM WITH THE BLUE DIAMOND PROGRAM EXPERIMENT COULD RESULT IN SOCIAL COHESION AND INCREASED MARKET FOR UNIQUENESS

ROTTERDAM → H20dam
ACADEMIC: T.U. DELFT, The Netherlands
DELTA TERRITORIES: PLANNING AND STRATEGIES
LOCATION: ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

The two macro-strategies adopted by the studio included "locking" the River Maas through engineering or creating flood-resilient program. Being assigned to the Locking scenario, the team built an elaborate scheme built around energy creation and sustainable program.

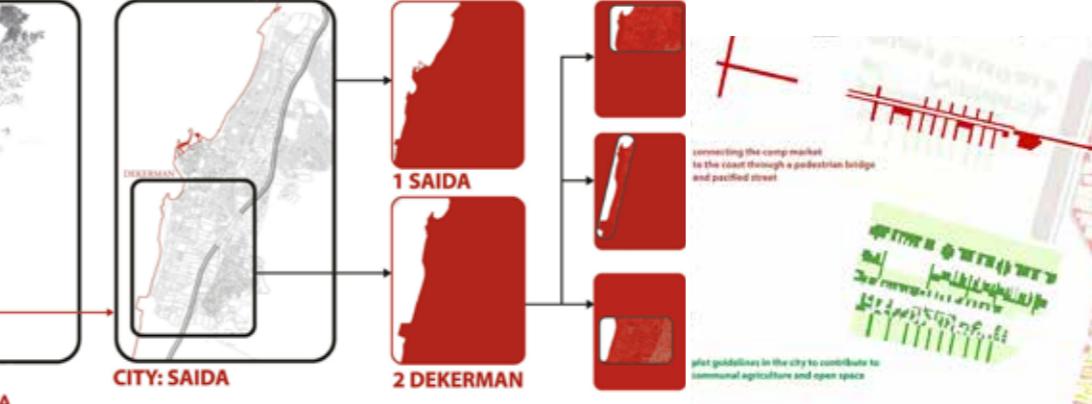
CONTEX
EXPERIENCE
SPIRIT

Evolving technology allowed exploring "photosynthetic urbanism", hydrogen based economies, osmotic-energy-plant-dikes, and amphibious transport starting a program generating its own "Heat, Water, Gas and Energy", a framework of growth based on market diffusion principles.



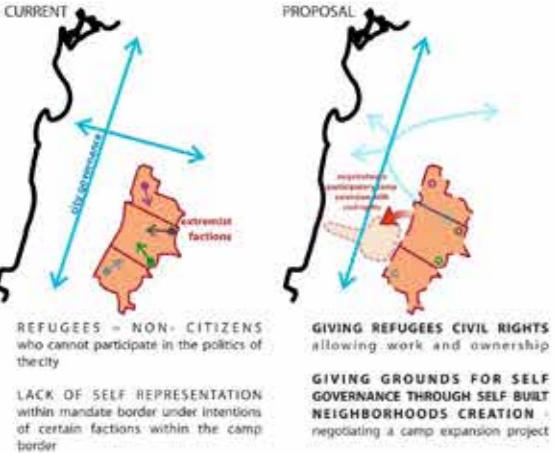
5 - BRIDGING BORDERS

Bridging Saida and Ein-el-Hilweh: Counselling a complicated relationship through Dekerman
City and tissue scale explorations of the project offered opportunity to examine the physical and mental 'borders' that define Ein-el-Hilweh as a second urban core in the overall morphology of Saida. The political dimension of this Palestinian refugee camp is defined by a system of networks that span international, regional and city scales and which manifest themselves spatially in the structuring elements of the camp and its resultant tissue. Although the urban project can not directly address or offer solutions to the political / invisible dimensions which exist, it can offer grounds for the people of the camp to make participatory decisions toward their own future.



RE-STRUCTURED MOBILITY PLAN WITH "SUPER-MANZANA" OR SUPER-BLOCK INTERSECTIONS WHICH BECOME PUBLIC PARK BOULEVARDS AND PARKS FOR THE RESIDENTS

BORDERS OF GOVERNANCE



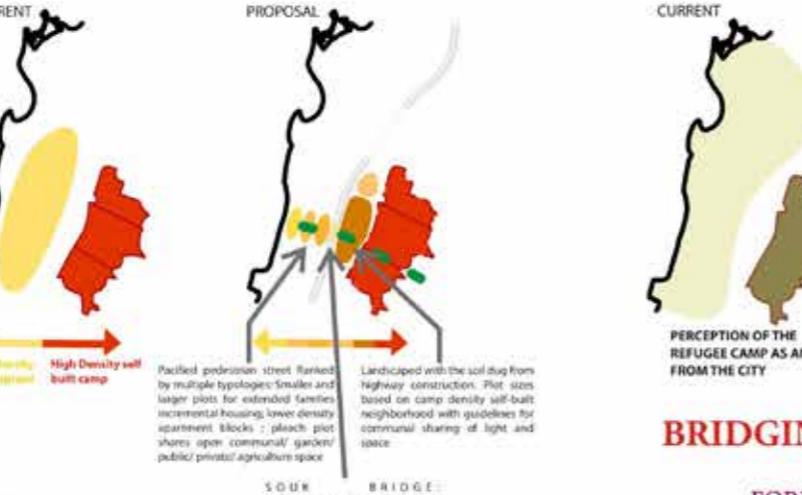
The master plan acknowledges the existence of the camp by proposing a new layout which overwrites its existing logic. The proposed project rather uses the existing logic within the camp to reinforce and build on the multiple concepts addressed in the city. The camp and the coastal area of Dekerman are bridged using the new location of the highway, below the camp, and the spaces between to create a cohesive fabric which recognizes the logics apparent in both tissues and at the same time redefining the 'border' between camp and city.

bridging saida and ein-el-hilweh

M.Sc URBANISM: AARTI C SHARMA

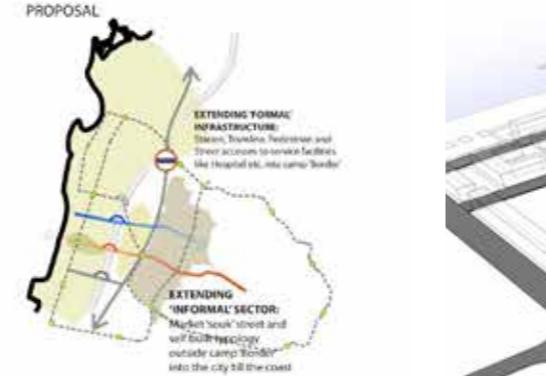
FIGURATIVE AND LITERALLY "BRIDGING" SAIDA IN SEVERAL ASPECTS

BORDERS OF SPATIAL DISPOSITION



RESEARCH AND THEORETICAL ARGUMENT WAS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS SOCIAL EXERCISE WITH DIFFERENT CASES AND EXAMPLES OF SEMANTIC UNDERSTANDING

BORDERS OF PERCEPTION



BRIDGING THE PERCEPTIONS OF

CITY ↔ CAMP
FORMALITY ↔ INFORMALITY
TOP-DOWN ↔ BOTTOM-UP
HIGH-DENSITY ↔ LOW-DENSITY
EXCLUSION ↔ INCLUSION

RESEARCH AND THEORETICAL ARGUMENT WAS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS SOCIAL EXERCISE WITH DIFFERENT CASES AND EXAMPLES OF SEMANTIC UNDERSTANDING

bridging saida
aarti c sharma



A VISION OF BRIDGING FROM THE "INFORMAL" CAMP TO A POSSIBLE "FORMALLY DEVELOPED" OUTCOME VIA A MARKET BRIDGE

The project thus explores alternative futures for the city of Saida in the hypothetical political scenario that the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians is not resolved; the right of return of the refugees in Ein-el-Hilweh camp still exists but they are given civil rights in order to participate in the civil and political life of Lebanon.

bridging saida and ein-el-hilweh

AARTI C SHARMA

BRIDGING SAIDA: NEGOTIATING A PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMP
ACADEMIC: K.U. LEUVEN, BELGIUM
PLANNING IN SPATIAL+SOCIAL+POLITICAL CONFLICT
LOCATION: SAIDA, LEBANON

This studio focused on planning within spaces of spatial, social and political conflict. "Ein-El-Hilweh: Right to Return" focused on a Palestinian refugee camp in the city of Saida, Lebanon. This dense camp of over 80000 people forms a second city core, and we explored it.

CONTEXT

REASON

EXPERIENCE

SPIRIT

My proposal was, literally and figuratively, Bridging Saida. A crossover where the refugees have civil rights to make home in Saida - partly planned, partly unplanned - largely by community participation. Multiple configurations of densities, new public transport network & shared governance.

bridging saida
aarti c sharma

recentering mumbai
APPROPRIATION OF THANE CREEK

The thesis explores proposing a 'Wetland Economic Zone' in Mumbai's salt-pan lands/ wetland/ creek area. The strategy questions the city's blanket zoning attitude, and integrates primary sector economies like food production in sustainable practices but using the genius of the place, serving socio-economic classes which are excluded from the city's sector development models. The project focuses on on flood resilience; East-West connectivity; small-scale economies with communities along the estuarine wetlands & concept corridors creating a new network layer within the city.

Location of Thane Creek in Mumbai

View showing the wetland waterfront

A DIACHRONIC STUDY OF MUMBAI METROPOLIS'S DEVELOPMENT HISTORY REVEALS WHY IT HAS SEVERAL ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS LIKE FLOODING YET LACK OF WATER

MORPHOGENETIC EVOLUTION OF THE CONURBATION:
Studying the evolution of Mumbai city - it's growth as an important financial center and it's physical sprawl from being an island of importance during the British colonization - till now as it functions with Thane and the twin city of Navi Mumbai gives an insight into the cause of the morphological choking of Thane Creek and the attitude of developers.

M.Sc URBANISM: AARTI C SHARMA

1600s → 1880s → 1920s → 1970s → 2000s

RE-CENTERING MUMBAI: APPROPRIATING THANE CREEK
ACADEMIC: T.U. DELFT, THE NETHERLANDS
'Wetland Economic Zone' in the Mumbai Conurbation
LOCATION: MUMBAI, INDIA

Within the city's economic desires, political social exclusions, environmental backlashes & chaotic urbanization - there is potential for participation, innovation and possibly alternative futures in places lesser known in the discussions about Mumbai in urbanism.

CONTEXT

EXPERIENCE

SPIRIT

Approach of study of the region is diachronic, and the proposal for "Wetland Economic Zone" is multi-scaled and multi-disciplinary. Thesis addresses the sponge-like nature of the geography and socio-economic classes excluded from the economic sector development models.

THE PROPOSAL IS BASED ON A MIX OF ECONOMIES FROM REAL-ESTATE TO AQUAPONIC FARMS FOR THE WETLAND TO SUSTAIN

AARTI C SHARMA

WORK EXPERIENCE: INDIA

ARRIS ARCHITECTS

Position:

Architect

Mumbai, India

Arris Architects is a young firm primarily focused on the entertainment and leisure industry. It is composed of six architects who deliver design and build concepts, packages, and documentation. Their expertise is in retail architecture & interior design commercial ventures.



CONTEXT

I was entrusted with the design and presentation of over eight mall projects and the feasibility and documentation for over fifteen multiplex layouts. I also designed and built the mock unit for a jewelry mall and a sports bar. The bar went on to be showcased in a Bollywood movie - Kismal Konnection!

Opportunity to be directly involved in site analysis, feasibility studies, and concept design simulation proposals for mid-size retail complexes in India. This taught me the 'working proportions' of retail developments and mall economics that allow feasible and successful developments.



EXPERIENCE

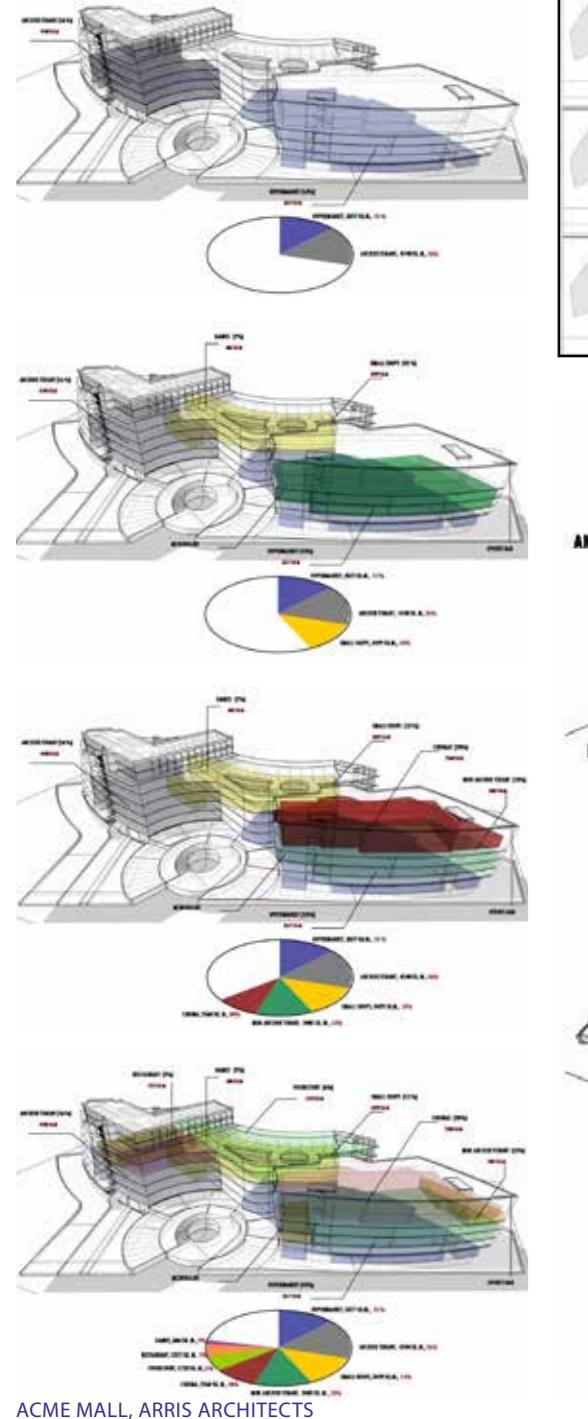
Arris is a young, small yet vibrant architectural firm that fostered a learning atmosphere. I was actively allowed to perform and learn from each aspect of the design and communication required for the new booming world of commercial retail architecture in India.



REASON

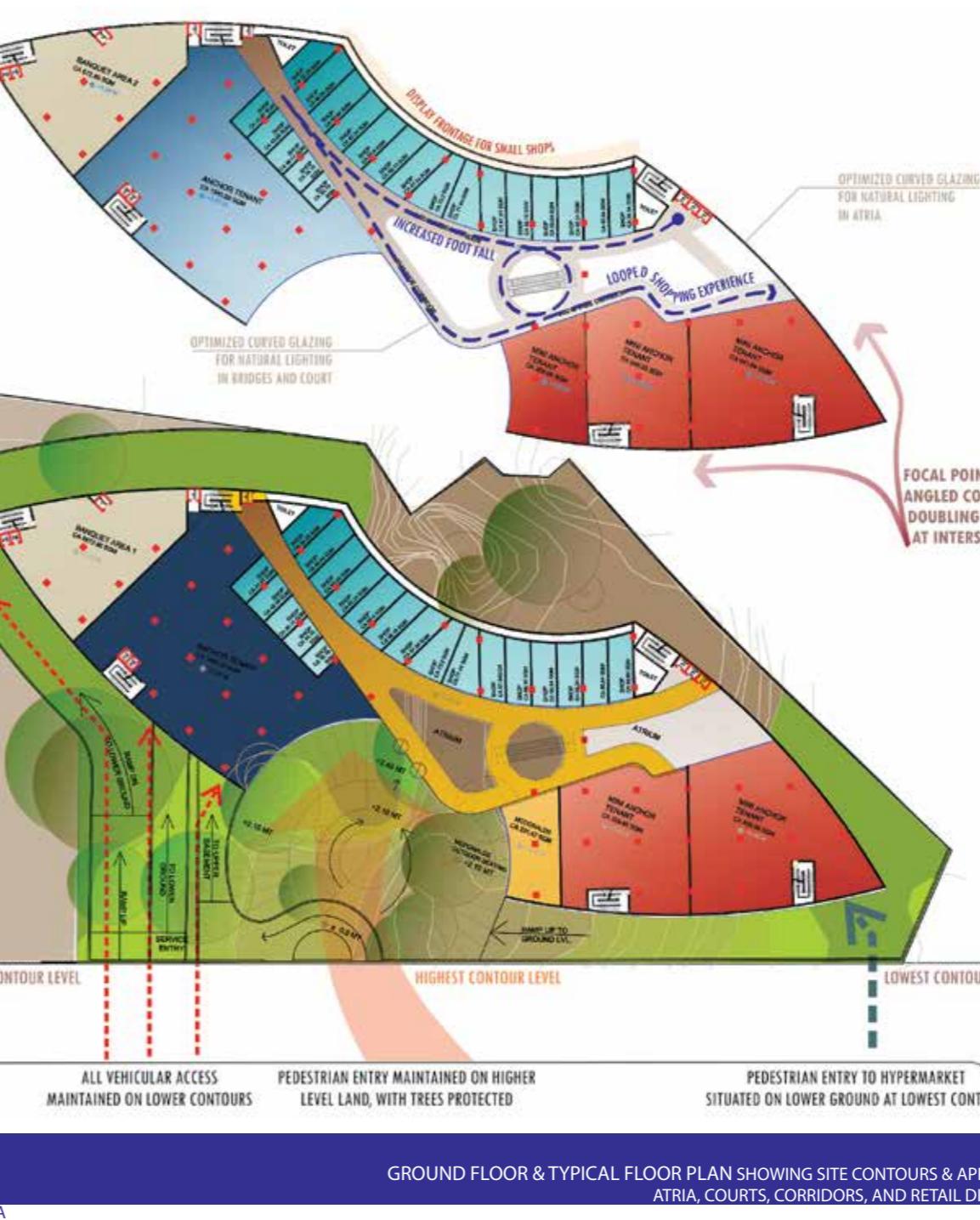
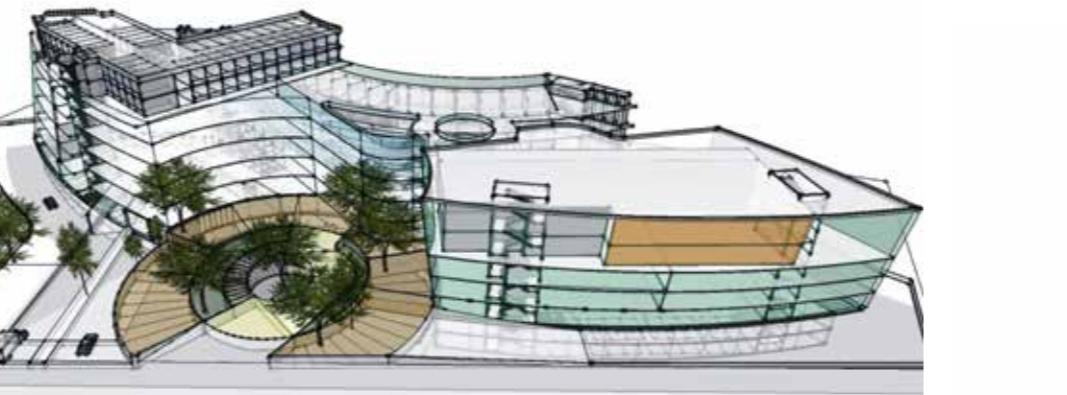
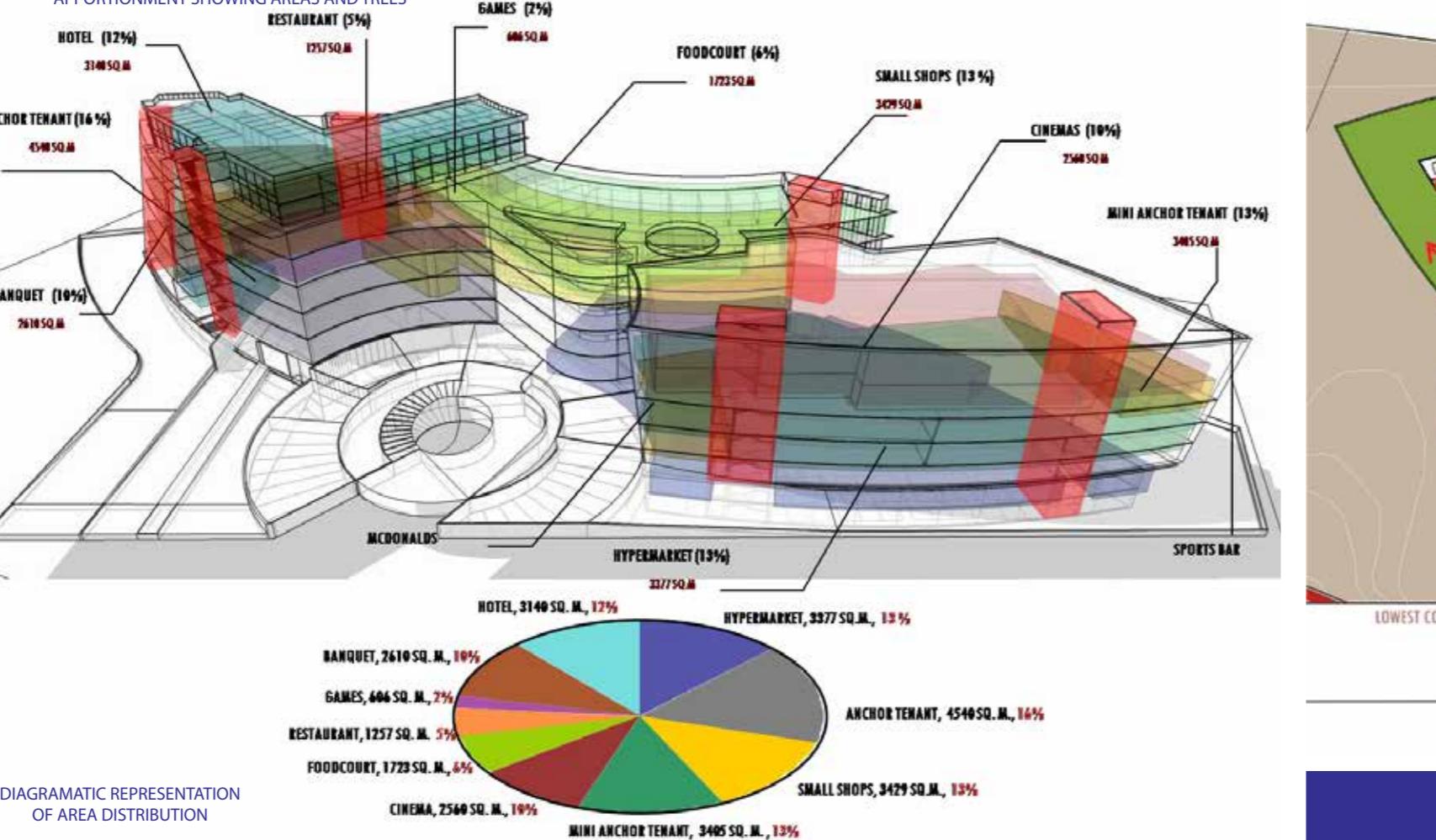


SPIRIT



SCHEMATIC ALTERNATIVE				
Total plot 6.20 acre	12351.21 SQ. M.	6015.84 SQ. M.	15 / 27	
3.05 acre	5467.82 SQ. M.	(48%)	17 / 27	
18425.13 SQ. M.	7612.13 SQ. M.	(46%)	10 / 34	

SCHEMES WITH DIFFERENT SITE APPORTIONMENT SHOWING AREAS AND TREES



It became an interesting exercise of apportioning the land in a way to maximise built-up area and minimise felling of trees. The site also had a corner which would be the prime frontage. The site is contoured with many trees, presenting a challenge to protect as many trees as possible.

CONTEXT

The proposed building design respects the site's unique conditions and responds to the many constraints. Although a smaller sized mall, it would be a unique icon and a community space with its beautiful old trees, flowing contours and befitting crowning built form.

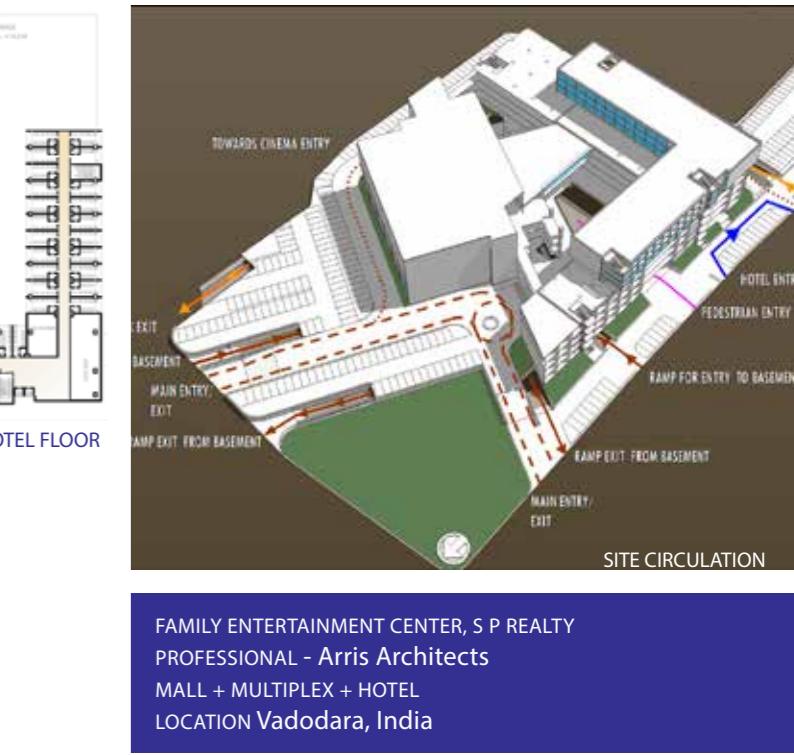
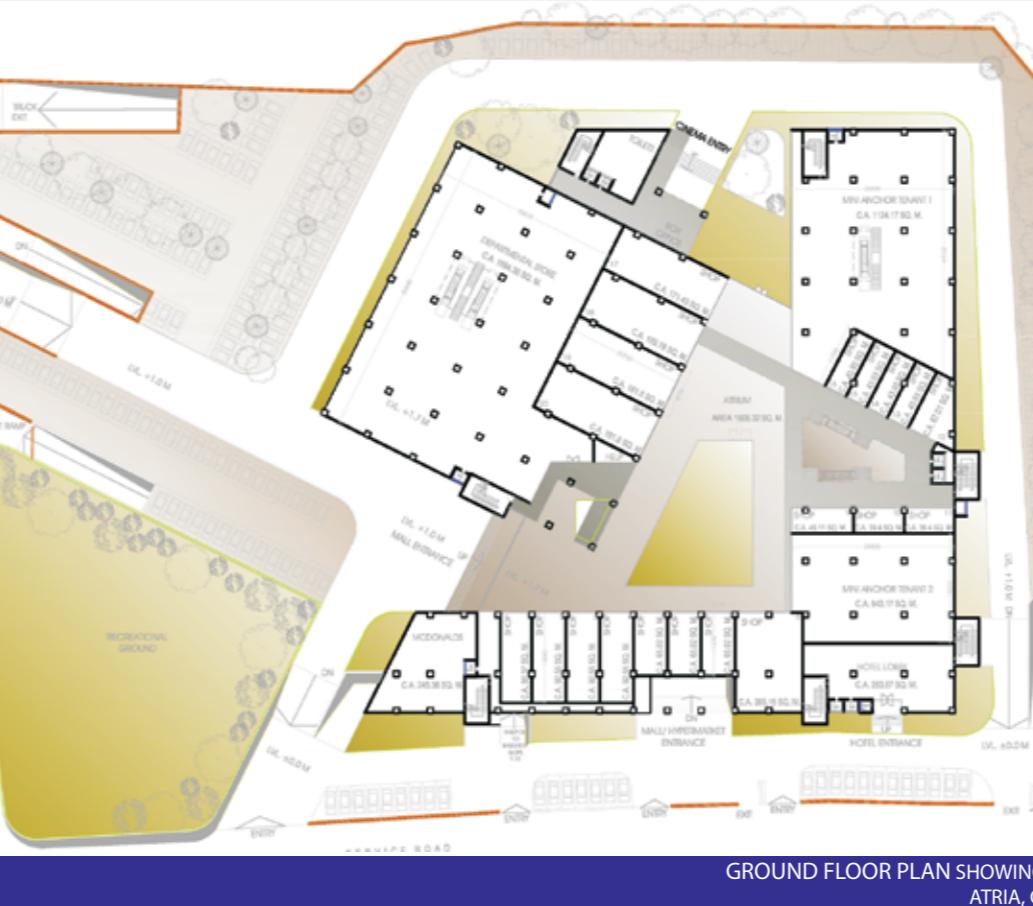
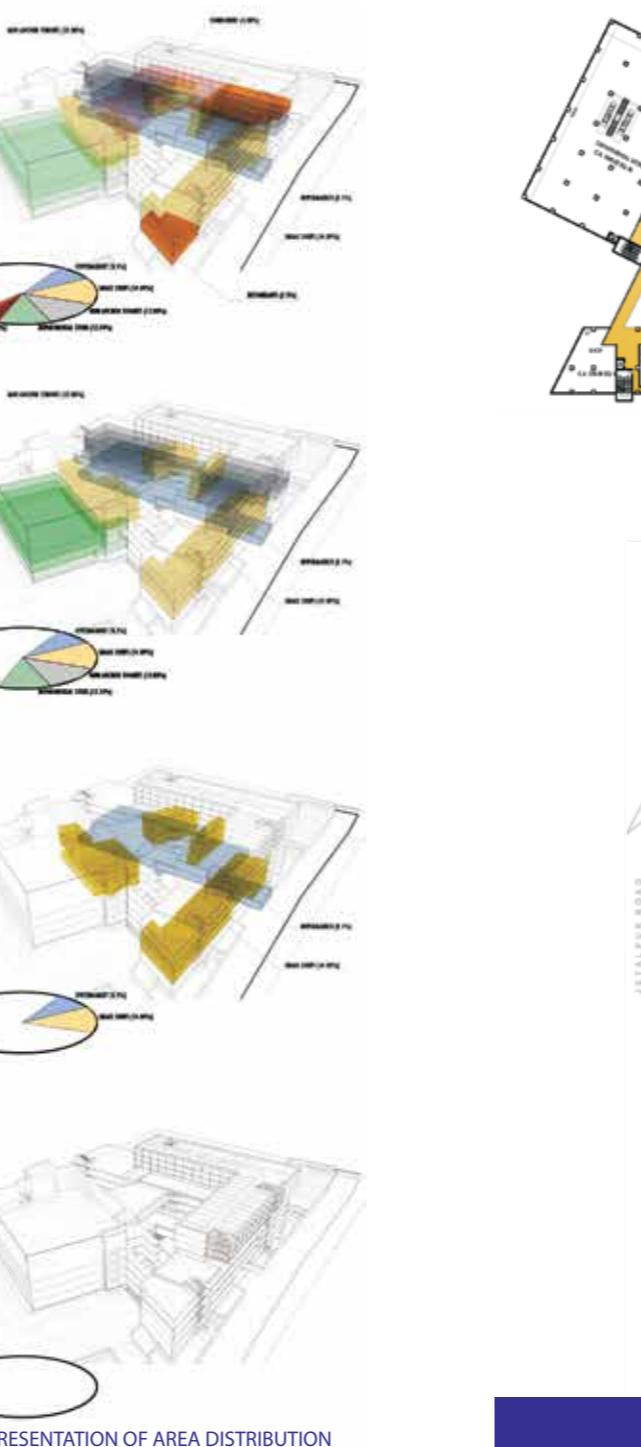
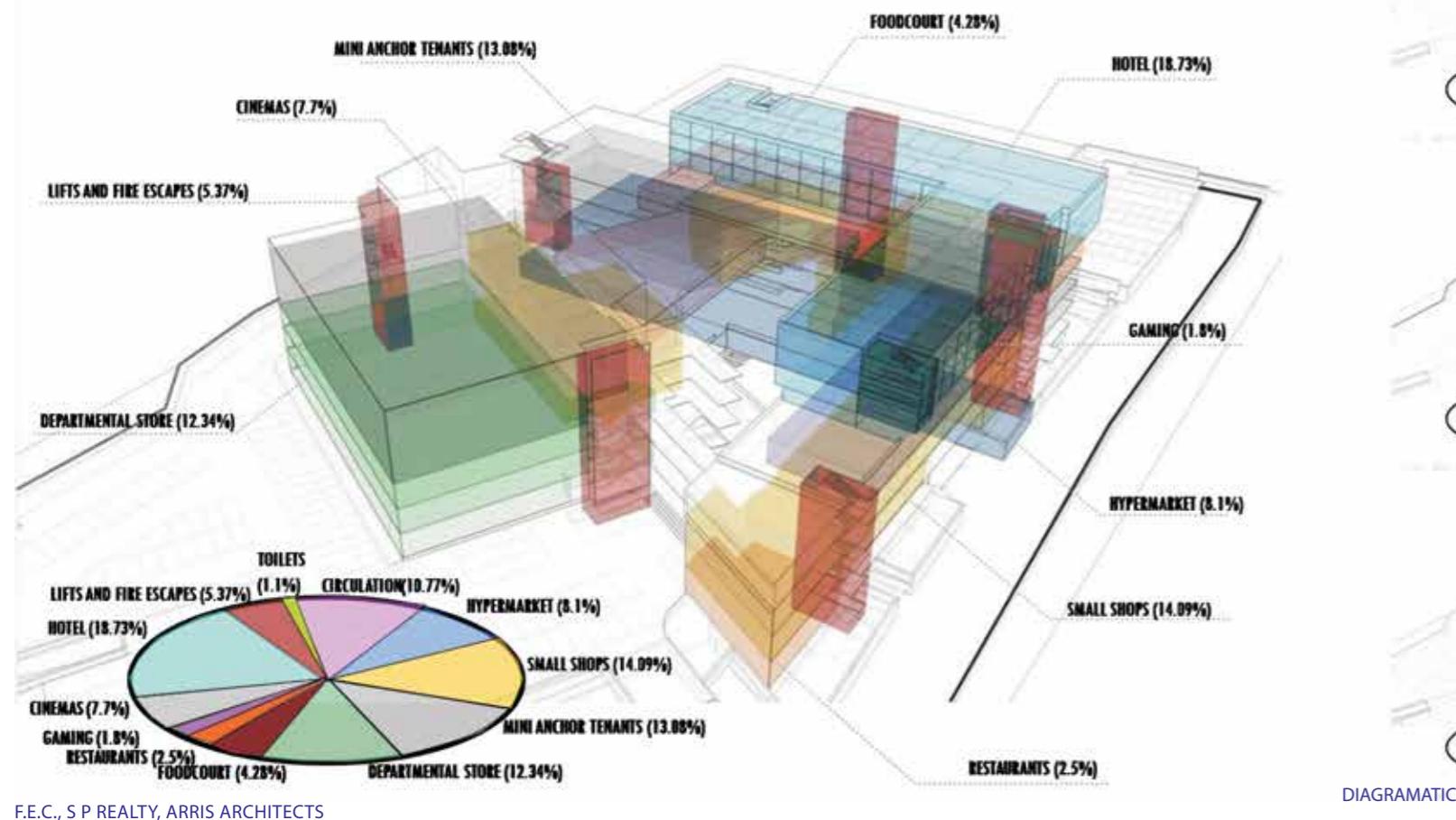
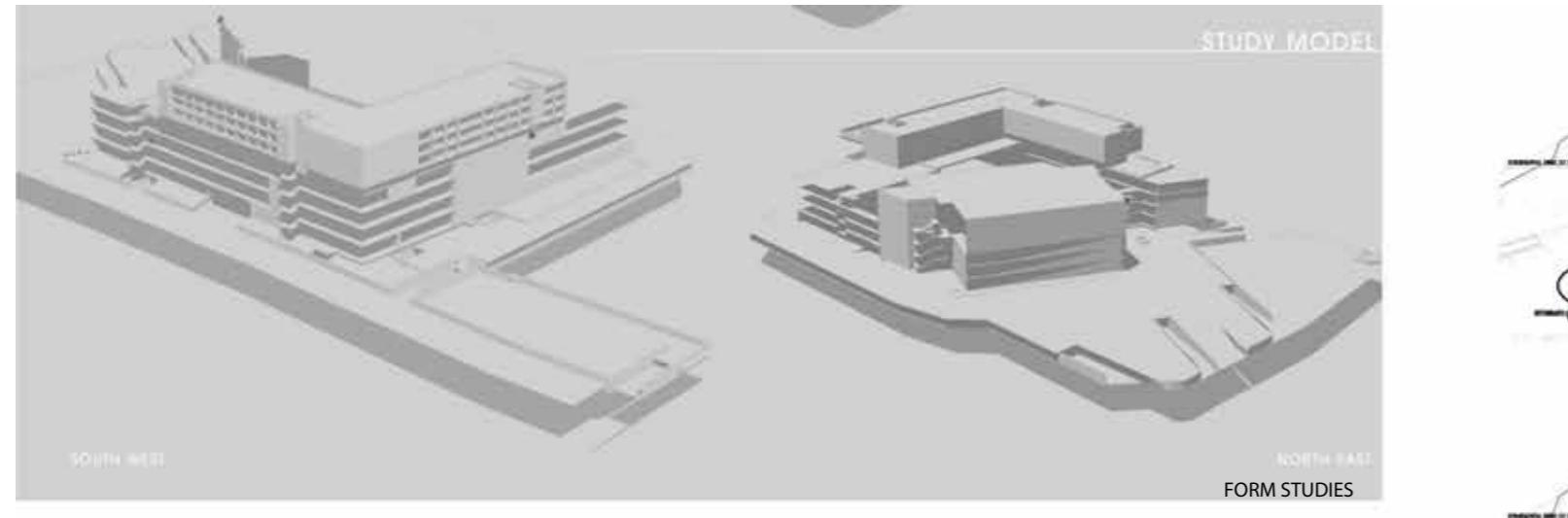
REASON

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EXPERIENCE

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SPIRIT



The project was to counter an existing proposal, and the new scheme needed to meet the client's stringent economic constraints. There are many legal constraints regarding ground coverage, built area, parking requirements and height. All surrounding structures around the flat site are low height medium density housing.



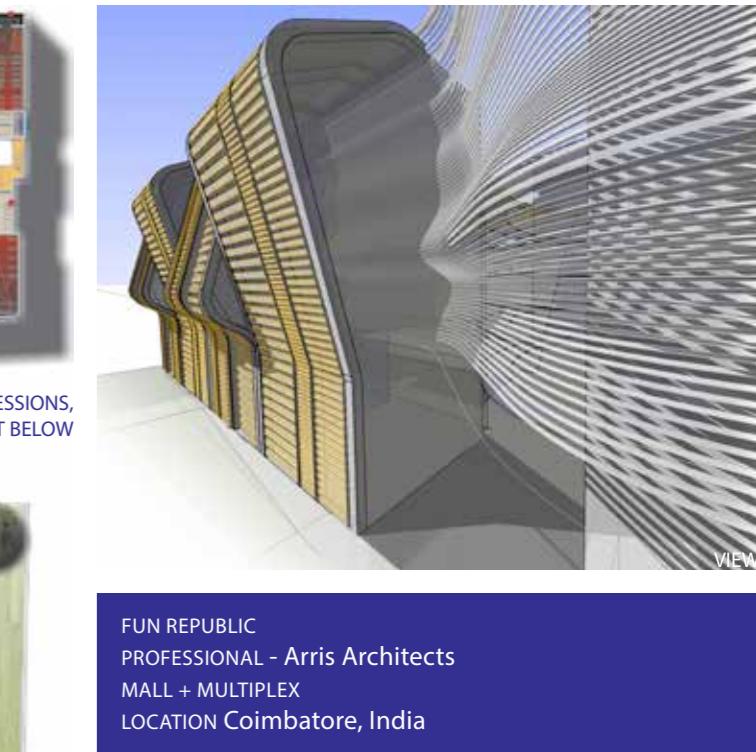
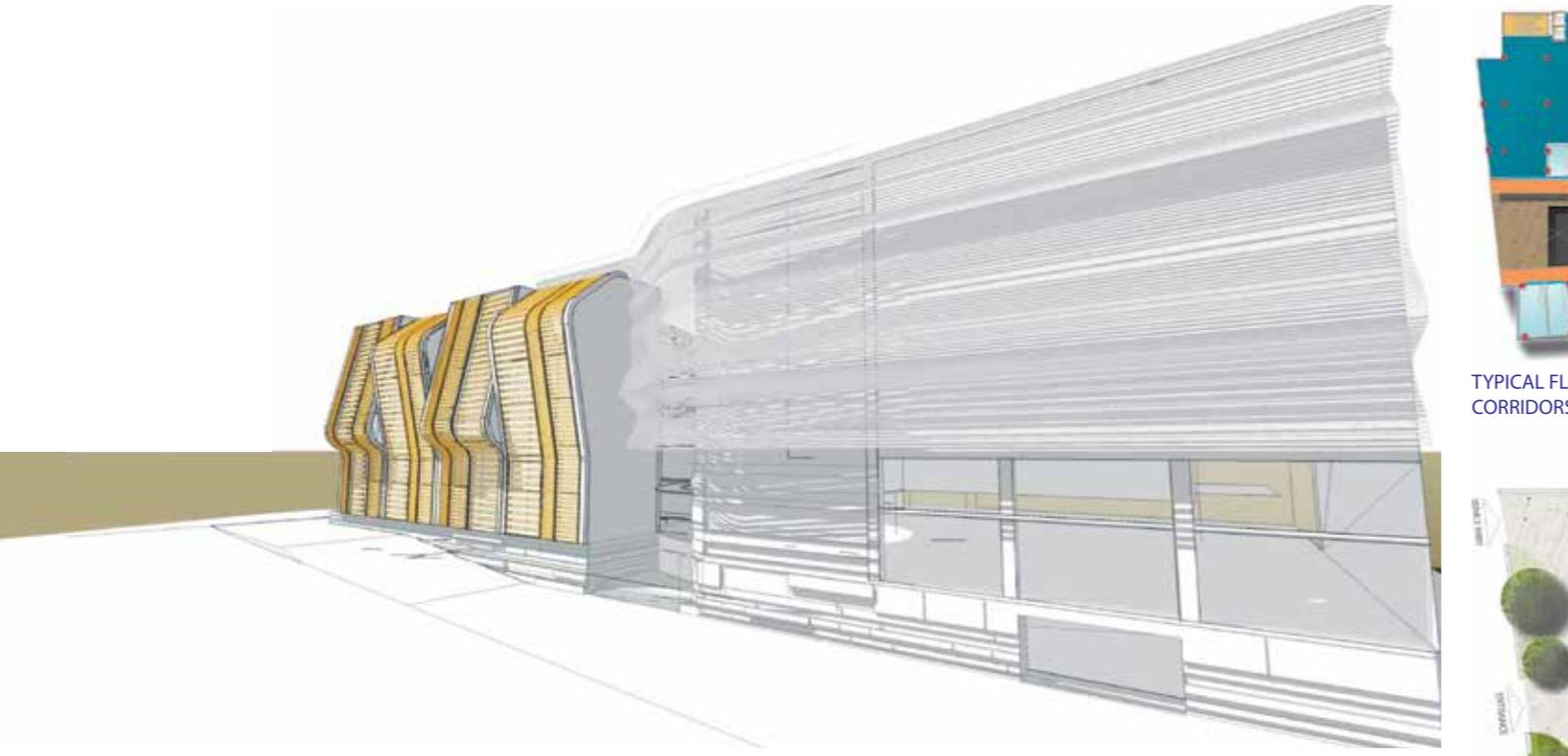
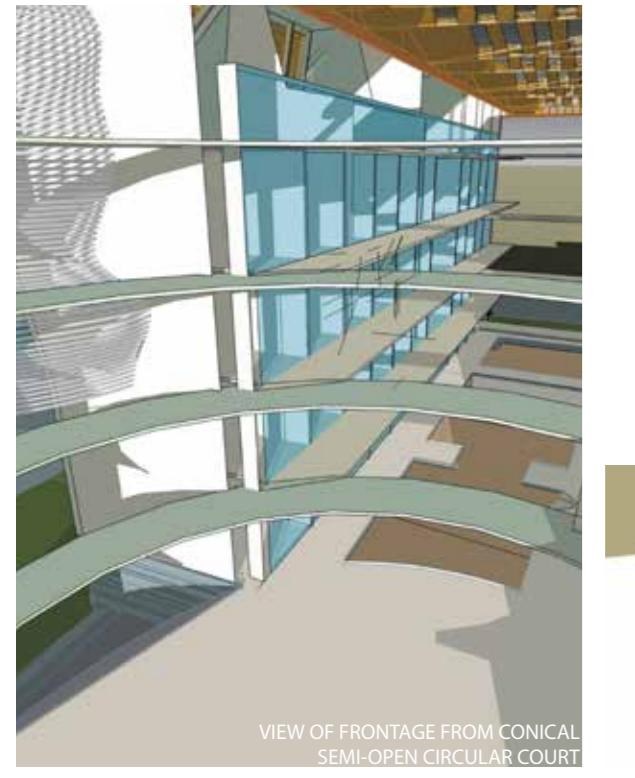
The project was to counter an existing proposal, and the new scheme needed to meet the client's stringent economic constraints. There are many legal constraints regarding ground coverage, built area, parking requirements and height. All surrounding structures around the flat site are low height medium density housing.



The design shows feasible profitable area, maximised frontage, continuously looped shopping experience, and large atria for exhibitions and community functions. The new scheme also showed a clear circulation for service vehicles, private vehicles, public transport and pedestrians.

The boom of malls necessitated understanding trade of mall economics and study of how community space and shopping experience could be integrated. It became the firm's strongest asset - to study and present the best feasible social and commercial solution for towns in India.

AARTI C SHARMA



Fun Republic is a proposed family entertainment center in Coimbatore, India. It is a Class II city, with rich heritage, and especially well known for its silk textile industry. Tropical city still maintaining its cultural heritage with many historic sites, Fun Republic needed to be accepted into this fabric.

CONTEXT

EXPERIENCE

The aesthetic is inspired by forms which are reminiscent of the local motifs, such as the delicate textiles and the tall palm trees. It endeavors to be a landmark that captures the essence of the city, yet reciprocates an international élan, which the client wanted to stand for.

REASON

SPIRIT



VIEW OF MOCK-UP



VIEW OF MOCK-UP



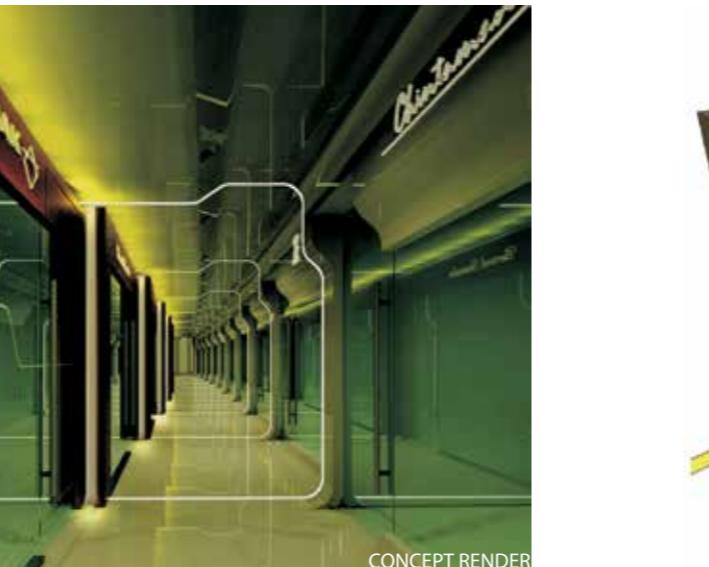
VIEW OF MOCK-UP



CONCEPT RENDER



VIEW OF MOCK-UP



CONCEPT RENDER

JEWEL OF INDIA
PROFESSIONAL - Arris Architects
COMMERCIAL INTERIOR DESIGN - SHOPPING CENTER
LOCATION Mumbai, India

Jewel of India is a shopping center meant exclusively for jewelry stores. It is located in the restoration of a historic building in Zaveri Bazaar, an area of Mumbai housing some of the richest gold jewelry stores, and some of the poorest slums. The interiors needed a different reality.

CONTEXT

The shopping experience identity of this mall needed to ensure returning patrons. It needed to exude a level of class, that would suit the level of richness inside. The palette thus chosen was of a seamless homogenous white solid surface and rich grains of wood veneer.

REASON

EXPERIENCE

SPIRIT

The design was essentially a single module, marrying the two materials, in a C-shaped sinuous curve. They offset each other in plan, creating a unique curving profile for the corridor, giving each shop its own bound frontage, separated by a thin strip of light.

The sales office and mock shop fronts are already built, and some features have been shown to make this space feel luxurious in a unique way. This has received a very positive response from people with very varying preferences of luxury, thus, encompassing the spirit of Jewel of India.



PLAN VIEW AND
EXPLODED INTERIOR CONCEPT VIEW



AARTI C SHARMA



PHOTOGRAPH OF SITE



PHOTOGRAPH OF SITE



CONCEPT VIEW

ALL SPORTS BAR
PROFESSIONAL - Arris Architects
COMMERCIAL INTERIOR DESIGN - SPORTS BAR
LOCATION Mumbai, India

All Sports Bar, Mumbai was an exercise in space branding and rapid execution. It took 25 days from conception to its opening for the Cricket World Cup season in March 2006. The idea was to create a unified space brand to be carried forward in all the chains to follow.

CONTEXT

The plan was derived by locating the big screen diagonally, in a way as to attract people even from the street side. The space itself thus got automatically divided into different seating areas, formal, independent and group to maximise view.

REASON

EXPERIENCE

SPIRIT

A continuous green band was introduced which flowed all around the bar serving as seats, tables, space dividers, bar counters, feature lighting and wall panels carrying TVs. Dark wood interiors and the contrasting green band became a memorable visual associated with the bar.

The built space followed the proposal quite exactly. The bar did take off during the Cricket World Cup, and was featured in the Bollywood movie - Kismat Konnection. The visual of the space being tied together with the band has become the branding feature.



WORK EXPERIENCE: INDIA

DESIGN INSIGHT

Position: INTERN ARCHITECT

Mumbai, India

Design Insight is a firm run by Prof. Vidya Raghu, who guided me for various design subjects from the first year of architecture school through my internship. Being her only employee, I was privileged to be under her constant personal guidance.

During my internship, I worked on three unique projects that were residential, workspace research and institutional viz. Porous House - a detached house in Lonavla; Enabling Workspaces Initiative - a research product mapping organizational culture; and an orphanage in Navi Mumbai.

● CONTEXT

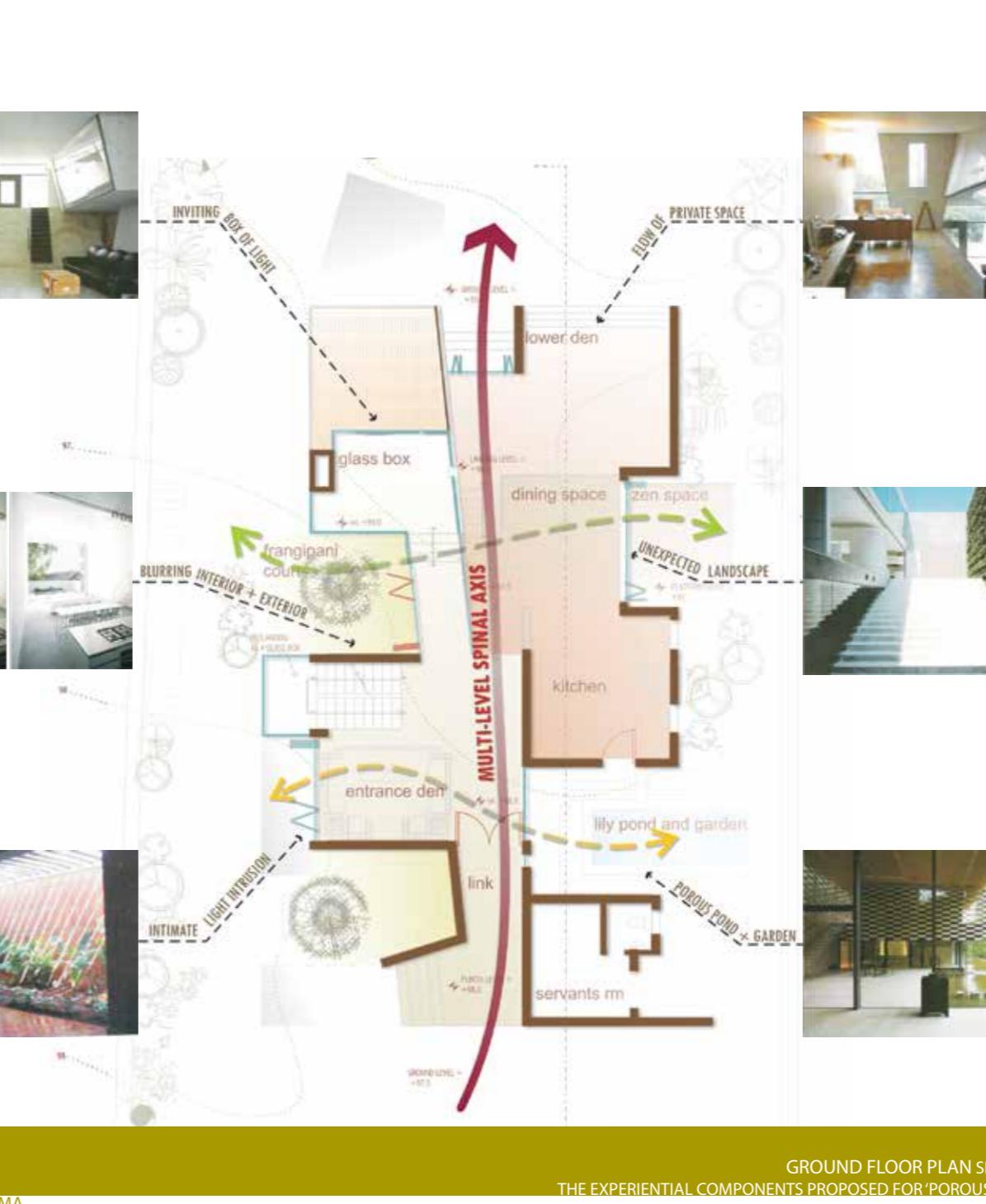
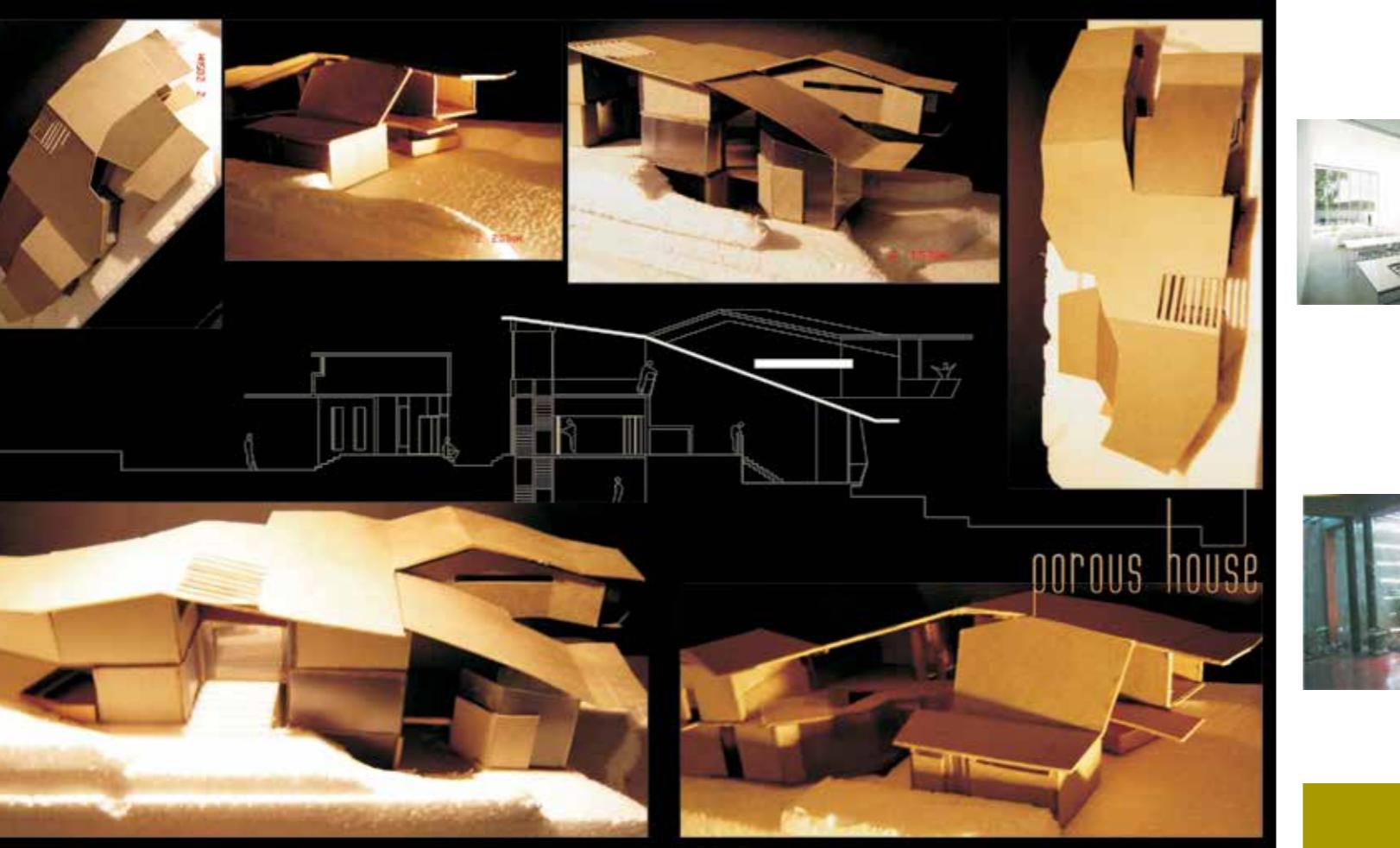
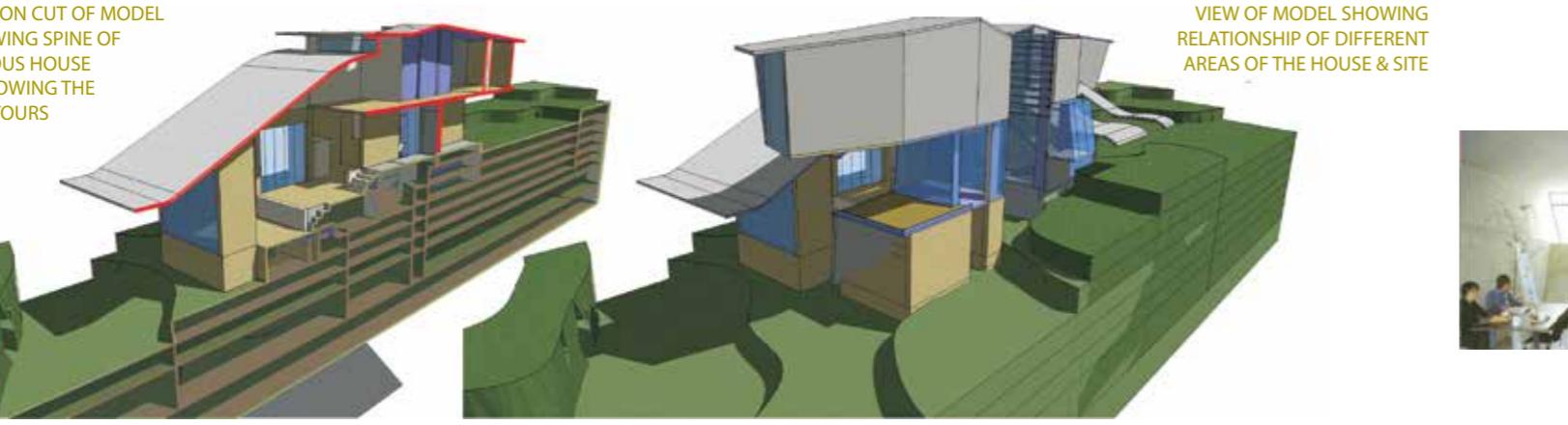
► REASON

■ EXPERIENCE

◆ SPIRIT

I was the only one working on the projects continuously, given my professor's busy teaching schedule. Thus, I had ample opportunity to engage with each subject, learn every aspect at my own pace, and be responsible for the progress while grasping new concepts.

Prof. Vidya Raghu was a mentor and a friend. The research and concepts were engrained in my workflow. The responsibility of communication, presentation and administration that she entrusted me with, taught me to work with greater comprehension and efficiency.



Negotiating the existing contours of the site and allowing the family to have a unique home with a blurred distinction of interior and exterior space, private and semi-private, built and un-built; thus befitting the landscaped nature of the site itself.

REASON ➤

CONTEXT ●

EXPERIENCE ■

The porosity is used to enable a sense of attachment unique to the various experiences within the home through tools like the spinal axis leading to the forest, and breaking pockets of landscape and contemplation spaces interim.

Incorporate principal notions of 'surprising' transition through the various areas of the house, by collective intrusion of light and air, orchestrated visual access, flexibility to combine and separate the spaces with partitions, and unifying built and landscape architecture.

ACADEMIC: BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURE: MUMBAI

SIR J. J. COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE

Academia + Co-curriculum [INTERNAL]

Competitions + Extra-curriculum [EXTERNAL]

Sir J. J. College of Architecture is a premier institute of architecture in India. I was allowed to explore and learn about the field of architecture through many platforms both inter and intra institutional, in addition to having access to extra curricular development.



CONTEXT

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REASON

Making the most of the given opportunities, and participating in various platforms like 'TerraJJ Forum', 'Elle Decor', 'My House', 'Shelter in a Cart' and more. I was also elected Secretary of College and zone of National Association of Students of Architecture [NASA].



SPIRIT

These platforms allowed me to delve into many levels of design - furniture, modular, product, industrial, graphic, literary, community and more. Allowing freedom of problem-solving and experimenting at every level, thus enriching me with invaluable experiences and interactions.



EXPERIENCE

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The academic environment was about exploring and sensing existing processes and allowing thinking about new processes that could perhaps enhance the built environments that we studied about. Thus I wish to return to academia.

BUILT ENVIRONMENT v/s NATURAL ECOSYSTEM

Can the twin meet
Important case studies

WETLAND CONSERVATION

Many countries have realized the importance of the rich wetlands they have and have created policies for their specific use and conservation after extensive research and studies.

A question that arises is conserving the only way?

Especially when we are talking about a heavy urban area like Mumbai where the land demand is so high and supply so little?

Is it possible to come up with systems for the government, developers and other bodies where by this land can be an economic contribution and at the same time, we can conserve this ecological treasure.

PARQUE DE LA GAVIA

An example worth studying is a recent proposal by TOYO ITO for river Gavia, in Spain (a competition as part of the new Olympics Village for 2012, area 39 hectares).

A new type of landscape design to enhance ecology in an urban park. Located in the southeastern outskirts of Madrid, the park was conceived as part of a major redevelopment effort to clear a slum area on the fringes of the historic city of Vallecas. Aside from its function of reducing the need for expensive and unattractive treatment plants, this scheme creates a new type of community facility. While reducing environmental degradation and establishing natural habitats for birds, plants and animals, it beautifies neighborhoods and provide recreational areas for local residents.

ISOTROPIC VECTOR MATRIX

The octahedron-tetrahedron complex has been discovered and formulated within various contexts: chemistry, physics, mathematics and other.

A construction system [the "octet truss"] which makes use of this geometry was patented in the 1940's by R. Buckminster Fuller, USA.

OCTET TRUSS NATURE'S COORDINATE SYSTEM

"All matter in unforced state is spherical not cubic & these spheres are expanding for the life of their existence at a fixed rate." - Buckminster Fuller

Fuller also found that if an octet space filling truss was built outwardly in successive shellings it would result in a successive series of nested polyhedra, the tetrahedron, octahedron and the cuboctahedron, or "Vector Equilibrium" (with 6 square faces and 8 triangular faces on its outer surface) replicating the structures of its components on a larger scale.

C.E.LLS: AARTI C SHARMA

N55 SPACEFRAME & FLOATING PLATFORM THEORY

A Building that lightly floats on water, like a water-skeeter. This helps 2 ecosystems share a mutually symbiotic relationship.

The geometry of this space lattice does not depend on gravity for strength or integrity, and therefore is suitable for employment in satellites and space platforms, in big halls. The distribution of tensile and compressive forces, the rigidity and the ability of the structure to deform locally makes it safe under extreme conditions like earthquakes or sudden impacts. Because of the geometry, loads are distributed well throughout the construction.

All the struts in the construction are of equal length, ensuring an economic production with few different components. The octet truss is among the structures in which one obtains the greatest strength using the least materials. The struts used in the building system for the N55 SPACEFRAME are acid resistant stainless steel, highly durable, prepared for numerous reassemblies and chemically immune to most conditions.

The equal-length struts are bent in 70° angles for tetrahedra and 110° angles for octahedra. The struts are assembled by hand using stainless acid resistant bolts and nuts that are tightened with a screwdriver. Two tetrahedra and one octahedron make the basic building "brick", with which one can build walls, foundation and roof.

The FLOATING PLATFORM is a space lattice, comprised of small modules made from stainless steel with built-in buoyant tanks. The small modules in the platform can all be assembled by hand. The modular system facilitates gradual extensions and makes the platform less vulnerable to damage; for example, leaks only have local impact and can be repaired locally.

Buoyancy: The tanks are made from low-density polyethylene. They are built into tetrahedra of stainless, acid-resistant steel, which are assembled into a coherent "octet truss" space lattice. The buoyancy of the tanks is reduced at low temperatures because they are made of flexible material.

The modularity of the platform offers the possibility to add more buoyancy when there is a need for it: extra tanks may be connected to the sides of the platform, material may be put into the cavities in the steel truss or extensions can be made from the same building system. Tanks for water and wastewater, toilets etc. can

CONFIGURATION

He called this larger truss work "an isotropic vector matrix" because the angles and strut lengths were everywhere the same'

The octet truss configuration is the strongest theoretical structure. It is this conformation of the atoms of carbon that gives the diamond its hardness.'

Because of the modular nature, pieces can be assembled by manual labor without heavy machines. Gender-friendly, women can just as easily assemble an Octet Truss framework as men can.

The octet truss can provide the floor and roof slab supports, spanning greater areas with overall less weight than with steel i-beams. This reduces not only the weight which must be supported, but also the costs of materials by reducing the actual materials.

OVERVIEW OF DRIVING FACTORS OF DESIGN DISSERTATION [CASE-STUDIES]:

PROGRAM STUDY: Case study of Gavia Park shows sensitive and innovative program to use similar land, but without complete reclamation.

STRUCTURAL STUDY: Case study of N55 Octet Floating Platform shows a new possibility to be studied for a floating structure to be an alternative.

ALTERNATIVE STUDY: Further study proves alternative programmatic approaches, as well as the simple modularity and self-supporting strength of the octet truss.

STATE GOVERNMENT

The Government issued a notification to allot the salt-pan land at Mulund for a dumping ground. The land had been given on lease to private parties for salt making and the lease end only in 2016.

HUDCO

Mumbai may very soon have a 'city within a city' spread over 5,500 hectares. Plan includes beaches and water recreation facilities, entertainment centres and amusement parks, corporate offices, residential buildings, golf courses and stadiums and an enterprise economic zone.

MMRDA

To resettle encroached huts, MMRDA has asked the Central Government to release salt pan lands, to improve traffic flow in the city corridors.

MCHI

The MCHI—which comprises the leading luminaries of the building industry—wants the state and central governments to increase the floor space index for salt pan lands from 1 to 2.5 to allow the 'salt pan owners' to carry out construction activity to develop the large idle land.

BUILDER LOBBY

Builders say, "Developing housing on salt pan lands means more areas for development will be opened up, which will, in turn, bring down the cost of housing."

CENTRAL MINISTRY

A group of central ministers cleared a proposal to reclaim 667 hectares of salt pan lands in Mumbai to rehabilitate 42,000 slum families, most of them currently living close to the airport in Santa Cruz.

Development in Mumbai is concentrated and occurs at a 45 degree angle, unlike other cities where it takes place at 360 degrees. This has led to a housing problem. Developing salt pan land wouldn't solve the problem but it would help in easing it.

MANGROVE PARK

The project was first mooted in 2001 and would be the first of its kind in the country. It was initially intended to cover 150 hectares and was then extended to 1,000 hectares of salt-pan land.

The park would help conserve mangroves, revive degraded ones and help prevent encroachment and dumping. It would also give citizens the opportunity to learn more about this eco-system through walks and boattrides.

AARTI C SHARMA

SITE LOCATION AND LIST OF SITE STRAIN

LOCATION OF SITE: Wetlands, salt-pan lands and mangroves connecting the island of Mumbai and the mainland of Navi Mumbai.

OWNERSHIP OF SITE: Land not owned by central or state government. Currently a No Development Zone.

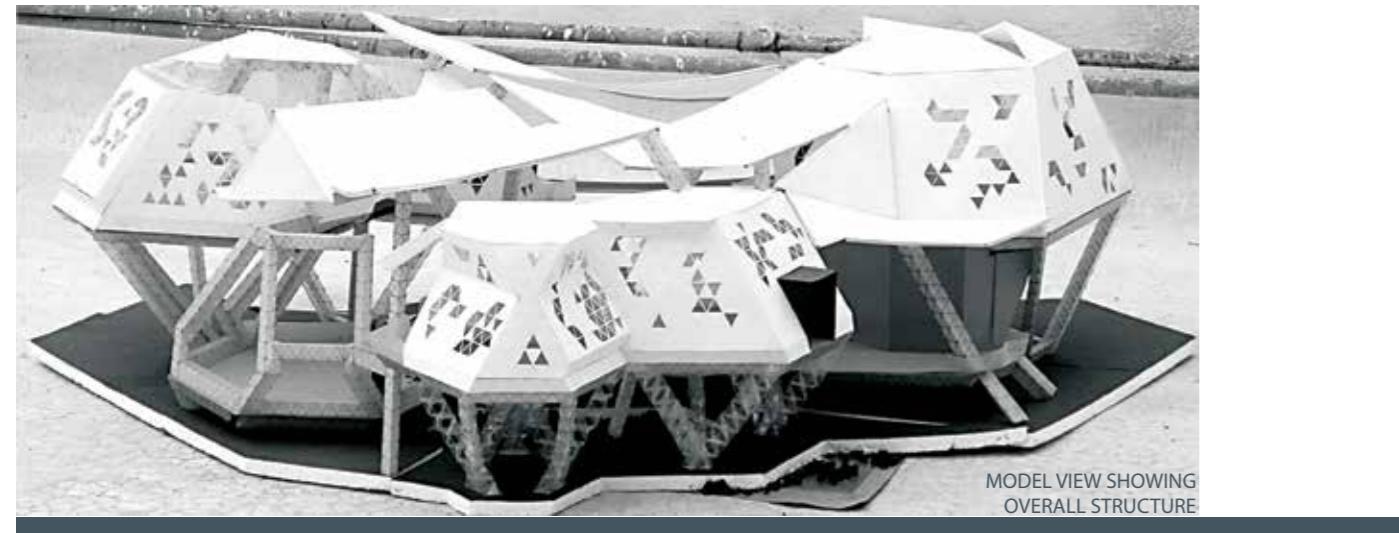
USE OF SITE: Every body of construction or governance, issues its own policies monopolizing the site's reclamation and use; blatantly disregarding environmental and sociological concerns. All proposals are systematic, yet short-lived developments.

C.E.LLS:
GRADUATE LEVEL DESIGN DISSERTATION - B.ARCH (2006)
UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI - SIR J. J. COLLEGE OF ARCH.
LOCATION OF SITE: Mumbai, India

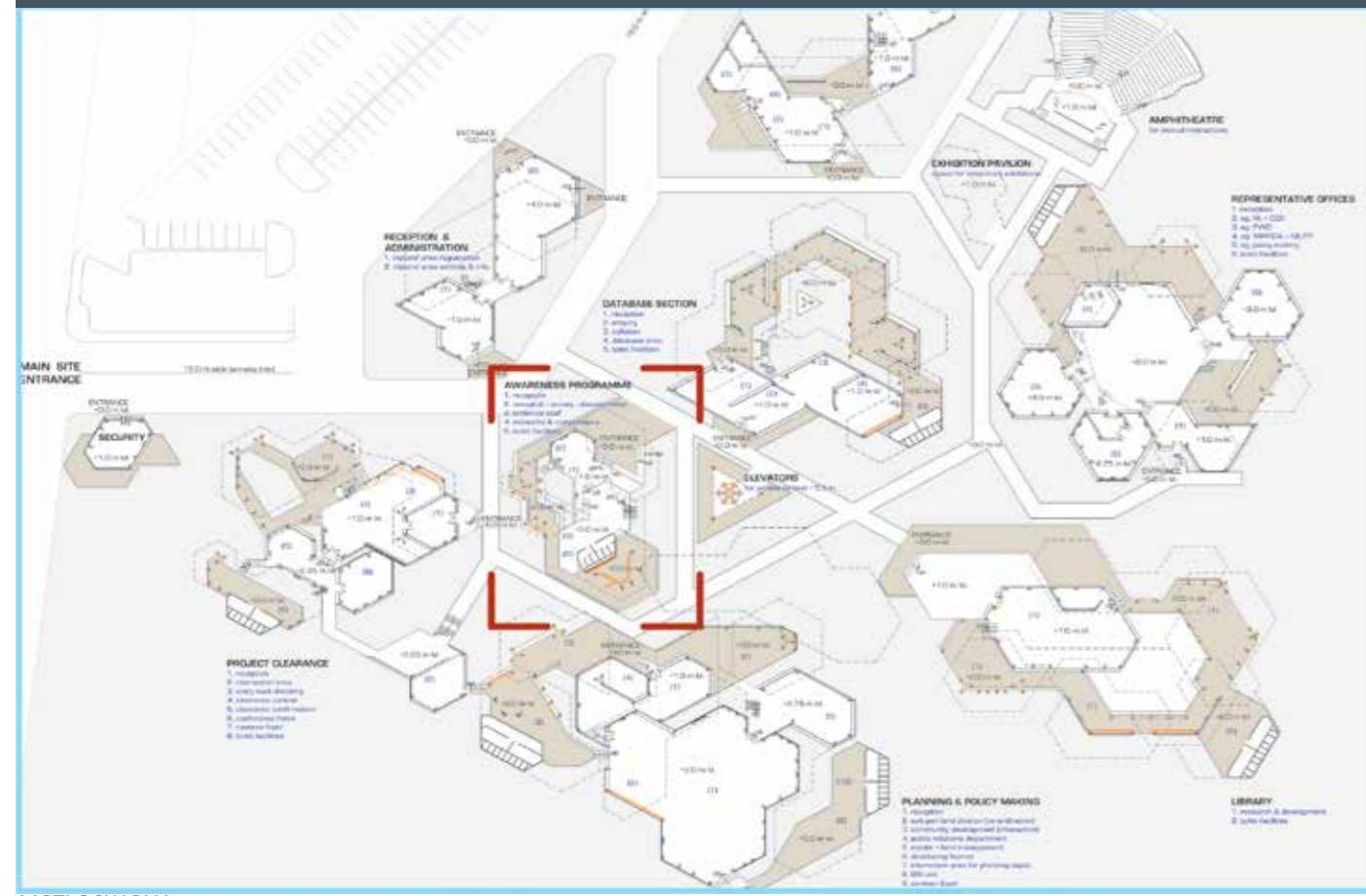
Program study of Gavia Park and structural study of N55 Octet Floating Platform proves alternative programmatic approaches, as well as the simple modularity and self-supporting strength of the octet truss thus, possibly allowing land use without reclamation.

REASON ➤
CONTEXT
EXPERIENCE

SPIRIT ⚡
The design proposal is an arbitrary master plan of the proposed C.E.LLS program, distributing their basic proposed functions. The result is a low-height, flexible, floating sprawl (like a water skeeter) with an interconnected base platform, levels sprouting up as needed.



MODEL VIEW SHOWING
OVERALL STRUCTURE



AARTI C SHARMA

OVERVIEW OF DESIGN SCHEME:

The design proposal consists of an arbitrary master plan of the proposed C.E.L.L.S program, distributing their basic proposed functions.

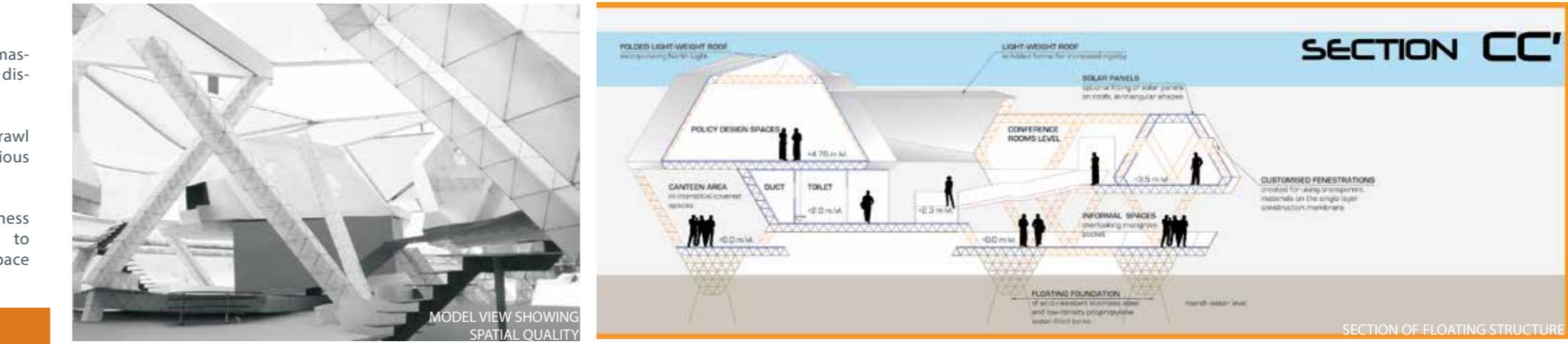
The result is a low-height, floating, flexible sprawl with an interconnected base platform, and various levels sprouting above as needed.

One possible configuration for an "Awareness Programme Department" was fully developed to study the structure, walls, roof, levels and space in detail.

Note: Dissertation was initially critiqued and rejected; but was subsequently ranked highest in score.

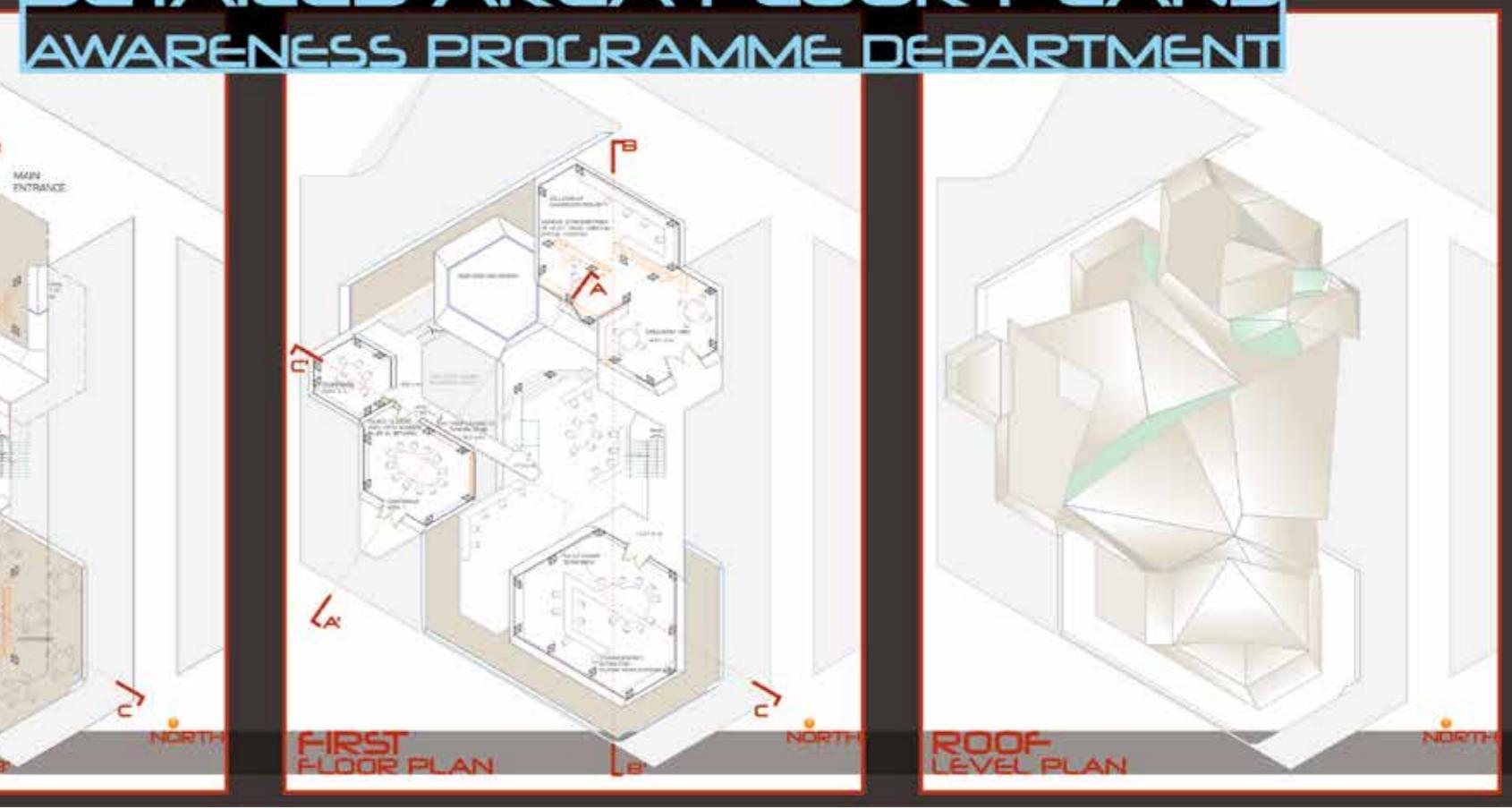
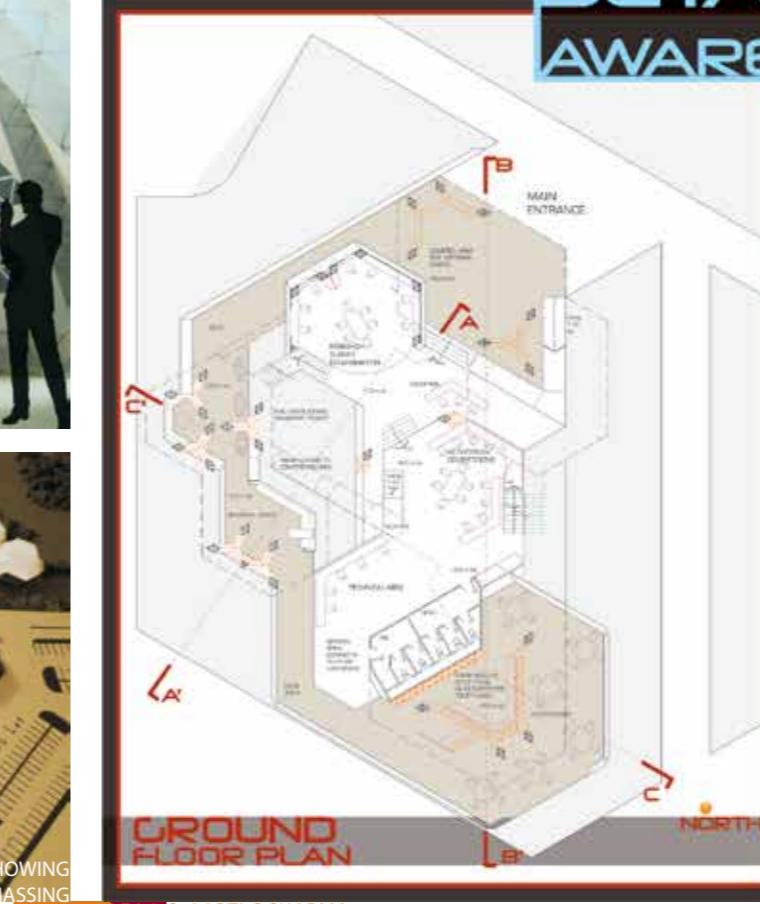


MODEL VIEW SHOWING
SPATIAL QUALITY

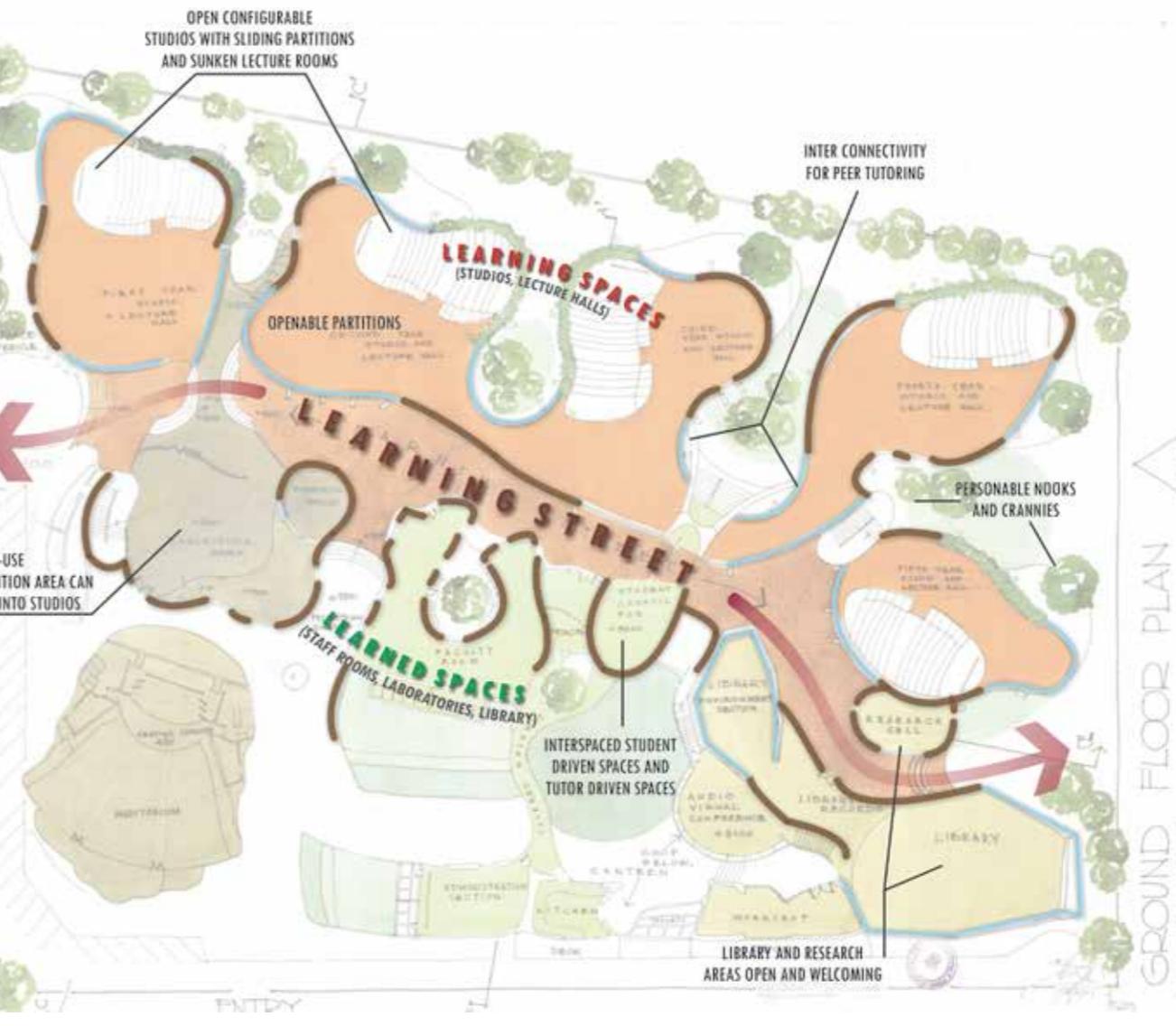
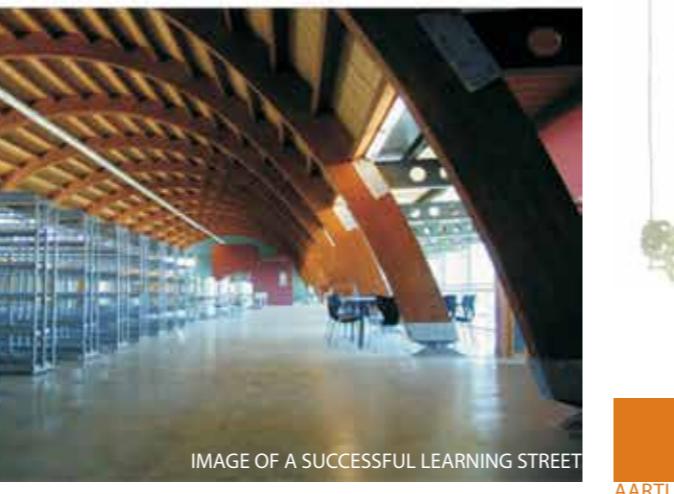
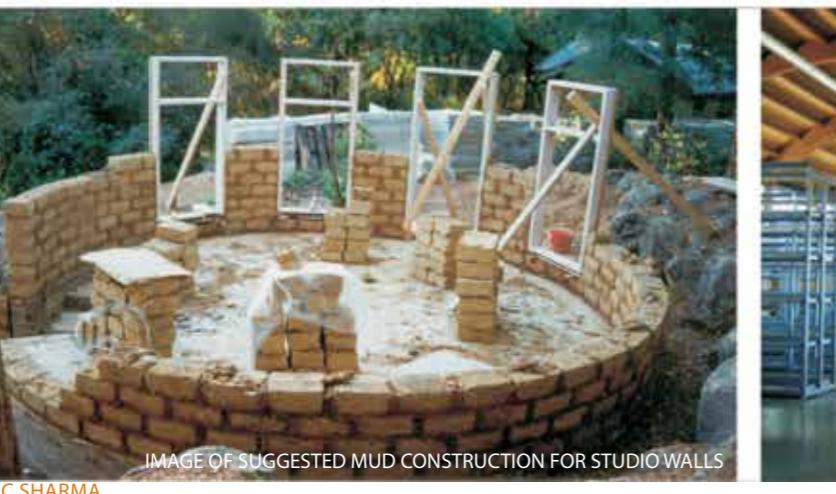
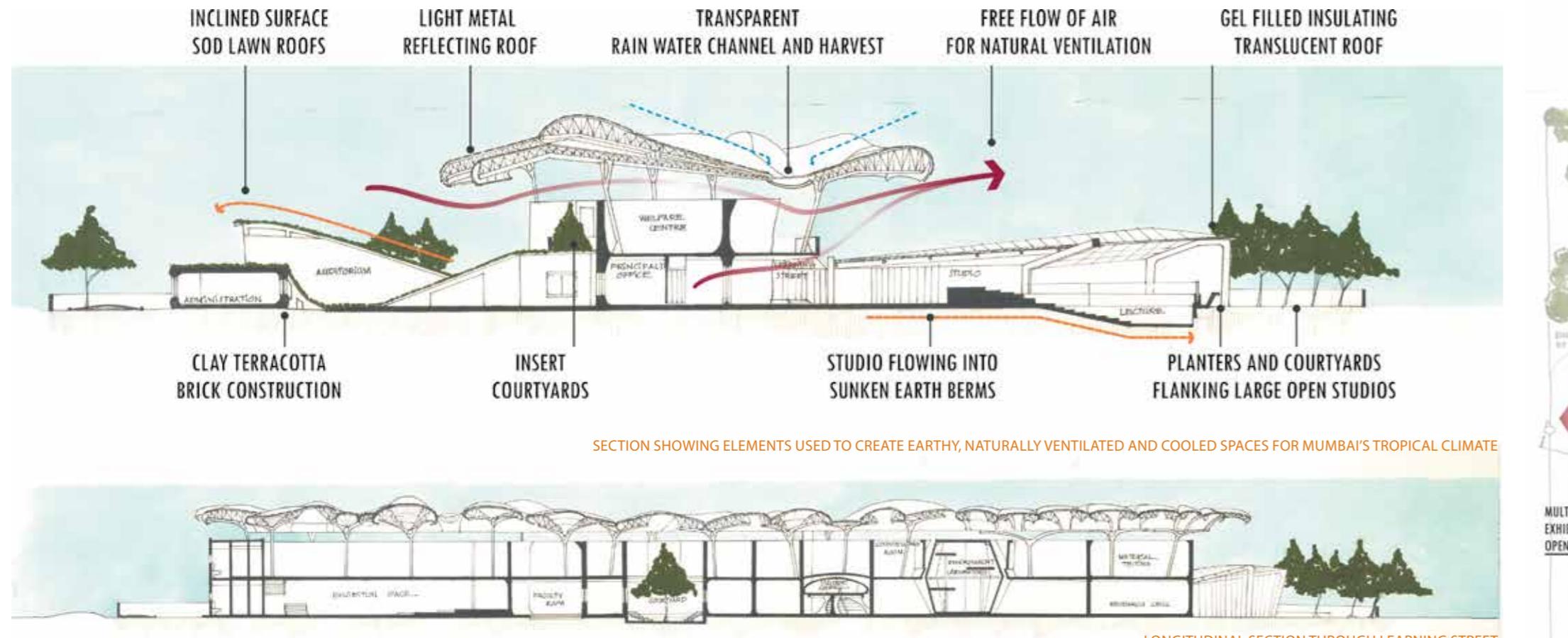


SECTION CC'

DETAILED AREA FLOOR PLANS AWARENESS PROGRAMME DEPARTMENT



C.E.L.L.S: AARTI C SHARMA



GROUND FLOOR PLAN SHOWING DESIGN OF LEARNING STREET BETWEEN THE 'LEARNED' AND 'LEARNING' SPACES, AND OTHER EXPERIENTIAL COMPONENT INTRODUCED FOR FLEXIBLE SPACES IN THE BUILT PEDAGOGY



EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE FOR ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION - Mumbai, India
ACADEMIC - 4th Year, Sir J. J. College of Architecture
INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

Educational Architecture was a studio project of research and design to study the built environment interface of educational space. What type of built pedagogy enables equitable environments for students in an age where classrooms may not even be required to study architecture. Integrate intangible fluidity, versatility, convertibility, modifiability, scalability into tangible built components. Material virtual hybrid school spaces for the flow of information of symbols, bodies and senses. Proportioning static and reconfigurable mobile components for users.

CONTEXT

EXPERIENCE

Incorporating a learning street - the essential idea is to provide a comfortable spine of communication and access strip, in a way that it assimilates in that small journey, a great number of encounters and opportunities to stop for, look at and learn more experiences. Built flexibility could mold students into holonomous individuals who can live and work successfully in a dynamic unpredictable future with their consciousness, efficacy, flexibility, craftsmanship and interdependence, as they actively reconfigure their own space-practice configurations.

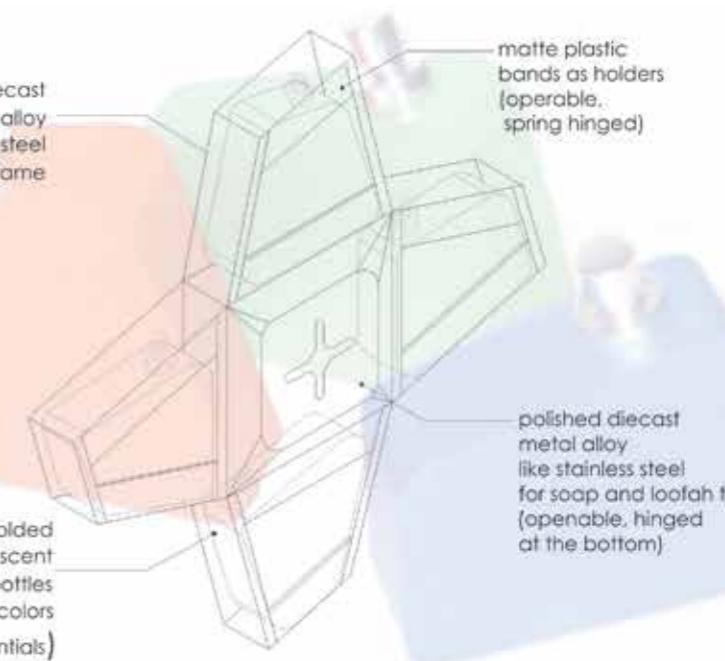
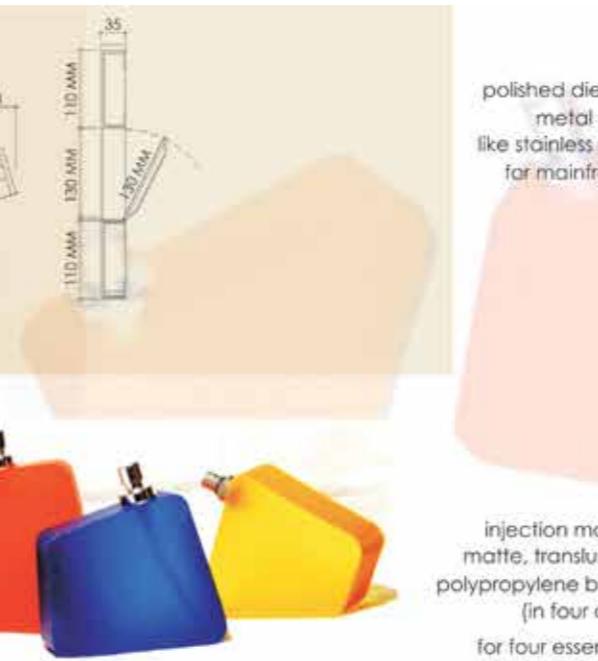
REASON

SPIRIT



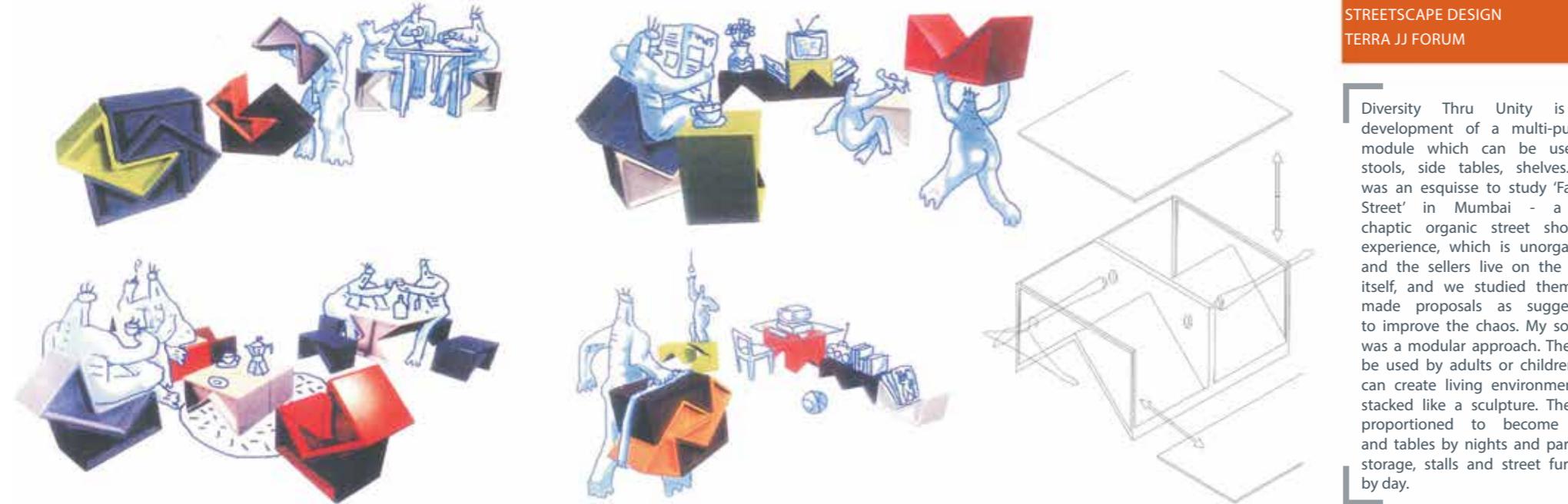
BENDY attempts to offer a high level of multiplicity and flexibility for customizable configurations; as the adaptive capability of a homeless person is much higher than the bounds of a shopping cart. The production cost is extremely low because the manufacturing consists of single mould extruded panels. This configuration offers an optimum tension in the joint for it to be used for various everyday functions of the homeless – it is scaled to become seats, tables, carts, crèches, shelves, street furniture, walls, sleep-shelter. Bendy fosters the formation of a communal togetherness by providing customizable configurations.

BE-NDY New York, USA
PRODUCT DESIGN Competition
DESIGNBOOM INTERNATIONAL



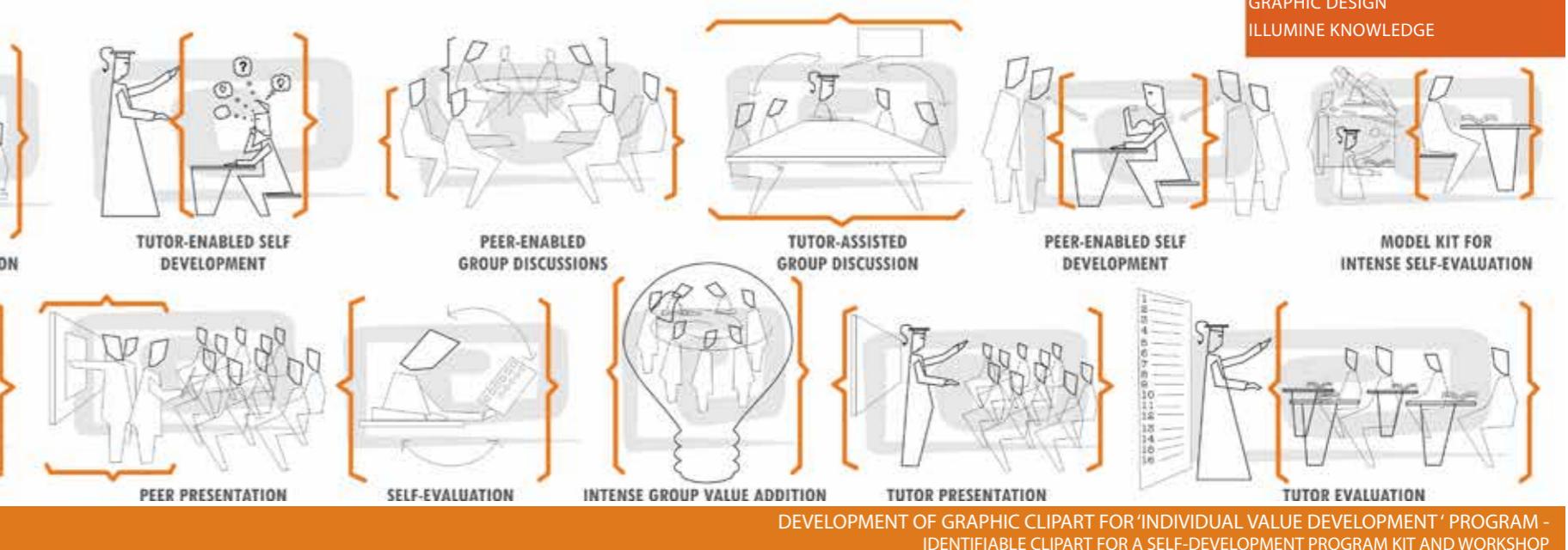
BATHCROSS was a submitted entry for the Elle Decor Annual Product Design Competition for home and lifestyle products (including model). Bathcross was a wall hung kit for four bathroom 'essentials' - shampoo, conditioner, bath gel and moisturiser in a single unit, a die-cast polished metal alloy cross. The four colored bottles could become a product brand, making this a long-run marketable product. The bottles would be injection molded matte, translucent polypropylene. Their form is a geometrical derivation of cutting a different corner of a trapezium to arrive at four unique shapes. The design and model received commendation.

BATHCROSS Mumbai
PRODUCT DESIGN Competition
ELLE DECOR NATIONAL



DIVERSITY THRU UNITY Mumbai
STREETSCAPE DESIGN
TERRA JJ FORUM

Diversity Thru Unity is the development of a multi-purpose module which can be used as stools, side tables, shelves. This was an esquisse to study 'Fashion Street' in Mumbai - a very chaotic organic street shopping experience, which is unorganised, and the sellers live on the street itself, and we studied them and made proposals as suggestions to improve the chaos. My solution was a modular approach. They can be used by adults or children and can create living environments or stacked like a sculpture. They are proportioned to become beds and tables by nights and partition, storage, stalls and street furniture by day.



AARTI C SHARMA

