FLŌT, An Offshore Community – Transportation/Communication Centre

FLŌT is designed as a floating community, providing an alternative to land reclamation on the Maltese Islands. The transportation pod is designed to provide a connection between the offshore community and the rest of the Maltese Islands through a ferry service, as well as establish a communication centre for the residents. By making use of electric ferries the project partakes in revitalising the beauty in the tradition of maritime transport, as well as promotes sustainable alternatives to locally used systems. The structural system is composed of a floating steel substructure anchored to the seabed, on top of which lies a parametric timber gridshell structure – the latter of which houses both an internal and external area for users. The structural form of the superstructure was found by using form-finding techniques inspired by Antoni Gaudí, where a hanging physical model is used to portray an inverted form of the real-life structure.