

**Project Title: Reverie of Reflection**  
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**Course: Design 1**  
**Studio Brief Title: MASH-UP**

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In a profit-driven society where productivity is valued more than experience, even sacred places such as a shrine can be used to make money. A dystopian capitalistic future, where everything is reduced to business, seems inevitable. The Reverie of Reflection project aims to transform the Erawan Shrine, which is currently flooded with hawkers aiming to profit from selling overpriced offerings to tourists who visit with sincere intentions of prayer and inner peace. The project seeks to encourage visitors to reflect on the site's past events while offering a tranquil space for relaxation and contemplation.

Looking back at how people lived reveals the beauty of cultural diversity. Inspired by this, I began the Reverie of Reflection project by gathering cultural accessories. After analyzing them thoroughly, I discovered that these objects not only hold profound historical and cultural significance but are also embedded with a sense of spirituality in their creation.

Spirituality, faith, and belief are integral to human nature. Yet, throughout history, our inherent desire for more has often taken a troubling turn. As society evolves, productivity and profit are now prioritized over the experience of living. In the past, people dedicated time to meticulous craftsmanship, but today, life is rushed, and constant exposure to advertisements leaves little room for such laborious, meaningful creation.

The Erawan Shrine in Bangkok, Thailand, is a perfect representation of spirituality in a capitalistic society. Located in the city center amidst shopping malls and hotels, it is the intersection of two very different ideas. My goal is to design a space that provides a relaxing getaway from the bustling commercialized environment. To uphold the integrity of spirituality, the space will eliminate all transactions, including offerings to the shrine. This removal of interaction stems from the idea of integrity in spirituality; that is, if you truly believe in connecting with the higher power and wish for inner fulfillment, no such items would be required to do so.

Additionally, the project celebrates cultural diversity by incorporating elements from various cultures into the design, honoring the diverse visitors who come to the shrine. At the same time, it integrates original elements of the site, respecting its historical and spiritual significance. This transformation aims to create a space for reflection and contemplation, free from commercial distractions, while honoring the rich cultural and spiritual heritage that the shrine represents.