Decolonizing Symmetry

Reclaiming Architectural Narratives through Augmented Reality

- Group Members -

Theerissara Tweesri - 6538046025   Chayutpon Jirajaturapak - 6538020725   Kanyapat Pisarn - 6538005325

Pannarie Kittisasikultorn - 6538059225   Pat Bharasarn - 6538089025   Nishapat Sawangkokgruad - 6538038025

Natthaphat Chotananwut - 6538037425   Pitchayapa Wongvitaya - 6538132325   Praewa Sirimoung - 6438104725

Lalitsinee Tungkaserawong - 6538102525   Ratchanont Subjaroenporn - 6538099325

In design disciplines like architecture, we tend to switch between the space of our thoughts, of ideas and the tangible space of matter and gravity. Humankind created a space that is at the intersection of physical space and the space of ideas. This space is both: it represents a physical reality as well as a conceptual one. This virtual-physical space, or Augmented Reality, needs to be designed and is asking for design skills for which there is no blueprint yet for.
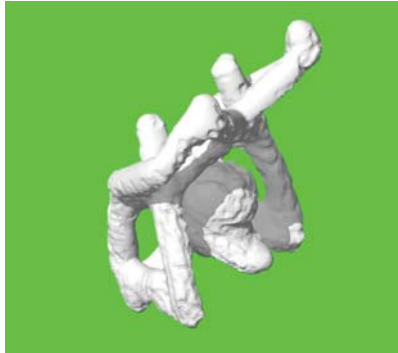
In the DEX INDA studio workshop, we were interrogating workflows of sketching in Augmented Reality to life size scale. That meant being in the situation: on site, in the moment, connected with yourself and the mobile digital tools. The results are a new kind of work, *"a hybrid between sketch and realisation."* They are both at the same time: a fleeting, quick idea, and a manifestation of form in reality. We are all colonized by systems and principles of necessity and utility. In order to shed ourselves from these principles, we were guided by the notion that Augmented Reality is a reflected version of physical reality, yet not a congruent mirror image but rather a prosthetic that completes physical space.

Work + Process
& Selected Location

Site Observation
+ Data/ Material Collecting

Exploring the site to understand its story, gathering materials and details that shape the foundation of the design.

Quick Idea + Modeling

Shaping ideas directly in Augmented Reality, sculpting them into life-sized forms to experiment and refine concepts.
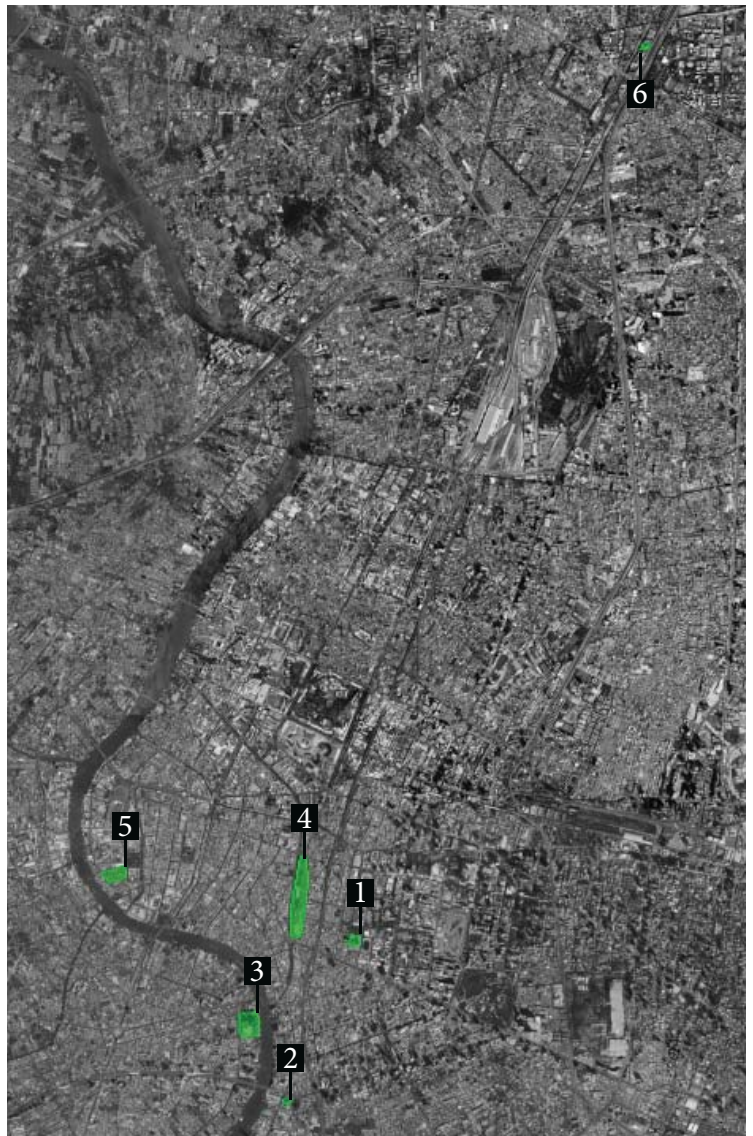

AR Arrangment
Reimgainated Physical Reality

Using Augmented Reality to add new layers to physical spaces, creating designs that feel both imaginative and real.

At INDA's Design Experiment Workshop (DEX), our group explored the topic "Decolonizing Symmetry" through augmented reality (AR). We aimed to challenge conventional architectural narratives by placing AR models in six iconic Bangkok locations: Chao Mae Tuptim Shrine, Ghost Tower, ICONSIAM, Hua Lamphong Station, Wat Pho, and MOCA.

Each AR installation reinterpreted its site, creating new meanings and breaking traditional structures. At Chao Mae Tuptim Shrine, flowing digital forms merged Thai and Chinese motifs with fluid geometries, questioning cultural taboos. For the Ghost Tower, we imagined its rebirth the place. ICONSIAM's opulent symmetry was disrupted by chaotic overlays celebrating imperfection. At Hua Lamphong Station, dissolving trains symbolized fading memories. Wat Pho's heritage met billboard patterns, blending tradition and modernity. And, MOCA's architecture expanded into infinite, ever-changing digital galleries.

1.Chao mae tubtim shrine
2. Sathorn Ghost tower
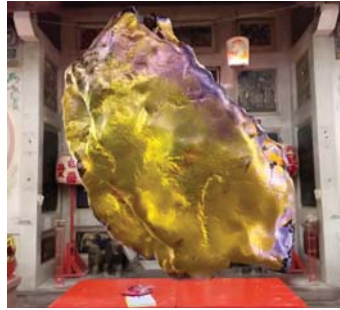3. Iconsiam
4. Hualamphong station
5. Wat Pho
6. MOCA

Location 1 :
Chao mae tubtim shrine
Rejected Urbanization

The Chao Mae Tubtim Shrine by Bangkok's Chao Phraya River is dedicated to the goddess Tubtim. Known for wooden sculptures symbolizing fertility, it draws visitors seeking blessings for love and prosperity. With offerings of flowers and incense, the shrine blends Thailand's traditions with modern spirituality, making it a unique destination for locals and tourists.

SHRINE 01

SHRINE 02

SHRINE 03

SHRINE 04

Location 2 :
Sathorn Ghost tower
De-Symmetry

The Sathorn Ghost Tower, an unfinished 49-story skyscraper in Bangkok, stands as a haunting reminder of the 1997 Asian financial crisis. Abandoned mid-construction, it draws urban explorers intrigued by its eerie atmosphere and tales of ghosts. This skeletal structure symbolizes both ambition and the fragility of economic dreams in the city's rapid development.

GHOSTTOWER 01

GHOSTTOWER 02

GHOSTTOWER 03

GHOSTTOWER 04

Location 3 :
Iconsiam
Hyper-Luxury

ICONSIAM, along Bangkok's Chao Phraya River, is a luxurious hub blending Thai culture with modern design. Opened in 2018, it offers high-end shopping, dining, a floating market, and cultural showcases. With stunning riverside views and dynamic events, it's a must-visit landmark for locals and tourists alike.

ICONSIAM 01

ICONSIAM 02

ICONSIAM 03

ICONSIAM 04

ICONSIAM 05

Location 4 :
Hualamphong station
Infrastructure

Hua Lamphong Station, Bangkok's historic railway hub since 1916, is renowned for its neo-Renaissance architecture and vibrant atmosphere. As a symbol of Thailand's rail heritage, it has connected travelers nationwide for over a century. While its role is evolving with modern rail developments, the station remains a cherished landmark, reflecting the city's rich history and transformation.

HUALAMPONG 01

HUALAMPONG 02

HUALAMPONG 03

HUALAMPONG 04

Location 5:
Wat Pho
Spiritual landmark

Wat Pho, located in Bangkok, is famous for its 46-meter-long Reclining Buddha and as the birthplace of traditional Thai massage. Known for its beautiful architecture, detailed murals, and peaceful courtyards, it's a cultural and spiritual hub that draws visitors seeking both enrichment and tranquility.
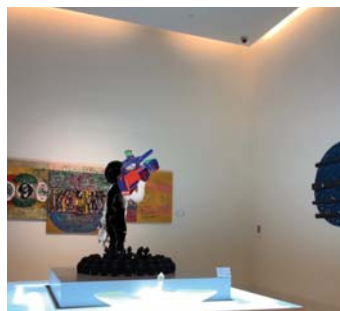

WAT PHO 01

WAT PHO 02

WAT PHO 03

WAT PHO 04

Location 6 :
Moca
Contemporary art

The Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in Bangkok showcases Thai contemporary art, blending traditional aesthetics with modern themes. Its striking architecture and inspiring exhibits make it a must-visit for art lovers

MOCA 01

MOCA 02

MOCA 03

MOCA 04

Through our experimentation of "Decolonizing Symmetry," we demonstrated how augmented reality (AR) can serve as a powerful tool to challenge conventional narratives and reimagine iconic landmarks. By transforming static sites into dynamic, thought-provoking spaces, our project invited new perspectives on Bangkok's rich cultural and architectural heritage. This fusion of digital and physical realms underscored the potential of AR to inspire innovation and reinterpretation, fostering a deeper dialogue between tradition, modernity, and the evolving urban landscape.
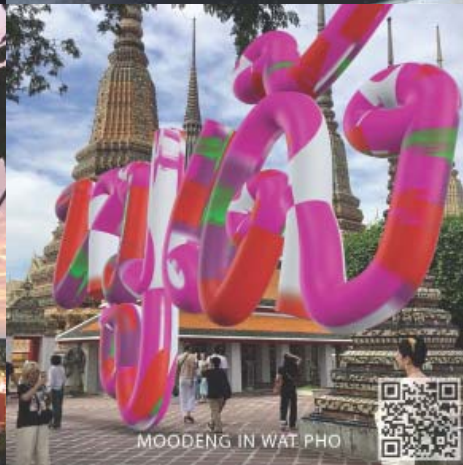
ICONSIAM

ALONE ON THE SEAT

GHOST TOWER

SHRINE
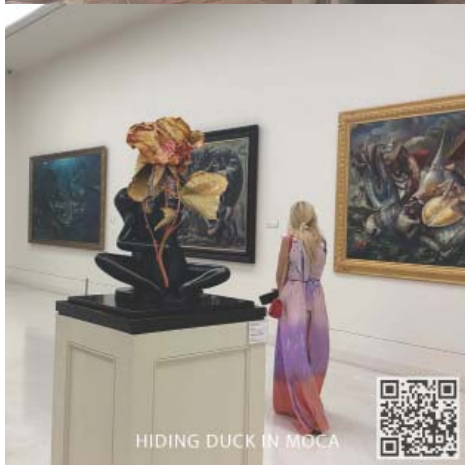

MOODENG IN WAT PHO

BETTER EXHIBITION

SPONSORED BY DIETJOKE

HUA LAMPHONG STATION

FANCY GHOST TOWER

HIDING DUCK IN MOCA

DOOM OF LUXURY

FEEDING BIRDS

AR Narrative Archive

Enjoy a fully interactive experience with
our works by scanning the QR code.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
YOU CAN VISIT OUR WEBSITE :

International Program in Design and Architecture,Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Architecture, Bangkok, Thailand