

# **PROJECT DETAILS FOR FINAL SUBMISSION**

**Project Title:** ELEPHANT'S PLAYGROUND

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**Course:**

Architectural Design 4

**Studio Brief Title:** ELEMENTARY AND THE SEA

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**Short Project Description :**

Full Project Narrative (300 words)

Elephant's Playground transforms the coastline of Phuket into a dynamic landscape where humans and elephants interact in a unique way. It uses sculptural shapes in order to create a network of platforms and paths that reimagine the relationship between species in a playful yet functional manner.

The design creates a human engagement with these forms, which rise and dip above and below the water, creating an inviting and ever changing environment for swimming, climbing and relaxation. Resembling small islands, the platforms offer diverse activities depending on the tidal: visitors can dive, lounge, or sit on these structures, making them integral to the experience. Their heights are often calibrated to the difference between an elephant's stature and a human's, enabling unique interactions from a shared eye level. This fosters a new perspective of connection, blending proximity with mutual respect.

These platforms are also a crucial safety feature. Humans can retreat to elevated areas if an elephant becomes agitated, ensuring peaceful coexistence in the shared space. While humans swim between and climb onto the platforms, elephants traverse the water and weave through the pathways, creating a harmonious choreography of movement.

The forms are designed to evolve naturally with time, blending into the coastal environment through their black finish, which mimics the slate formations of the region. The used material is referring to the wave-dissipating tetrapods used in coastal defense systems. Cast in place after temporarily draining sections of the beach. By integrating these forms into the tidal zones, the project celebrates Phuket's natural beauty and cultural ties to the sea while creating a space for interaction, exploration, and safety.

Ultimately, Elephant's Playground has the purpose to unite nature, people, and animals in an ever-shifting landscape shaped by the tides.