

gabriela garza

ARCHITECTURAL WORKS

PHOTOGRAPHY + EXTRA

ABOUT ME

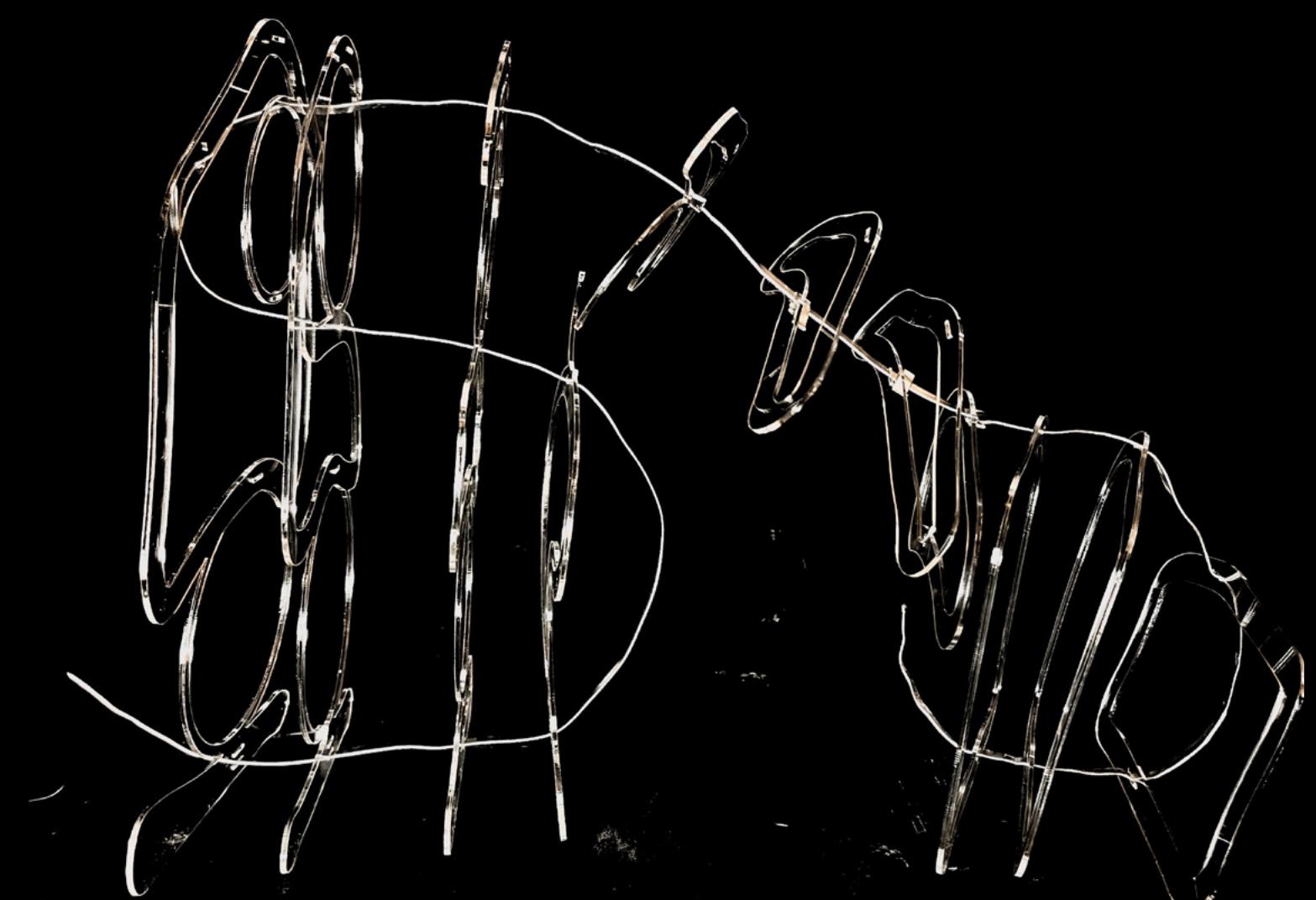
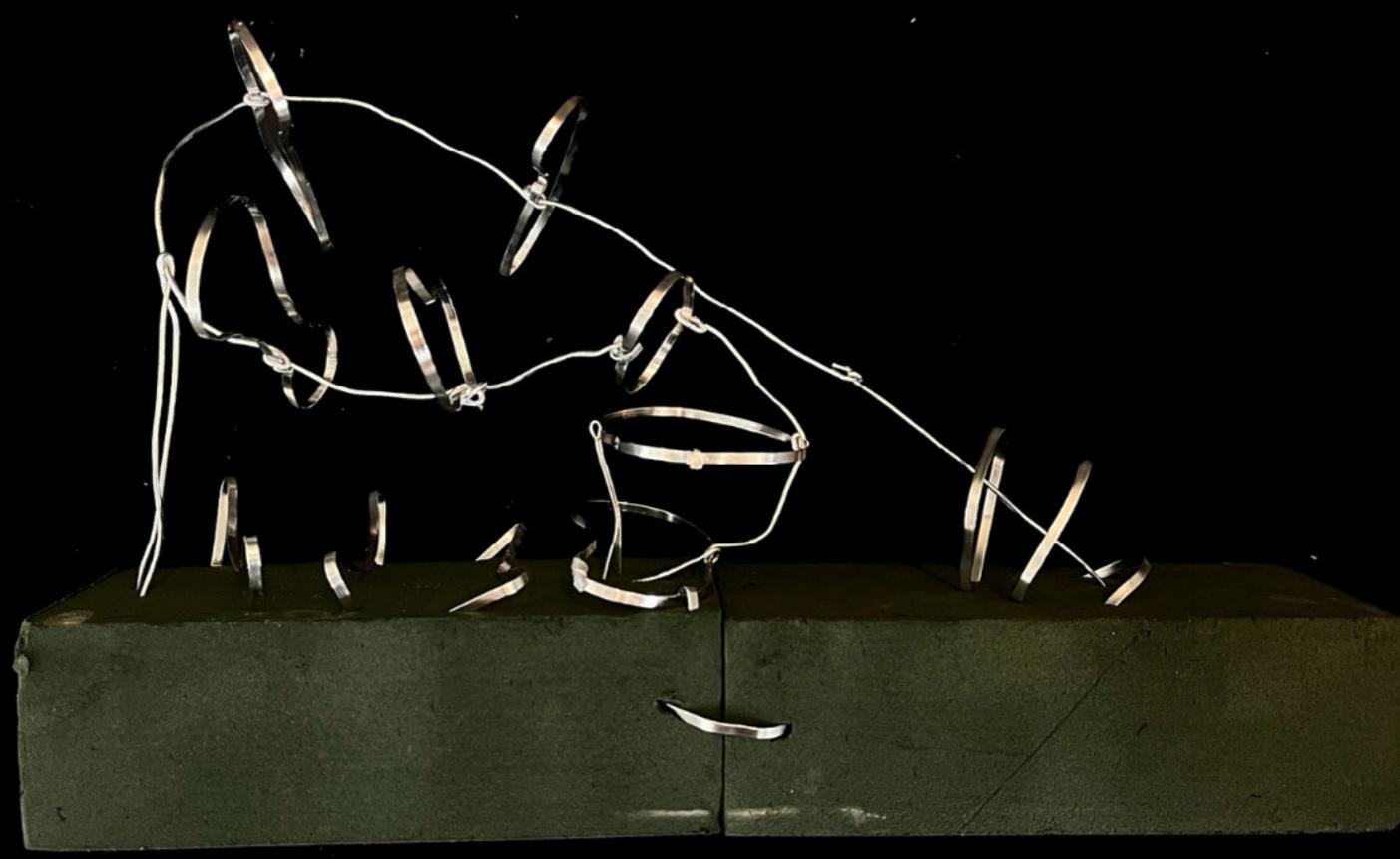
architectural works

This project proposes rethinking Omishima Island in Japan through architecture that addresses the island's damaged landscape, aging population, and social growth.

Inspired by the Scout Jamboree, it explores hand-built, pod-based dwellings located on Point Toyo, a former terraced mandarin grove now overgrown and without infrastructure, the project responds to remoteness while aiming to bring new people to the island. The goal is to create a new model of collective living that connects people to nature and resources.

professor nanako umemoto & billy gargroetzi

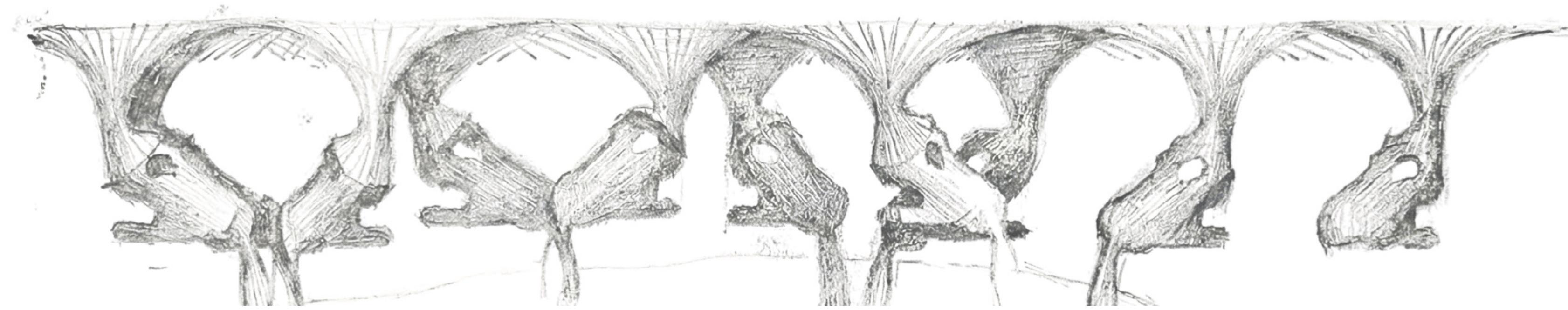
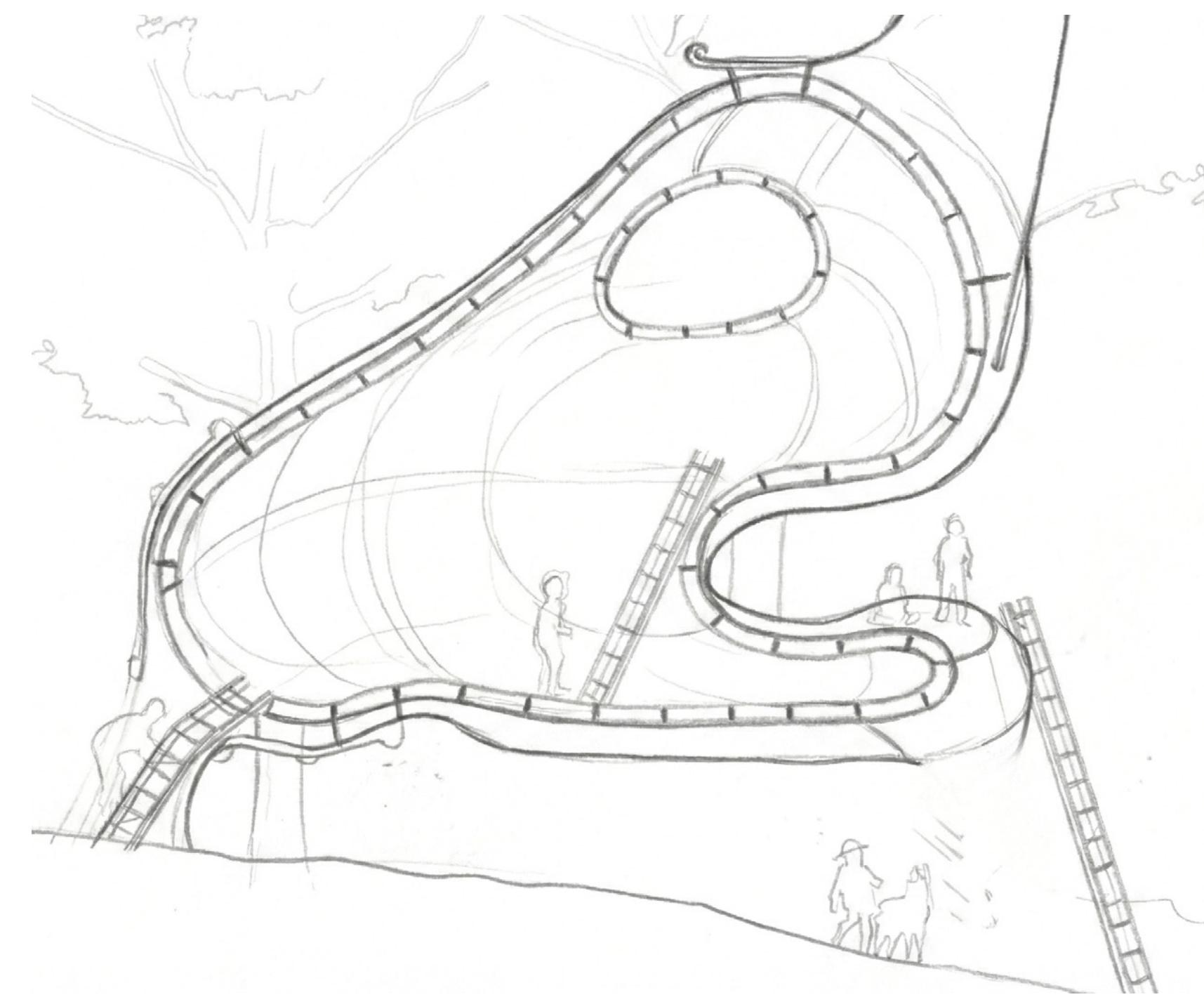
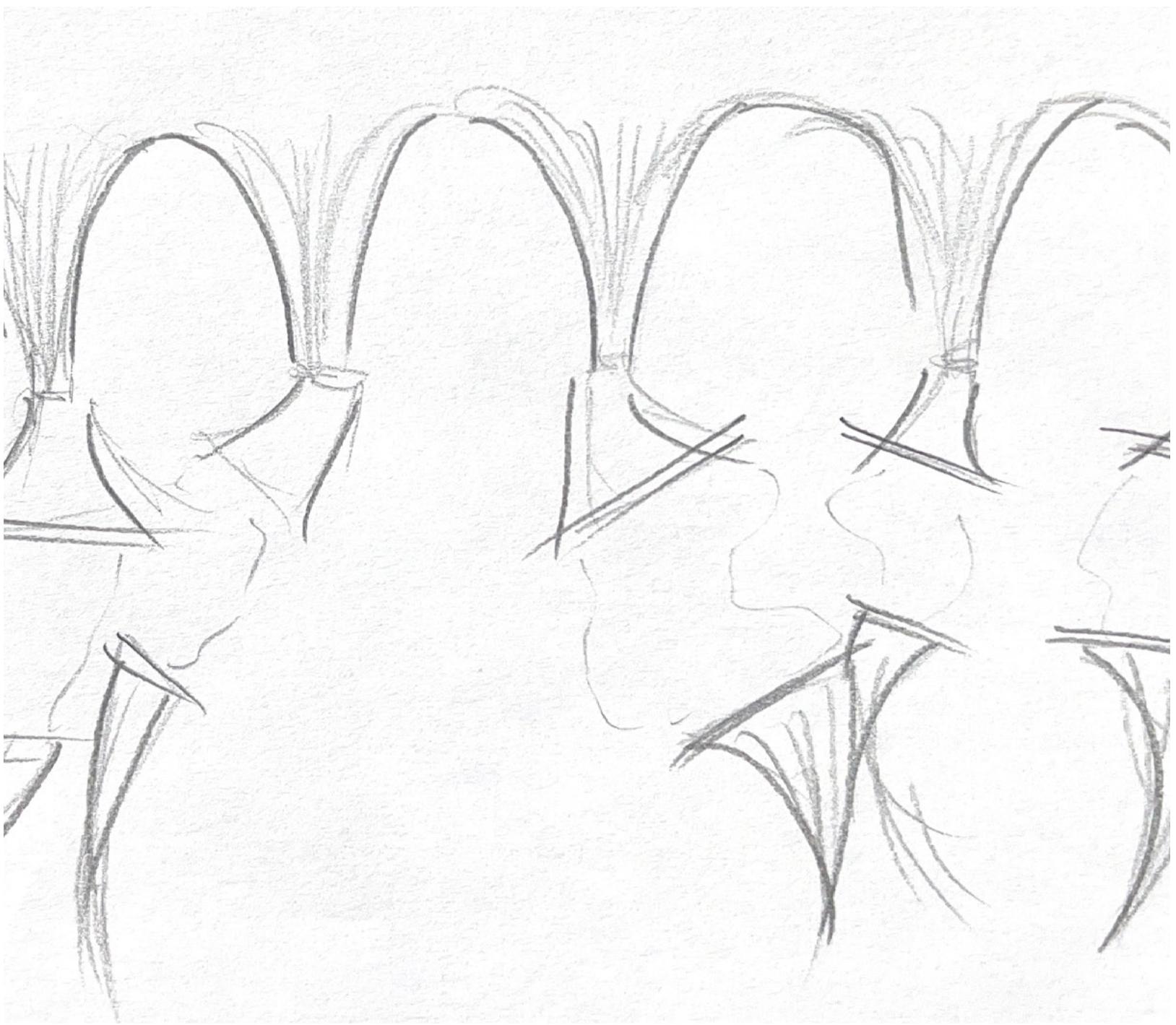


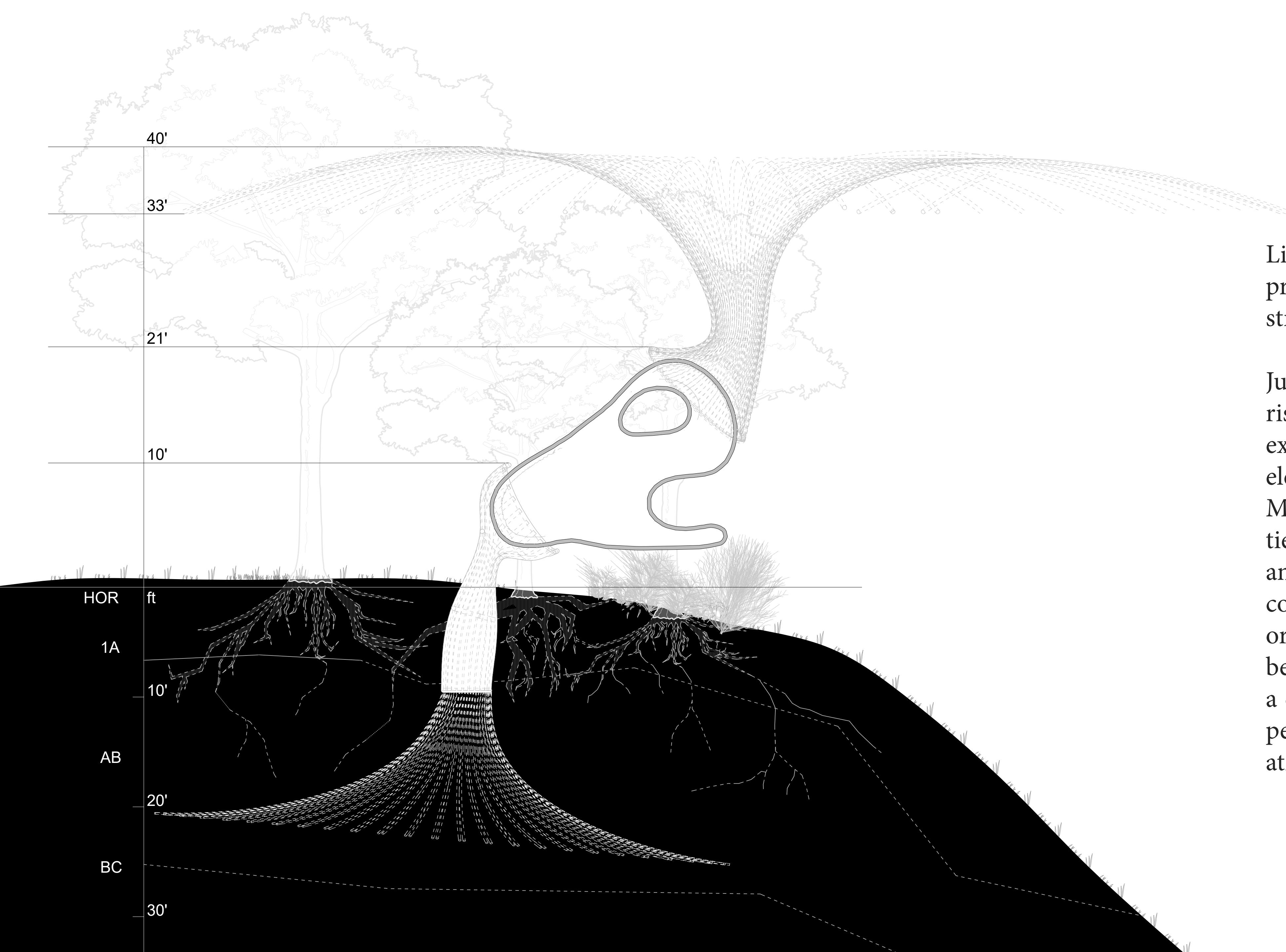




The matcha whisk, or the Chasen, is a small piece of architecture, delicately carved from a piece of bamboo, yet multiplied into dozens of slender tines that bloom outward.

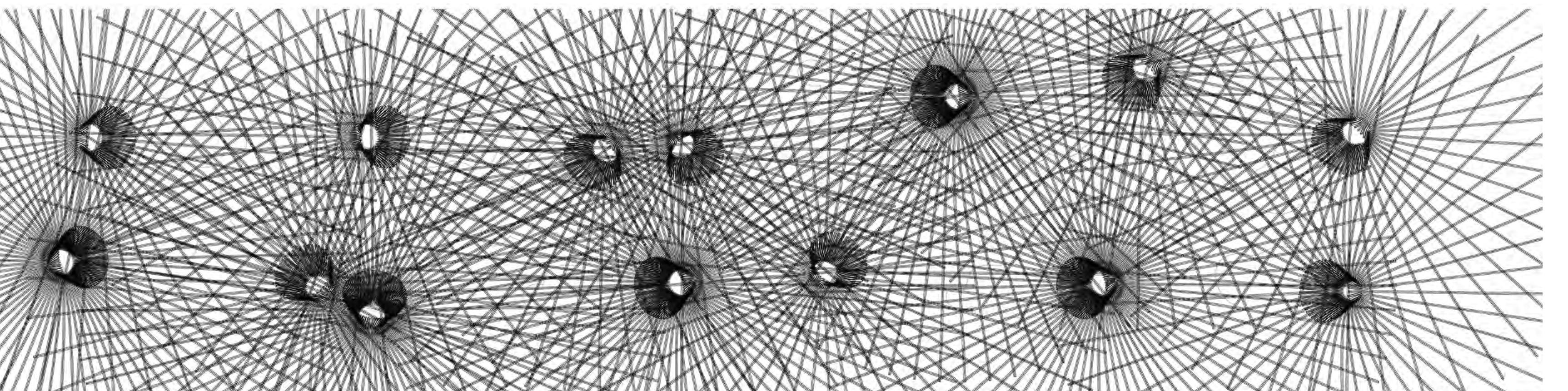
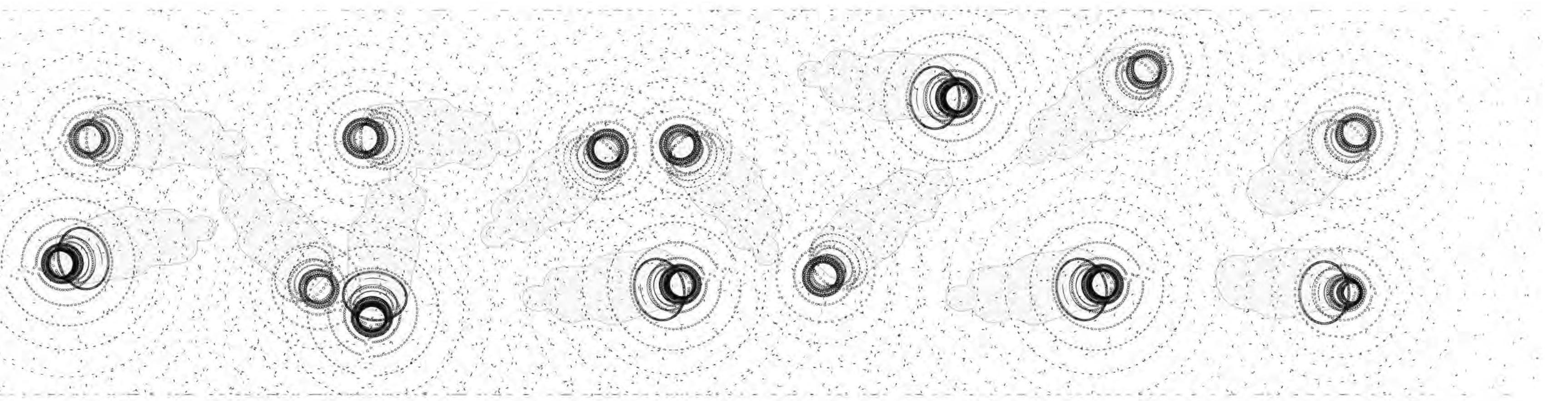
Each hosaki curves with quiet intention, carrying the memory of the craft in its grain. At its base, the jiku stands like a column, grounded, while the musubime and kagarito cinch and tie into an order of thread woven through.

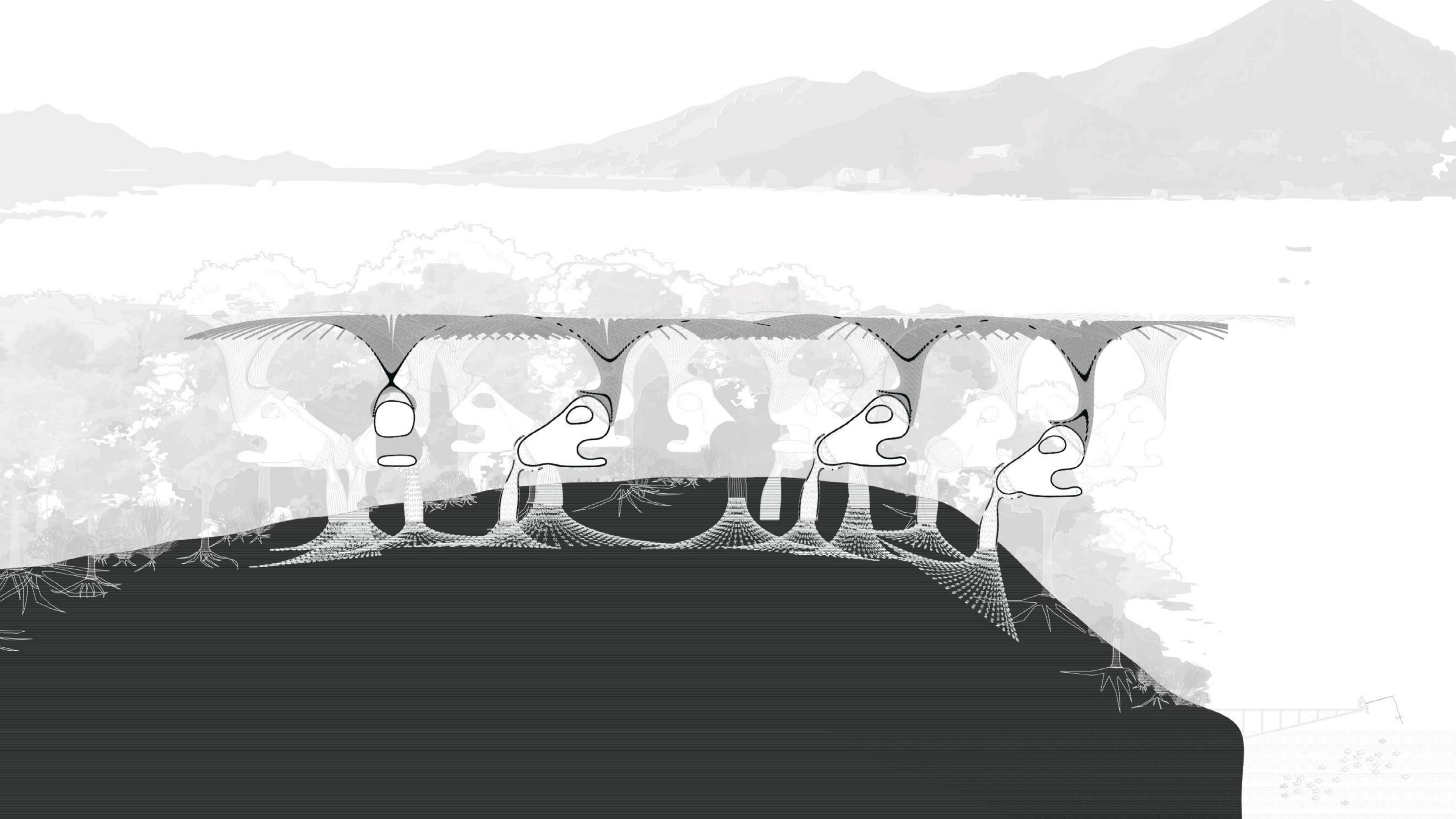




Like the matcha whisk, this same principle breathes into my superstructure.

Just as the Chasen does, the fibers rise from a singular core and expands outward, each structural element binding the moments. The Musubime and Kagari Ito (cinch and tie), become the joinery - the cables and the connective tissue that allows complexity to stand as one unified organism. The hosaki inspires slender beams that fan into space, creating a canopy of rhythm and light, a soft perimeter where structure meets atmosphere.





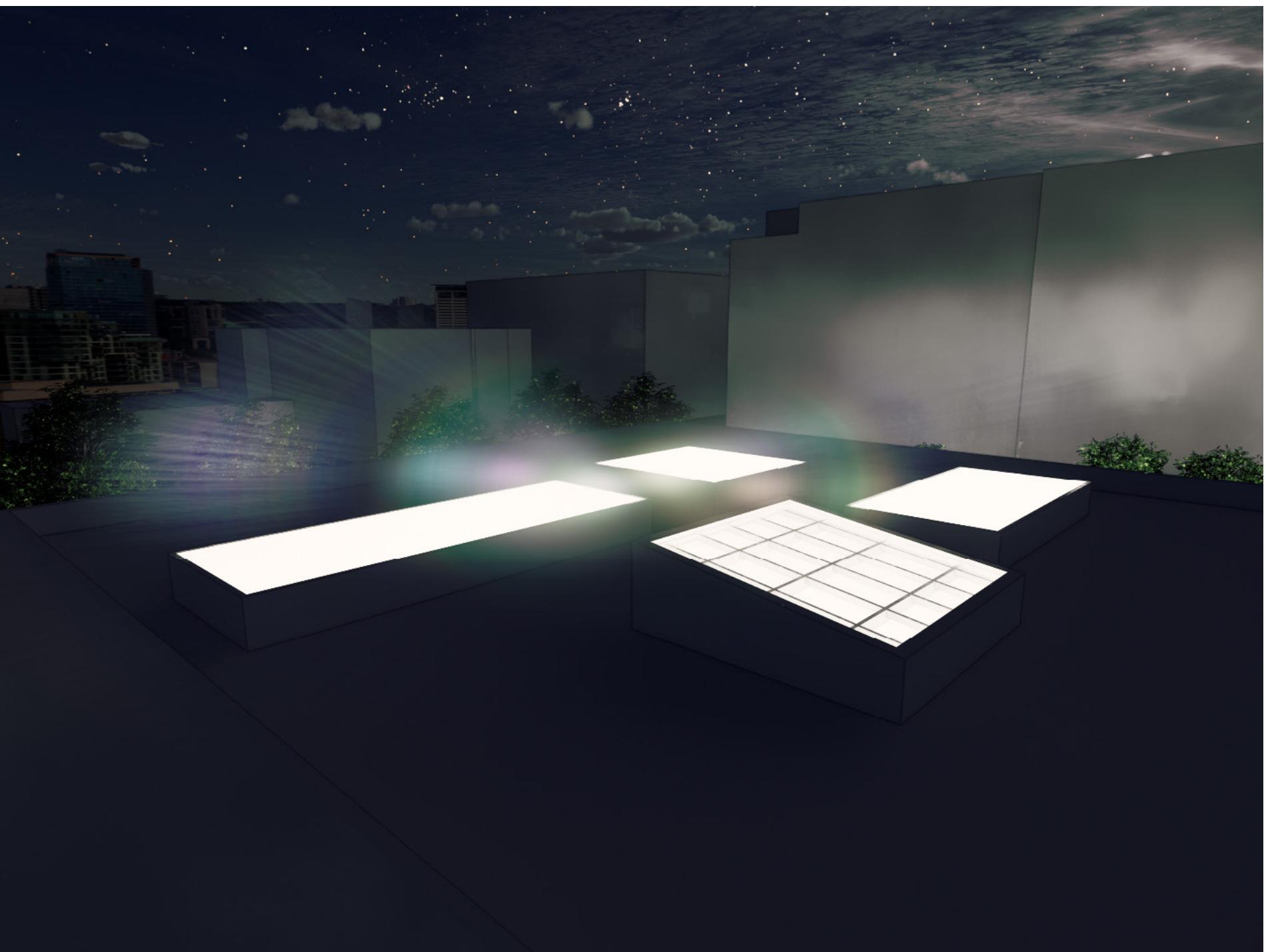


lumen wells

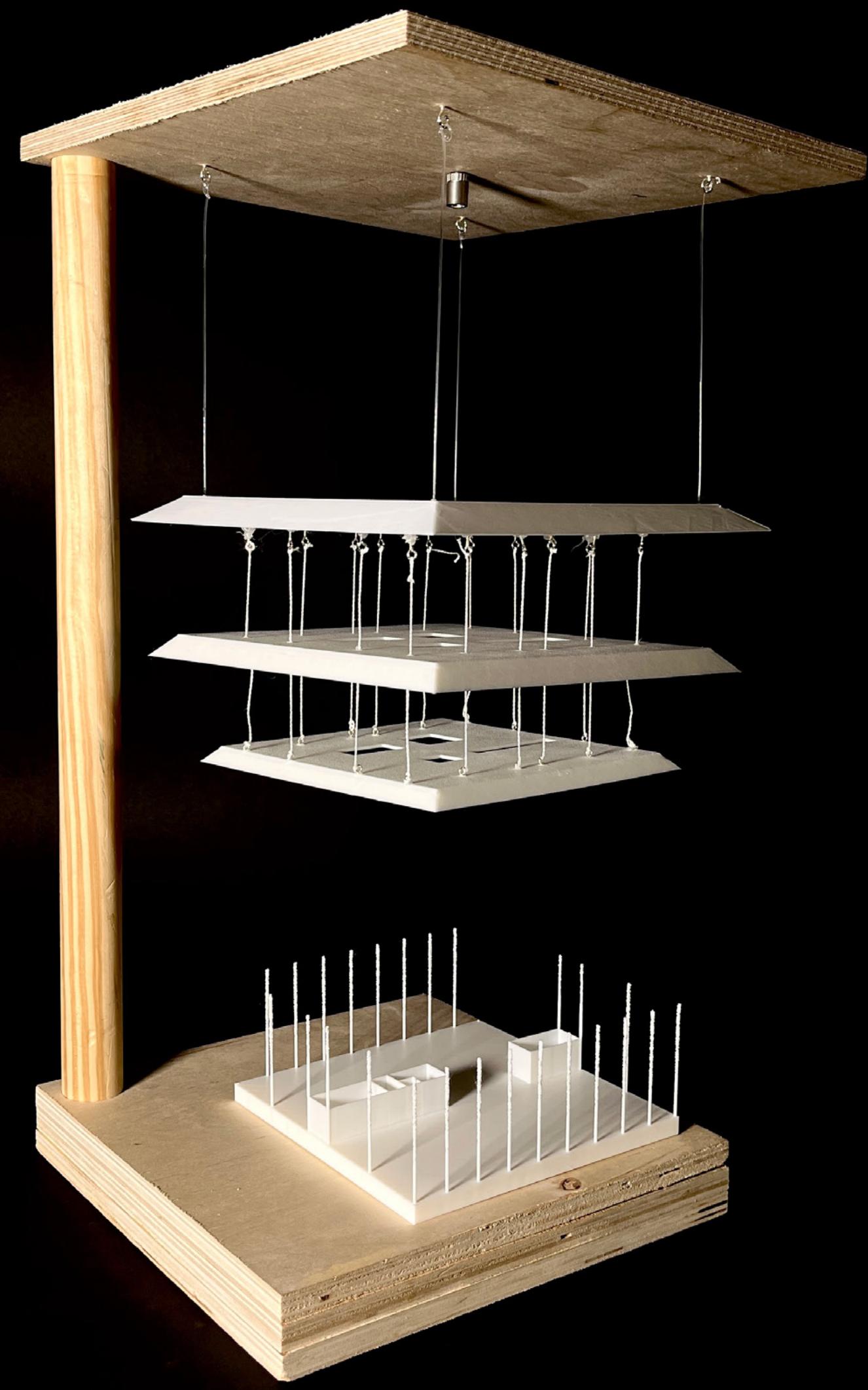
spring 2025 | design VI

situated at the intersection of MLK Boulevard and waller creek, lumen wells is a proposed biomedical research facility for the University of Texas that investigates the evolving relationship between science and architecture. the design responds to the extremes of its surrounding environment while reexamining the spatial and technical standards that define the contemporary laboratory.

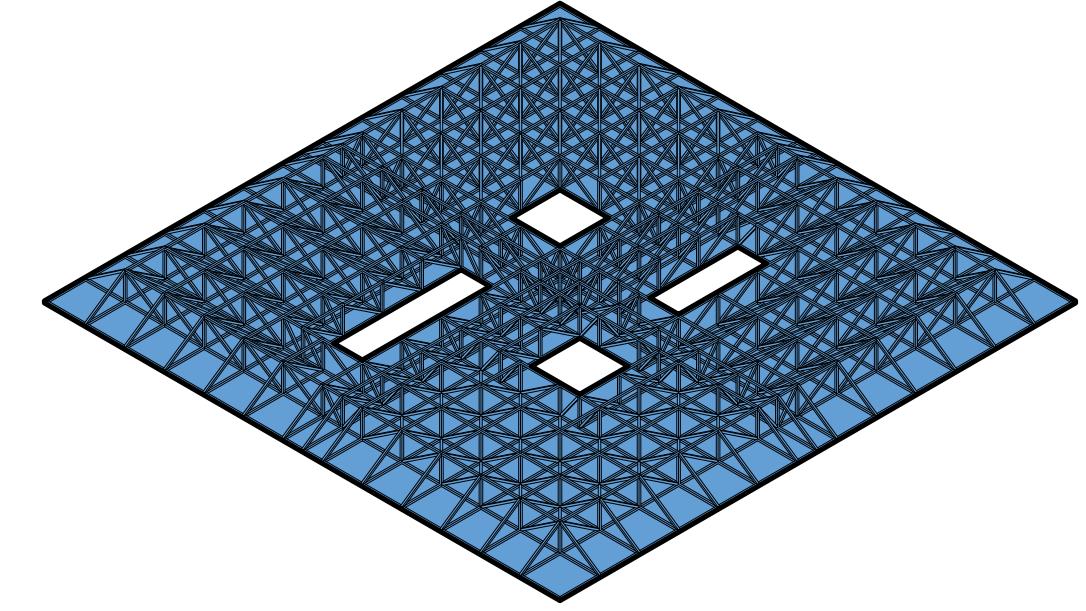
gabriela garza & hannah ongmanchi



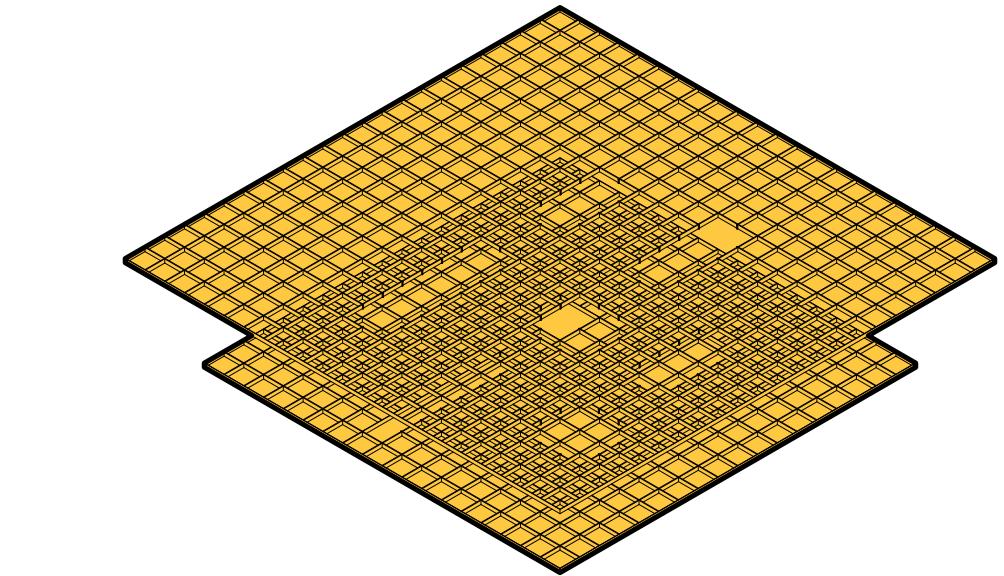




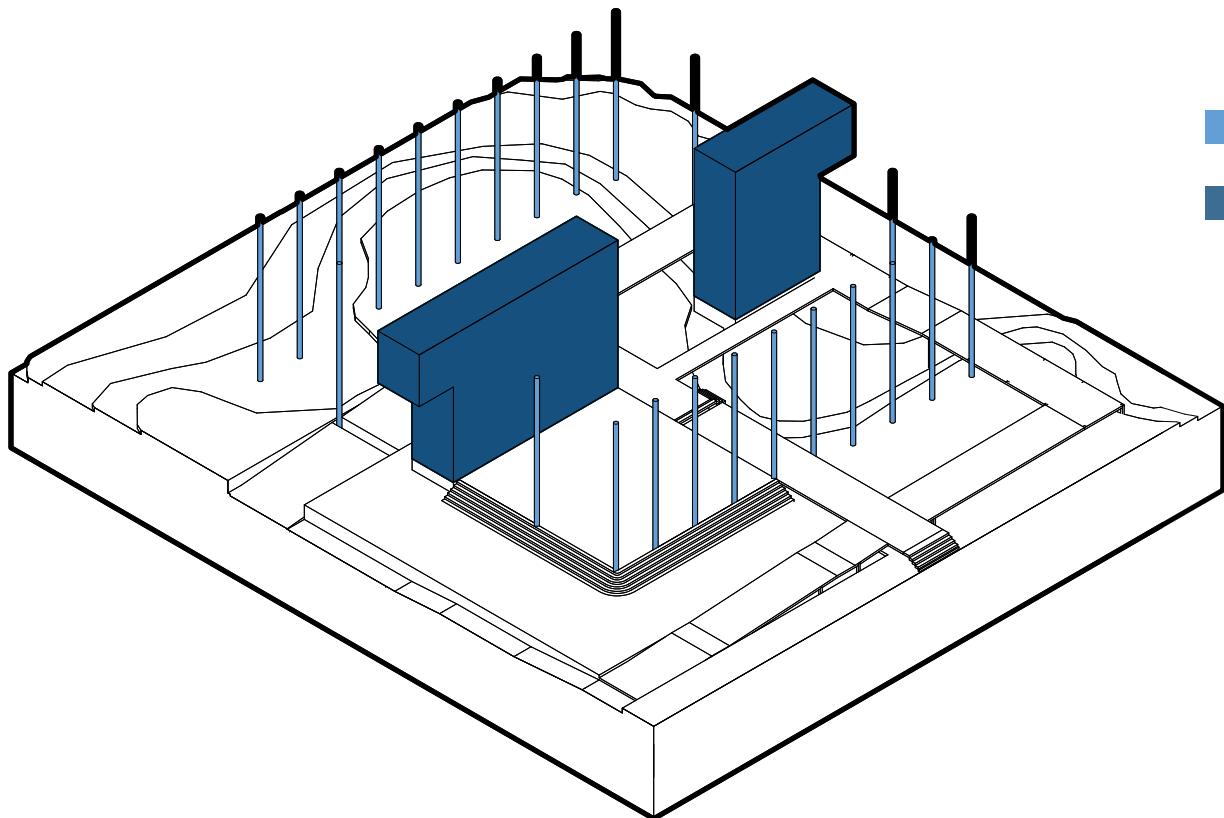




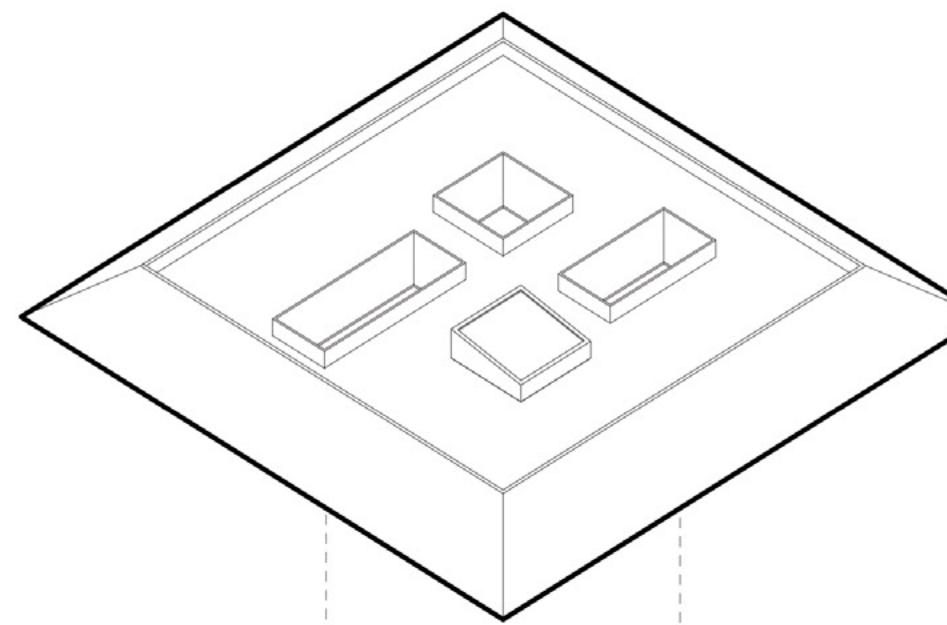
steel space frame



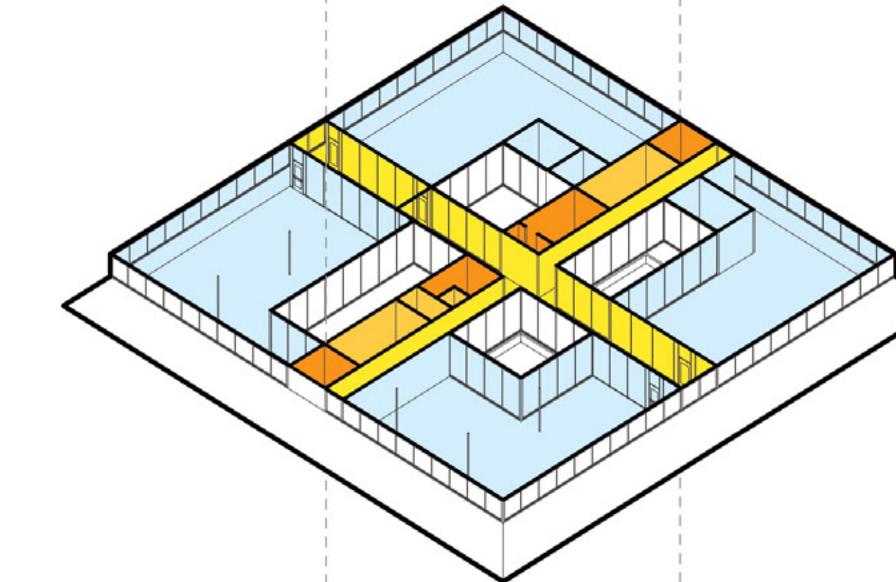
t-bar grid with decking and concrete pour



steel columns
reinforced concrete shear walls

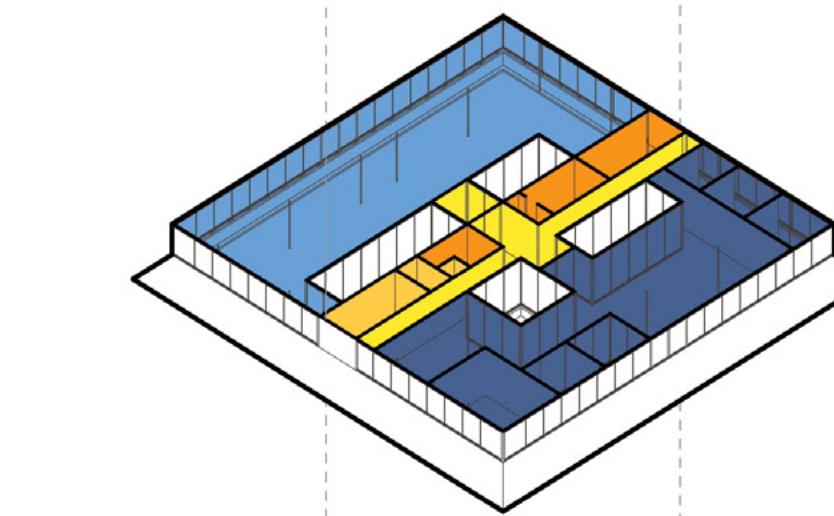


service
vertical circulation
horizontal circulation

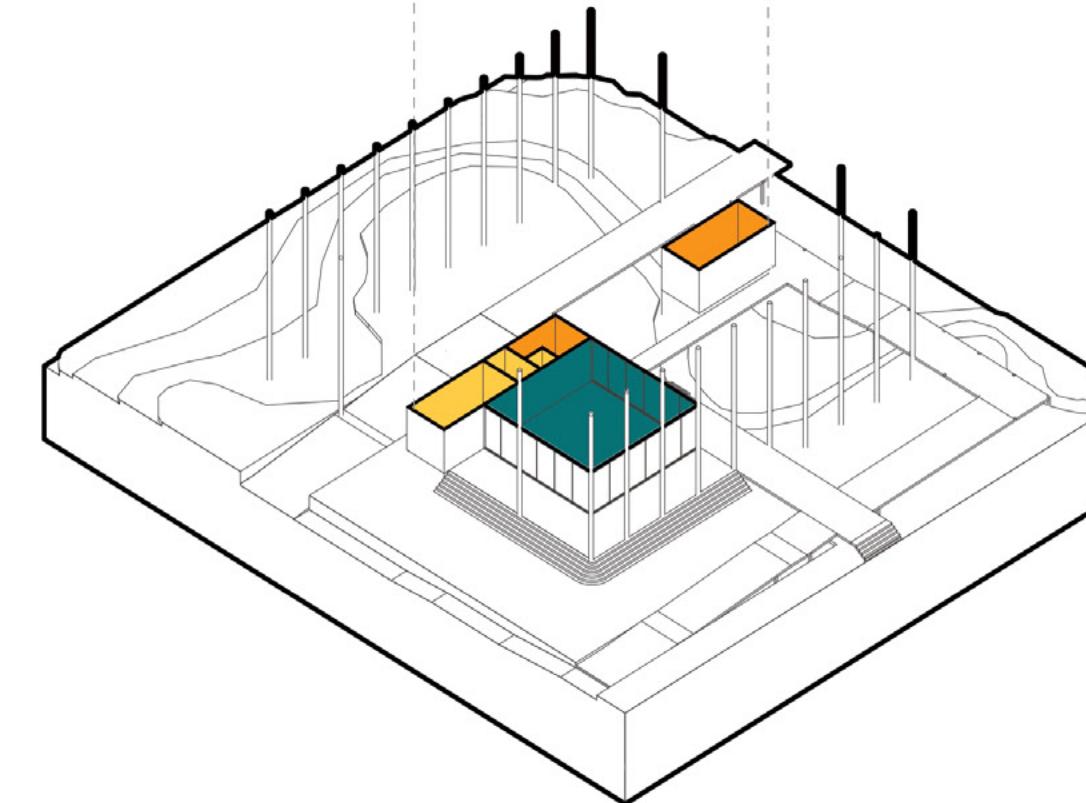


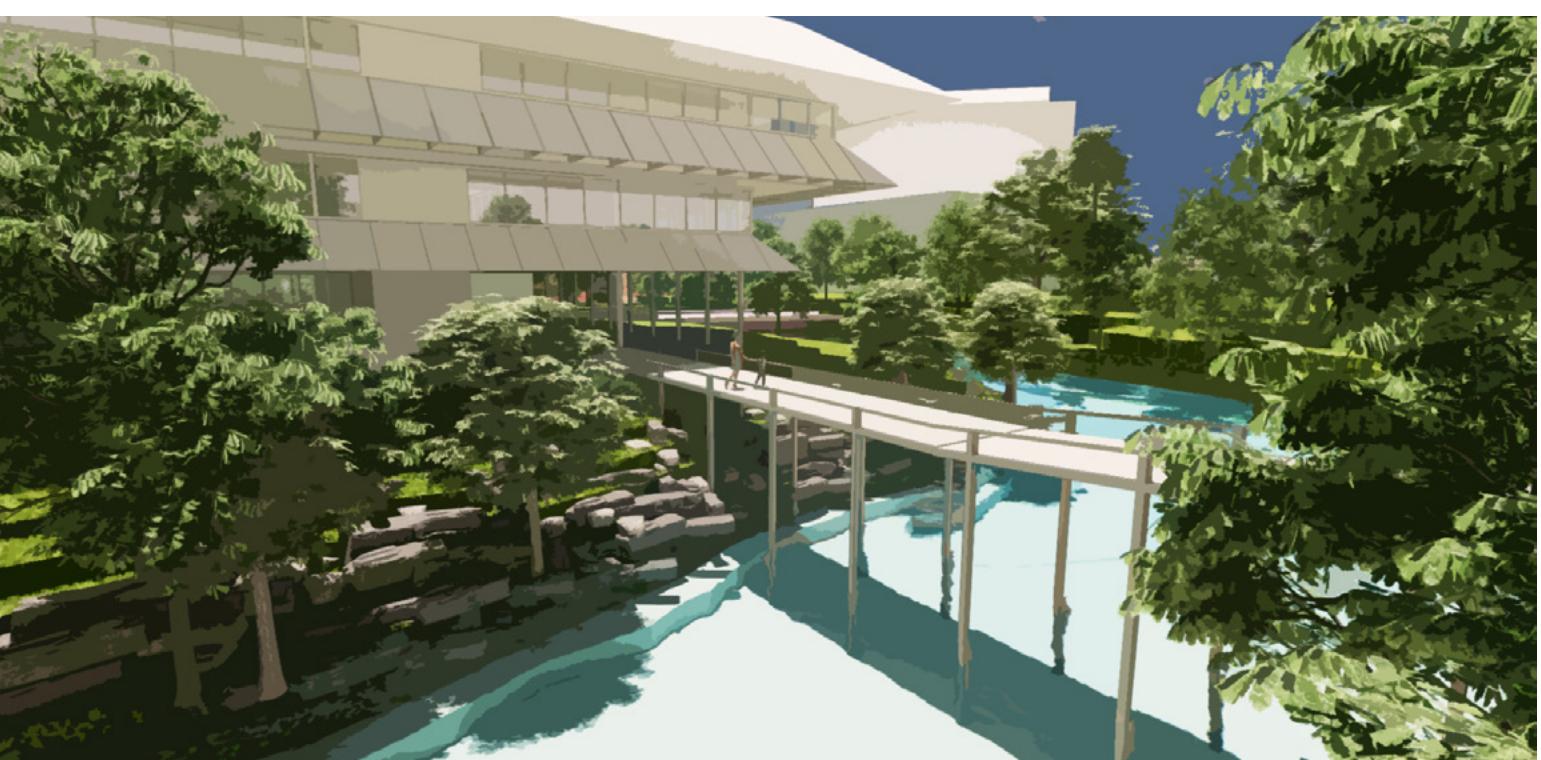
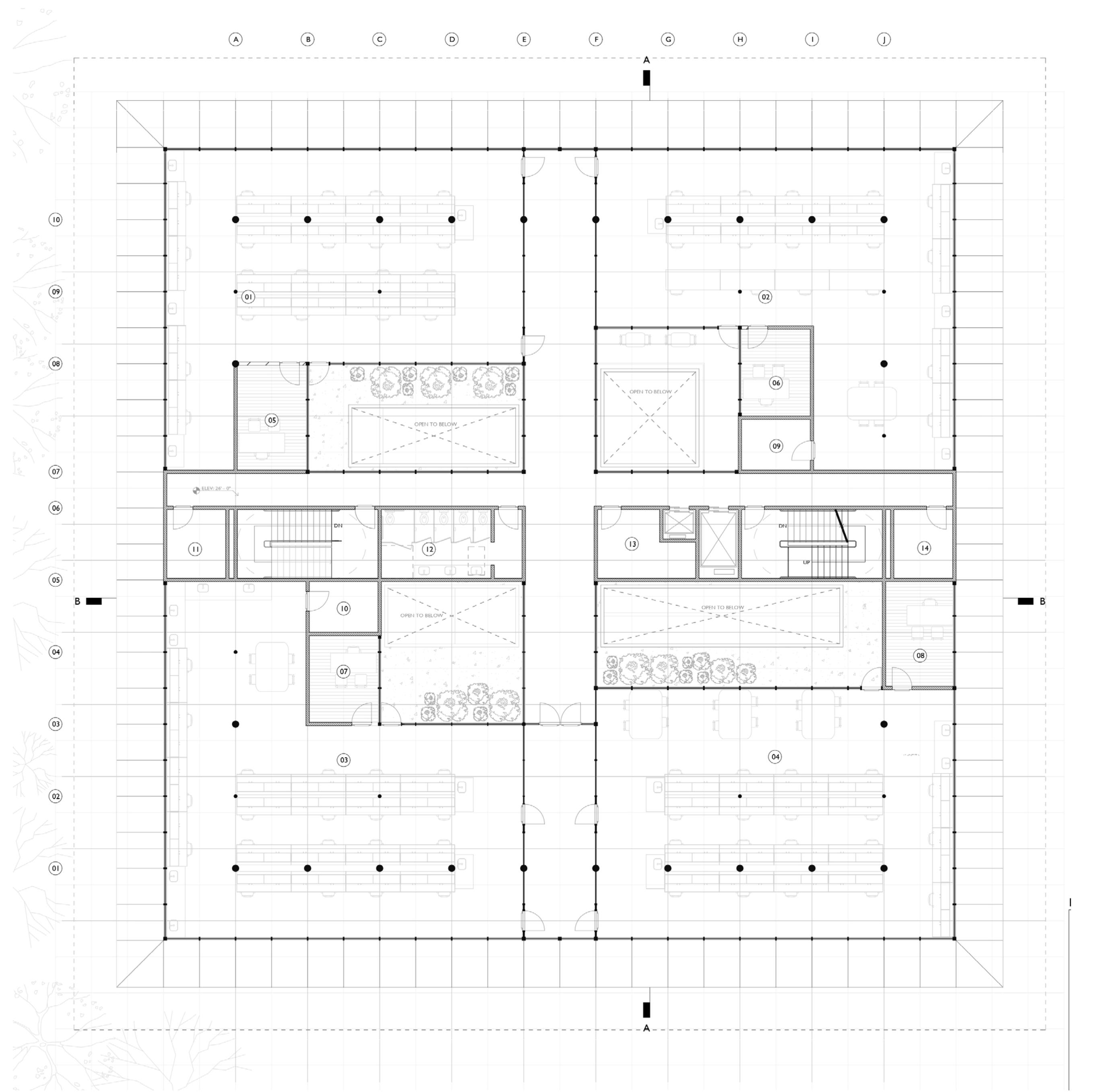
laboratories

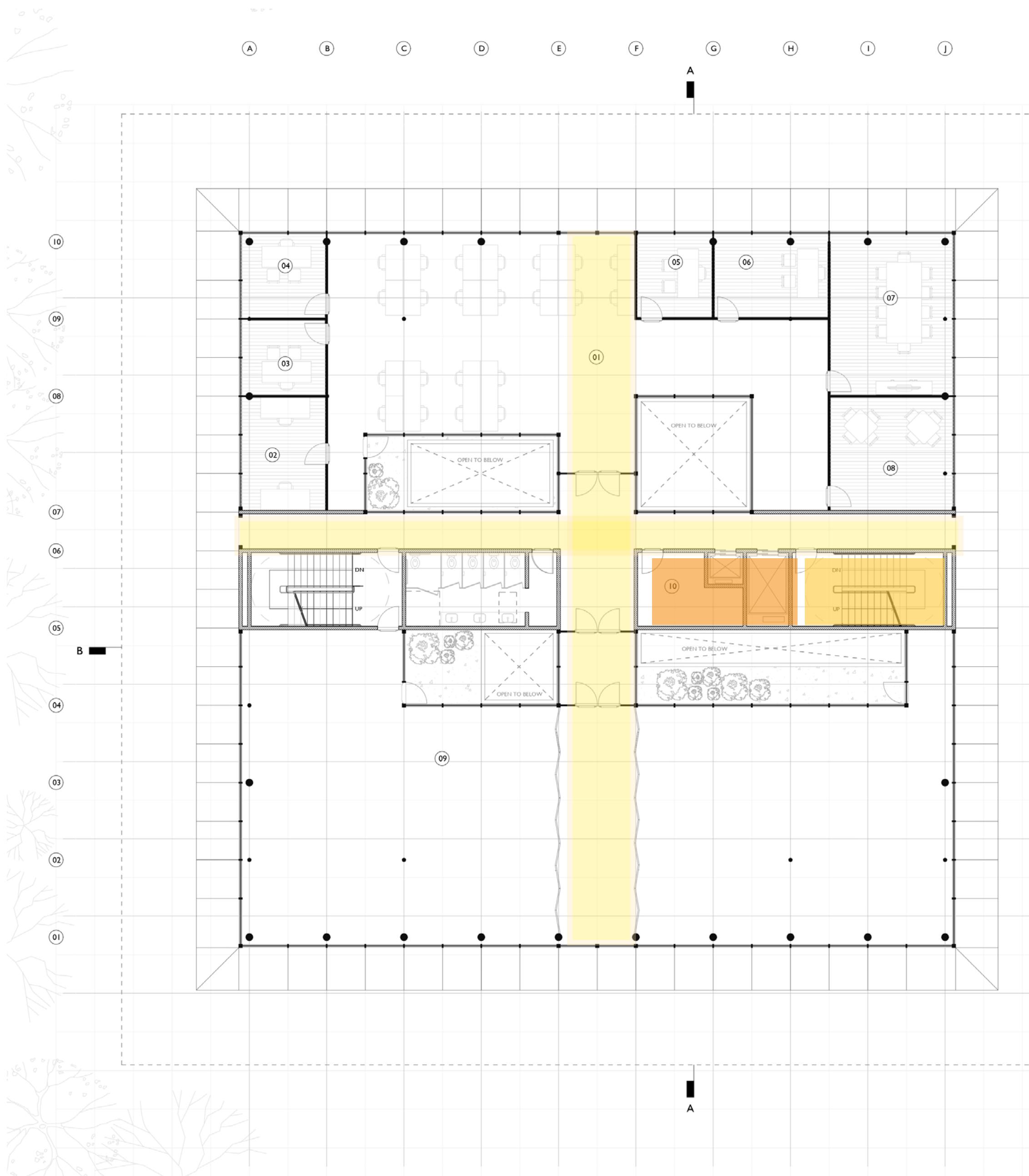
conference
offices



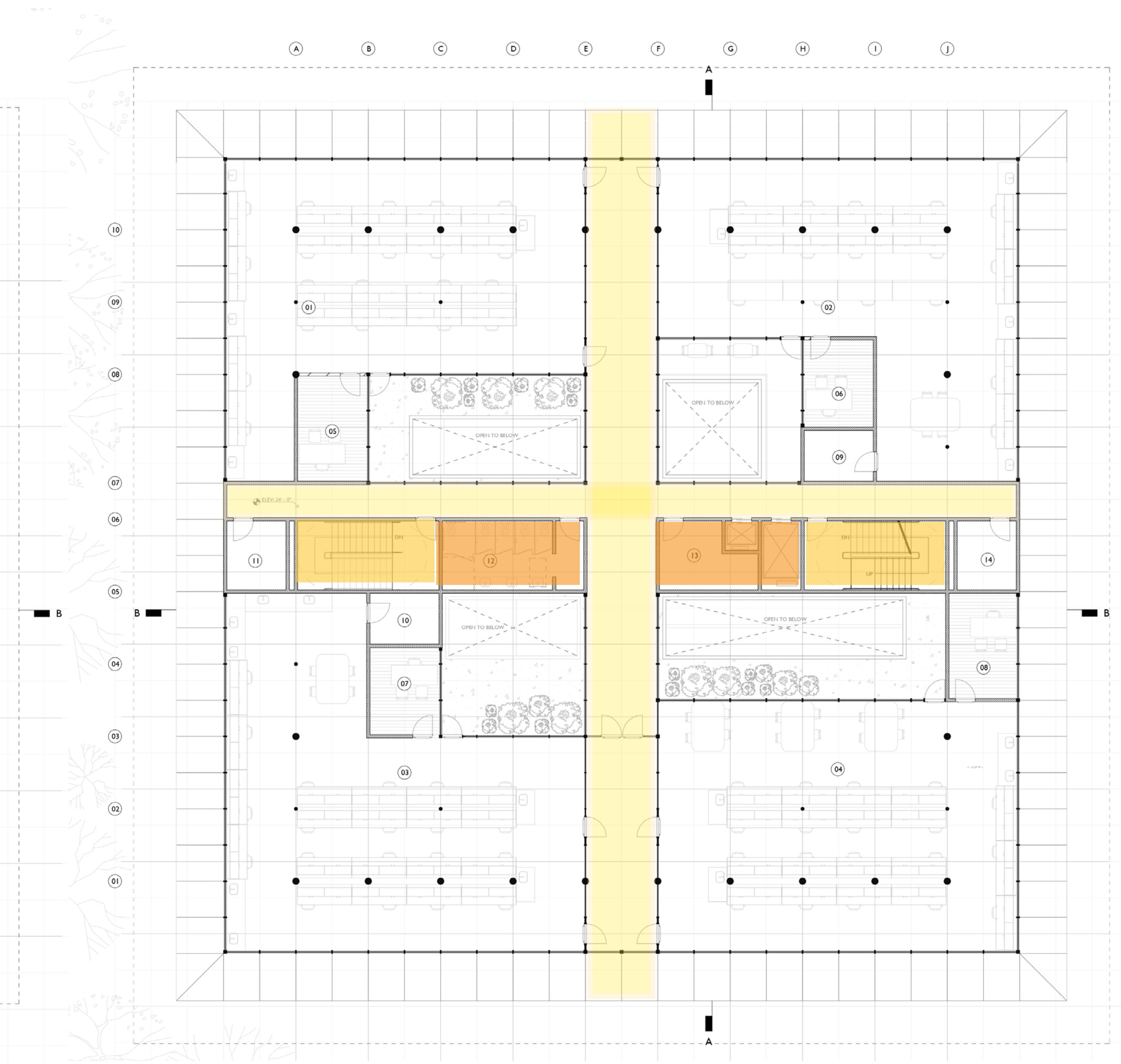
lobby



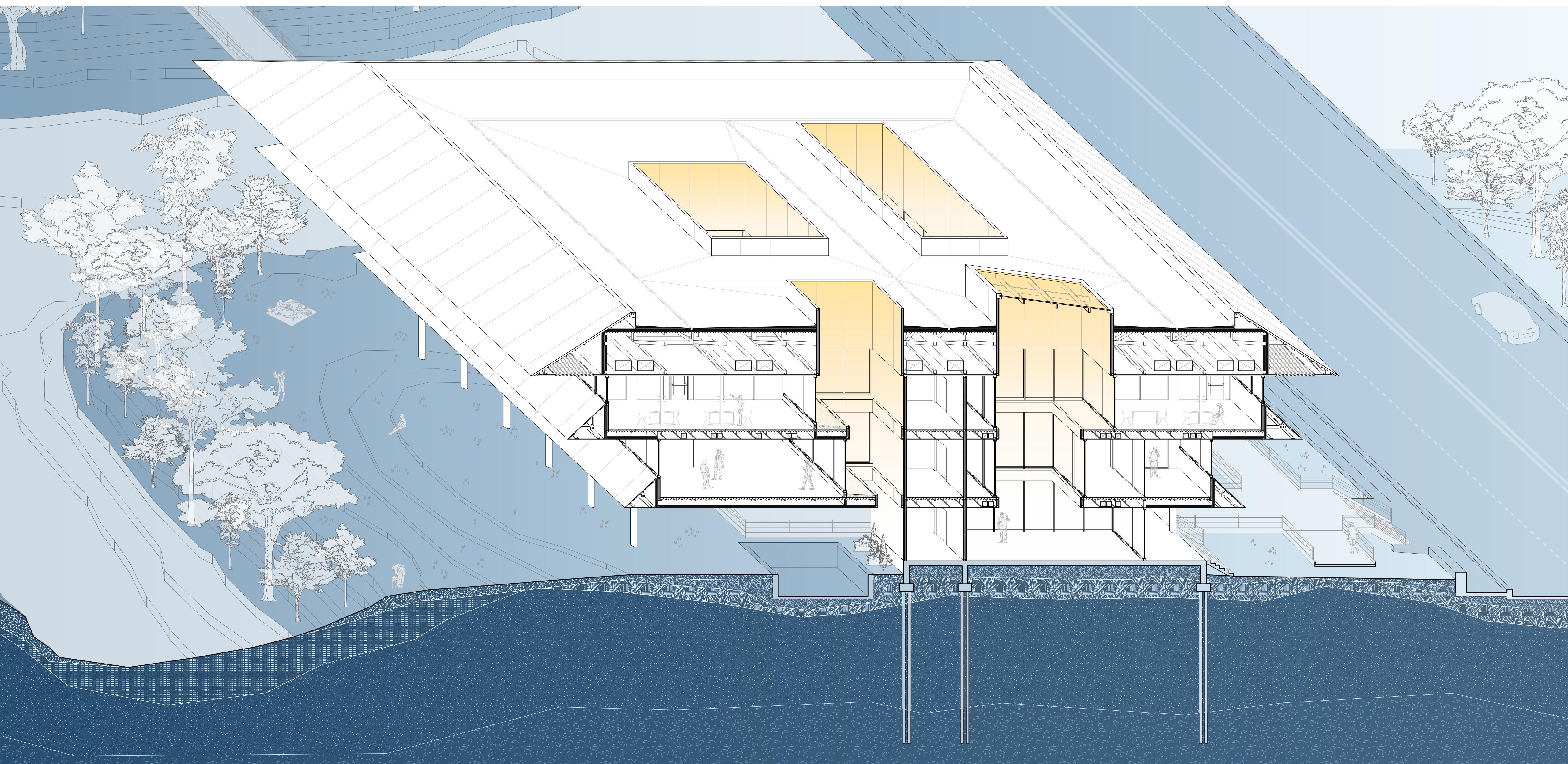




level 02



level 03



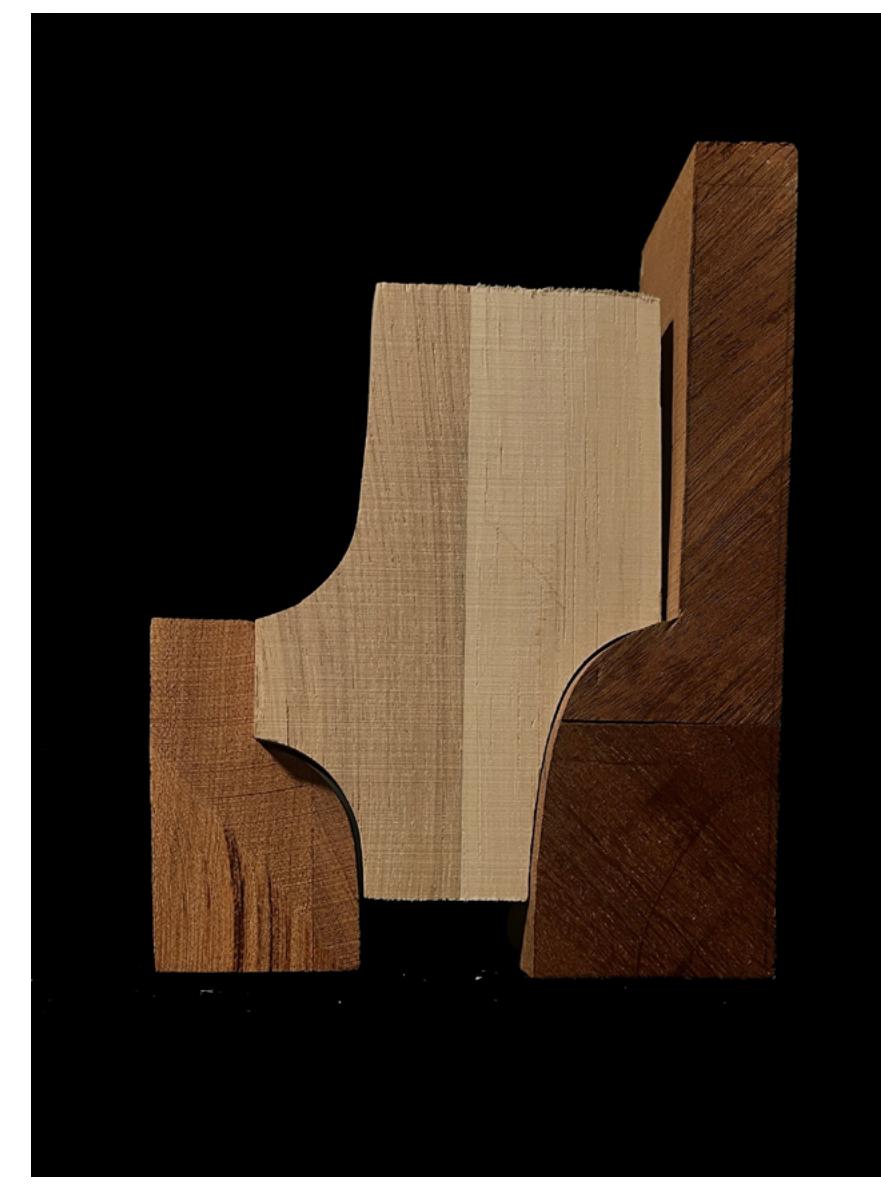
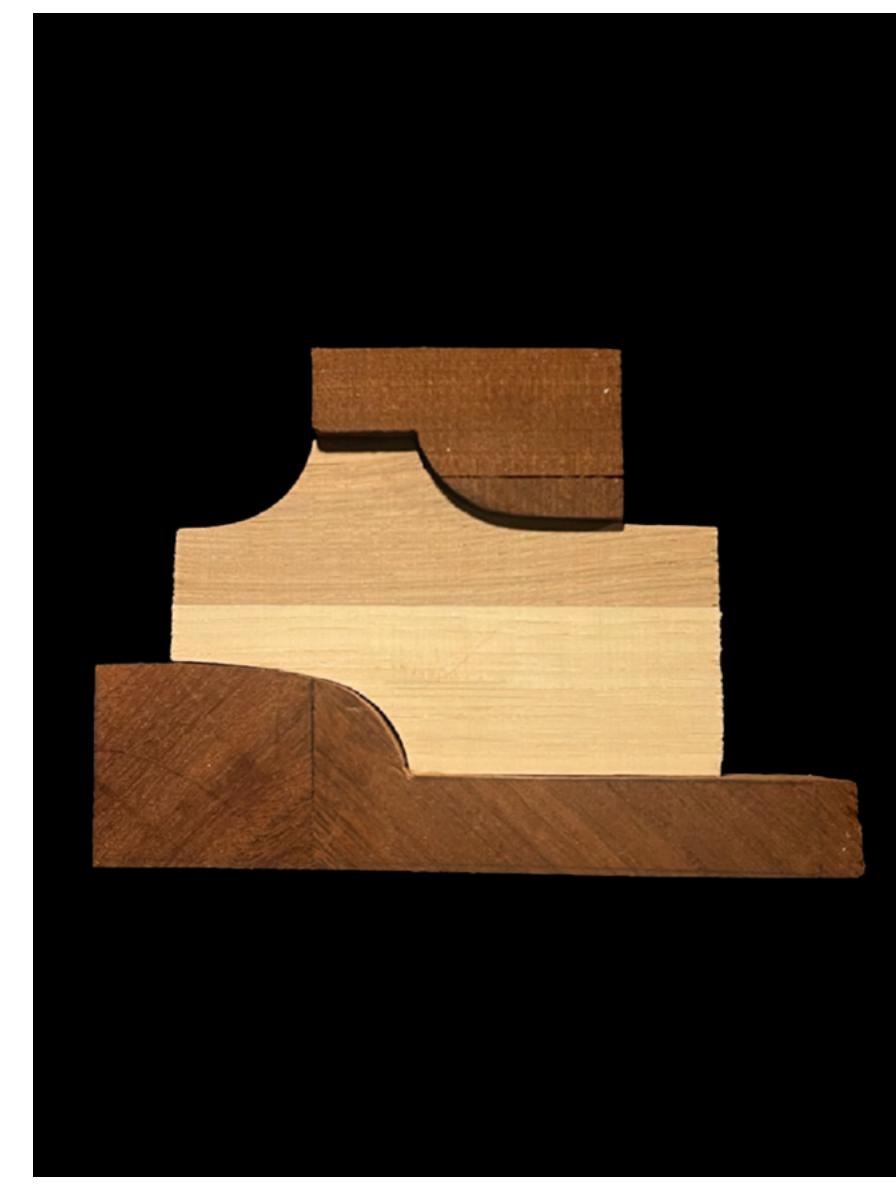
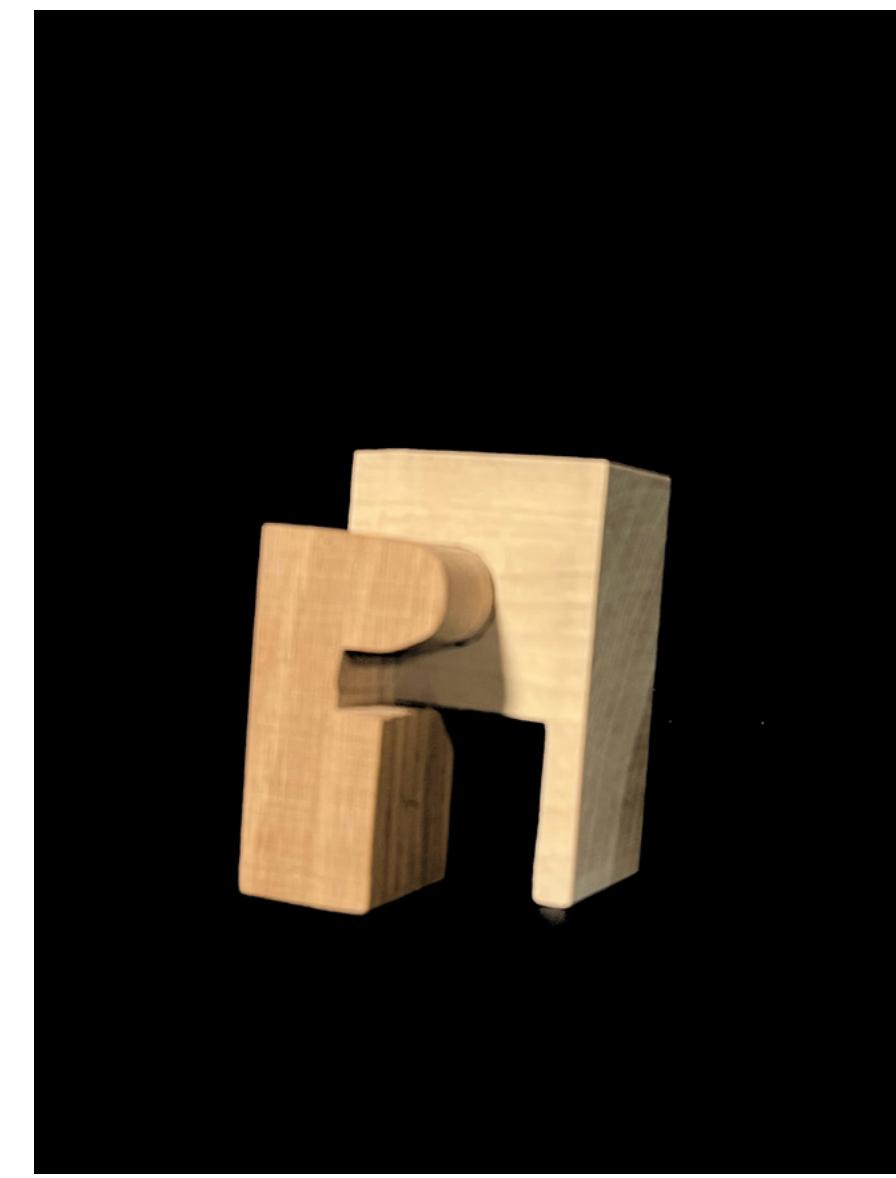
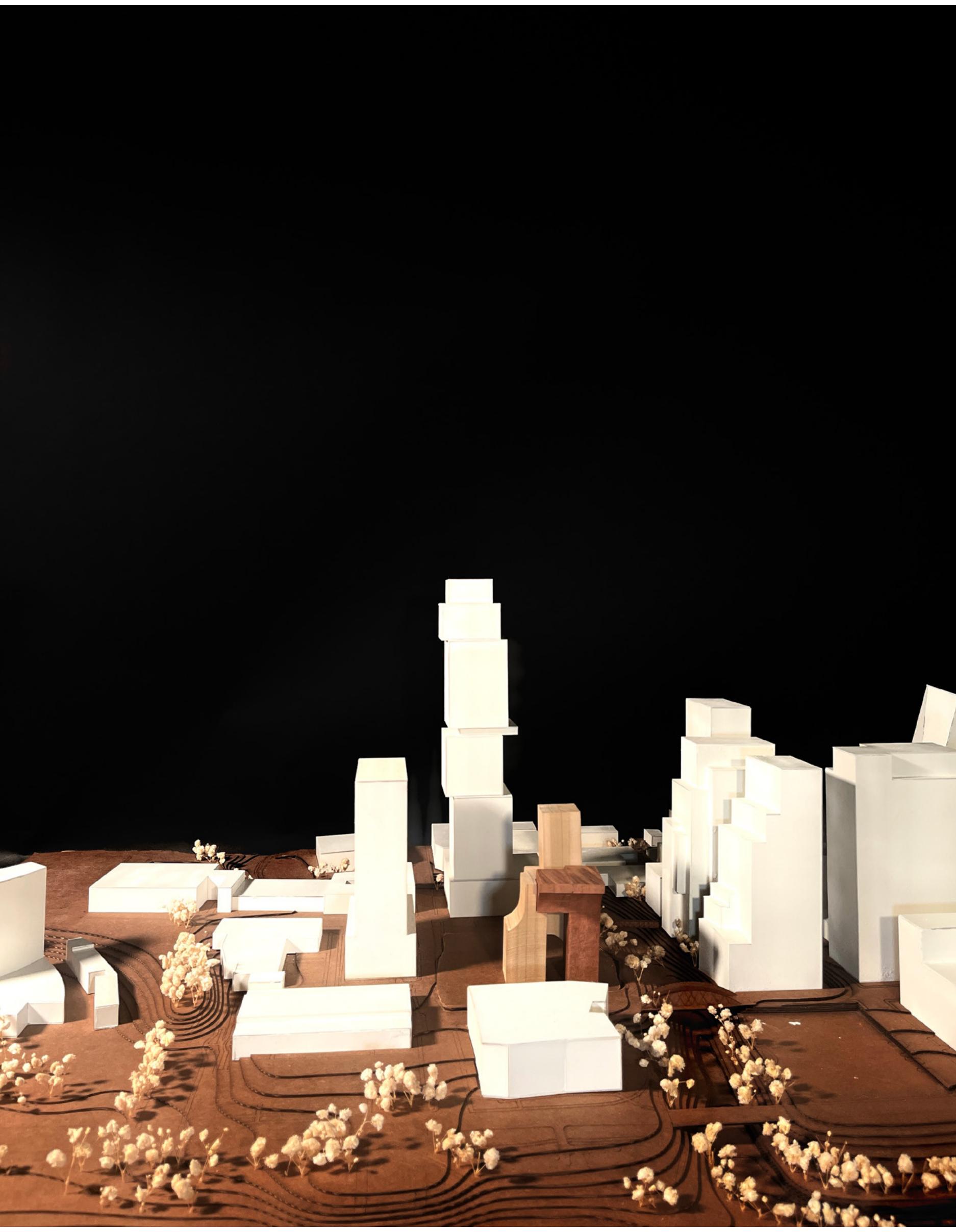


velo
fall 2024 | design V

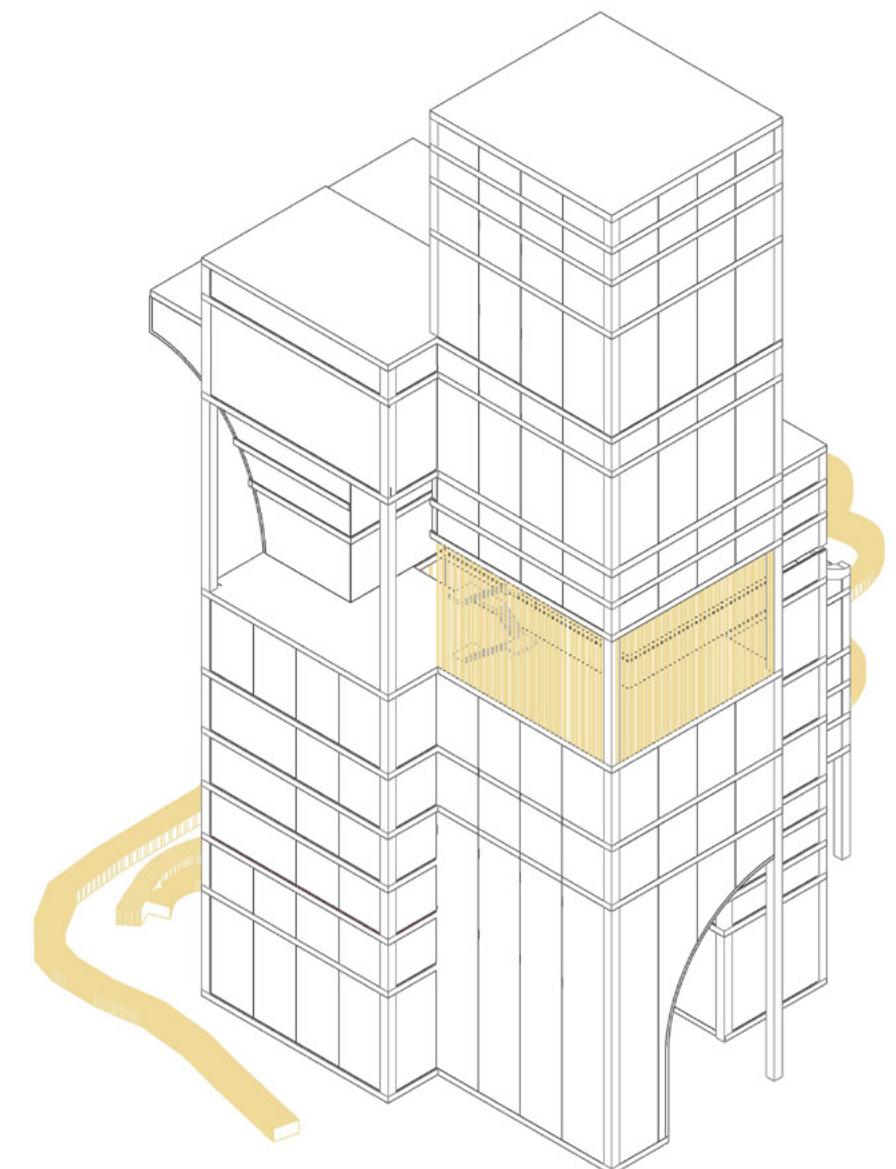
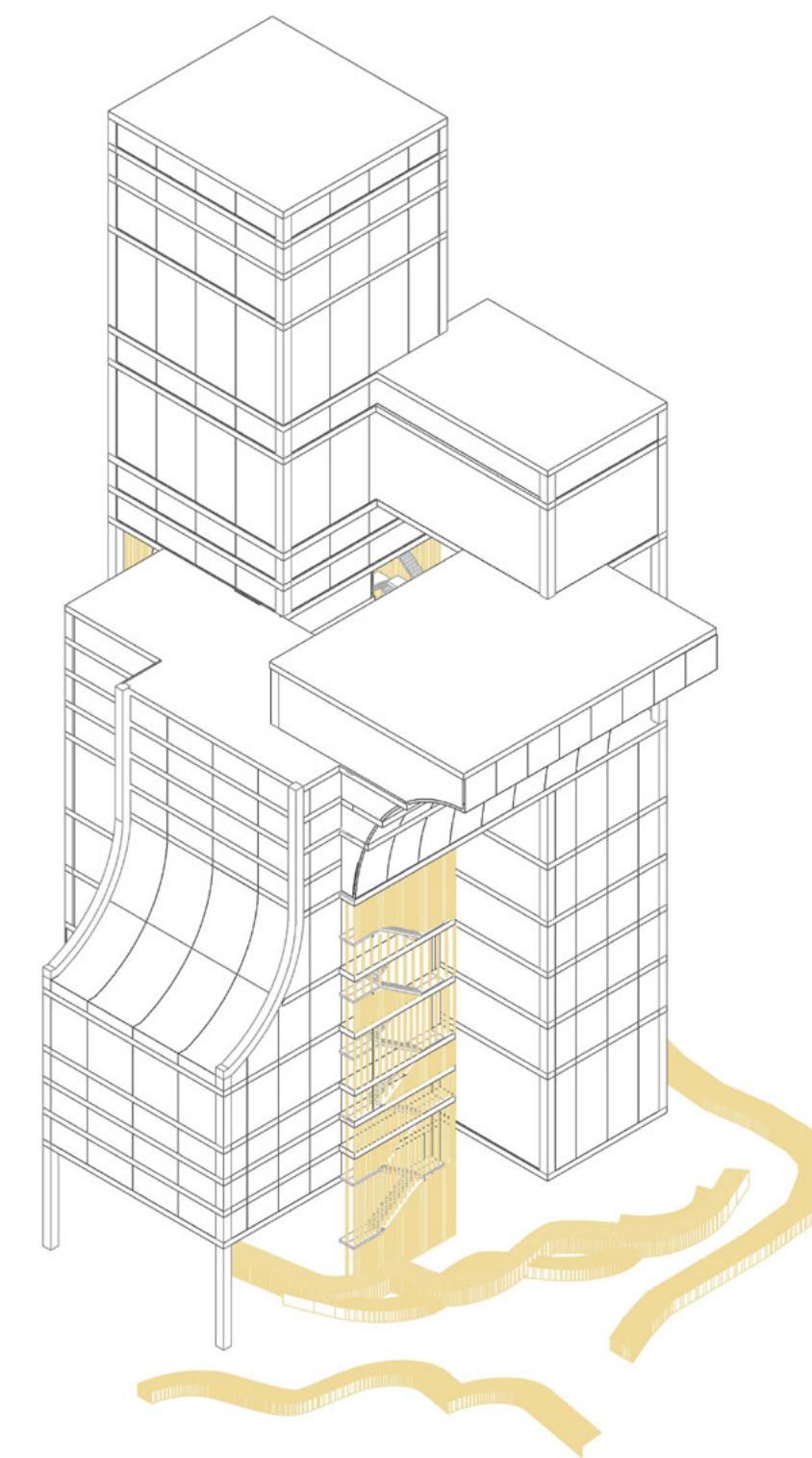
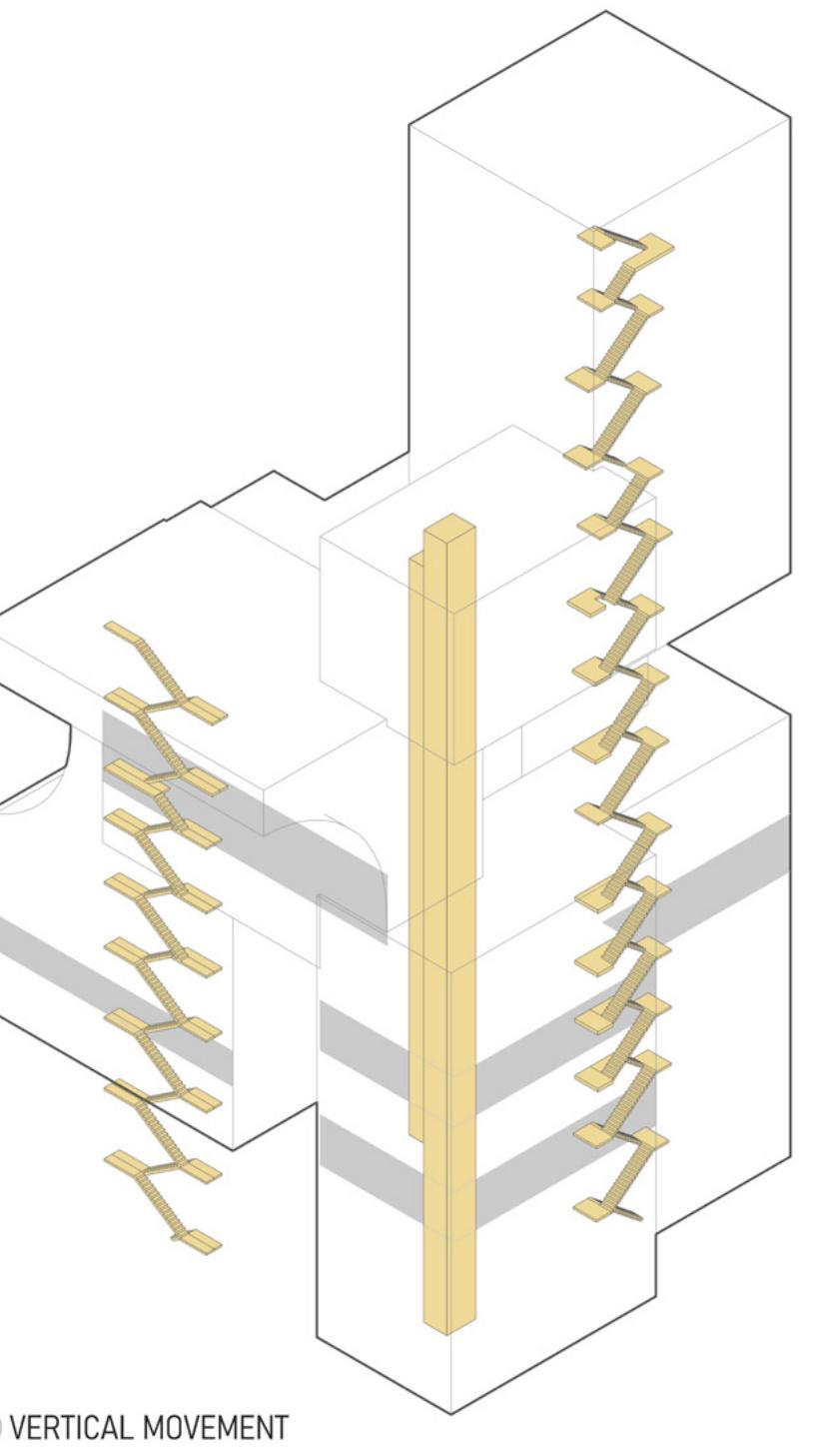
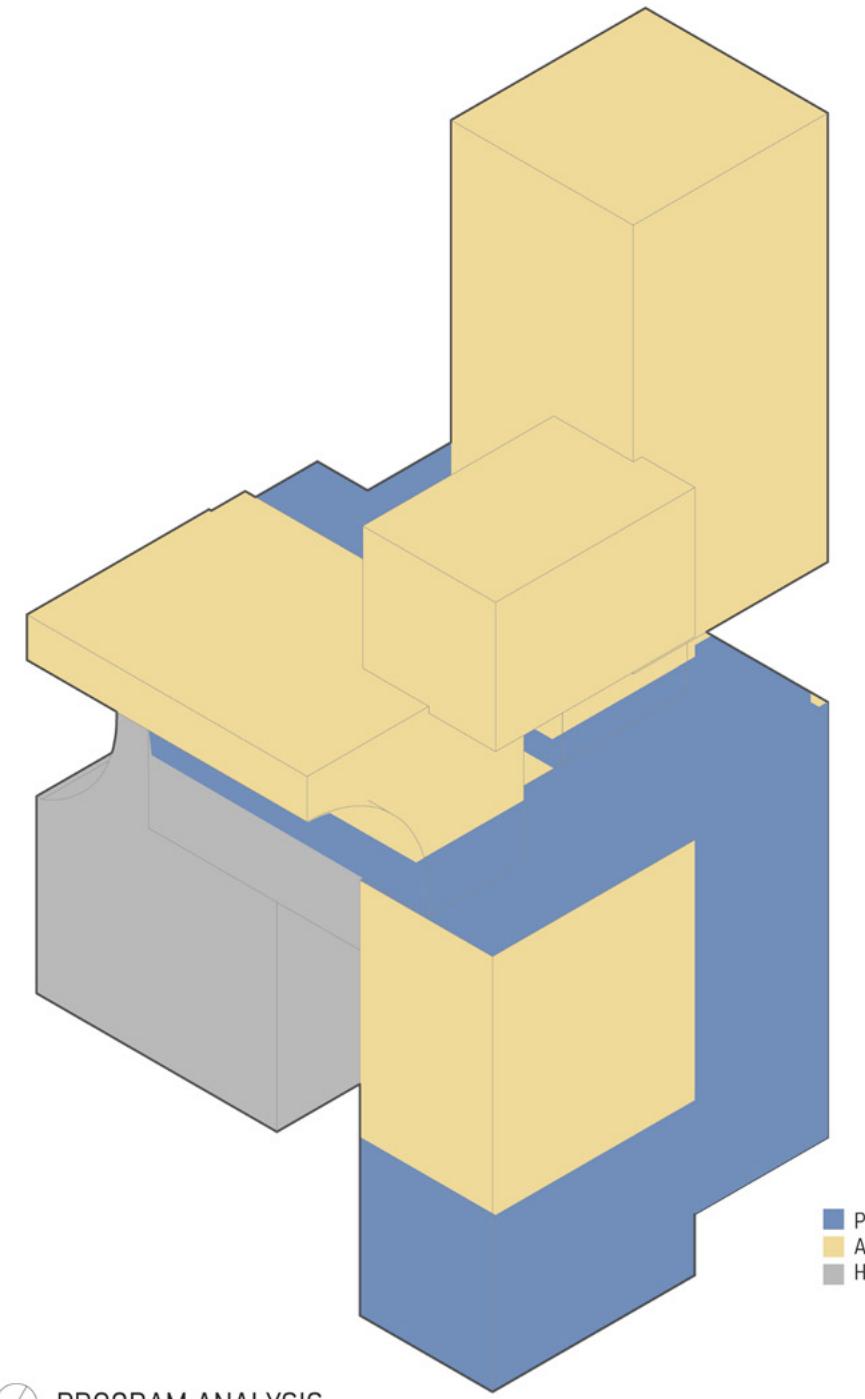
located in downtown Austin, the project envisions a new academic building for the University of Texas. designed for a space of a potential fashion school, dormitory and art space with a projected 200% increase in enrollment for the division of textiles and apparel.

professor erica quinones



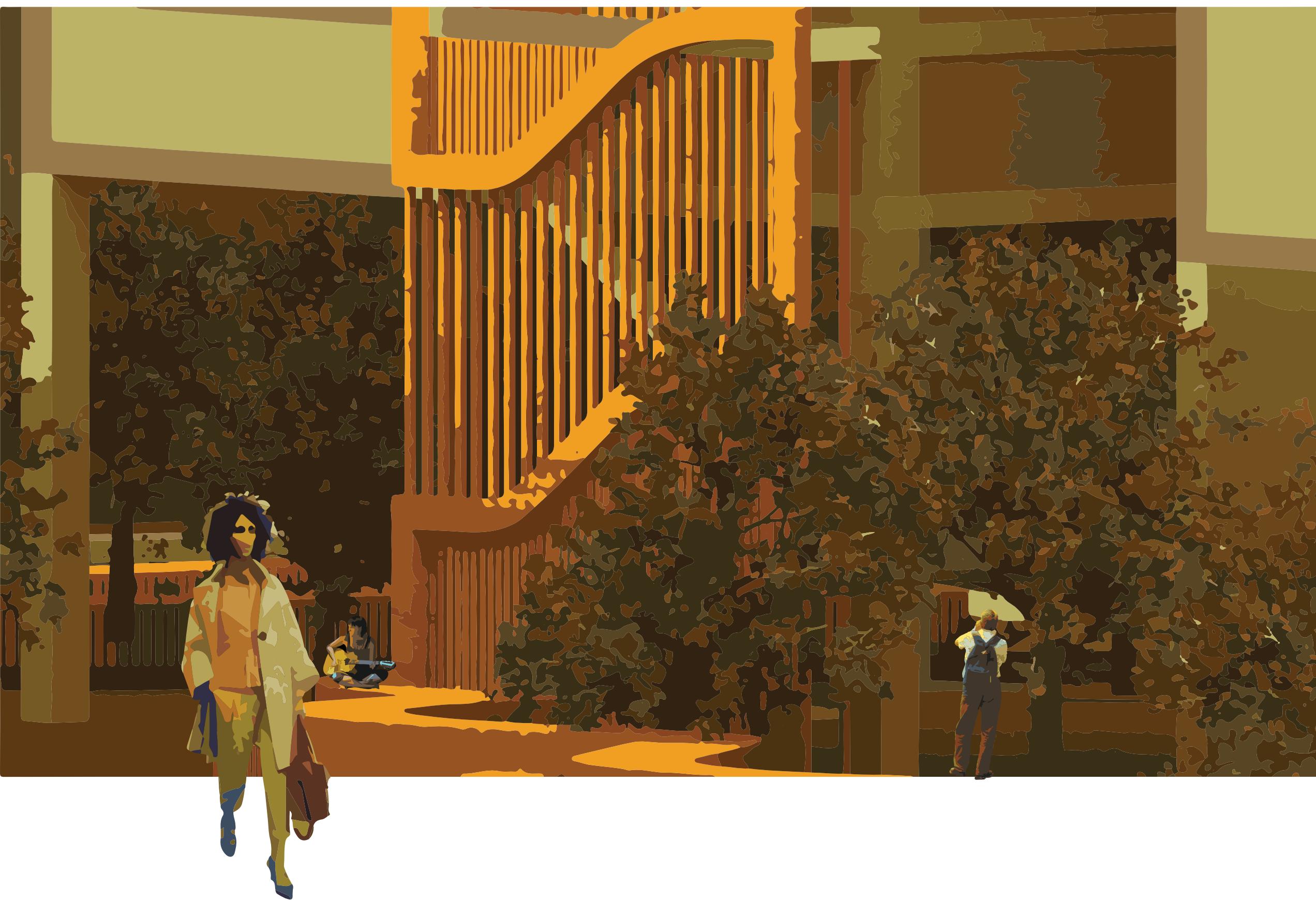








PROGRAM AXONOMETRIC

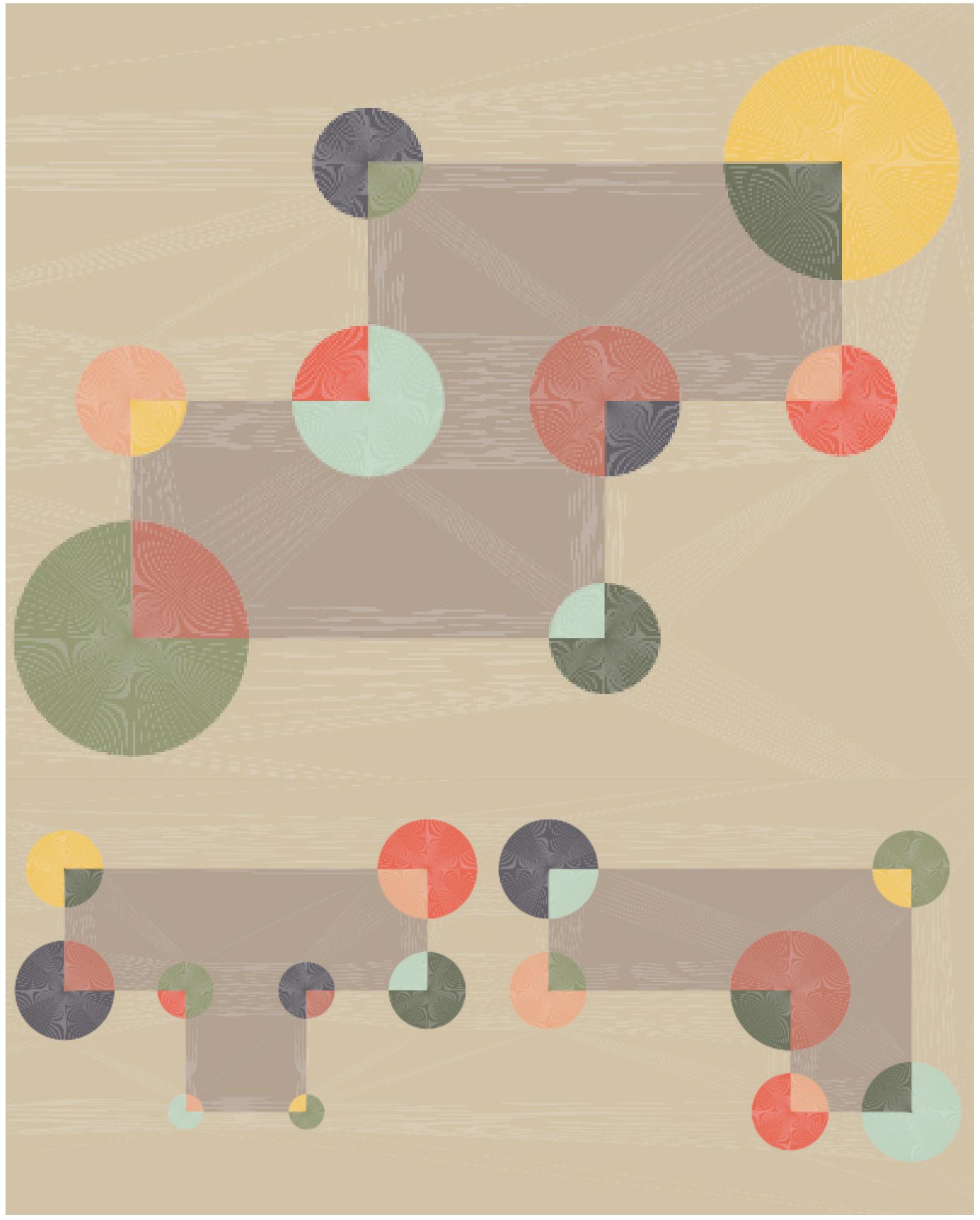


This project examines the dynamic nature of built environments, questioning how permanence is merely a perception shaped by spatial and temporal scales. In order to do this, we go through three steps:

Extraction, where we reference an architect and diagram and interpret the buildings, which we then learn the spacial aspects and program. Projection, explore form further, incorporating program and style. Lastly, Integration, an overall completion of the last two steps resulting in a final building overall using the information and skills you've learnt.

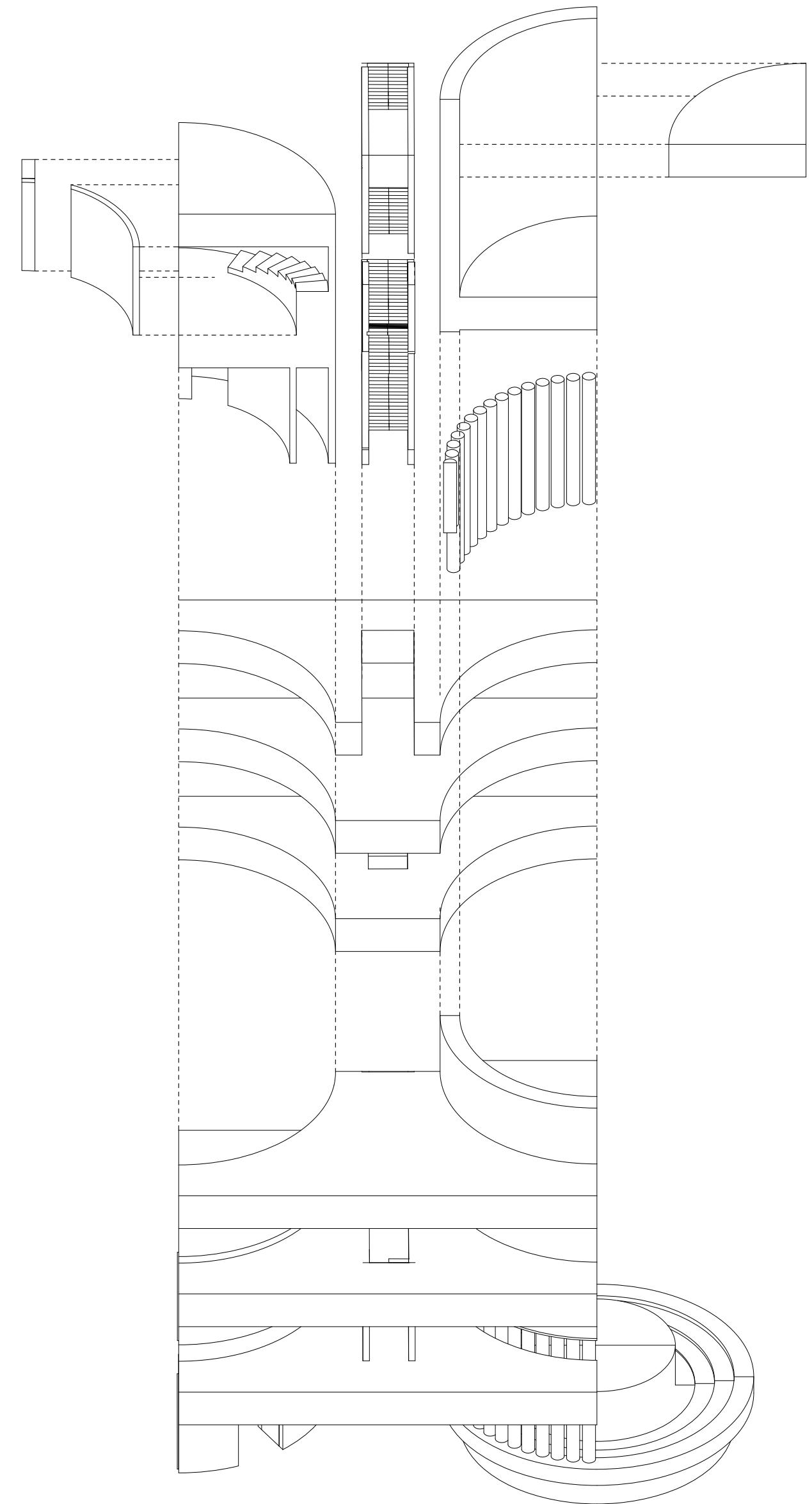
professor tyler swingle

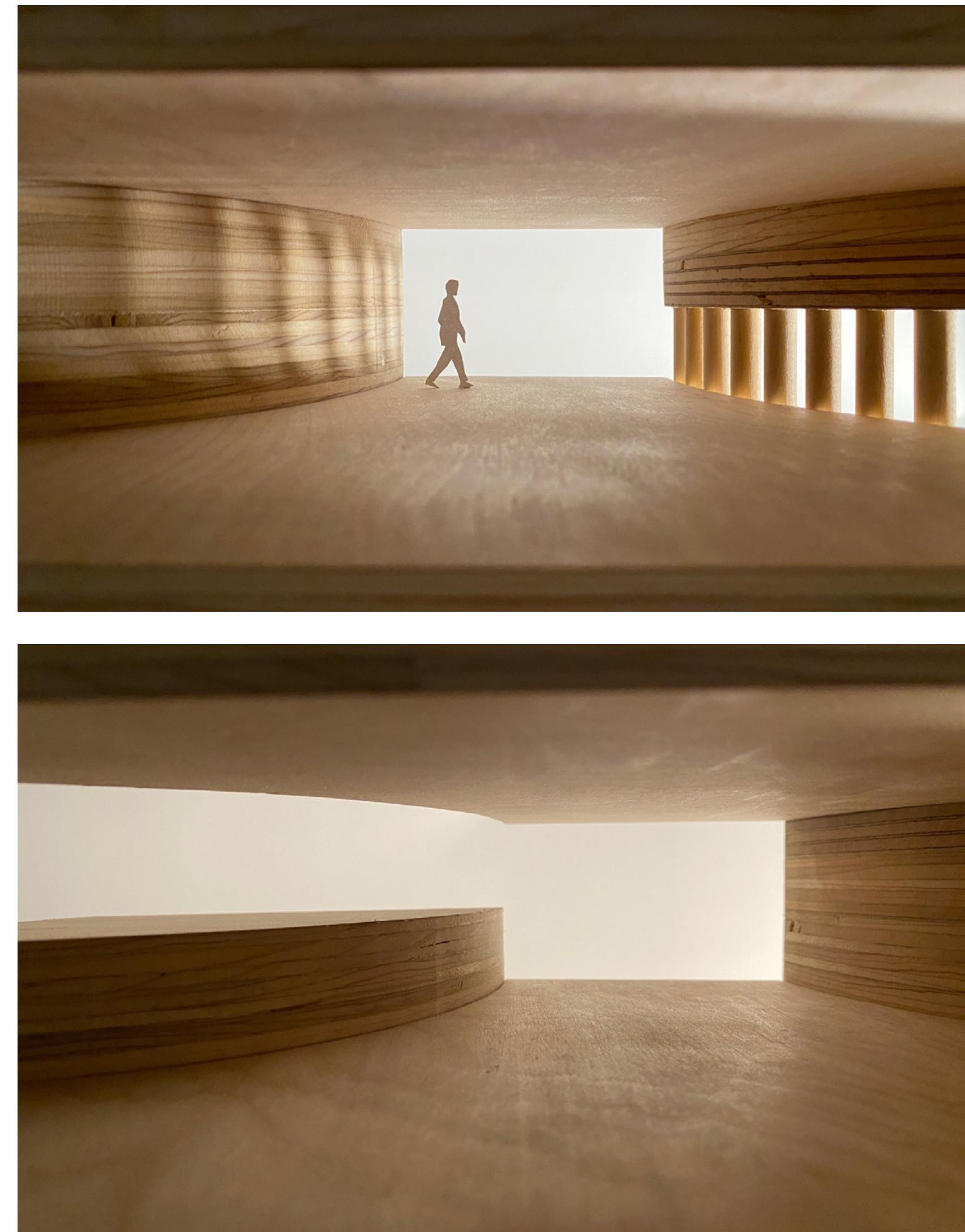


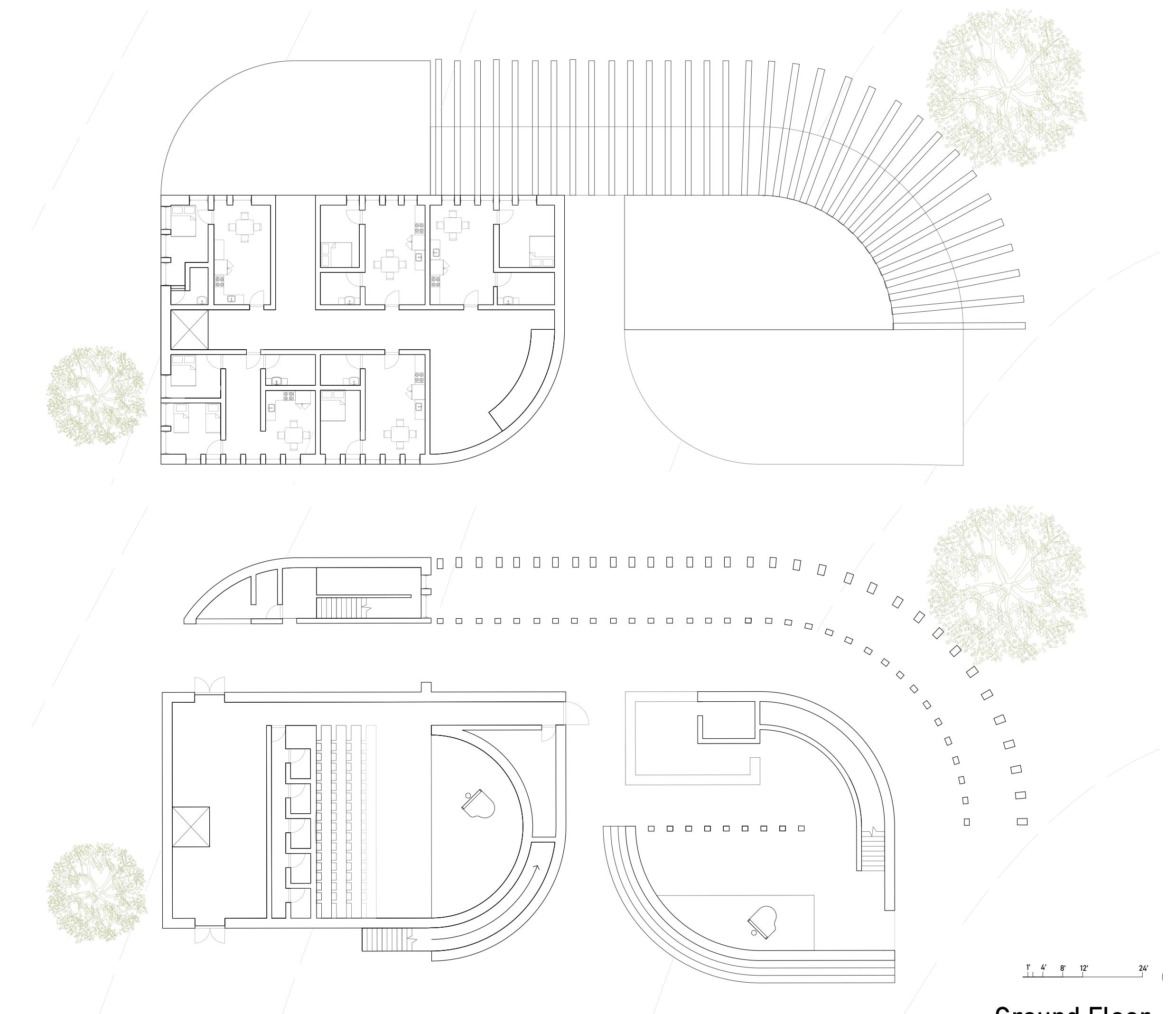
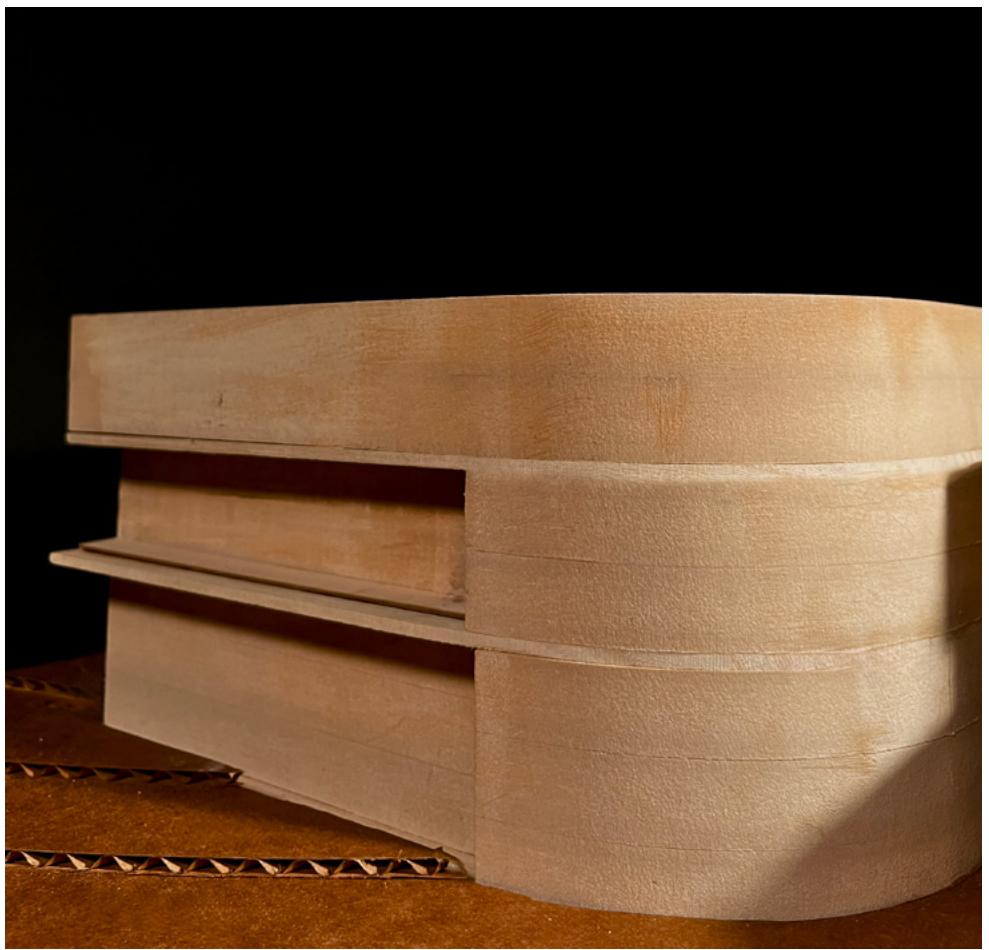
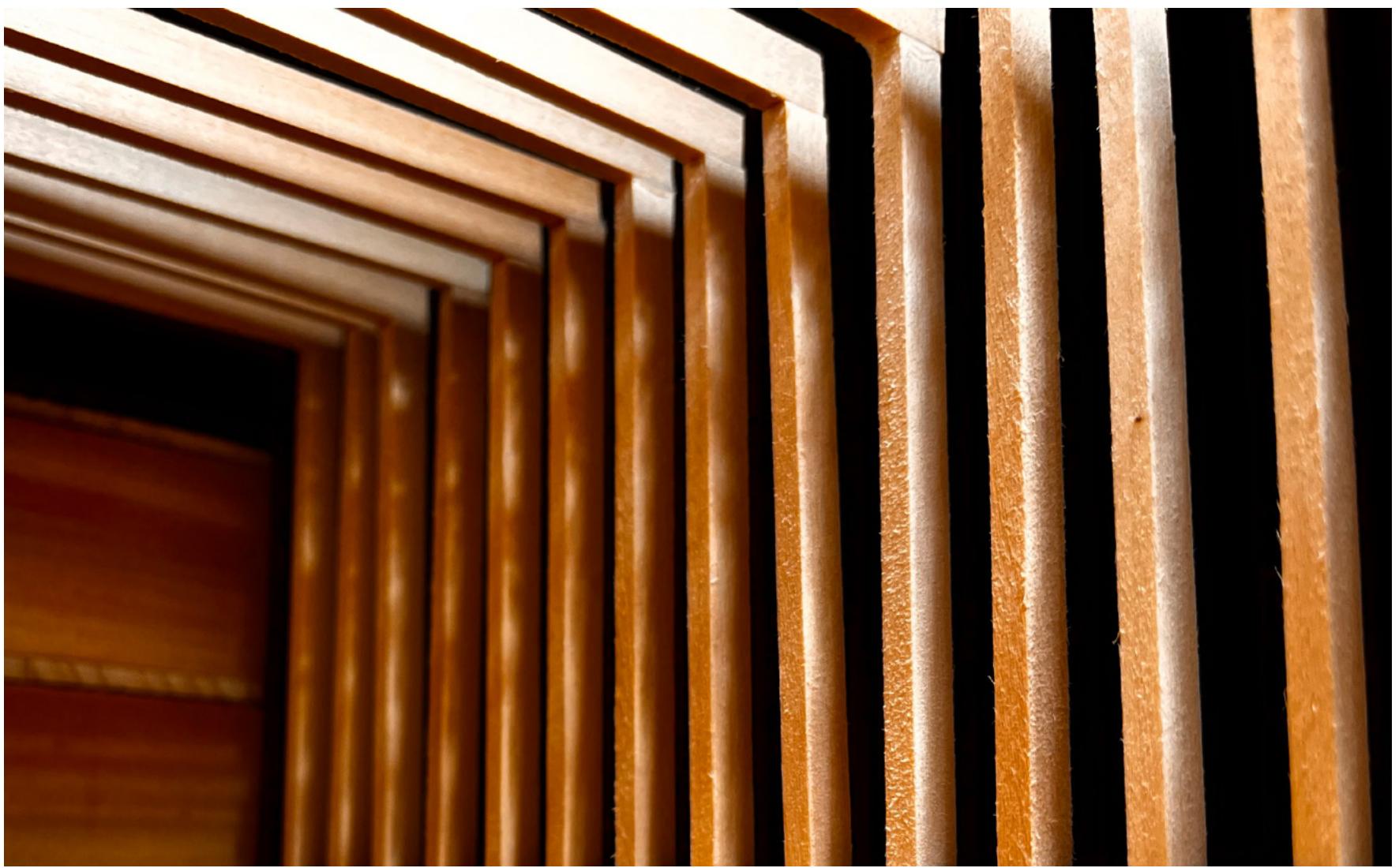


gabriela garza & hannah ongmanchi

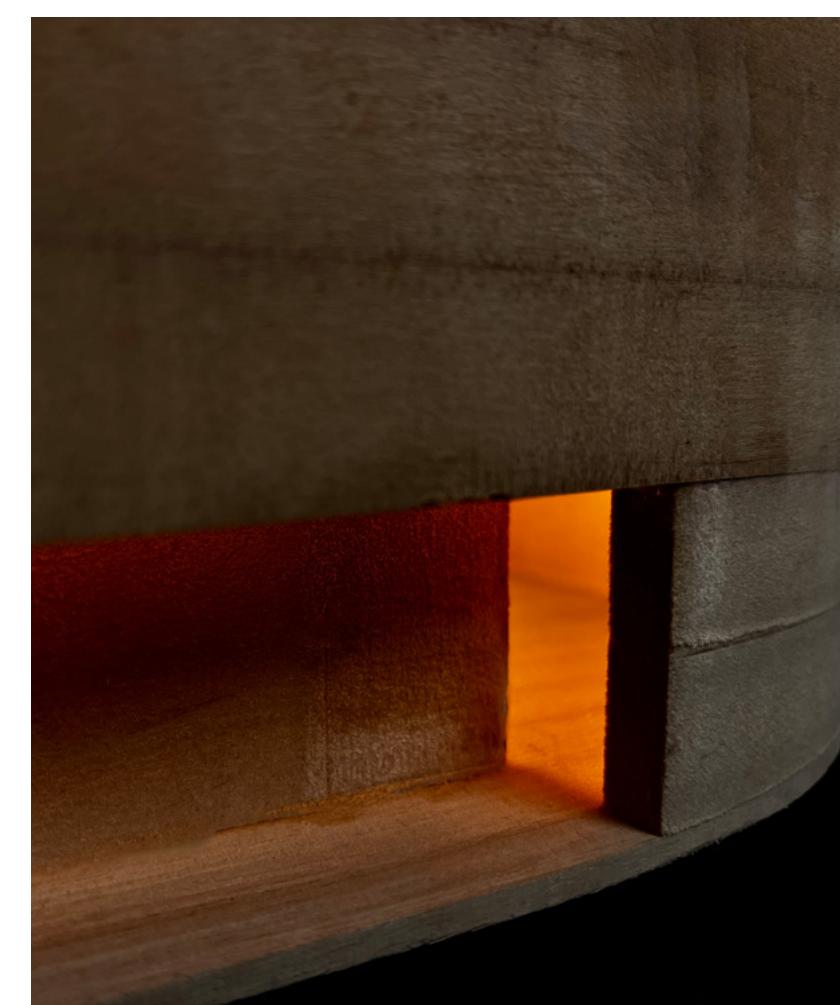
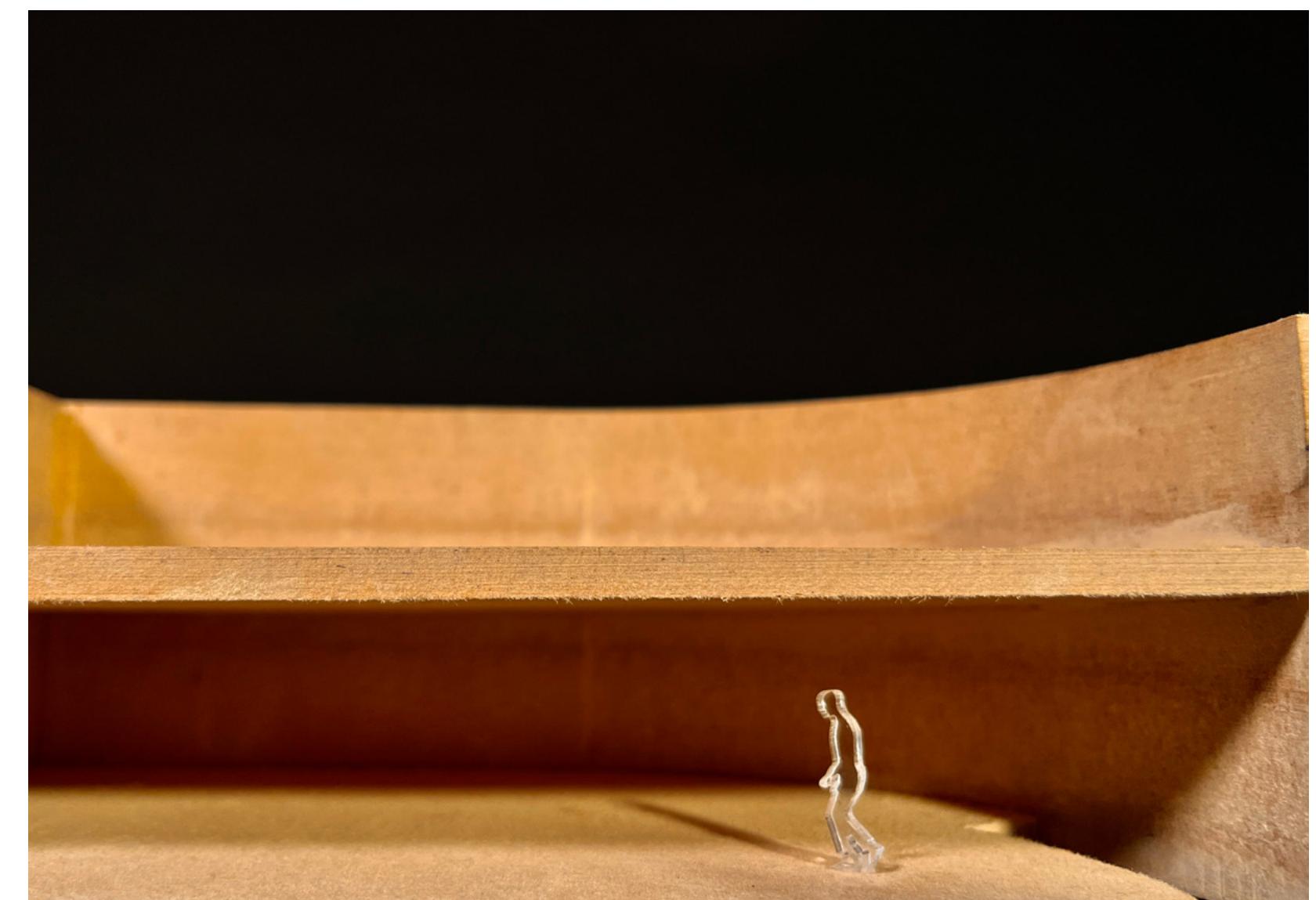
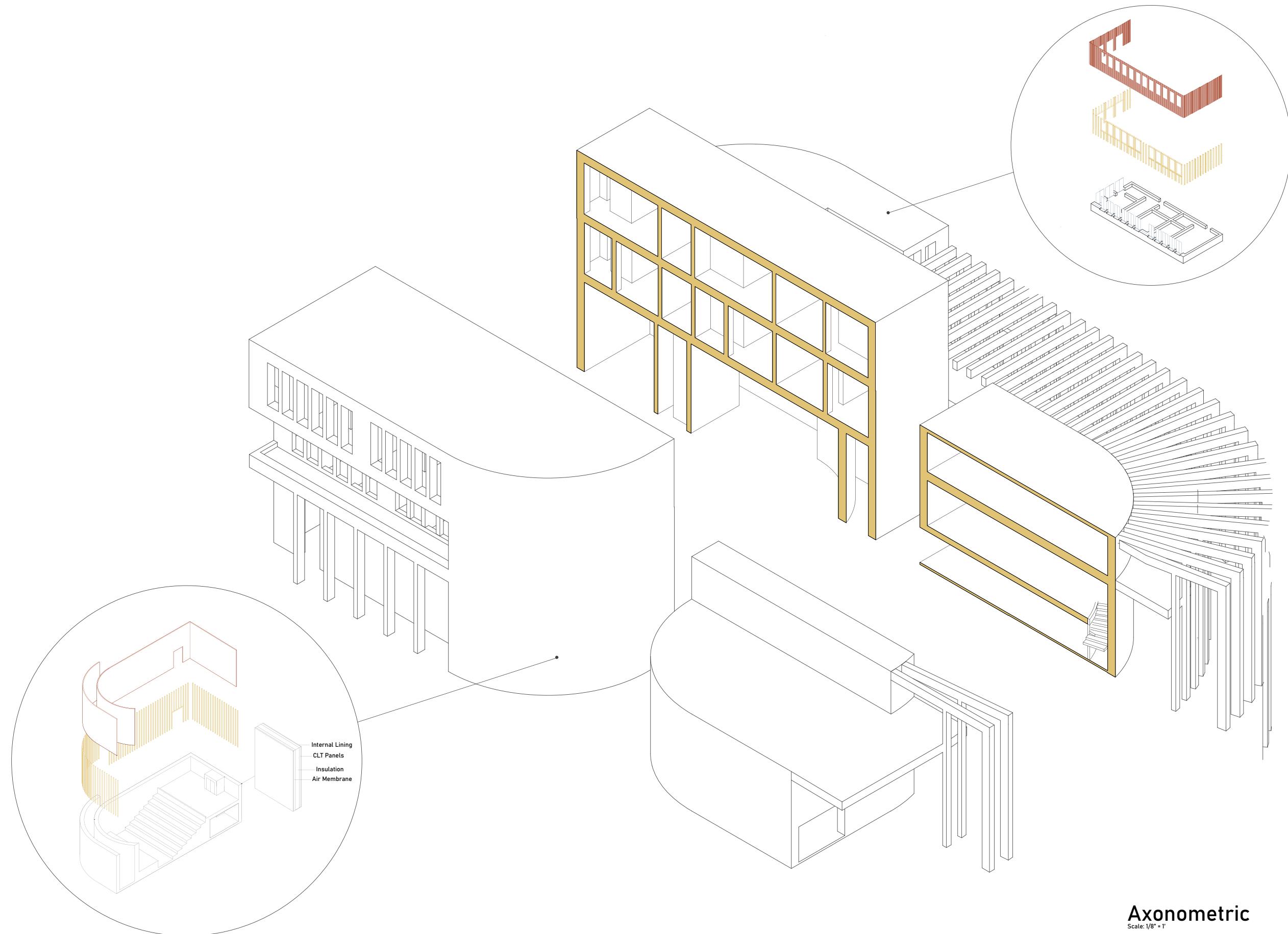




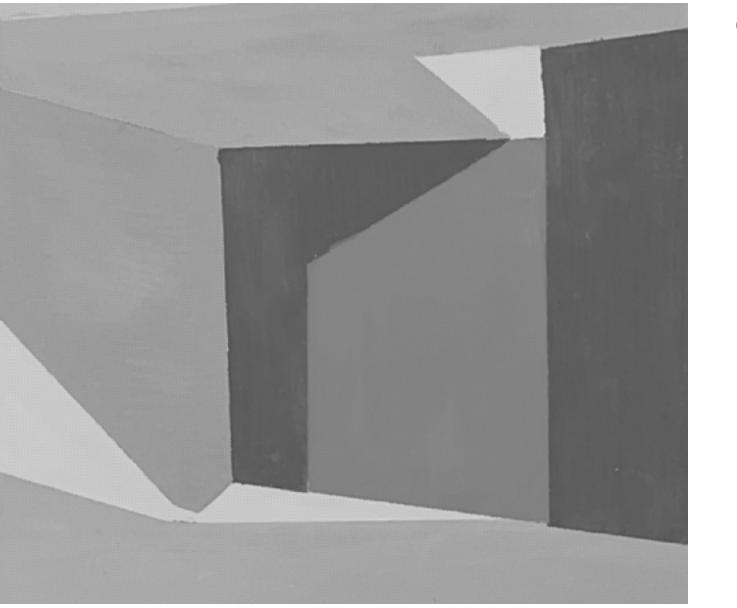




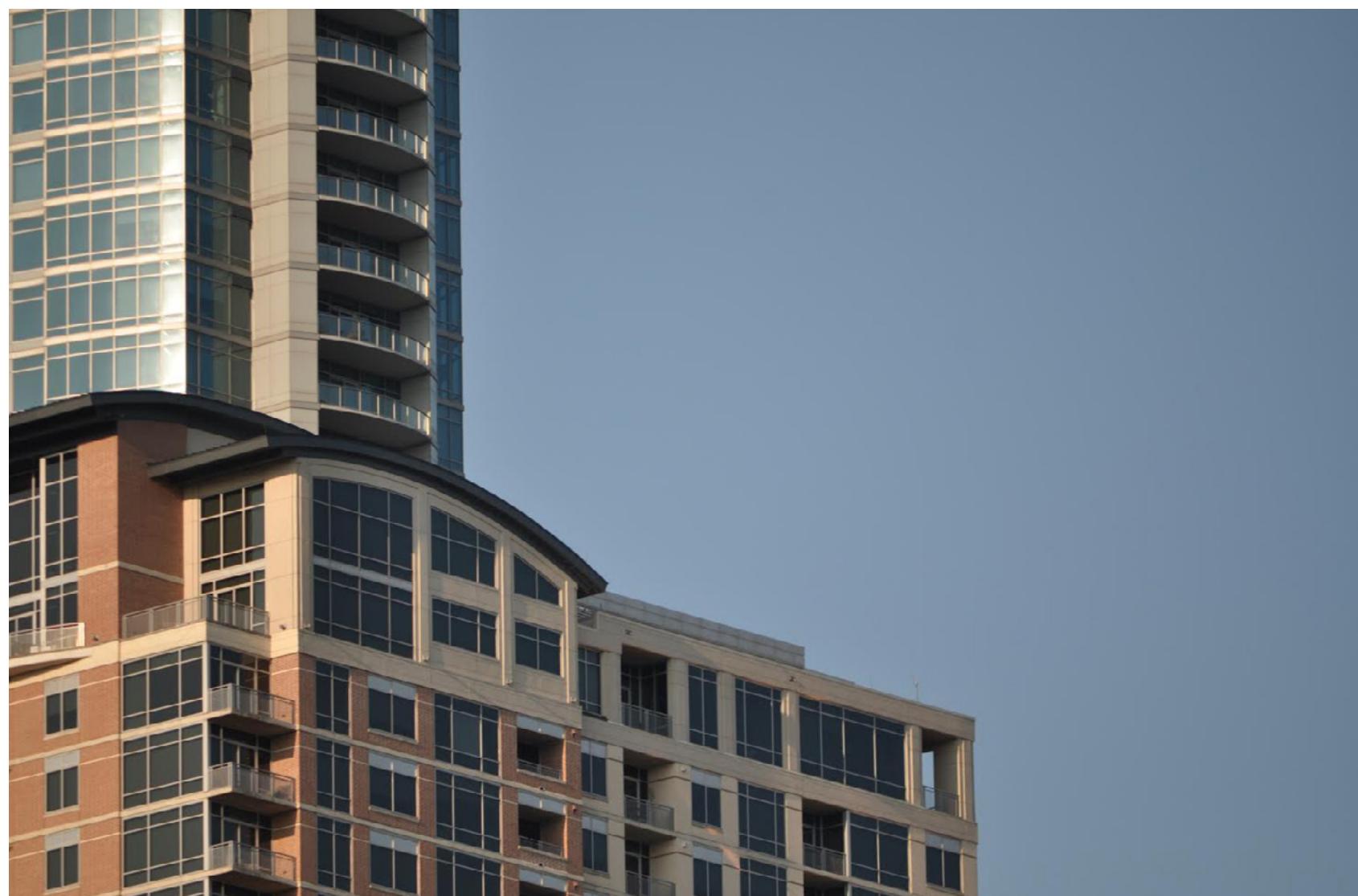
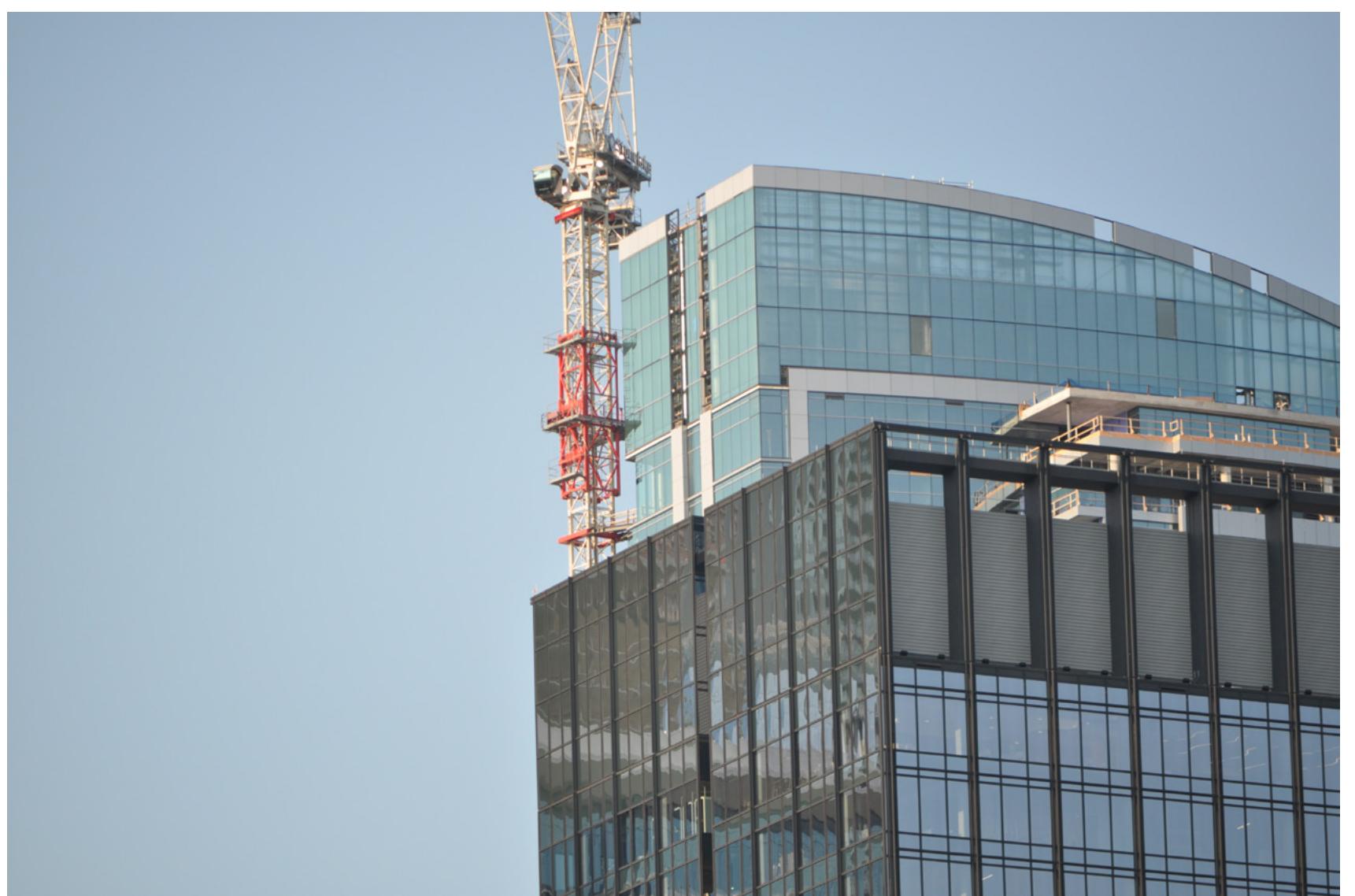
Ground Floor
Scale: 1/8" = 1'



misc.



extra works



downtown
Austin, TX



detail images

New York, USA



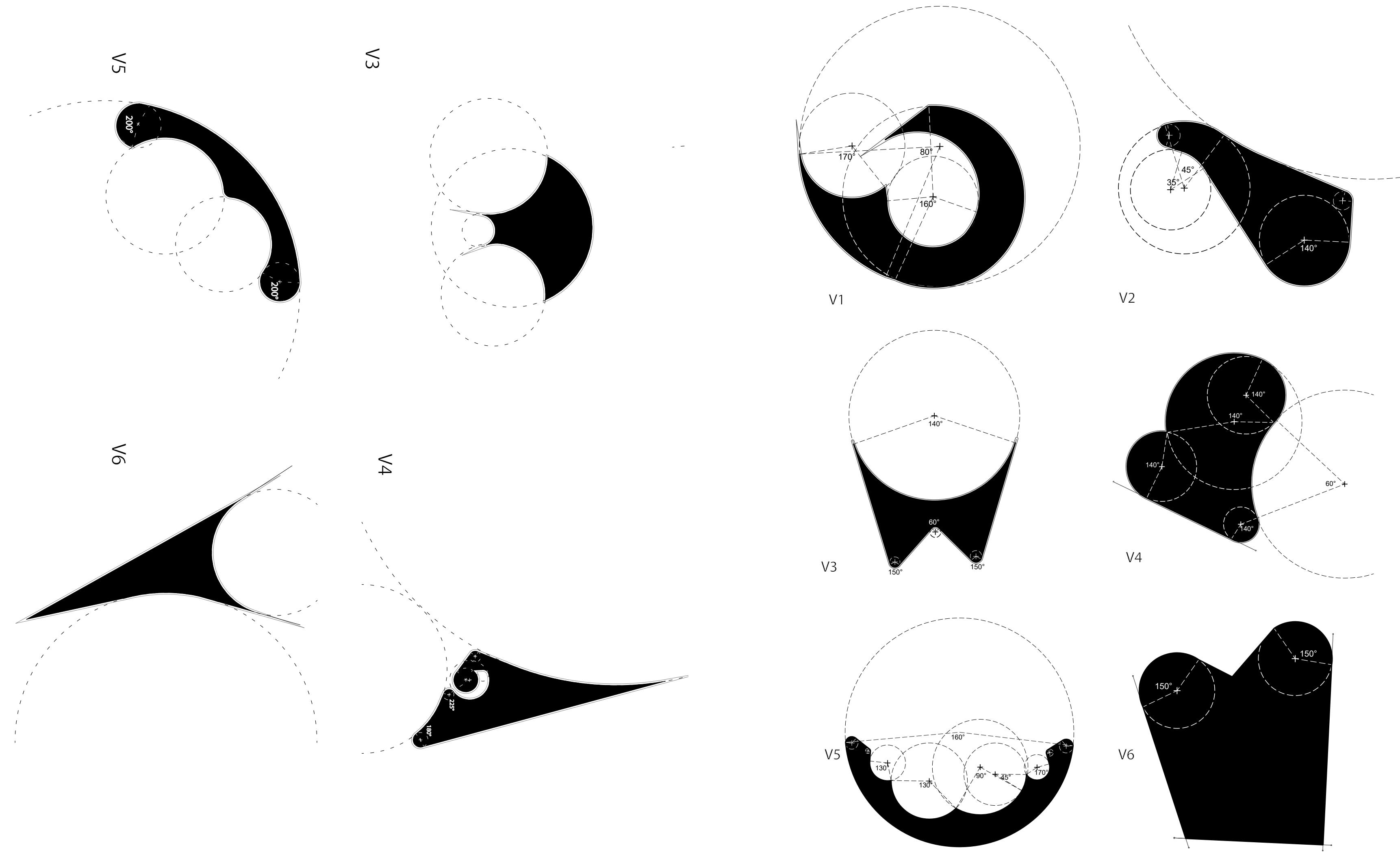


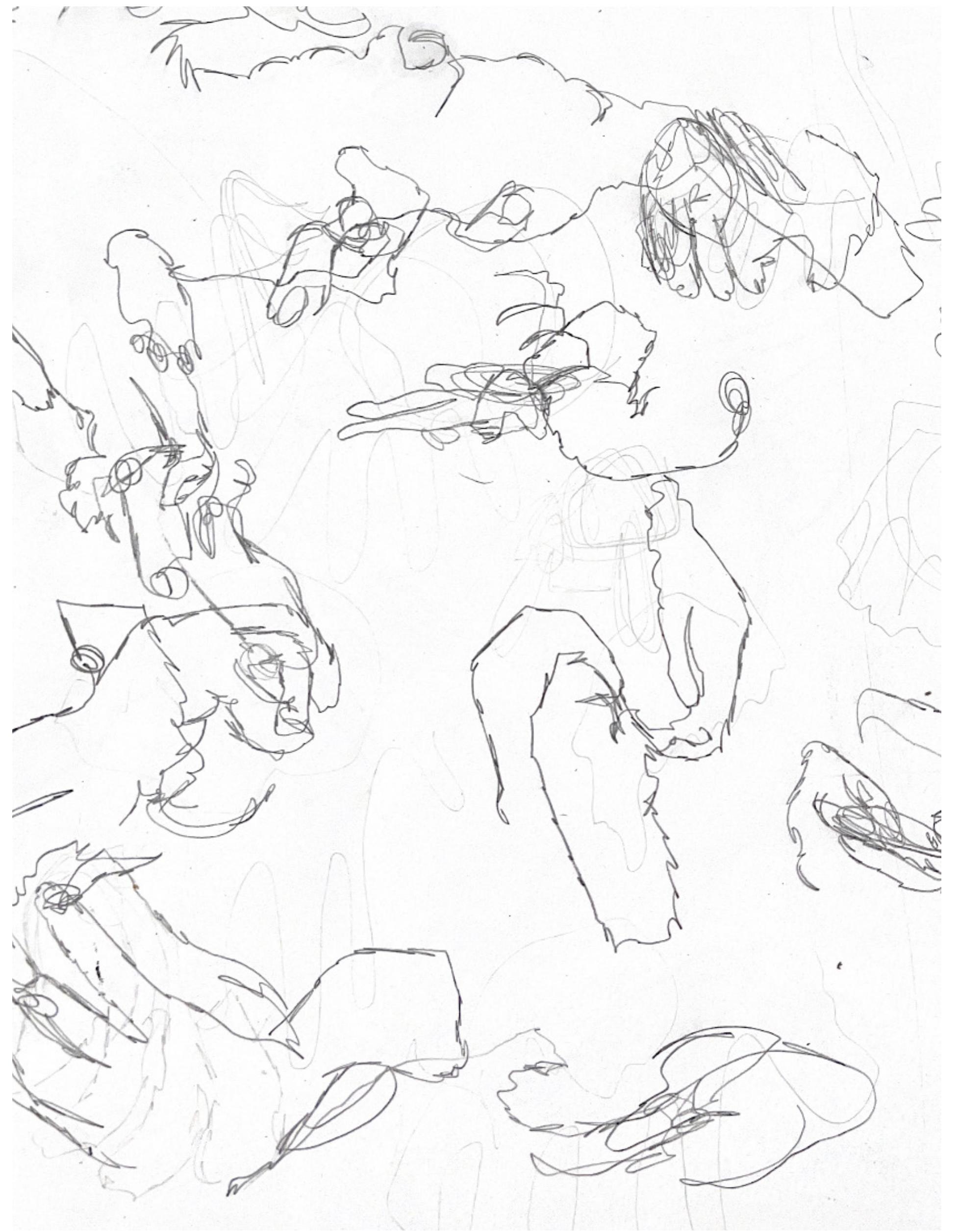
site photos
Omishima, Japan

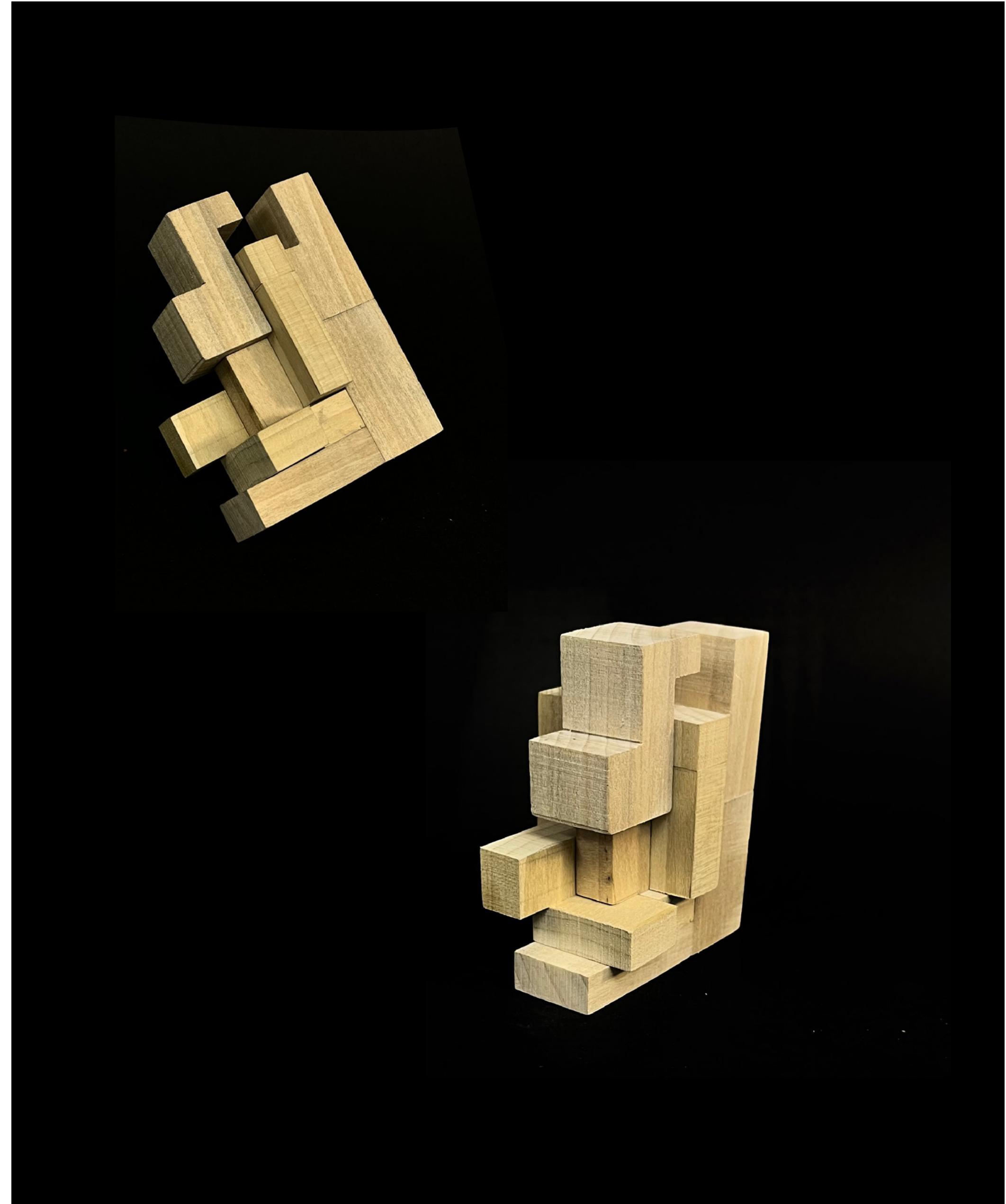
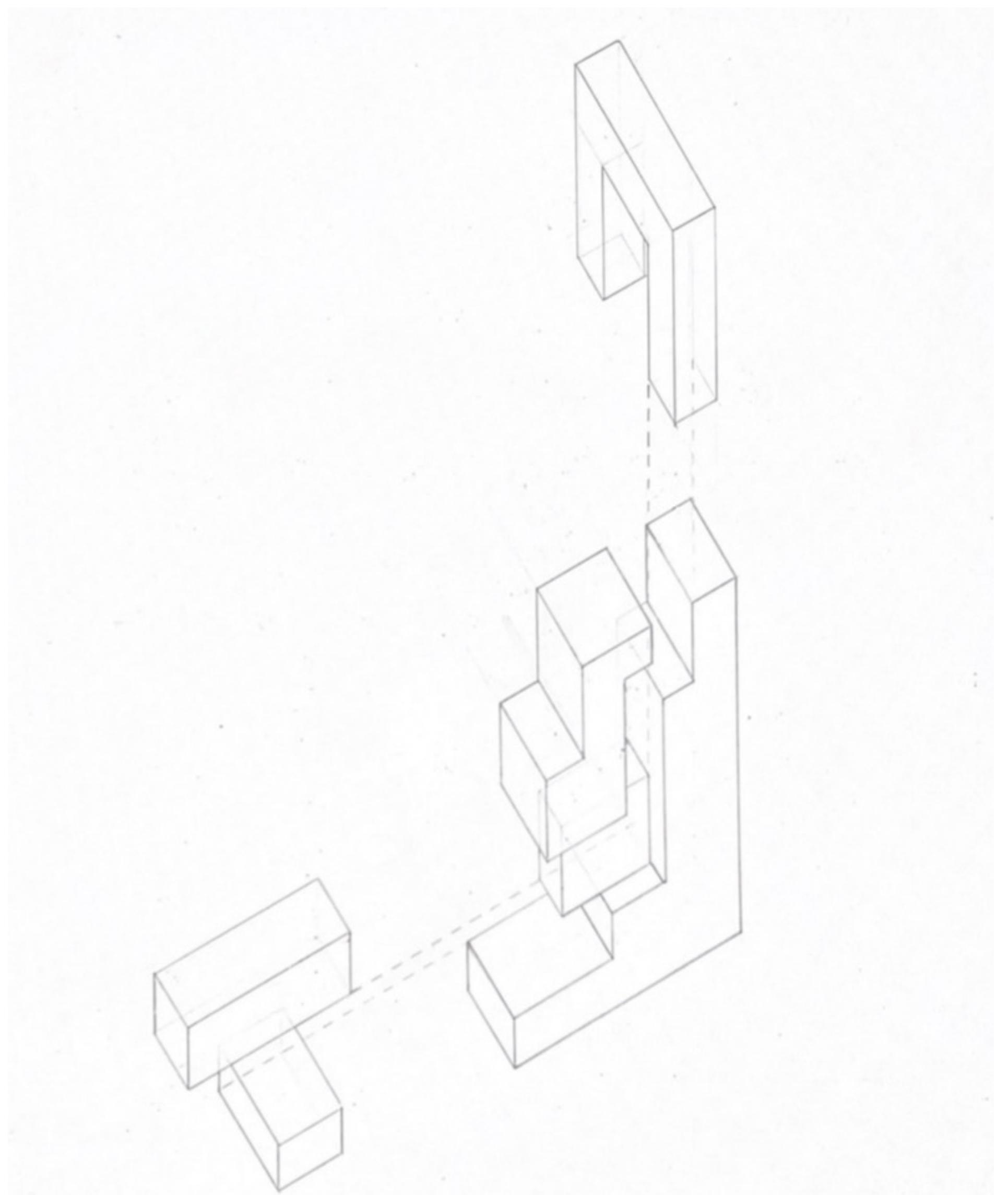


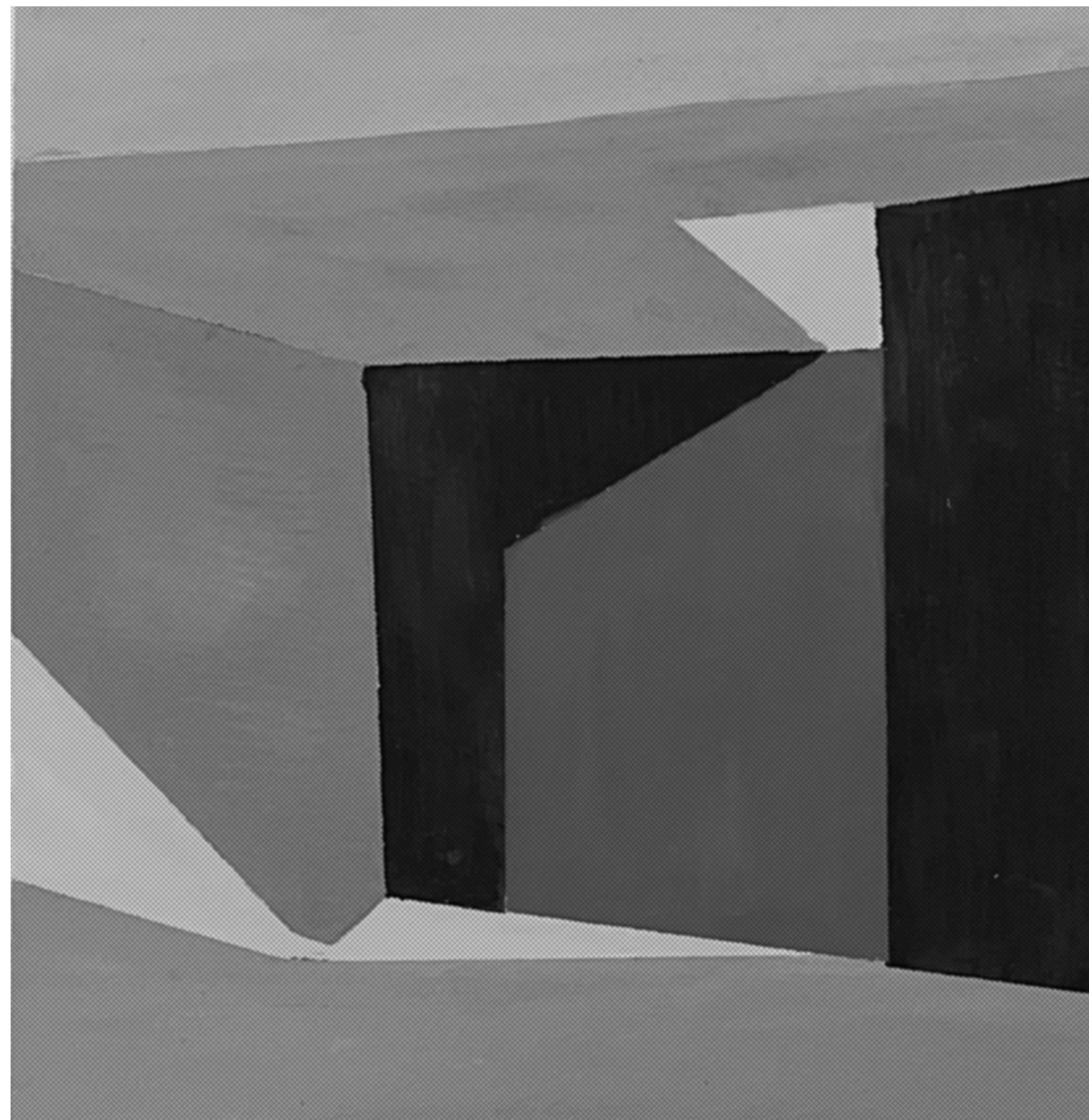


extra works
drafting, profiles, models









A heartfelt thank you to all the professors who have guided me through different approaches, each contributing to my growth and understanding of architecture. The journey has been both challenging and rewarding, transforming my perspective from the fundamentals to a more comprehensive design approach. Your patience and dedication have been invaluable in shaping the designer I am today.

hi, i'm gabriela,

I'm a fourth-year architecture student at the University of Texas at Austin.

I've worked on student-led design teams, but also with professional industry partners as an intern, acting as a path to understanding how innovation can shape the environment.

I ground my work in two guiding values: curiosity and community. Together, they drive the way I approach the boundaries of architecture.

I enjoy seeking opportunities to question, expand, and connect design with its broader context.

lets connect:
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linkedin.com/in/gabrielaygarza