



PORTFOLIO



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AAYUSHI CHHEDA

Architect, Designer

RÉSUMÉ

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EDUCATION

- Aug. 2022 - Jun. 2023

University of California, Los Angeles, UCLA (M.S Architecture and Urban Design, Post Professional degree, Entertainment Studio), USA
- Aug. 2015 - Apr. 2020

University of Mumbai, (Bachelors of Architecture), India
G.P.A. 8.14/10

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Jan. 2021 - Jun. 2022

Architect - ARK Designs Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai, India
Worked with Ar. Raaja Chavvan on large scale commercial, government and residential projects across India
- Jul. 2020 - Dec. 2020

Designer - Personal Work, Mumbai, India
Freelanced on a few interior projects
- Nov. 2018 - Apr. 2019

Intern Architect - Hitanshu Jishtu, Shimla, India
Worked under Ar. Hitanshu Jishtu on cultural, design centres and mountain homes

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- Sep. 2022 - Jun. 2023

Student Lab Worker - University of California, Los Angeles
Managed activities in 3D printing, wood work, laser cutting and robotics for UCLA
- Mar. 2017 - Mar. 2018

Unit Secretary - National Association of Students of Architecture, India
Worked as the unit secretary of my college and led it to create live projects in public places of Mumbai, India

SKILLS

Digital Skills

Drawing & Modeling	AutoCAD	Cinema4D	Blender	Rhino + Grasshopper
	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●
	Revit	Sketchup	Maya	Marvelous Designer
	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●
Rendering & Graphics	Photoshop	InDesign	Illustrator	VRay
	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●
	PremierePro	AfterEffects	Octane(c4d)	Twin Motion
	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●
Game Engine & Machine Learning(AI)	Unreal Engine 5	Unity	VQGan+Clip	CycleGan
	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●

Additional Skills

Physical Model Making | 3D Printing | Wood Work | Laser Cutting |

Personal Skills

Creative | Problem solver | Attentive to details | Communicative | Cooperative | Analytical Decision Making | Hardworking | Ability to handle pressure and meet deadlines

Creativity and thoughtful detail being my innate passion makes design, architecture and it's representation the central focus of my professional dreams. The interplay of spaces and visuals leave a profound imprint on the human mind and therefore kindle a motivation to create within me.

This portfolio contains a few of my compiled works that transcend through architecture, design, world building and cinema. While architecture is grounded in the practicality of construction and functionality, world building thrives on the boundless possibilities of imagination, crafting entire universes where the rules of physics bend at the whims of the creator. In this synergy, I found my passion in visualisation and explored the realm of creating a harmonious relationship between the two.

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01.



Project : The Transformation Trajectory

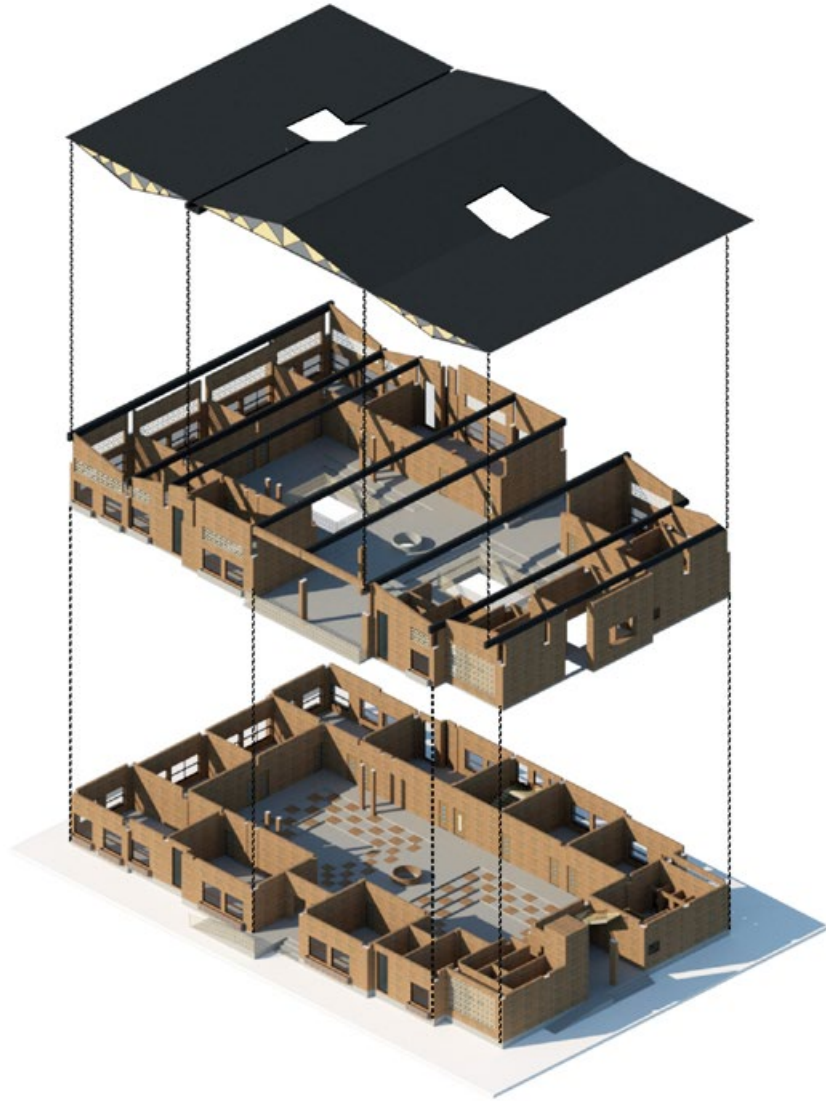
Thesis | Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University
| 2015-20

The Transformation Trajectory is a detailed study and eventual design approach to the spaces and functions of juvenile homes. Juvenile homes are pivotal in transforming the life paths of children after which they come back to the society they were once ostracized from. This project focuses on creating spaces that positively impact the impressionable minds of the children.

Open spaces within the parameters of security, semi-private spaces for personal activities and spaces that exude a sense of freedom and communication have thus been introduced in the design.

1. Exploded axonometric view of site

2.



2. Exploded axonometric of school

3. Indoor view of school entry

4. Site elevation showing the girl's hostel, school and boy's hostel respectively

3.



Project : The Transformation Trajectory

Thesis | Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University | 2015-20

Exposed earthy toned materials have been used to inculcate a feeling of security and warmth. Exposed concrete flooring, brick walls, perforated terracotta screens and trusses with terracotta panels give a distinct identity to the structures while reinforcing warm tones.

4.





5.

Project : The Transformation Trajectory

Thesis | Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University | 2015-20

The girl's hostel overlooks the unbuilt on all sides. The internal stepped courtyards act as secure buffer spaces for movement as well as catalysts for healthy interactions and varying activities. The structure has maximum corners facing the harsh southern light with double walls for further cooling.

The trussed roof with perforated terracotta panels along with the large central courtyard give natural ventilation to the structure. The presence of terraces and gardening opportunities within the hostel help blend the building with its context.

5. Indoor view of Hostel

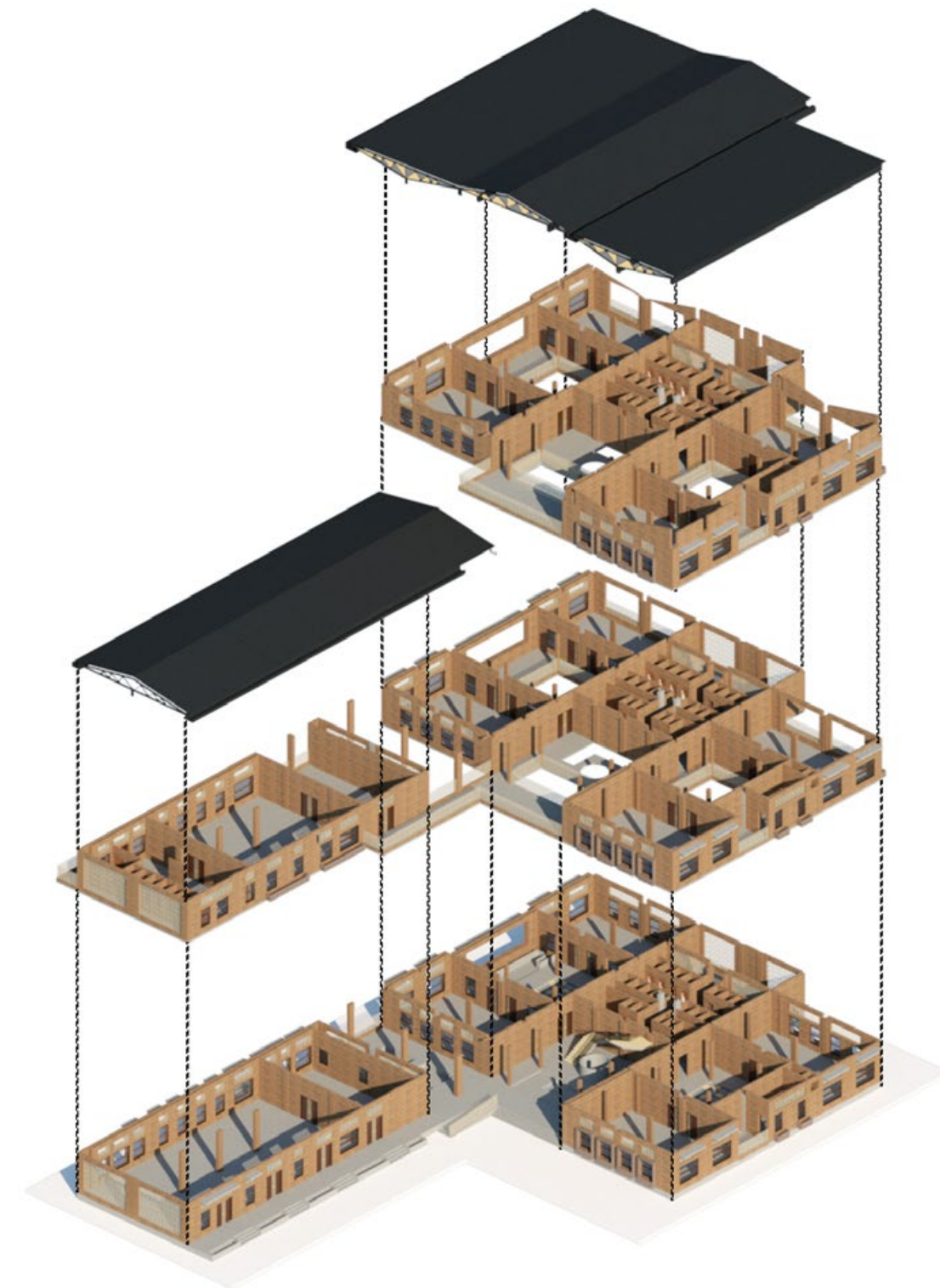
6. Plan of Girl's Hostel

7. Exploded axonometric view of Girl's Hostel

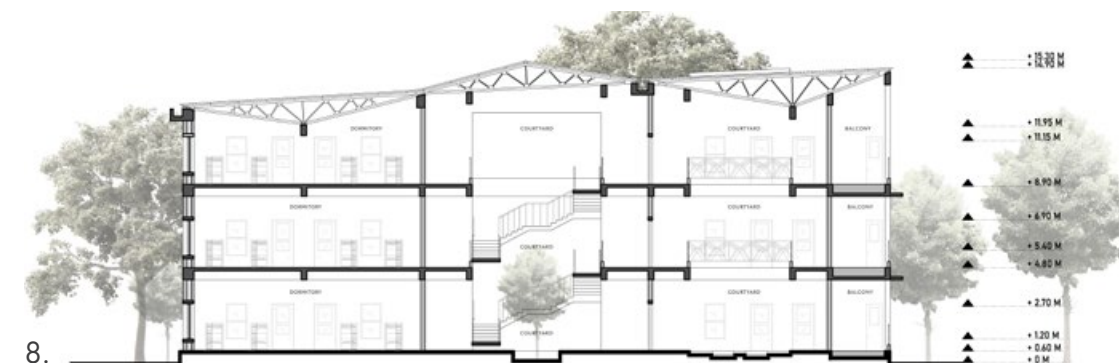
8. Section through Girl's Hostel



6.



7.



8.

Project : The Transformation Trajectory

Thesis | Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University |
2015-20

Situated at an equal distance from either hostels, the school maintains a clear distinction between the boy's and girl's classrooms with the help of levels. The separate entries for both sexes take them to their respective floors with restricted access to the same. The internal stepped courtyards are not only passive cooling techniques but also create an informal teaching area beyond the stereotypical classroom.

9. Outdoor View of School

10. Section of School

11. Indoor View of classroom in School



9.





02.



1.

Project : Forever Young

MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Natasha Sandmeier, Liam Denhamer

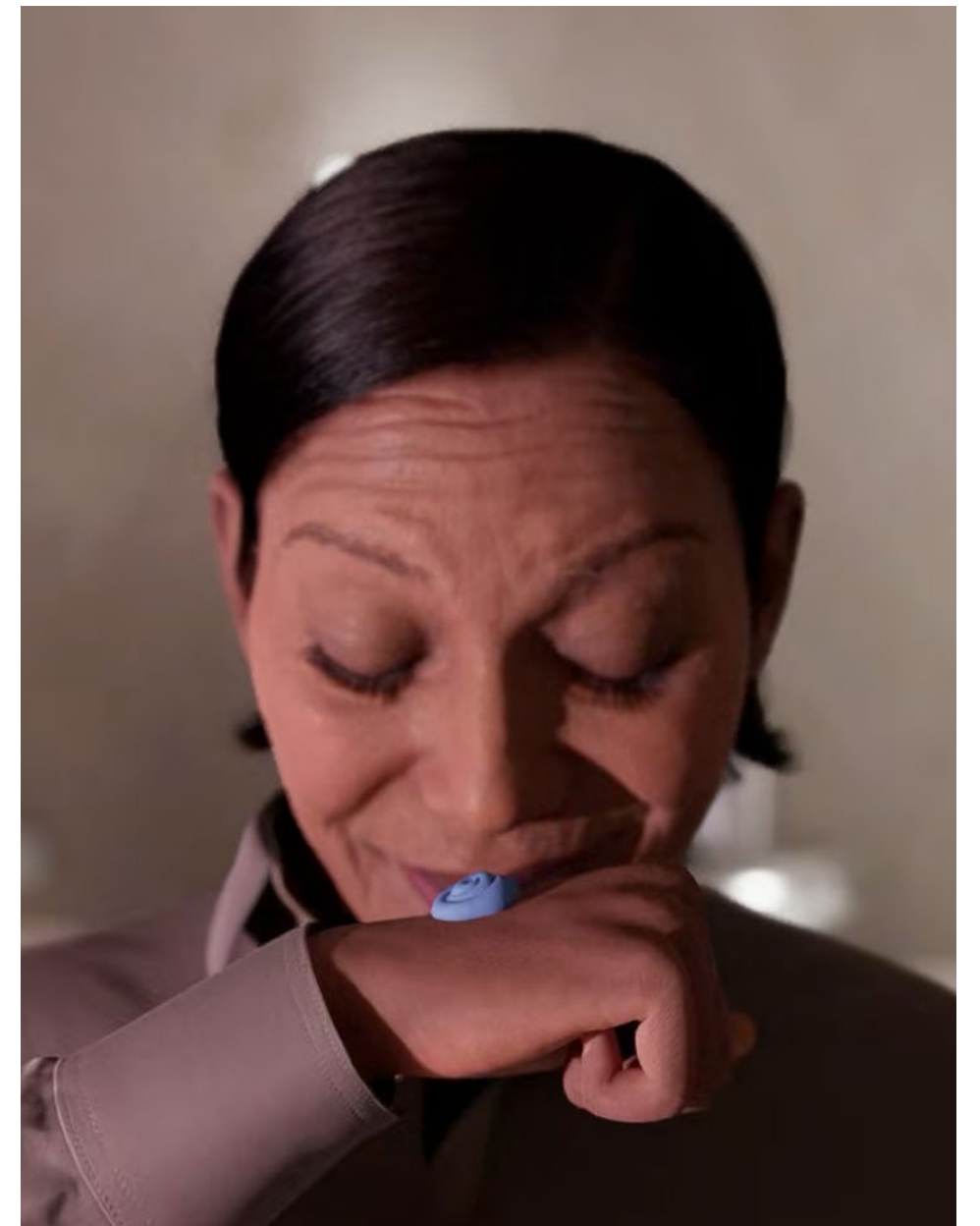
Collaborator : Akshaya Prabhu

Humans are willing to go across bizarre lengths to look like perfection. Forever Young is a satirical take on the pursuit of youth and the impact it creates. A tale that shows the disparity between vain and modest, the privileged and the unprivileged, the young and the old. In this world, kelp fed rabbit feces have miraculous skin de-aging qualities. This product creates an anti-aging frenzy amongst the economically privileged who are willing to do anything to look young, even if that requires having rabbit feces on their face.

1. Shot of customer in experiential spa



2.



3.

Project : Forever Young

MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Natasha Sandmeier, Liam Denhamer

Collaborator : Akshaya Prabhu

The experiential spa offers a stark contrast from the messy factory with its clean and crisp interiors. Pure white lighting with hues of pastel peach and pink help highlight the focus on vanity.

2. Cream being applied to customer in the spa

3. Customer smelling scented cream made from rabbit feces

4. Worker with consumer in the experiential spa



4.

Project : Forever Young

MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Natasha Sandmeier, Liam Denhamer

Collaborator : Akshaya Prabhu

Large masses of rabbits feed on kelp in the factory. The peculiarity in this factory is slowly revealed when the excreted waste from these delicate creatures is collected for processing.

5. Rabbit feces moving on conveyors

6. Large masses of rabbit feeding on kelp

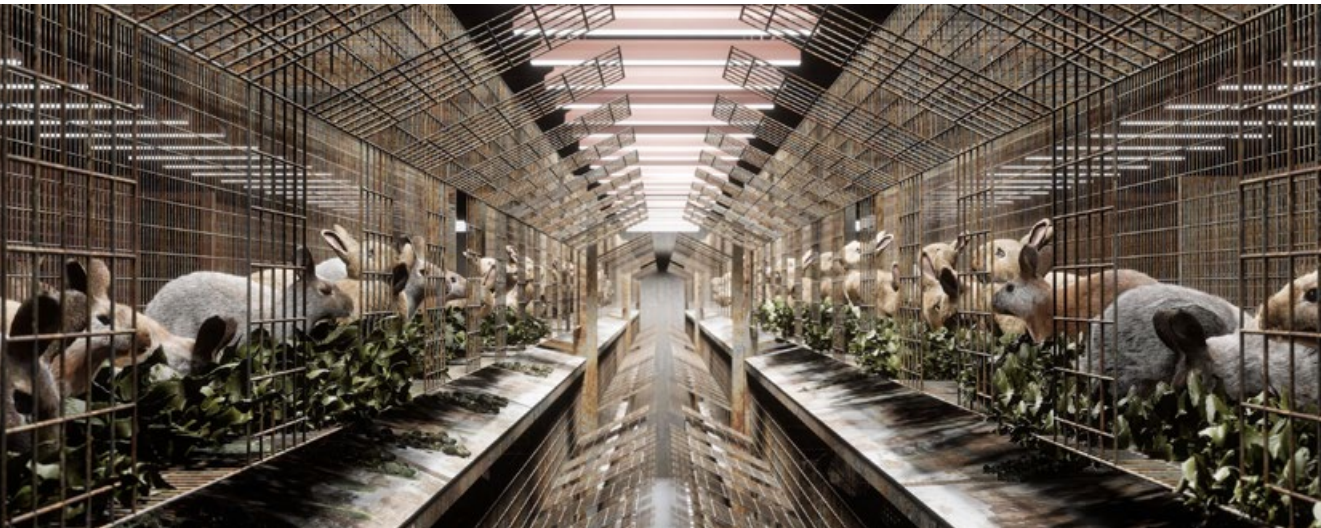
7. Masked old worker staring into the mirror

8. Rabbit eating kelp

5.



6.

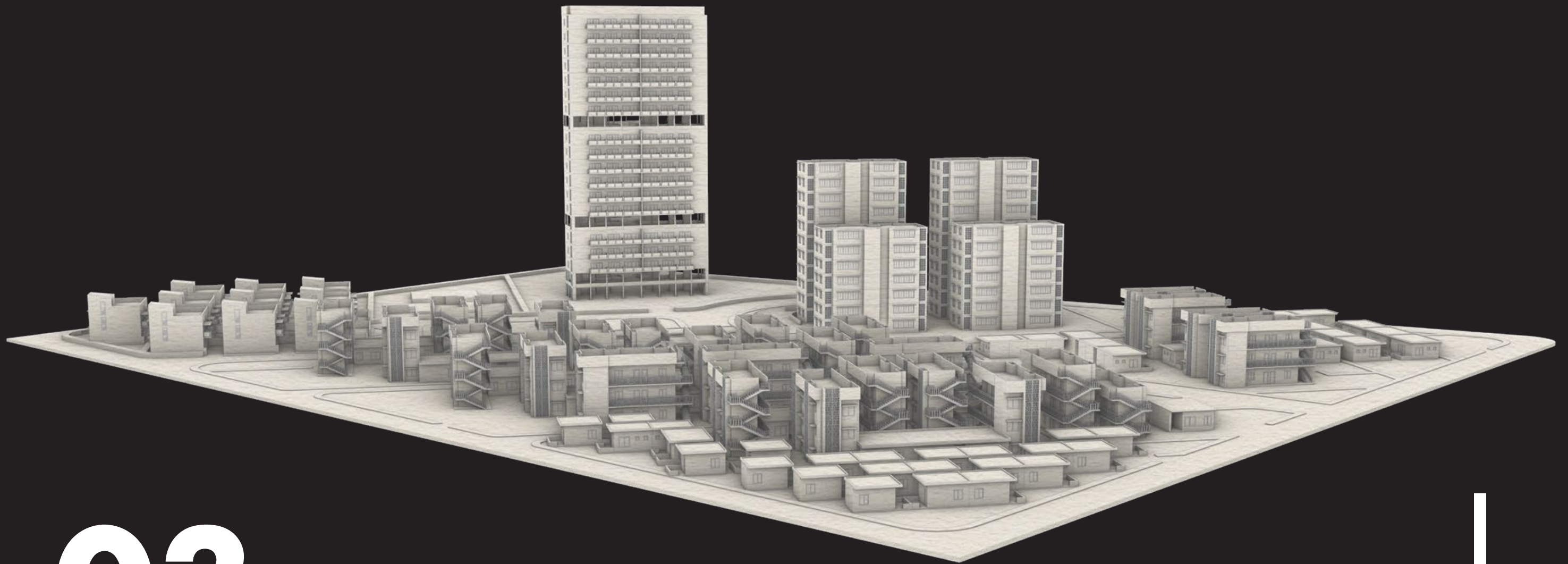


8.



7.





03.



Project : Multiple Housing Settlement

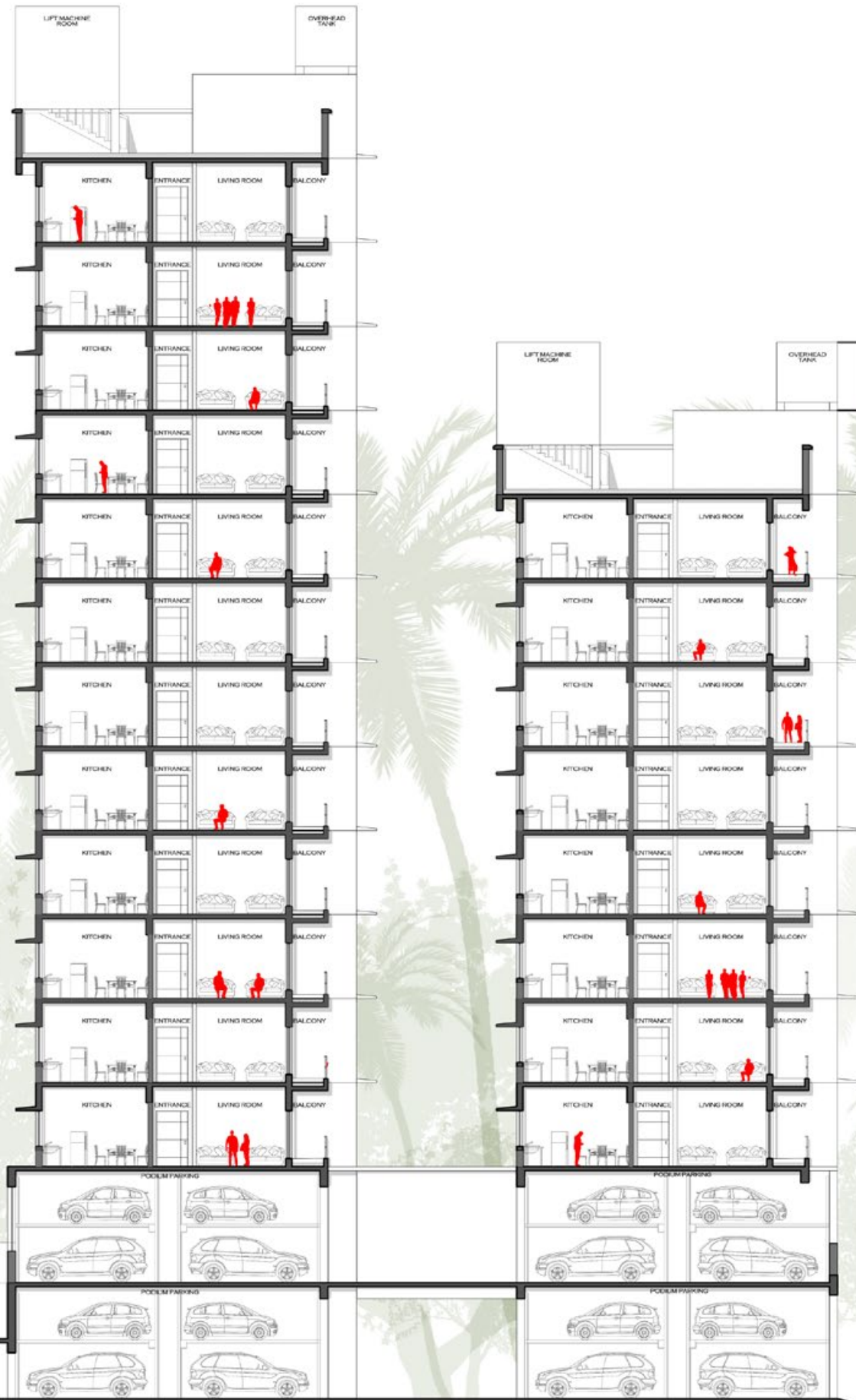
Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University | 2015-20

Located in the newly developing region of Nashik, India, this multiple housing settlement attempts a novel concept of housing multiple classes of society within one site. The housing settlement creates its own ecosystem of classes while also giving them their privacy and feeling of ownership. The site follows a hierarchy of privacy with open pockets of social interaction among its residents.

Interconnected terraces with visual access across the region reinstates the strong sense of community in the people. The levels have been restricted to a maximum of three for low income groups to reduce a feeling of distance and alienation within the residents.

1. Perspective view of site

2.



Project : Multiple Housing Settlement

Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University | 2015-20

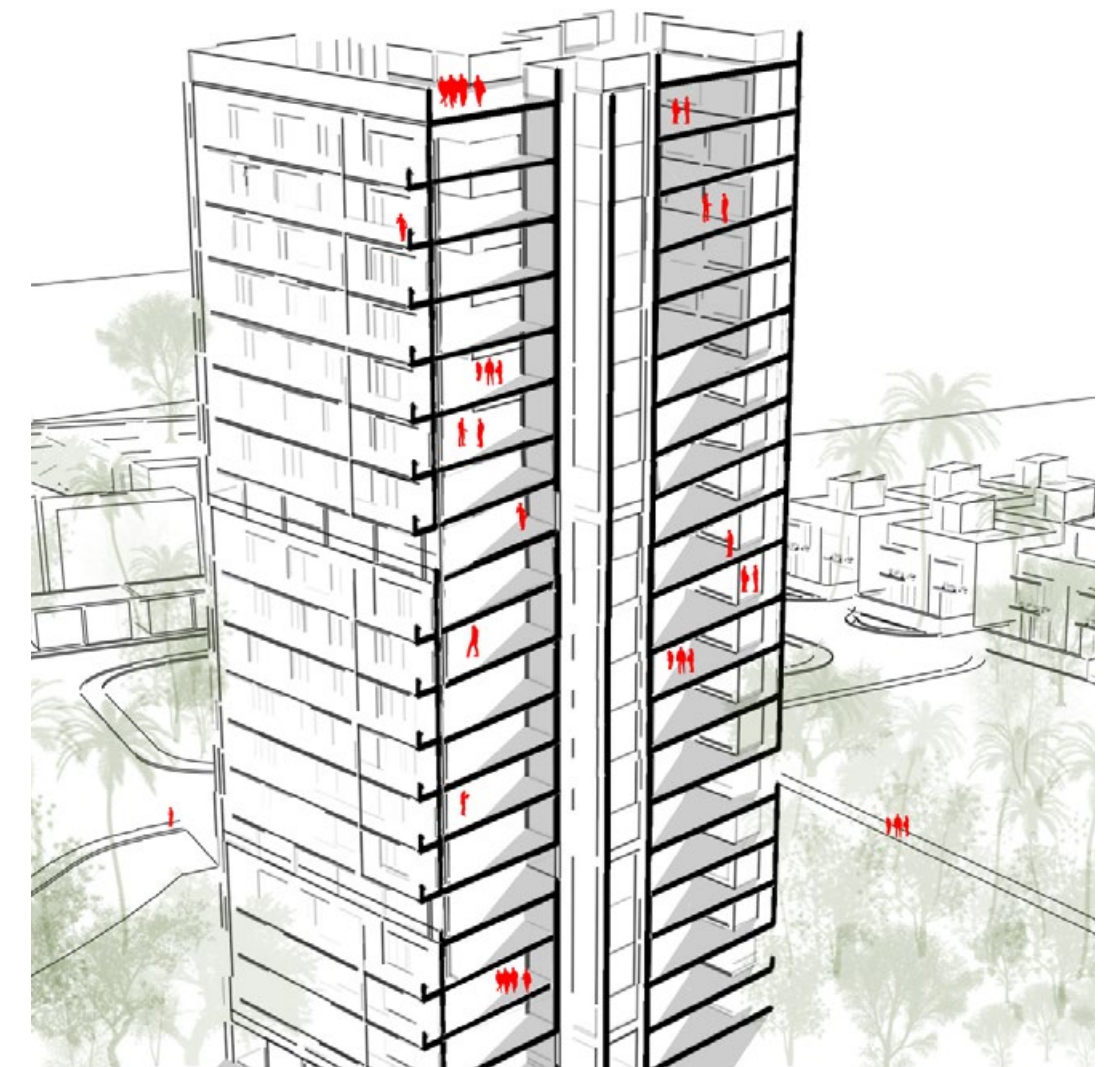
The middle class in urban India craves the best of both worlds and wants equal amounts of privacy as well as community interaction. The structure housing this class has a central podium shared among the privately owned flats to act as a social interaction catalyst.

The structures are oriented such that they create a air funnel effect with the taller building behind receiving adequate ventilation. The homes have balconies overlooking the greenscapes surrounding the building.

2. Section of Middle Income Group Buildings

3. Perspective section of High Income Group Building

3.





4.



5.

Project : Multiple Housing Settlement Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University | 2015-20

The top tier residents on the site would not only want seclusion but also lateral space and therefore each high income resident has a private bungalow within a gated area. It stands separated from the rest of the settlements through multiple pathways and heavy foliage thereby ensuring privacy.

The two storey structure not only has it's own private terrace but also a dining courtyard with a skylight above it to let in crisp light while still maintaining the sanctity and privacy of the home.



6.

4. Plan of High Income Group Bungalows

5. View of Low Income Group Buildings

6. Perspective sections of High Income Group Bungalows

04.



Project : The Memory Orb

MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Natasha Sandmeier, Nathan Su

Collaborator : Akshaya Prabhu

The memory orb is the space that houses the in between life of a man in a cryo facility. While the subject is frozen in time, this space collects little clues to the time he didn't experience. Upon arrival from the cryo this is his first home, his first real world experience and therefore it is a fluid yet protected space offering peeks of the natural context. Textures and volumes appear dynamic to create a sense of freedom within the space.

1. Internal view of the Memory Orb





2.



3.



4.

Project : The Memory Orb

MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Natasha Sandmeier, Nathan Su

Collaborator : Akshaya Prabhu

The orb is cut away from the real world but is the only thread that houses and connects the subject to the passing time. It therefore possesses a variety of objects including healthcare aids for the subject to slowly return to normalcy.

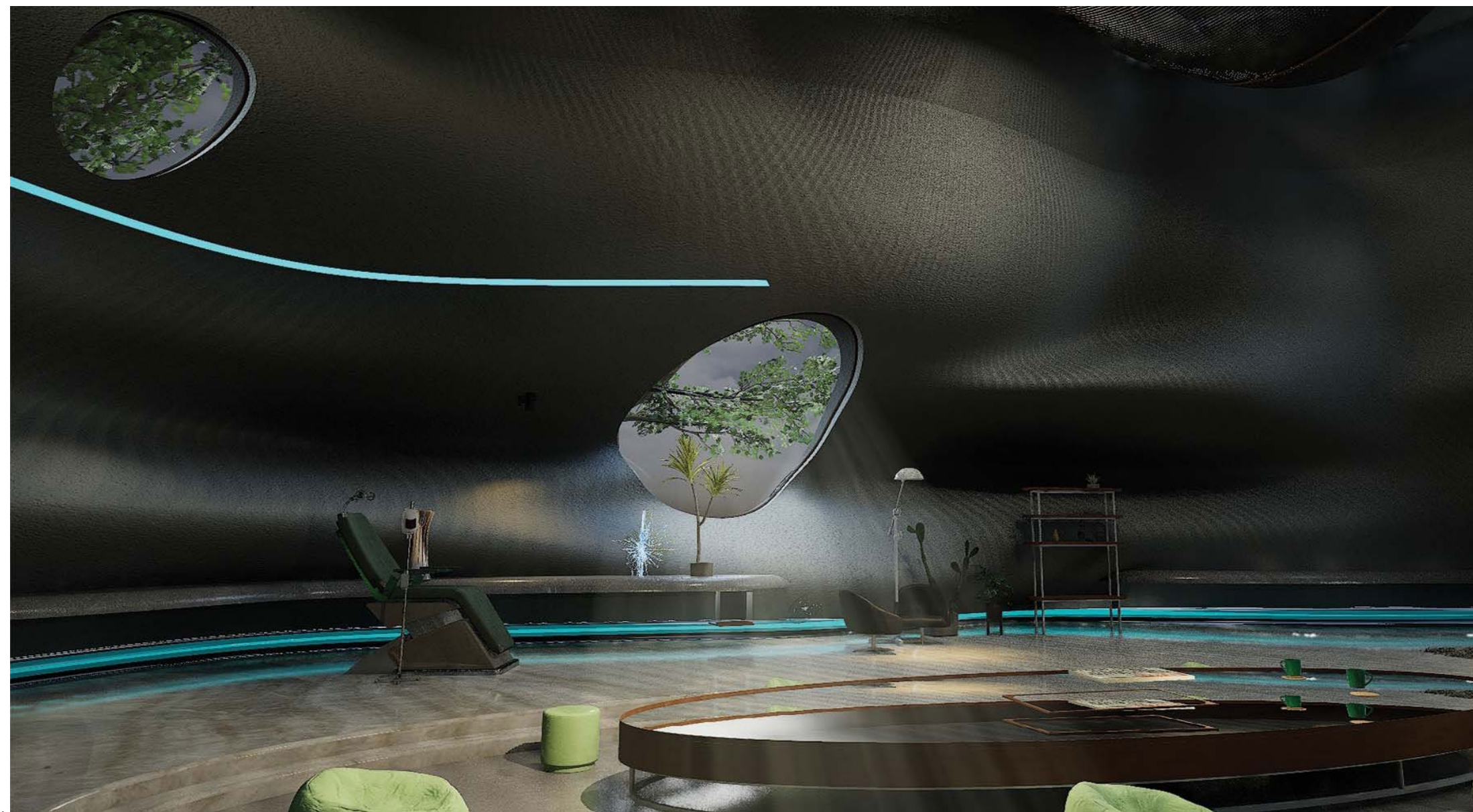
The space feels offers light, movement and shelter in a free flowing, dynamic manner to symbolise the endlessness of the facility.

2. View of perforated roof letting light in

3. View of sky light near roof

4. View of cryo chamber

5. View of openings throing light into the structure



5.

05.



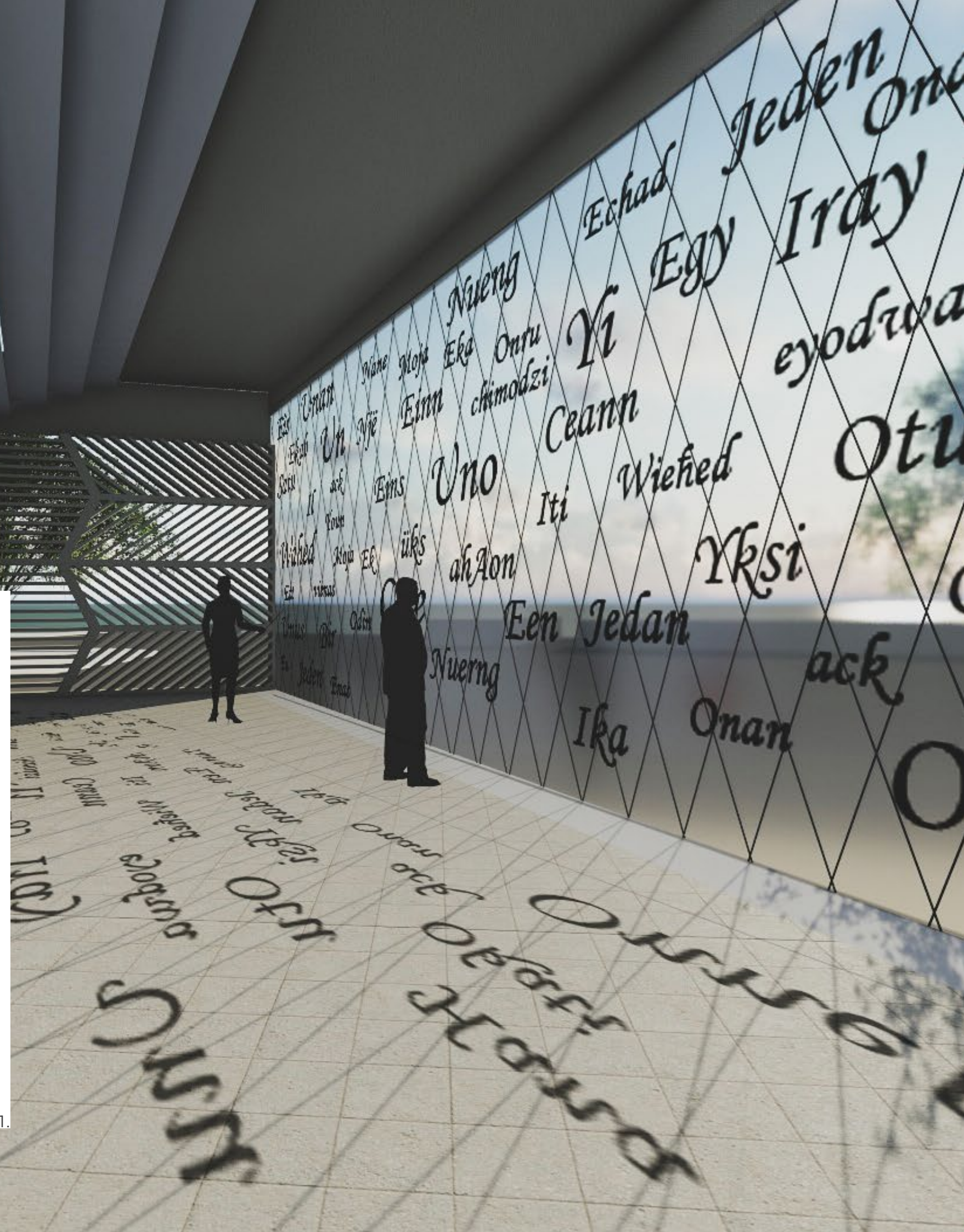
Project (Competition) : Museum of Language

Collaborators : Swapnil Kulkarni, Janhavi Wadekar | 2018

The Museum of Language aims at preserving all different languages and yet making them one. The relation of inside and outside has been given focus since it is located on the banks of river Thames.

The roof of the structure has been morphed into the path to its access. It not only descends towards the Thames but also acts as an interactive space. The inlets of light are such that they fall onto letters across the museum, thus making the museum experiential.

1. View from interactive space in museum



Project (Competition) : Museum of Language, London
Collaborators : Swapnil Kulkarni, Janhavi Wadekar | 2018

The museum celebrates inclusivity of all cultures and languages. The glass façade has the word 'One' written in as phonetically pronounced across all major languages. The sunlight falling on to this glass symbolizes the oneness nature shows towards all mankind.

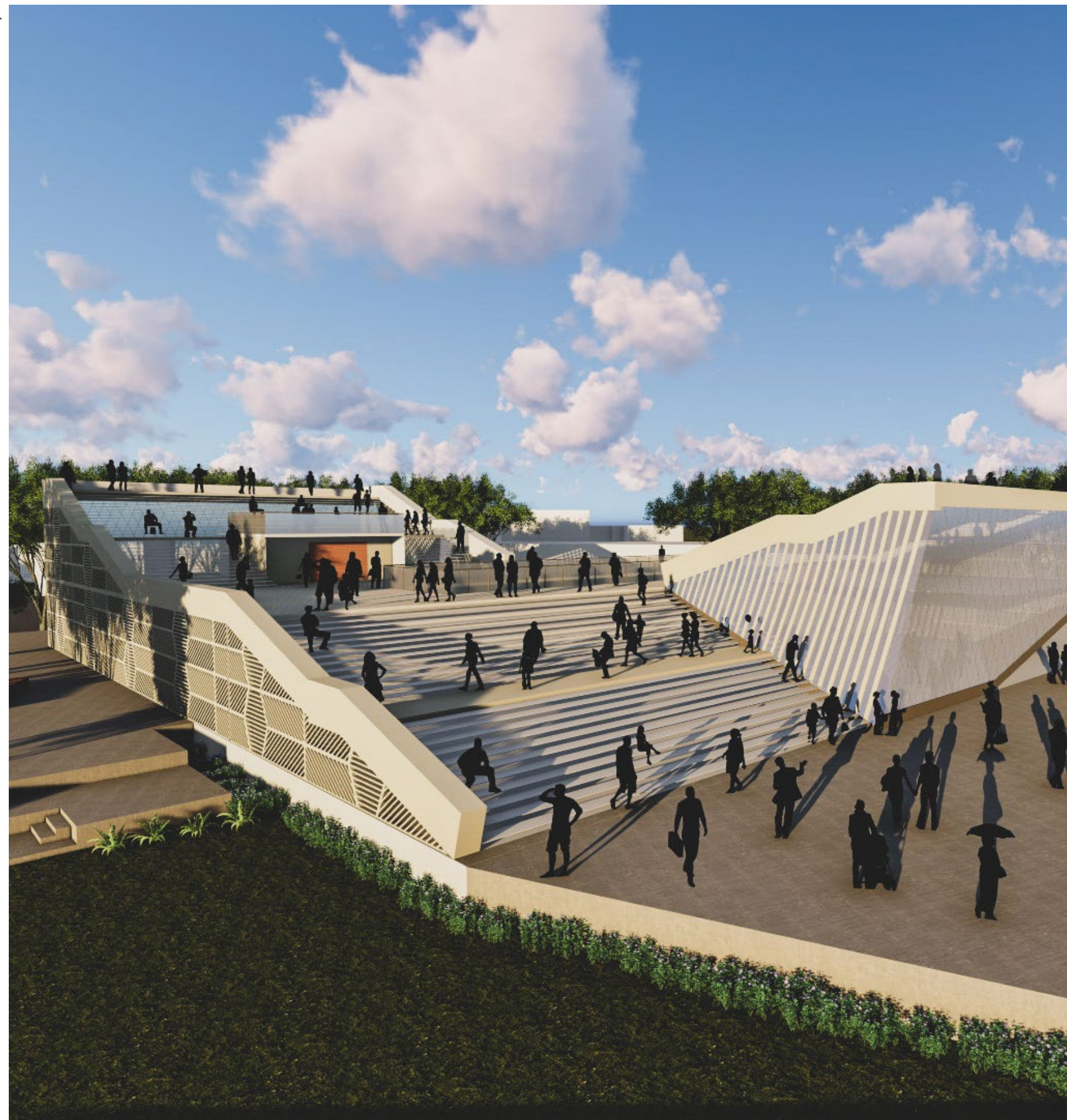
2. Perspective view of structure showing roof to ground activity

3. Section through museum

4. View of courtyard in museum

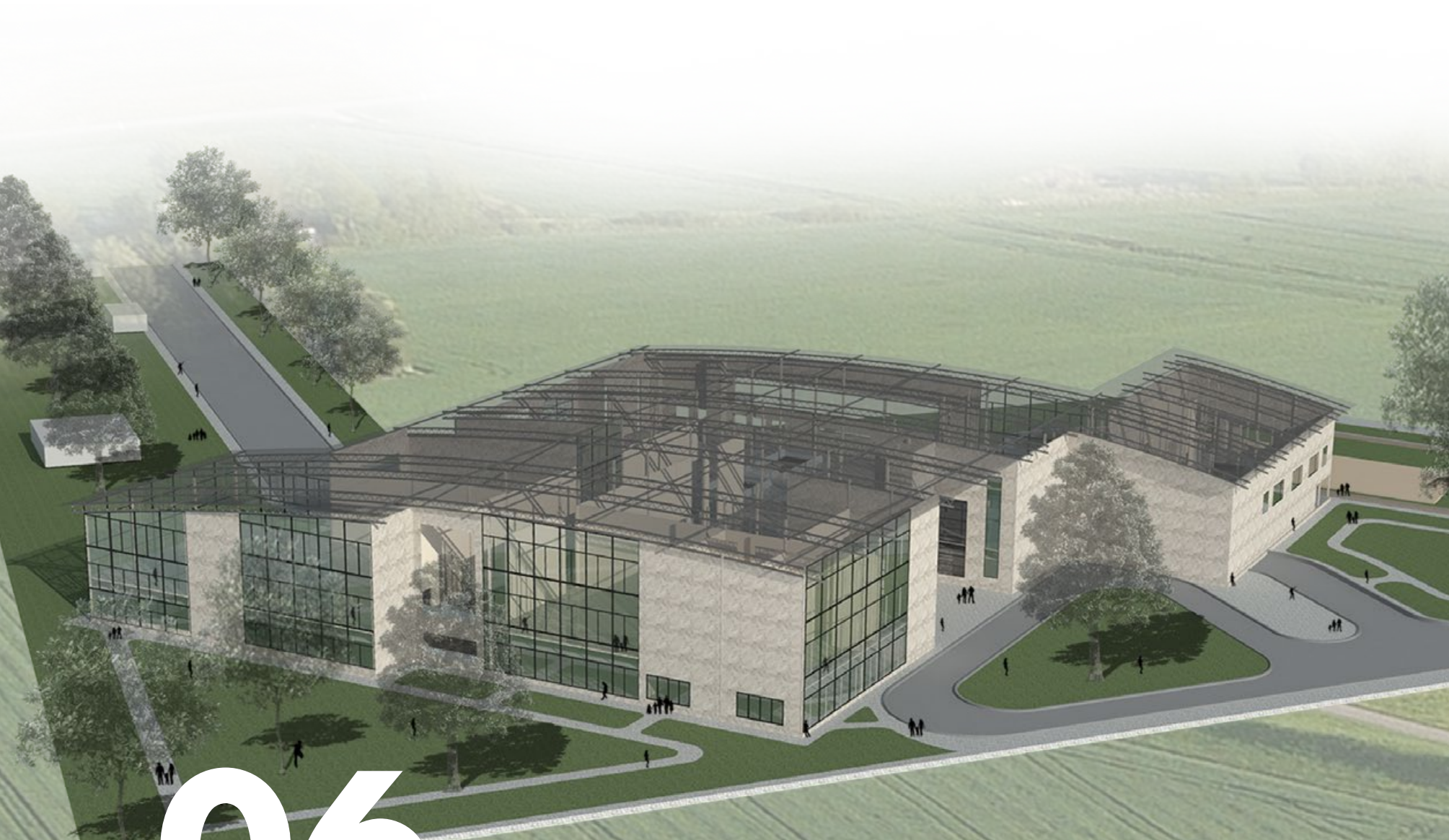


2.



3.

4.



1.

2.

06.



Project : Pro-Leisure Sports Arena

Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University | 2015-20

The Pro-Leisure Sports Arena is located on the upcoming residential fringes of Mumbai to inculcate the missing spirit of physical health and wellness in the city. Lack of open space and facilities have made the masses devoid of athletic exertion in their routines. This facility looks at combining leisure activities for families as well as professional sporting games in an attempt to converge the energy of professional sports with the vibrant pulse of the city.

1. Perspective view of site

2. View from pool area

Project : Pro-Leisure Sports Arena

Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University | 2015-20

Double to triple heightened spaces and courtyards are placed ascendingly to create a wind funnel effect. It also contributes to the grandeur and scale of the project thereby giving it a distinct identity in the city's architecture. The courtyard is the central thoroughfare of the building making it the main axis as well as a catalyst for the wind funnel effect.

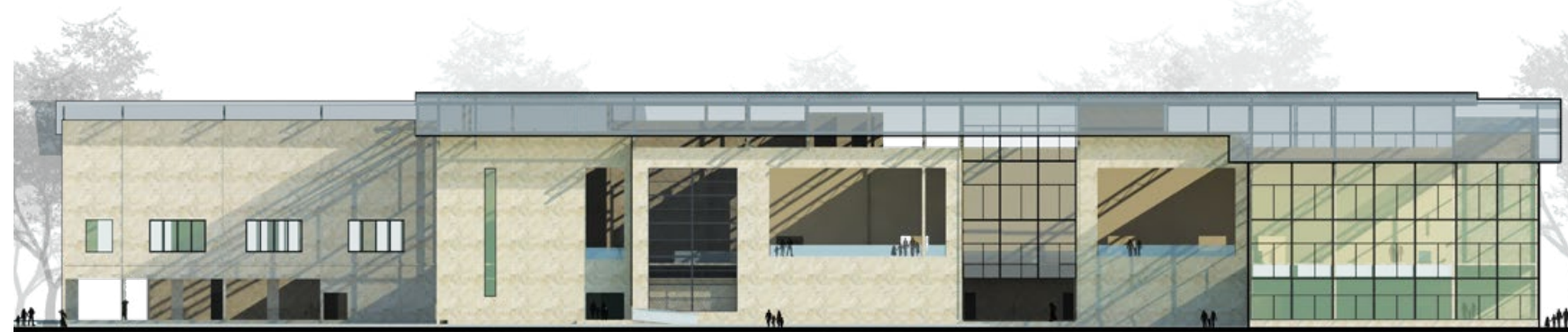
The sports facility is laterally spread across the site creates distinction in the nature of it's activities through levels. The entry, management offices and informal leisure sporting arenas along with entertainment activities lie on the ground level with parking in the basement region. All the professional sport courts along with their outdoor leisure spaces lie undisturbed on the first floor.

3. Side elevation of building

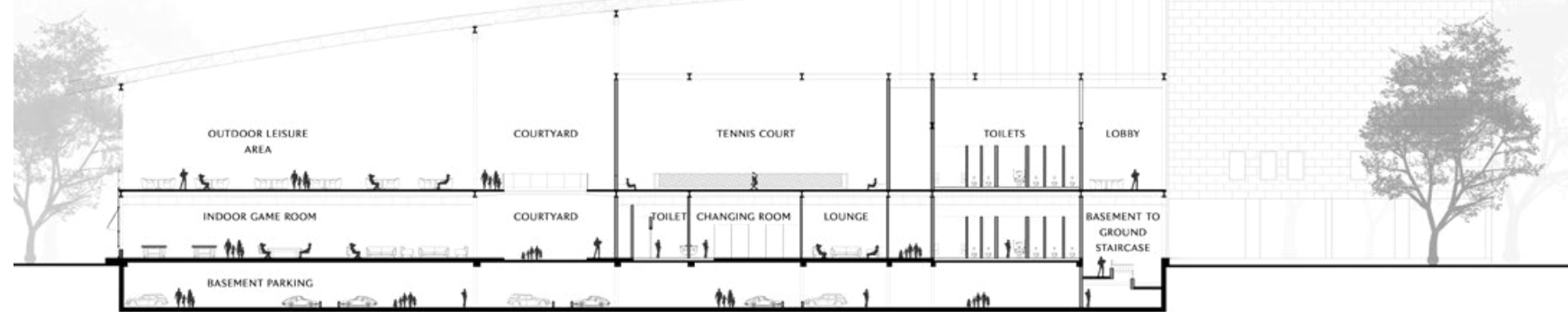
4. Section through building

5. Front elevation of building

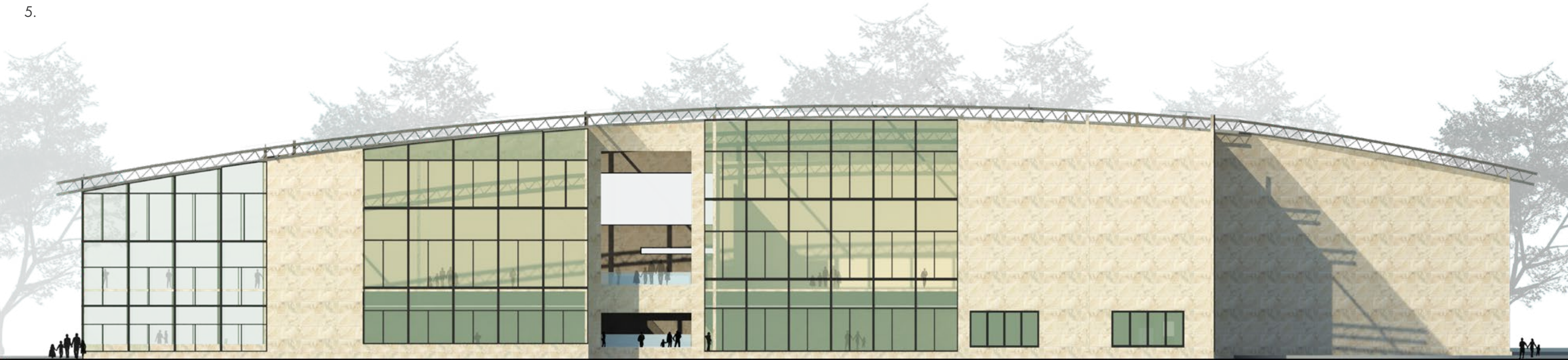
3.



4.



5.





07.

1.



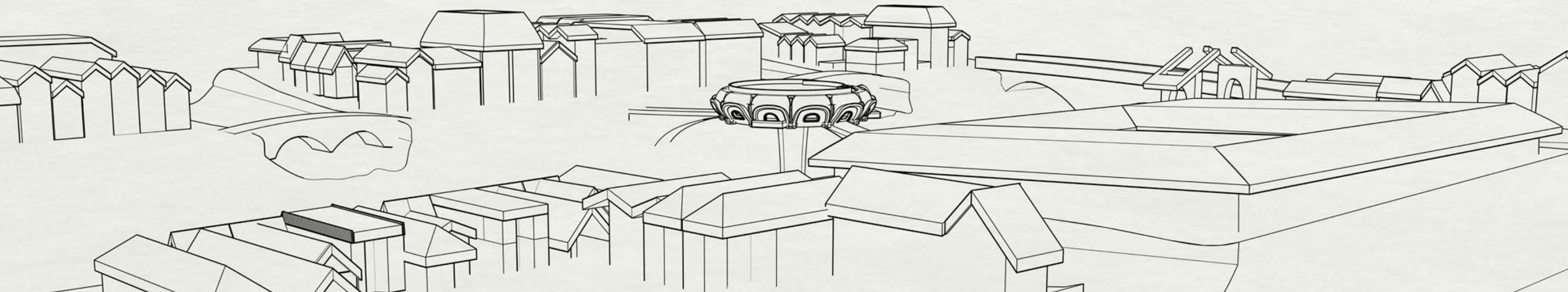
2.

Project : Art Bridge Museum
MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23



The Art Bridge connects two streets with great heritage value in Amsterdam. It has the Hermitage Museum and the Collective Six Museum on either ends. Therefore, the purpose of this bridge is to not just be a place of display but also a place of live artistic expression. The central podium acts as this very vessel for interaction, expression and artistic liberation. The model of Amsterdam was created using 3D printing , laser cutting and hand painting the details. The structure has balconies overlooking the Amstel river while also possessing Amsterdam's inward looking character.

- 1. Perspective view of model
- 2. View of houses in model



3.

Project : Art Bridge Museum, Amsterdam MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

The central amphitheater is encircled by the gallery area. These two spaces are separated by movable display and glass panels to alter the space as per requirement while also making it interactive for the visitors. The gallery also houses a ramp that leads the visitors onto the roof garden to catch a picturesque view of Amsterdam from its iconic river, Amstel. The leveled stepped in the central space create an internal amphitheater to host multiple activities of artistic expression.

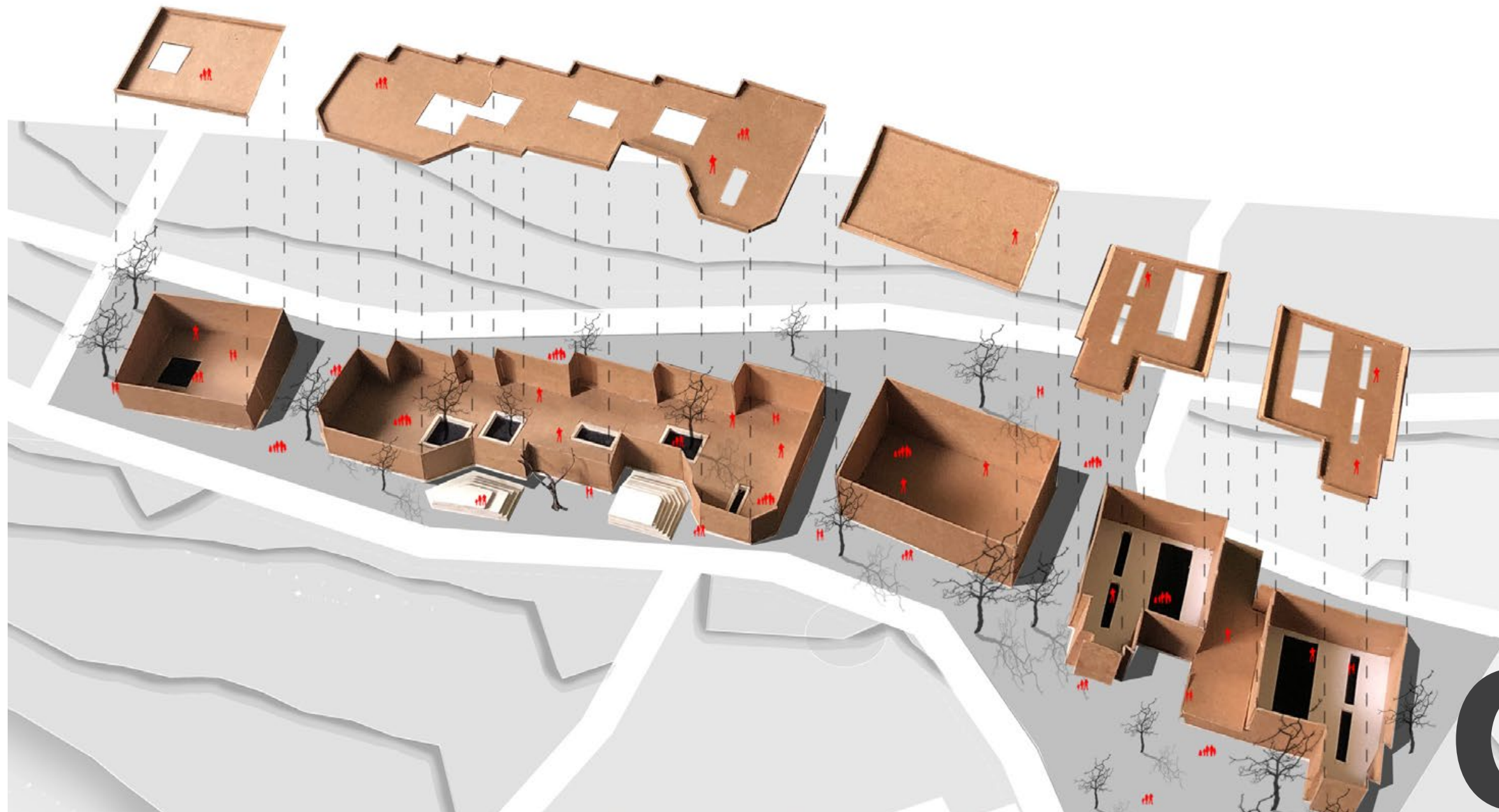
The movable panels allow for a dynamic space creation within the museum thereby giving more control and opportunity for expression to the user. The structure 's functionality is thus determined by each user and visitor.

3. Perspective view of site

4. View from peripheral museum gallery

4.





1.



Project : Mandvi Cultural Odyssey

Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai University | 2015-20

The cultural centre is located on the coast of Kutchh, Gujarat for the revival of the dying arts and crafts of the region. Various dying arts like ajrakh printing, bell-making, rogan art etc. have been given a practise and exhibition space. The arts have been divided on different levels keeping the decibels of their practise in mind.

1. Perspective view of exploded physical model



2.



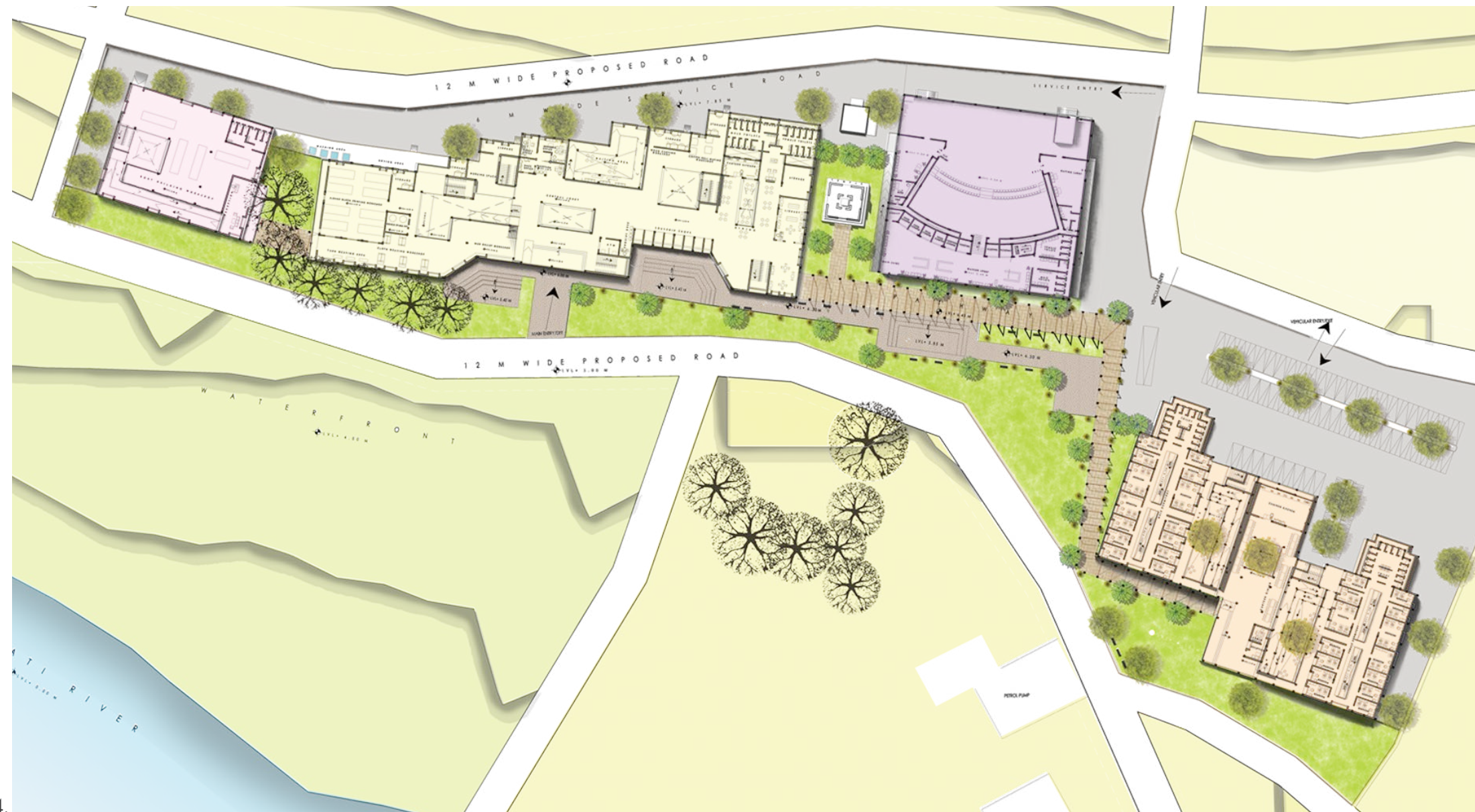
3.

Project : Mandvi Cultural Odyssey
Bachelors of Architecture | Mumbai
University | 2015-20

The structures are bound by their language of courtyards that act as interactive, ventilating and movement guidance places for the users. The sea facing side of the site is the main entry while the opposite site is used completely for the servicing needs of the structures.

Reinforced clay bricks, perforated clay panels and courtyards are symbolic to this design as they not only respond to material availability but also the contextual climate. The courtyard is an ancient Indian climate response that grew into a space for social interaction and has been therefore introduced here.

- 2. Perspective view of Cultural Odyssey
- 3. Internal view showing activities and courtyards
- 4. Site plan



4.



Project : Kinetic Cartography

MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Tucker van Leuwen-Hall

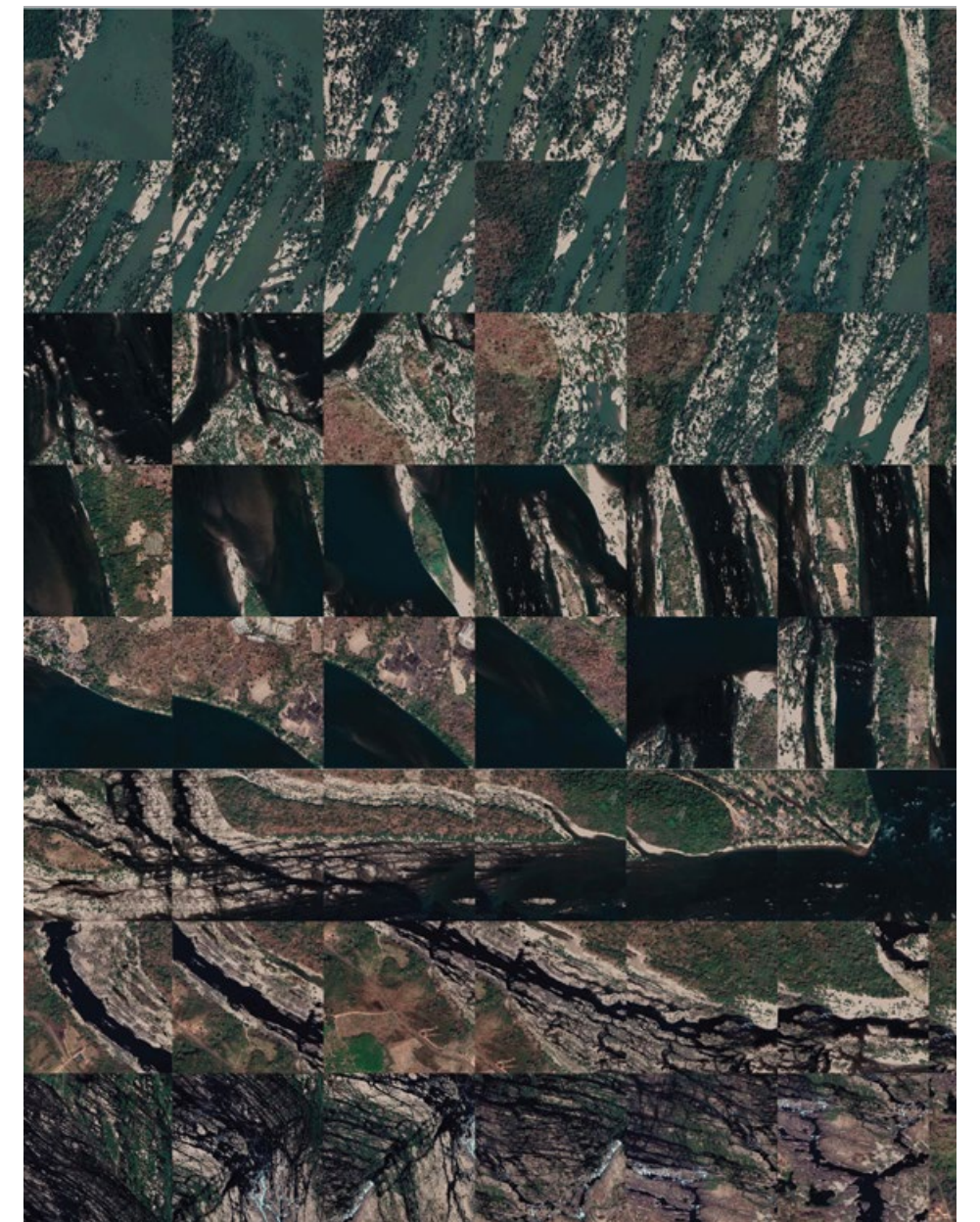
Collaborators : Zhiyang Guo, Wei-Huan Cheh, Sean Meng

Kinetic Cartography deals with observing the landscapes of four different places from the world and creating one unique landscape by amalgamating their identities into one. Here, the merged landscapes of Diamantina River (Australia), Melong River (Cambodia), Dubai and Prague led to dynamic results..

1. Plan amalgamating google earth plans of Diamantina River (Australia), Melong River (Cambodia), Dubai and Prague



2.



3.

Project : Kinetic Cartography

MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Tucker van Leuwen-Hall

Collaborators : Zhiyang Guo, Wei-Huan Cheh, Sean Meng

The process involves using StyleGan and Octane Render to morph the maps into one result that is then made dynamic thereby reflecting features of all the locations to create one single plan.

2. Perspective view of new dynamic terrain

3. Plan permutation of Melong River

4. Plan permutation of Diamantina River

4.

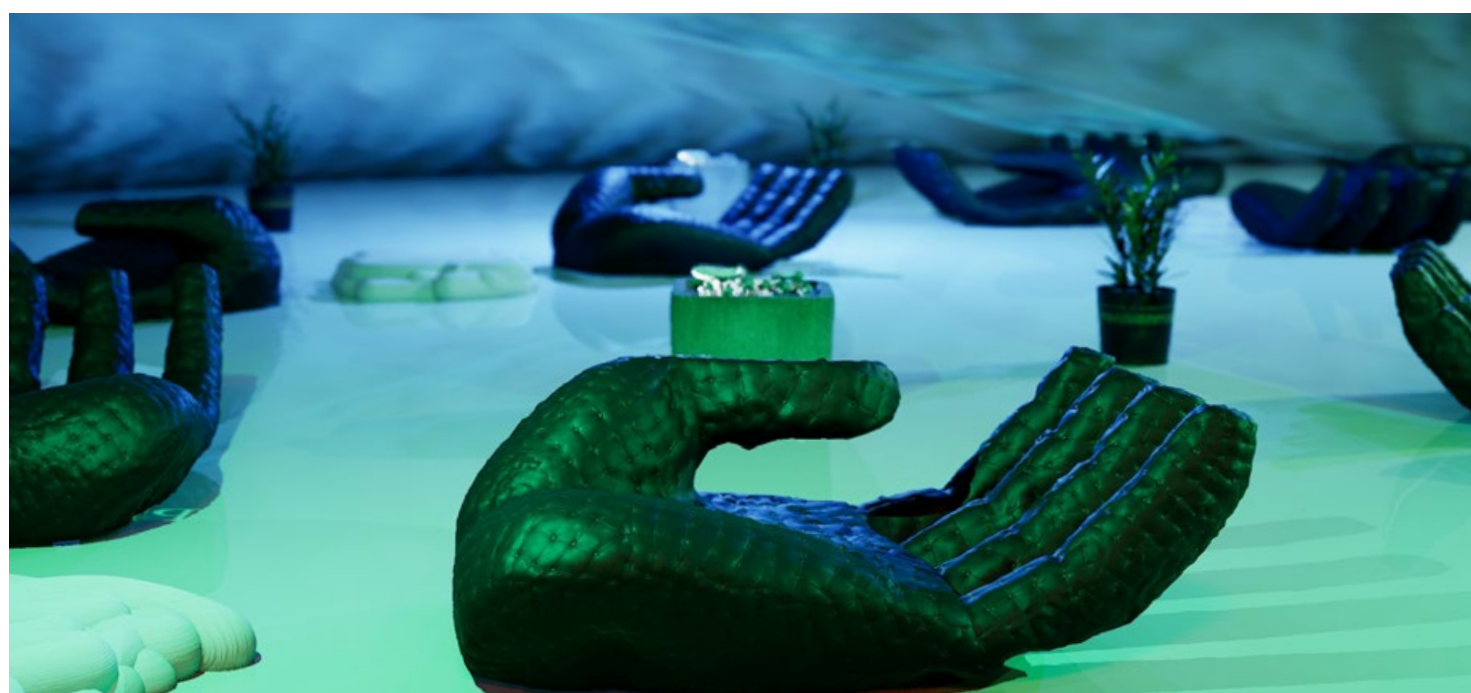


1.



10.

2.



Project : ANON Biohackers
MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23
Instructors : Liam Denhamer
Collaborator : Akshaya Prabhu



Biohacking is one of the fastest growing industries in the world right now with people augmenting their body to make it more efficient. The Biohacker's Den is an experiential museum that aims at creating awareness on this fast growing phenomenon through multiple installations and spaces within the structure.

1. Visitor interacting with an installation
2. Seating area in the museum

Project : ANON Biohackers

MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Liam Denhamer

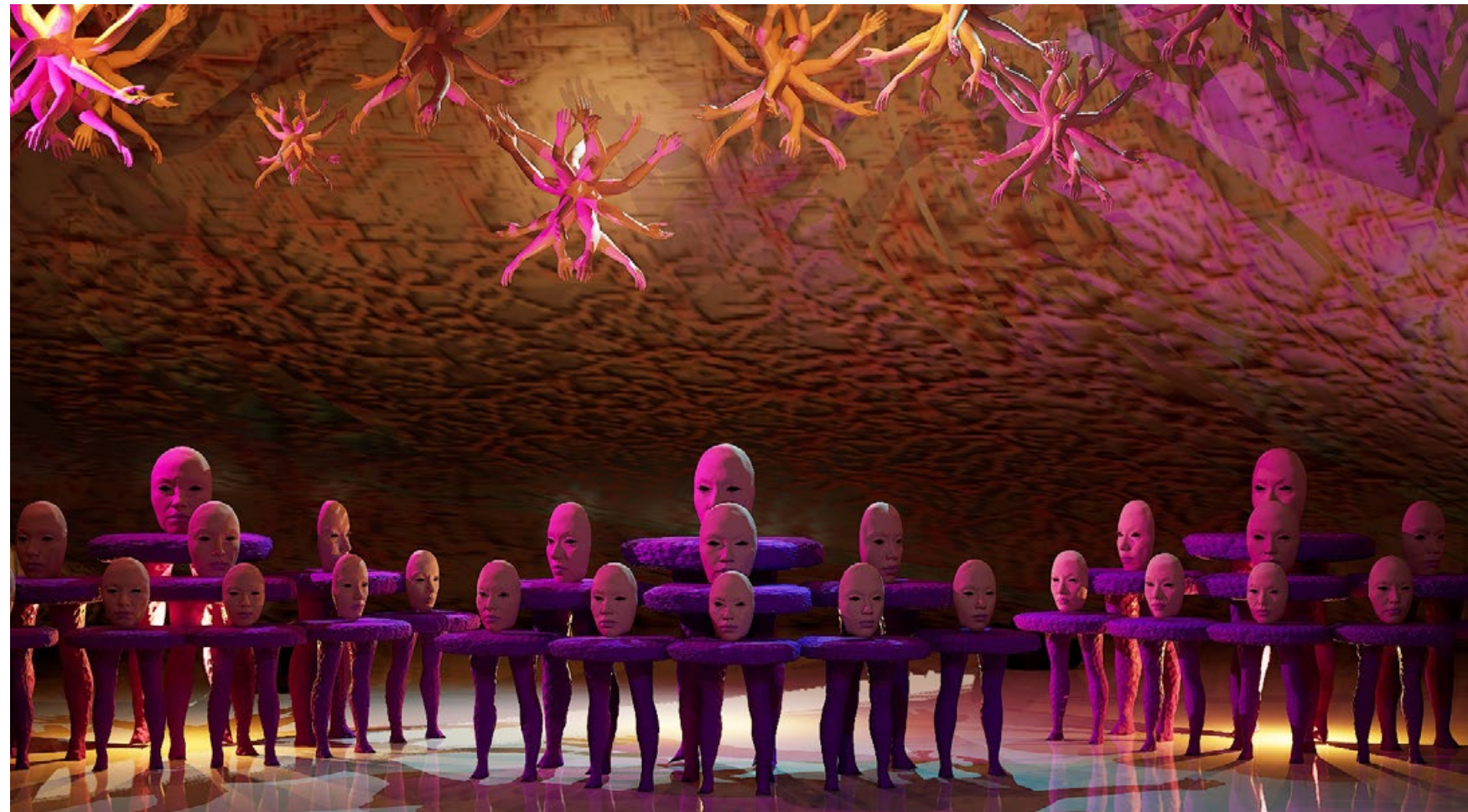
Collaborator : Akshaya Prabhu

Inspired from various bodily parts, textures and systems, this museum has novel installations and spaces that generate curiosity in the visitor towards the phenomenon. Arm chandeliers, tactile bone hangings, skin textured walls are among the multiple elements in the museum.

3. Installation in the museum

4. Material experiments with flesh, bones, cartilages, skulls and arteries respectively

3.



4.





11.



Project : Frame by Frame

MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Natasha Sandmeier, Liam Denhamer

Collaborators : Zhiyang Guo, Yinghao Zhang, Yunlong Zhao,
Akshaya Prabhu

Shots from movies were studied and emulated with intricate details in order to gain a deeper understanding of camera angles, lighting, props and post production. Recreating these shots also helped understand the intent behind placing the camera in a particular way to ignite a specific feeling in the audience. Post this, the professional camera was used to capture various stills and footages across Los Angeles.

1. Shot emulated from the movie 'Her' along with the original shot for comparison



Project : Cinema

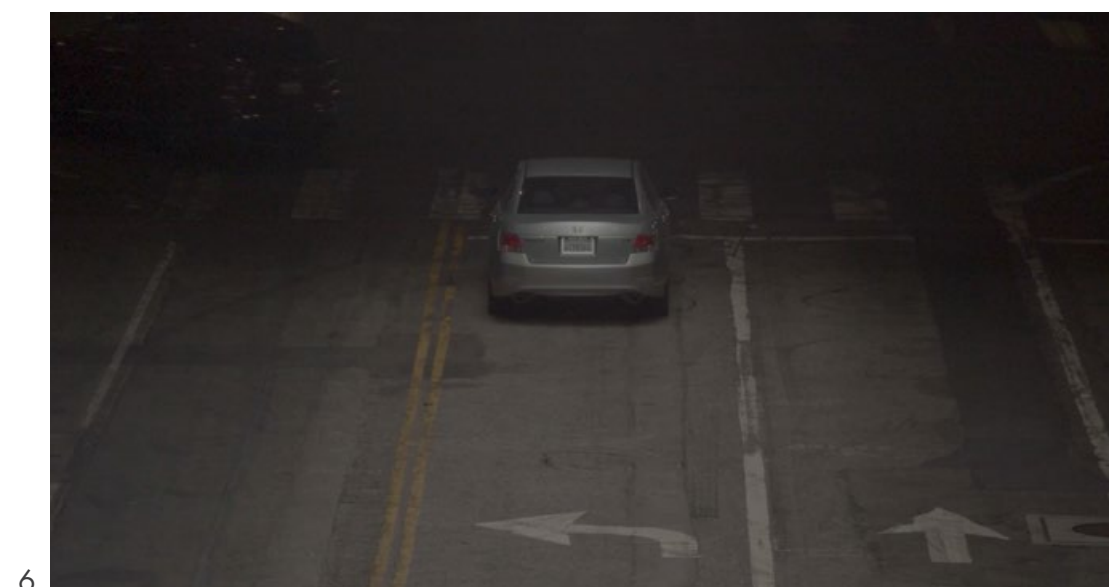
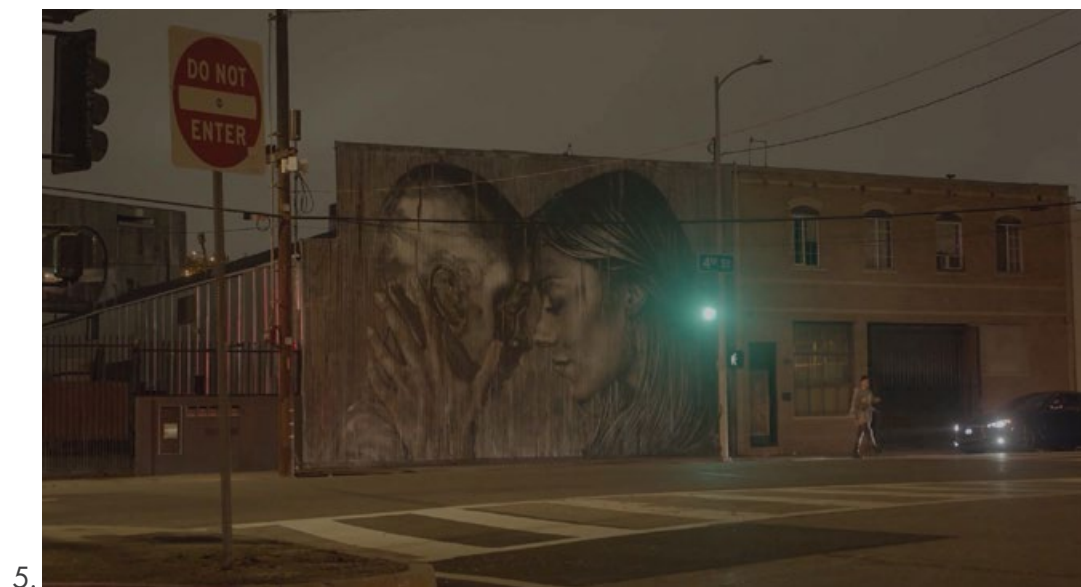
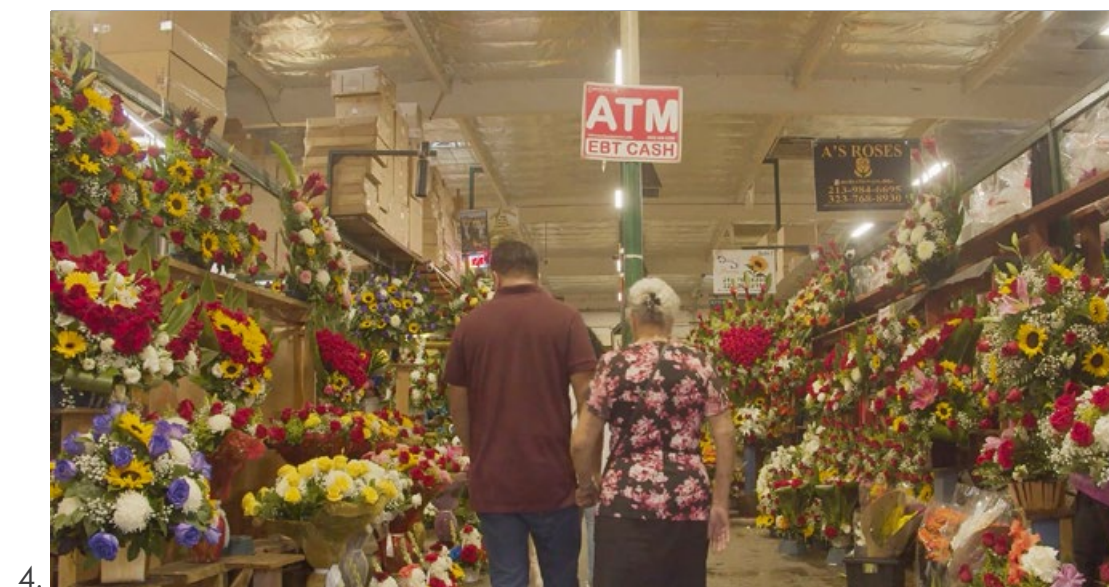
MSAUD | UCLA | 2022-23

Instructors : Natasha Sandmeier, Liam Denhamer

Collaborators : Zhiyang Guo, Yinghao Zhang, Yunlong Zhao, Akshaya Prabhu

Inspired from the Baraka movie, LA Baraka captures the city of Los Angeles and its people through a non-narrative short film communicating a subtle emotion of alienation in the city. Footages taken across the whole city over a period of a month were gathered to create one short clip.

2. A server opening a restaurant door in Downtown Los Angeles
3. A woman waiting on a bus stand
4. An old couple entering a shop in Flower District
5. A wall mural on a building facade in Downtown Los Angeles
6. A car entering a subway
7. A shopkeeper coddling his son in Flower District



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