

EMILY MAJORS

ARCHITECTURE+DESIGN PORTFOLIO

2015 - 2024

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01. MALL

PROJECT DESIGNER, REMOTE

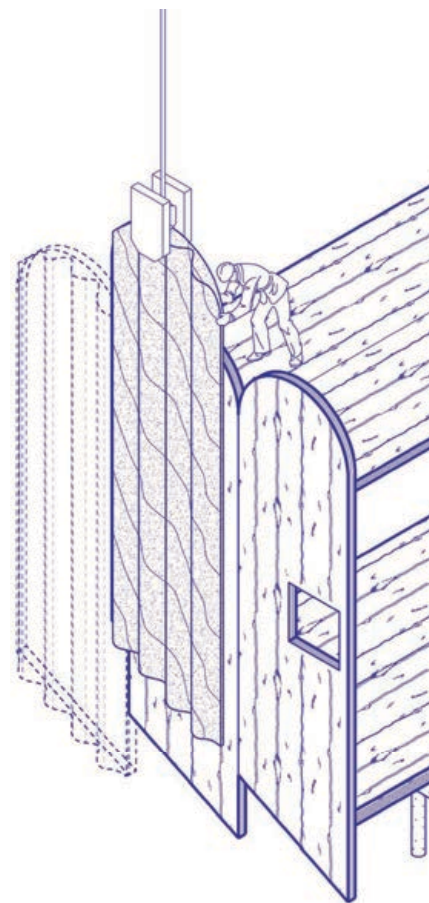
NOVEMBER 2021 - AUGUST 2022

SUPERVISOR: JENNIFER BONNER

The projects worked on at MALL included a competition, a single family home, and a multi-family tower proposal. Work for the competition included the production of visual and architectural representation for MALL's submission, "Villa Parapet," which was selected as a winner for this competition. A large part of my time at MALL was spent on the design and documentation of a single-family Cross-Laminated Timber home in Portland, OR called "Blank House." During this project phase, communication with code consultants, structural engineers, civil engineers, and product suppliers were coordinated and folded into the final drawing set submitted for permitting. In addition to the CLT House, my primary work here included the production of comprehensive concept and schematic design packages for a pre-cast concrete housing tower in Atlanta, Georgia. Communication was coordinated between the client, manufacturer, engineers, various consultants, architect of record, and city officials as the project developed.



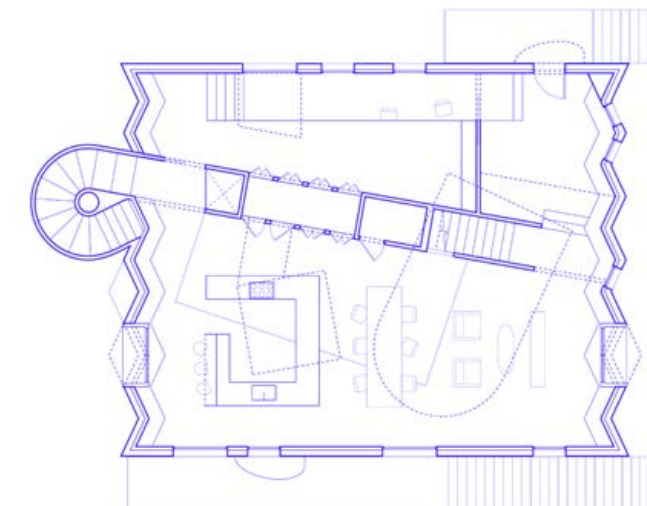
*Blank House, Portland, OR
1/12" = 1'-0" Scale Model*



*Villa Parapet Competition
Cladding Assembly Diagram*



*Blank House, Portland, OR
Material Plan Obliques,*



*Blank House, Portland, OR
Plan and Section Drawings*



*Villa Parapet Competition
Renders (completed by other team member)*



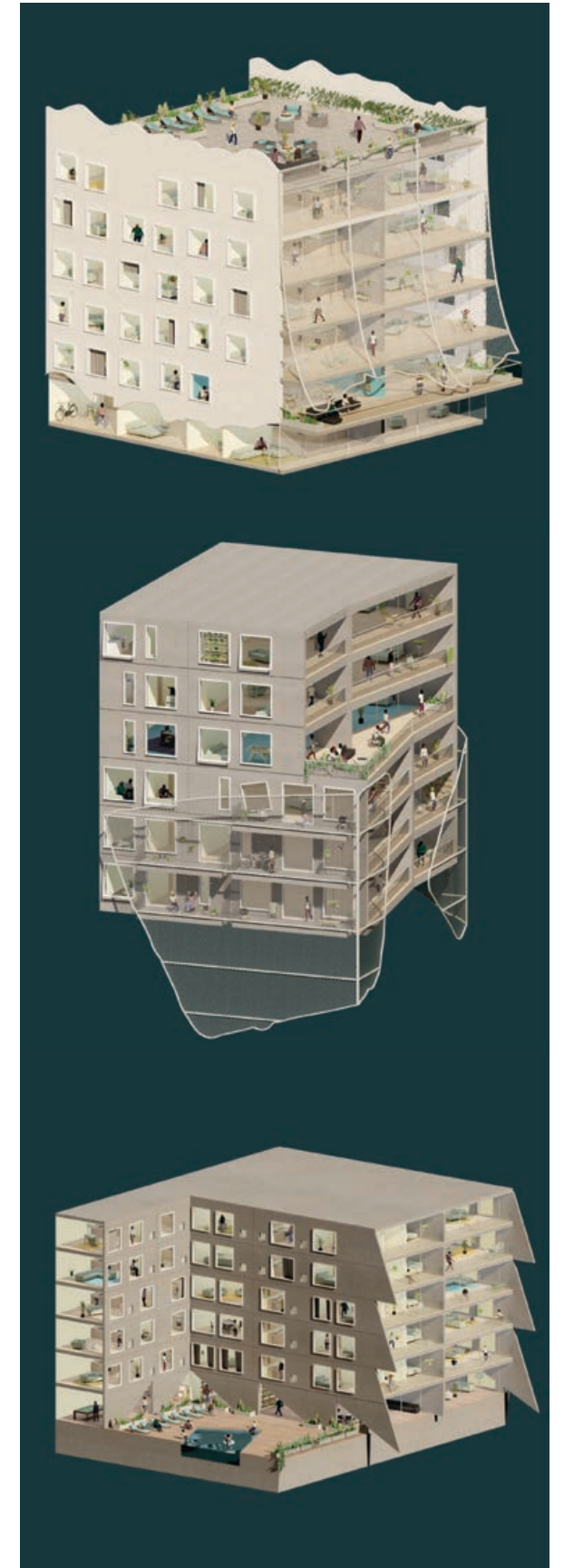
*Atlanta, GA Tower
Beltline Connection Rendering*



*Atlanta, GA Tower
Elevation - Texture Study*



*Atlanta, GA Tower
Elevation - Gradient Study*



*Atlanta, GA Tower
Concept Chunk Models*

02. I HAVE A DOOR UP THERE

INSTALLATION DESIGN, CAMBRIDGE, MA

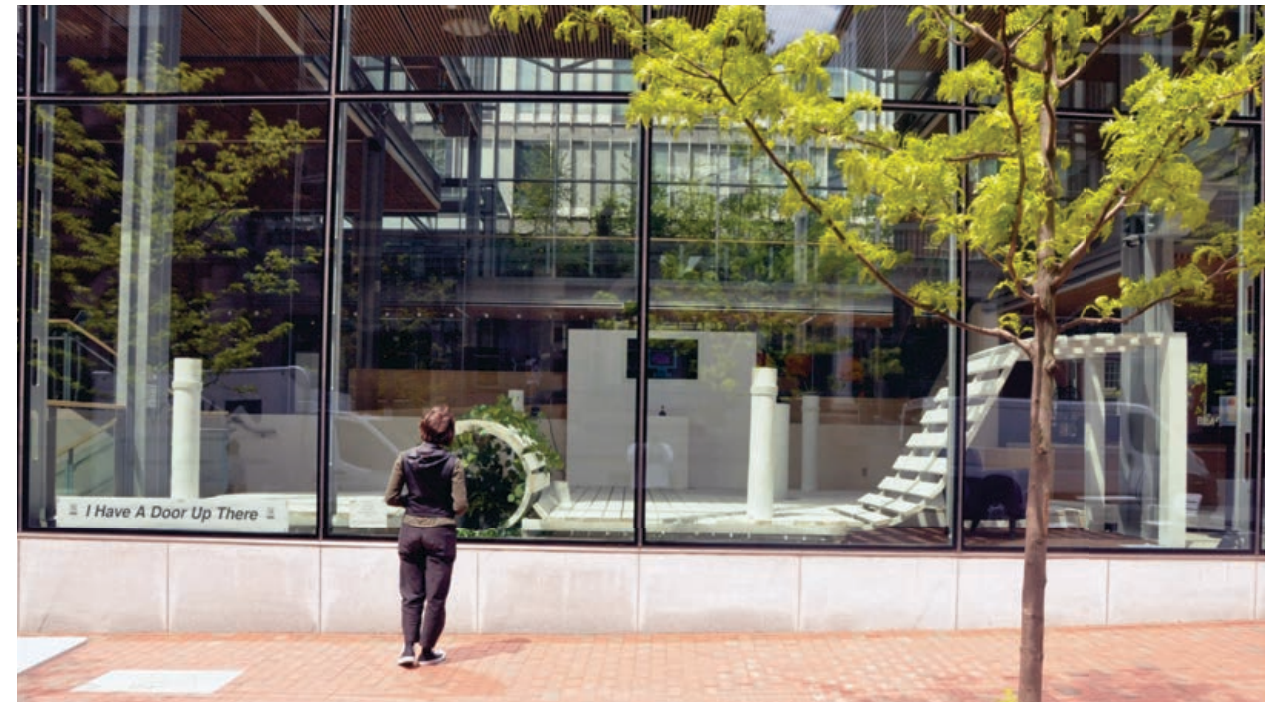
FEBRUARY 2021 - MAY 2021

COMMISSIONED BY HARVARD THEATRE DANCE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

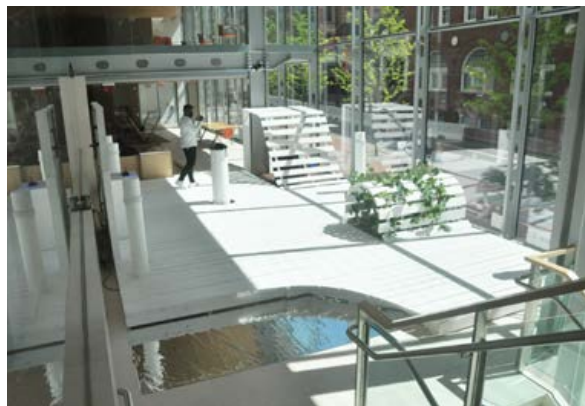
DESIGN COLLAB W/ DARIEN CARR

CREATED BY ALICE FINDLAY, ISAAC HELLER, AND NOAH GOLD
IN COLLABORATION WITH TARA AHMADINEJAD AND PHILLIP HOWZE
AUDIO, VIDEO, AND AR DESIGN BY SADAH ESPII PROCTOR
WEBSITE DESIGN BY MATT WOLFF
LIGHTING DESIGN BY CHA SEE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARINA DEFRATES

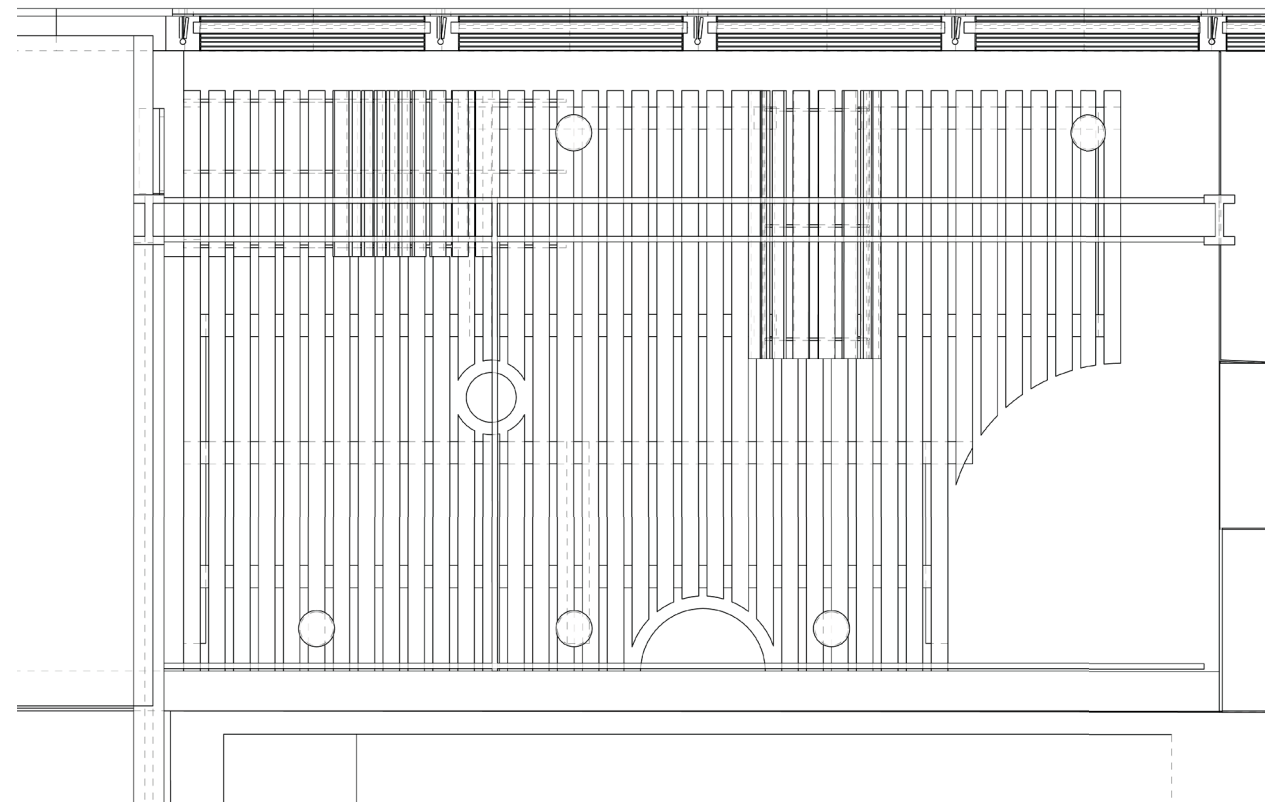
This installation was commissioned by the Harvard Theater, Dance, and Music Department for their Spring 2021 Production: I have a Door Up There and was installed in the Harvard Smith Campus Center. The design work was completed collaboratively with Darien Carr in response to the needs and interest of the students and instructors commissioning the design.



Photographs of Completed Project



Photographs of Completed Project



Design Concept - Plan

03. EDISON MUSEUM

MUSEUM EXPANSION/RENOVATION, BEAUMONT, TX

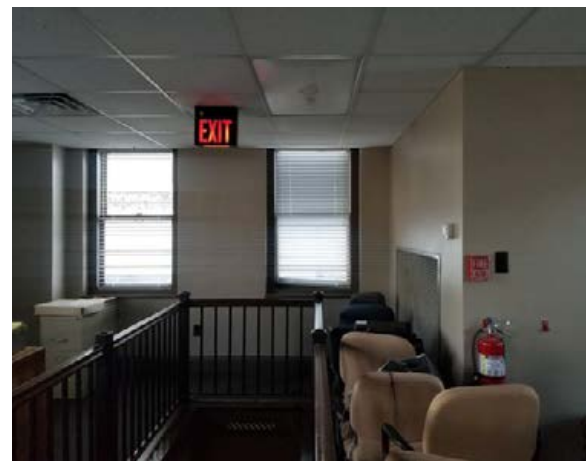
JANUARY 2020 - JULY 2022

COMMISSIONED BY THE BEAUMONT BOARD OF MUSEUMS

This project was commissioned by the Edison Museum in Beaumont, Texas in January 2020. The museum received a small grant to expand an upstairs area into additional exhibition space. Working closely with the museum curator and a tight budget, my role included measuring the space and creating existing drawings and new drawings. From these drawings, I created a 3D model and spatial visualizations for the museum board's approval. The expansion opened on July 4, 2022.



Photograph Before...



Photograph Before...



Conceptual Render



Photograph of Completed Space



Photograph of Completed Space

04. SKIDMORE, OWINGS, & MERRILL

ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING FIRM, NEW YORK, NY

SEPTEMBER 2023 - PRESENT

REFERENCE : XIMENA DE VILAFRANCA

My contributions at SOM were primarily to the Adaptive Reuse team, where I held leadership roles within the Adaptive Reuse Practice Group, assisting in the coordination of Bi-Weekly global calls and contributing to the Legacy Projects Business Development Task Force. My work often focused on Office to Residential Conversion pursuits, but also encompassed new multi-family residential towers, higher education buildings on legacy campuses, and high end commercial spaces in Class A office buildings. All of these projects required great attention to detail, coordination with consultants (within and outside of SOM), and exercising of a wide range of technical skills and knowledge, including close attention to New York City Code and Zoning Resolutions. In addition to the sample of renders shown, my work at SOM included typical drawing sets for concept and schematic level work, code and zoning compliance analyses, and full packages required for cost estimating. These samples represent a small fraction of the type of work I completed at SOM and I would be happy to expand on my contributions in the context of an interview.



Building Repositioning, Entry Redesign



Office to Residential Conversion



Lobby Repositioning

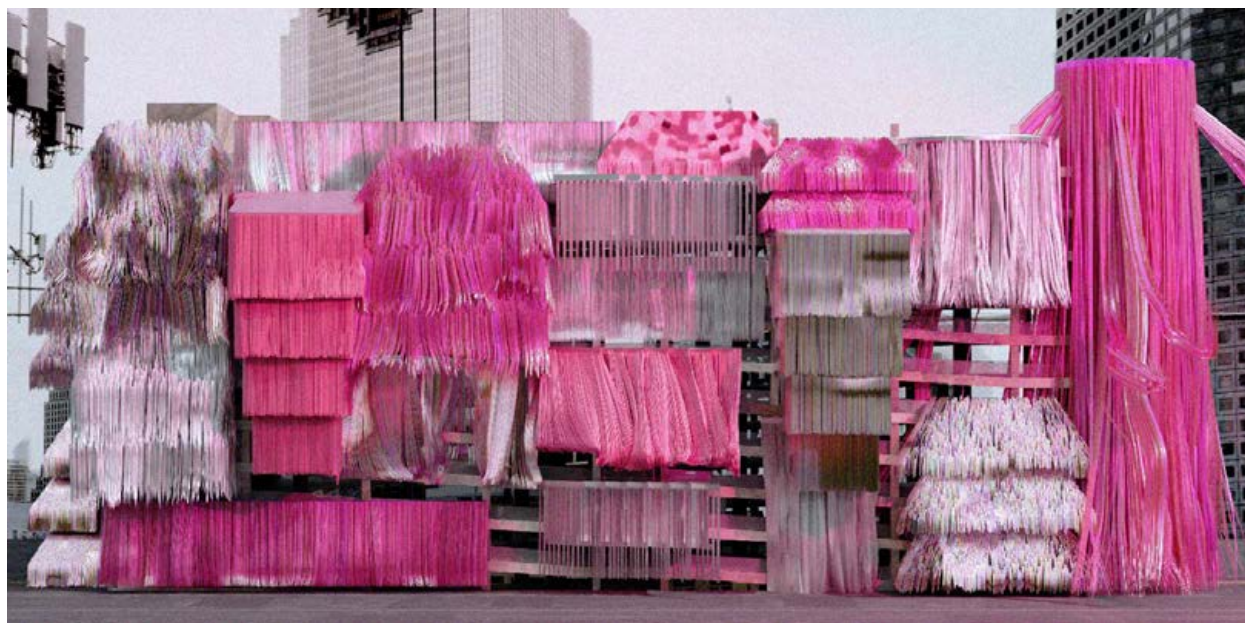
05. FRINGE BENEFITS

ACCESSORIES FOR A BULLDOZE CITY, HOUSTON, TX

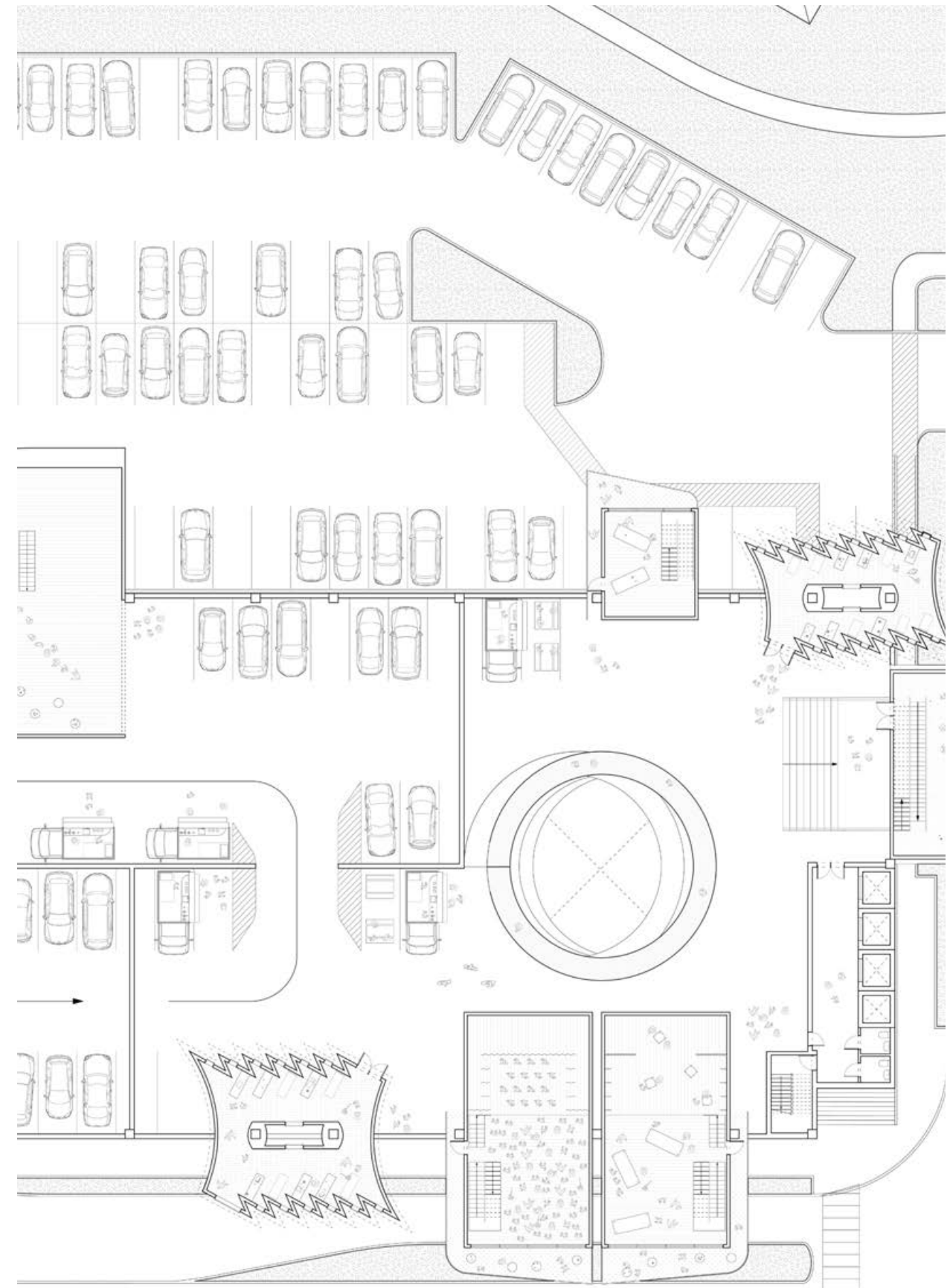
HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN | MASTERS THESIS | SPRING 2023

ADVISOR ELLE GERDEMAN

Urban sprawl is the result of giving cars priority over people in the design of our cities. Designing buildings for the automobile as the audience results in larger, faster registrations of architecture, removing human-scaled subtleties from the built environment. The parking garage is the poster child for car-oriented architecture, plaguing cities like Houston, TX, and encouraging more sprawl. While the parking garage trend might be drab, trends at the human scale offer something far more enticing. Pop media and fashion trends revolving around Houston are colorful, sparkly, and anything but drab. As businesses continue to implement flexible work-from-home policies and Houston works to incentivize alternative forms of transportation, the need for parking garages at city centers will likely dwindle, opening new post-era occupancy possibilities for these infrastructural buildings. How can the vibrant sensibilities found in contemporary southern fashion trends help inform the reclamation of parking structures for public engagement? Acknowledging the amount of embodied carbon associated with these massive concrete infrastructures, this thesis calls for a solution rooted in incremental reclamation, rather than demolition, of these buildings. Appropriating the function of the fashion accessory as a timeful strategy for refreshing basic apparel, this thesis utilizes accessorizing as a lens for transforming “basic” underutilized parking garages at city centers from dull monuments for stacking cars into vibrant spaces for connecting people. Through playful materiality, speculative facades, and an expanded narrative on the architectural accessory, this thesis contemplates the benefits of fringe for a bulldoze city. To see these accessories in motion, click [here](#).



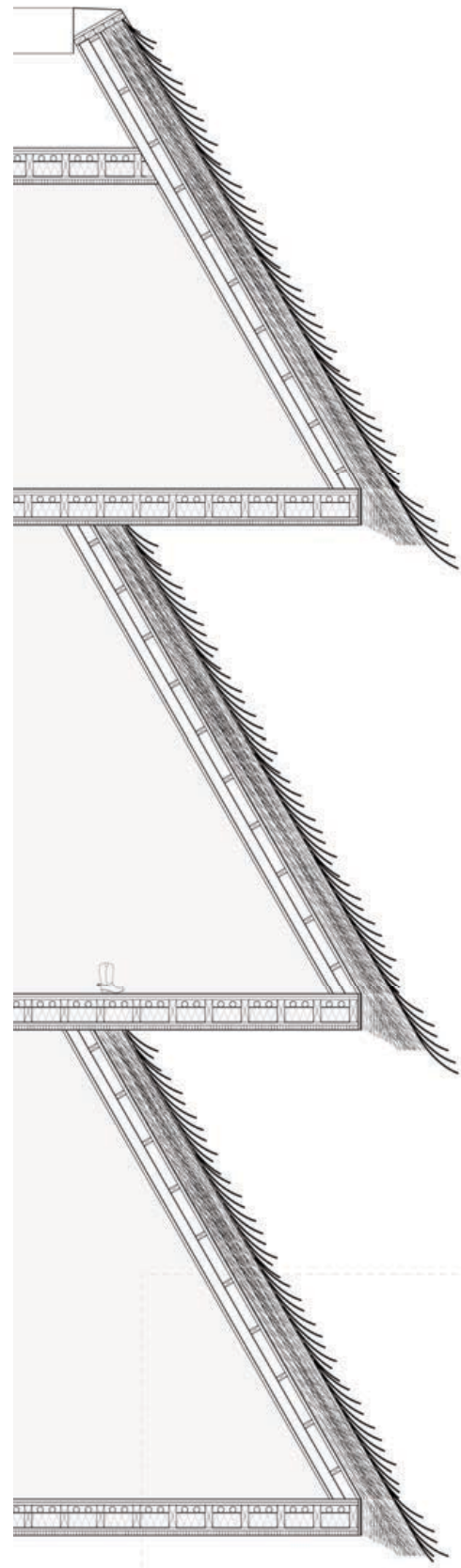
Over Accessorized Elevation



Accessorized parking structure, plan



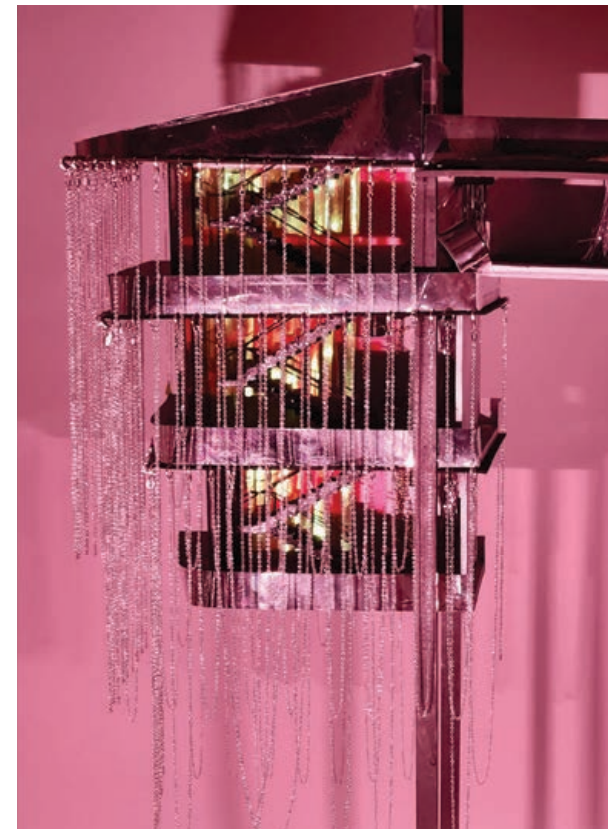
Clutch Interior - Model Photo, 1/4" = 1'-0"



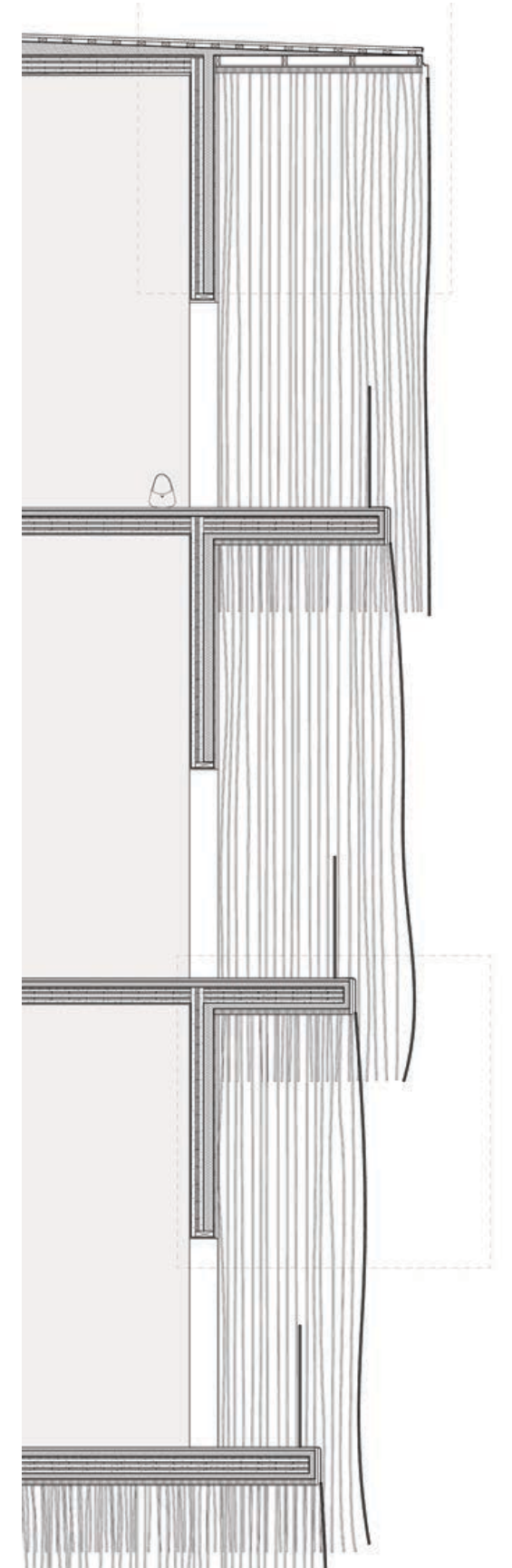
Fringe Benefit, detail for fringe insulation



Dangle Interior - Model Photo, 1/4" = 1'-0"



Dangle Exterior - Model Photo, 1/4" = 1'-0"



Fringe Benefit, detail for fringe drainage



Clutch Exterior - Model Photo, 1/4" = 1'-0"

06. PILE PARTY

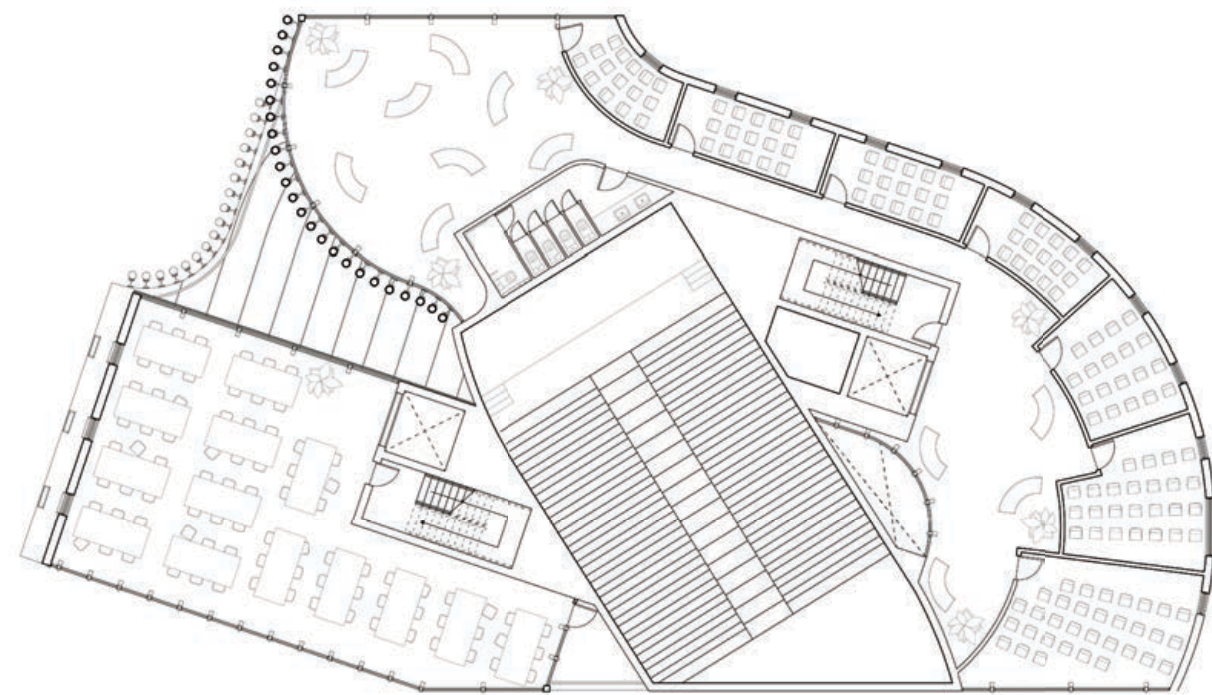
MAS HEADQUARTERS PROPOSAL, NEW YORK, NY

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN | CORE III | FALL 2020

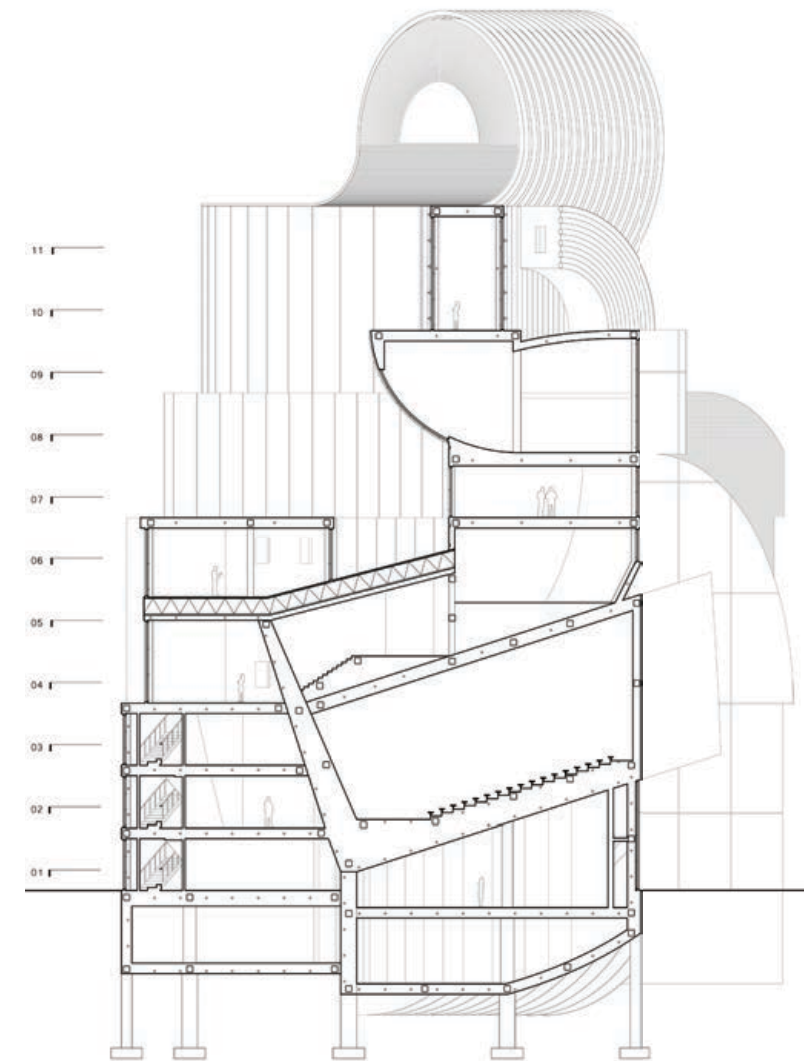
PROFESSOR JENNIFER BONNER

This project is the pastiche-pile proposal for the new Headquarters for the Municipal Art Society (MAS) of New York. MAS has greatly influenced New York City and in this proposal New York City influences MAS through by imagining the headquarters as a pile of found facades from across Manhattan. Located at the Northeast corner of Washington Square Park, the building houses MAS offices, leasable offices, a rooftop cafe, interim terraces for both work and leisure, public galleries, seminar rooms, a library and archive, and an auditorium.

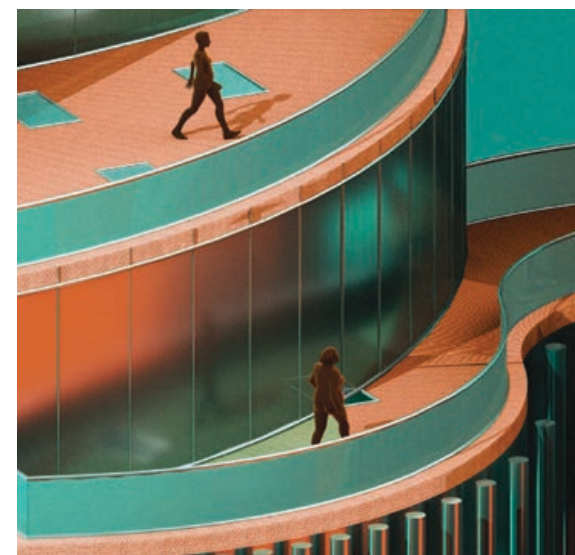
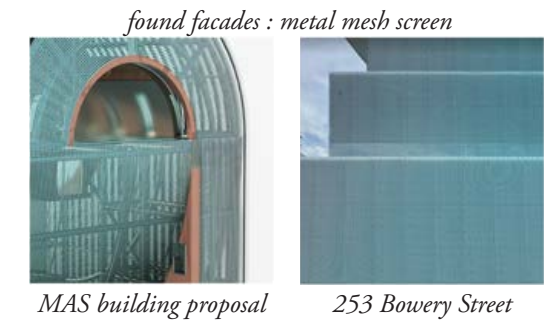
The modules for the pile were designed based on programmatic requirements and assembled into a pile based on structural requirements, programmatic adjacencies, and compositional goals. Each module maintains structural autonomy through a monocoque resolution. The major bits have a dense structural distribution while the minor bits have a sparse distribution of structure so that the load traces down the pile hierarchically. The cores act like skewers through the pile of structural modules, anchoring the pieces together and working to resist lateral forces. The sections help to demonstrate how the two cores anchor the auditorium that floats within the pile. You can also understand through the thinning of the columns how the module becomes lighter as the pile grows taller. The sections also demonstrate the use of transfer plates and cranked columns to control the load tracing to the foundations.



Plan 04



Section



Exterior Terrace



Birds Eye Exterior

07. BASEL 358

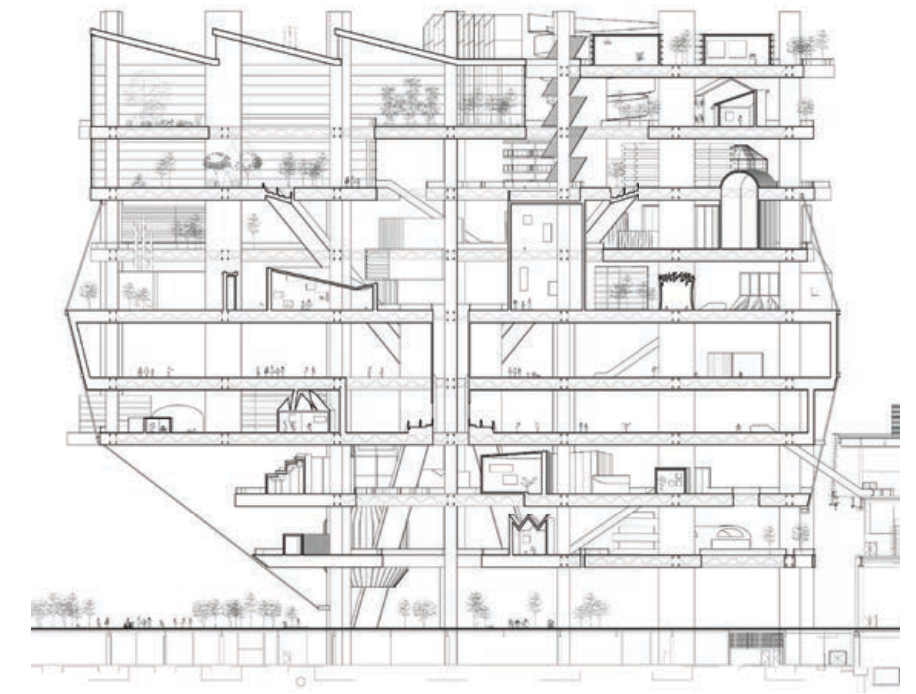
THE VERTICAL FAIRGROUND, BASEL, SWITZERLAND

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN | OPTION STUDIO | FALL 2022

PROFESSORS TILO HERLACH+SIMON HARTMANN+SIMON FROMMENWILER

COLLAB W/ RAIN CHAN

This project is a proposal for the verticalization of the typical horizontal convention center, sited in Basel Switzerland at the Messe, which is the site for the infamous Art Basel among other conventions. The architecture of the building embodies the idea that the identity of the city comes from its public spaces, and it is in private institutes' interest to foster a symbiotic relationship with the public realm. By creating civic neighborhoods traditional and experimental alike, the new Messe provide a new model for people of Basel to experience the city during the 358 days. The Galleries are each designed by different architects, meant to let artists work in collaboration with the building's character. Furthermore, each gallery spatially interacts with the environment and other galleries to create serendipity and frame the enclosed ground as latent public space.



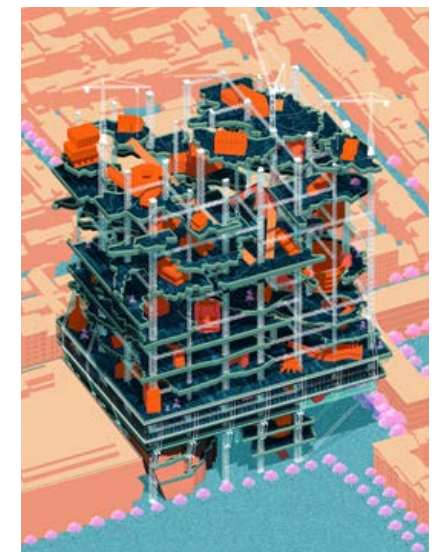
Section



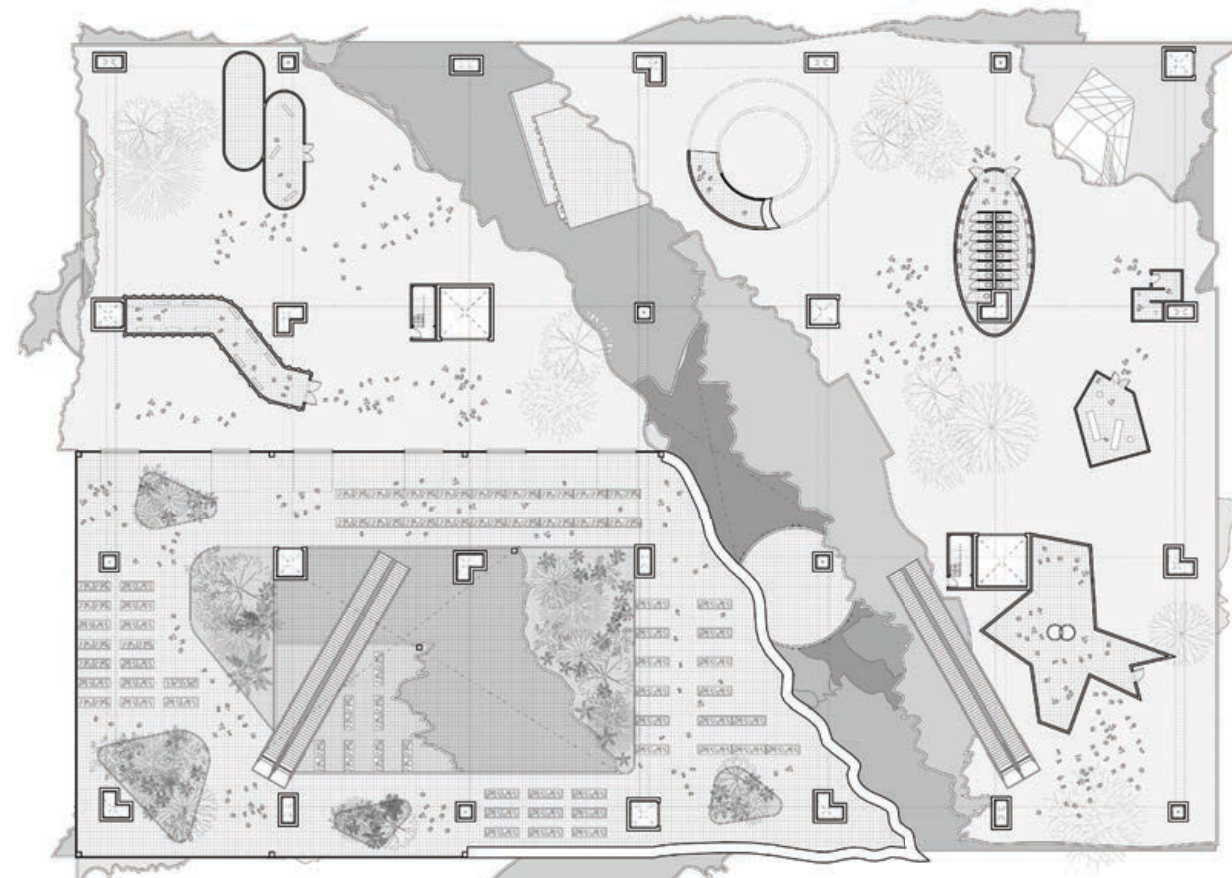
Taxonomy of Small Galleries



Cutaway Axonometric



Imagined Future Vertical Expansion

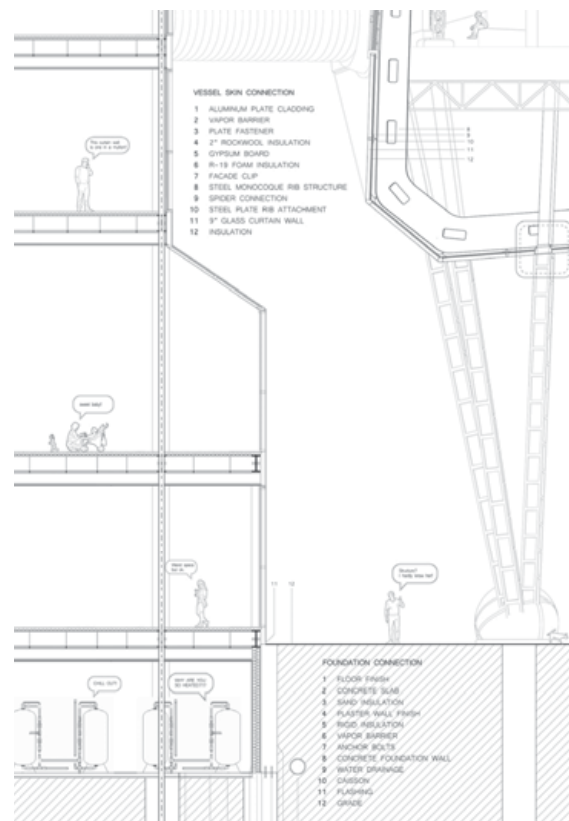


Plan

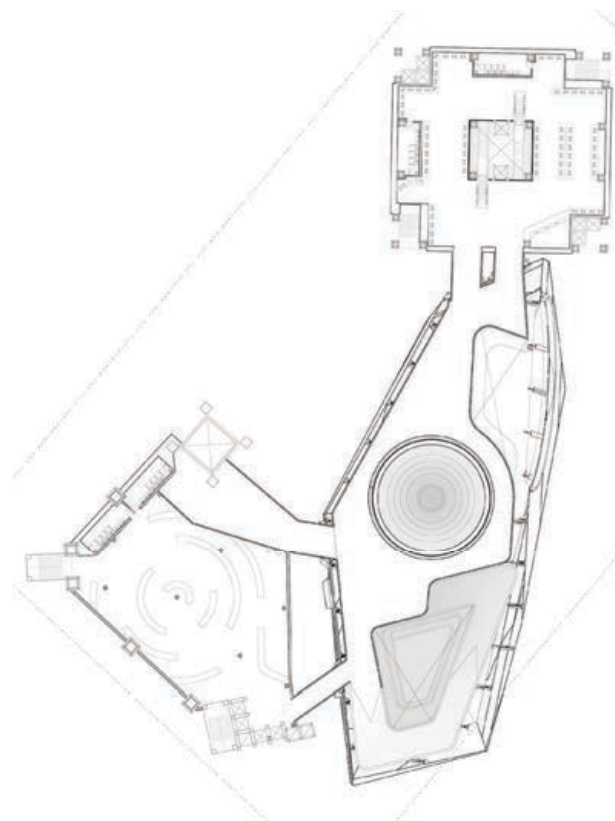
08. VAULT

REPOSITORY FOR COSMIC CURIOSITIES, DALLAS, TX
 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY | SENIOR STUDIO | FALL 2018
 PROFESSOR KOICHIRO AITANI
 COLLAB W/ AUSTIN MADRIGALE

Vault is a proposed multi-use facility for Downtown Dallas across from Klyde Warren Park. Vault is composed of one Vessel and two towers. The Vessel serves as an appendage to the adjacent Perot Museum of Natural Science in response to plans of future expansion from the museum to the site via pedestrian sky bridge. The two towers are reserved for leasing space in response to the highly valued real estate value of the site with intentions of producing revenue for the complex. Our appendage proposal is a space for space, a repository for cosmic curiosities, or more simply, space junk. The program selection informed formal iterations and surface articulation for the final design expression. The Vessel was lifted with the intention of clearing the space below to extend the public an pedestrian condition of Klyde Warren Park into the plaza of Vault. The wide range of program and types of objects within Vault lends itself to becoming a microcosm in and of itself. The interest of the microcosm prompted an investigation of the Cabinet of Curiosities. From this investigation was extracted the notion of the display and the variety of scales in which architecture operates as a display through intentional (and unintentional) voyeuristic expressions of materials, tectonics, structure, objects, people, program, and circulation.



Detailed Partial Section



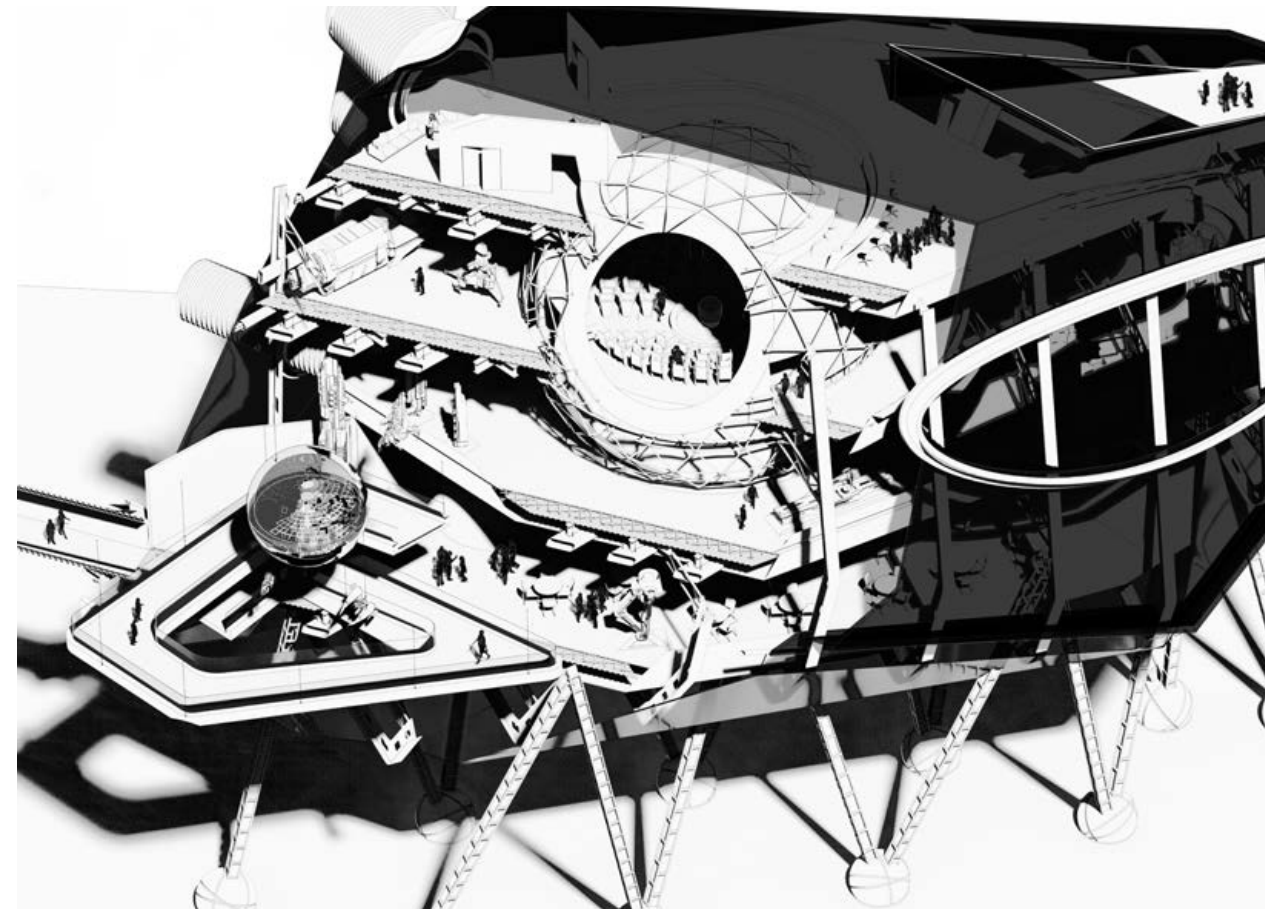
Level 3 Plan



Ramp Shot



Tube Shot



Vault Cut



Exterior Night



Exterior Day

EMILY MAJORS

EDUCATION

Masters of Architecture I
Harvard Graduate School of Design
2019-2023, Commendation

Bachelor of Science in
Environmental Design
Texas A&M University
2015-2019, Cum Laude

SKILLS

3D/2D Design
Rhinoceros, AutoCad, Revit,
Blender, ZBrush

3D/2D Visualization
V-Ray, Enscape, Unreal, Keyshot

Adobe
Indesign, Photoshop, Illustrator,
After Effects, Lightroom

Fabrication
Laser Cutting, 3D Printing, Casting,
Model Making

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

23 Sept - Present : Skidmore, Owings, & Merrill
Intermediate Designer
New York, NY
Reference : Ximena de Villafranca

22 Dec - 23 January : Studio PM
Project Designer
Cambridge, MA
Reference : Megan Panzano

21 Dec - 22 Aug : MALL
Project Designer
Remote / Portland, OR
Reference : Jennifer Bonner

21 May - 21 Aug : Rivian Automotive
Concept Designer, Future Factories
Remote / Los Angeles, CA

19 Dec - 22 July : Edison Museum
Renovation Project Lead
Beaumont, TX

19 Aug - 21 Dec : Harvard GSD FabLab
Laser Cut TA and Content Creator
Cambridge, MA
Reference : Chris Hansen

19 Jan - 19 May : PACT Design Studio
Architectural Intern
Bryan, TX
Reference : Matt Faulkner

17 May - 17 Aug : Mark Foster Gage Architects
Design Intern
New York, NY

16 May - 16 Aug : LaBiche Architectural
Architectural Intern
Beaumont, TX

LEADERSHIP

SOM, Adaptive Reuse Practice Group
2024 Legacy Projects Task Force

SOM, Design Build Excellence
2024 Project Leader

SOM, ACE Greater New York
2024-2025 Team 25 Leader
2024 Summer Internship Leader
2023-2024 ACE GNY Mentor

Harvard GSD
2019-2020 Student Representative

Texas A&M AIAS
2018-2019 President
2017-2018 Marketing Director

Texas A&M Design Review Council
2018-2019 Representative

Texas A&M ICU Charrette
2018-2019 Organizer

Texas A&M Deep Vista Symposium
2017-2018 Marketing Director/Host

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2024 Spring : Instructor
Texas A&M University
College of Architecture Workshop
Course : Blender and Representation

2023 Summer : Instructor
Harvard GSD
Director Megan Panzano
Design Discovery

2023 Spring : Teaching Assistant
Harvard GSD
Professor Jennifer Bonner
Course : 4th Year Graduate Studio

2022 Fall : Teaching Assistant
Harvard GSD
Professor Carl Dworkin
Course : 1st Year Graduate Studio

2022 Fall : Teaching Assistant
Harvard GSD
Professor Andrew Zago
Course : Graduate Option Studio

2021 Spring : Teaching Assistant - Studio
Harvard GSD
Professor Elle Gerdeman
Course : Undergraduate Studio

2021 January : Instructor
Harvard GSD
J-Term
Course : Blender for Beginners