

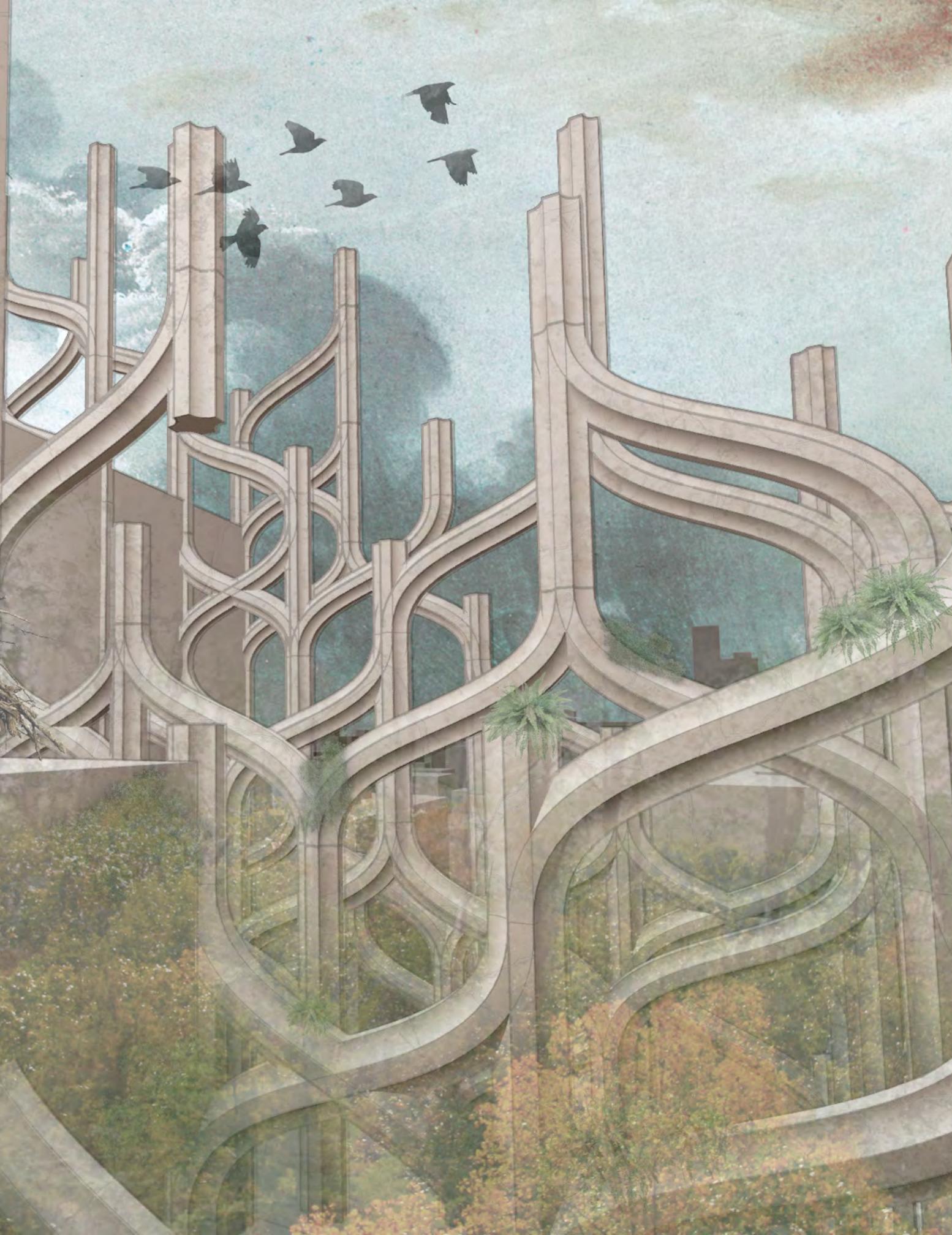
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ZAKIOS MEGHIROUNI-BROWN INTERSPECIES SANCTUARY INTERSPECIES SANCTUARY INTE



### Interspecies Sanctuary

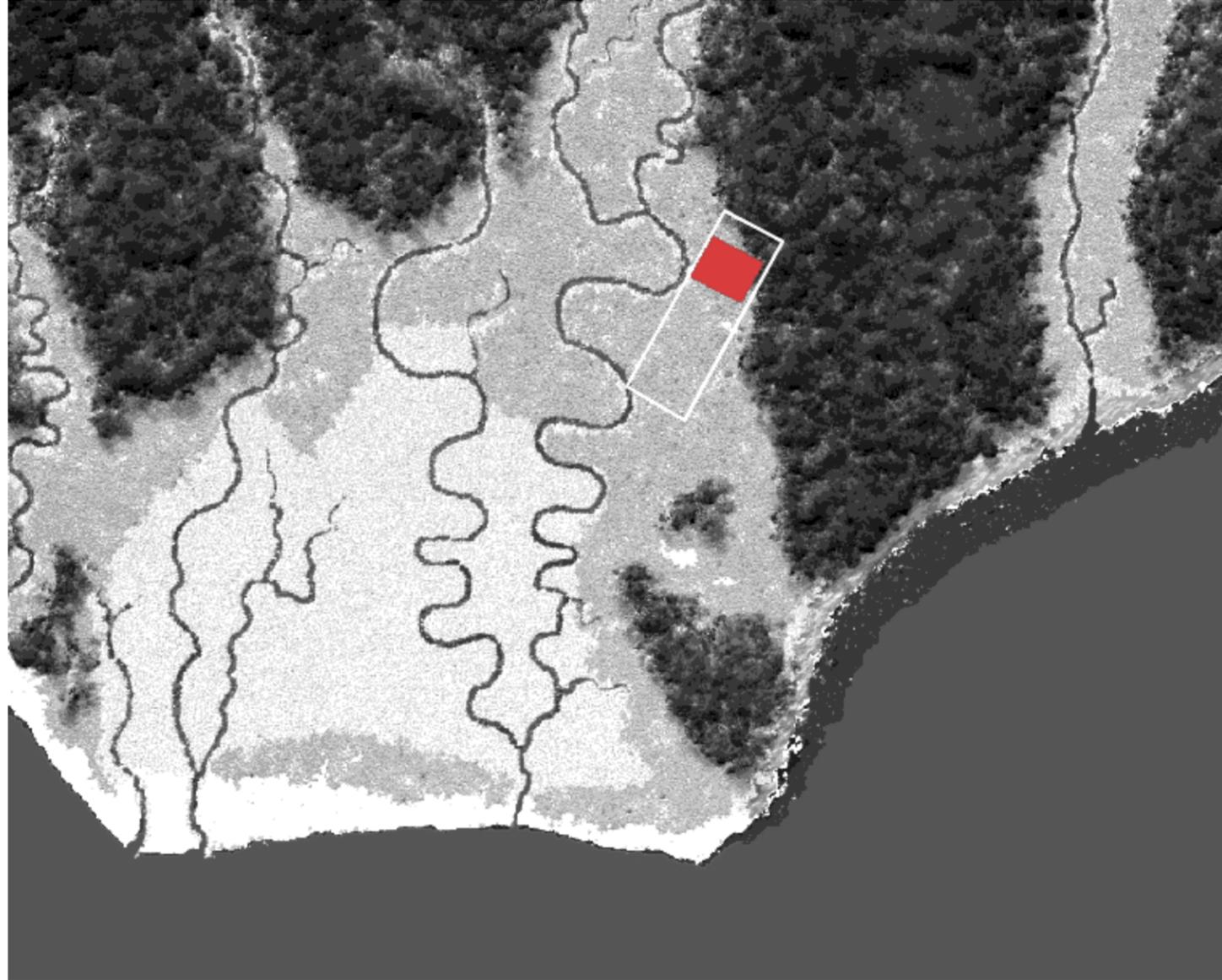
The mass of the existing school is eroded into a cascading series of terraces, and a vine-like thicket of piers and beams emerges, defining a forest canopy between the two long bars of the building's original H configuration. The intervening land between 9th and 10th Streets becomes an intermittent marsh, an alluring terra incognita for children to discover their wonder, curiosity, and respect for all the living things which come to inhabit the canopy above and the soil below. The building becomes obscured beneath the accumulation of a vertical ecology. It comes to constitute a pedagogy of germination, growth, and decay. A lesson as arresting as any to be inscribed on the blackboard can be found outside the window. If pupils know to look, the fabric of the school itself can teach them ways to see: to glean the type of knowledge water has as it runs through grooves etched by repetition, or that a tree has as its shoots strive towards sunlight. The relentless cycles of living systems aggregating and disintegrating, becoming and unbecoming, engender in their witnesses an epistemology rooted in biopsychosocial well-being.

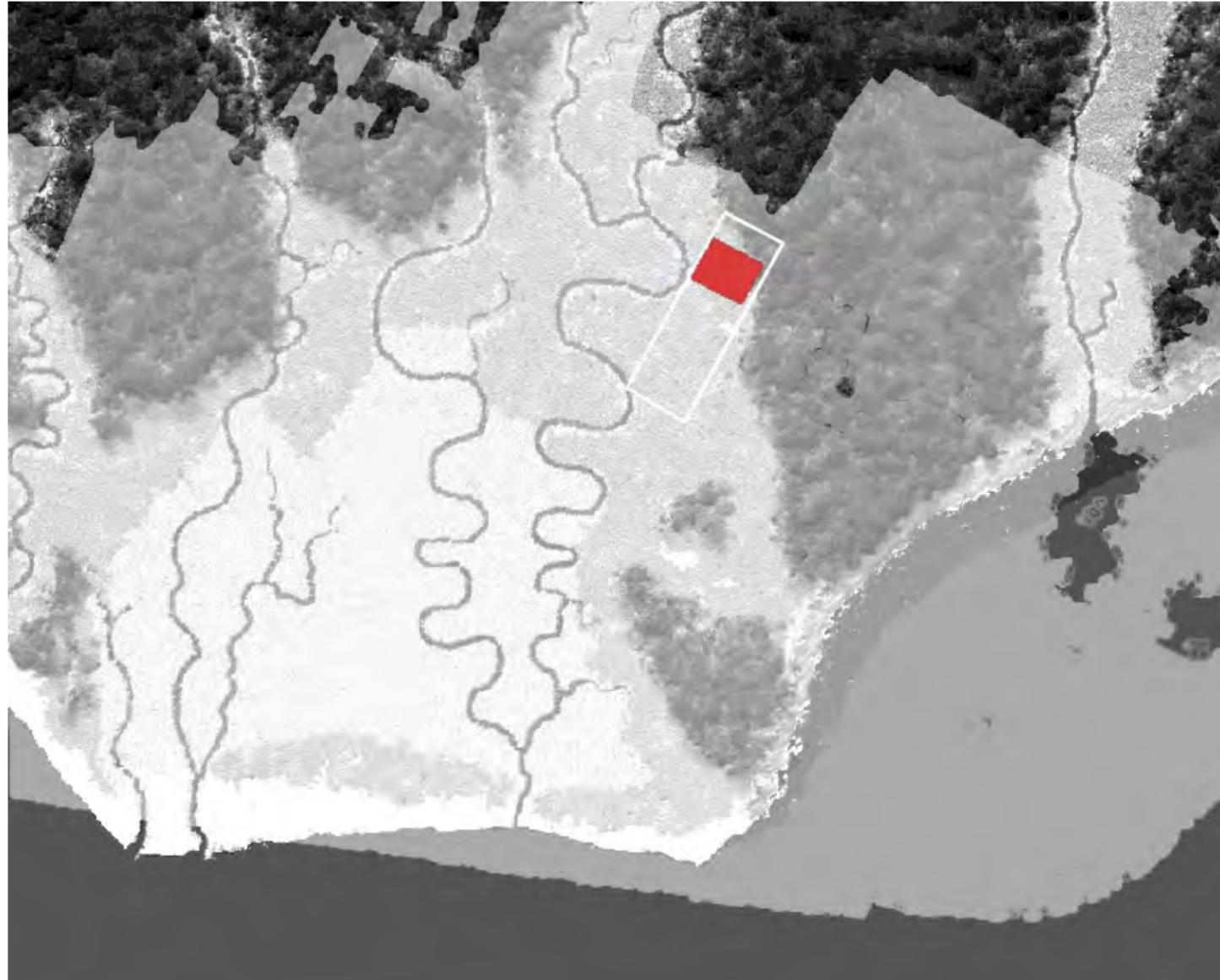


### East Village: Climate Futures

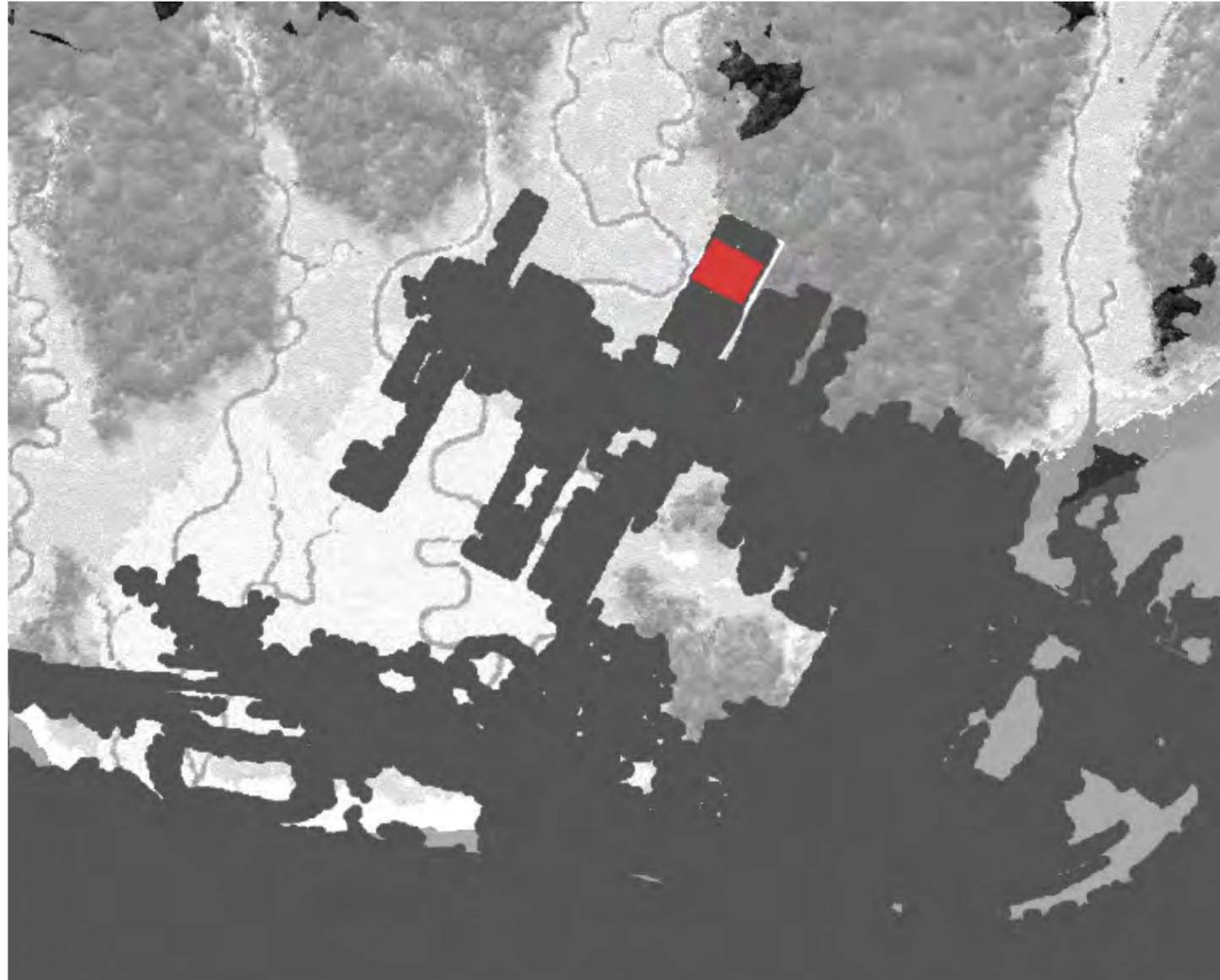
Below: Intersection of Avenue C and 6th Street during superstorm Sandy.

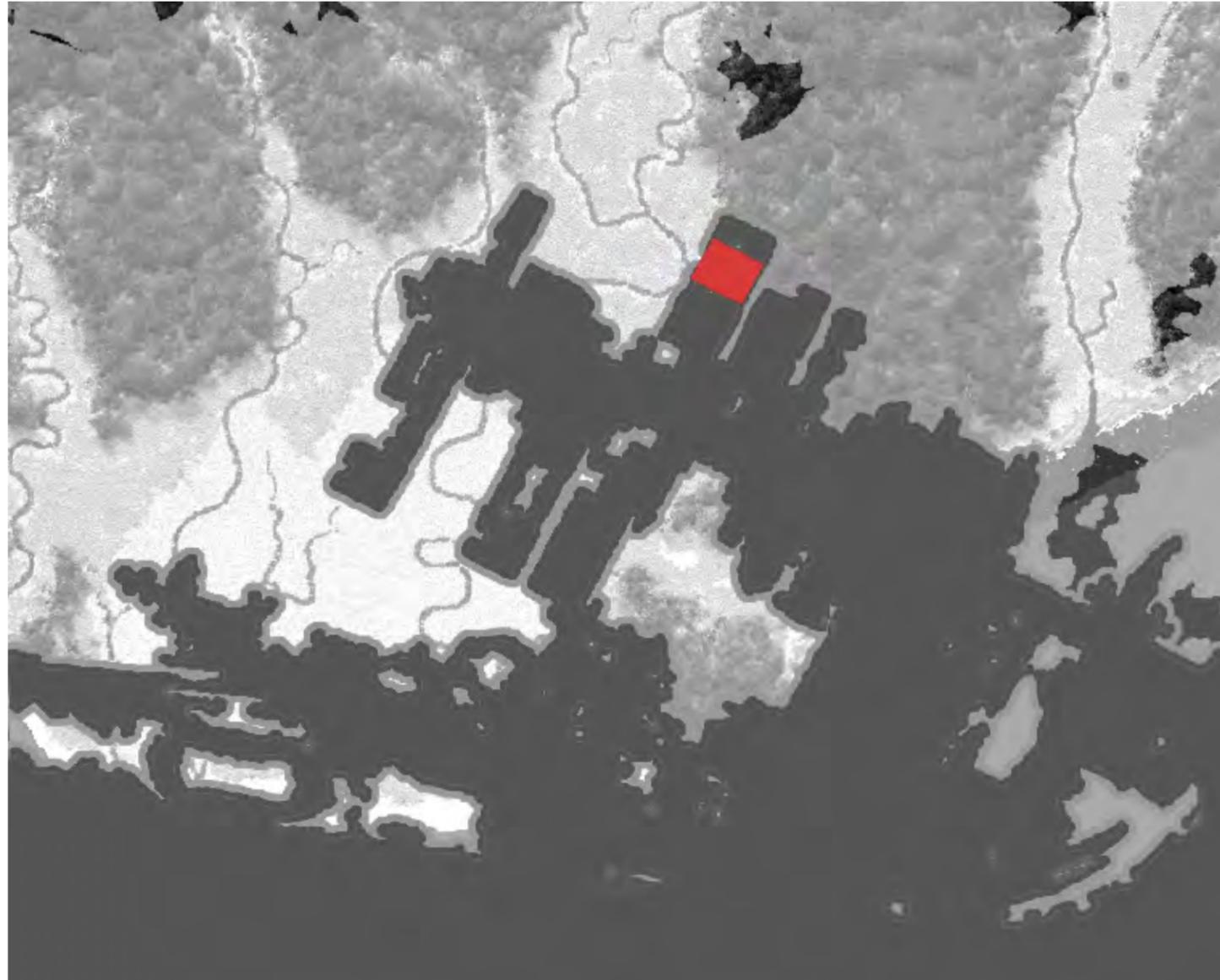


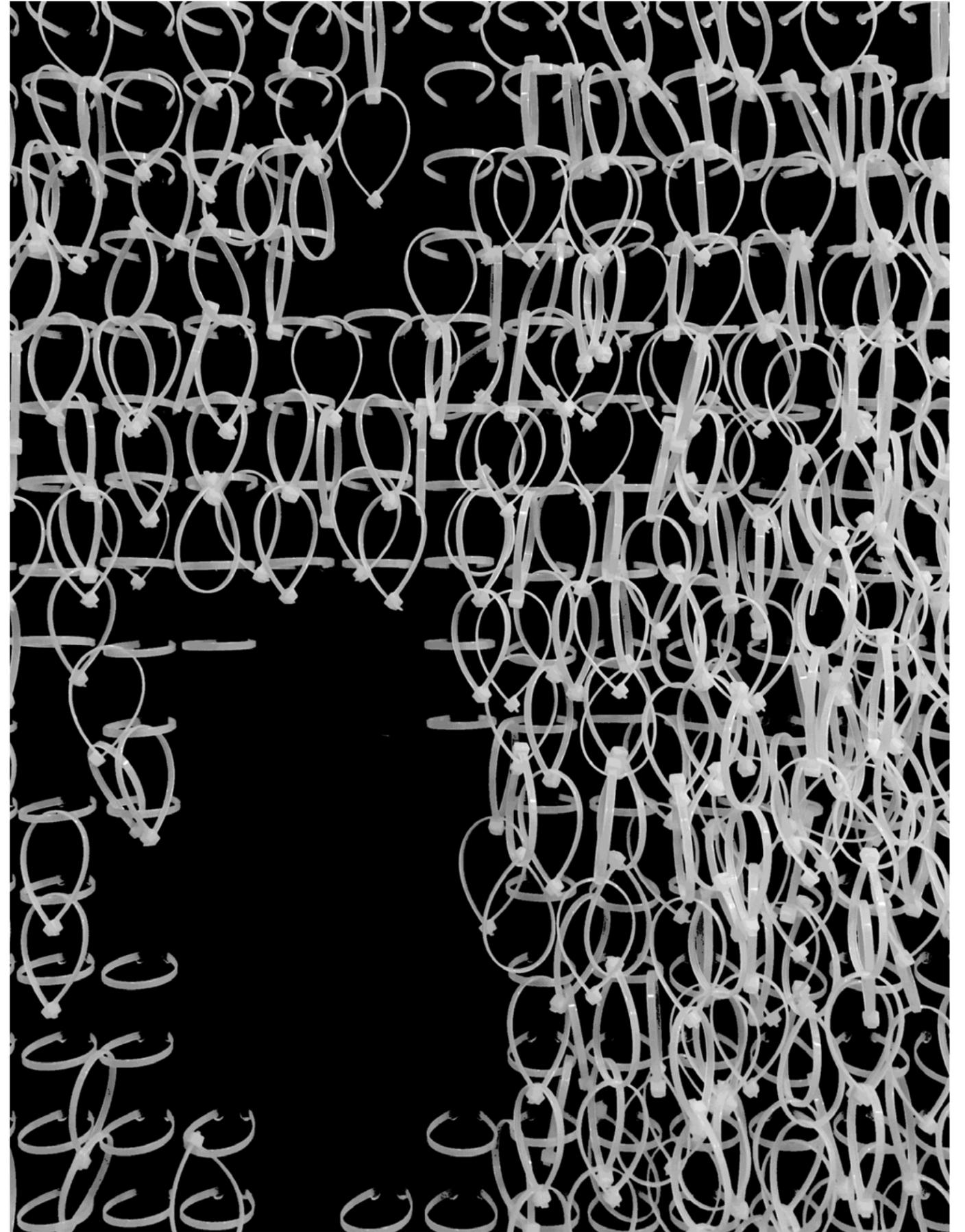
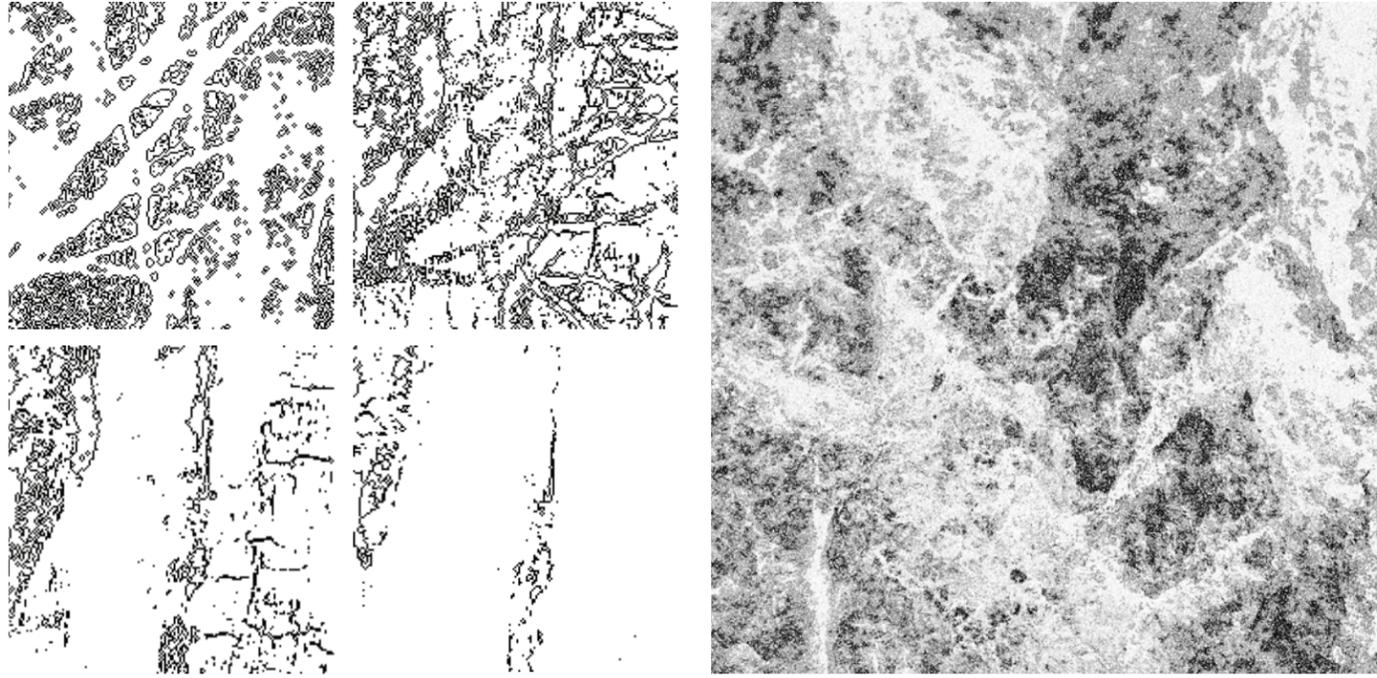


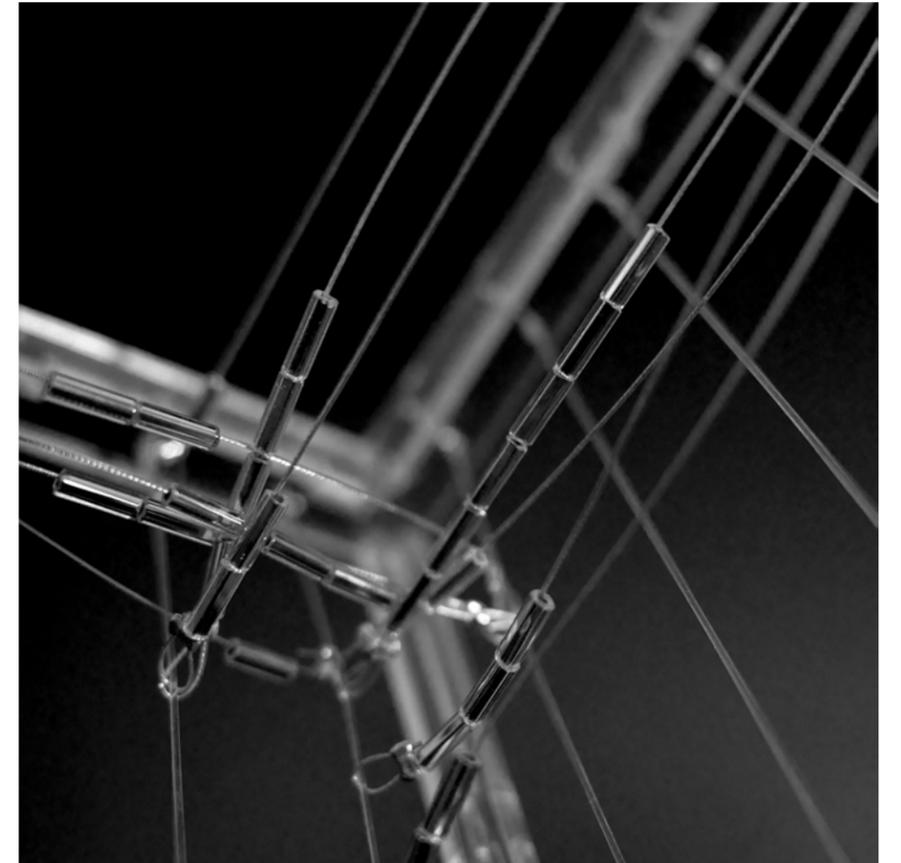
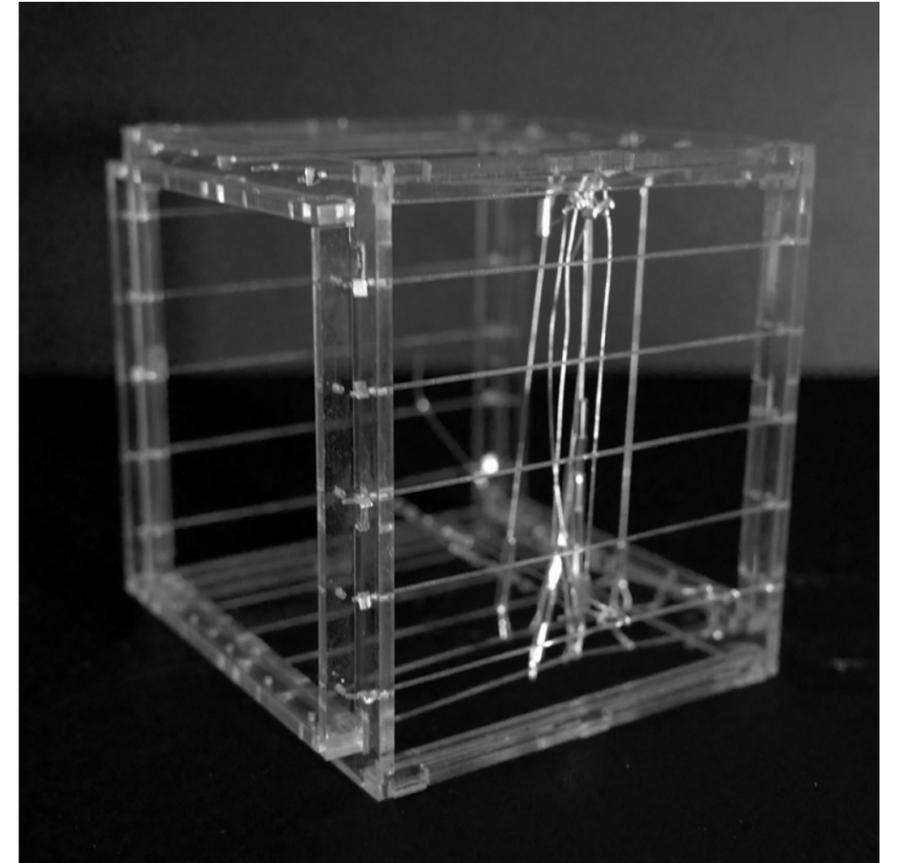
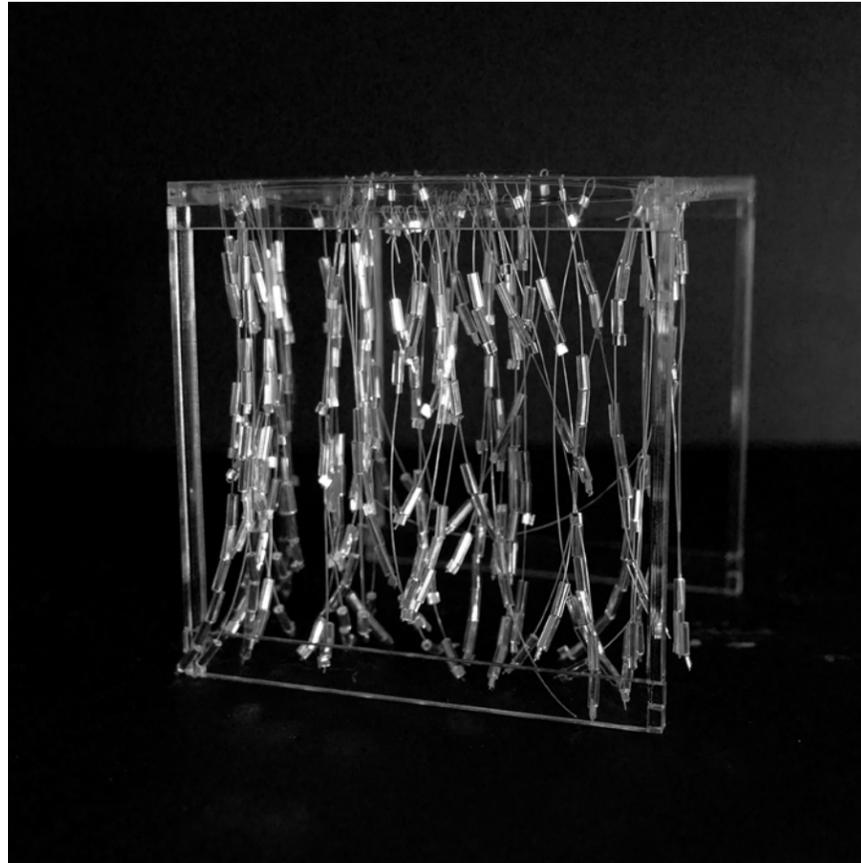


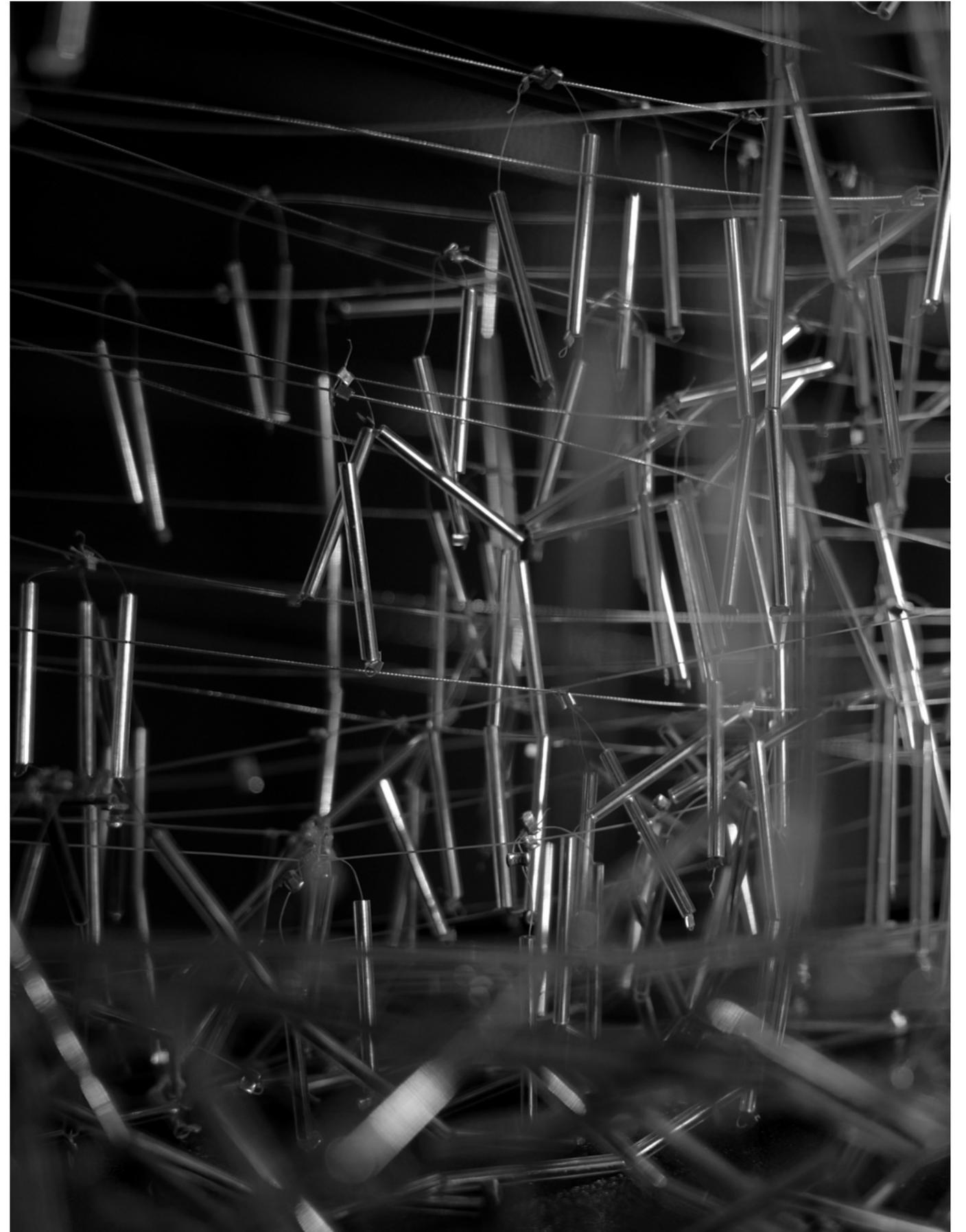
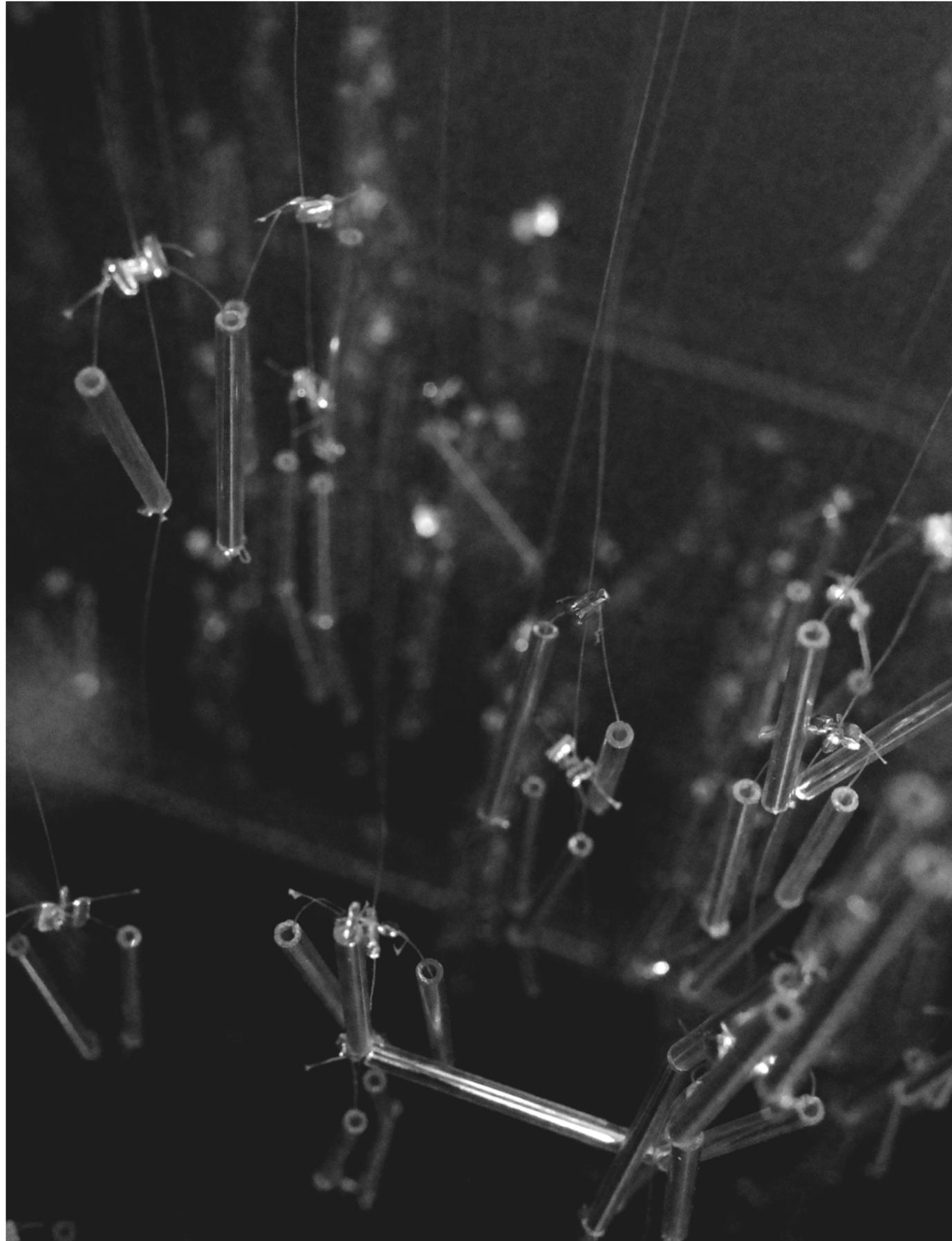


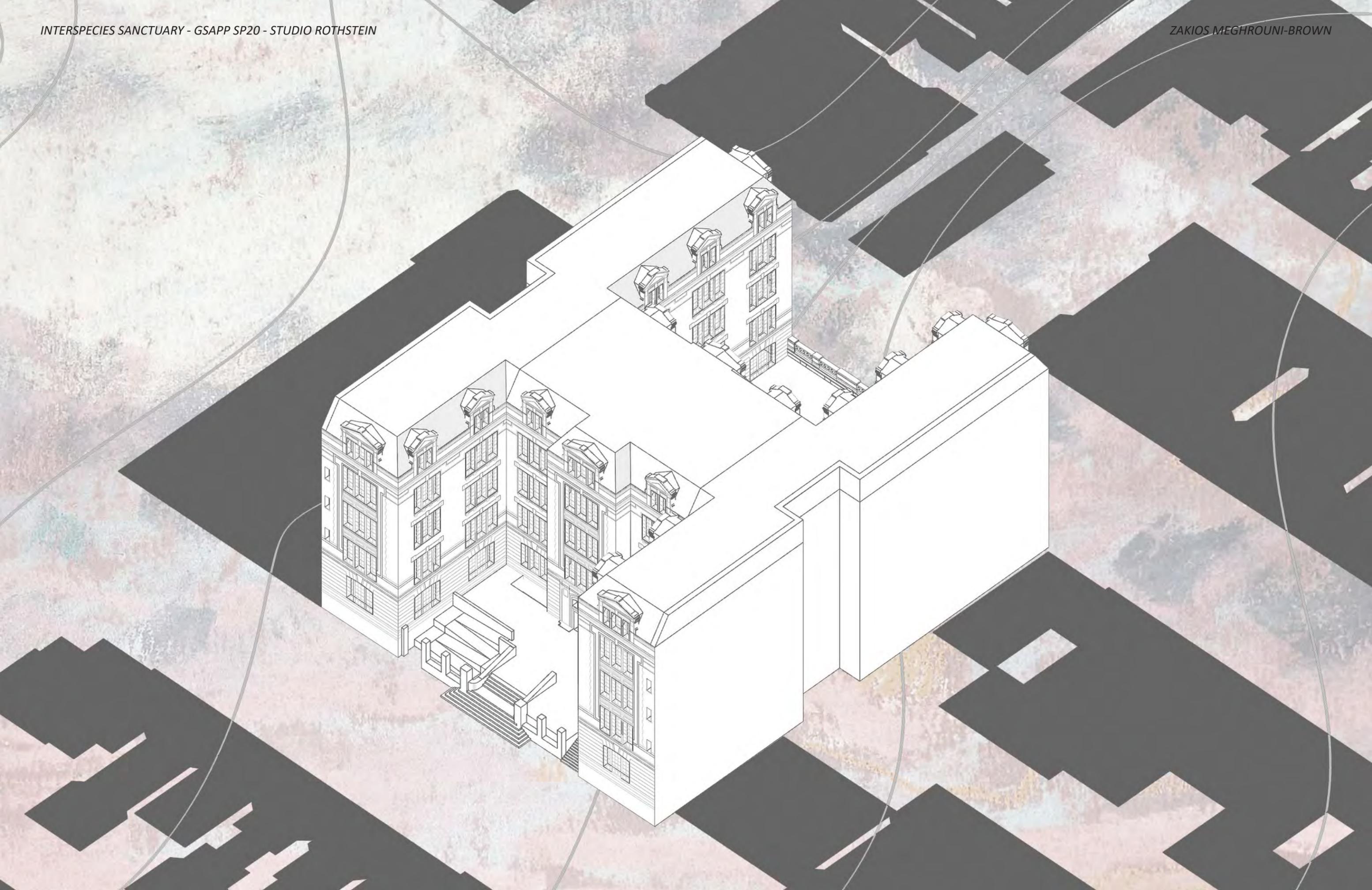


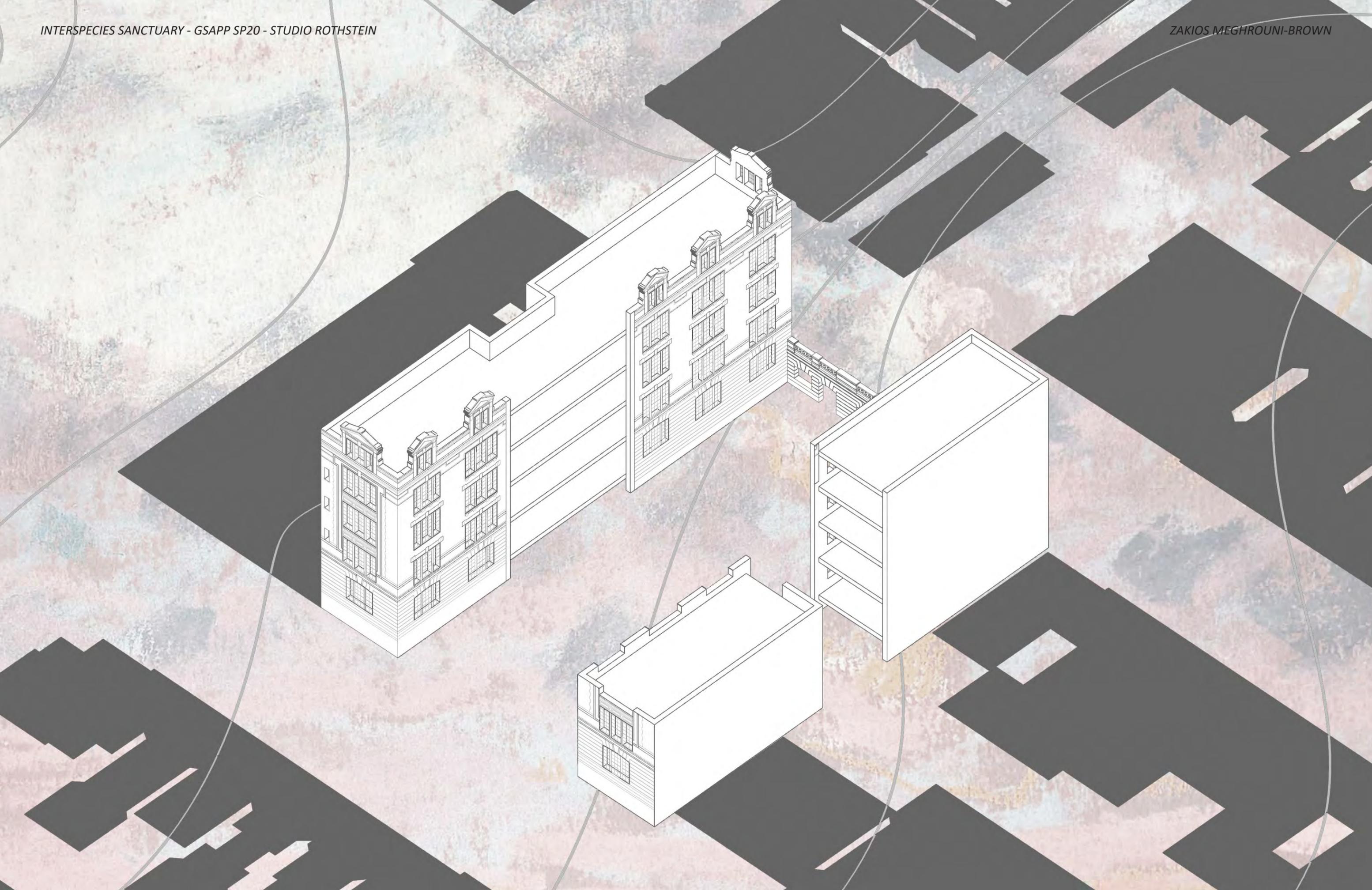


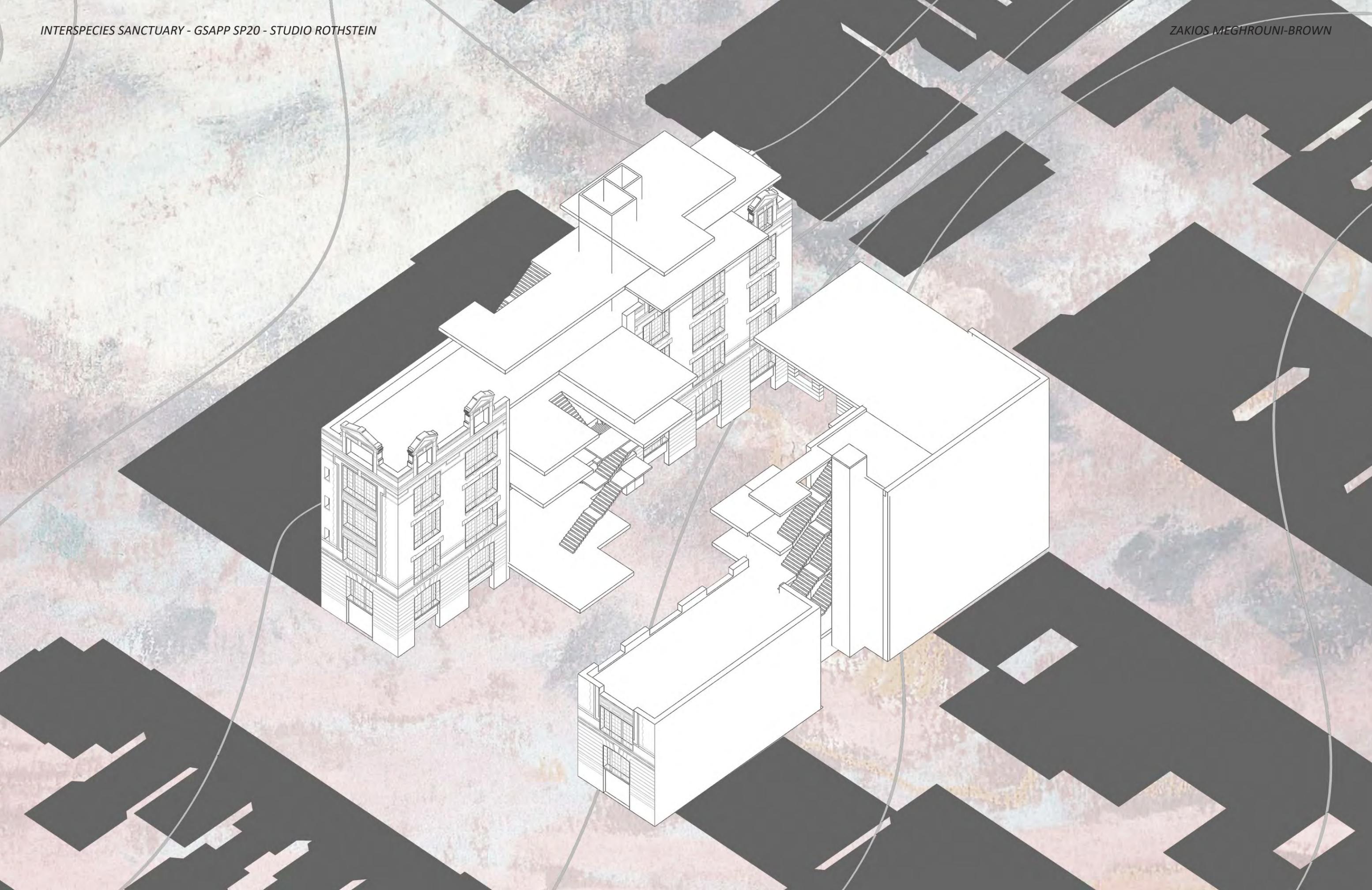


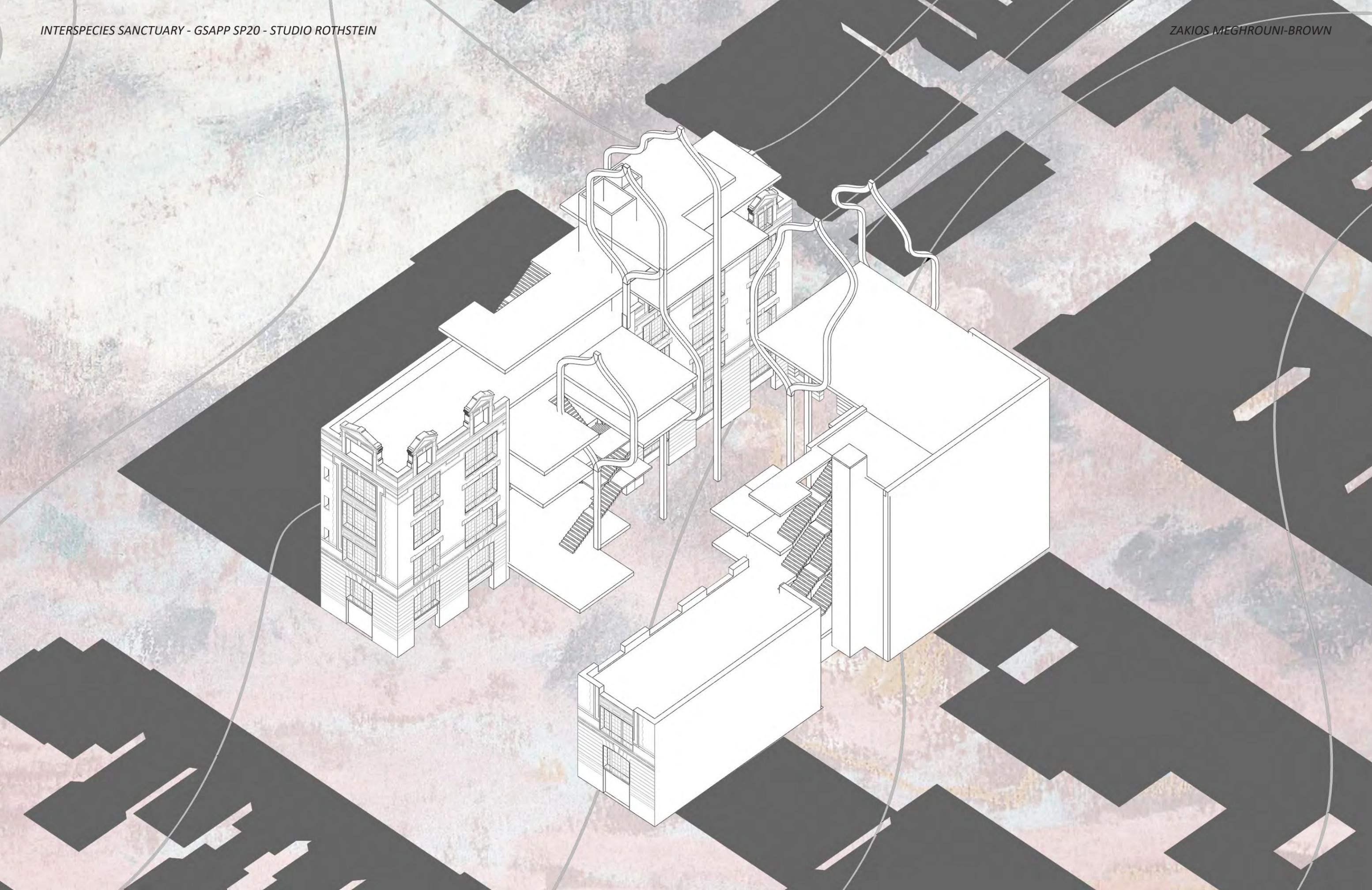


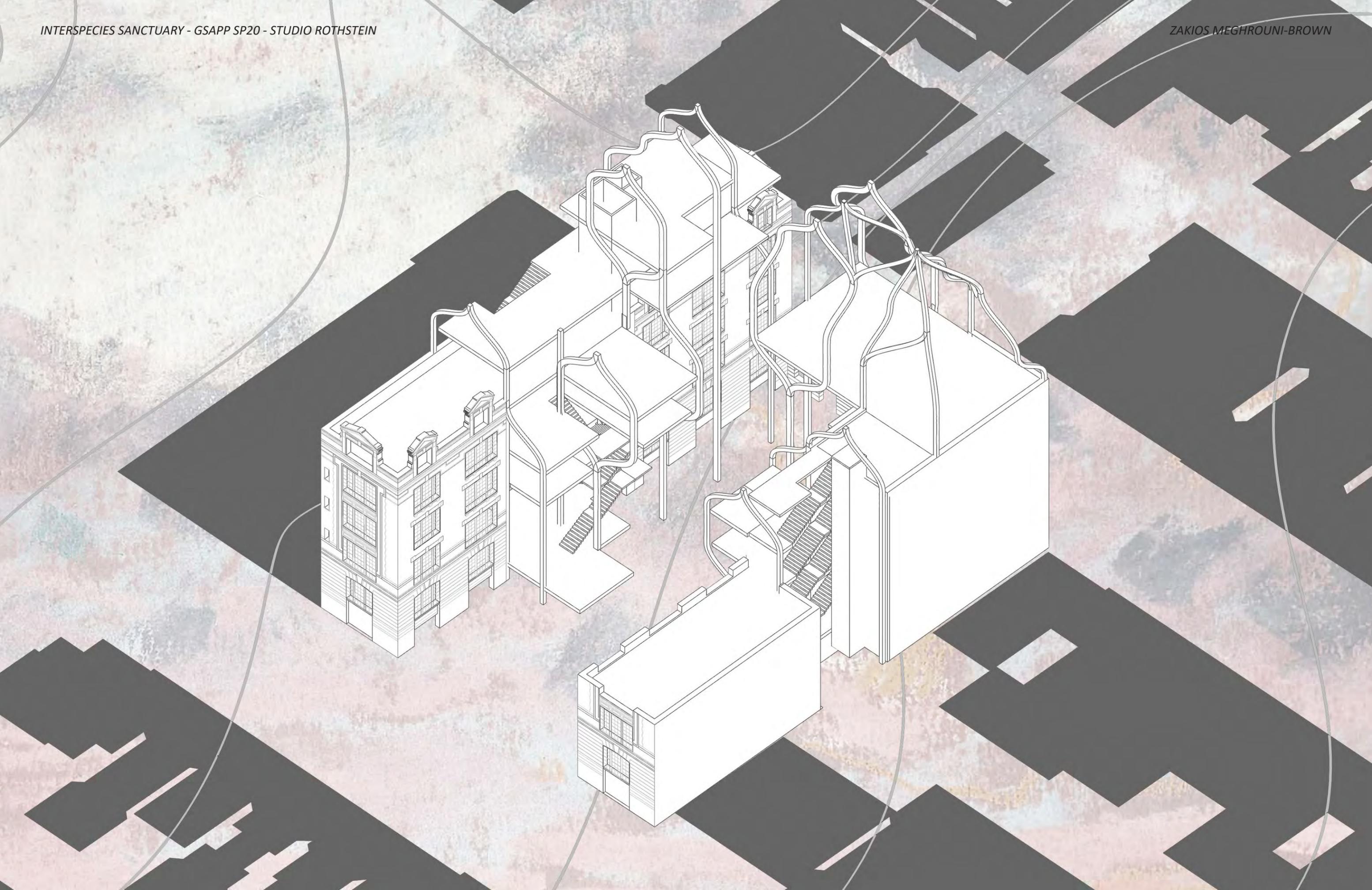


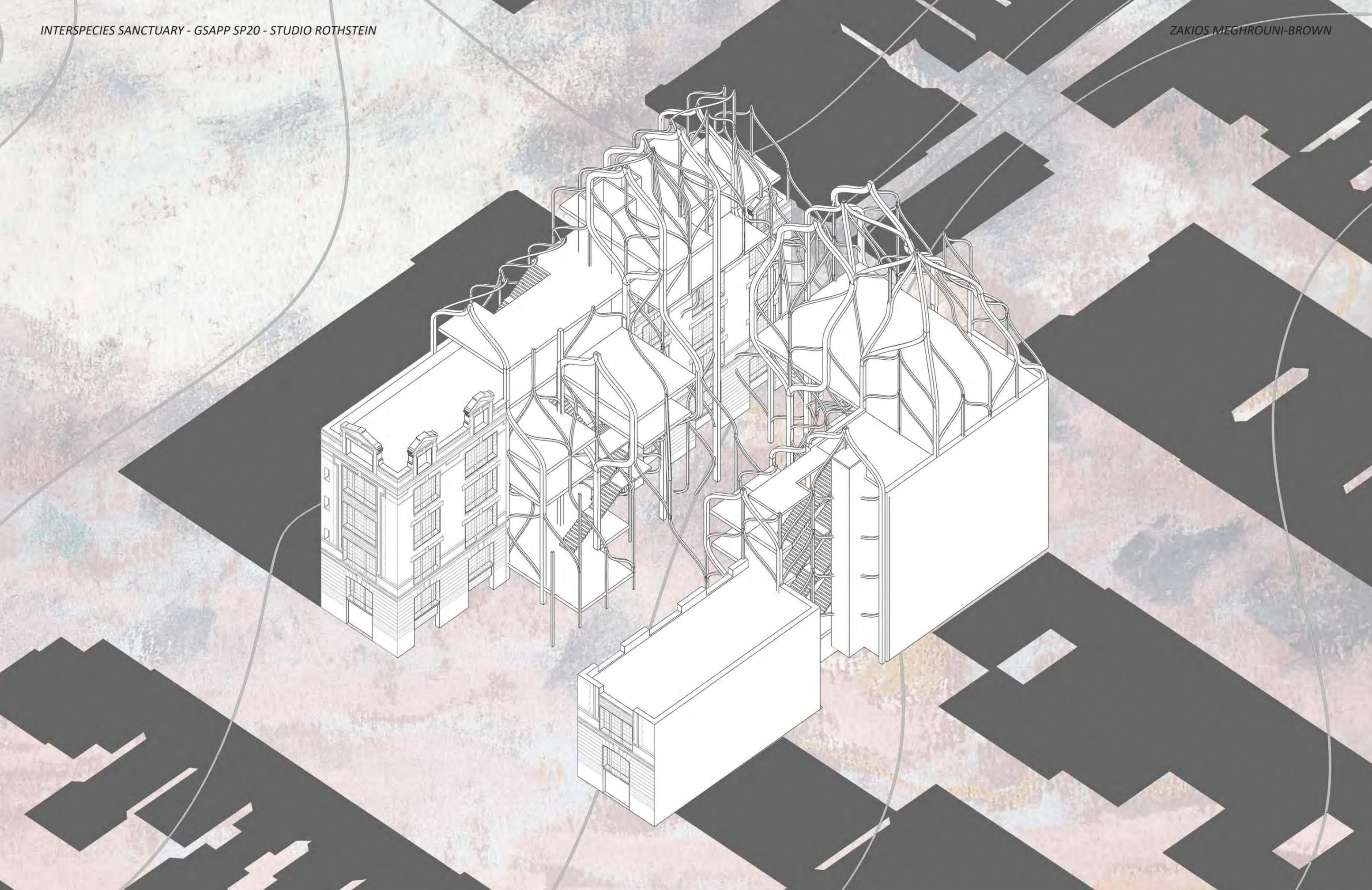


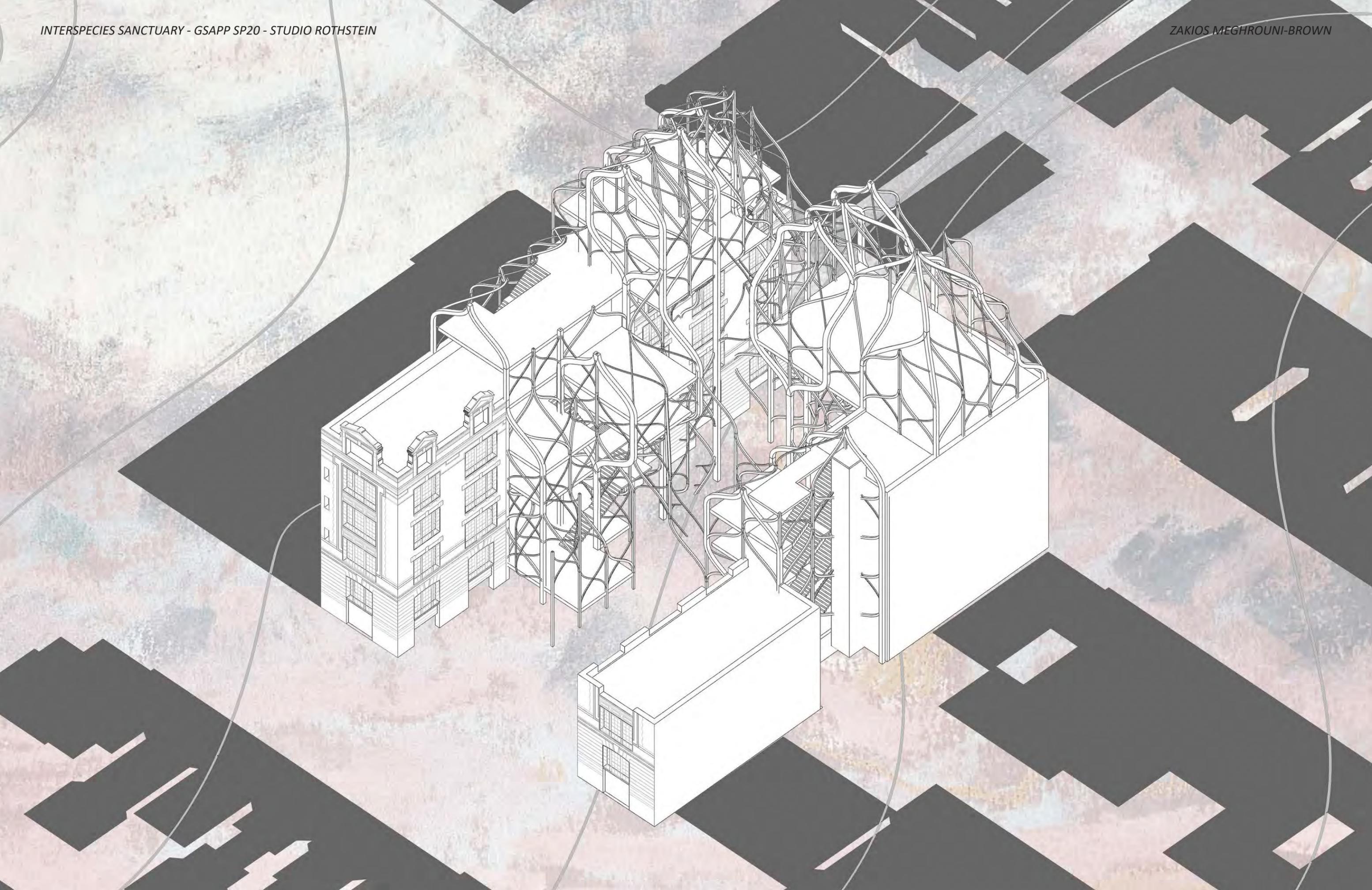


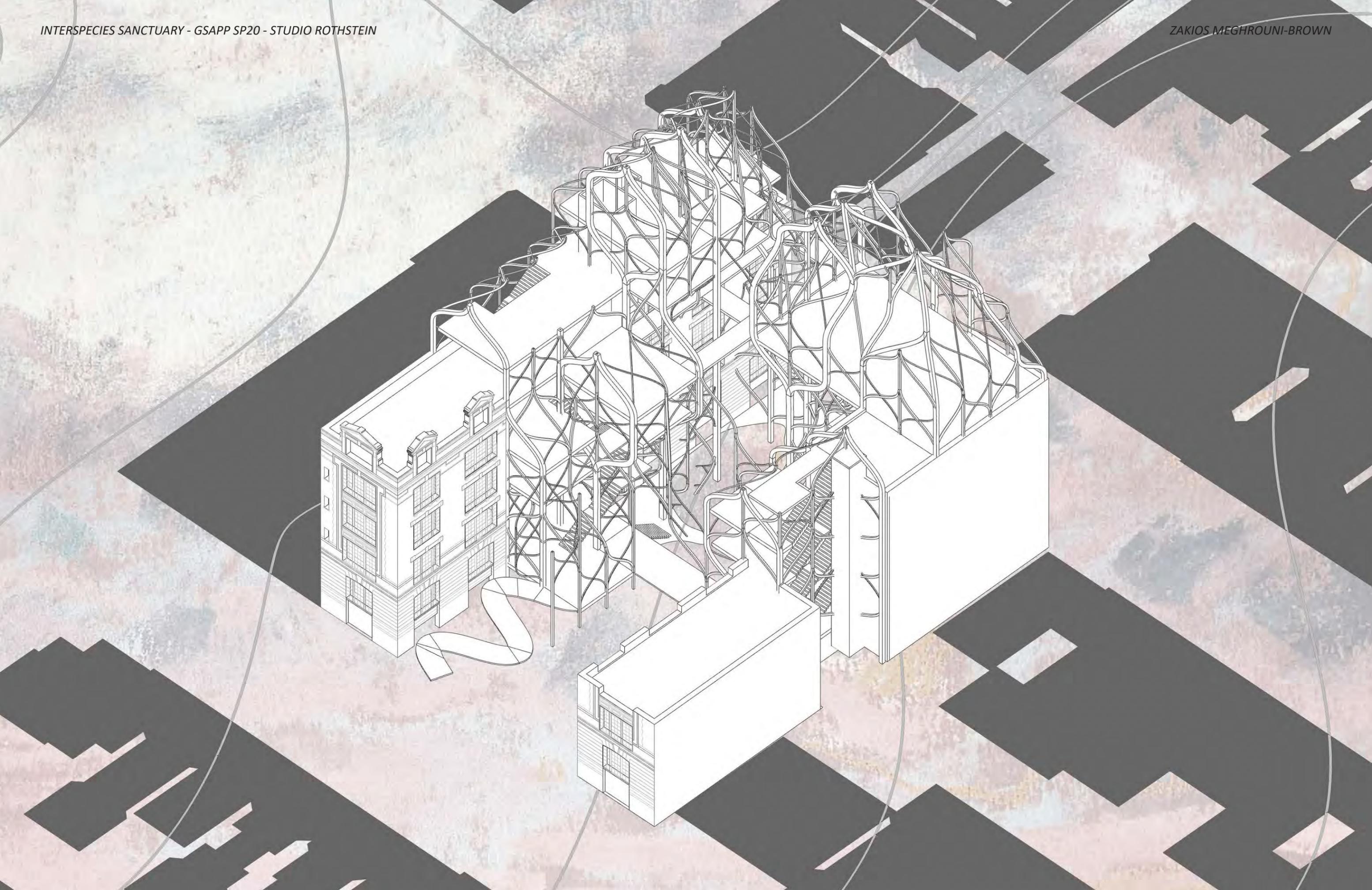


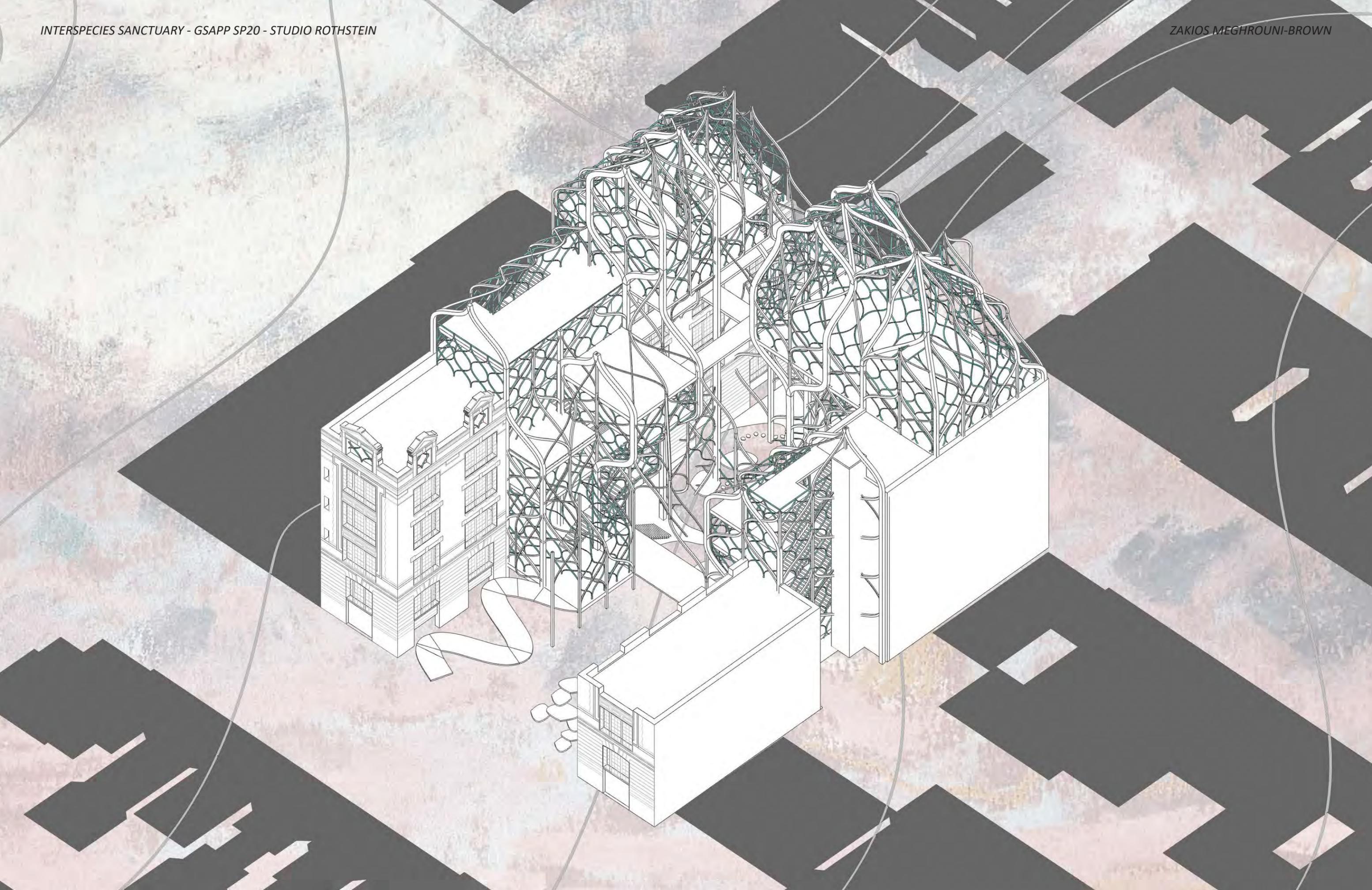


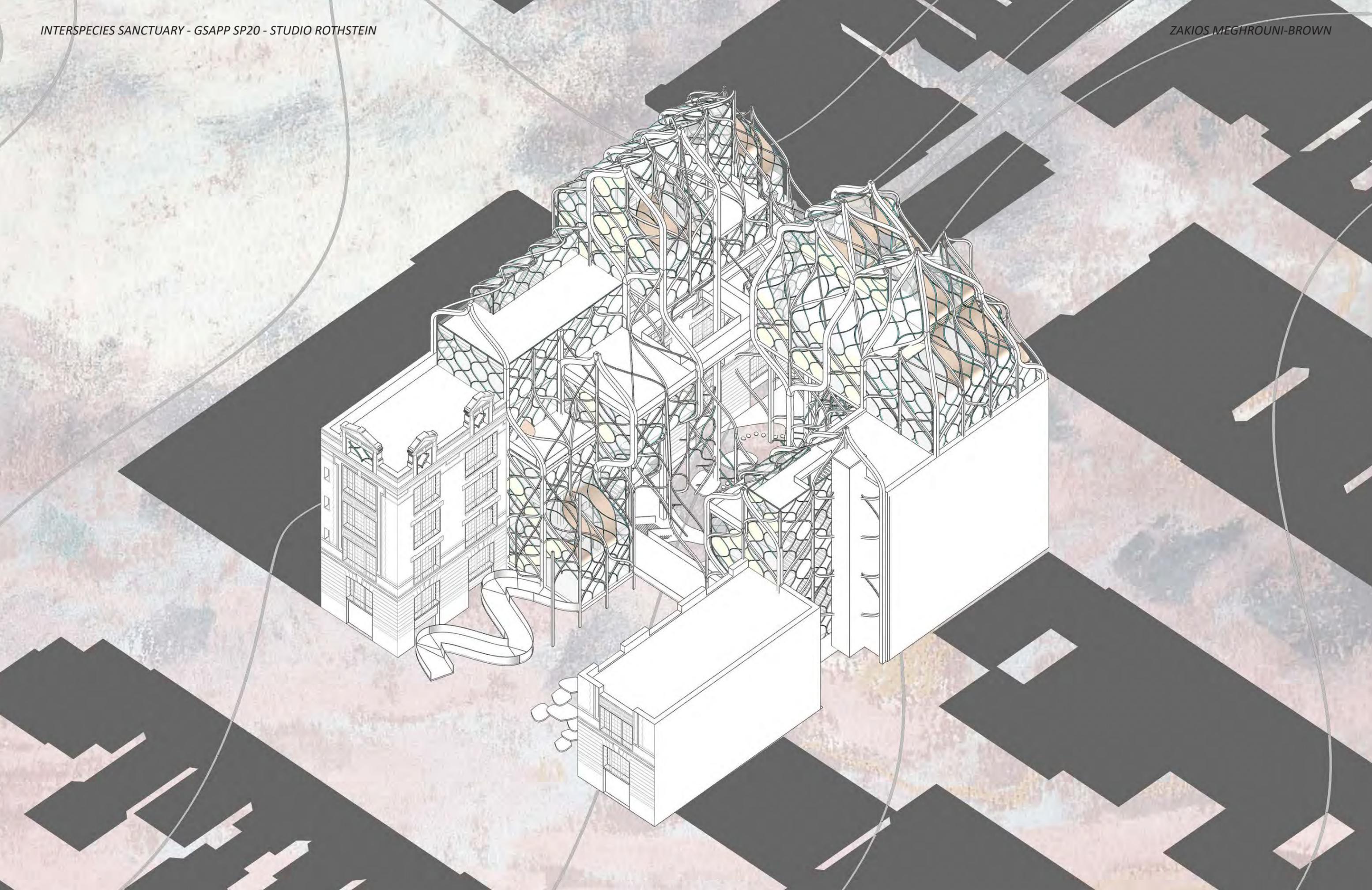










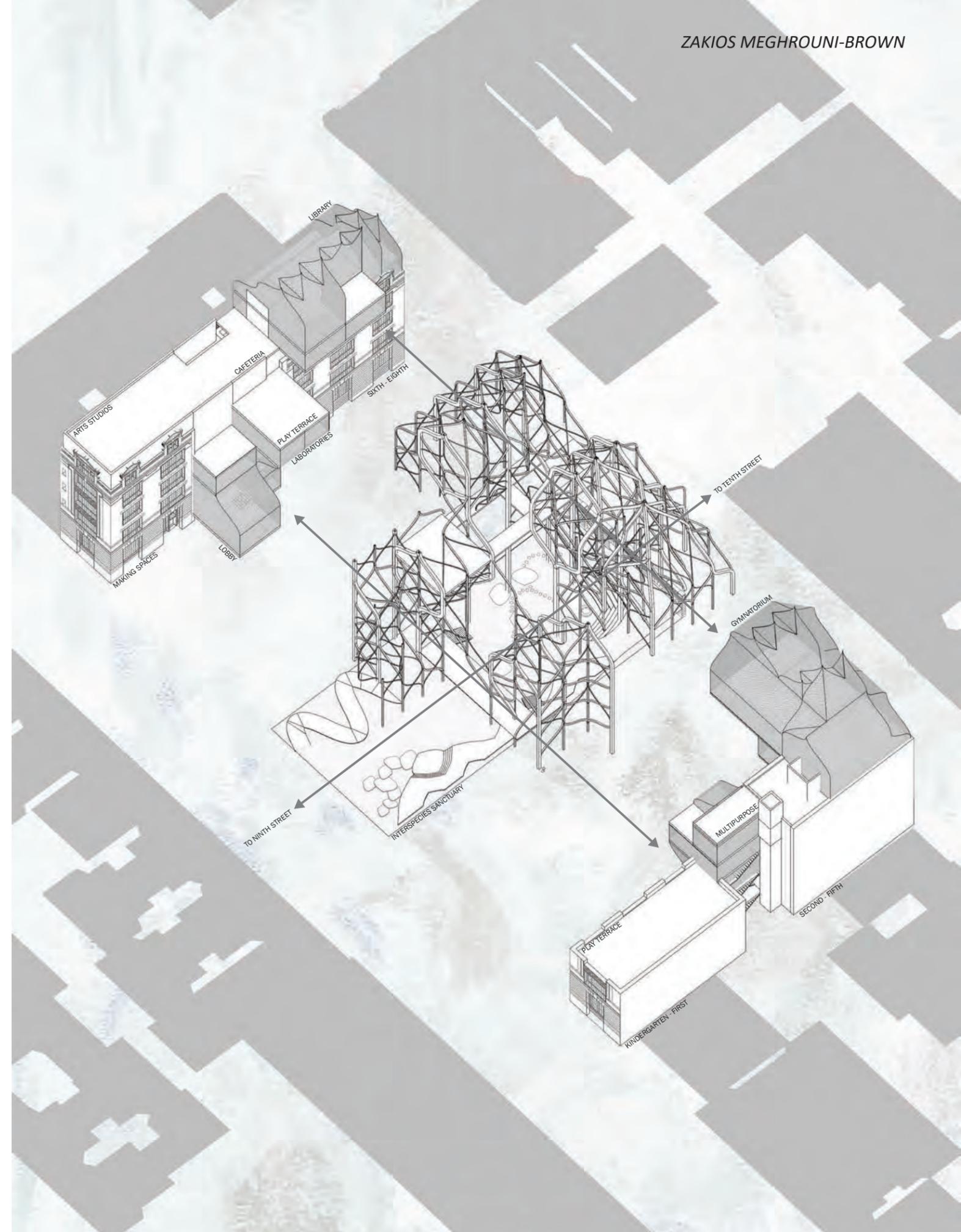


**A Vertical Ecology**

Disintegration  
Emergence  
Accumulation

Thicket  
Canopy  
Marsh

Sanctuary  
Refuge  
Communion





**PANDLION HALIAETUS**

A diurnal, fish eating bird of prey with a cosmopolitan range.  
Builds large nests from sticks and atop platforms on the building's roof.  
Hunts in the nearby estuary.

**CAMPSIS RADICANS**

A climbing vine native to eastern North America with large flowers  
Grows in planter basins embedded on the concrete structure.  
Enjoys full sun, and attracts hummingbirds.



**NYCTICORAX NYCTICORAX**

A migratory heron who who lives at the water's edge.  
Nests in at the border of wetlands, in the notches of the structure.  
Forages for food in flooded fields and marshes.

**PLEOPELTIS POLYPODIOIDES**

An evergreen epiphyte fern from the Eastern and Southern states.  
Grows without soil in the porous outer layer of concrete structure  
Drought resistant survivors will revive at the touch of water.

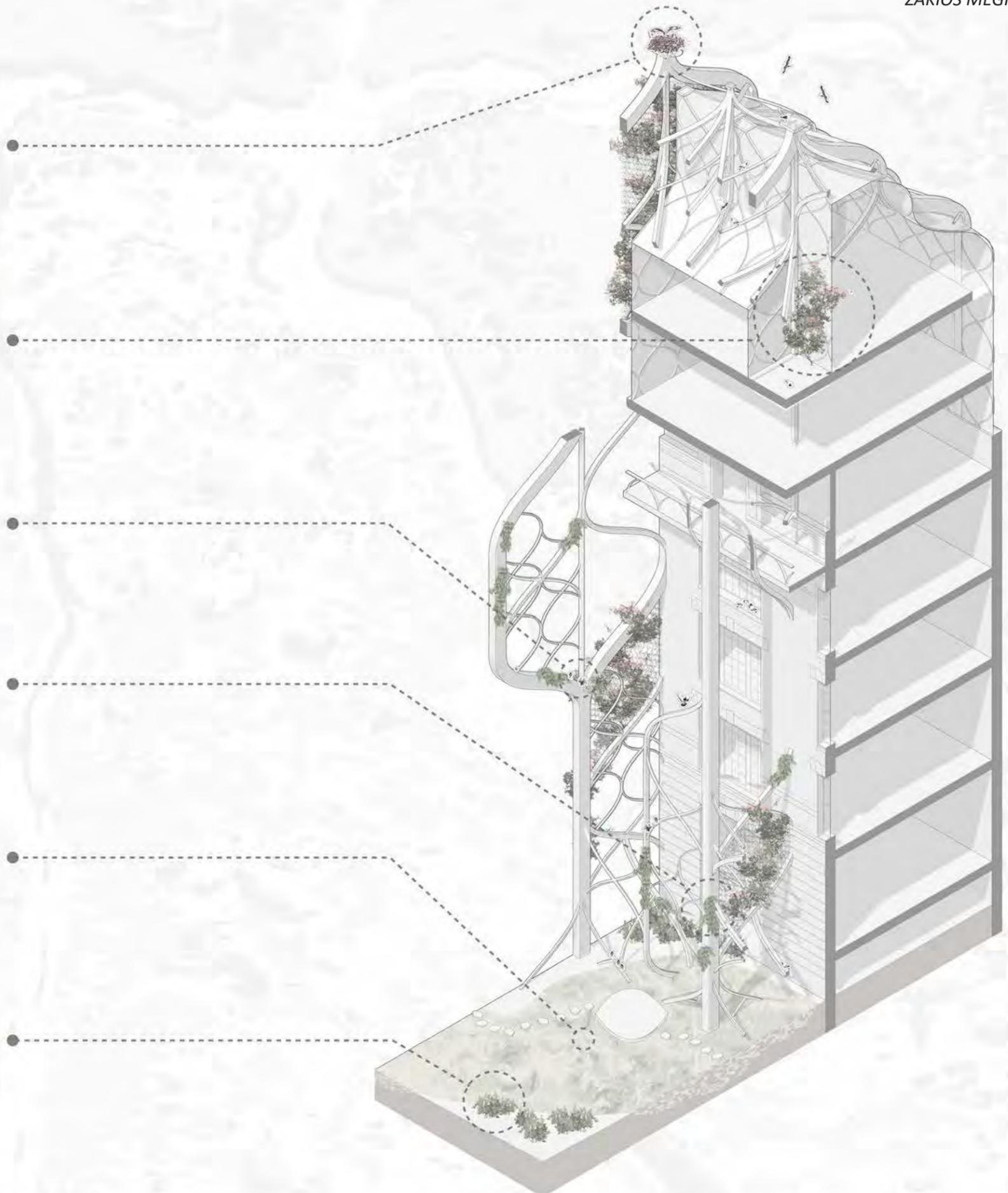


**UCA PUGNAX**

A fiddler crab native to the northeast.  
Lives in among the roots of plants in the brackish marsh.  
Its burrows alter the chemistry of the soil, encouraging plant growth.

**IVA ANNUA**

A flowering shrub related to the sunflower.  
Forms the edge of the marsh where it does not flood.  
Defines the upland border of wetlands and controls erosion.









### Epistemologies of Tending

This project embodies a model for living with changing climate, accommodating other species in the urban environment, and channels that model into the defining epistemology of the student body.

A lesson as arresting as any to be inscribed on the blackboard can be found outside the window. If pupils know to look, the fabric of the school itself can teach them ways to see: to glean the type of knowledge water has as it runs through grooves etched by repetition, or that a tree has as its shoots strive towards sunlight. The relentless cycles of living systems aggregating and disintegrating, becoming and unbecoming, engender in their witnesses an epistemology rooted in biopsychosocial well-being.



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