Steeped in geological time, the installation recognises the Fayerweather-Avery courtyard as a space that transcends capitalism, conquest and construction. Framing a minute portion of the sky above, the proposal recognises it as an eternal constant of that space.

Throughout all history occurring below on the ground plane, the ether above has retained a coherent presence aligned with forces of a global scale. All developments since our stewardship of Mana-hatta, bearing in mind the overgeneralization of ‘our’ within the temporal scale of human civilization, then begins to seem insignificant. Our ancestors understood and respected this, this proposal serves as a reminder. As such, the design removes visibility of Avery and Fayerweather hall altogether and isolates participants within the vertical relationship between ground and sky. It diminishes products spawned through our acts of conquering & owning space, an aspect so pervasive in now New York City.

Ultimately, Ether Eternal removes our current determinations, demarcations and delineations of the ‘courtyard’ and returns us to an ongoing relationship originating well before us and likely extending long after our time here.

3 strategies
1) By incorporating a stair-element that rises unevenly alongside the vertical shaft, participants encounter this vertical space at selected heights.
2) The integration of eco-brick for bird nesting, alongside the main space, returns participants to light, air and nature.
3) The entrance on the ground plane that serves as our primordial means to enter and leave a space.