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The North lawn of the UNHQ could invite the public back to the discussion table by offering them a tapestry of stages and seats. Our design of a landscape of indoor and outdoor theaters site serves as a parallel to the delegates’ chambers. in which the stages are however for the people. Sovereignty of Voices creates a gateway between the United Nation and the wider public. Due to security concerns, the public has been isolated from the UNHQ. But we have witnessed the power of the public across the world stage. Their voices have led to changes in legislation and historical progress. The United Nation aims to bring peace, equal rights, and prosperity to humankind. The public could be a partner to the UN in this effort.
In order to bring a sense of decentralized structure to the whole project, including the difference between various theaters for many users and focuses, we want to create a sense of tapestry of theaters, with various theaters of different scales being allocated within the layout from the site strategy to create the sense of free circulation without losing control.
For the majority of the time, it can also serve as an urban leisure space for visitors to gather and engage the spirit of the UN.

Its roof forms an open landscape occupiable by a public audience: a new ground-level silhouette. Above this landscape, especially in this section. A second landscape emerges from south to north in the form of an occupiable roof.
The underground level houses four interior theaters with different scales, functions, and shapes. The site consists of three layers of spatial conditions, and interactions between the underground, the landscape, and a roof. This building has two similarly defined but different occupiable roofs. The whole project is divided into three different zones in the vertical direction: open space, semi-closed environment, and interior.
The Port Authority Bus Terminal in Midtown Manhattan, a crucial transportation hub, has long faced design and efficiency challenges. Compounding these issues, the nearby USPS facility disrupts the area’s connectivity between 8th and 9th Avenues. The project aims to transform the terminal’s design and merge it with the adjacent USPS facility, creating a cohesive, functional, and engaging space.

The proposed design involves carving into the terminal’s floor slabs, creating a void for new volumes and an inviting urban outdoor space. The terminal is re-imagined with distinct arrival and departure areas, as well as themed experience chambers for travelers. The integration of the USPS facility streamlines package services for commuters and alleviates traffic congestion on 41st Street. ConnectHub seeks to redefine the Port Authority Bus Terminal and its surrounding area, transforming it into an efficient, engaging, and welcoming space for its diverse users.
PORT AUTHORITY AS FIRST IMPRESSION

The Port Authority Bus Terminal, a vital transportation hub located in the heart of Midtown Manhattan, serves an estimated 260,000 passengers on a busy weekday. Despite its importance, the terminal’s design has long been criticized for its inefficiency and lack of user-friendliness. Moreover, the nearby USPS facility, situated on the north of 41st Street, further exacerbates the area’s congestion and disconnection between 8th and 9th Avenues.

In this project, Wentao Liu envisions a transformative solution that not only addresses the terminal’s design issues but also unites it with the adjacent USPS facility.

It appears no concurrent program or fixtures could serve people during waiting.

Congestion on 41st St.
The circulation in the “ConnectHub” is designed to accommodate the diverse needs of users by offering distinct pathways for arrivals and departures, as well as themed experience chambers for waiting passengers. The integration of the USPS facility further streamlines package services for commuters and eases traffic congestion in the area.

**Programs**

A. Post Office
B. Departure Platform
C. Arrival Platform
D. Experience Chamber
E. Experience Chamber 2
F. Noise & Gas Isolation Membrane
G. Bus Path
H. 8 & 9th Ave. Path
I. Observation Deck
J. USPS Truck Entrance
K. USPS Service Level

**CIRCULATION DE CONNECTHUB**
The proposed design involves carving into the floor slabs of the original terminal, creating a void to house new volumes and provide an inviting urban outdoor space. This architectural intervention splits the terminal into distinct spaces for passenger arrivals and departures while simultaneously creating a connection between 8th and 9th Avenues. In addition, the new design seeks to enhance the overall experience for travelers by providing engaging waiting areas, such as themed experience chambers that encourage exploration and social interaction.
REDEFINING TRANSITION HUB

By drawing upon the similarities between the bus terminal and the postal office, both characterized by constant human and vehicular activity, this project seeks to merge the two entities into a cohesive, functional whole. The integration of the USPS facility within the terminal would not only streamline package pick-up and delivery for commuters but also free up space on 41st Street, reducing traffic congestion and reconnecting the northern neighborhoods.

Ultimately, this innovative and forward-thinking design aims to redefine the Port Authority Bus Terminal and the surrounding area, transforming it into an efficient, engaging, and welcoming space that caters to the diverse needs of its users.
CONCEPT STATEMENT: PROPOSED FAÇADE

The selected artwork demonstrates a curvature movement on a 2D format. The façade design proposal would capture this special moment and transform them into 3D expressed by a mesh surface as the outer layer. The material selection of aluminum matches up with the given artwork of silvery looking. The mesh surface from the elevation referenced on the gradient texture. The dot give rise to the openings on the façade design as a chance for day lighting flush in to the interior space. (light dot showed in render) The curvature surface brought further from the 2D image. By observing from various angle, the curved surface demonstrates various silhouettes and impression.

REFERENCE ARTWORK

WT-1: aluminum framing, stainless steel mesh surface, low-e coating glass. Façade system consisted by three structurally connected layers. The outer layer composed by curvature mesh fame with dot openings structurally supported by a special design unit connected with outriggers. The in between layer function as maintenance deck and its weight distributed by the steel cable hanging from the top structural element. The inner layer is a standard façade system has triple layer glass with low-e coating. Due to the program was for a noise and disturb free reading/study/working space, the views are designed to be obfuscate and to not be visible from outside or street level.

Bridge Riley B.
1931 Pause.
1964 Emulsion on board

Location
New York City, New York

Context
Town houses on one side. The building occupies corner of the street.

Client
Columbia University.