

ECLECTIC FIGURES

Benjamin Gomez - Selected works - GSAPP 2020



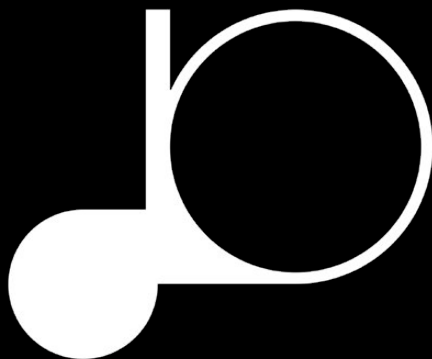
4 01_The pier
Studio Spring 2020

46 02_M House
Studio Fall 2019

72 03-Going Up!
Studio Summer 2019

114 04_Modular compound
Visual 2020

120 05_Druzhbah sanatorium
Visual 2020



01 _The Pier

The space of water

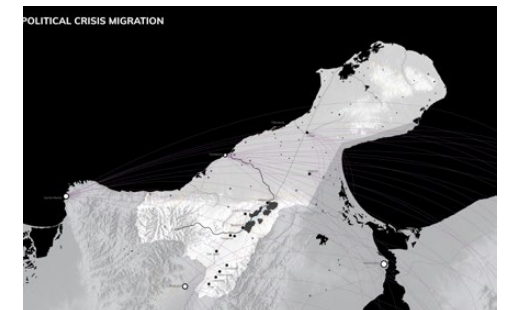
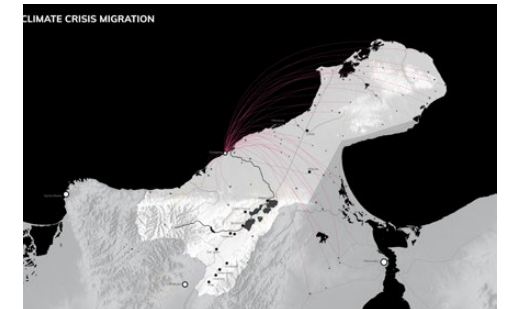
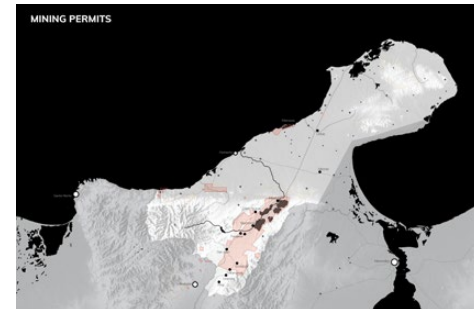
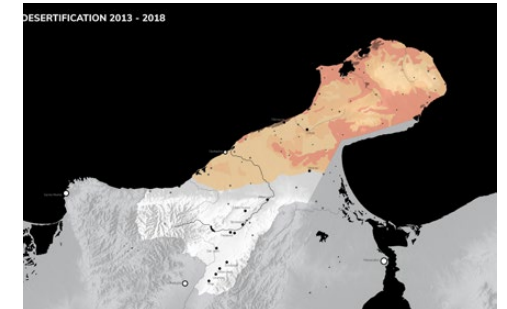
Mario Gooden

Adv Studio VI

Spring 2020

The studio is informed by the history of radical thinking about architecture in the 20th century yet look beyond to the Afro-Imaginary to present an experimental curriculum deploying techniques culled from the visual arts as well as design theories of geography, infrastructure, engineering, and architecture to initiate dialogues about geography and spatiality in an era of global crisis due to human-induced climate change.

More specifically, the studio will investigate the cultural topographies of water informed by the line from colonialism to climate change in consideration of forced-migration, resource extraction, environmental degradation, and water scarcity.



The Research

Mapping human Displacement

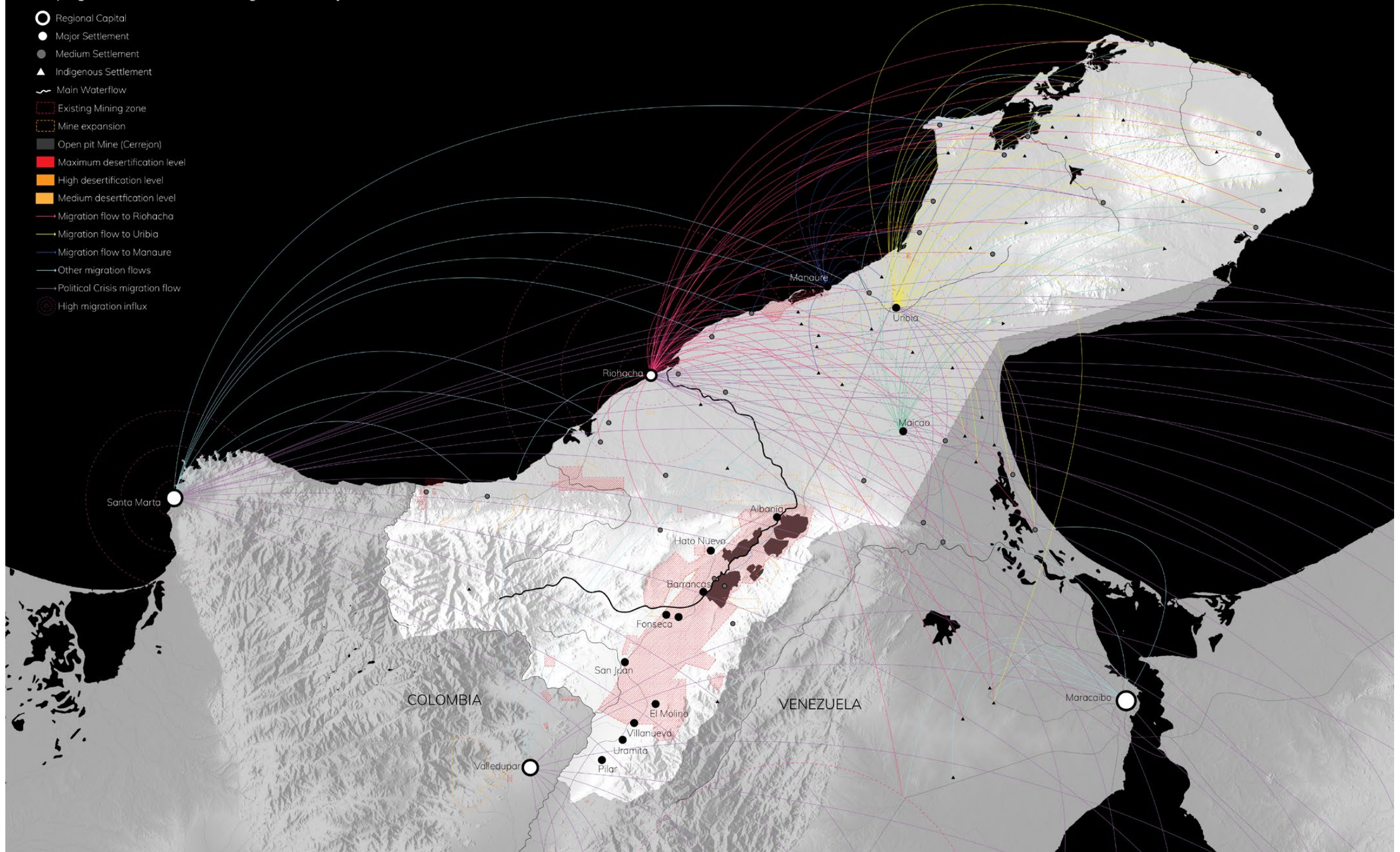
The thesis project begins by researching human displacement caused by climate change. The research seeks to map the human migration of over 200,000 Wayuu people during the 2015 - 2018 drought in La Guajira, Colombia.

It overlaps the droughts caused by "El Niño" and other social issues such as mining extraction conflicts, political crisis and lack of governance.

MIGRATION DRIVEN BY CLIMATE CRISIS

Mapping of the 2013 - 2018 drought in La Guajira. Colombia

- Regional Capital
- Major Settlement
- Medium Settlement
- ▲ Indigenous Settlement
- ~ Main Waterflow
- Existing Mining zone
- Mine expansion
- Open pit Mine (Cerrejon)
- Maximum desertification level
- High desertification level
- Medium desertification level
- Migration flow to Riohacha
- Migration flow to Uribe
- Migration flow to Manaure
- Other migration flows
- Political Crisis migration flow
- High migration influx



The interpretation

Tracing the paths of water and people

The Wayuu people have lived in the Guajira desert for hundreds of years, they have been there even before Venezuela and Colombia existed as nations. This indigenous group have survived years of violence, war, drug trafficking the creation of frontiers and even colonization. They managed to do this as they were tied strong together as a group.

However a current migration crisis driven by economic collapse, estate corruption and an intense and long drought is threatening the existence of this traditionally united group. The sudden influx of people have created an increasing tension between the indigenous communities.

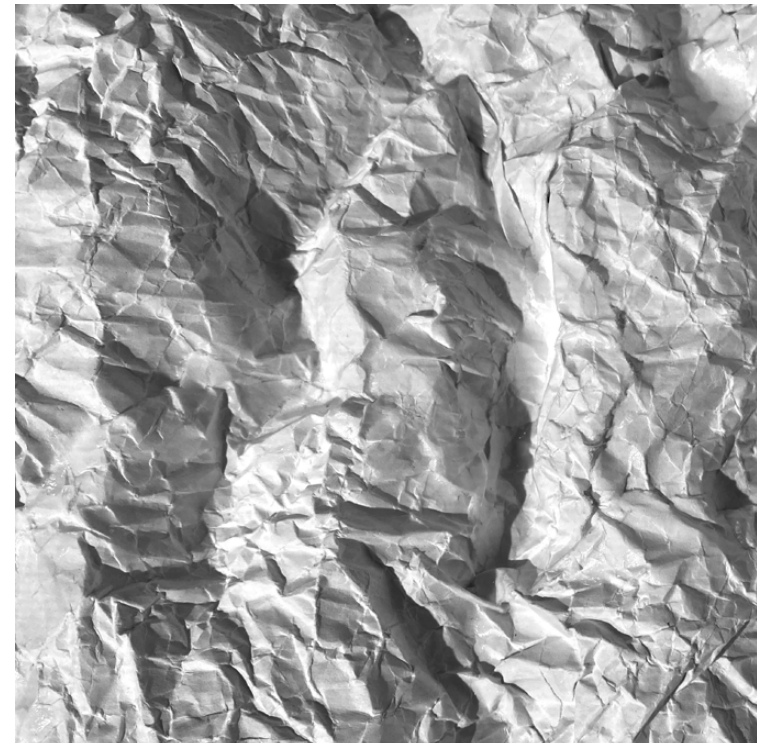
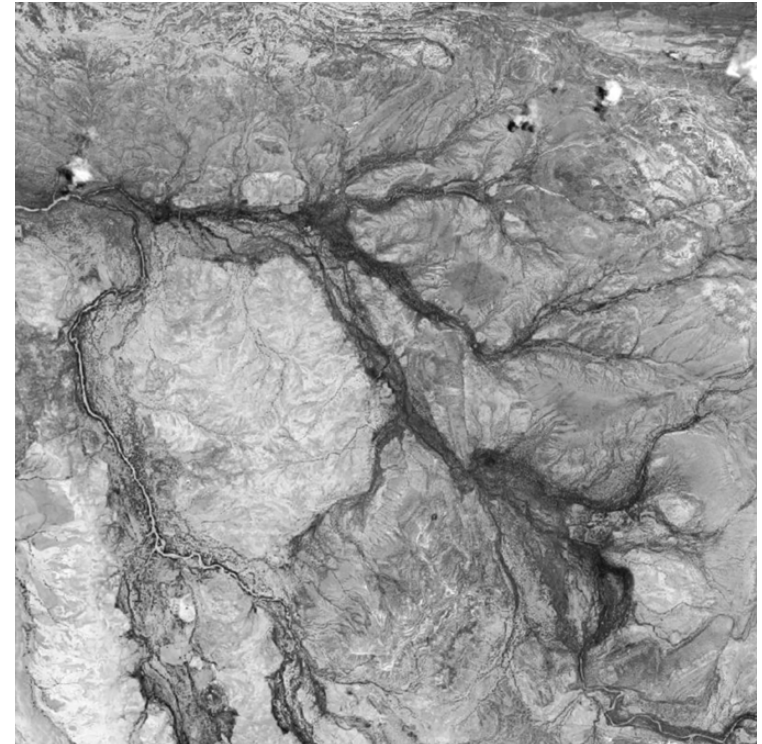
It has startled an internal conflict for land, water, food and the right to stay in this sacred place. Now children from all sides are starving.

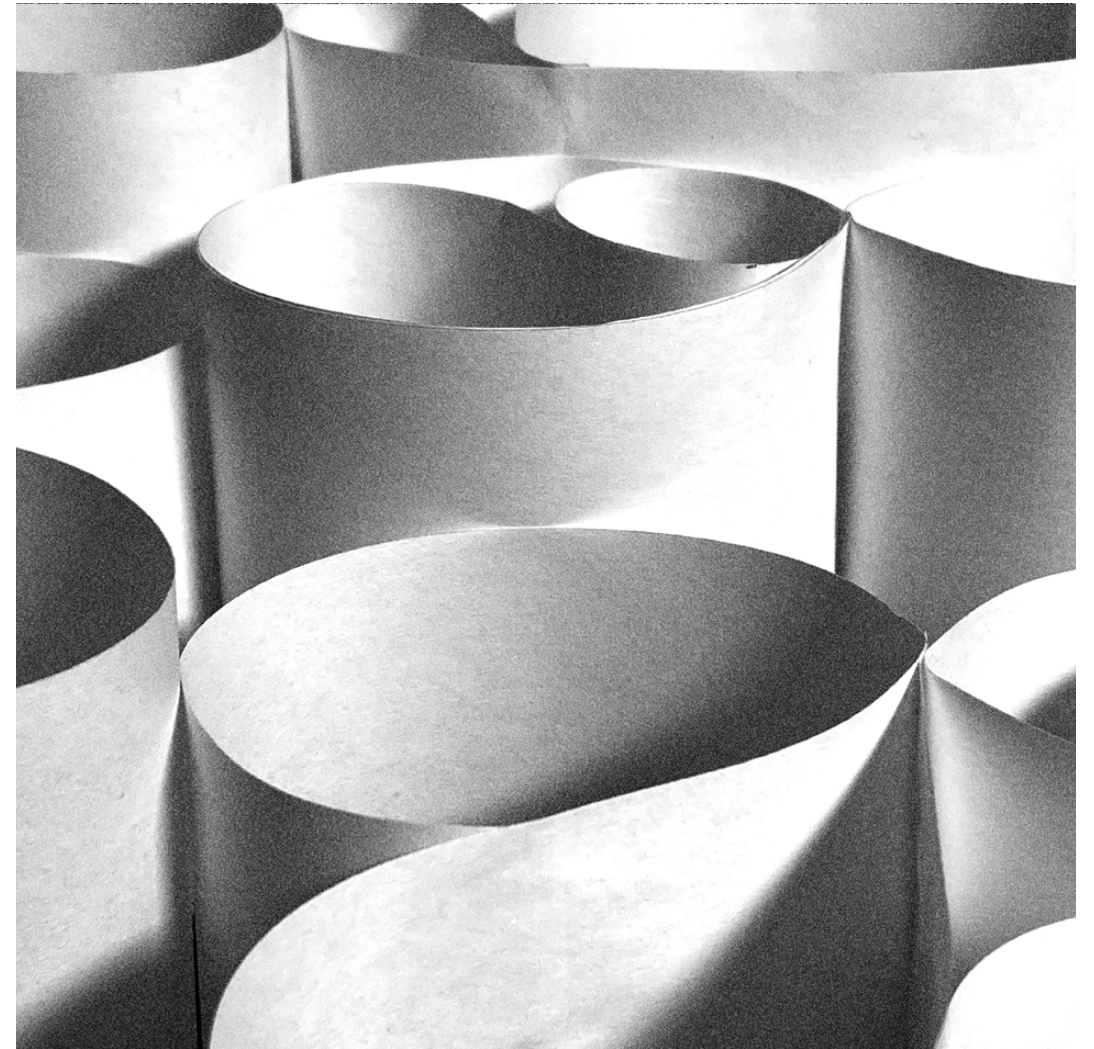
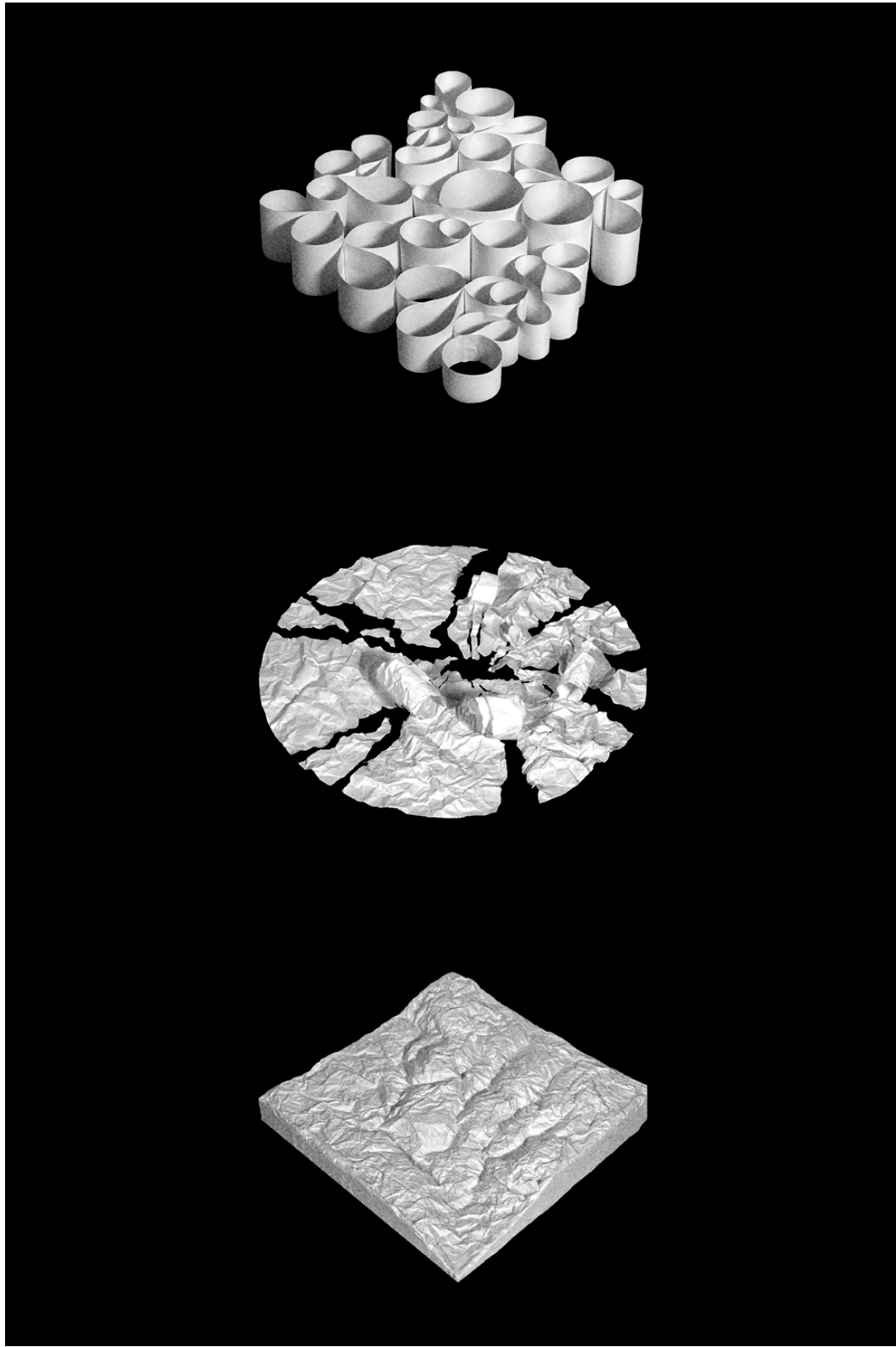
The climate crisis has contributed to make visible this problem of mismanagement and inequality in a way that it seems now too late to solve. People migrate hoping for better futures and with them they drag their lives, sufferings and experiences. People have started to move through the desert on the traces of past existing water flows. The traces of the water are now the paths of the people.

Model 1: People move with their lives in their back.

Model 2: People gather in inhospitable landscapes.

Model 3: People flow through traces of water







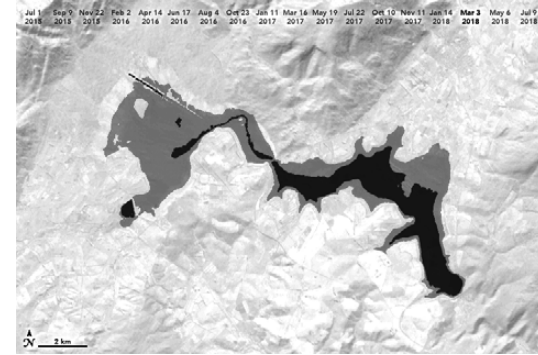
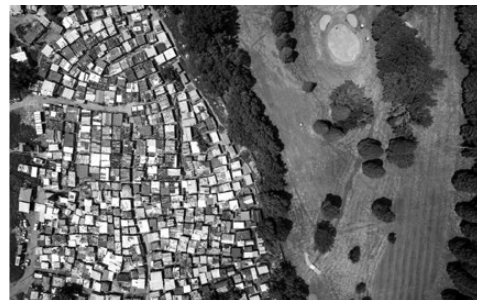
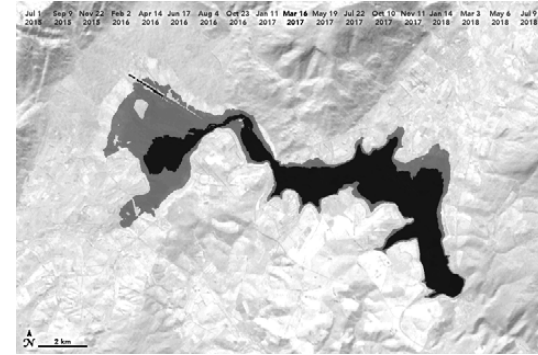
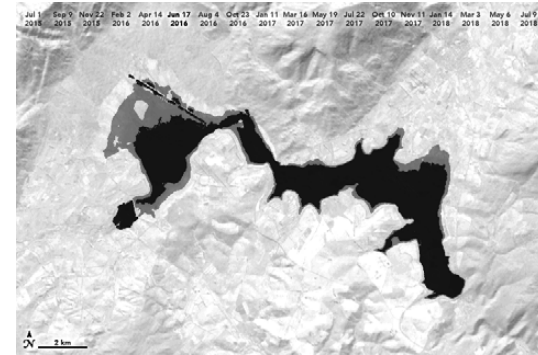
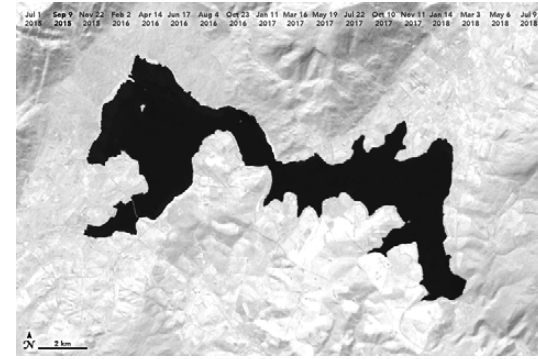
The Context

Cape town:

A 5-year drought in and a mixture of mismanagement in the city of Cape Town has created a water scarcity crisis that endangers the whole population.

Several informal settlements and former Townships struggle to get access to water as they are disconnected from the main source regardless the droughts.

On common aspect of the informal settlements is that not only do they lack access to proper sanitation and drinking water but also these communities are alienated from beaches and the sea as a mean of resources and recreation.



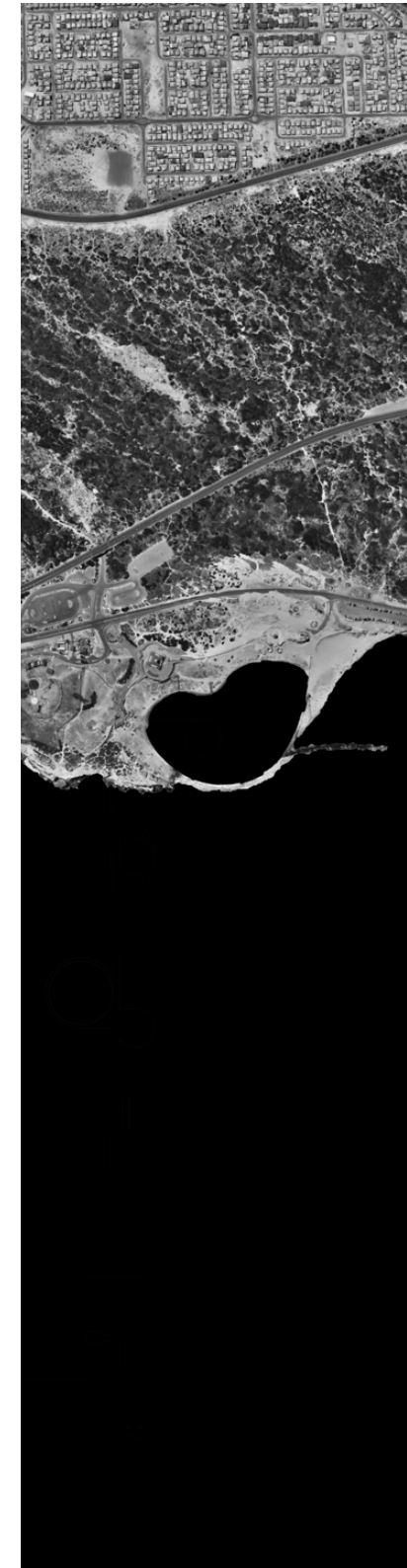
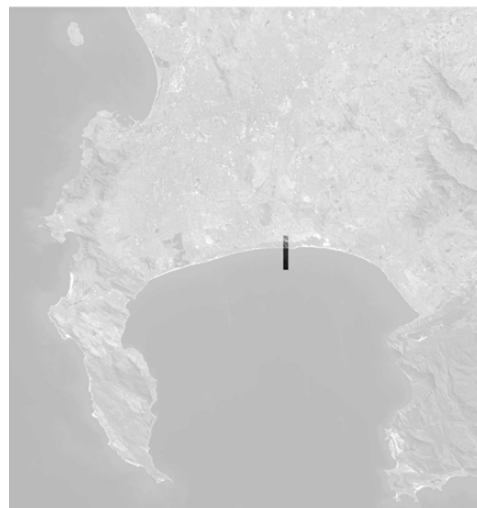
The site

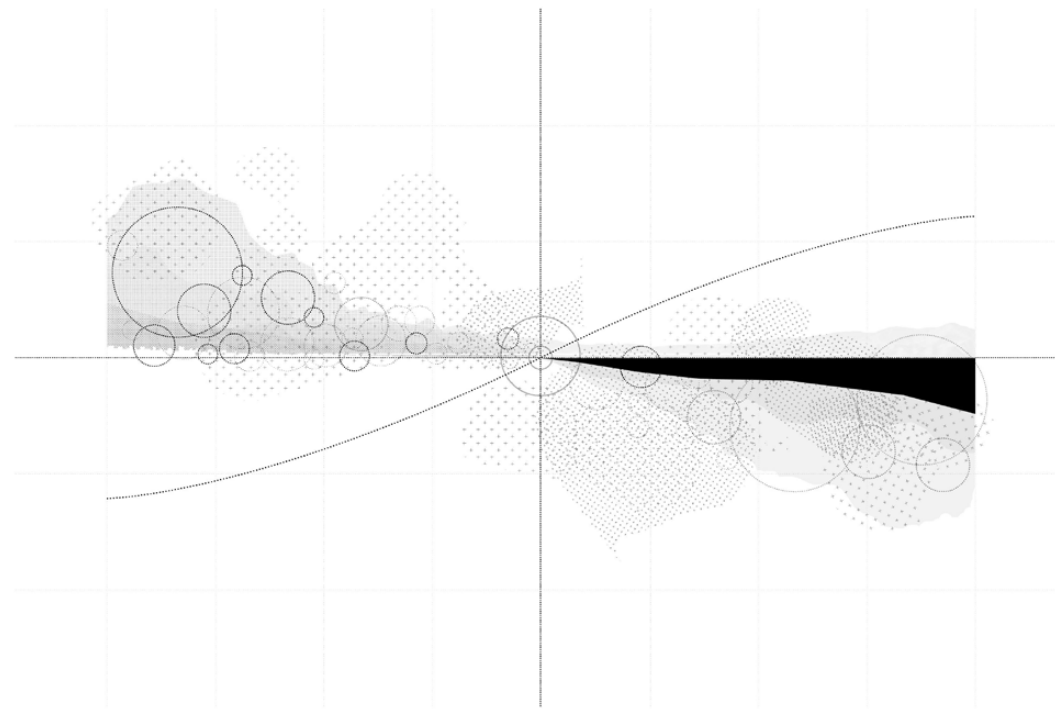
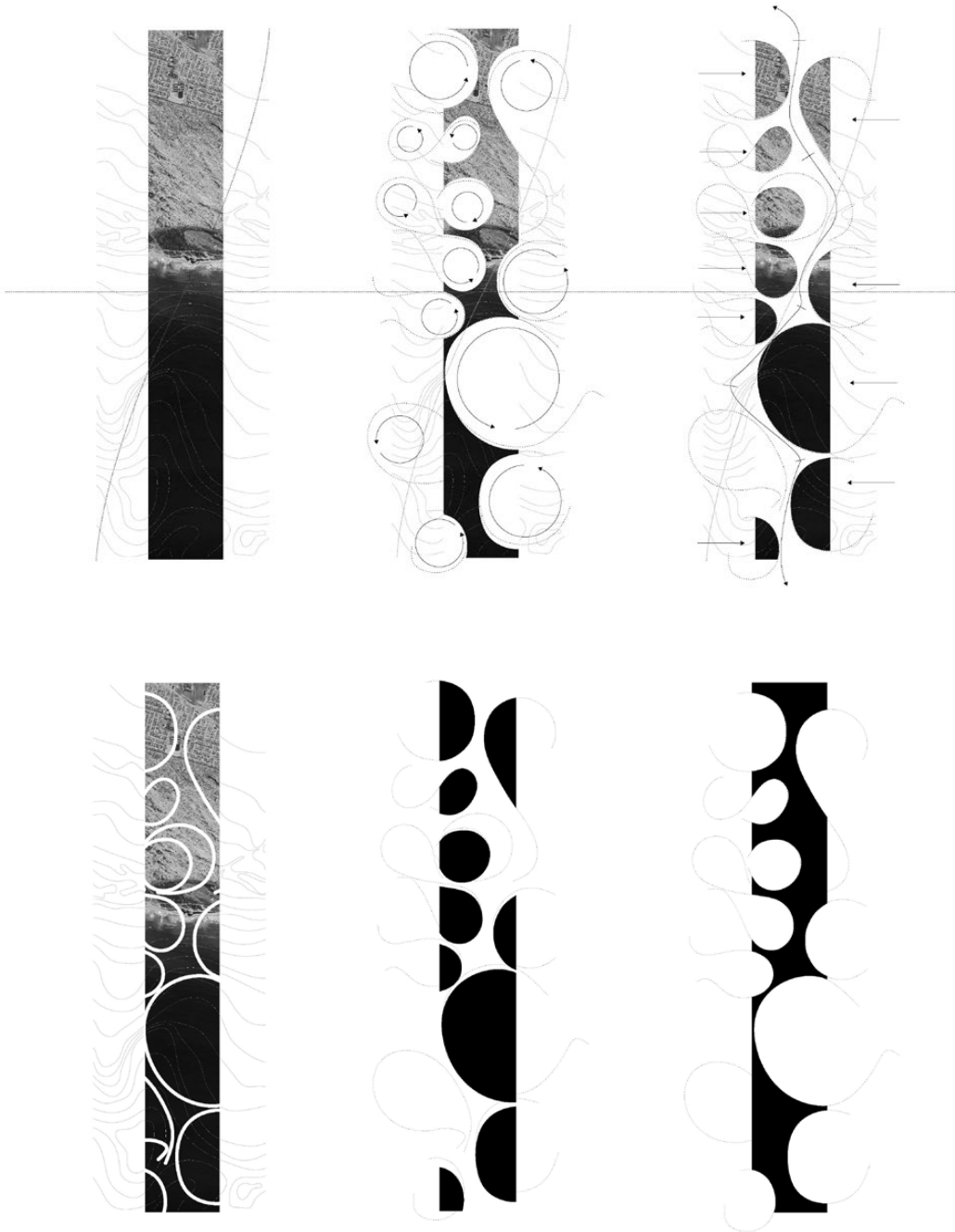
Kayelitsha

Access to water has been denied for the former town ship now informal settlement of Kayelitsha.

Despite being less than one mile from the sea, the community is disconnected by a large private stripe that resulted from previous apartheid policies and current social inequity.

The project pretends to give a direct connection between the community of Kayelitsha and the sea.





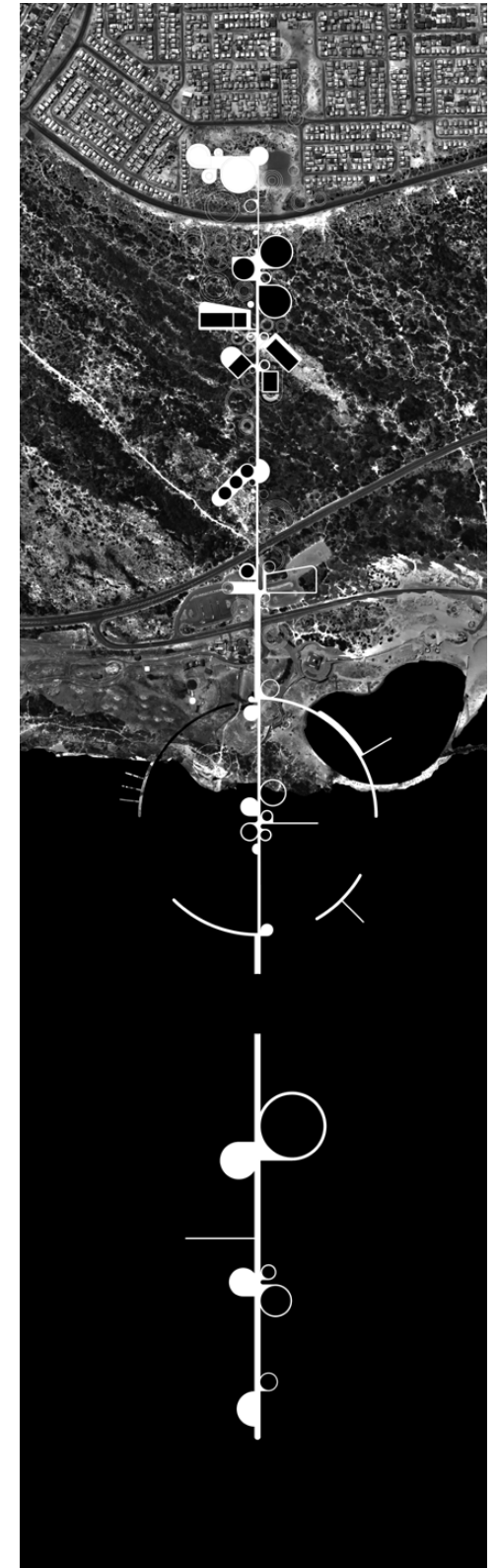
The Pier

The project consists on a two-kilometer-long pier that creates a connection between the community of Kayelitsha and the sea. The pier is a public promenade that seeks to reconcile the sea as the main public space. It Agglomerates along its path a series of public facilities and spaces that interact with the surrounding landscape.

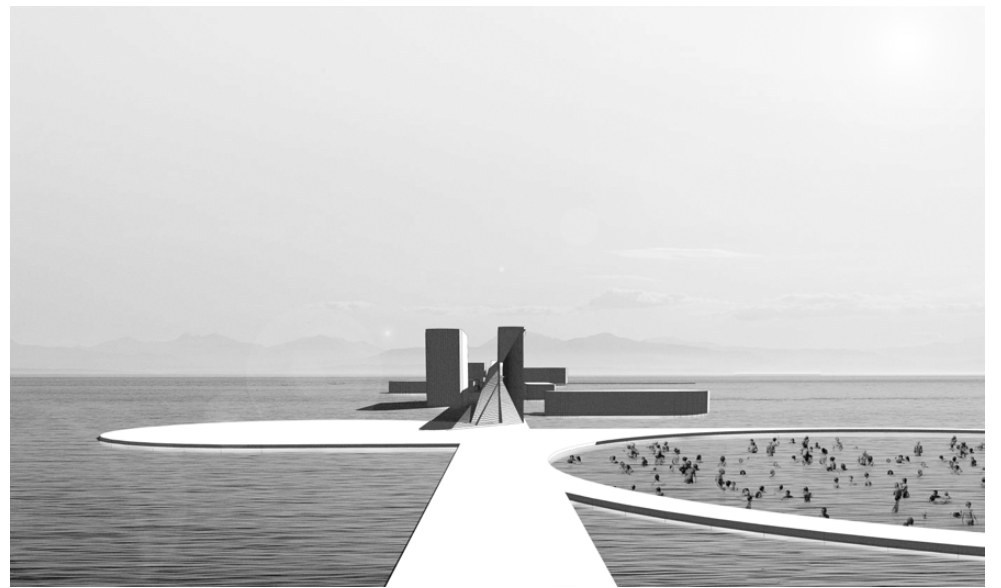
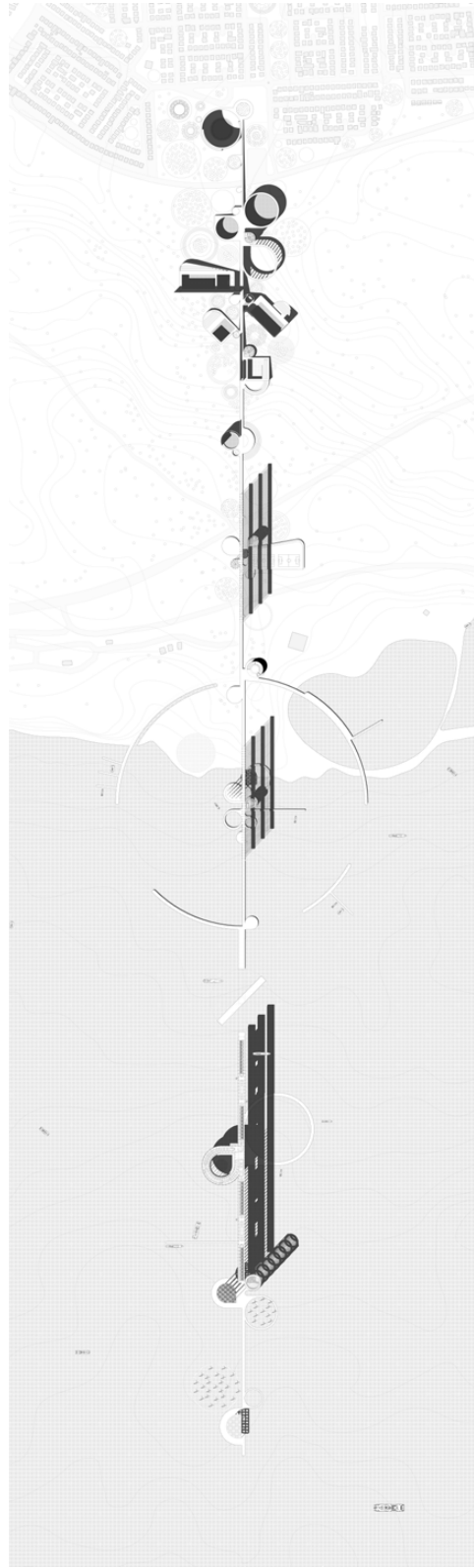
The pier itself functions as a device for the generation of energy, knowledge and recreation for the community, hosting a series of programs that relate with the people through water.

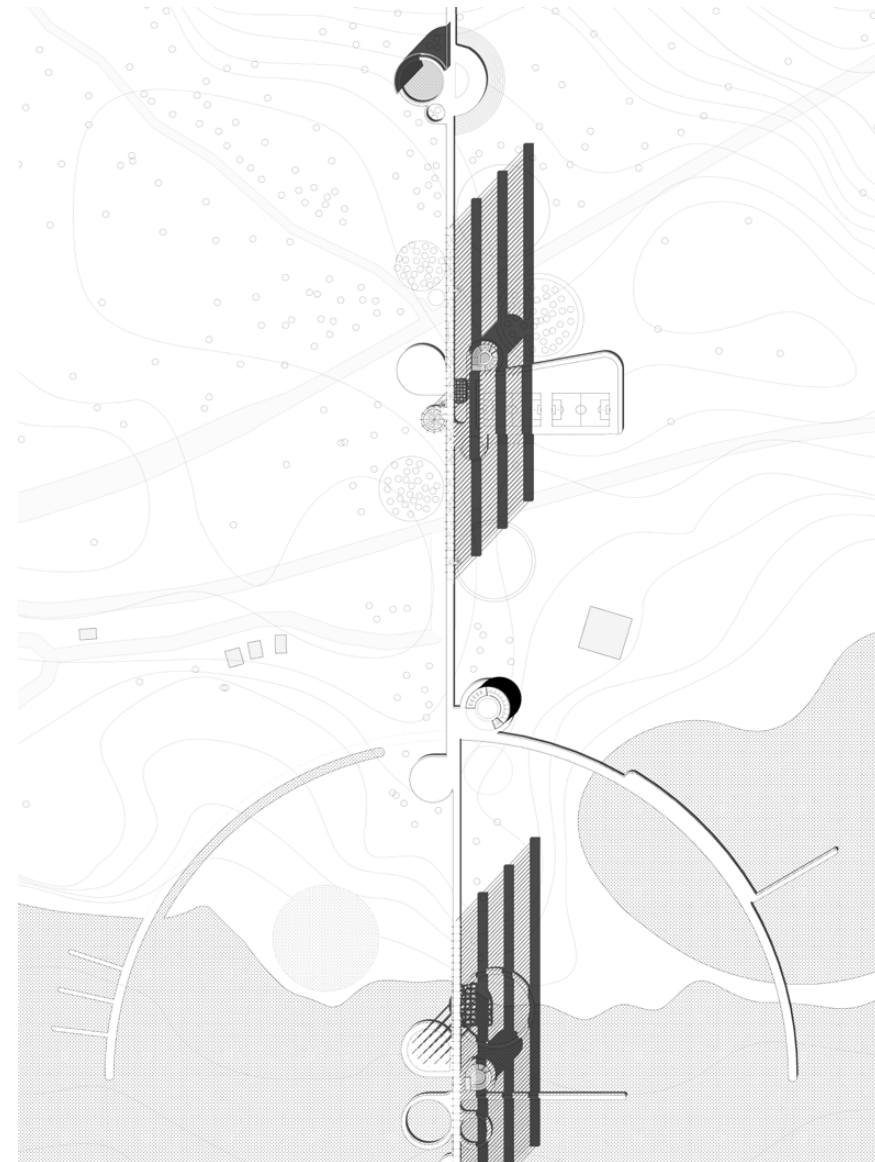
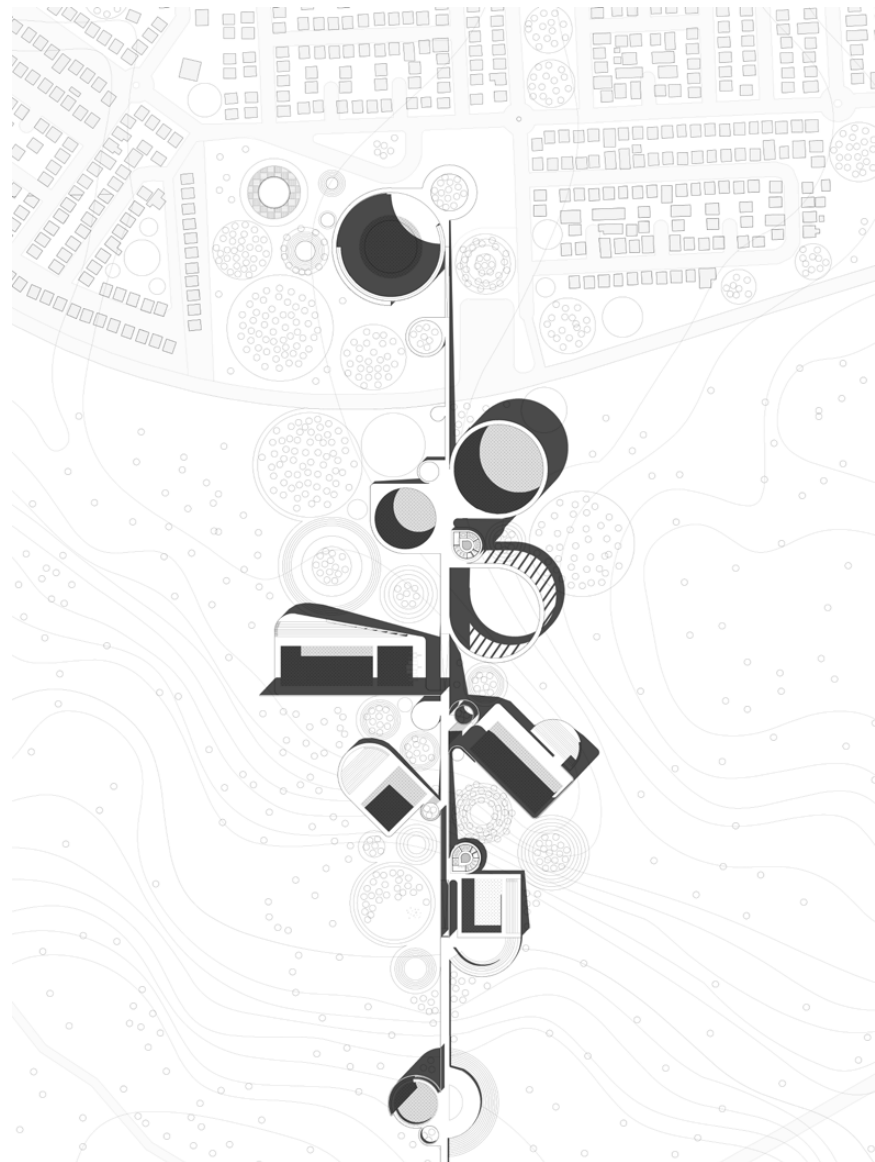
The main program of the project consists on a desalination plant, an Olympic pool complex, a series of recreational saline pools and a research sea center that connect each other through a continuous path that transforms into public space.

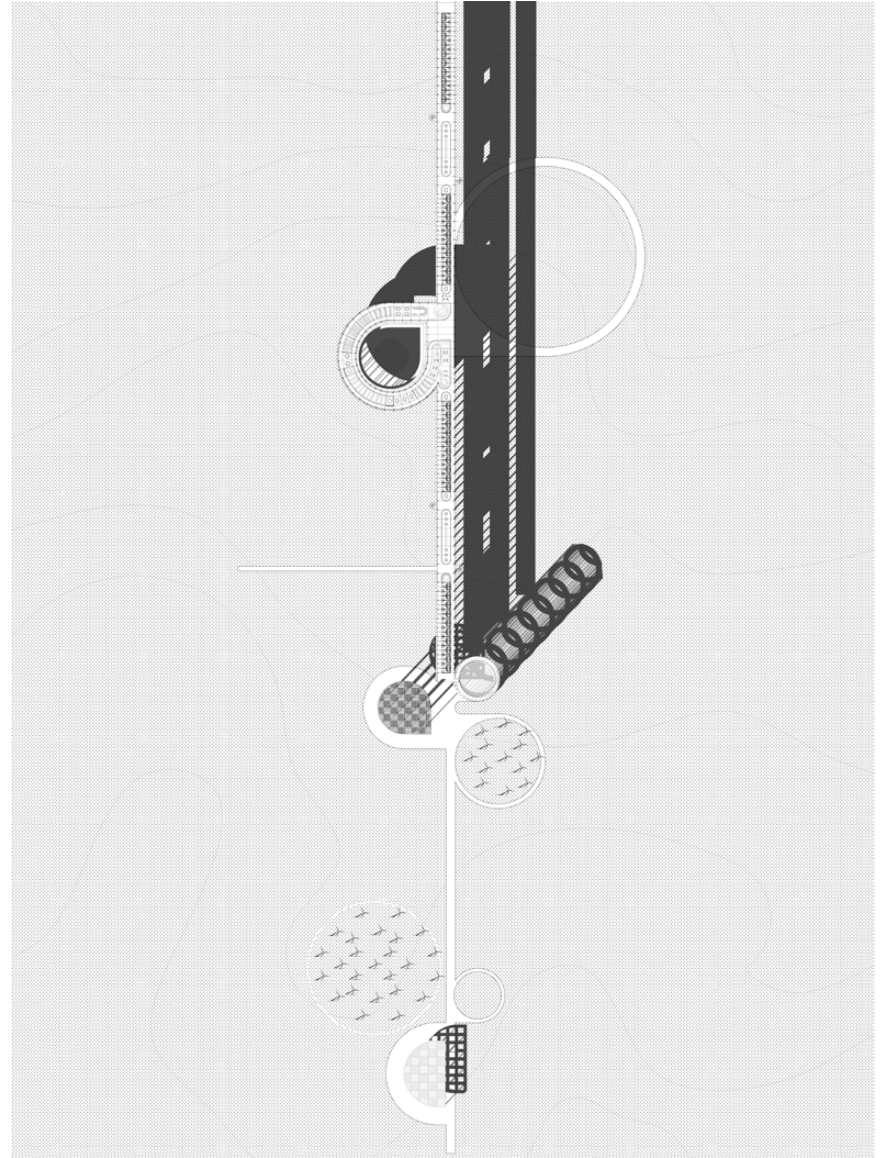
The project is meant to be a speculative strong gesture that speaks about inequality and access to public space as a right. It is meant to be large enough to be seen along the bay but light enough to allow the view and landscape to be framed and enhanced. It is a response of the historical denial that the community of Kayelitsha suffered from previous apartheid policies and current inequalities.

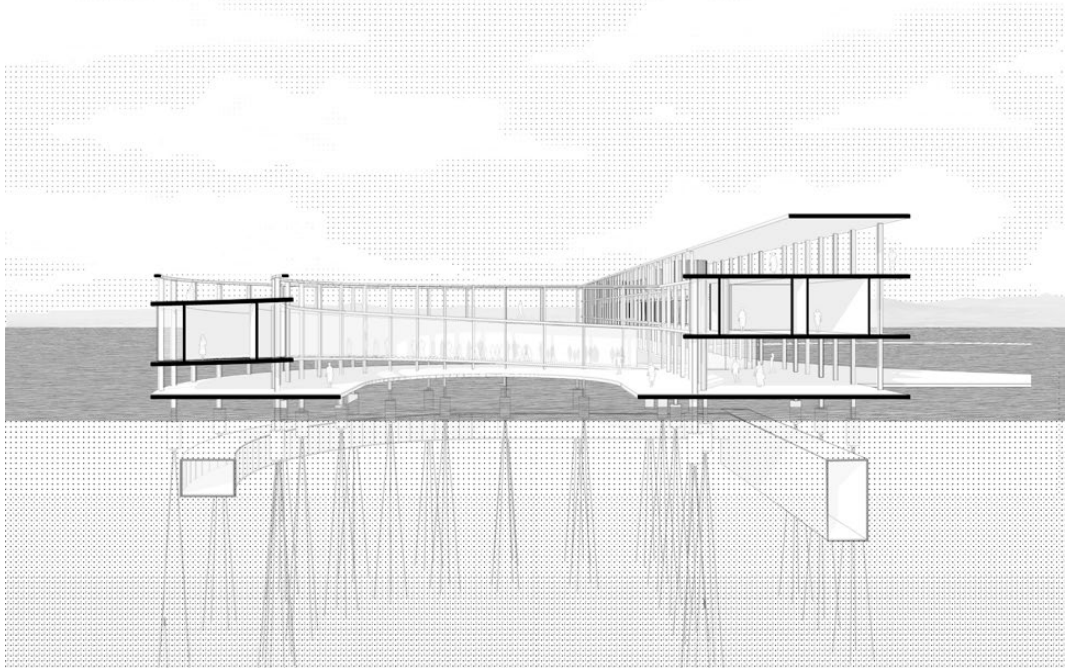
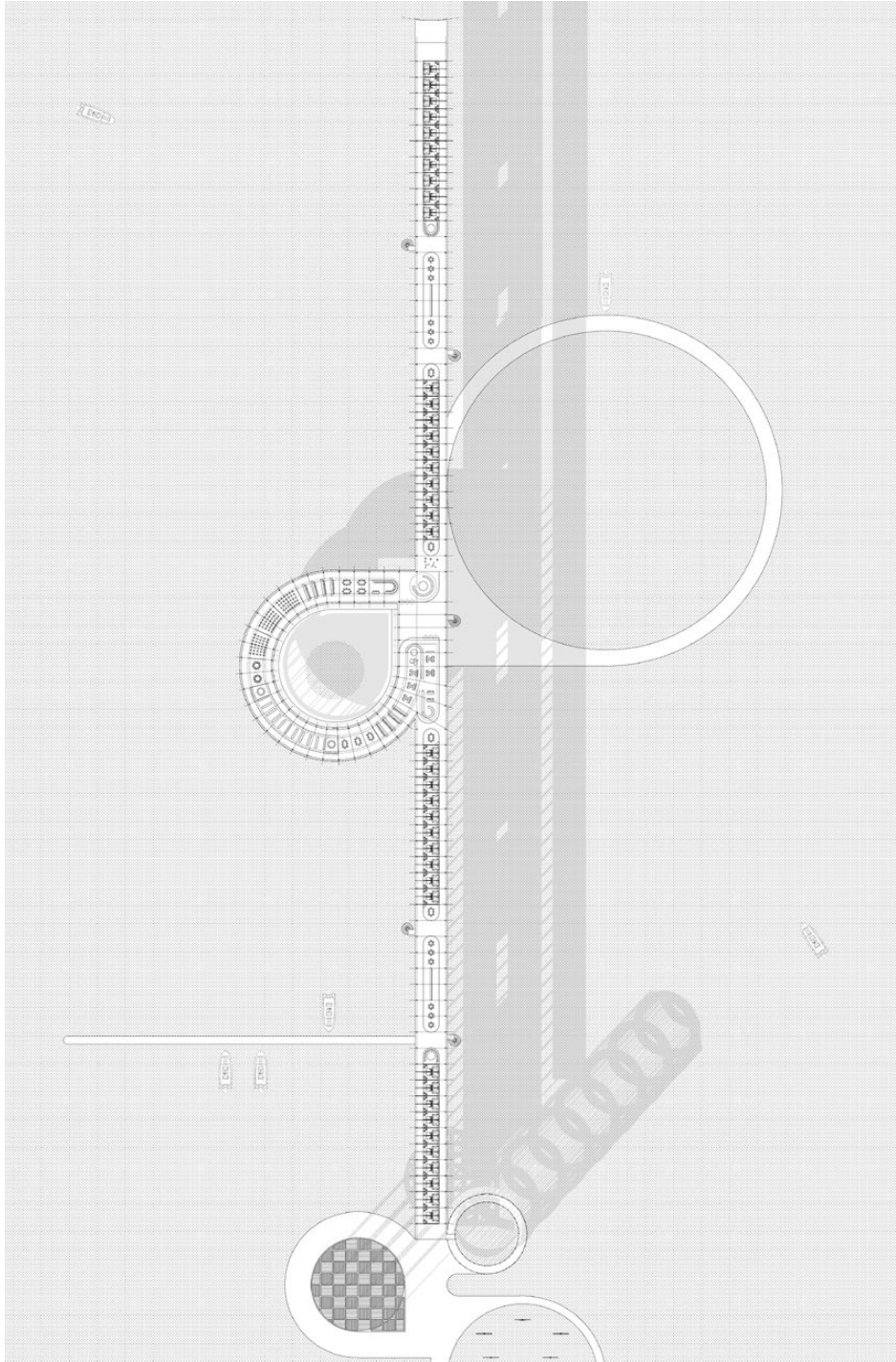




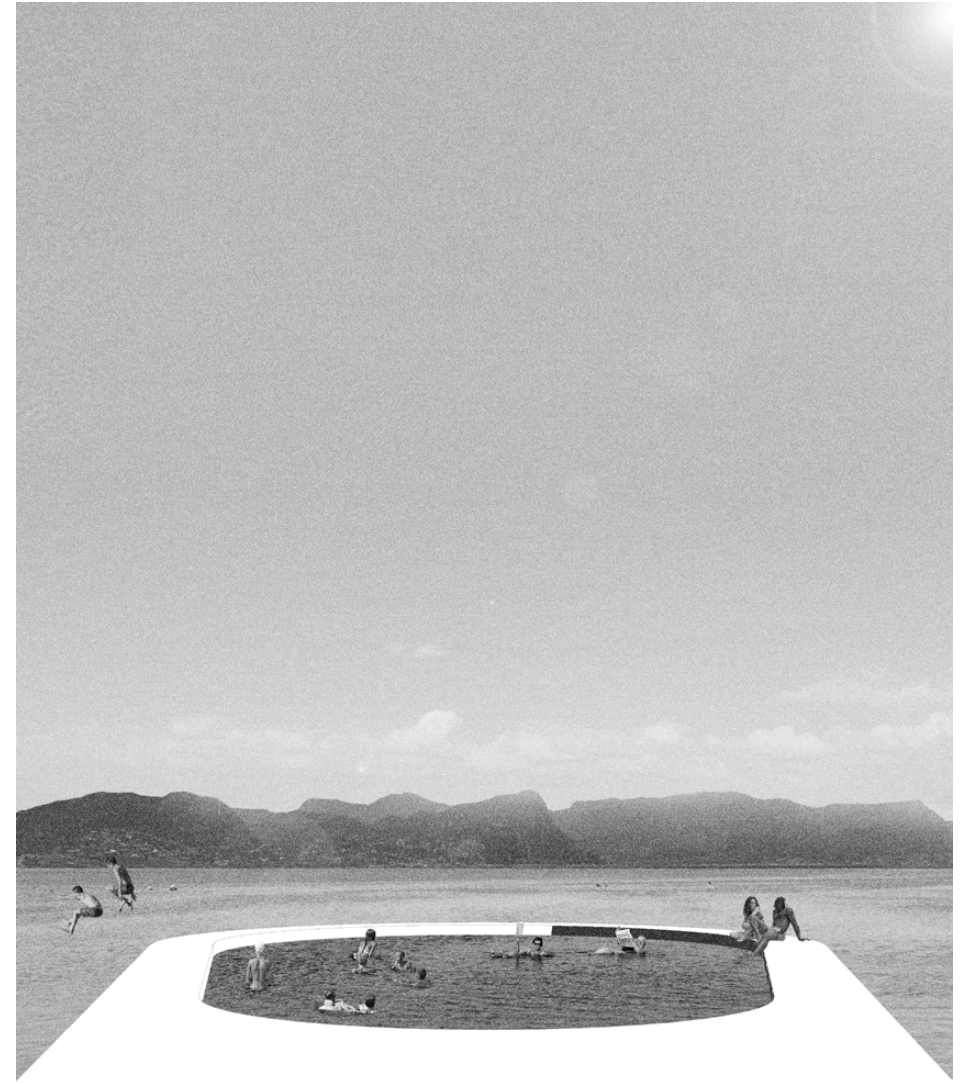
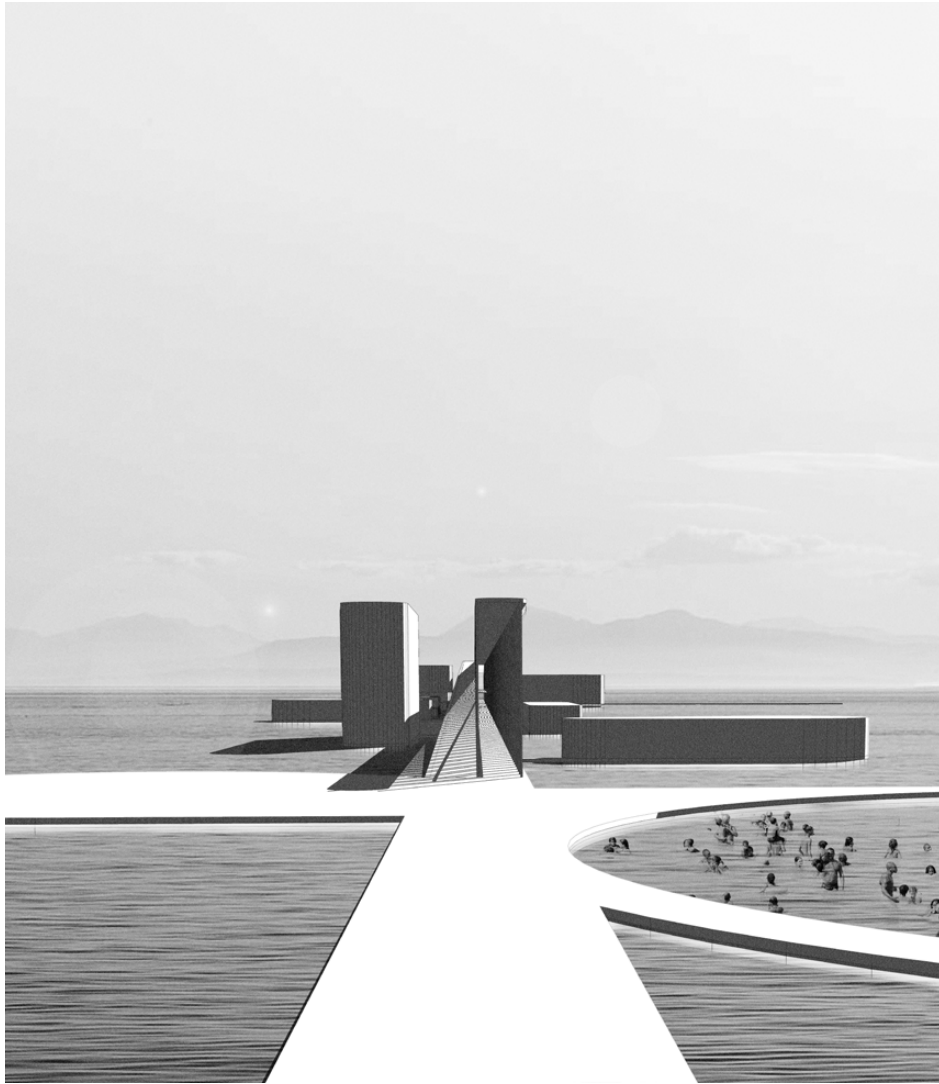




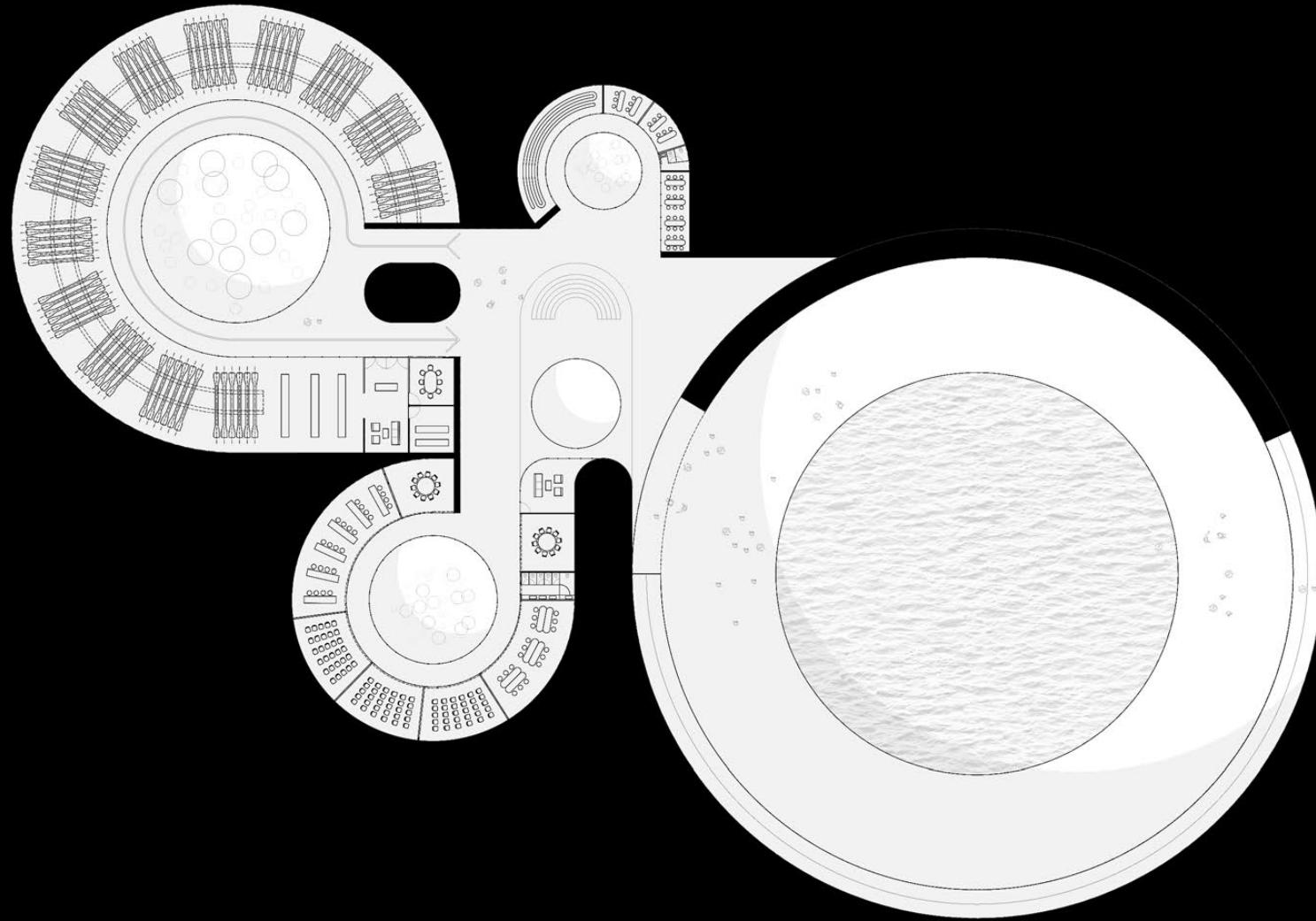




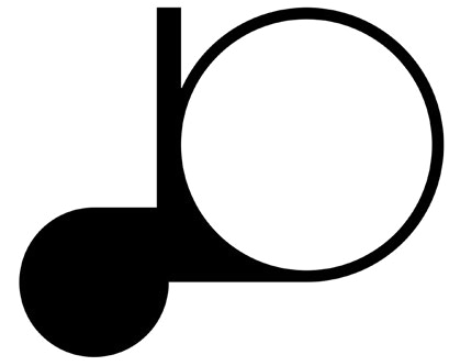
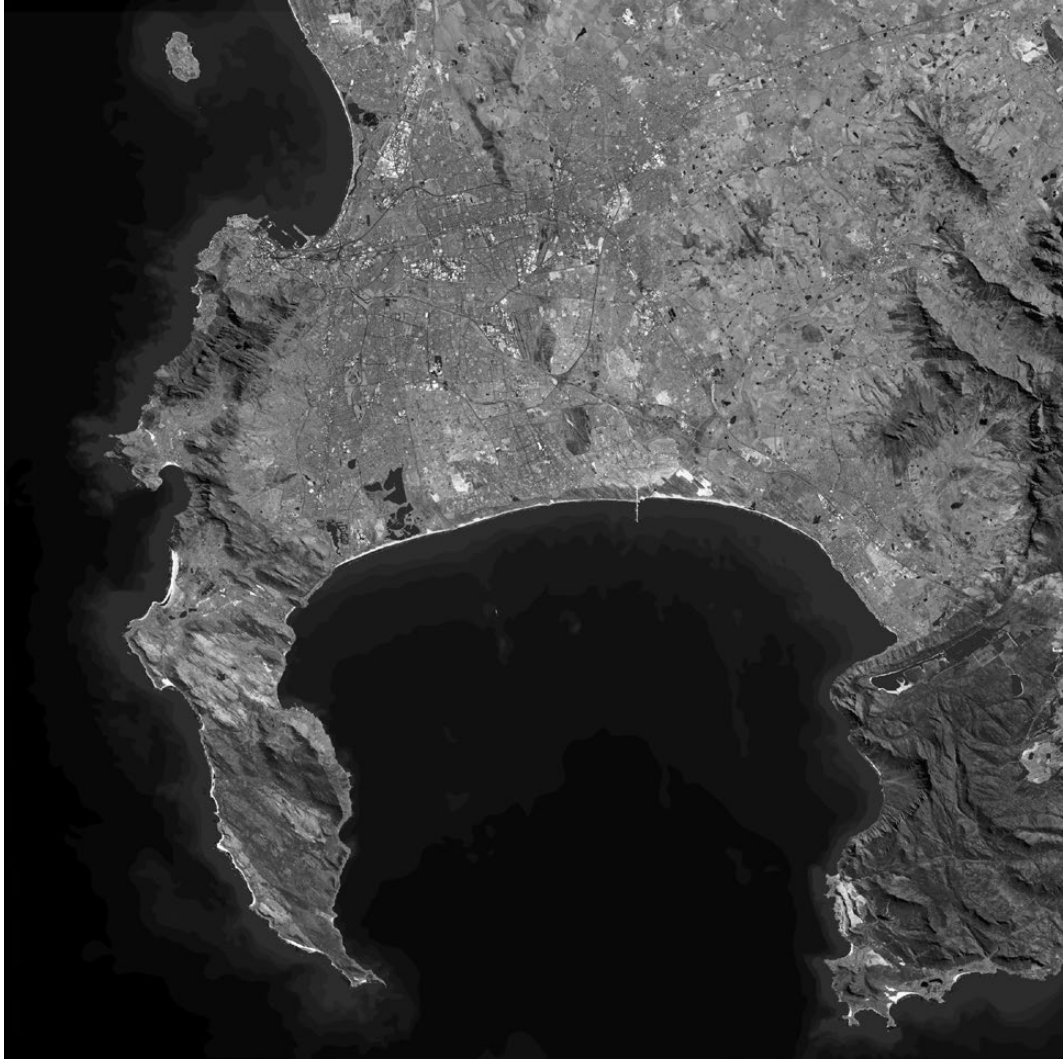














02_M house

Structures of care

Intergenerational daycare facility

Bryony Roberts

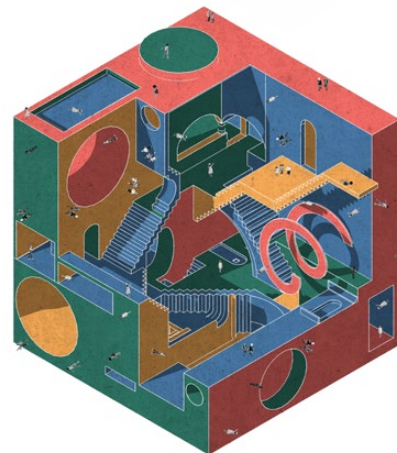
Adv Studio V

Fall 2019

As part of the GSAPP teaching project “Public Works for a Green New Deal,” this studio addresses the social justice dimensions of the Green New Deal proposal, focusing on the connection between social and environmental sustainability.

The framework for the studio is the “ethics of care,” a position cultivated by social justice activists and eco-feminists to promote methods of sustaining complex human and ecological systems.

Developing situated, relational, and systemic approaches to design, the studio explores how the ethics of care can inspire alternative social, spatial, and environmental futures.



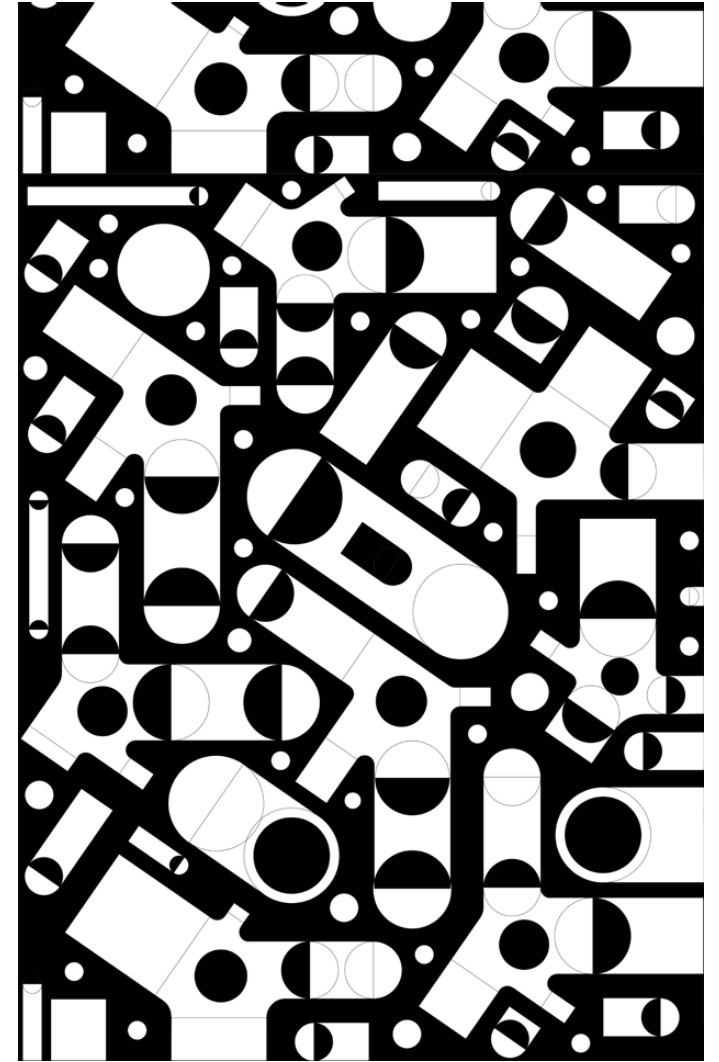
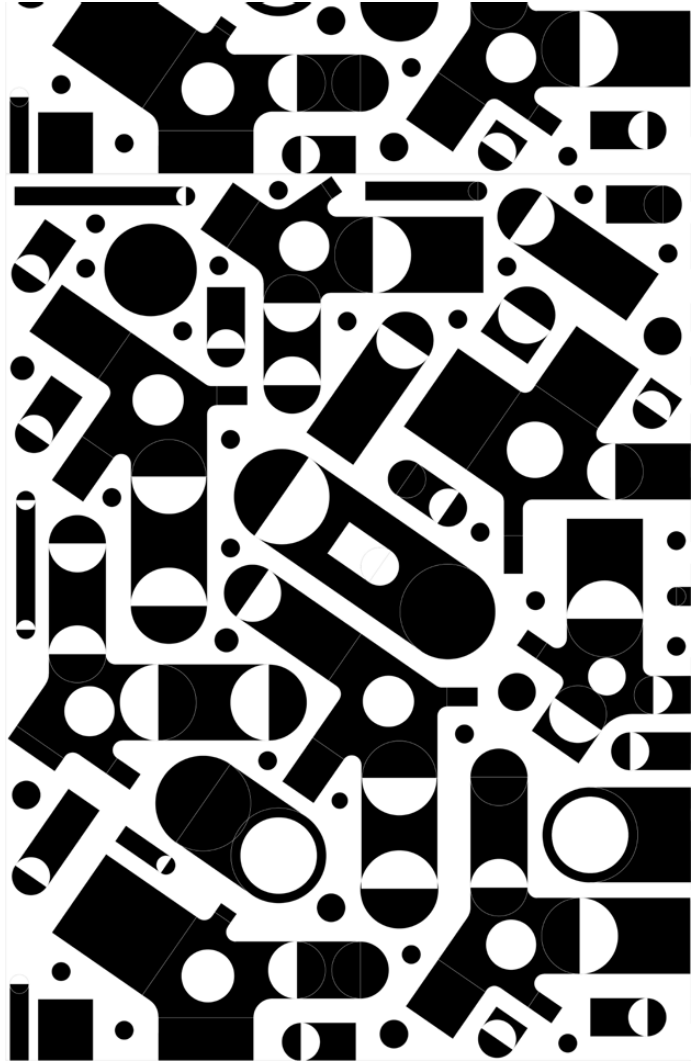
Spatial explorations

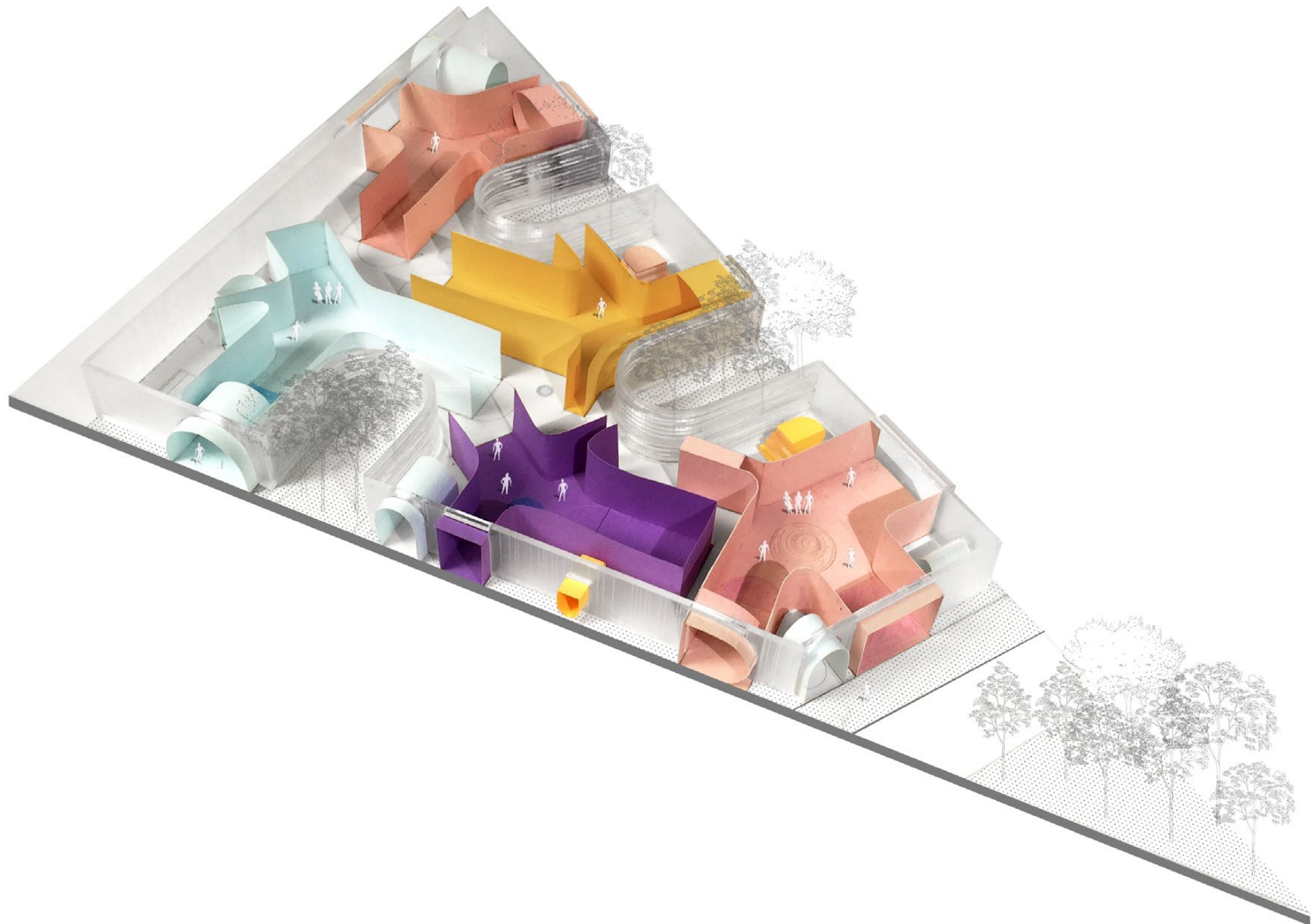
Exploring childcare as an architectural and urban issue, the studio learns from past architectural experiments to design a new building for a childcare center. The architecture of childcare not only addresses pragmatic questions but also expresses ideas about childhood, kinship, labor, class, and land management.

Tackling these questions, the studio will propose speculative visions for a new childcare building that is connected to a sustainable model of land management - a Community Land Trust - that involves collective ownership of land to support affordable community services.

A series of experiments are made in order to explore material, spatial and geometric qualities of the childcare facility.







Multigenerational House

The project is an Intergenerational day care center that supports multigenerational housing. A place where the elderly and the children can learn from each other as well as they get support.

The project deals with the complexity of having two very different yet equally vulnerable populations in one place.

With the percentage of elderly population growing and the increases number of health issues that related to loneliness and depression.

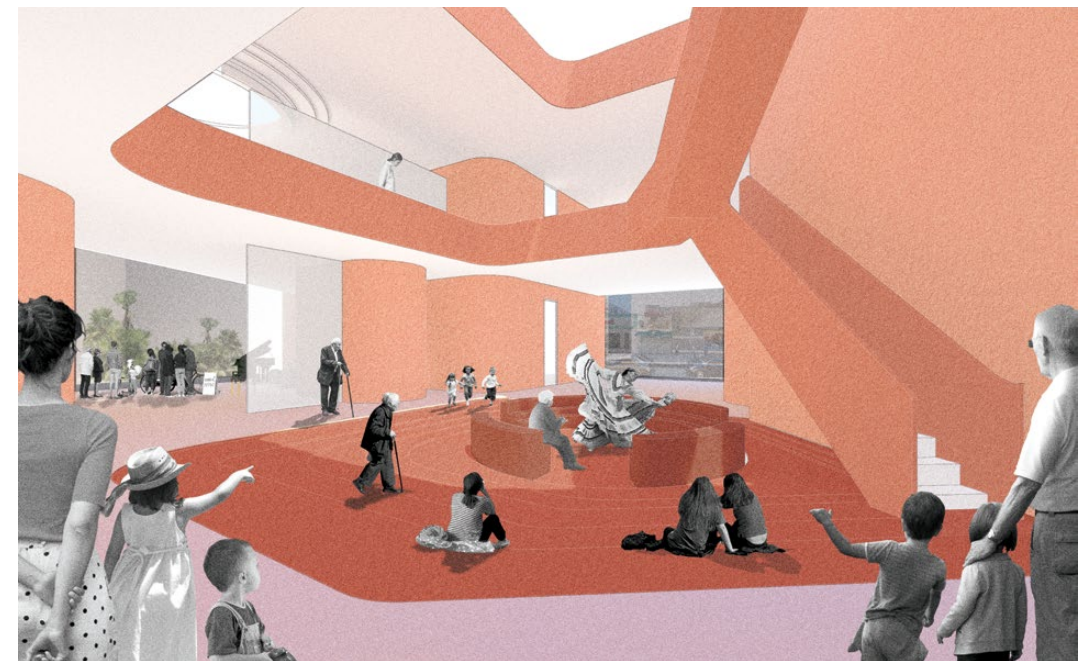
Intergenerational facilities are being considered as a way to deal help the elderly population with health and mental issues and at the same time to provide benefits form the elderly to the childcare activities.

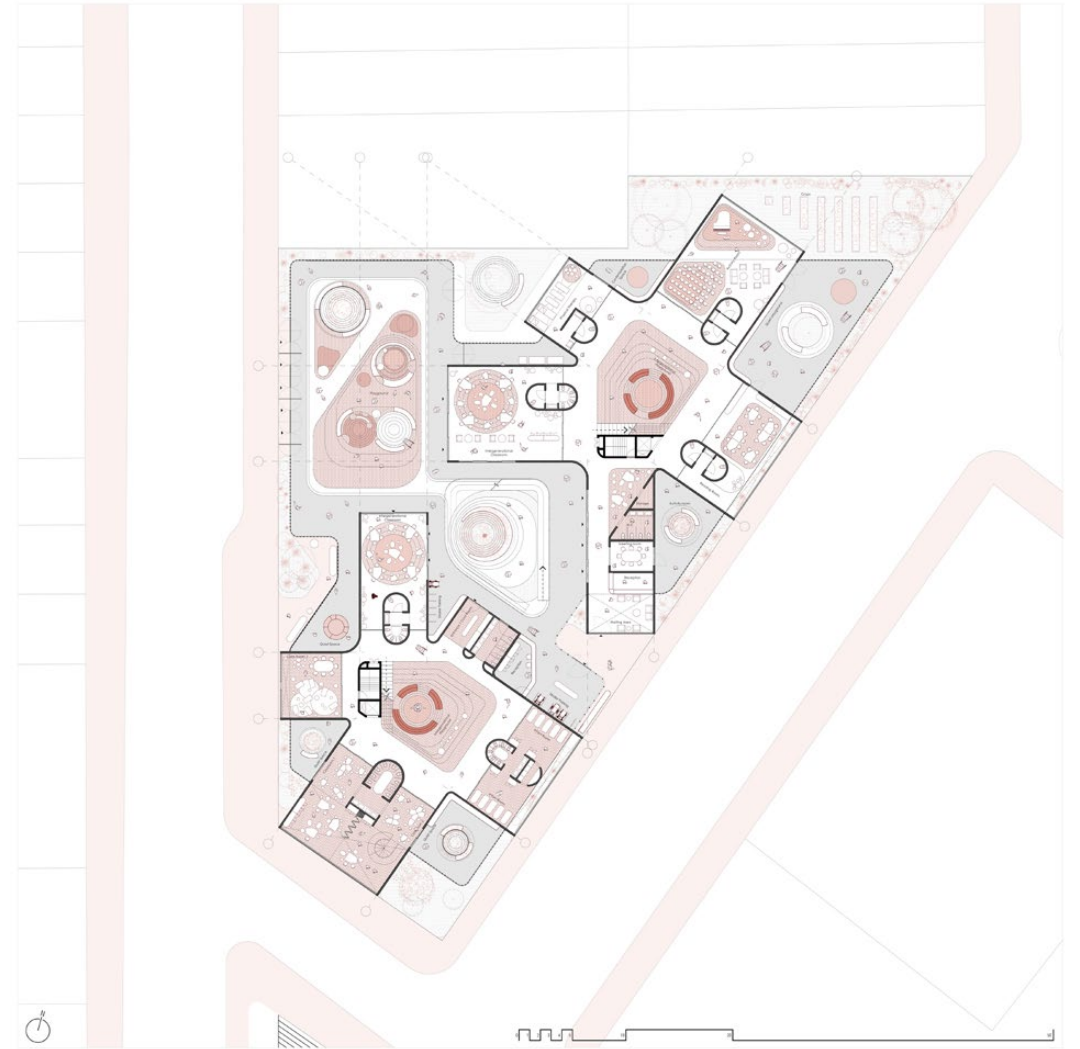
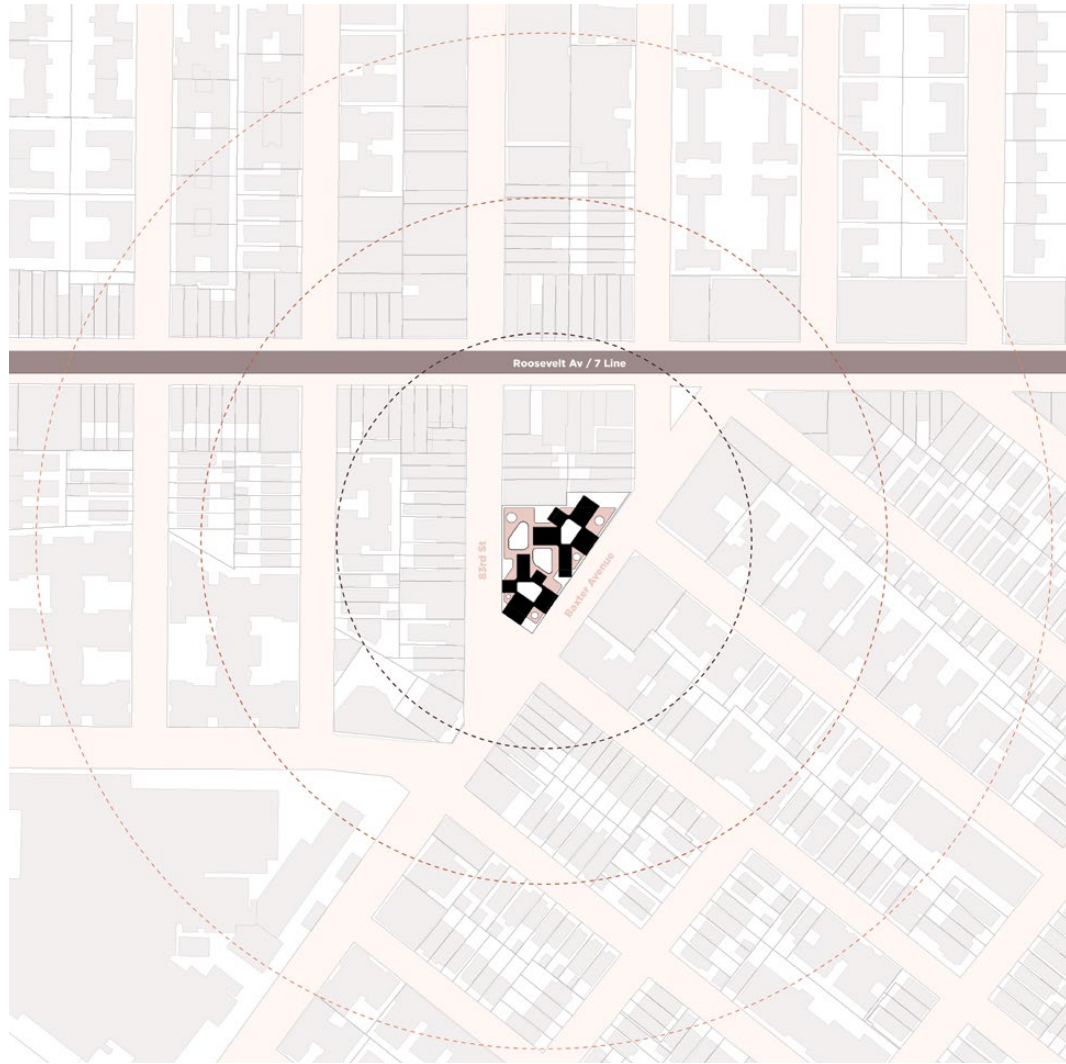
The M house is an intergenerational day care center that also integrates multigenerational housing as a way to fight gentrification and add density this area of in Jackson heights.

It mixes the housing with the daycare facility through a series of central and collective spaces called intergenerational playgrounds in which children, their families and the elderly can interact.

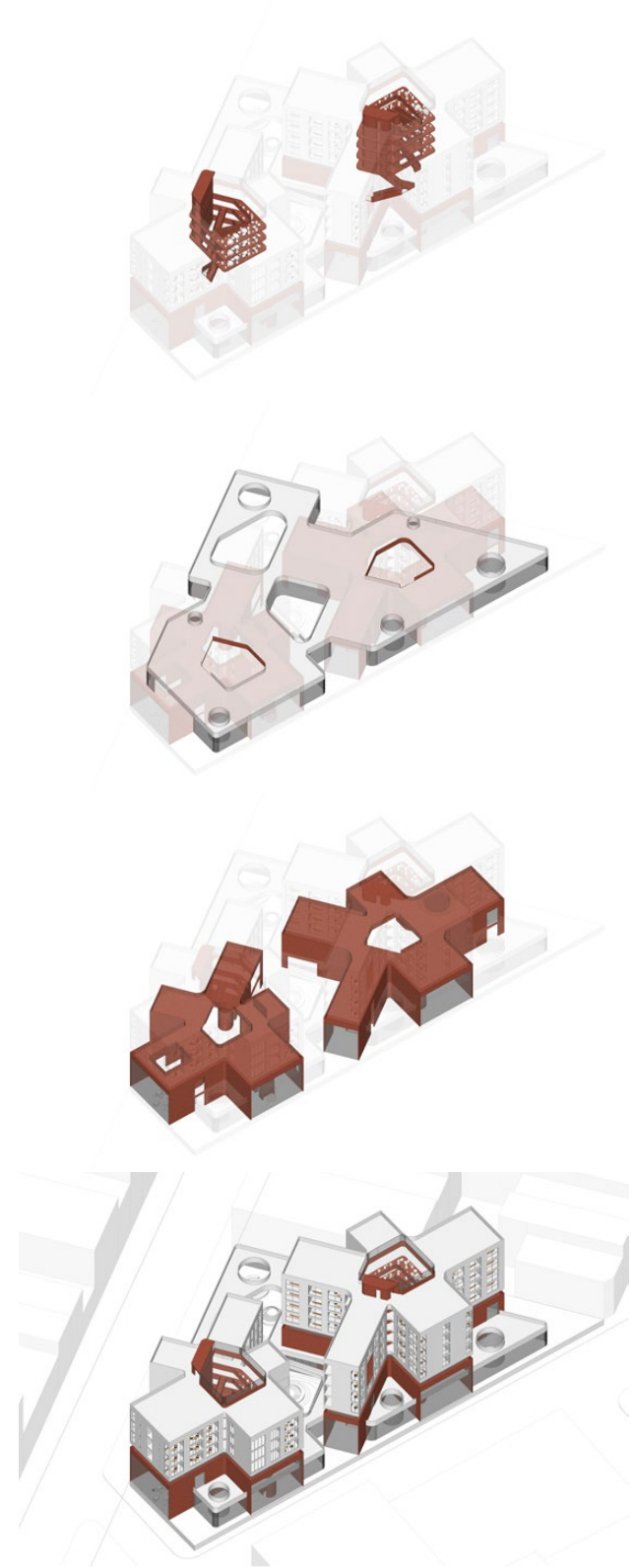
The project consists then in two volumes connected through glazed base where the day care facility is located and the playgrounds conform the space.

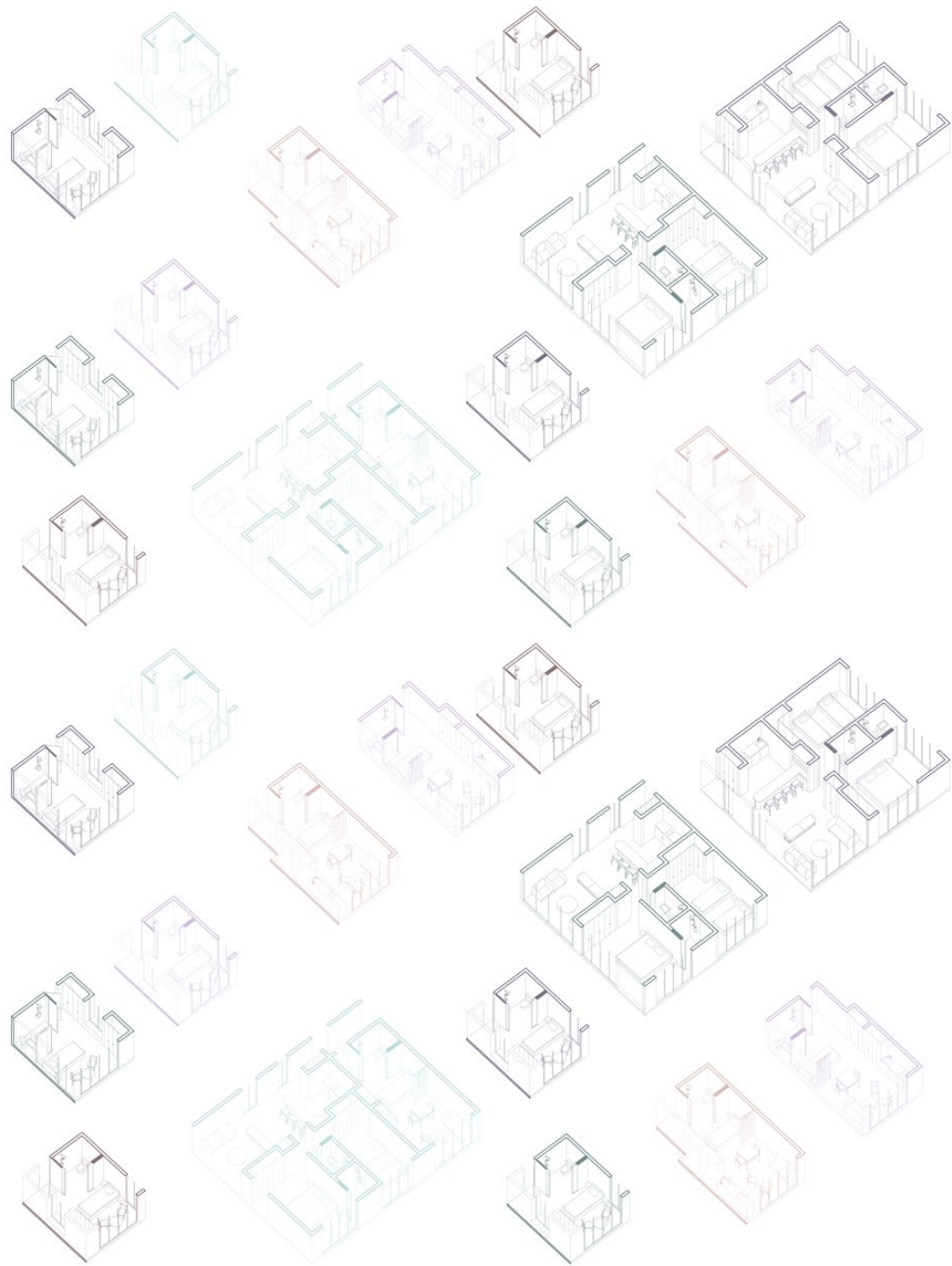
The two volumes hosts' different program depending on the necessity of given population. It also creates common spaces where intergenerational encounters must occur without compromising the specific regulations for both populations

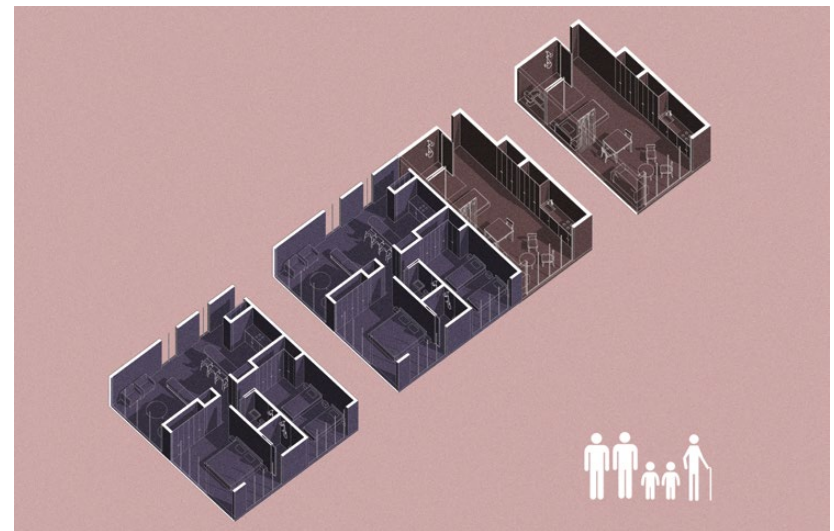
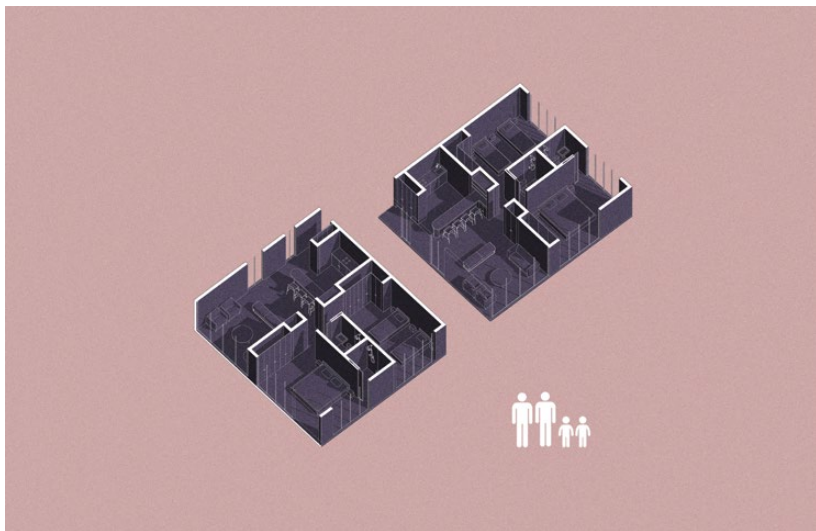
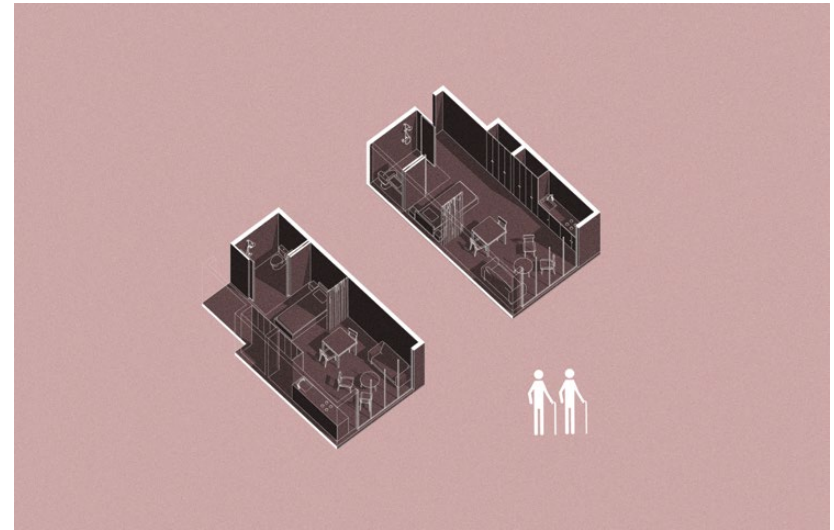




















03_GOING UP!

Vertical density

Dan Wood / Maurizio Bianchi Mattioli

Adv Studio AAD

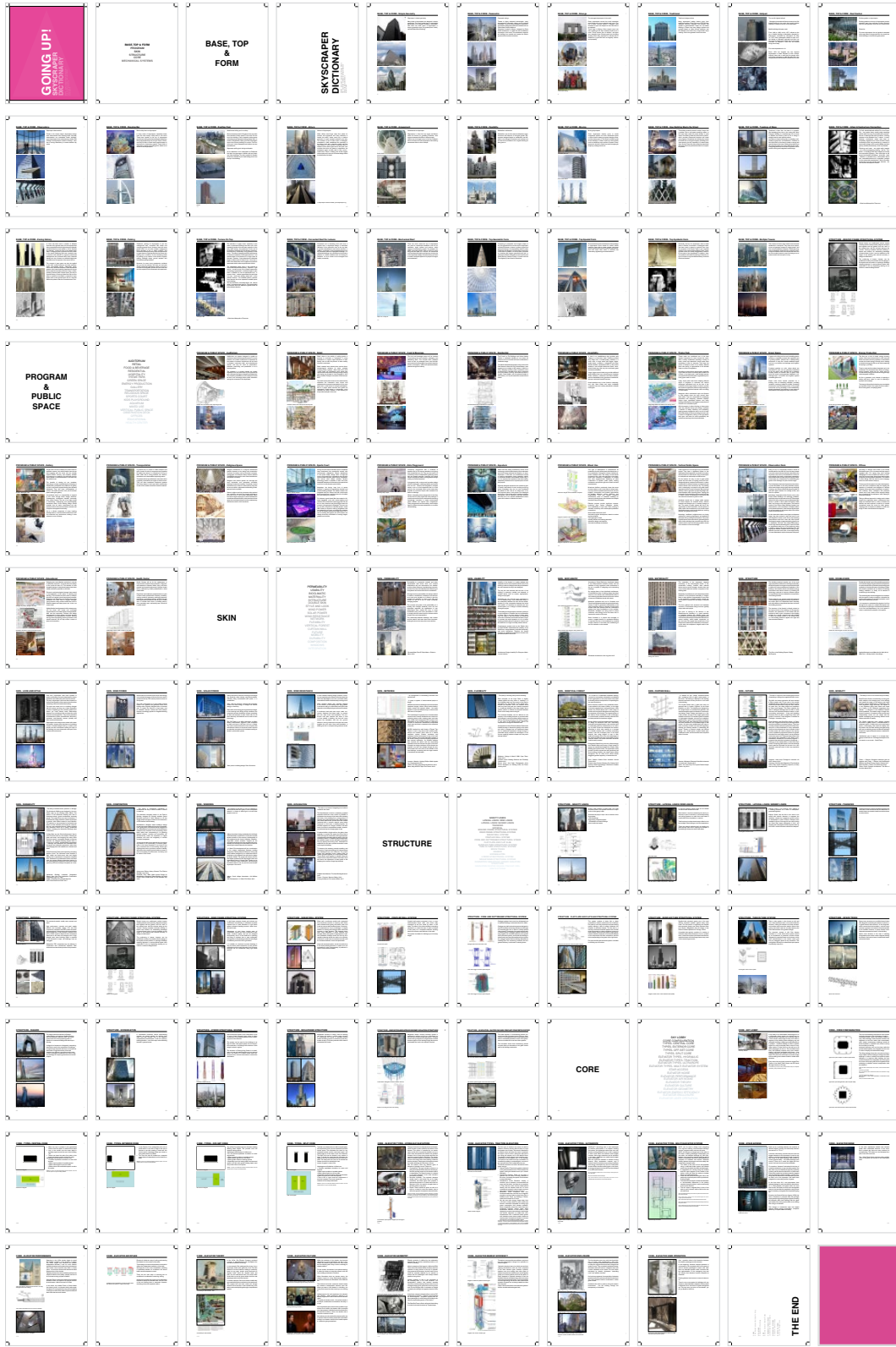
Sumer 2019

Skyscrapers have never been more popular than today. The rising popularity of skyscrapers and super tall buildings is a result of the appearance of the new technologies, new construction techniques, political dynamics and a strong market. However these super tall buildings are presented now as an opulent and expensive answer to market pressures making these skyscrapers a luxury that only a tiny percentage of people get to inhabit.

Skyscraper dictionary

As a starting point a skyscraper dictionary of term was created collectively in order to reexamine the current idea of sky scrapper. The final result was a 144 page booklet containing term that ranged from ordinary and every day to unusual and specific.





BASE, TOP & FORM
PROGRAM
SKIN
STRUCTURE
CORE
MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

SKIN

SKIN - STRUCTURE



Utrich University Open Estate, 2012

The building envelope remains one of the most important exterior elements for building functionality. While the facade is an elegant component that helps to define the unique architectural aesthetics of the building, it also has the critical role related to energy performance and interior function of a building. As technology continues to improve, different options for improvement become available for incorporation into building facades.

These elements are geared toward improvement of the building envelope performance. By definition, the curtain wall is an independent frame assembly with self-sufficient components that does not brace the building structure.



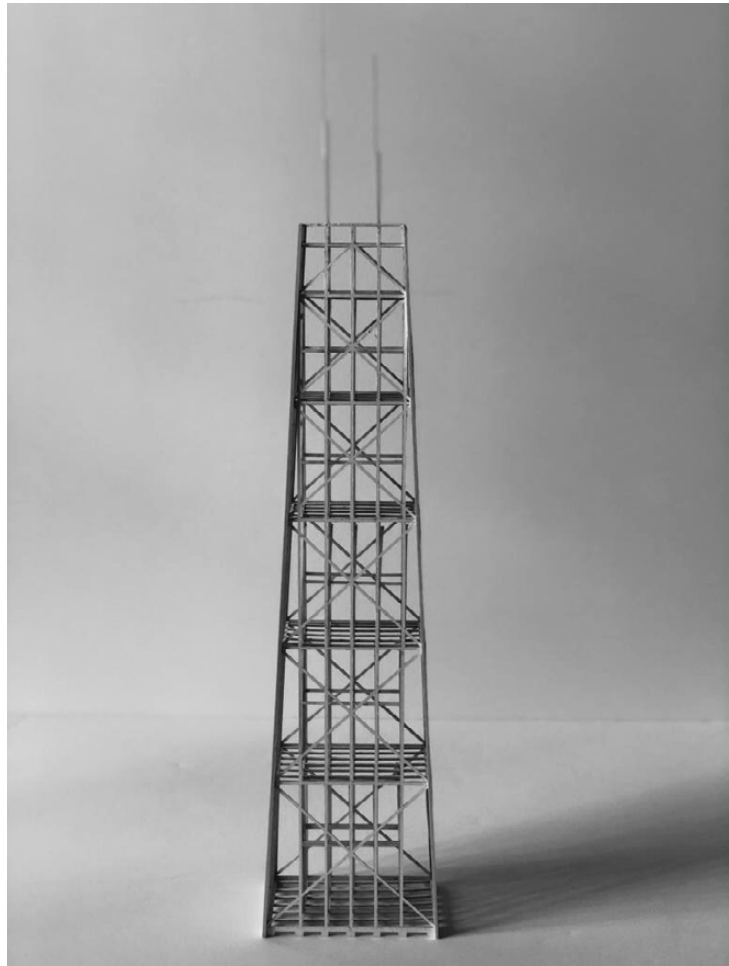
The Bryant, David Chipperfield, 2017

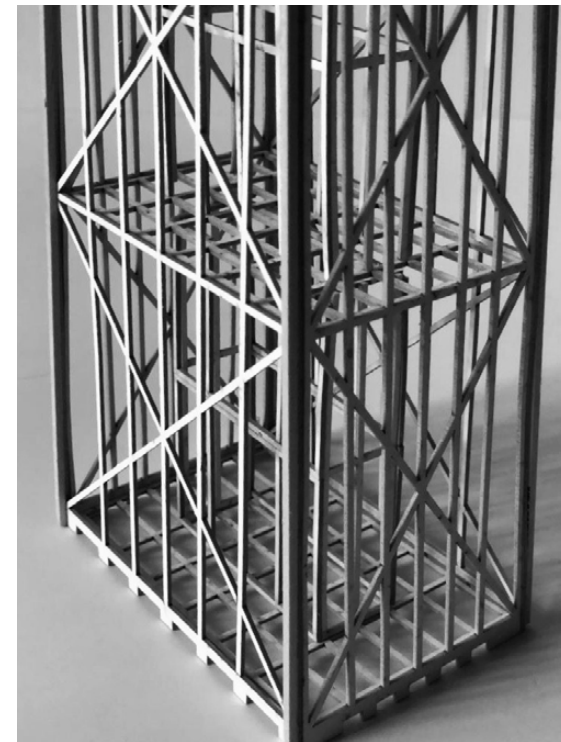
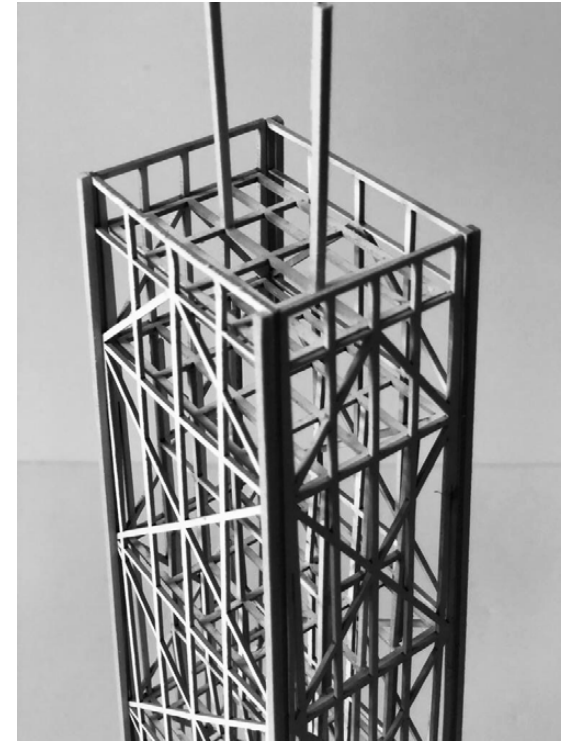
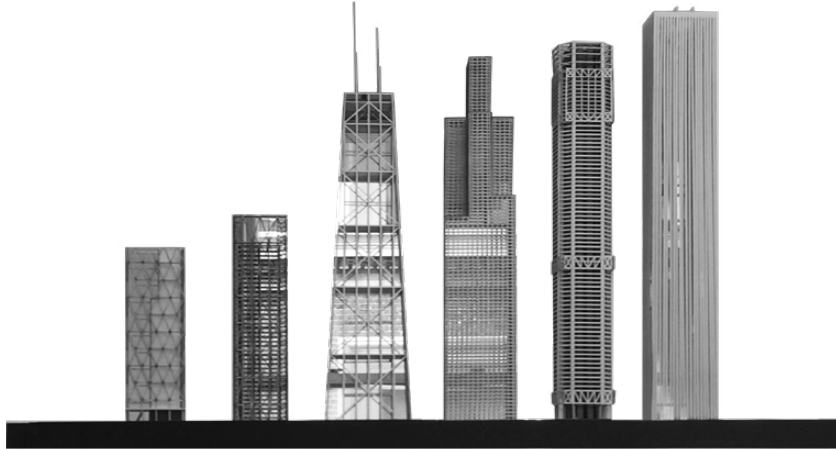
The structure of the facade is directly related to the style and look of the building. It is through the structure and placement of the facade that the architect is able to give a character to the building whether it is a strong, powerful and solid building in which the facade consist of the facade itself, or if the building intends to appear as a light and interconnected element.



Utrich University Open Estate, 2012

The Role of the Building Façade, Dudley McFarquhar





Concept research

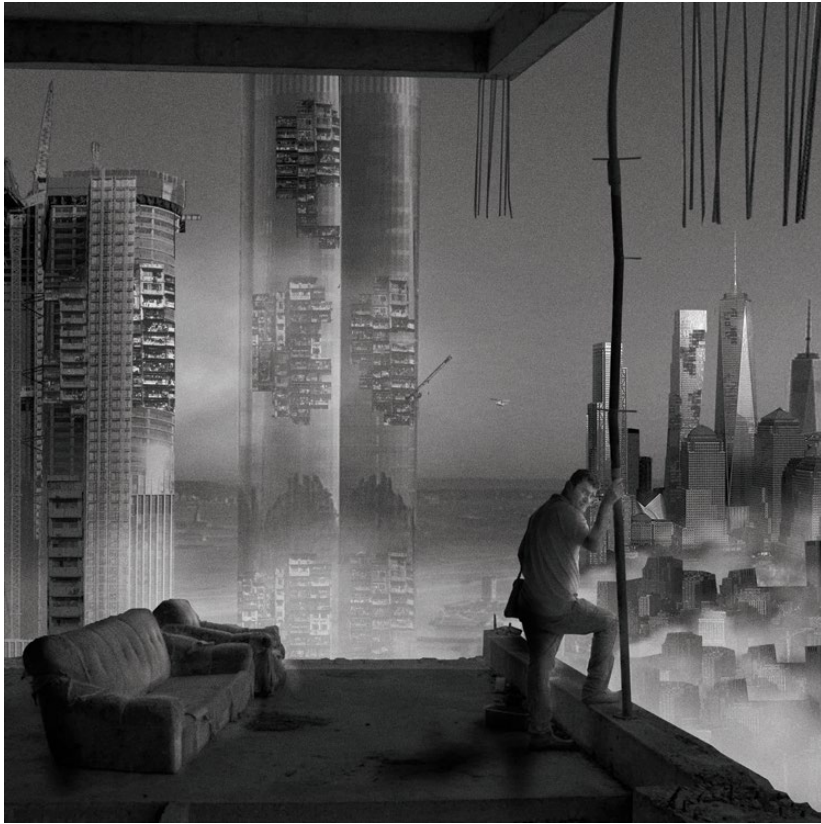
The population of the planet is rapidly increasing and people all over the world are choosing cities as their place to live. It is a common idea among urban experts and leaders that cities, planners and architects must develop new ways of projecting density inside the cities and going up is a logical path to follow.

As skyscrapers are every time more popular and common this project addresses the question of what is going to happen with these skyscrapers in the future.

It explores a possibility that challenges luxury standards and explores a possible future in which those structures are not a luxury anymore as they become part of the common housing solution in an unruly and unplanned path.

These project explores the effects of overpopulation and its consequences on the city and skyscrapers, but also the different social dynamics that happen naturally in those human habitats.









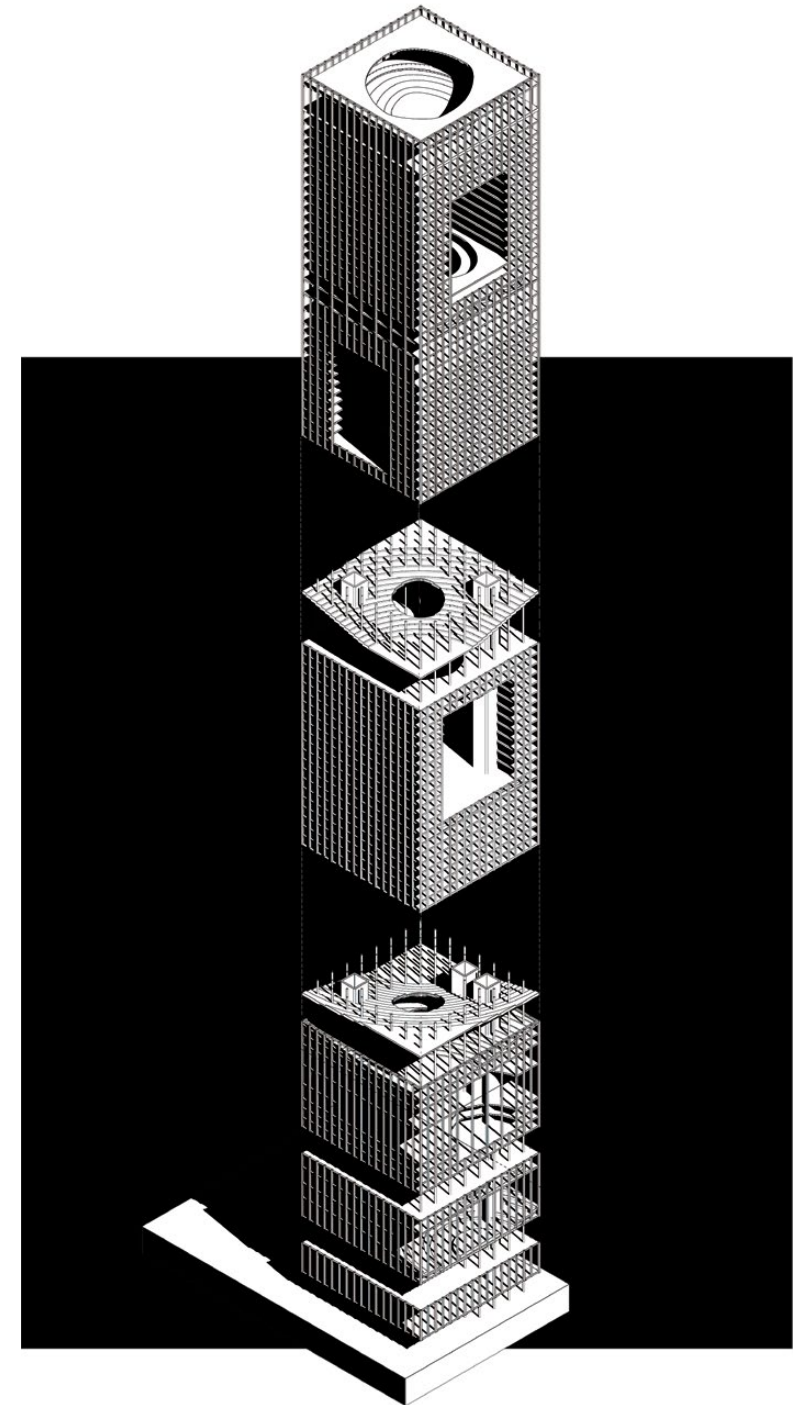
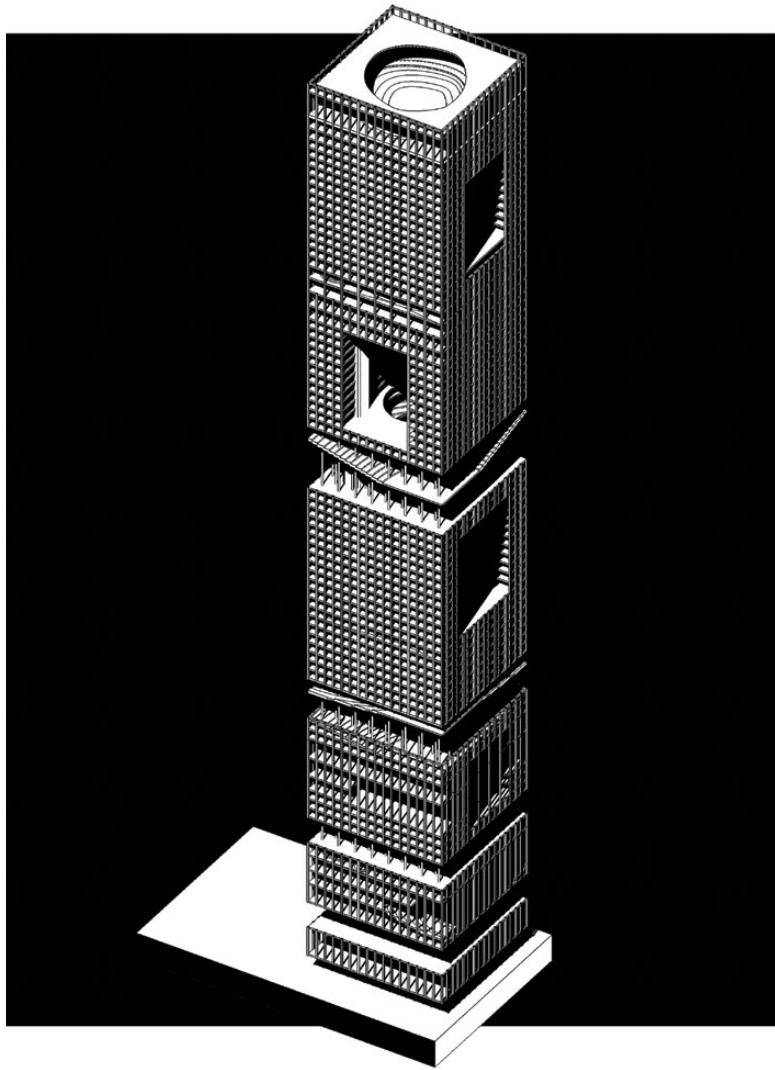
The proposal: Ideal overpopulation

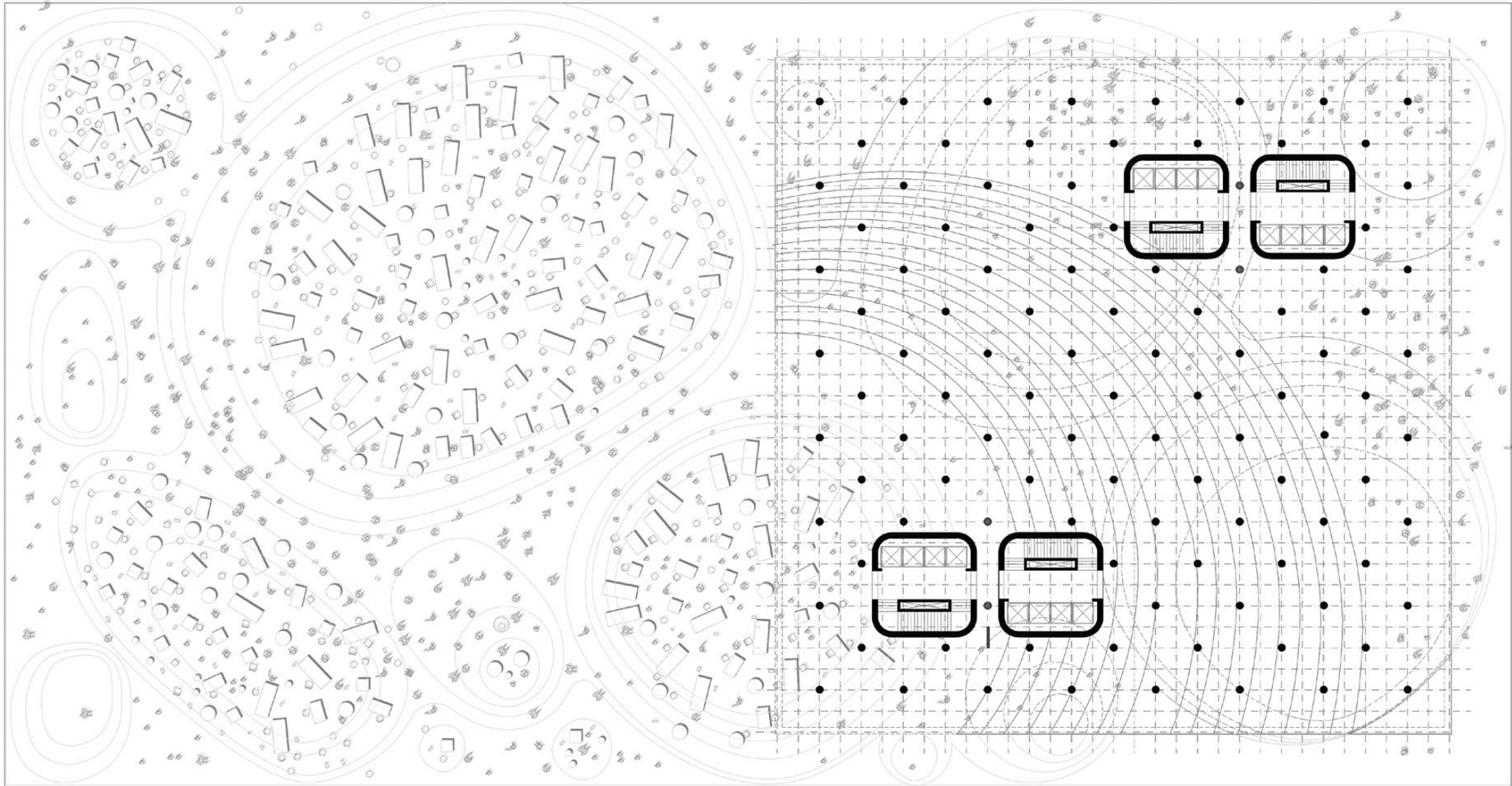
The project is a skyscraper designed to deal with a future dense and overpopulated city. It intends to create a healthy vertical community with its own diverse public space.

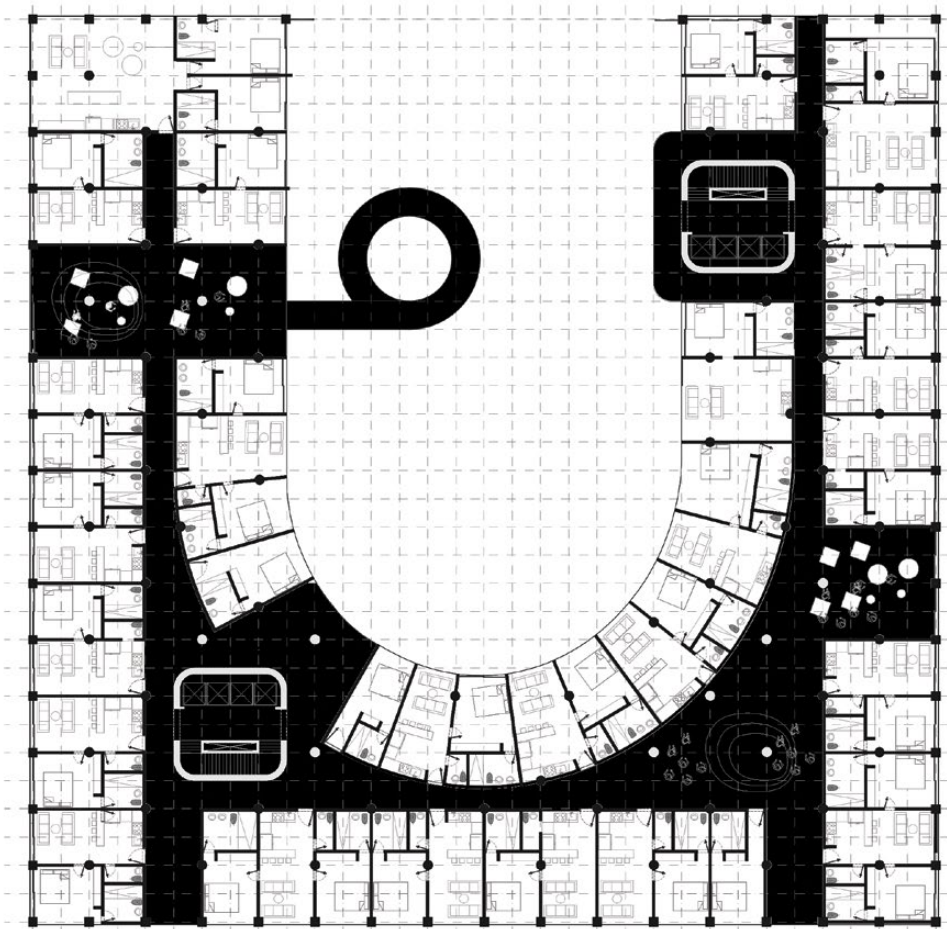
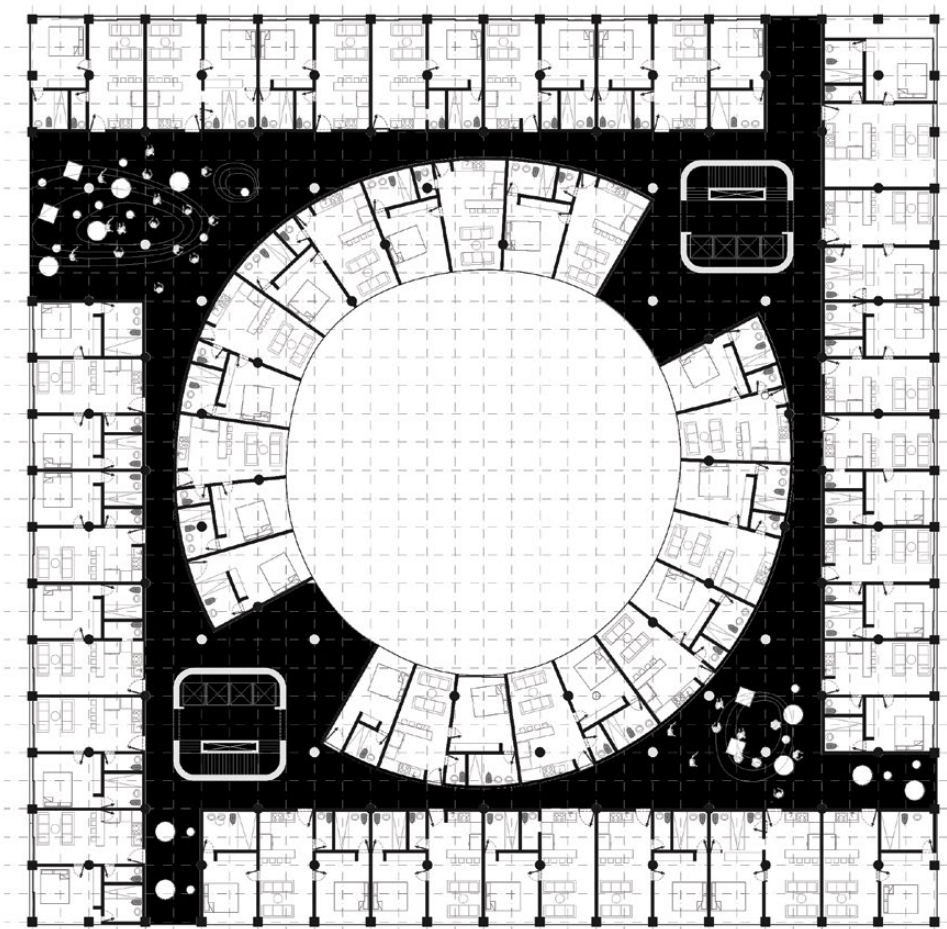
Unlike current luxury skyscrapers, outside views are not the most important aspect of the project, as those existing views will soon be blocked by new external developments. Instead, a simple but dynamic inner public and collective space is generated, creating a sense of community between neighbors.

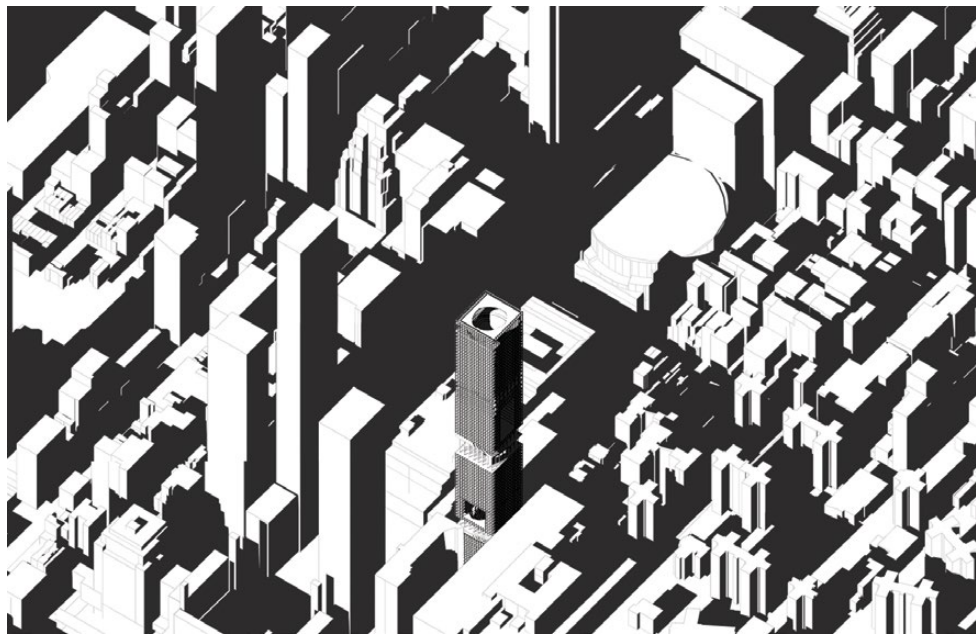
Inner voids permeate the apparent monolithic structure creating a system of vertical public spaces. Creating several inner communities or vertical neighborhoods that aim to create a communal senses of living.

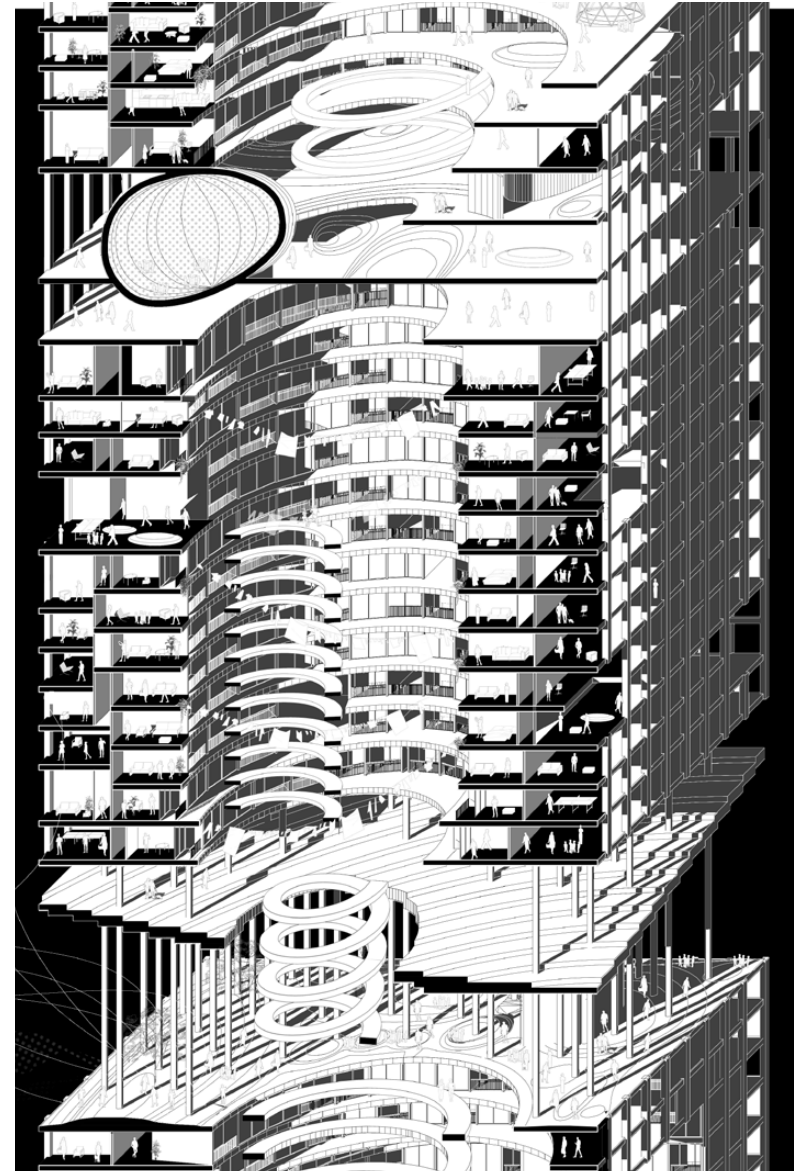
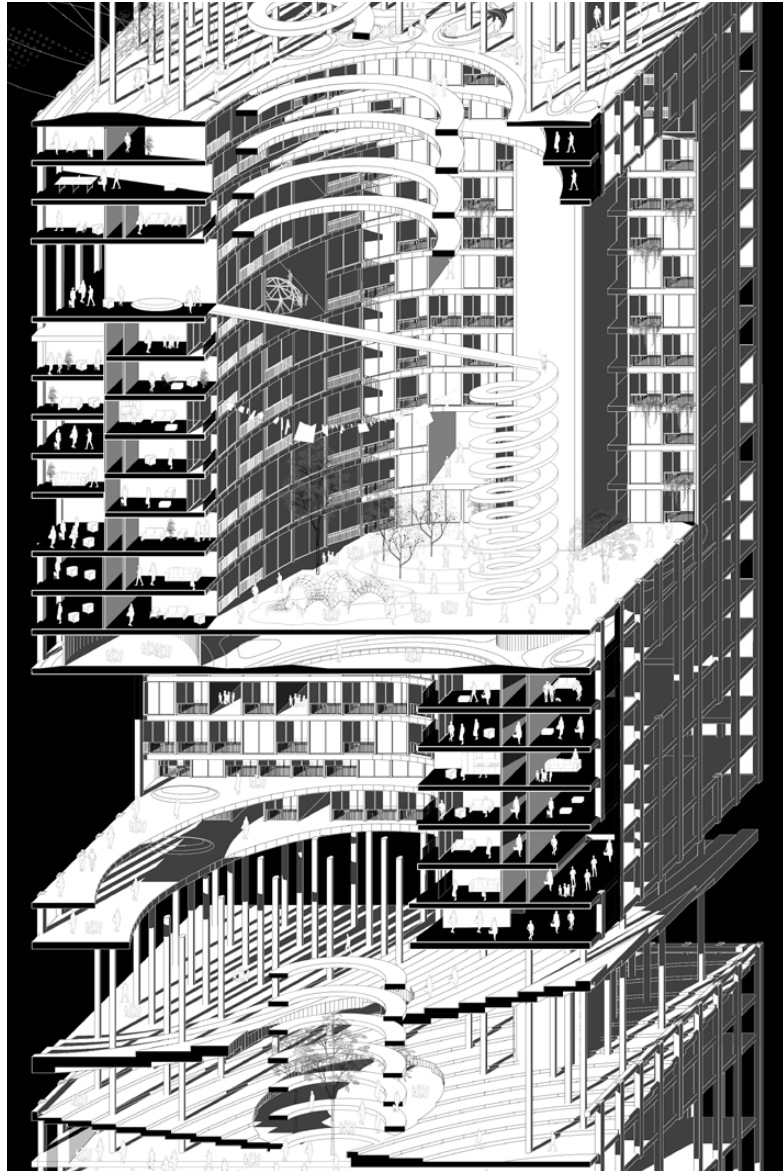
Collective spaces such as playgrounds, shared kitchens, laundry rooms, reading rooms, recreational rooms and health facilities are distributed along the building.



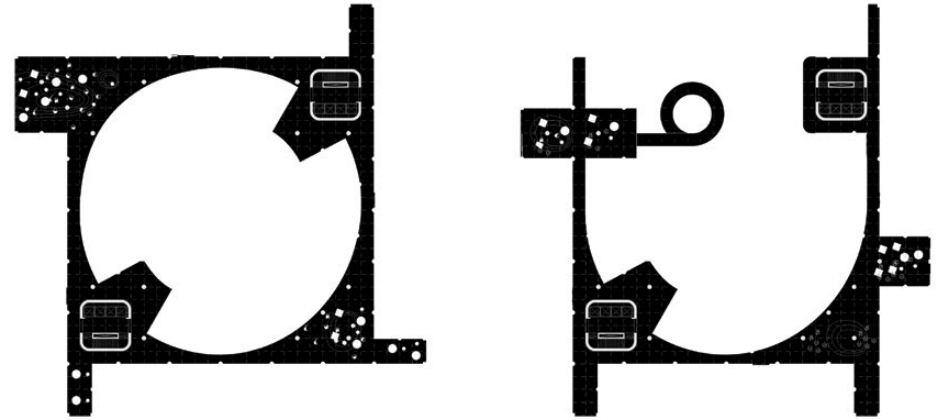






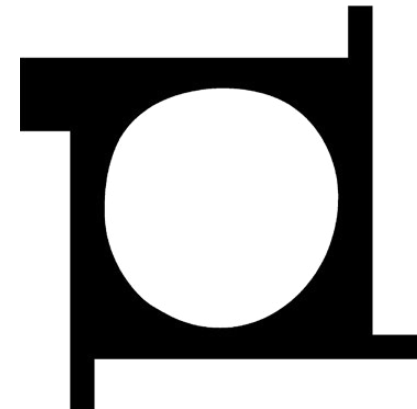














04_Modular compound

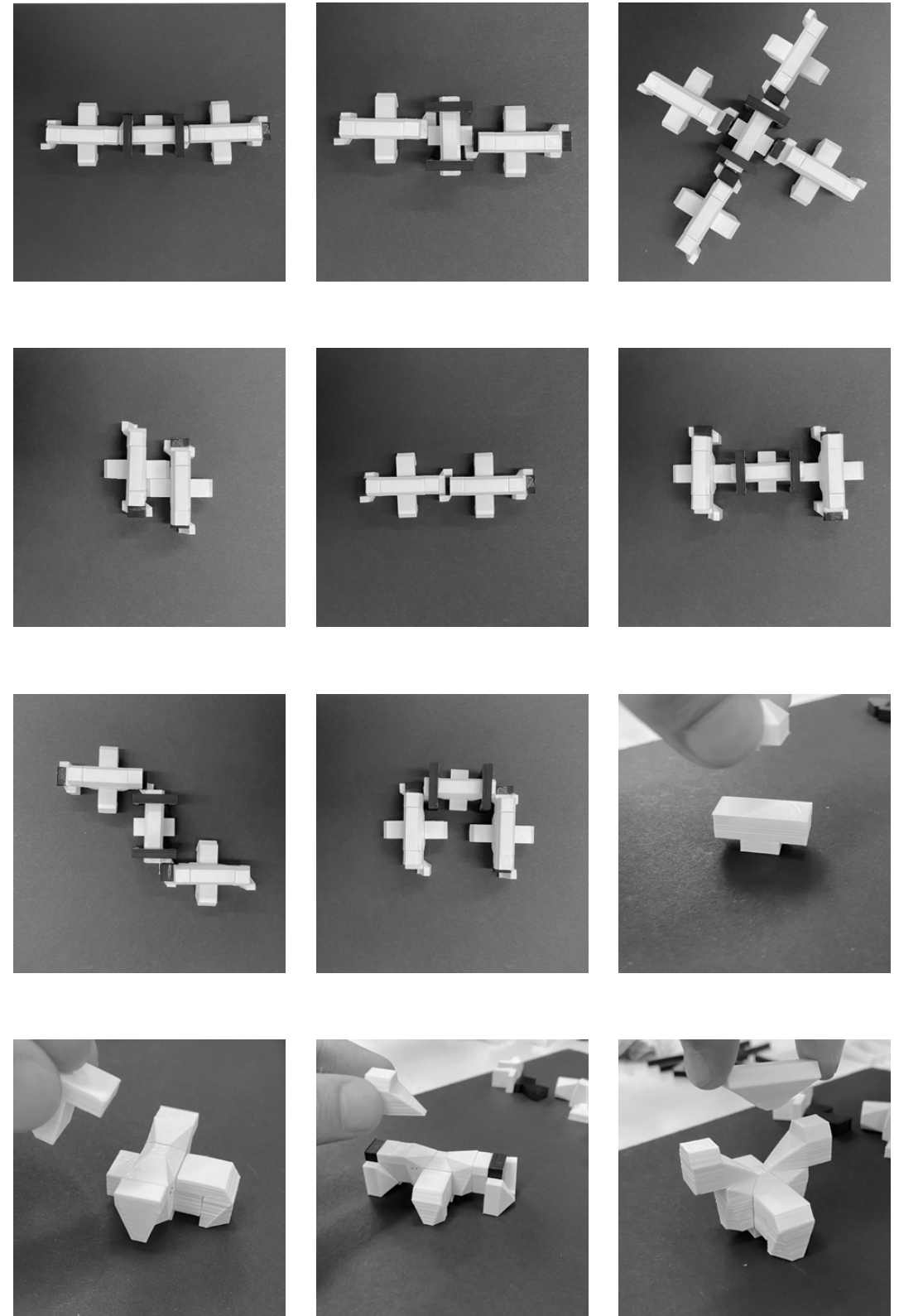
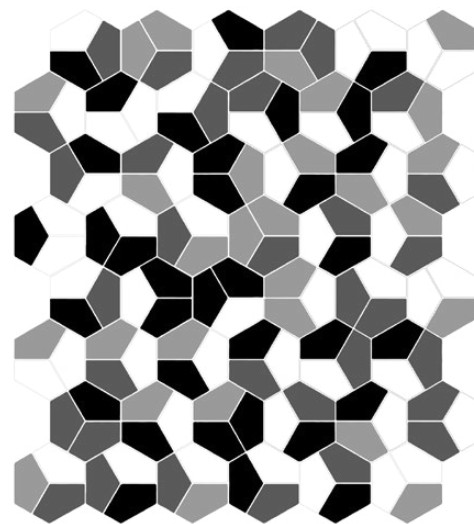
The Modular compound

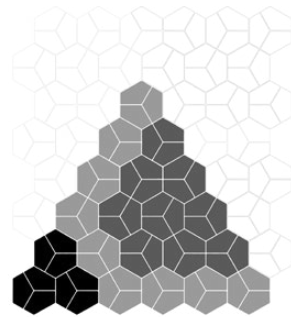
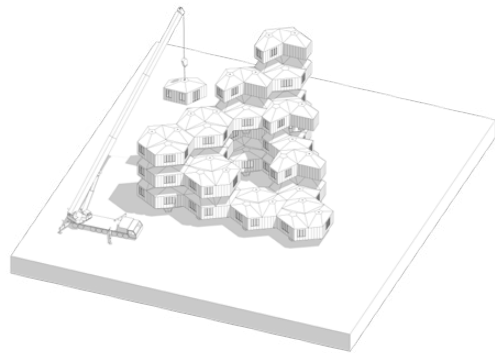
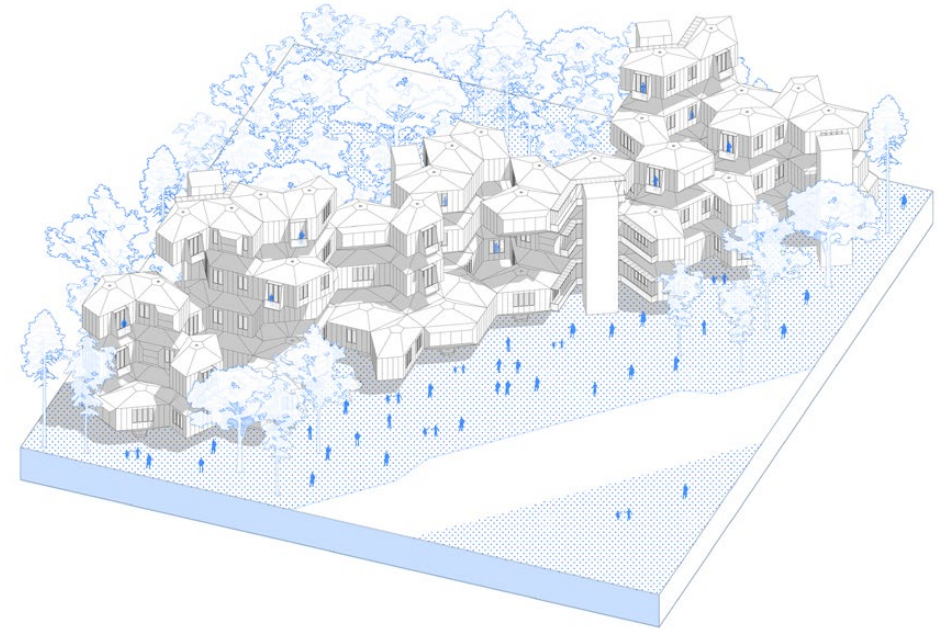
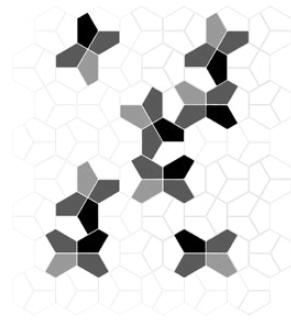
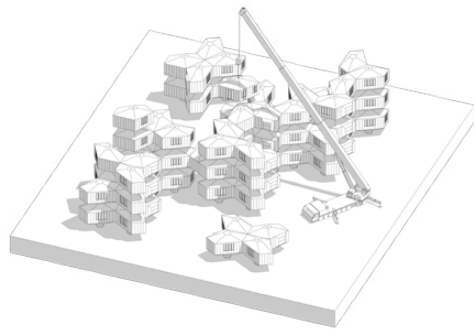
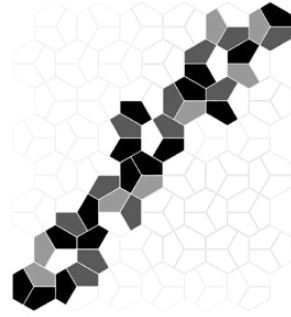
Modular Antomy
Andreas Tjeldflaat
Spring 2020

Providing adequate housing is a challenge for nations around the world both in advanced and developing economies.

This course proposes a framework to capitalize on this inflection point by leveraging a system-based, modular approach to architectural design with emerging material and manufacturing technologies.

This coupling eliminates the trade-off between design complexity and variation on one hand and labor cost/time on the other, allowing components to take on systemic and geometric complexity and facilitate rich programmatic organization of space.



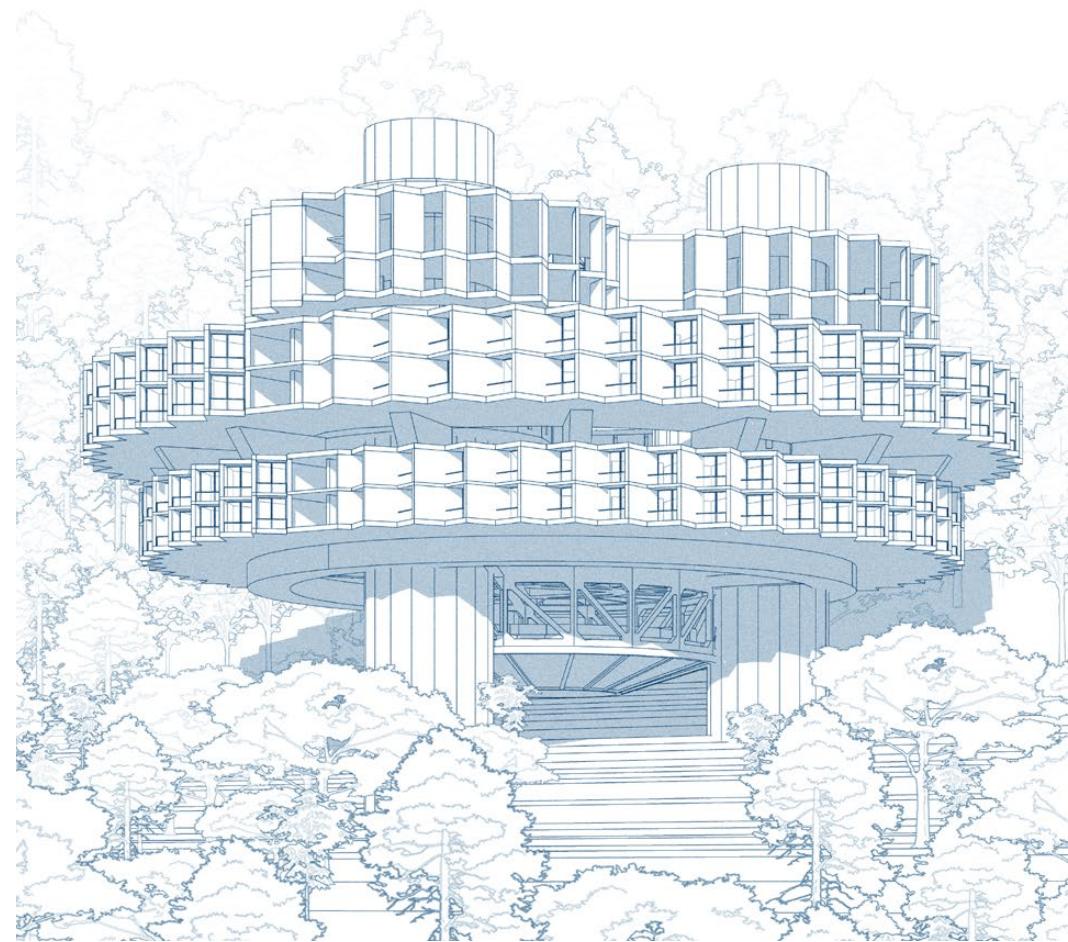
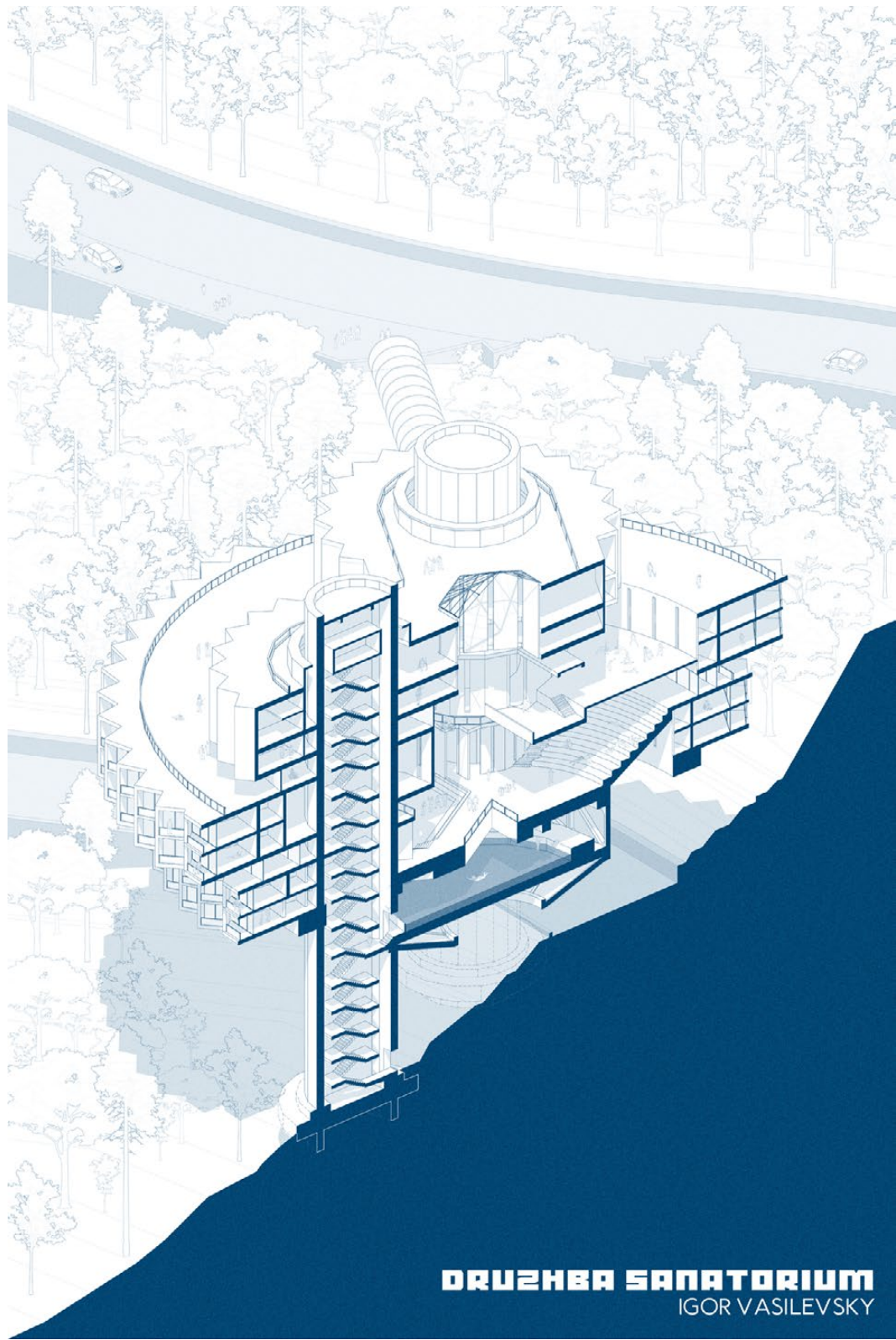




05_Druzbah Sanatorium

Igor Vasilevsky

Seminar of section
Marc Tsurumaki
Spring 2020





ECLECTIC FIGURES

Benjamin Gomez - Gsapp 2020 - Selected works