A collage is playful.
A collage is subversive.
A collage is musical.
A collage is elegant.
A collage is sensible.

A person is a collage.
A community is a collage.
A chair is a collage.
A house is a collage.
A playground is a collage.
A park is a collage.
A school is a collage.
A building is a collage.
ARCHITECTURE is a collage.
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The year 1968 proved to be one of the most intense in the history of the U.S. and it was not an exception for Columbia University. This project stems from research conducted on Columbia’s behavior towards its neighboring communities and land rights. During that same year, students protested against Columbia’s construction of a gym at Morningside Park, arguing that it bluntly separated Harlem from Morningside Heights. Students occupied the park as well as buildings. The most iconic depiction is the occupation of windows.

Subversive responds to this still existent behavior and proposes a public space within Columbia University that can be accessed anytime from the subway. No fences. No walls. Just giving a small space back to the community that has been left out. Ironically, the aesthetic of the proposal depicts that not enough can be done to repair the damage done. The proposal melts the existing facades and transforms them into something new. The access from the buildings is through the windows.
Oasis furthers community resilience and challenges land boundaries for the people of Villa Muñeco in Culebra, where housing is lacking and food costs are high. The concept is “Plant a Tree, Grow your House.” This project focuses on water as the connecting feature, while fostering tighter relationships through living and gardening together. It is composed of 25’ modular units strategically placed in the north-east direction for natural ventilation, curved roofs for rainwater collection, and bamboo windows as storm-shutters. Its surrounding gardens are a combination of agroforestry and permaculture techniques to protect the built environment and maximize food output to provide social, economical, and environmental benefits concurrently.

Modular walls being are the first built component so that people in need can ‘grow’ their house within them, while also participating and benefiting from the community garden on site. As a possibility of its outcome, we propose both transitional and permanent housing units for a total of 9 units to minimize cost and displacement to users in different housing situations. By combining ecological and built features, Oasis facilitates community intimacy and connection, not only during emergencies, but all-year-round.
Overall Profile of Culebra

- Total Population: 1,311
- Per Capita Income: 15K
- Below Poverty Line: 36%
- Households: 482

Housing Units:
- Occupied: 1,528
- Vacant: 1,039
- No Owner Listed: 489

Properties:
- Different Owners: 1,975
- No Owner Listed: 449

Land Ownership Map of Culebra

Villa Muñeco Vulnerabilities

LAND OWNERSHIP
AIRBNB LISTINGS
ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS
Inside Out will uncover and build upon the existing community interest in arts and music as a seed for transformation by challenging the physical boundaries and circulation of the existing in order to allow space for the community to grow and bring new residents. What happens inside will be reflected on the exterior and multiply until it reaches its surroundings.

The insertion of music and art throughout the existing and new buildings will generate new housing typologies for both families and nonfamily households, improving the lives of the people already living there and also attracting new residents. By activating the ground plane with new public spaces dedicated to arts, we provide a place for everyone to gather and feel home, instead of being strangers, and also create an opportunity for both in-house and exterior businesses to generate revenue towards improving living conditions there. The idea is that the people feel they can grow where they live, and not feel cornered by the changes. And as a result, more people will want to live there.

The proposal is to start Inside Out, literally, by exposing what is already happening inside the community and amplify it to create something new that transforms the existing and integrates with the surrounding communities.
Step 1: Enlarge windows
Step 2: Remove core
Step 3: Exterior cores + new pathways
Step 4: Nature inside + new language
Step 5: Expand existing housing units
Step 6: New public spaces + New housing

Concept of Amplification
New Cores

Gardens

New Housing

Flexible Boundary
Site Plan with green spaces
Typical Floor Plan

Housing Unit Type A

Housing Unit Type B

Housing Unit Type C

Housing Unit Type D
Symbiosis is a housing project conceived as a support system for two vulnerable populations: single parents and the elderly. Through intergenerational living, both communities can experience a mutualistic relationship to address their needs. Time is the key exchange for confronting the different kinds of loneliness, and children become the activators.

This interchange is materialized from the outside to the inside through a connecting band of shared living spaces, previously known as the corridor. The interaction between the elderly and the younger generation starts redefining “boundaries” as a mutual intention to create a safe space for the other to thrive. Symbiosis is complete when the corridor is blurred and the different apartment units become one space.
**Existing Site Conditions**

**Site Strategy Proposal**
Typical Floor Plan highlighting blurred lines between apartments and corridors
Interior View of Corridors

Multiple Shared Spaces throughout the project
Recalling the 1970s occupation of P.S. 064, this project will return this building to the local community and act as both a nature-oriented public school and an artists’ nesting space—an incubator. Guided by angled walls, students will co-construct their knowledge through social interaction by learning a universal language: music.

A music school will be nested inside the public school and will remain open to the public after school hours. Access to nature will be prioritized and also democratized. Both schools will embody the ideal of “nesting,” where a sense of home, community, and belonging stimulates the individual growth of the students.

In line with this sense of community, the educational program will be based on the social constructivism theory integrated with an individualized learning component. Students will co-construct their knowledge through social interaction in a culturally-rich environment by learning a universal language—music. At the same time, teachers will provide the necessary resources and attention for each student to grow, hence, individualized learning.
We believe that the true potential of a building is connected to its multilateral use of resources. Therefore, we focused on water as a resource which shapes the formal structure and operates as a social condenser. This provides an opportunity to integrate the physical and social component of the project through its structure, program and materiality.

The shape of the building simulates earth that has been shaped by its exposure to water, thus, creating the cascade effect in the different floorplans. For our sustainability approach, we expanded on the idea of water and planned our mechanical systems accordingly. Every floor has access to nature and those green roofs, in turn, collect the water needed back in the building. For the facade, we utilized blue and brown terracotta to simulate the idea of water falling through the facade.
The LA Arts & Music Park acts as a cultural condenser at the lowest point of the Sepulveda Flood Control Basin. Situated between different residential neighborhoods, its proximity to the Sepulveda Dam provides a unique opportunity to expand on the already existing “unofficial” public stage, while dealing with a complex site condition – the whole site is within the floodplain. Inspired by research on braided rivers and spreading grounds around Los Angeles, the park takes advantage of these conditions by creating a new landscape of spreading grounds and a cultural center above the flood line. The spreading grounds will act as a flood mitigation system and will also help retain water during times of drought to recharge aquifers.

Following the forms and paths of the landscape, the cultural center rises from the ground as if it was sculpted. The building houses an auditorium, music chamber, classrooms, and exhibitions spaces that you can access by car, public transport, or from the paths within the site. Conceptually, this building is mirroring the Sepulveda Dam stages and multiplying the space for cultural activities to take place.
non_VISUALS
Avery SPOT was a student-designed outdoor pavilion that was built during late Spring 2021. In response to COVID-19 and social distancing, we wanted to create a space where people could gather and share. The pavilion featured an inflatable canopy of 600 pounds with LED color lights, a platform with social distancing circles engraved for different programs, and screens for any kind of hybrid programming.
Avery Spot Site Plan with furniture
Photograph of Avery Spot at night. Credit: Joshua C. Jordan
Do letters matter?
No.
No labels needed.
Only lines.
Only lines_curves.
Only lines_curves_smudges.
Only lines_curves_smudges_colors.
A body is just a smudge in space...
and time?
Abstraction is reality.
Time is unfixed.
Color is the translator.
What we think is reality is just pure simulation.
Simulation is defined by wireframe.
Transparency reveals the apparent.
A body is deconstructed.
The unclear definition of a body
filtered through lines and smudges.
The origin doesn’t exist.
Only color joins phenomenons.
What is a phenomenon anyway?
Only lines.
Only lines_curves.
Only lines_curves_smudges.
Only lines_curves_smudges_colors.
Due to a combination of CO2 saturation and other environmental factors, the biomass ecosystem has gone on steroids, and plants must be used (in place, attached to their site roots) as a symbiotic exoskeleton for all buildings, with new and old reinforcements.

The purpose of this workshop was to create an animation using physical models and tools from the wood shop. On the right, we can see the scene stills from the short film which can be seen at: https://youtu.be/eOxYCi-xkrk
Situated in the middle of nowhere, this dystopian snow city contains a hidden gem -- a power plant. This power plant has been created to sustain new life and oxygen within fragile glass buds. There is no life outside them. The Power Plant is responsible for keeping any living thing alive.
Exterior view of the top of Power Plant(s)
Night view of Power Plant(s).

View of the towers of Power Plant(s).
Aerial view of Power Plant(s)