PORTFOLIO
Ningyuan Deng
UNI: nd2669
Selected Works at GSAPP
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M.S.AAD, Columbia University, USA
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Our site is in the boundary of Santa Monica Mountains, near 405 corridor. It’s covered by hundreds of local plant and animal species. However, these wildlives are in danger because of urbanism, natural disaster and climate change. Therefore, we decide to design a wildlife think tank for Santa Monica Mountains.

Wildlife in Santa Monica Mountains

According to our research, the Santa Monica Mountains are home to 11 vegetation communities, which are derived from 26 vegetation associations identified by the California Natural Diversity Database classification system. We divide 11 communities into main three categories: Herbaceous area, Forest area, and aquatic environment area. All these different environments will be assigned to the site. In this way, visitors can enjoy all species as they go through the site, rather than spending several days visiting entire Santa Monica Mountains.

Wildlife Think Tank
- Design a Think Tank on a Hill in Los Angeles

ADVANCED STUDIO VI: Architecting: A Think Tank in Los Angeles
Site: Los Angeles, California, United States
Collaborator: Jialu Deng
Contribution: Concept 60%, Modeling 50%, Drawing 50%
Instructor: Galia Solomonoff
March 2022 - April 2021

We are also thinking about wildlife through sections. We explored the relationships between animals and human beings and propose three architecture prototypes. The first one is wildlife living above people. The architecture is more like earth-covered building. The second one is that human beings and wildlife exist on the same level. People mainly have activities in architecture, and animals mainly live outside of buildings. The third one is people above wildlife. Architecture not only provides space to human, but also offers shelters and passages to animals.

Three Relationships Between Animals and Human Beings

Wildlife Above People
On the Same Level
People Above Wildlife

Wildlife Diagram
Landscape
In order to exhibit all types of plants in Santa Monica Mountains, we create eleven different environments for different plants. In this way, visitors can enjoy all kinds of landscape in this area as they go through the site.

Architecture
Along the long axis of the site, we set housing area, exhibition space, exterior theater and an institute in sequence. Different programs have different architecture prototype, which enriches the relationship between human beings and wildlife.

Circulation
We are trying to create spaces for both human beings and animals. Therefore it's important to allow animals cross the site as well as human can have activities.

- Human Circulation
- Animal Circulation
The Visual Art Studio is a place for artists, art students, and residents to work, meet and display work from all communities in Brooklyn. The VAS is located at the south end of the promenade accessed from the second and third levels of the newly imagined BQE Open Space, or from below in Brooklyn Bridge Park. The VAS provides programs such as an art market and visual art studios; which could include specific art facilities such as printing space and glass blowing facilities. Common spaces such as community shared spaces, and a cafeteria, and reading space are also imagined.

"This historic legislation will: Repair and rebuild our roads and bridges with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, equity, and safety for all users, including cyclists and pedestrians. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework is the single largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the interstate highway system."

—— The White House
A great loudreading is happening in the Asian Building. Its full name is Asiatic Petroleum Building, used to be the Shanghai office of Shell oil company. It went through war, revolution and opening-up in China. Now some parts of Asian Building are exhibition spaces and others belong to China Pacific Insurance, a company providing automobile insurance. Somehow, Asian Building always connects to oil.

Shell left Asian Building, but that doesn't mean it stops extraction. The simple truth is that it has been happening everywhere around the world and created numerous environmental problems. So we do a loudreading here, to let the public be aware that extraction is still happening, causing more problems.

Full Video: [https://vimeo.com/581117999](https://vimeo.com/581117999)