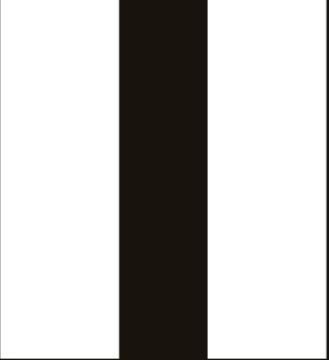


Mirai Morita



Academic Work

REFLEXIVE FLATNESS

Sci-Arc, summer 2006
Advisor: Hernan Diaz Alonso

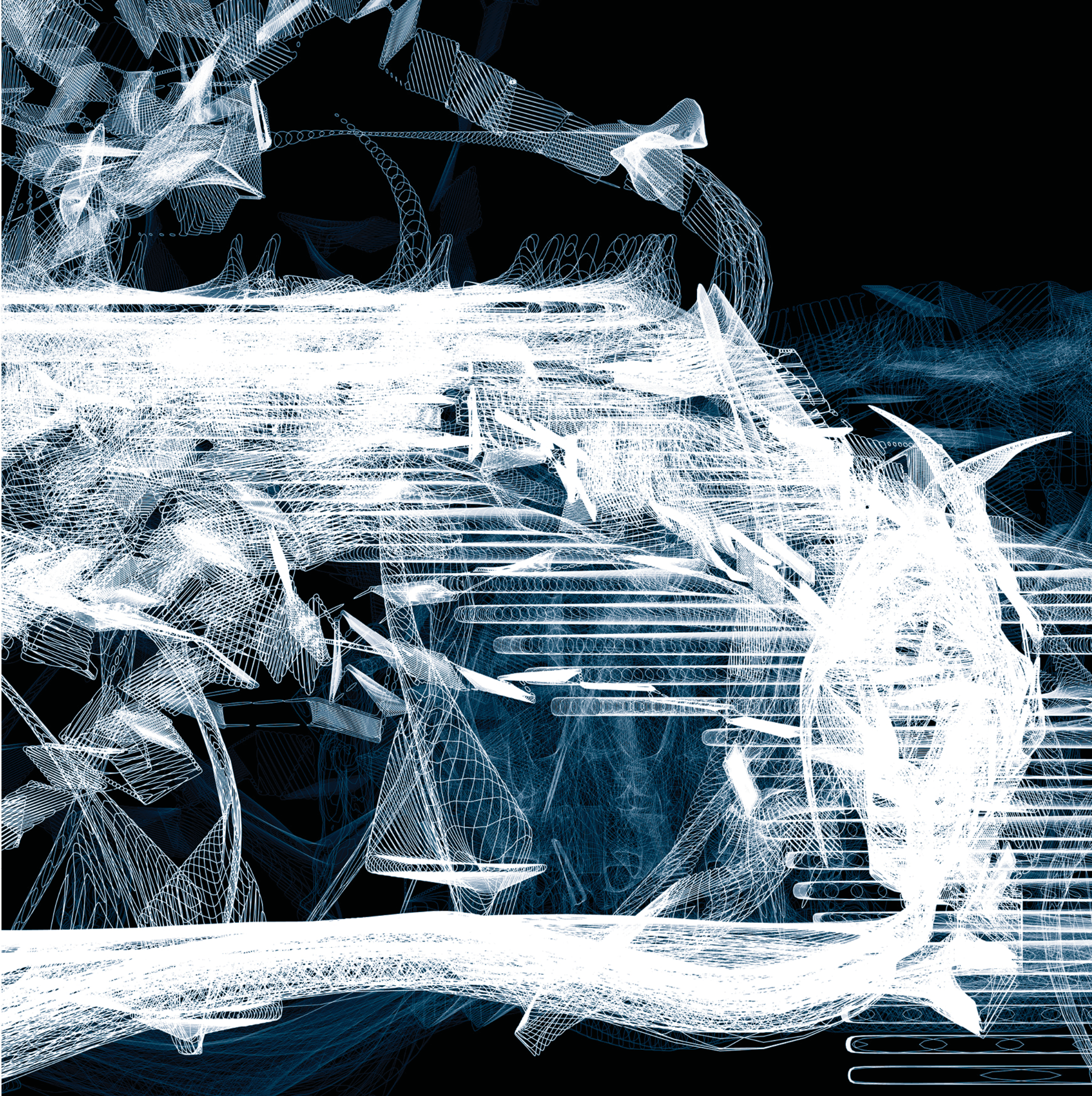
This thesis investigates a formal aesthetic that is reflective of the hyper-stimulated condition of contemporary society. I am exploring the aesthetic of serenity which is a condition where user is forced to relax due to hyper-stimulus. Hyper-stimulus is a moment of failure in the ability of the user to read or learn. This de-coherent condition can be both optimized and alleviated by using the same degree of multiple variables and logically combining them to create the desired affect.

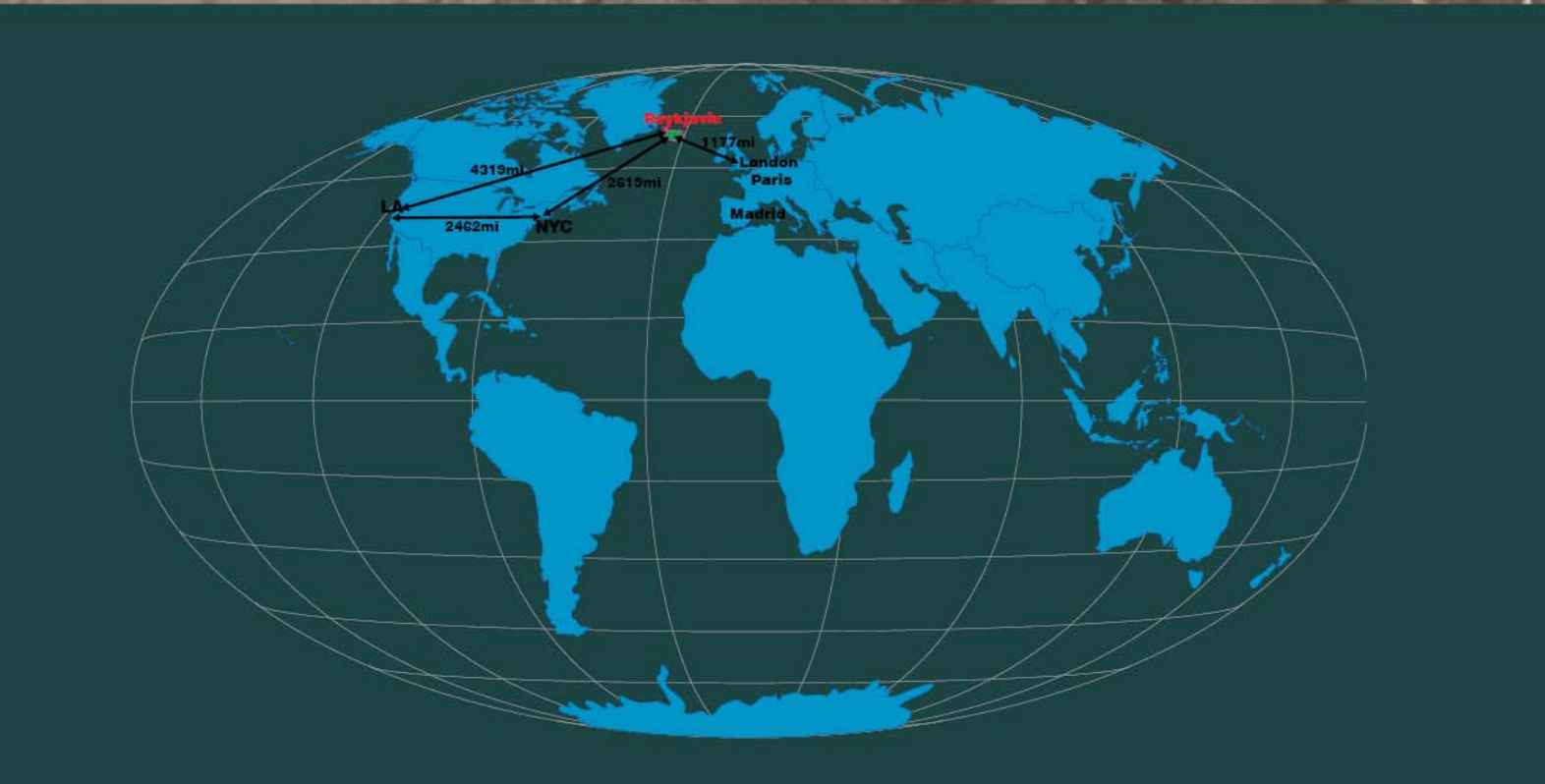
In other words, I am investigating the notion of serenity by creating such visual noise and de-coherence that the mind can only relax because it cannot focus and activate.

A bath house set in grindavik, Iceland, will serve as the context for which a concept of serenity can be explored. In an age of global-hyper-stimulus, architecture can offer a moment where different elements may collide to provide calm. Through the manipulation of architectural elements, stimuli maybe controlled to produce moments of cognitive failure, where one cannot learn or read quickly enough.

We are exposed to vast amount of information, such as culture, products, images, entertainment, art, at all times to a point that it is hard to distinguish one from the other. As an artist Takashi Murakami defines the condition as “superflat.” The bath house will create a horizon for this “superflat” condition where the focus of such elements may harness, focus and tranquillized.

I am using geometry types, composition, and fenestration as the primary variables to develop this project that combines both the built and natural environments into seamless moments of serenity.





Site: Gindavik, Iceland

Geographic Location
65 00 N, 18 00 W

Global Location

Travel to Iceland doesn't have to be a dream.
For the East Coast, it's closer than L.A.
For our friends on the Left Coast, it's a little

longer, but they can fly direct from San Francisco.

The June 27, 2006 issue of USA Today made Iceland its Featured Pick for travel this summer. The paper said, "Reykjavik, Iceland's happening capital, is the new 'It' spot, according to in-the-know travelers. And there's hardly a better time to visit than during the unforgettable summer months." The article mentioned trips to glaciers and geysers, spa vacations and "build your own dream trip" style holidays to the island nation.

Climate

temperate; moderated by North Atlantic Current; mild, windy winters; damp, cool summers

Terrain

mostly plateau interspersed with mountain peaks, ice fields; coast deeply indented by bays and fiords

Natural Resources

fish, hydropower, geothermal power, diatomite

Natural Hazards

earthquakes and volcanic activity

Superflat

"Superflat" works take a critical look at the consumerism and sexual fetishism that is prevalent in post-war westernized Japanese culture. These works are an exploration of otaku sexuality through grotesque and/or distorted images.

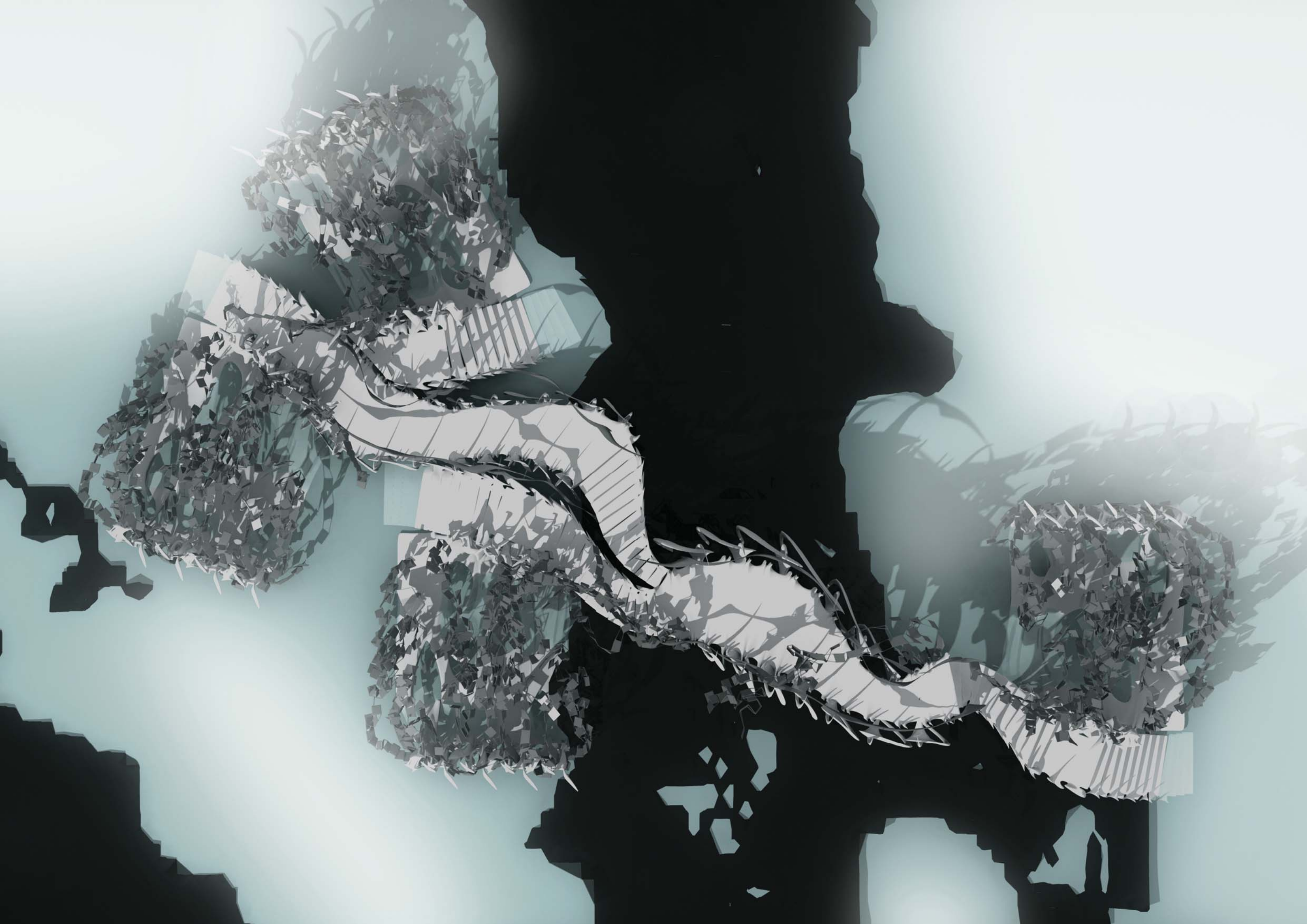
"The world of the future might be like Japan is today – super flat."

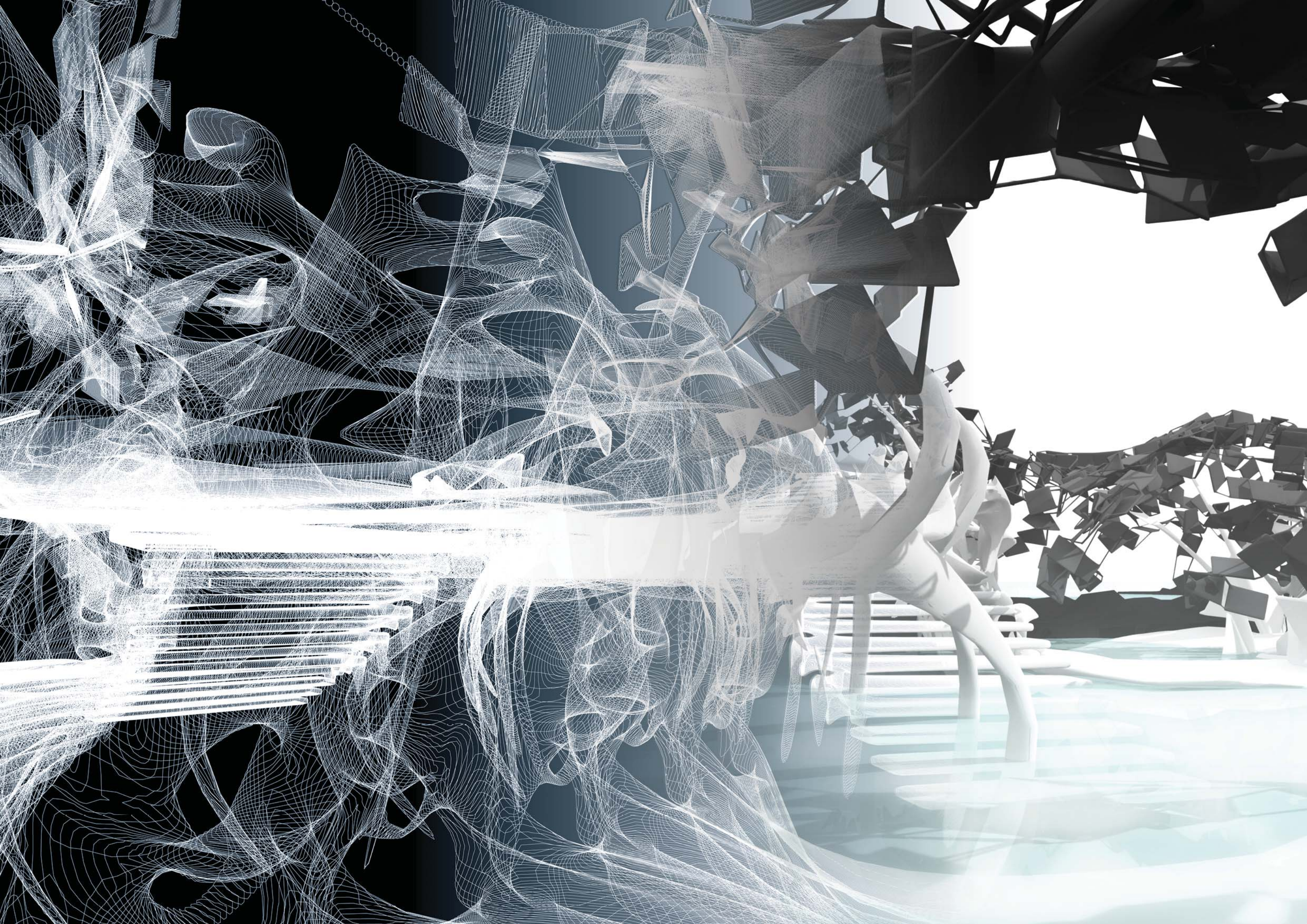
"Experience the moment when the layers of Japanese culture, such as pop, erotic pop, otaku, and HIS-ism, fuse into one."

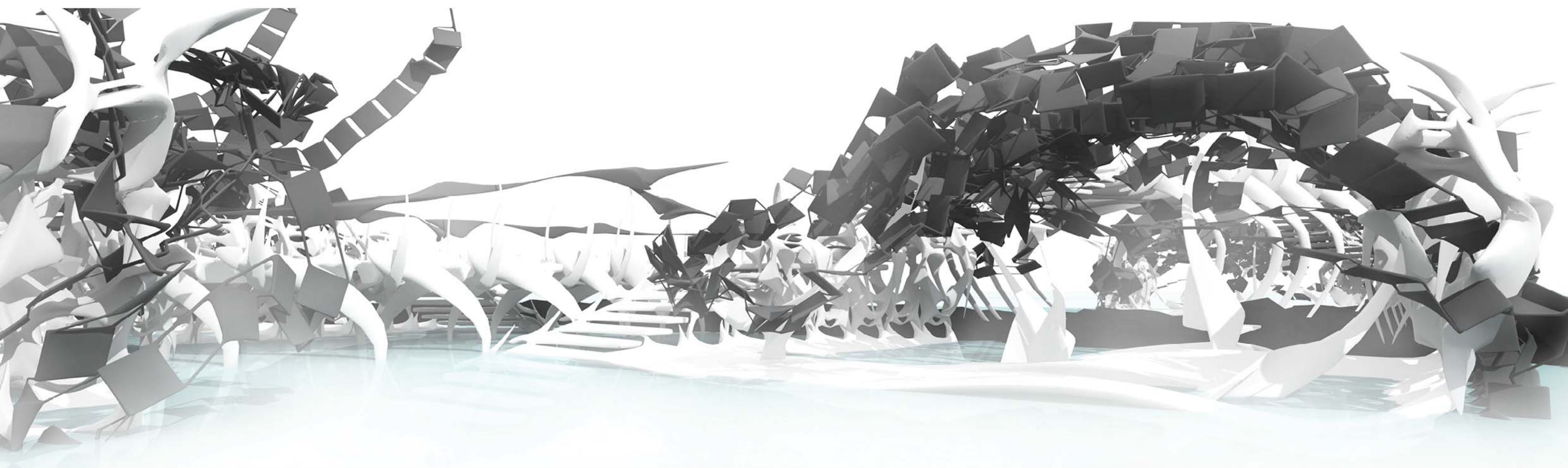
"The way that a picture controls the speed of its observer's gaze, the course of that gaze's scan, and the subsequent control of the information flow might match well with the artists' concepts."

"Structural methodology, in which they created surface images that erased interstices and thus made the observer aware of the images' extreme planarity."

-Takashi Murakami





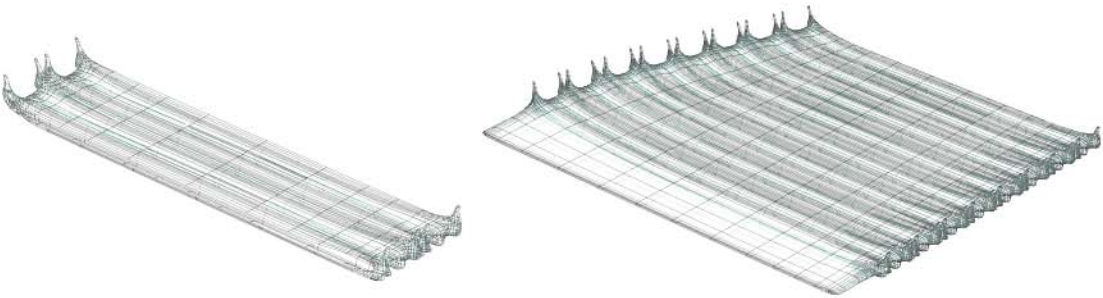




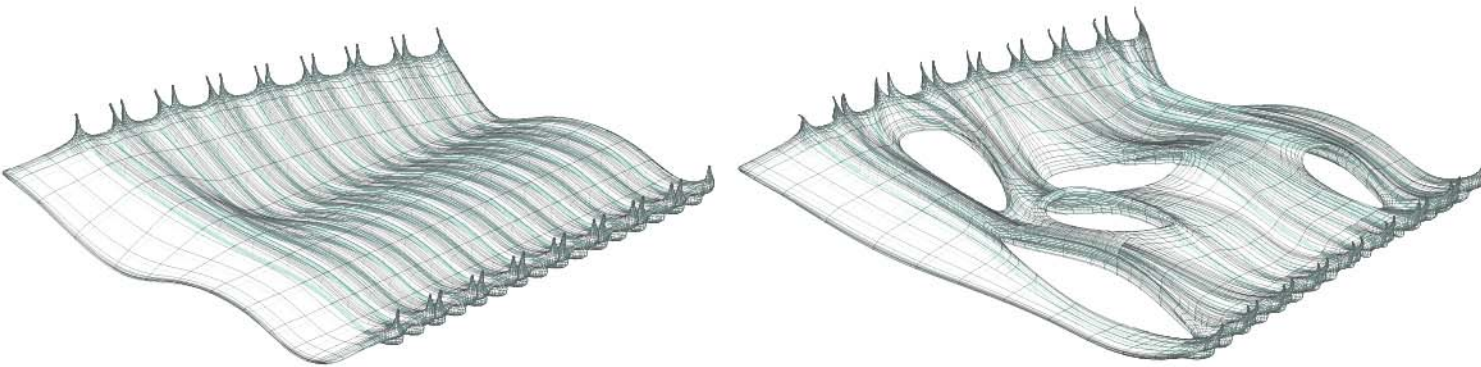
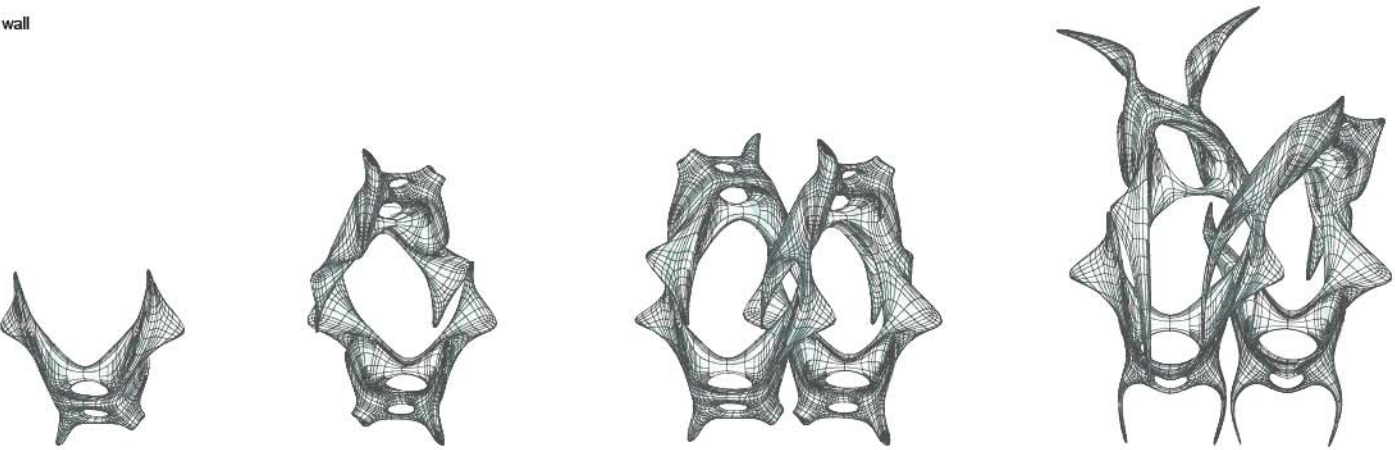
structure



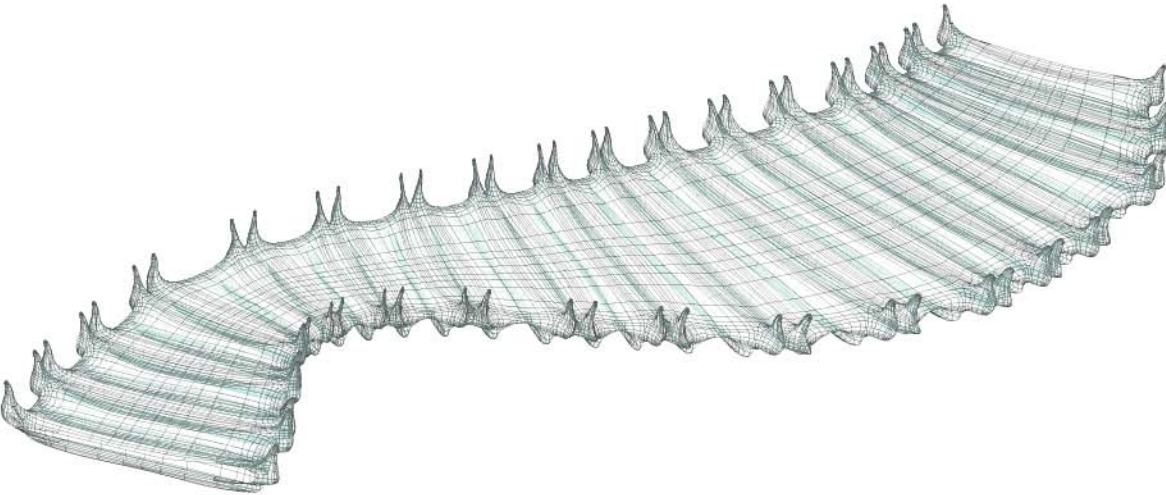
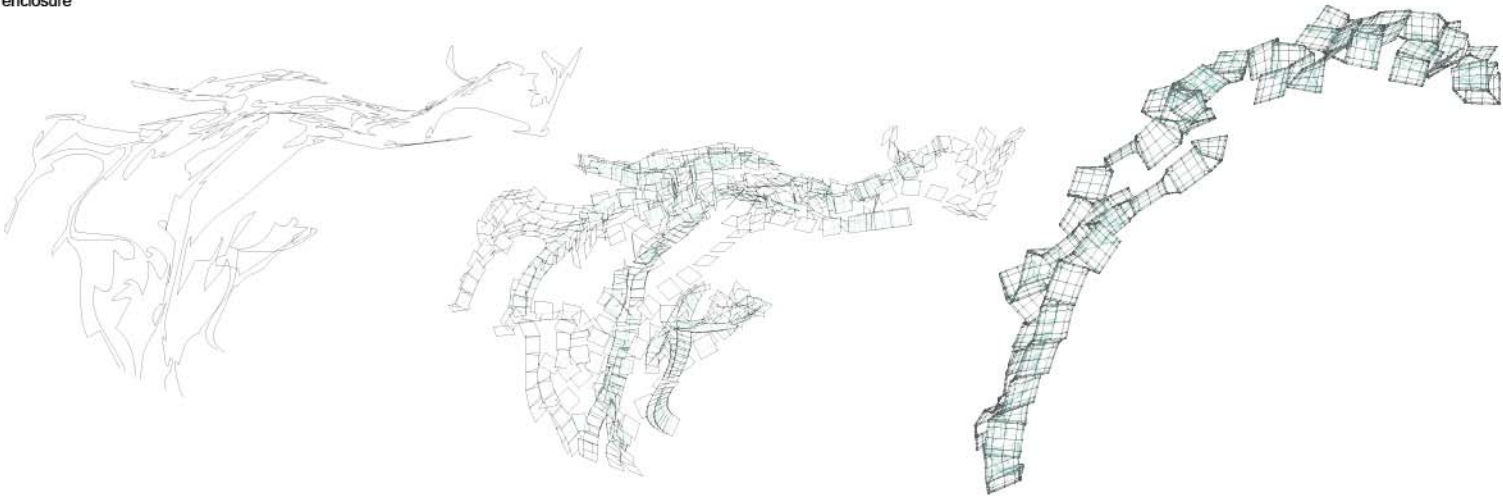
floor

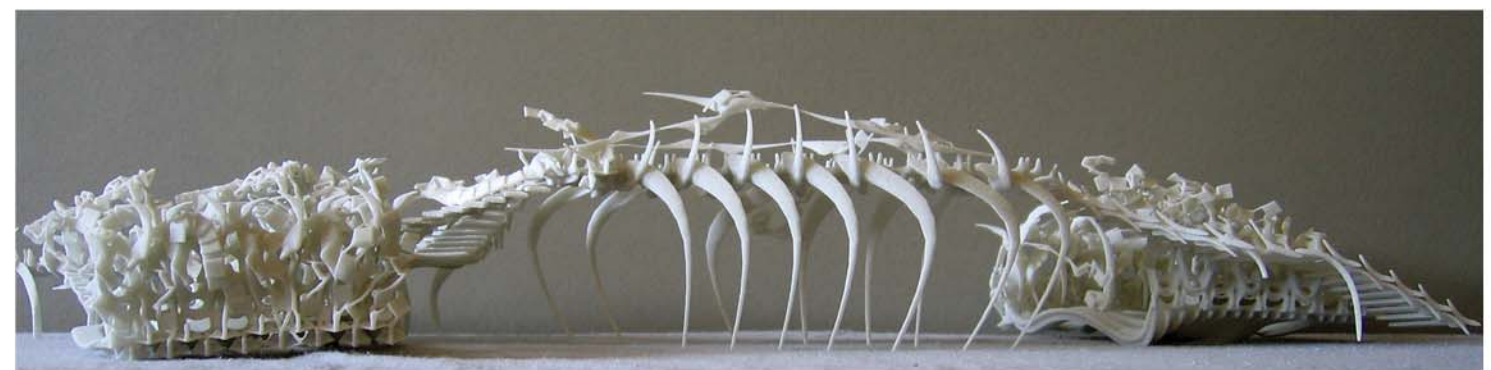
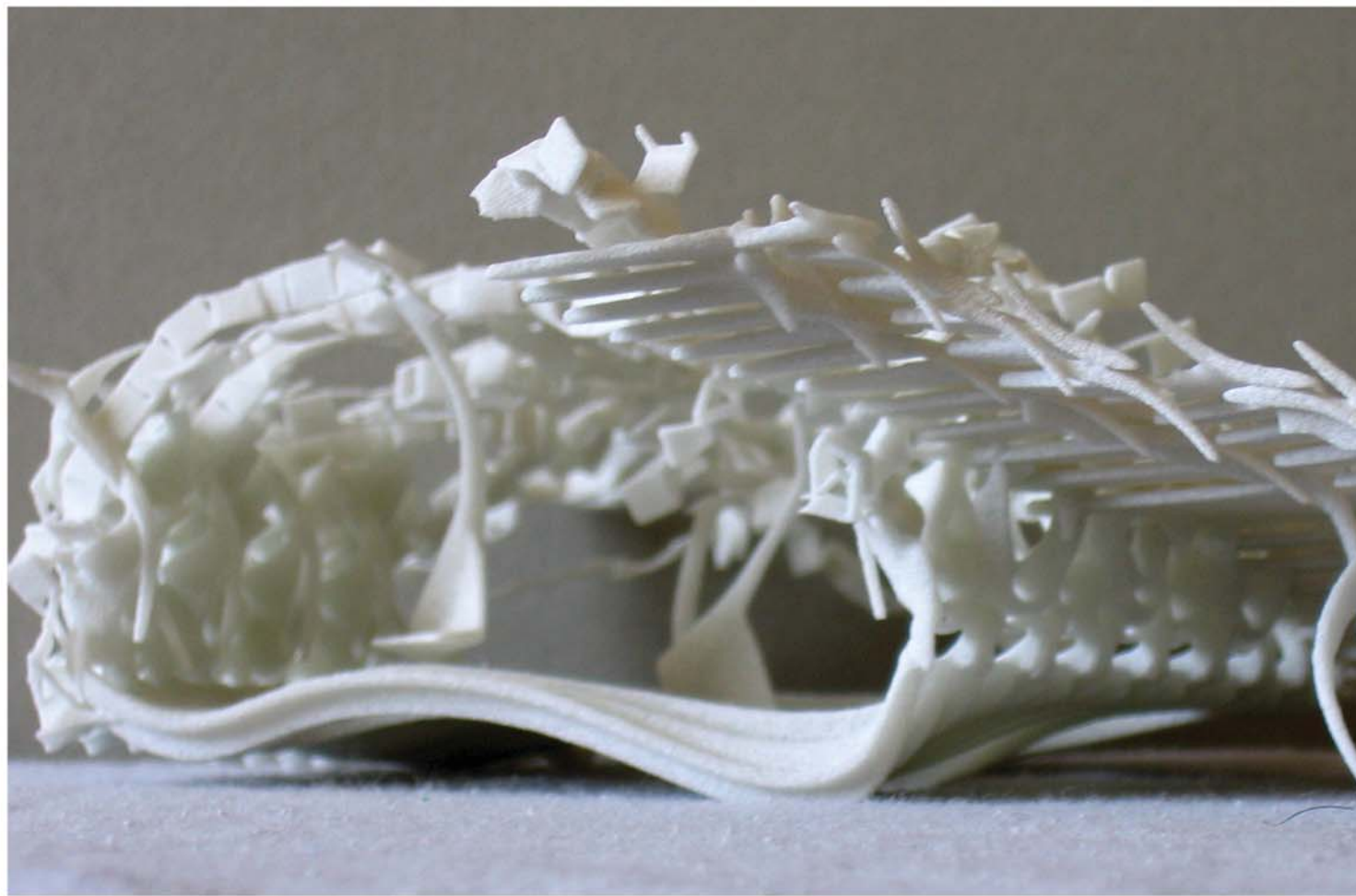


wall



enclosure







BROOKLYN BRIDGE

Sci-Arc, spring 2006

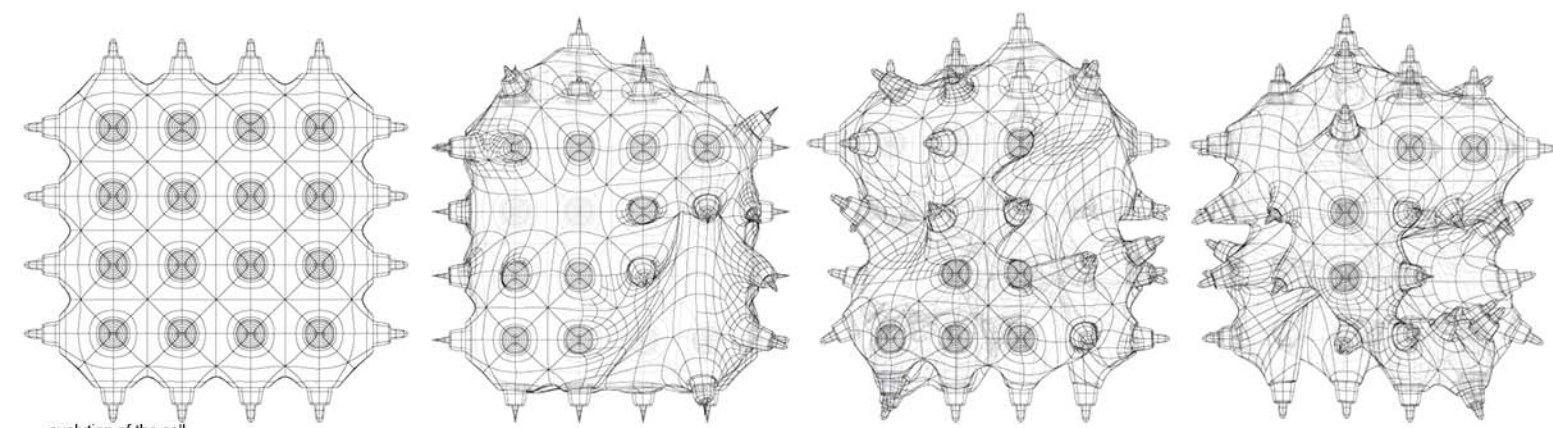
Professor: Heman Diaz Alonso

The premise of the studio was to replace the Brooklyn Bridge with a new specie of coagulated architecture, that will allow for infrastructure and space to mutate.

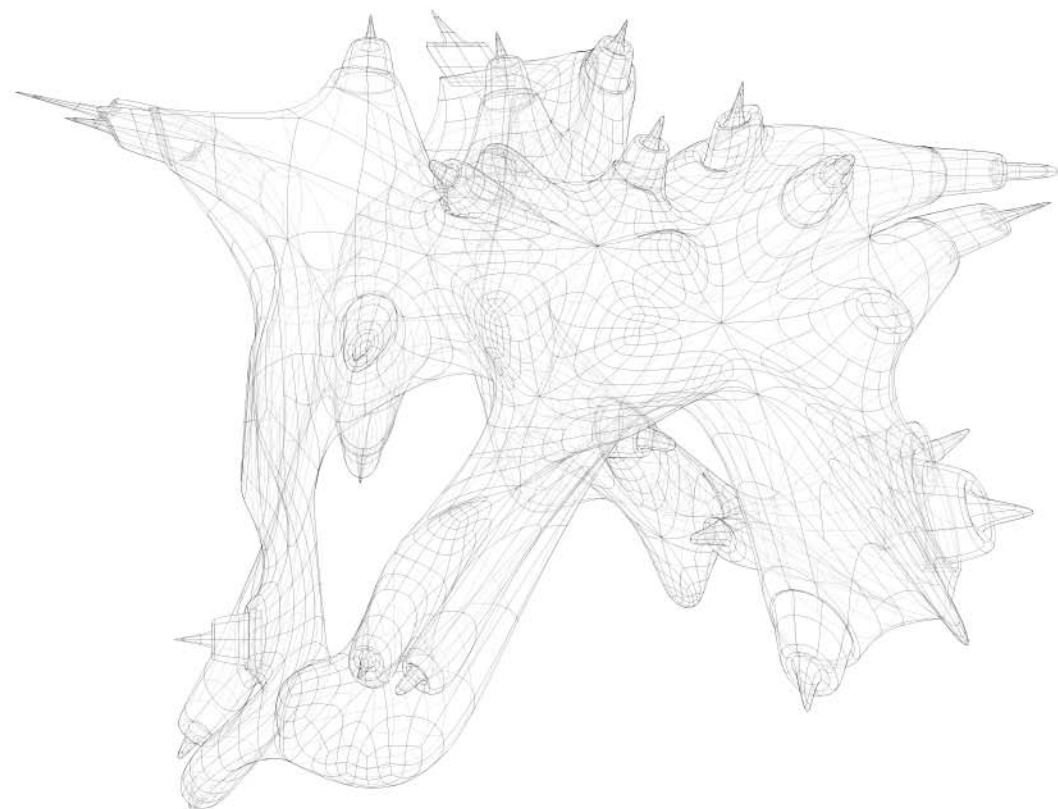
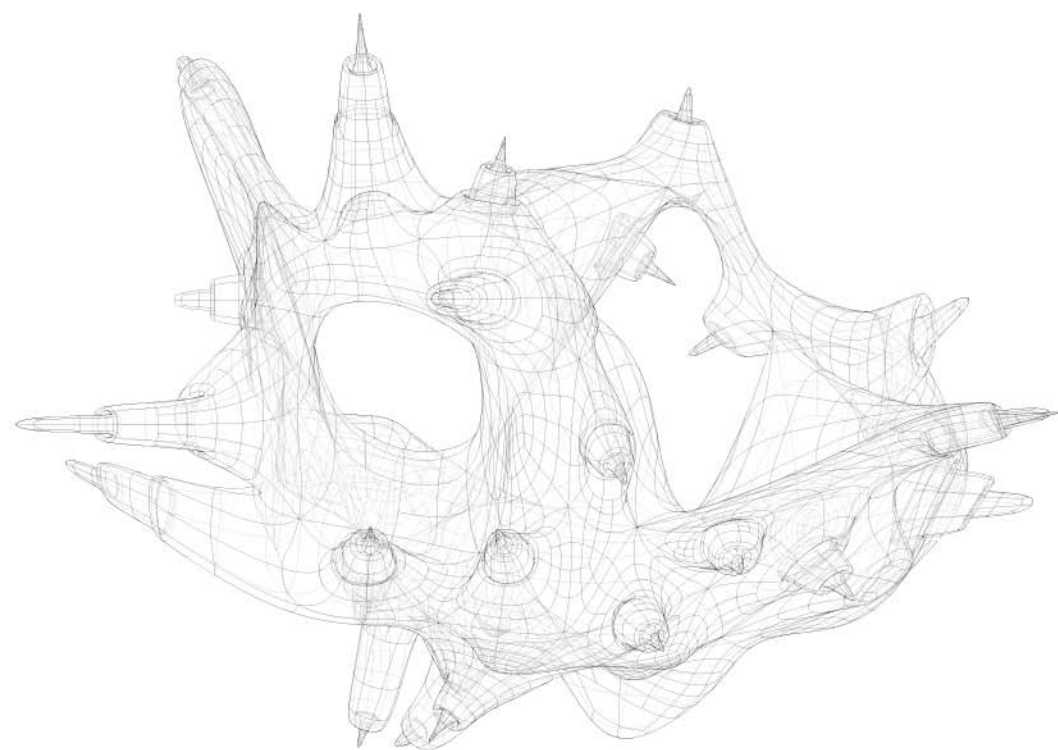
A cell was developed through series of experimentation in form. Which then was mutated to allow further growth to form a bridge.

more work of the project:
www.mirainokuni.com



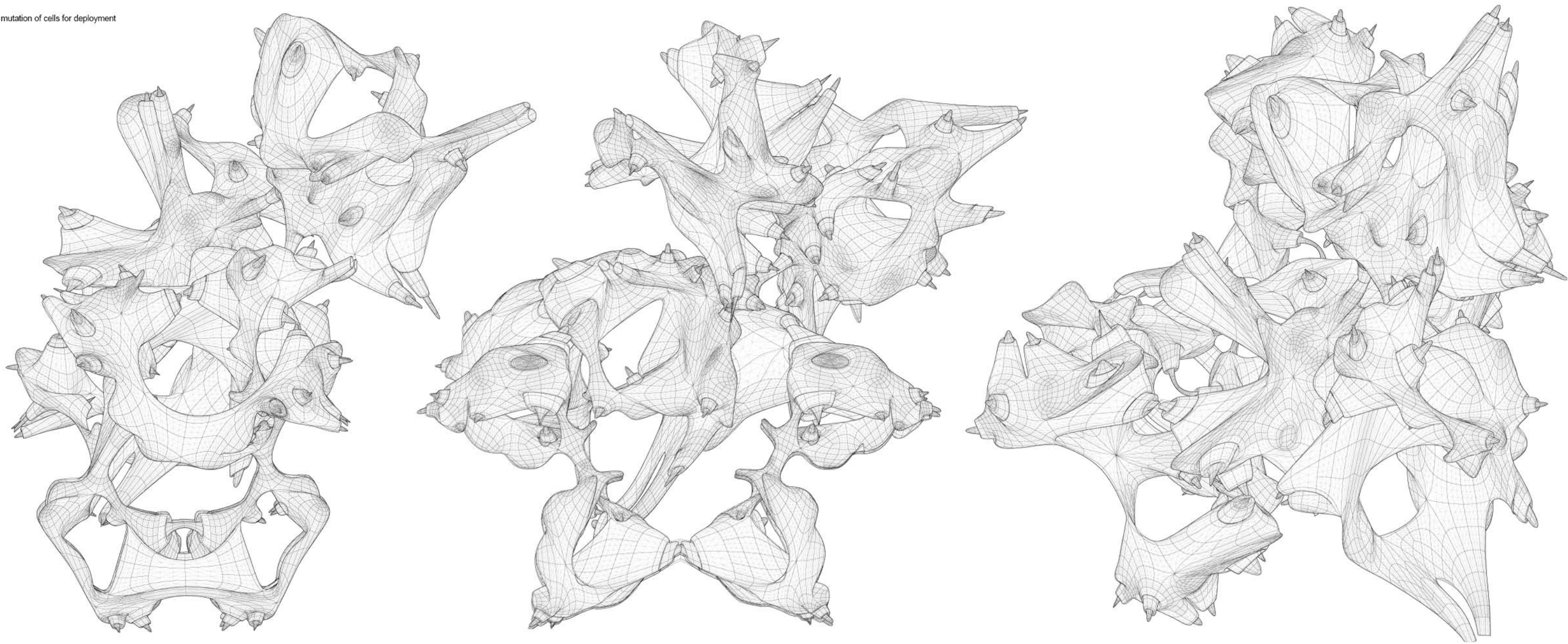


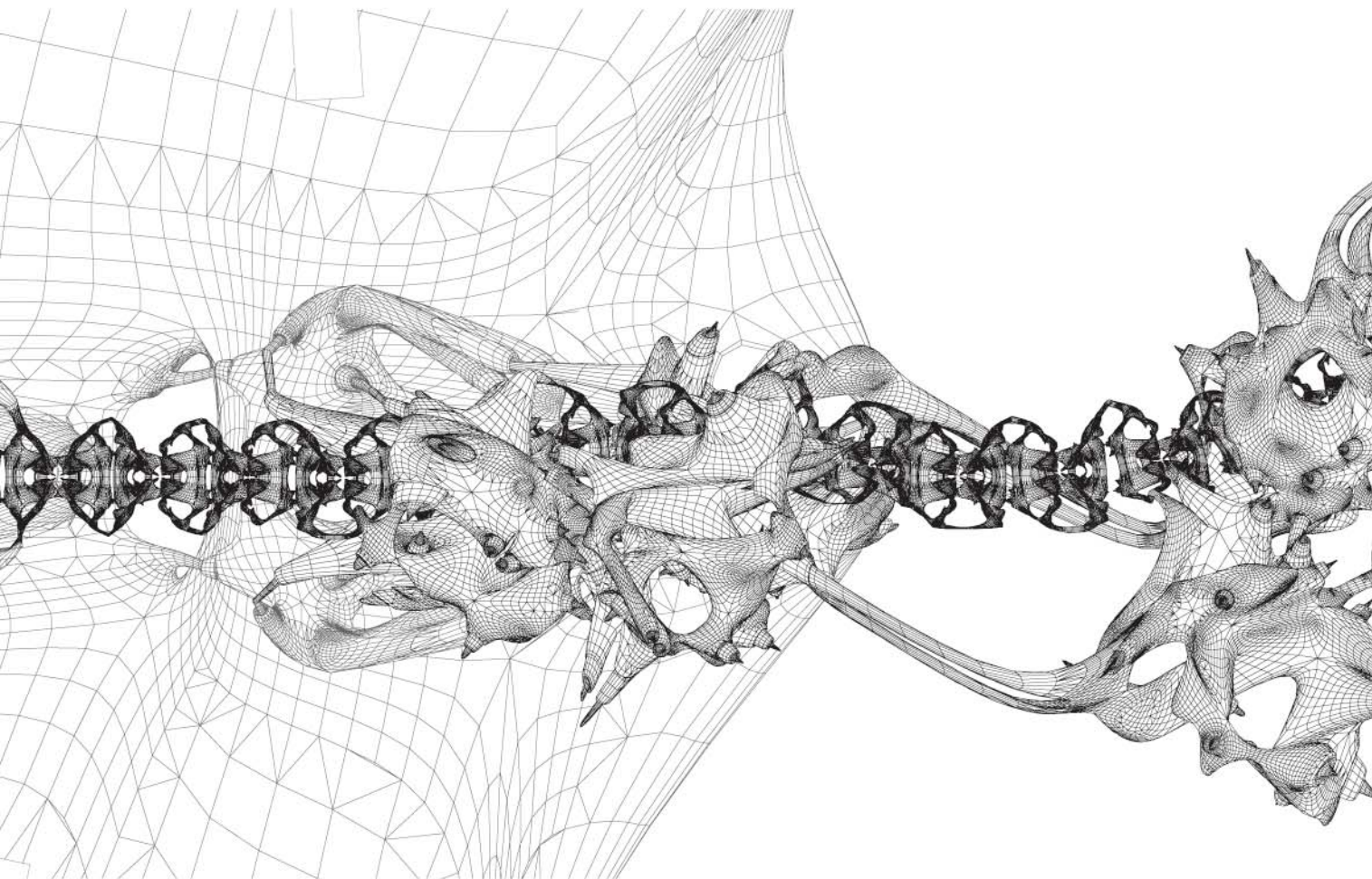
evolution of the cell



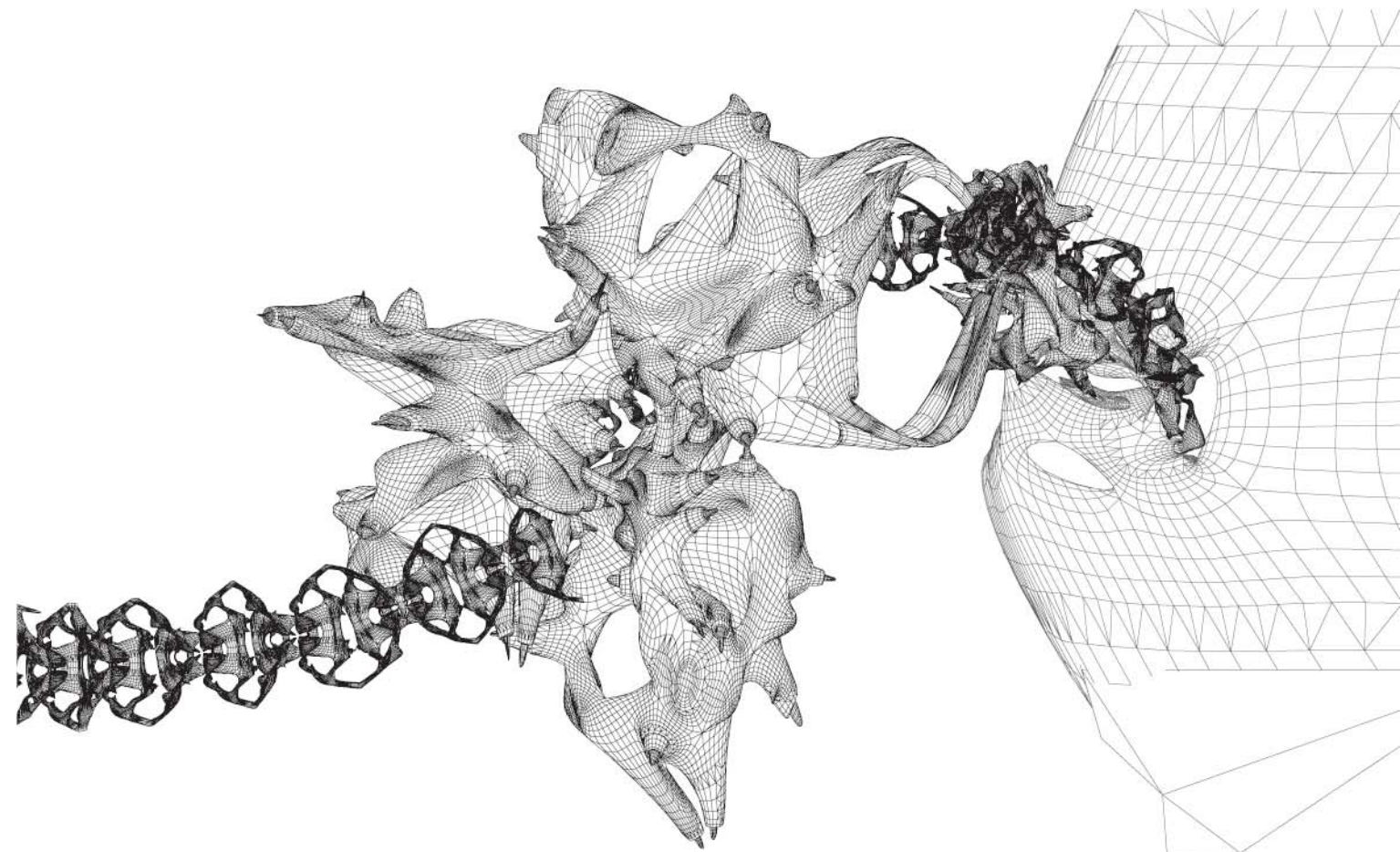
multiplication of cells

mutation of cells for deployment





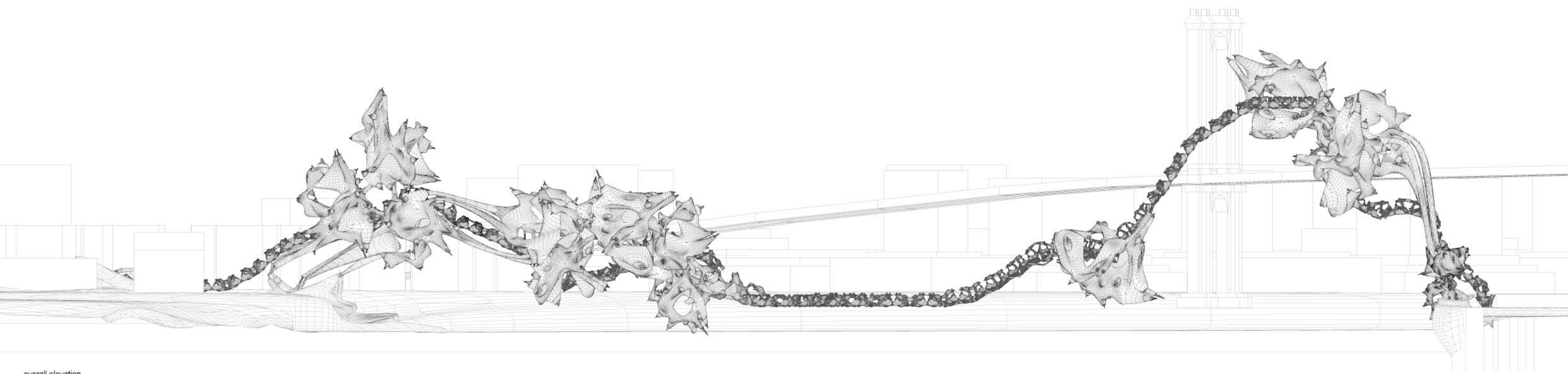
Plan zoom on Manhattan side



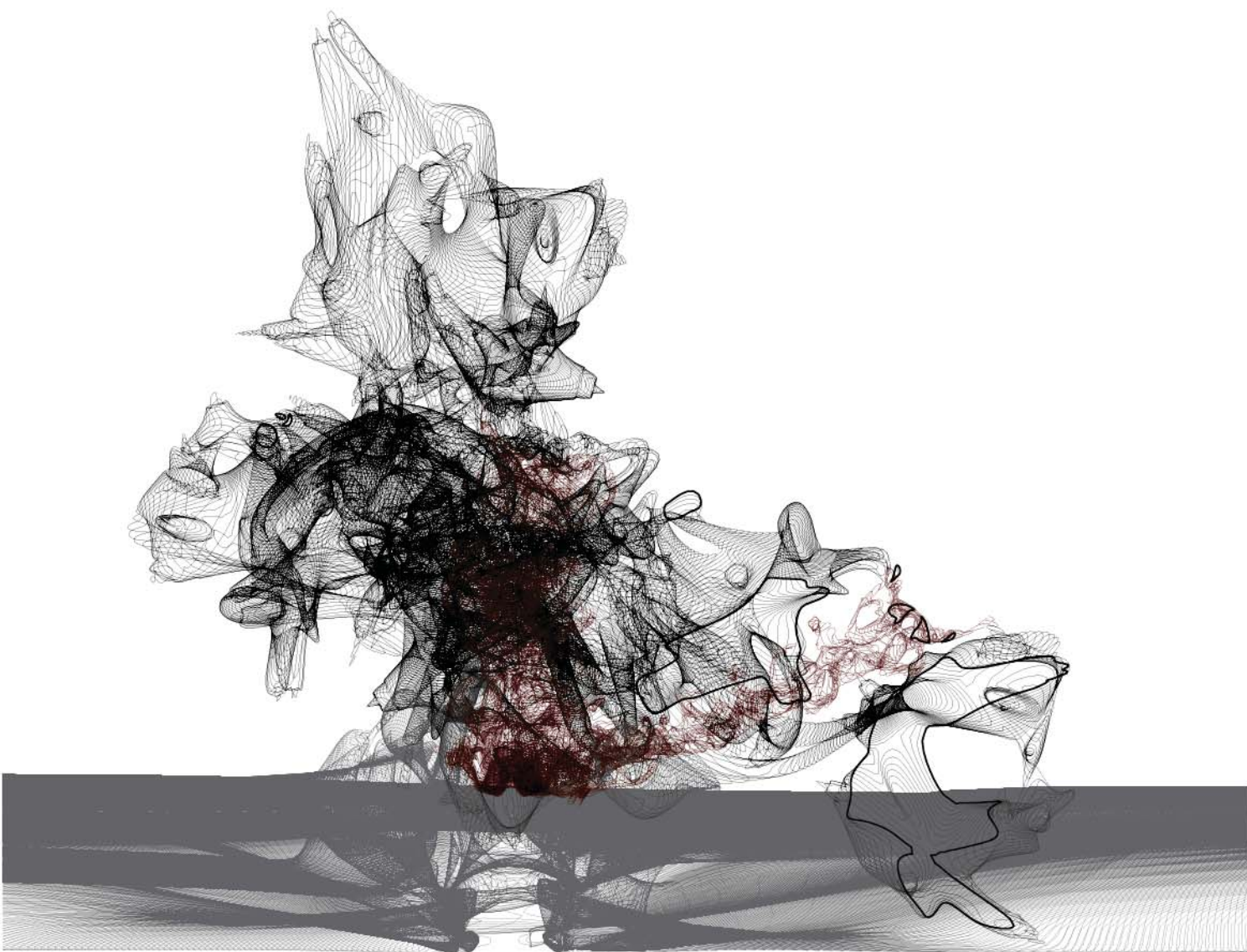
Plan zoom on Brooklyn side

Overall Plan

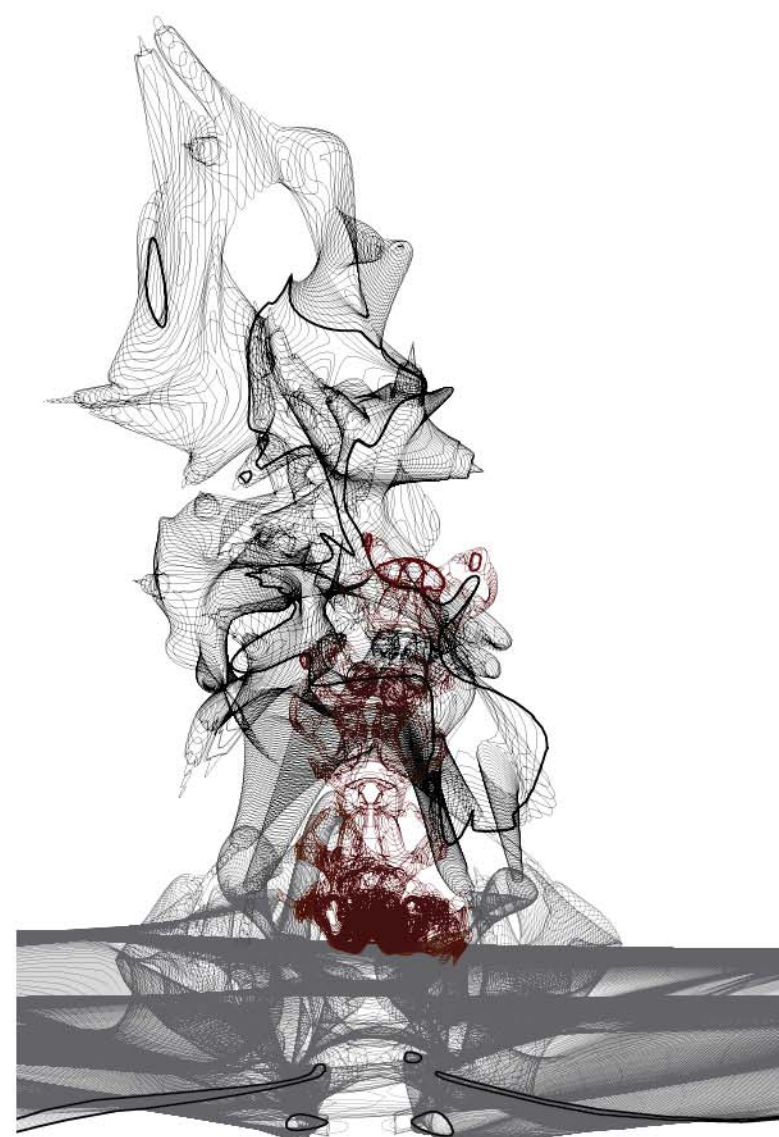




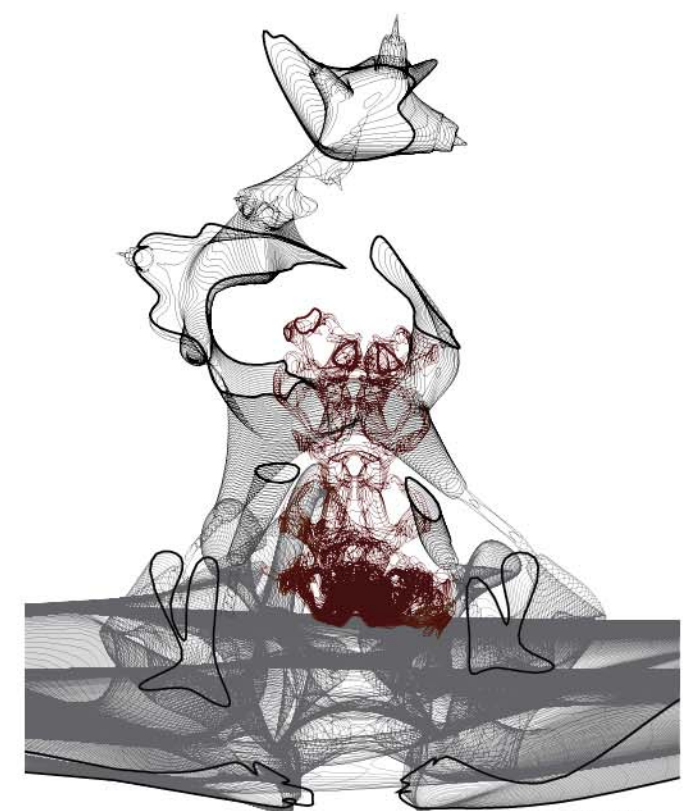
overall elevation



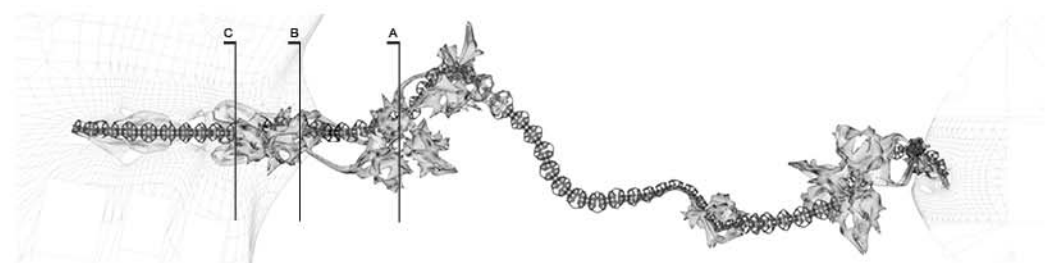
Section A

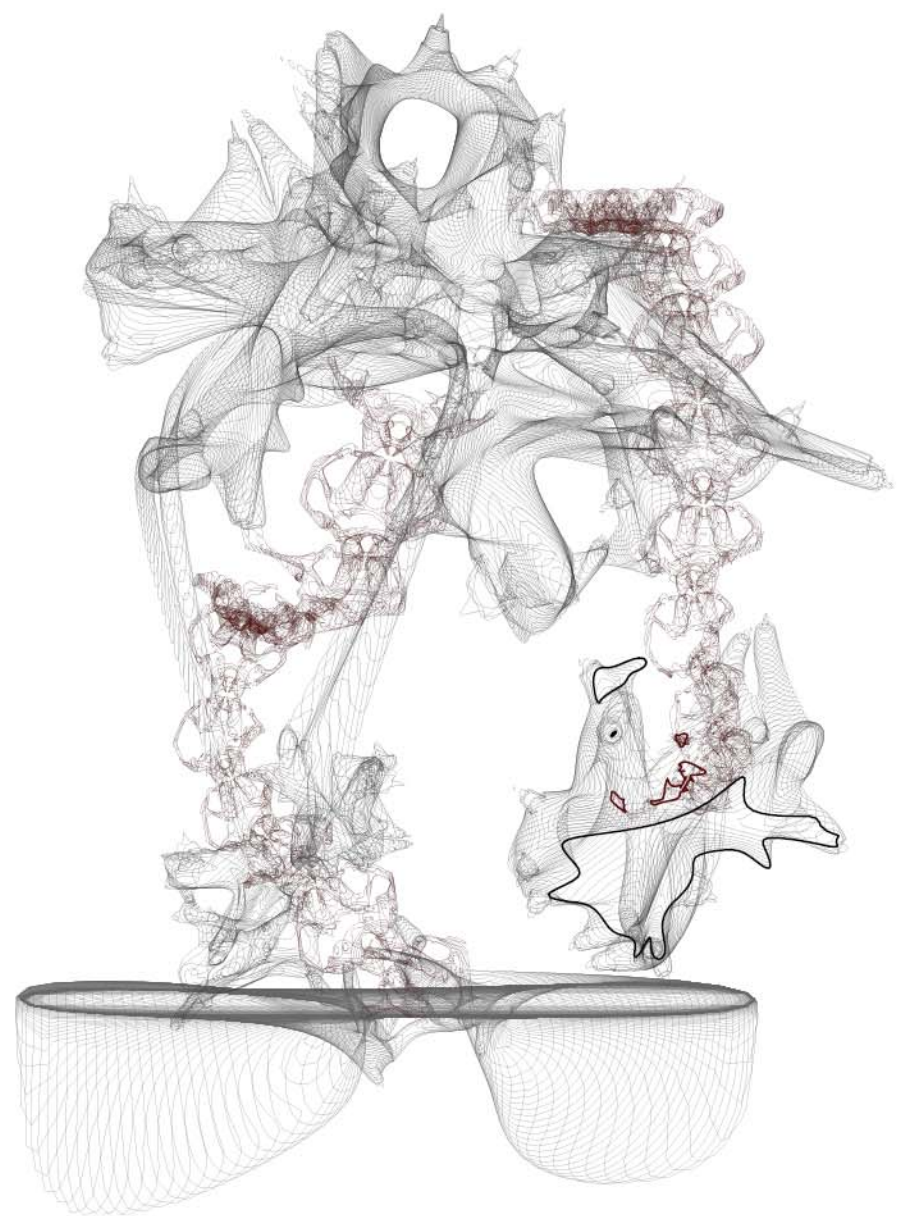


Section B

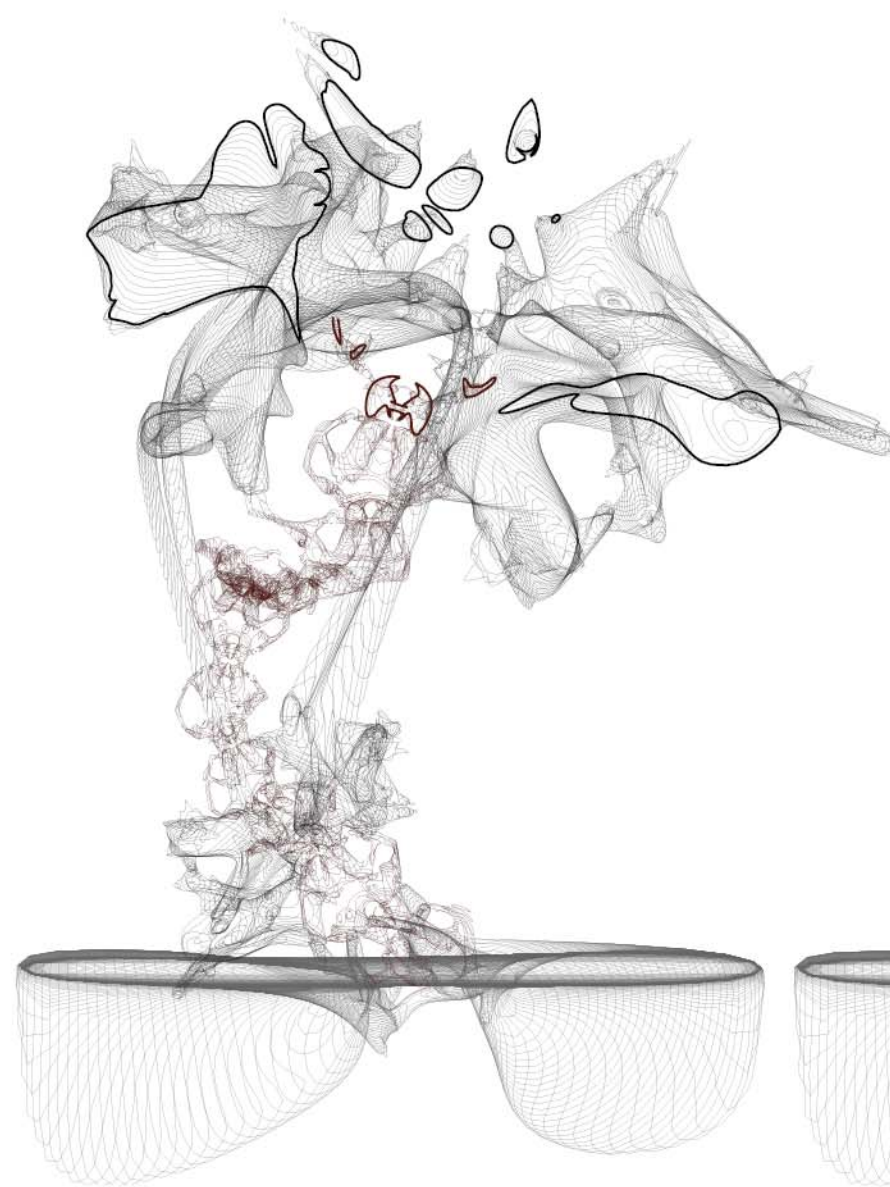


Section C

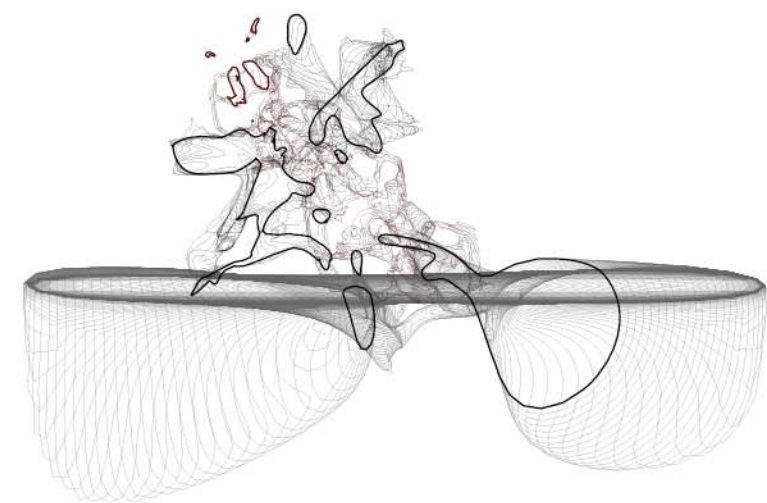




Section D

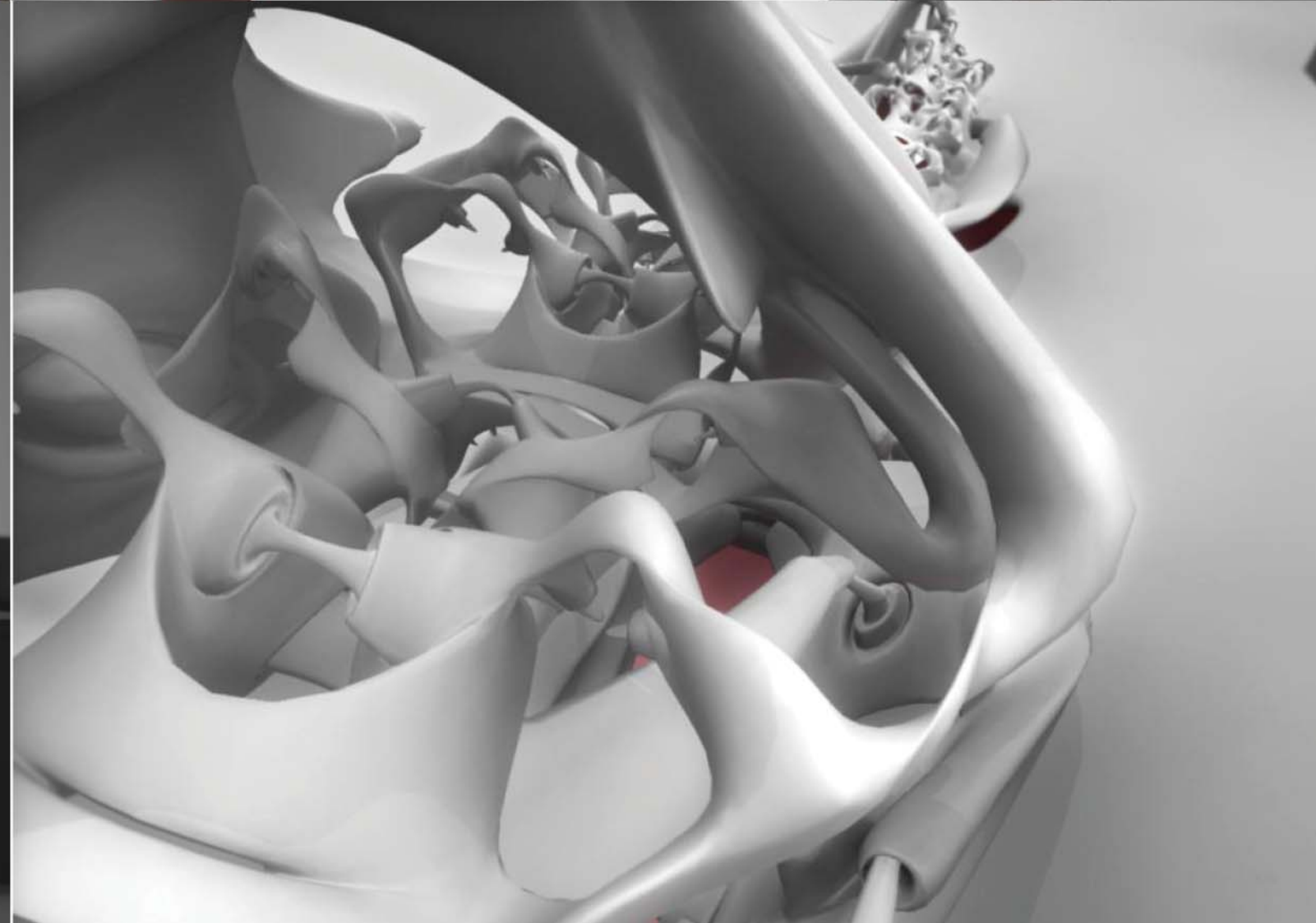
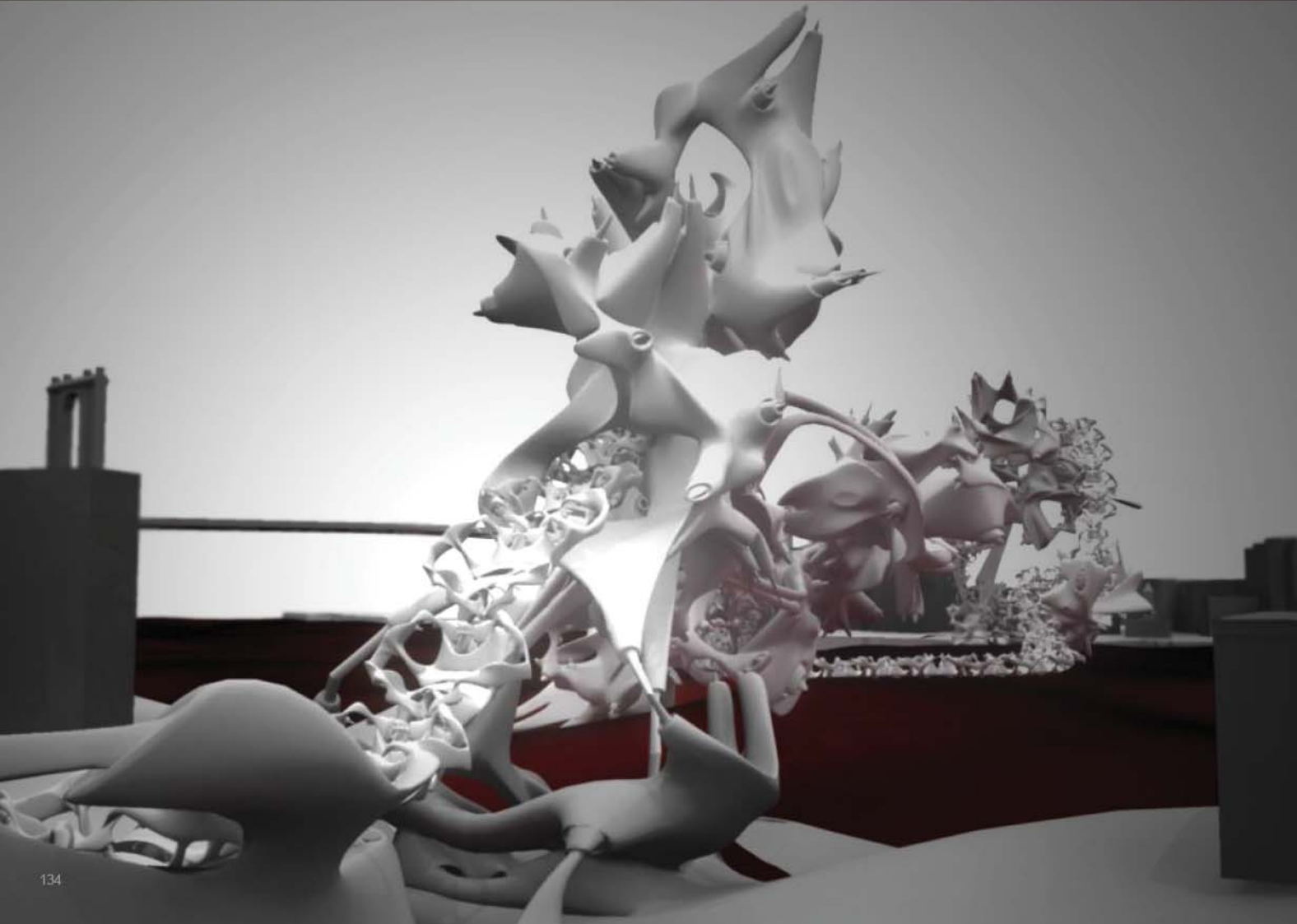


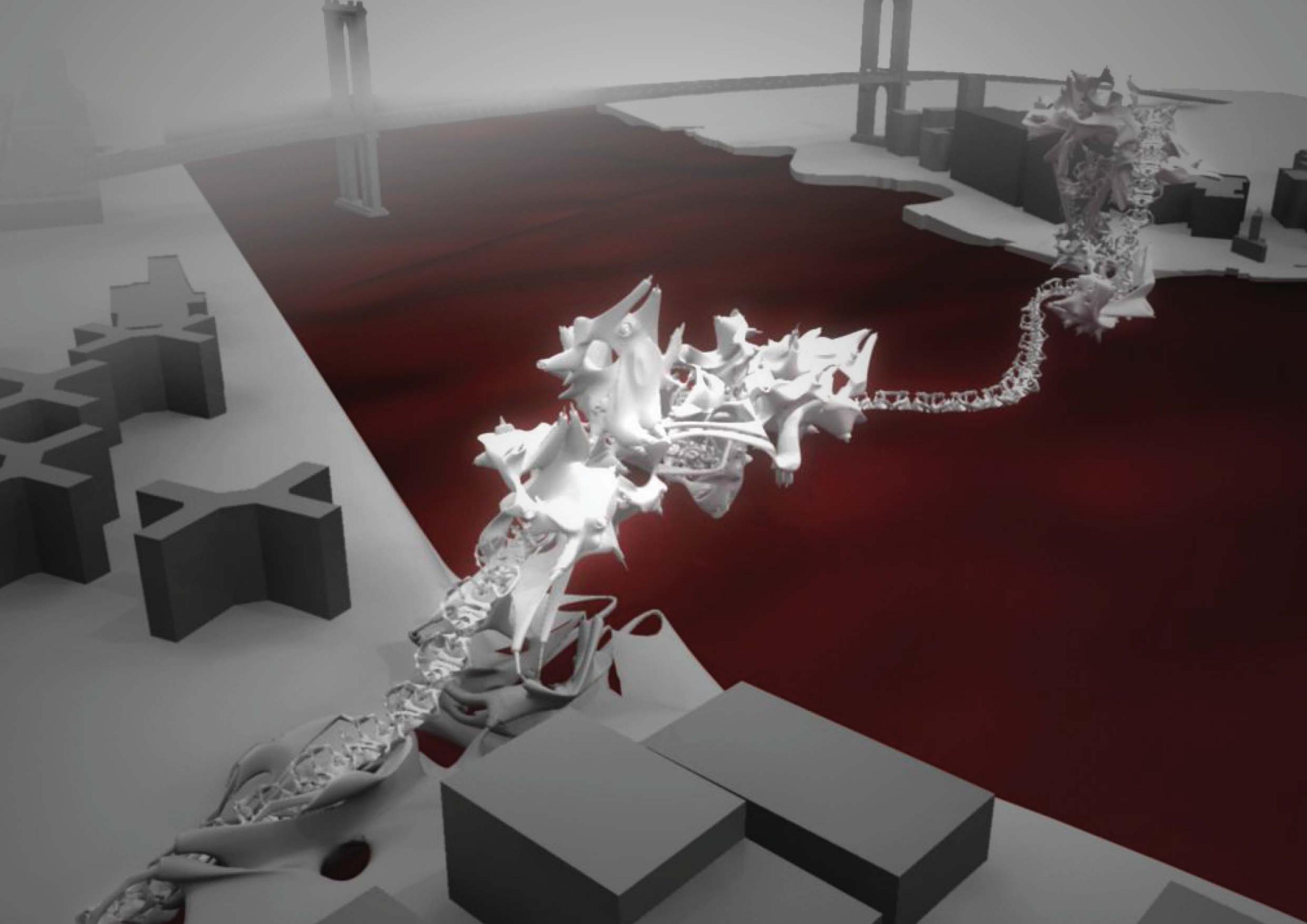
Section E

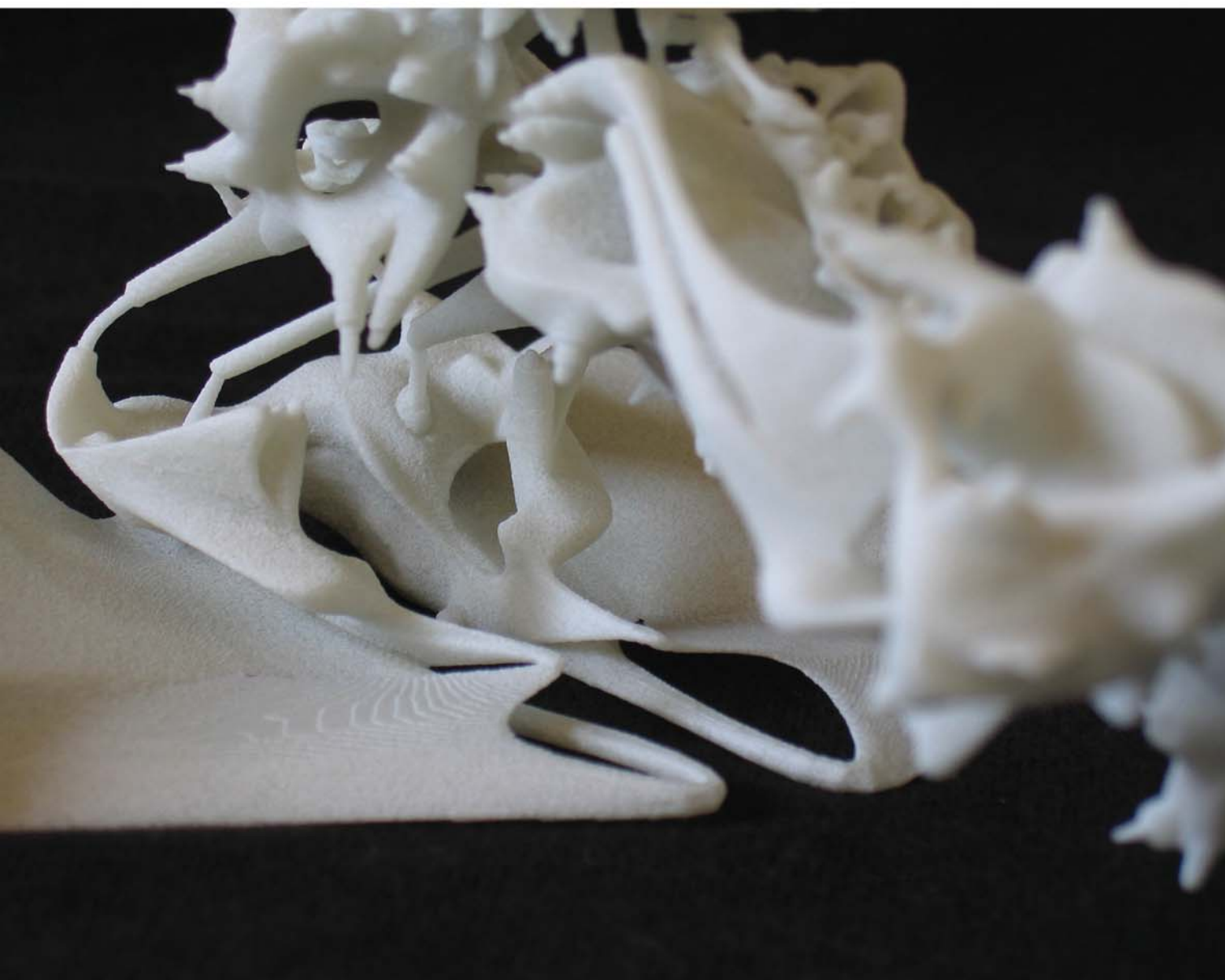


Section F









ENNIS BROWN HOUSE

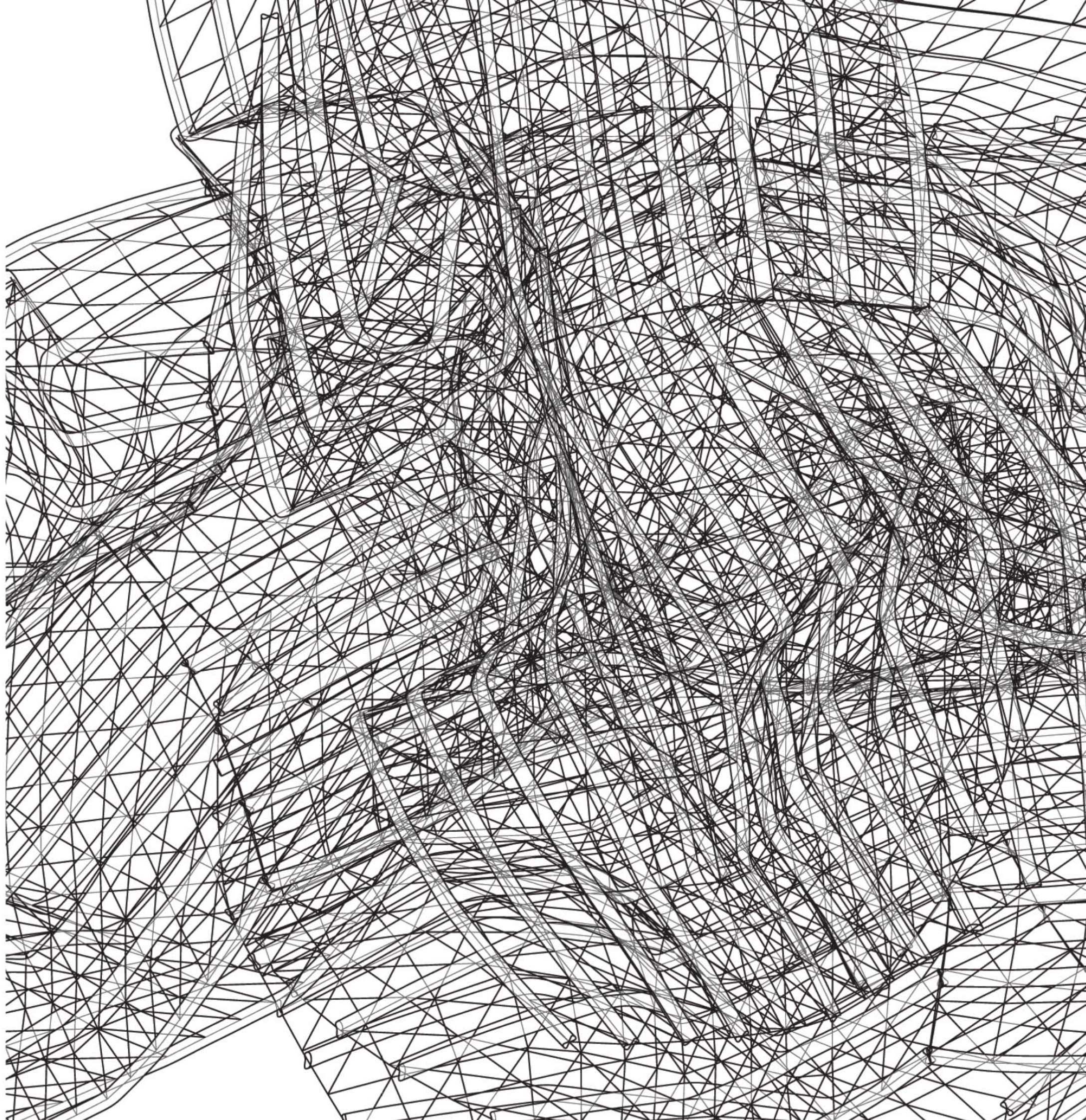
Sci-Arc, spring 2005

Professor: Peter Testa

Intrigued by an undulating surface created through genr8, my intent is to develop an architectural system that creates spaces that has a dynamic flow and movement throughout the building. The cellular space was developed carrying the dynamic characteristic of the surface.

As cellular space was deployed on to the site, intense network of elements started to emerge out of itself. When multiple spaces collide with one another, new set of pattern, systems, and unexpected spaces fused out of itself, transforming individual spaces into a larger space.

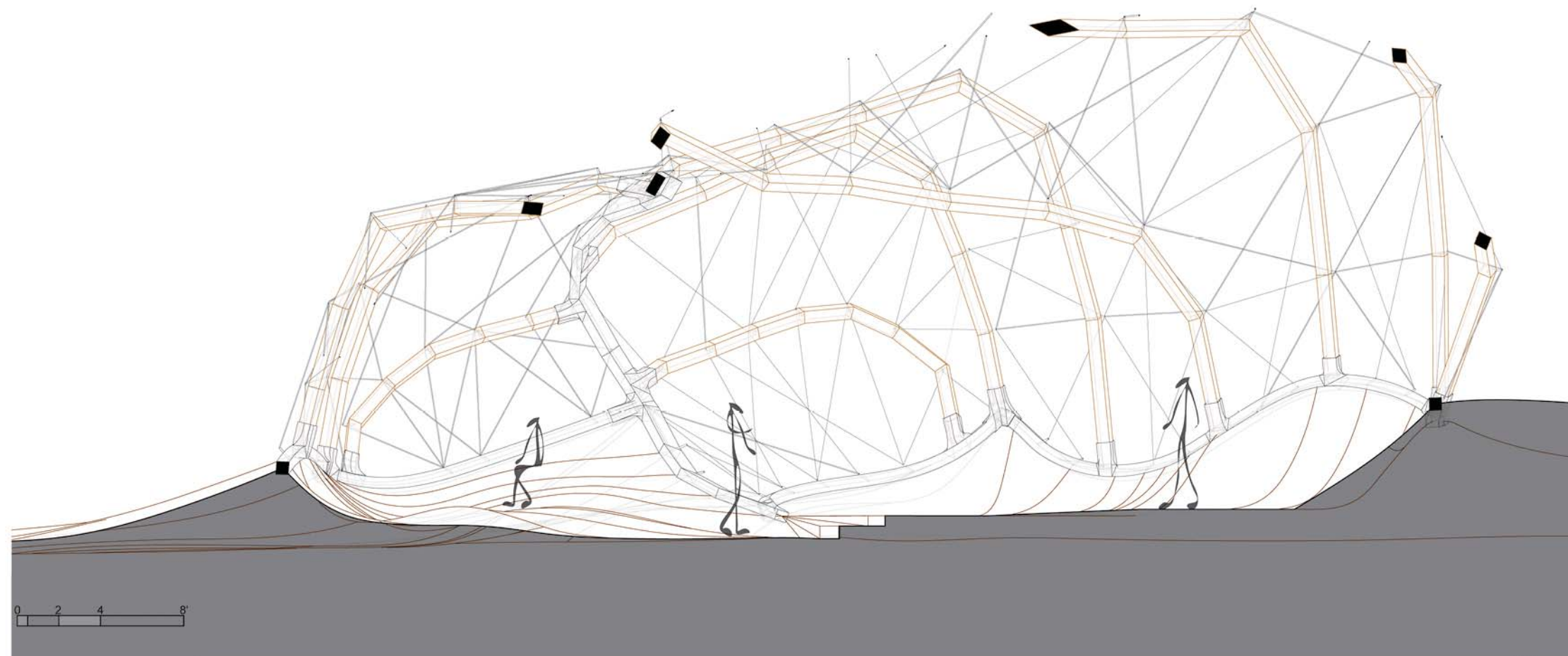
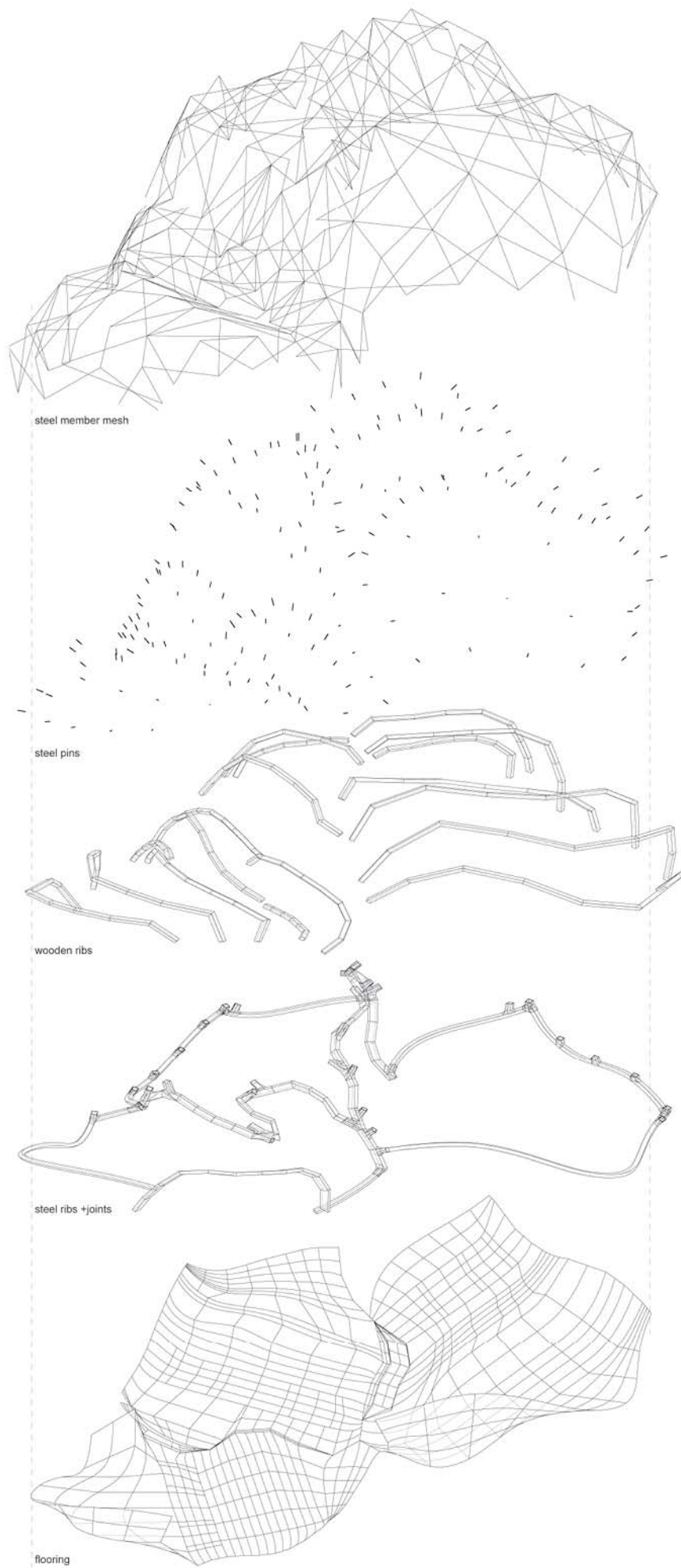
The system is expressed through layers of structural system including flooring, steel ribs, wood frames, and steel cable mesh.

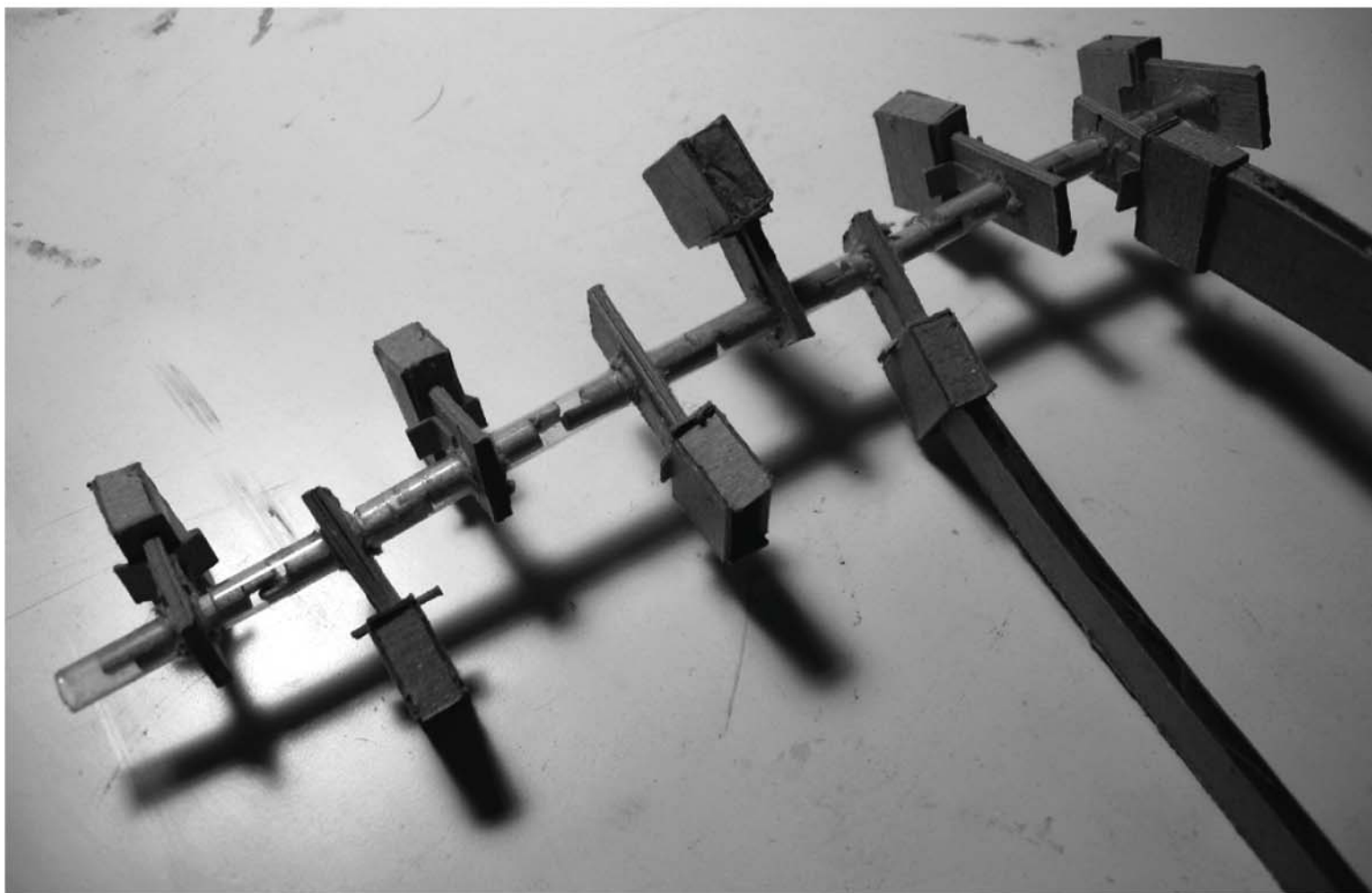
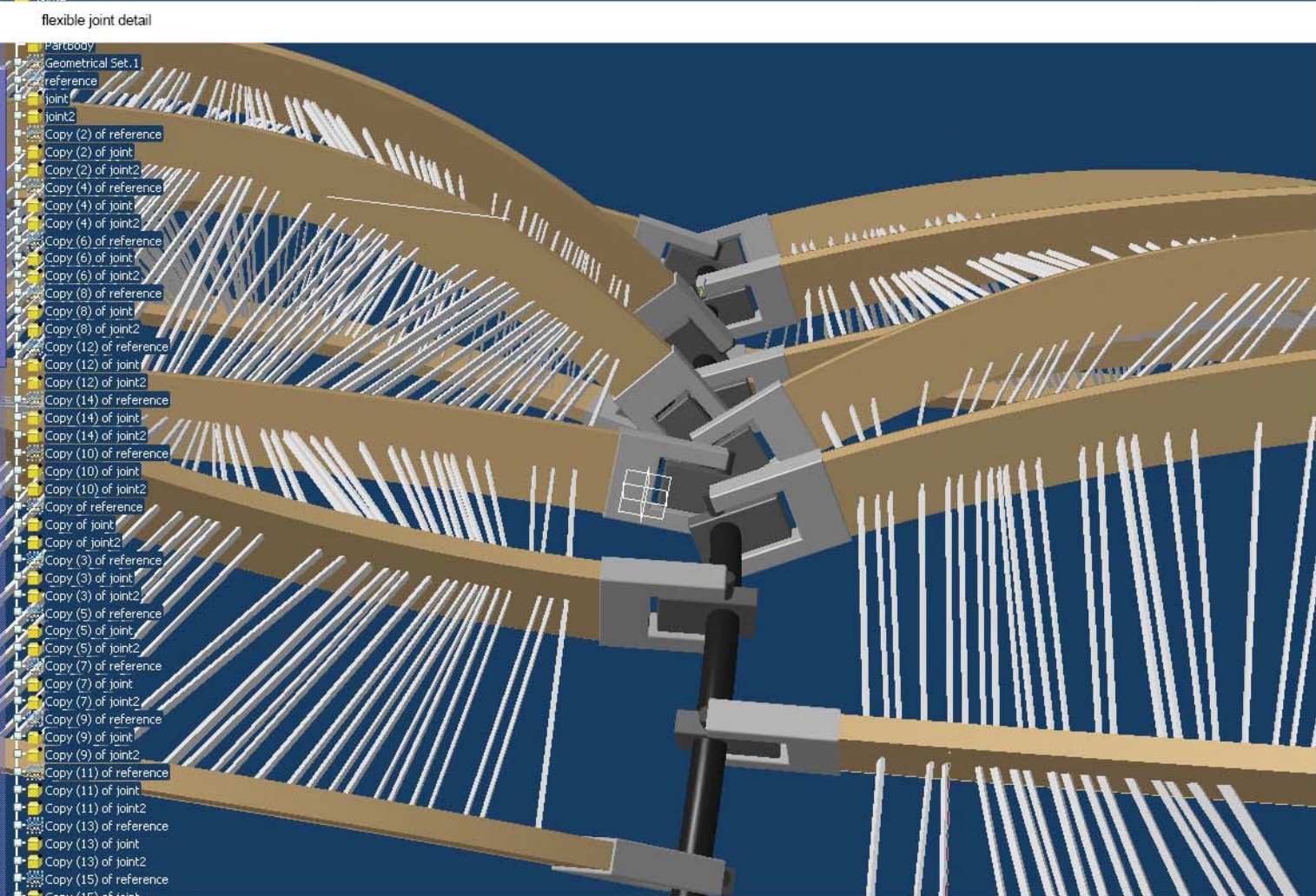
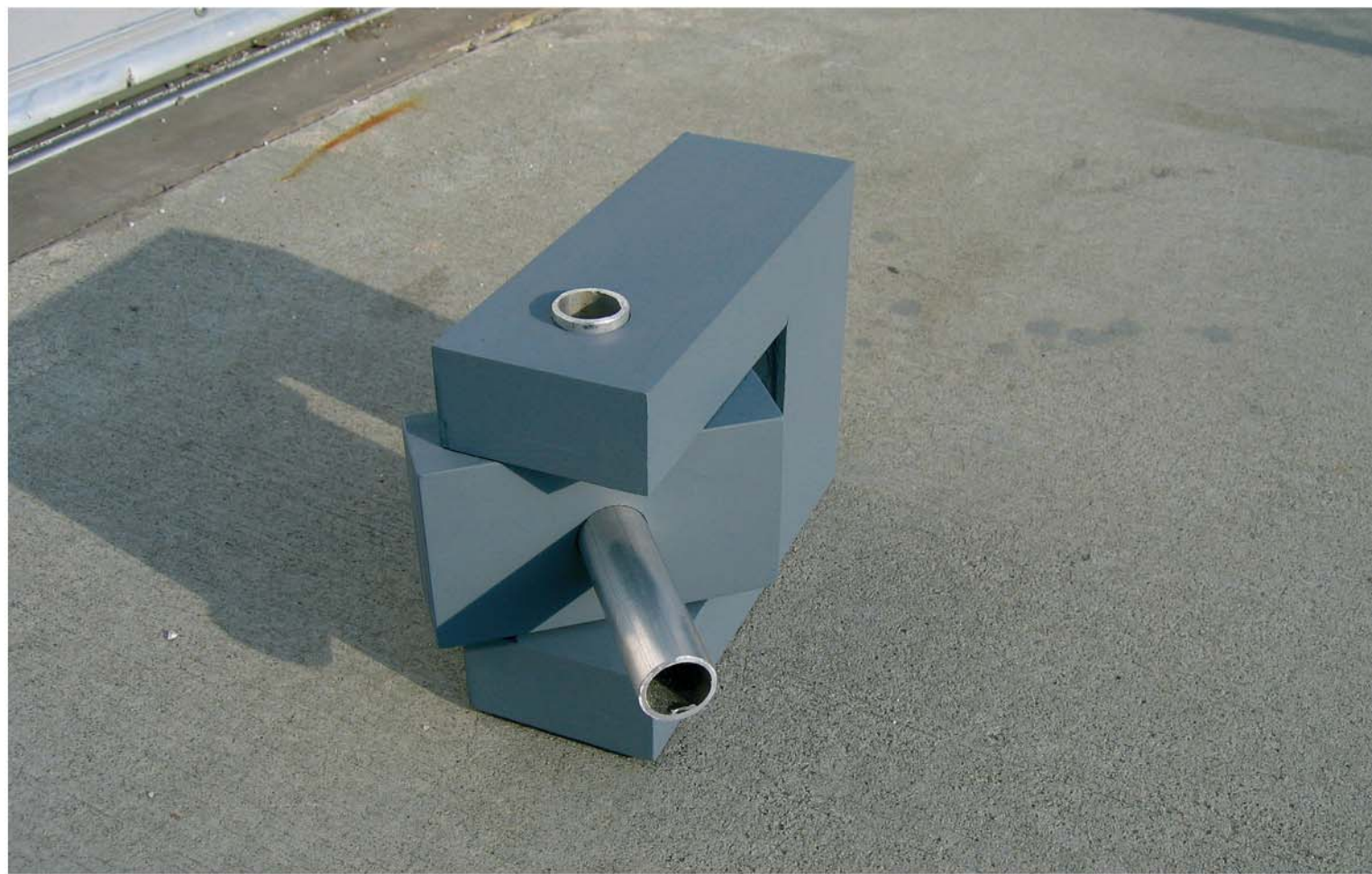
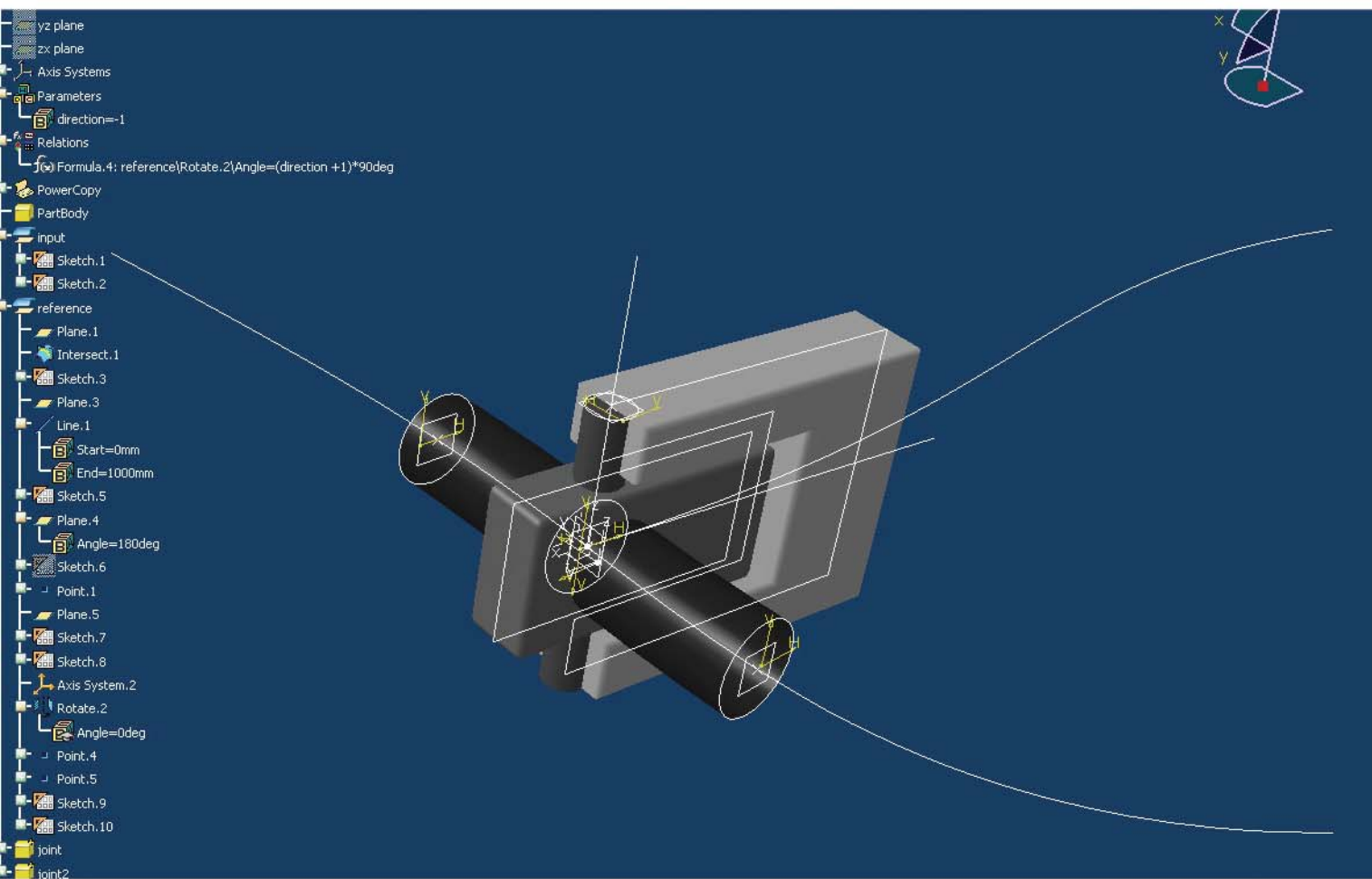


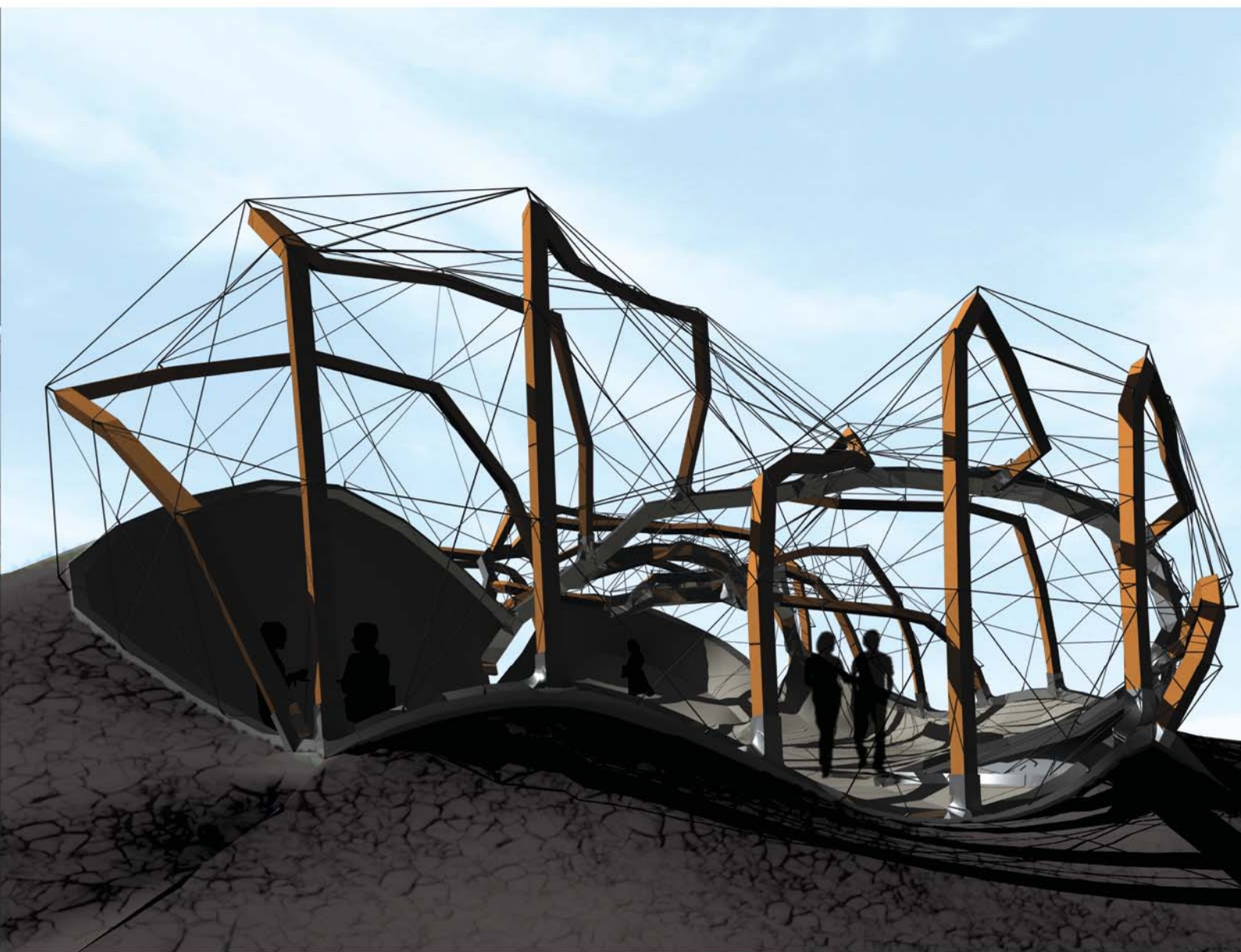
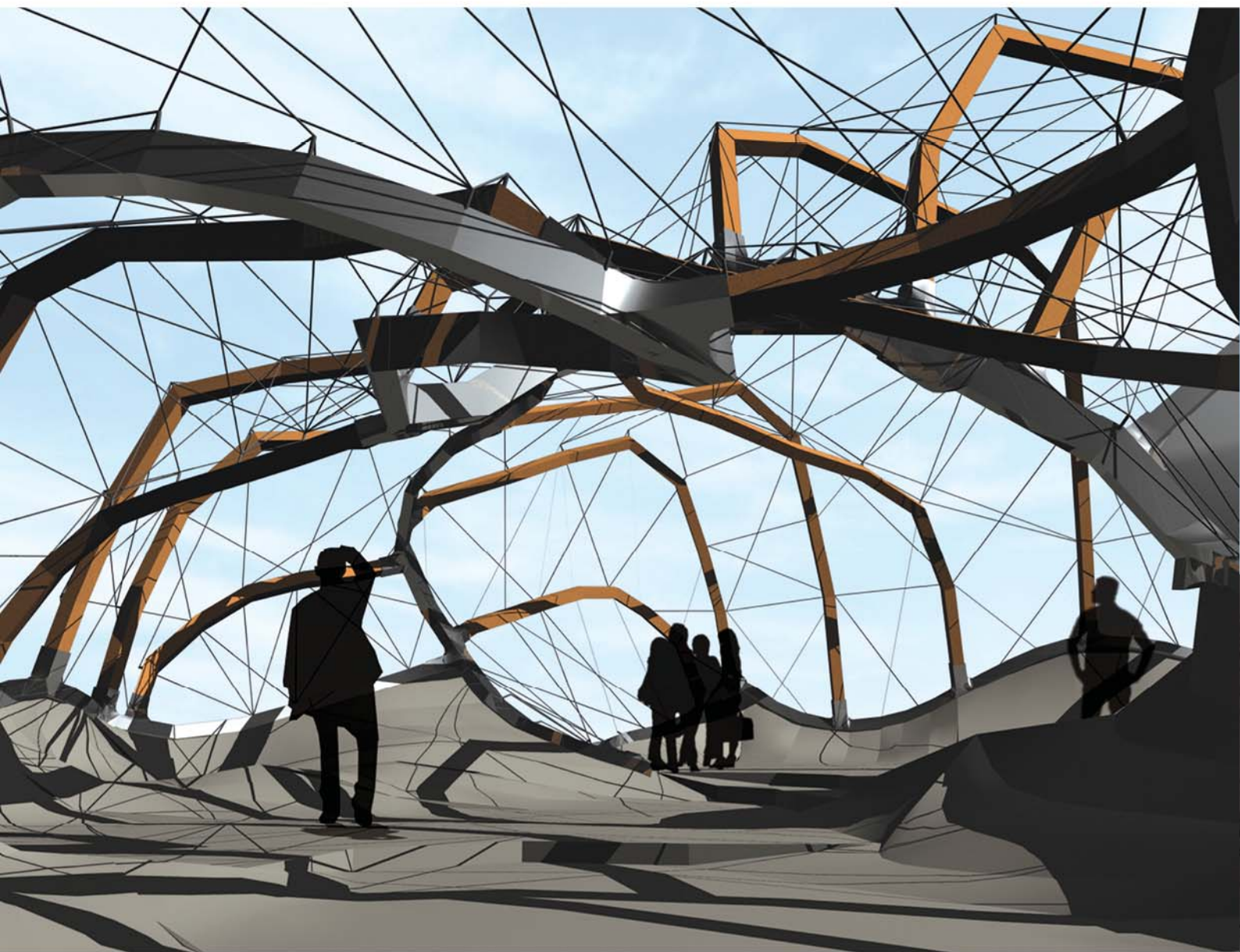


conceptual development









GREEN HOUSE

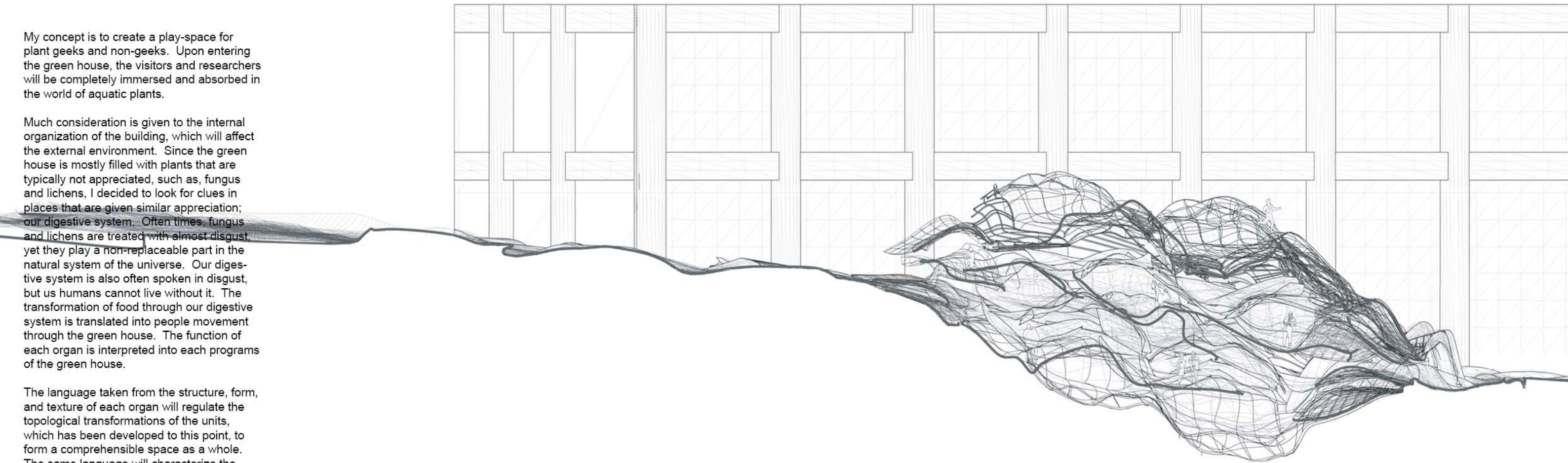
Sci-Arc, spring 2004
Professor: Herman Diaz Alonso

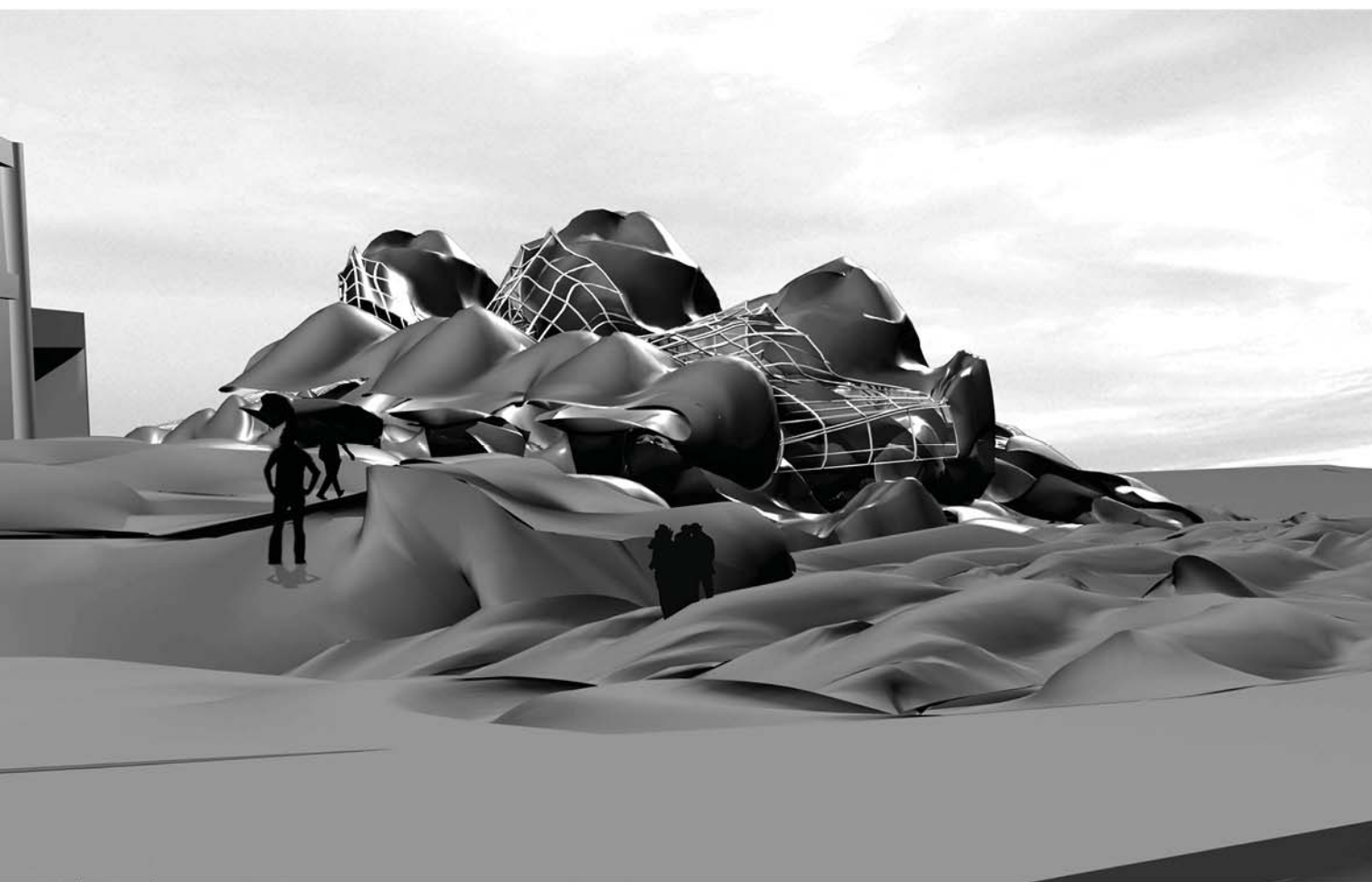
My concept is to create a play-space for plant geeks and non-geeks. Upon entering the green house, the visitors and researchers will be completely immersed and absorbed in the world of aquatic plants.

Much consideration is given to the internal organization of the building, which will affect the external environment. Since the green house is mostly filled with plants that are typically not appreciated, such as, fungus and lichens, I decided to look for clues in places that are given similar appreciation; our digestive system. Often times, fungus and lichens are treated with almost disgust, yet they play a non-replaceable part in the natural system of the universe. Our digestive system is also often spoken in disgust, but us humans cannot live without it. The transformation of food through our digestive system is translated into people movement through the green house. The function of each organ is interpreted into each programs of the green house.

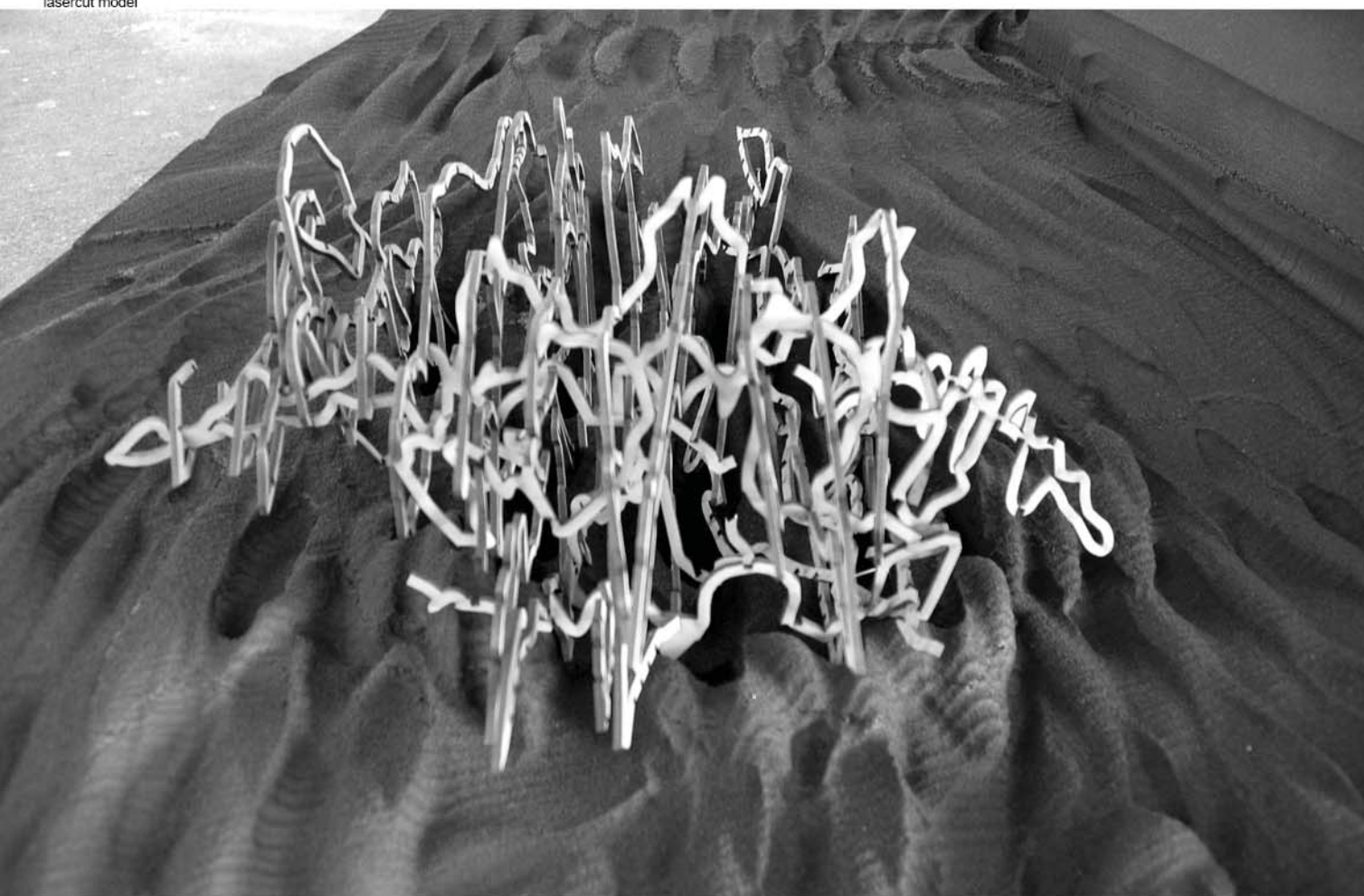
The language taken from the structure, form, and texture of each organ will regulate the topological transformations of the units, which has been developed to this point, to form a comprehensible space as a whole. The same language will characterize the structures and surfaces of the green house.

In contrast from how I usually approach architectural design, taking all clues from the site context, I aspire to create a green house that grows from the inside. As a result, the green house will have a stimulating effect on those who go through it. This effect will radiate out to the exterior, transforming its site and beyond.

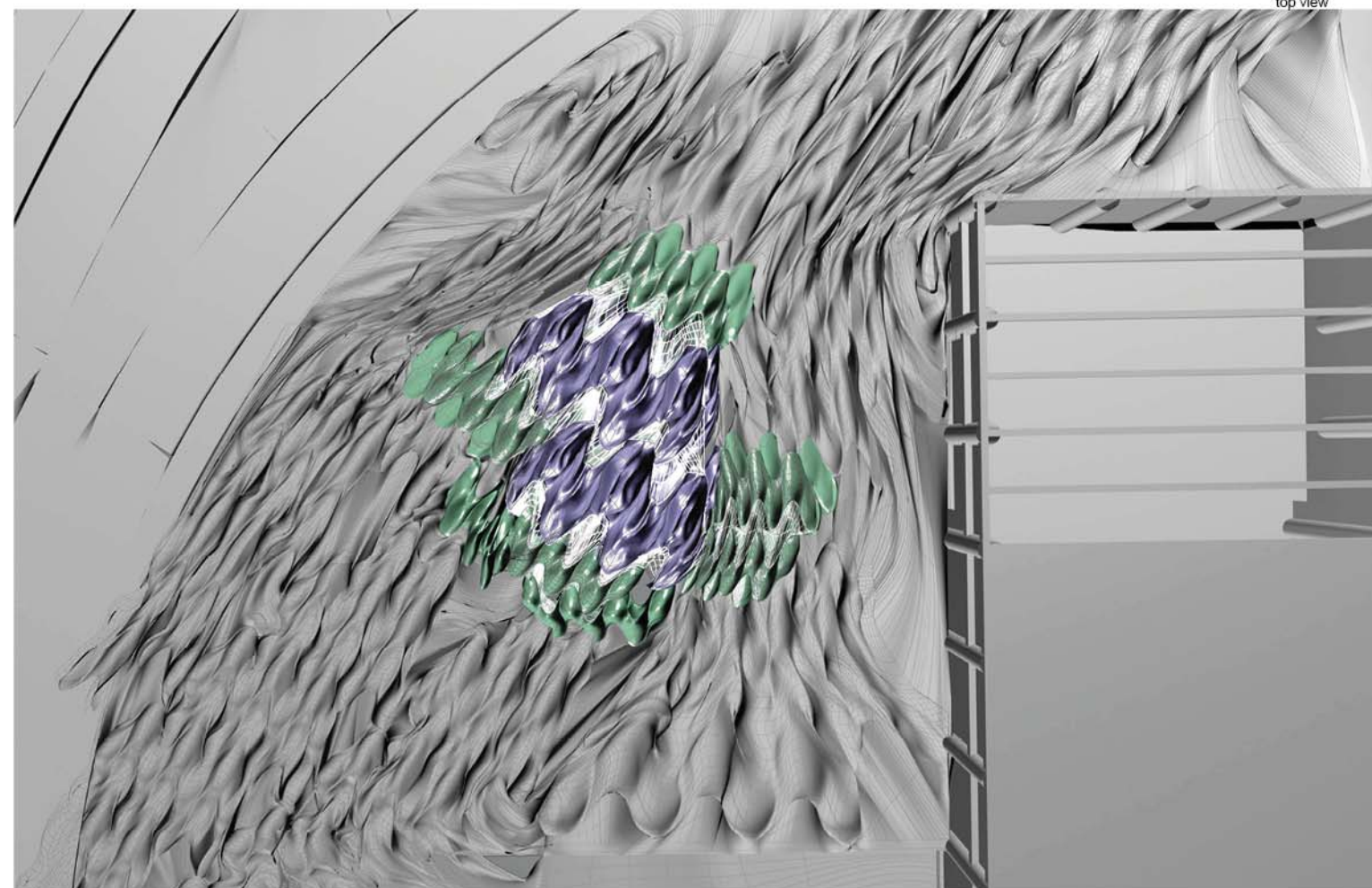




exterior perspective
laser cut model



interior perspective
top view



WALL PAPER

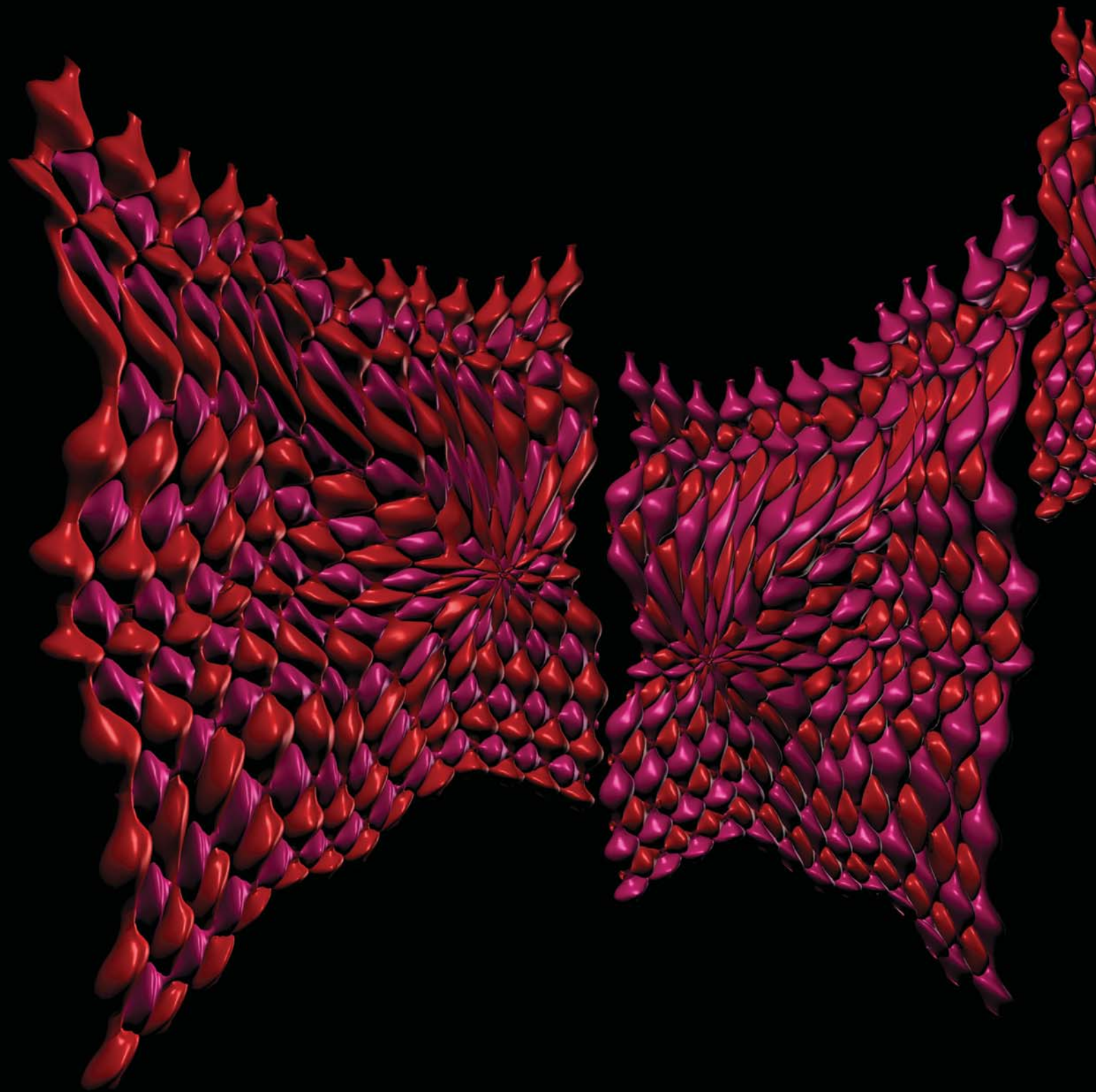
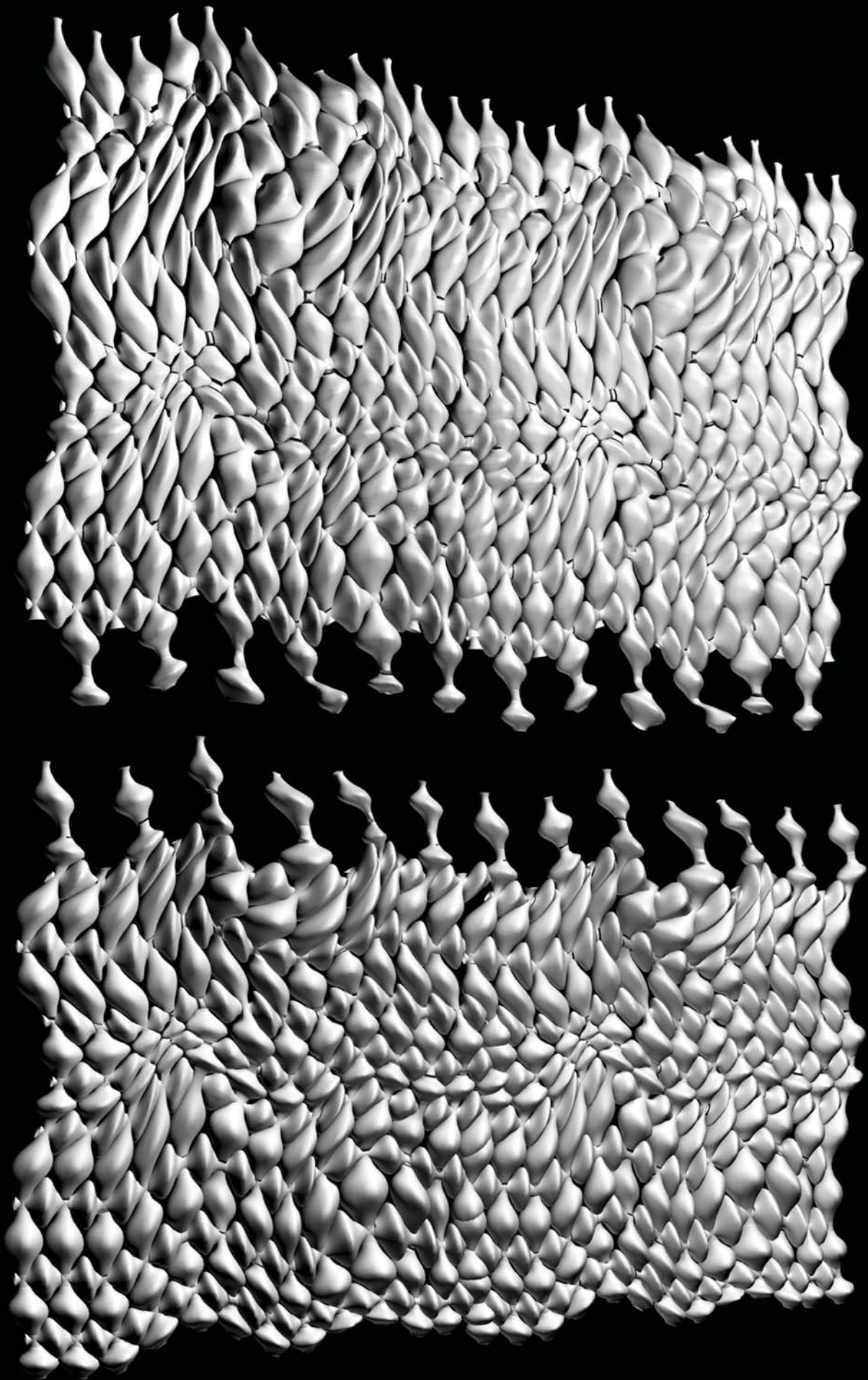
Sci-Arc, fall 2004
Professor: *Diego Petrate*

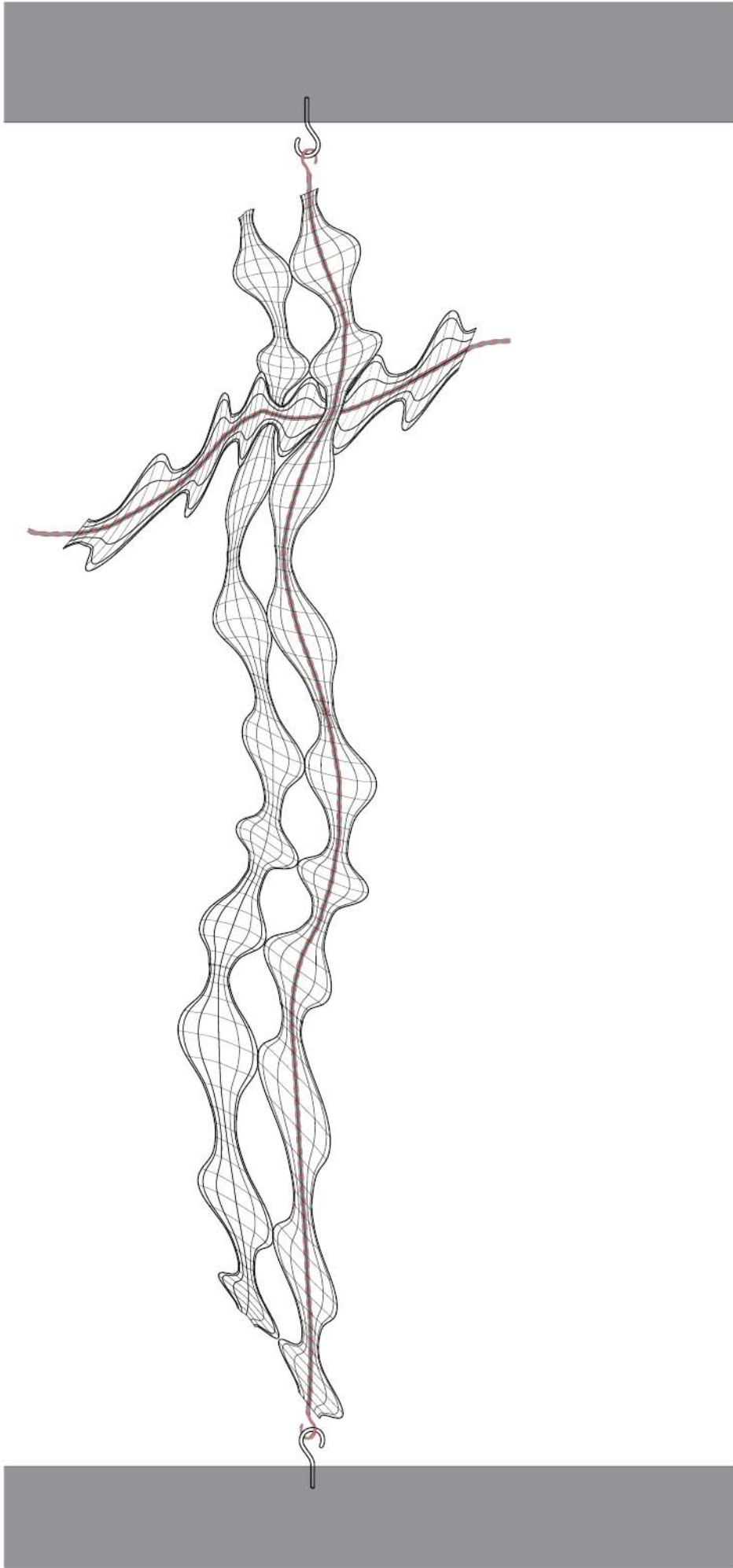
Deriving from the structure of the viscoelastic cell, we wanted to create a wall panel system that would mimic properties such as elasticity, flexibility, and softness while maintaining aesthetic value. The 3D foam wall consists of lengths of molded foam which weave in and out of each other.

The lengths are held in place by thin wire tubes which serve as its backbone, while also providing stability and allowing for a way to attach the foam lengths to a wall rail support system. The foam/wire forms can also be bent in countless ways, thus creating an ever changing, flexible, and dynamic wall system.

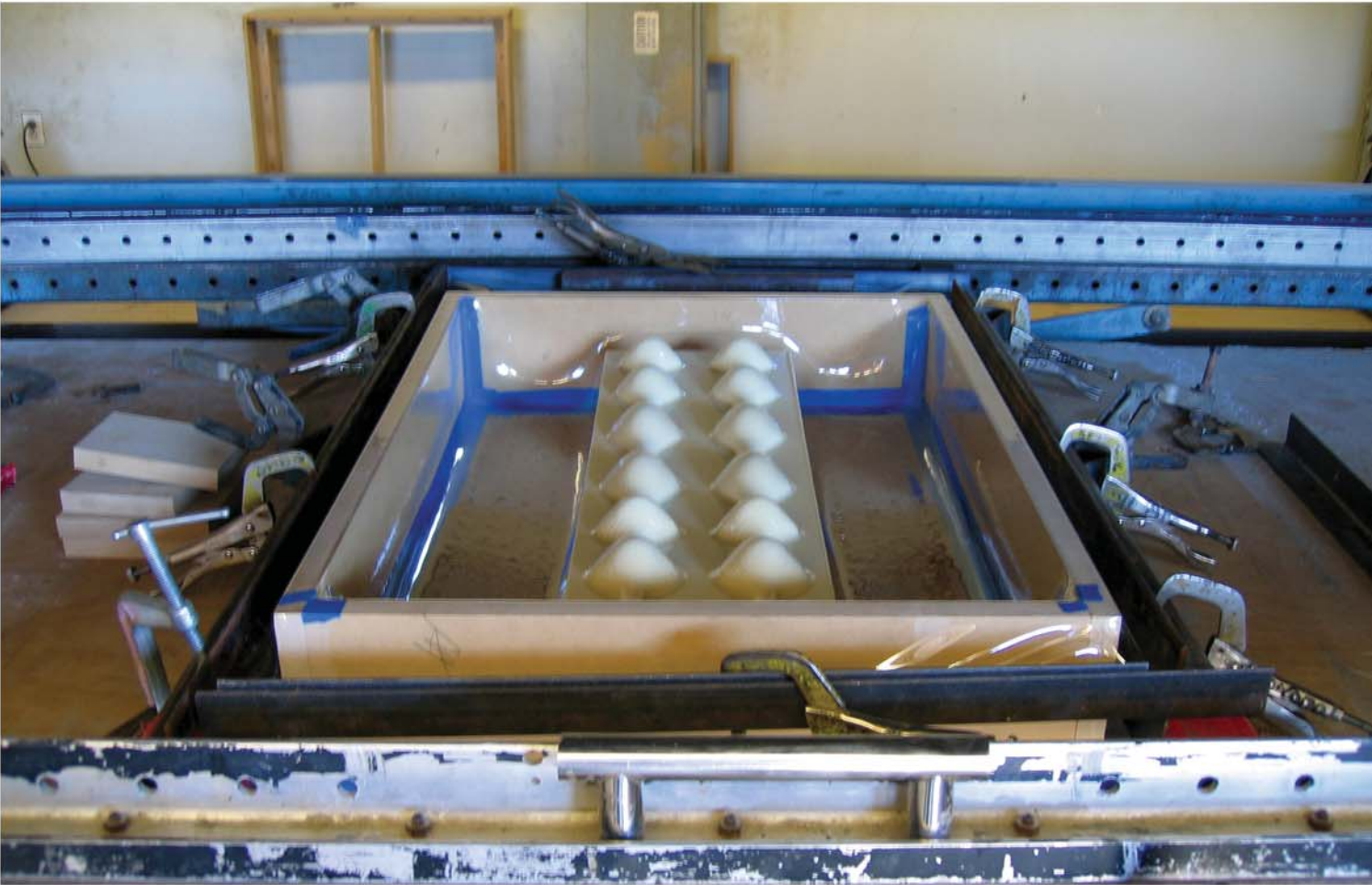
Partner: Kari Viste







3d prototype production



3d prototype production



SKY-ARC

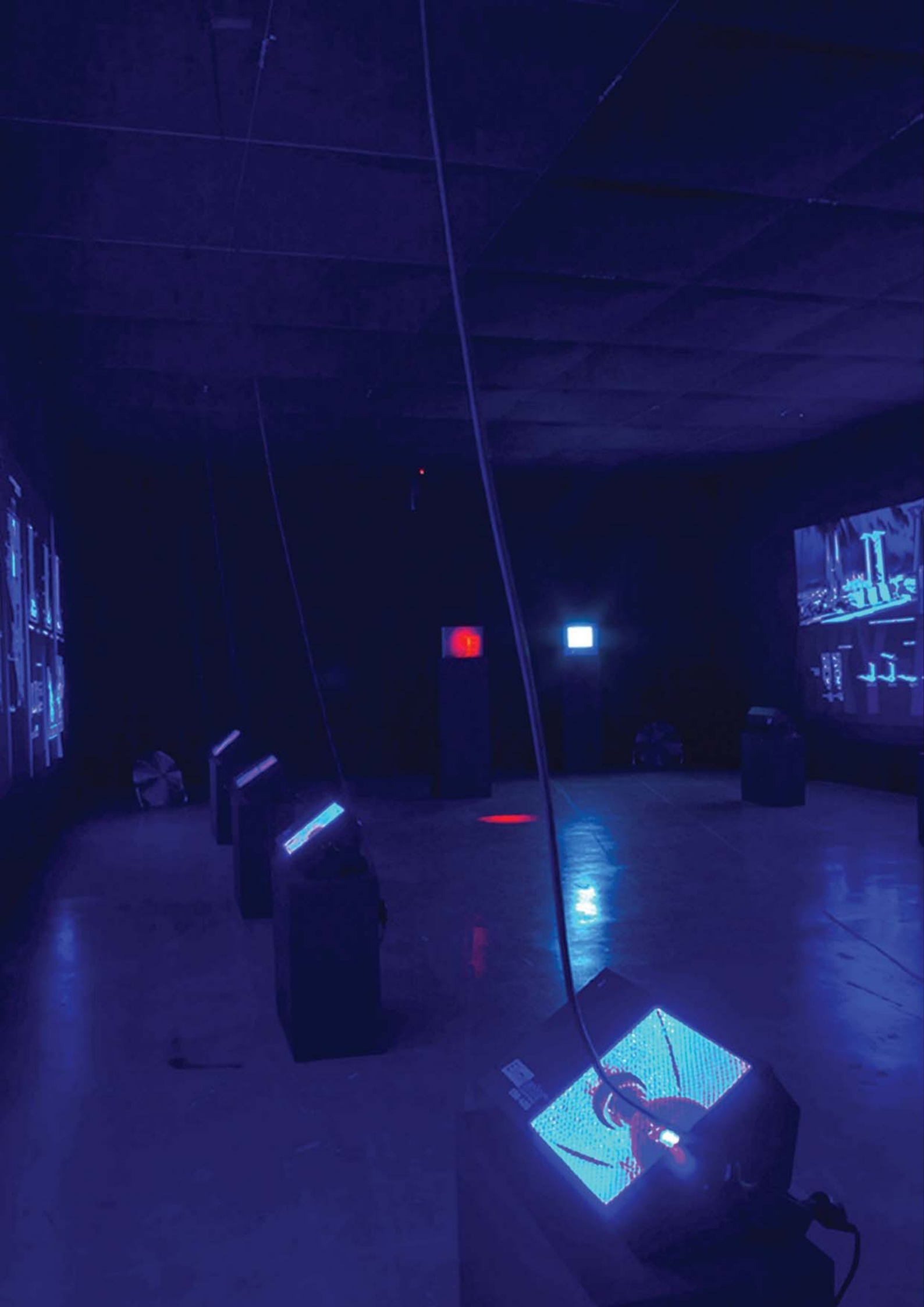
Sci-Arc, summer 2006
Workshop: Coop Himmelblau Exhibit

Display of Coop Himmelblau office project in Los Angeles.

The exhibit space was originally an open space, which we blackened completely by putting fabric all around the space to seal the light.

Team: Joseph Curran, Vanessa Jauregui, Lisa Morgenroth, Junya Oishi, Tzu-Fen Shen, Chau Truong, Mirai Morita, Patrick Latona, Yupil Chon, Sylvia Bay, Daniel Vasini, Dionysia Daskalaki, Shant Yemenjian





2000 HYPERION

Sci-Arc, fall 2005

Workshop Instructor: Joakim Dahlqvist + Jens Hommert

The Studio was given one week to design and build a “house with limited budget. Site was located on a steep hill in Silverlake, Los Angeles.

As a spontaneous exercise, group of 15 students head butted together for a week for this creation. The whole structure was made with 400 pvc pipes and zip ties.

Of course, in sunny California, it rained the two days we were on the site putting together the house.

Team: Inaba Studio





UNIT HOUSE

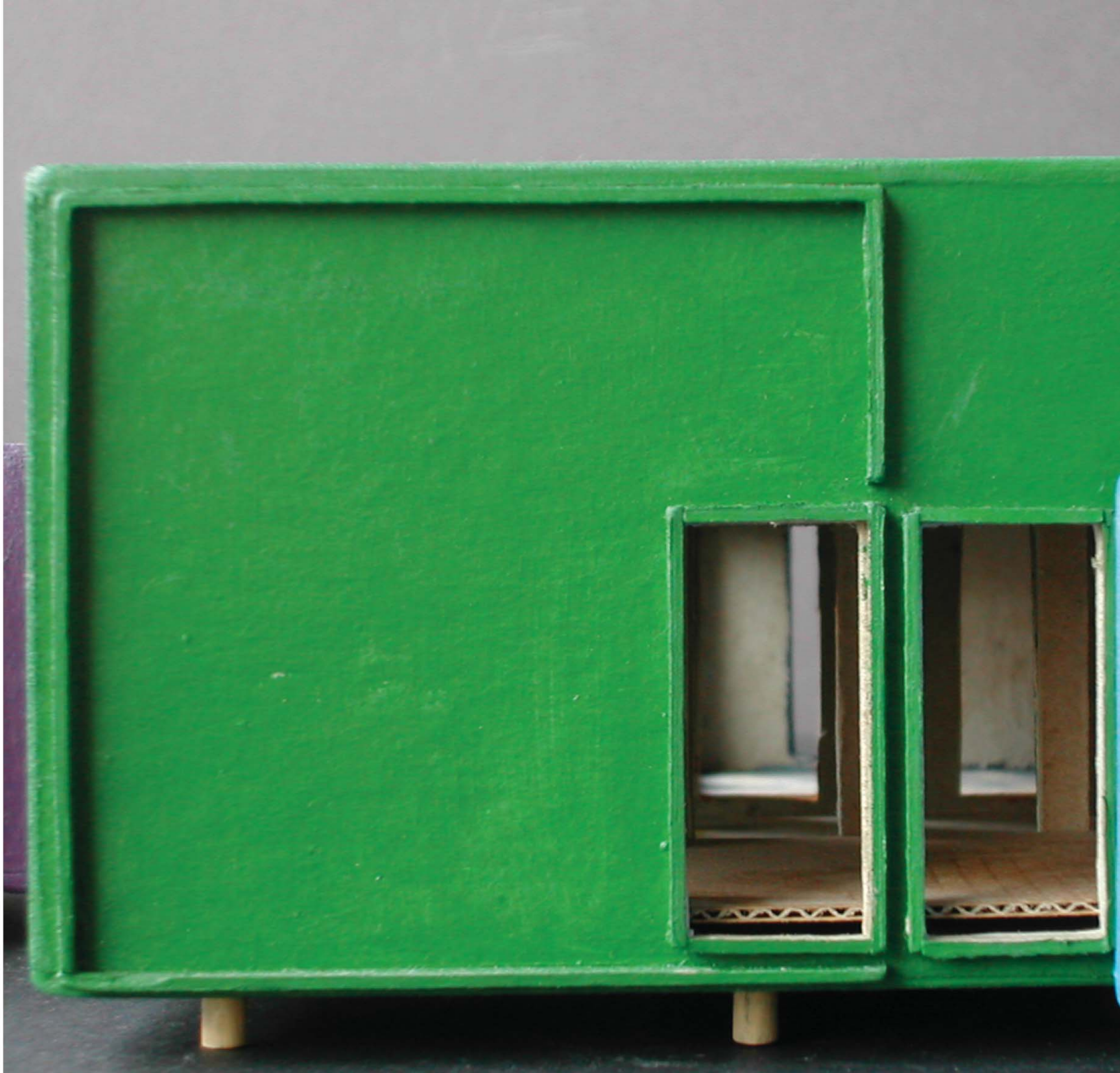
NCSU, spring 2001

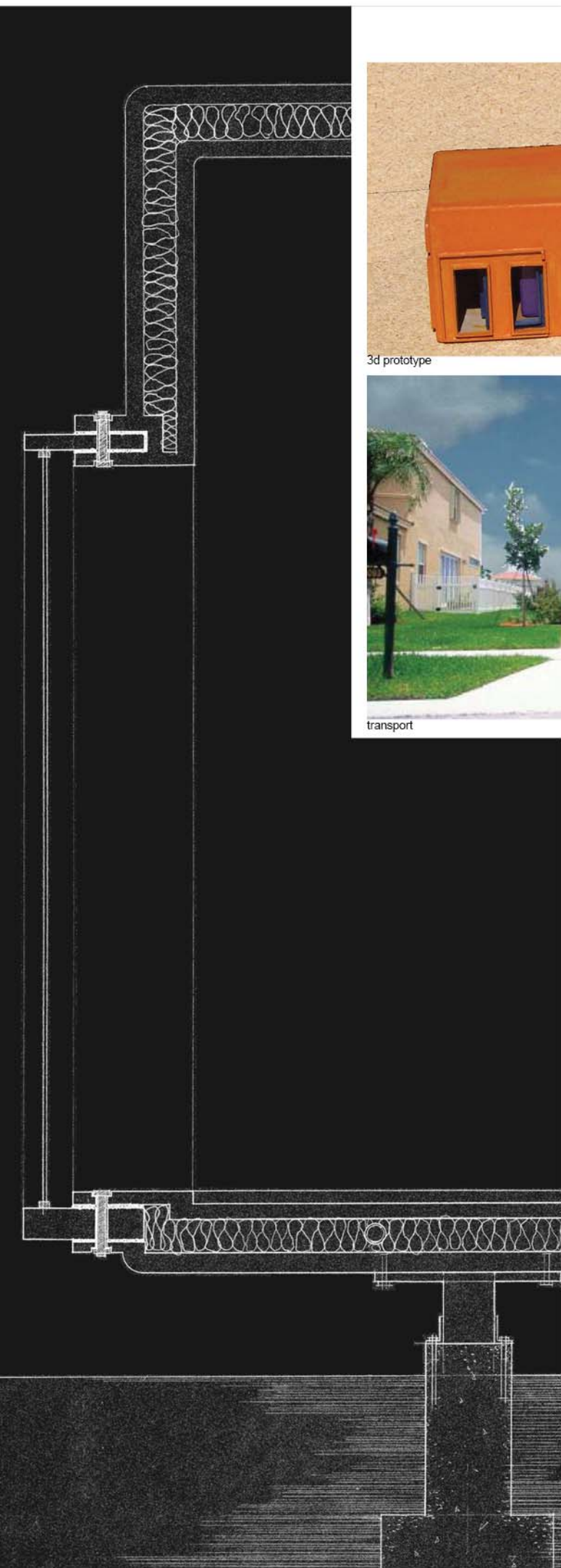
Professor: Randy Lanu

The design problem was to create a manufactured housing system that can be shipped to any site.

The solution uses prefabricated molded plastic shells with insulation sandwiched in between them. Each room is its own unit including a Kitchen, living room, bedroom, office, bathroom, master bathroom, circulation with storage space.

The transportation is made easier by smaller units fitting inside of larger units. The client can specify each unit's coloring and interior to be produced by manufacturer at the factory.





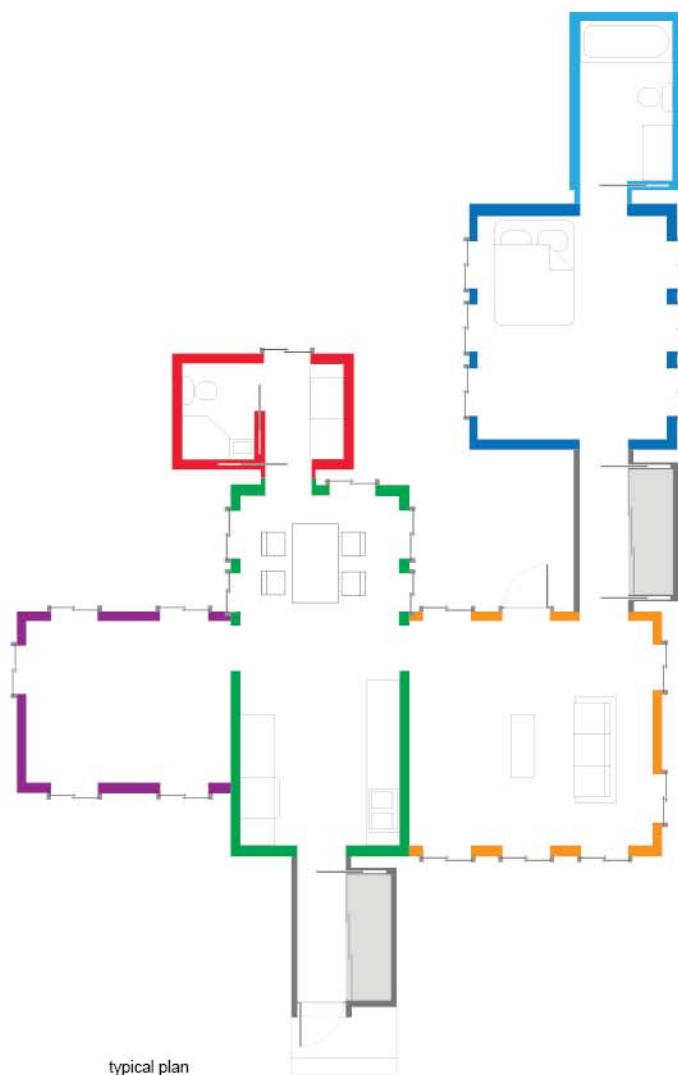
3d prototype



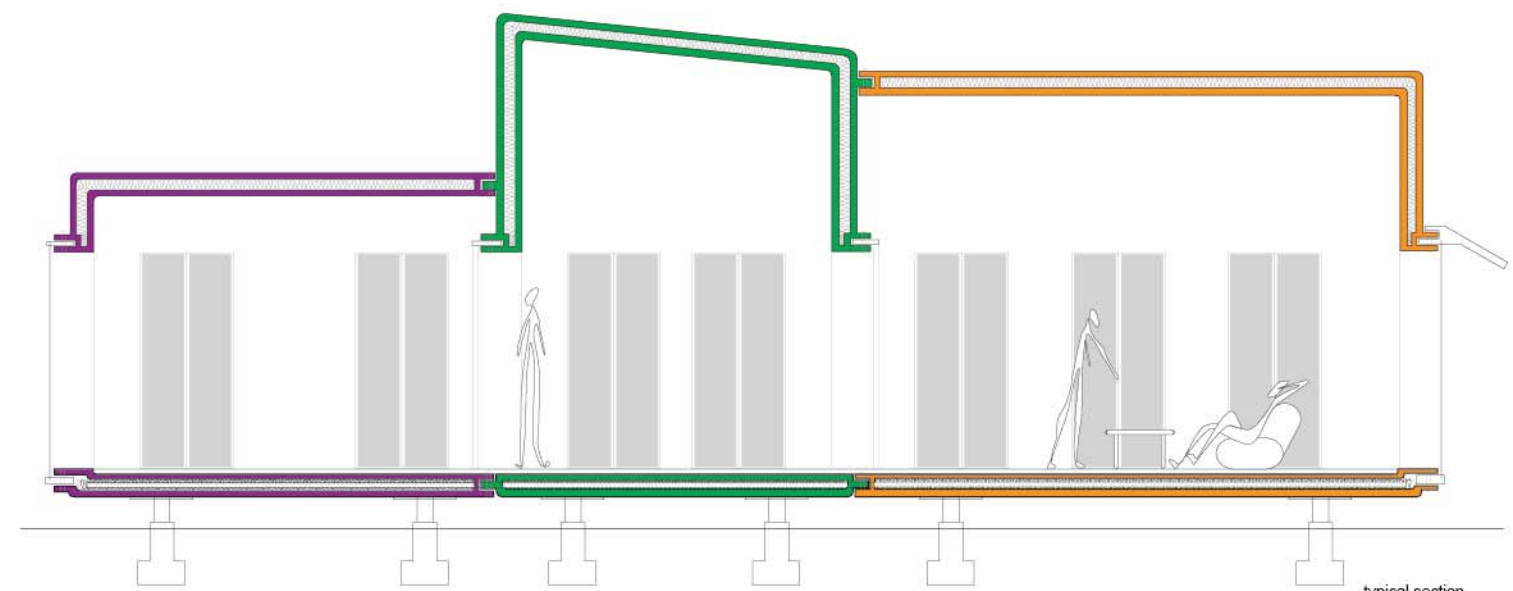
transport



perspective



typical plan



typical section



3d prototype in various configuration

AMPHITHEATRE

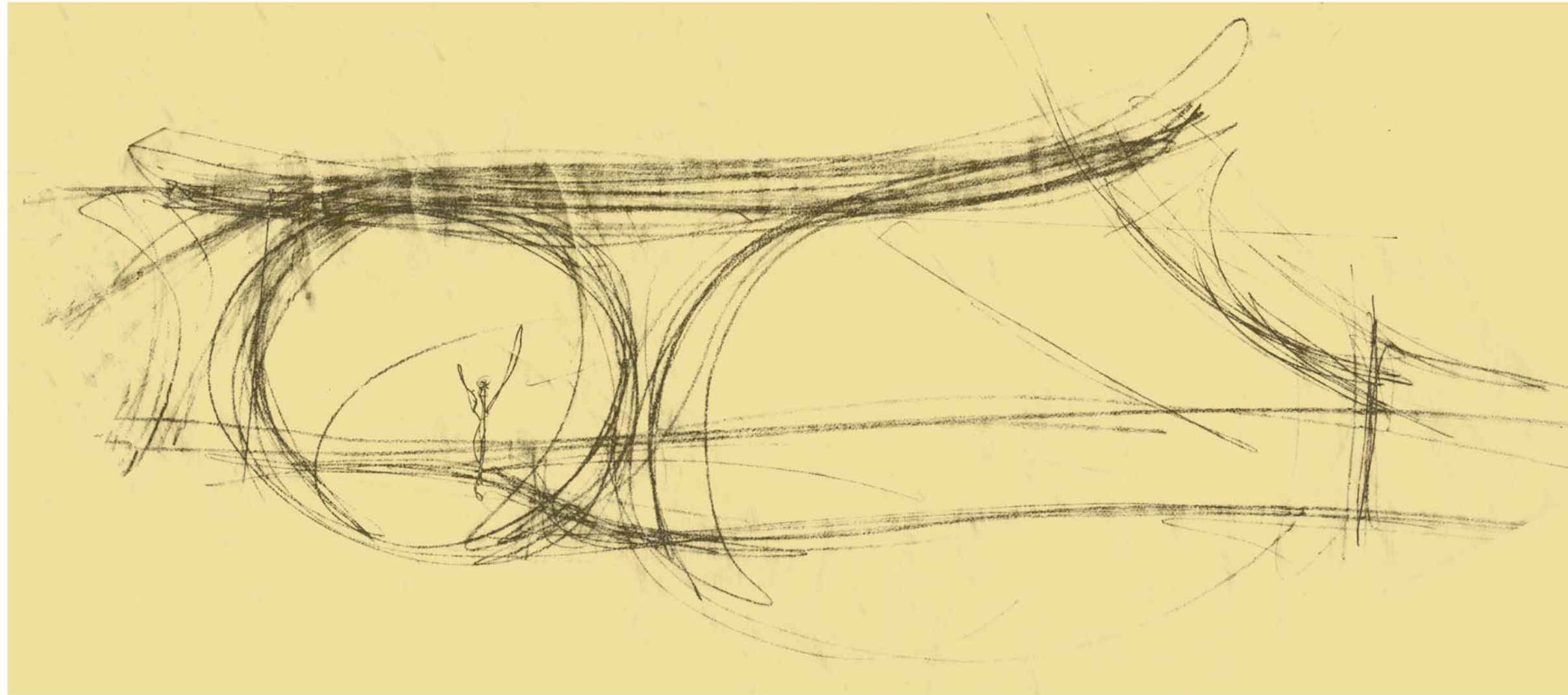
NCSU, spring 2001

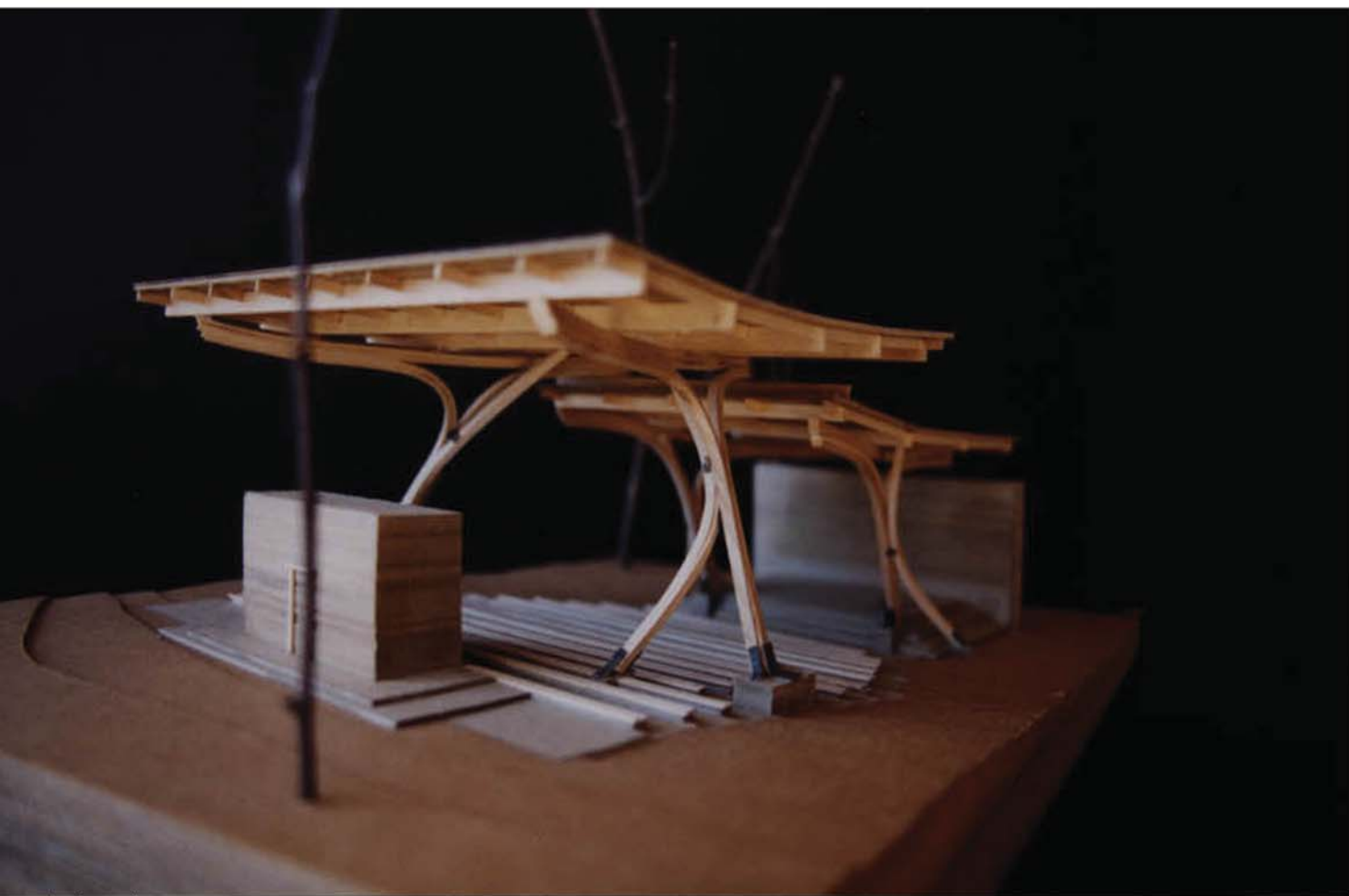
Professor: Randy Lanou

The project involves the design of a multi-purpose, covered amphitheater. It will be used for theatrical productions, musical and dramatic concerts, lectures, films, and children programs. Construction materials were limited to clay masonry and wood construction. The site is wooded sloped area.

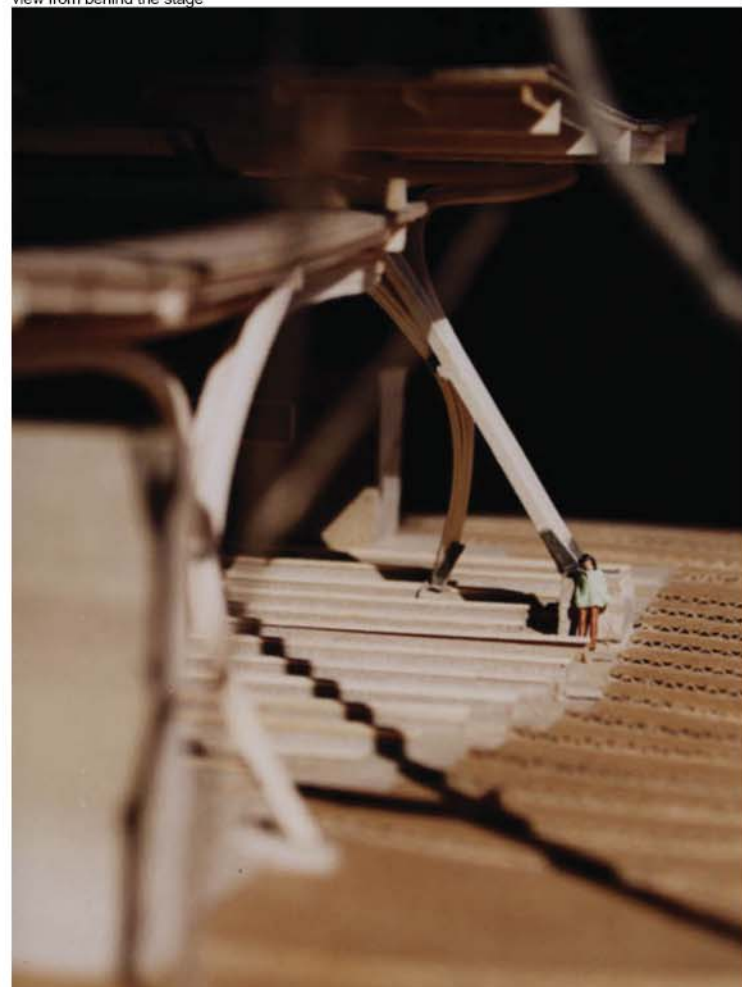
The structure not only provides coverage over the seating area, but also celebrates the beauty of it. The glue laminated structure that hold up the roof is inspired by the surrounding trees on the site.

Bricks are used where theater touches the ground, including the stage, back wall, control booth, and seating area.





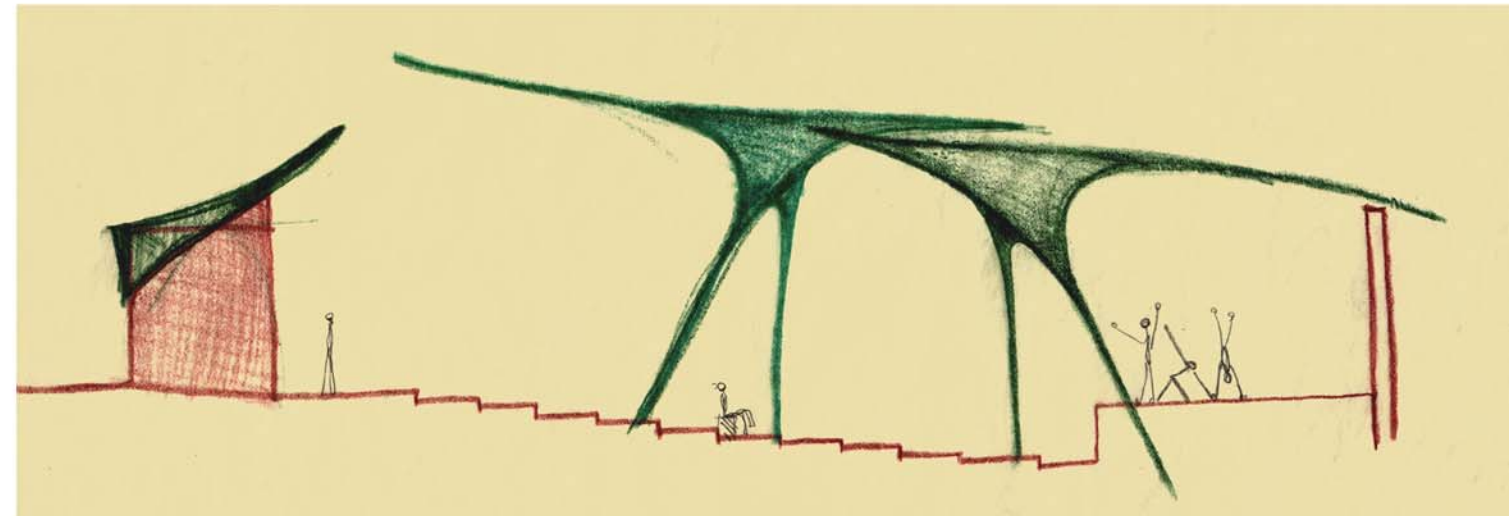
view from north
structural detail study



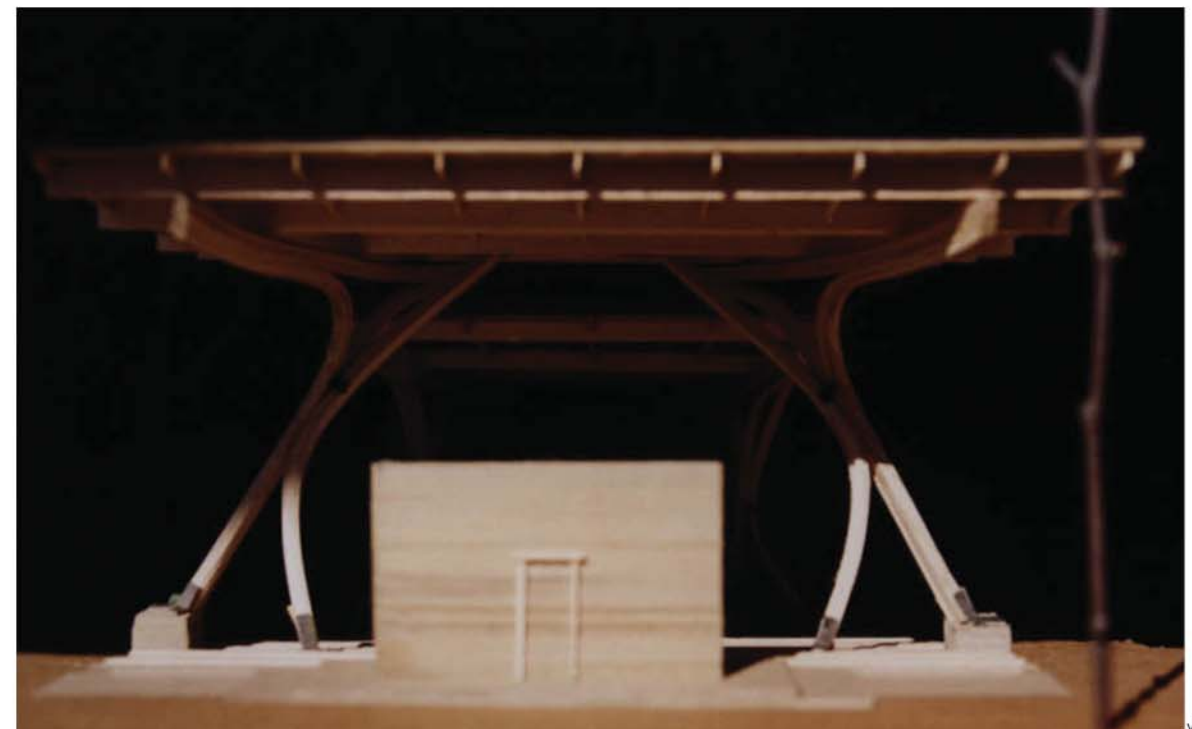
view from behind the stage



view from northwest



conceptual sketch



view from northeast

PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

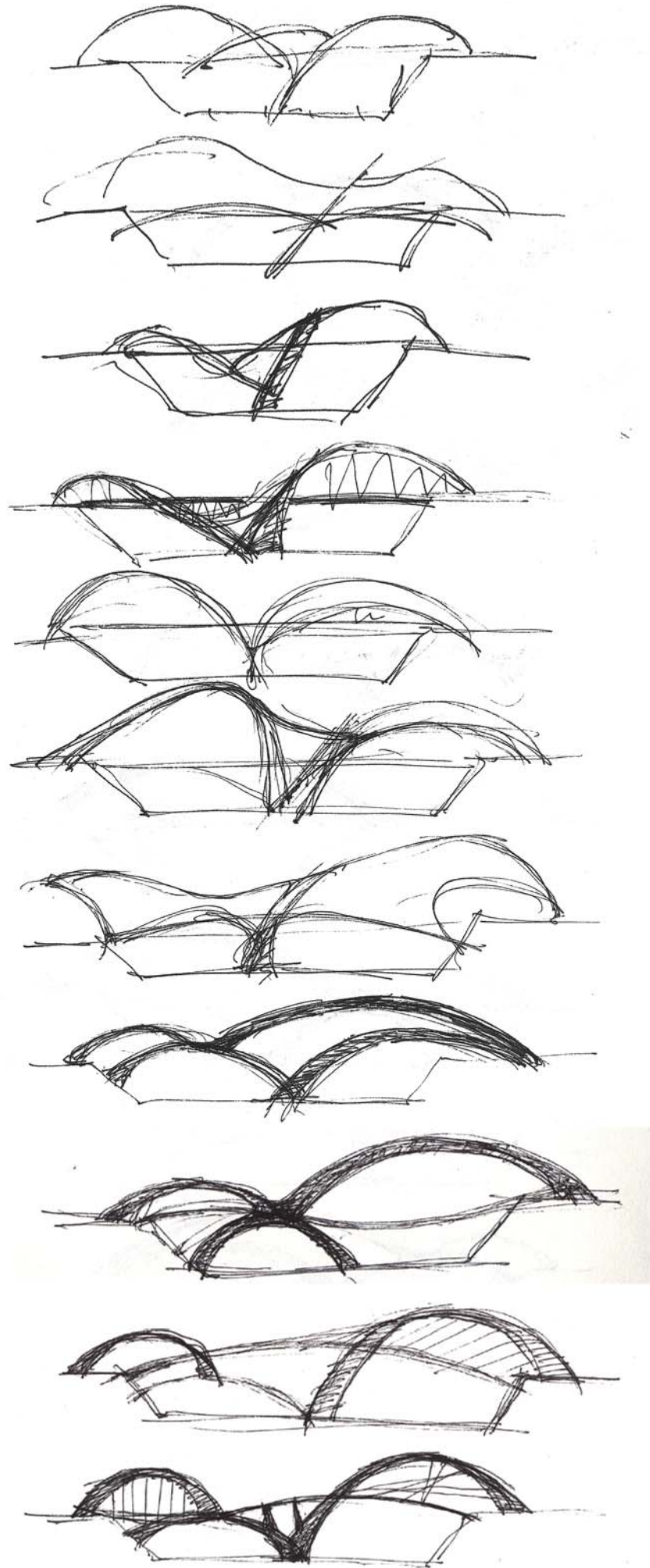
NCSU, spring 2001

Professor: Randy Lanou

The premise of this studio was to put emphasis on the nature and use of construction systems, materials, and structures in building design.

The design problem was to construct a pedestrian bridge for the North Carolina Museum of Art over the 440 beltline. Long span structure is expressed in sculptural form by use of reinforced site cast concrete as the main structure.



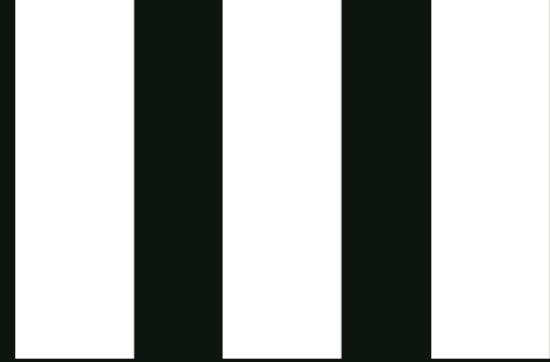


view from benielth

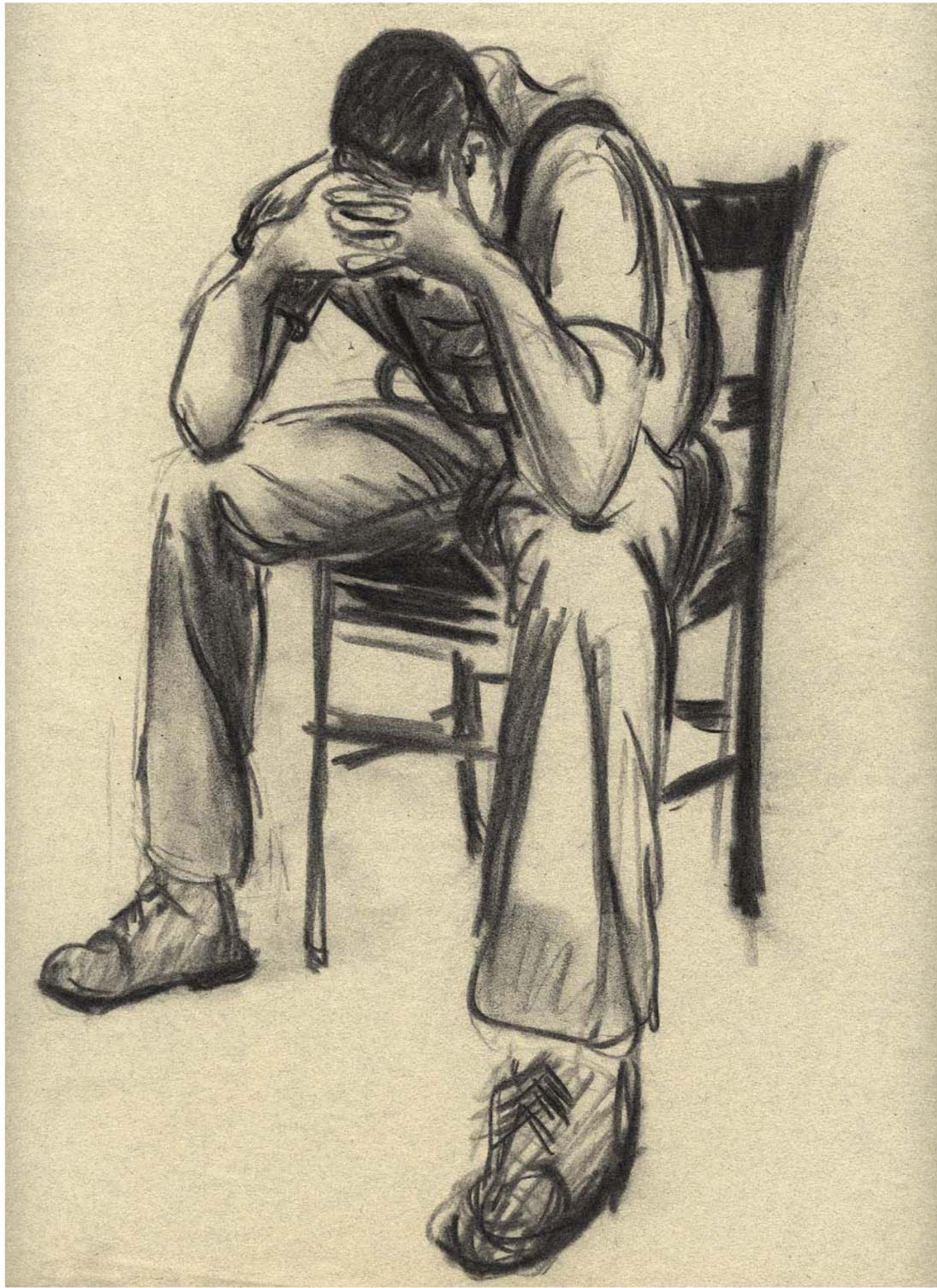


pedestrian view





Miscellaneous Work





THE CRITERION COLLECTION

The 400
BLOBS

Mirai's
Birthday
Rave^{ish}
Featuring DJ Don Carlitos & Dario

Friday
Aug 4th, 2006
(my bd is actually aug 7th)

6:30pm-8:30pmish
Sci-Arc Porch

9pmish 'til the mornin
2330 Moss Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Board of Directors

PRIMAL BALL Saturday Oct 29
9PM to 4AM
POST APOCALYPTIC LA HALLOWEEN PARTY
Live Bands & DJs
Original Graffiti Art
Lounge
SCI-ARC
960 E 3rd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

\$10 at the Door for Students w/ID
\$15 for General Public

For Advance Tickets
Email: primalball@yahoo.com
\$7 for students, \$10 for general

Free Parking at 350 Merrick St

Brought to you by SCI-Arc, UCLA, & Art Center

DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Gowstar Friday
Welcome to the Triumphant Birth of Gowstar

June 30th, 2006
6pmish
by the grill

Help us send
these bastard stepchildren
of the sea
to a better place

friday 6-23-06
6:27ish
by the grill



Four vertical panels of Chinese New Year greetings (賀正) for the years 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011.

- 2008: Features a red and blue background with a large black character '賀' and a red character '正'. The year '2008.I.I' is at the bottom.
- 2009: Features a red background with a large black character '賀' and a red character '正'. The year '2009.I.I' is at the bottom.
- 2010: Features a red background with a large black character '賀' and a red character '正'. The year '2010.I.I' is at the bottom.
- 2011: Features a red background with a large black character '賀' and a red character '正'. The year '2011.I.I' is at the bottom.