

D  
AN  
IELS

# Thesis Reviews

Fall 21/Winter 22

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

Urban Design



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
JOHN H. DANIELS FACULTY OF  
ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPE, AND DESIGN

This book showcases final thesis projects produced by Master of Architecture (MARC), Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) and Master of Urban Design (MUD) students at the University of Toronto's John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design.

## Master of Architecture Advisors

Erica Allen-Kim  
Petros Babasikas  
George Baird  
Brian Boigon  
Roberto Damiani  
Kelly Alvarez Doran  
Miles Gertler  
Lina Ghotmeh  
Fredrik Hellberg  
Alstan Jakubiec  
Wei-Han Vivian Lee  
Lara Lesmes  
An Te Liu  
Alex Lukachko  
Laura Miller  
Reza Nik  
Brady Peters  
Adrian Phiffer  
Michael Piper  
Mauricio Quiros Pacheco  
John Shnier  
Stephen Verderber  
Mason White  
Shane Williamson

## Master of Landscape Architecture Advisors

Behnaz Assadi  
Liat Margolis  
Fadi Masoud  
Alissa North  
Peter North  
Aisling Marie O'Carroll  
Matthew Perotto

## Master of Urban Design Advisors

Otto Ojo  
Michael Piper

## Master of Architecture

### Fall 2021

9	James K. Bird
10	Lara Hassani
11	Connor Stevens
12	Chenyi Xu
13	Xiang Ye

### Winter 2022

15	Tala Alatassi
16	Meena Alcozai
17	Farhang Alipour
18	Latoya Lisa-Marie Barnett
19	Ross Beardsley Wood
20	Harshit Bhatt
21	Indu Bose
22	Nicholas Cabelli
23	Alejandra Chauca Velez
24	Yi Chen
25	Bria Cole
26	Wei Dai
27	Jacob Friedrich Drung
28	Alexia Dumas-Malouf
29	Lizeth Natalia Enriquez Goyes
30	Jim Kurt Sarmiento Ereño
31	Tanner Field
32	Deyang Fu
33	Shiying Gao
34	Jenna Li Rei Gauder
35	Sarah Ann Goodman
36	Menghe Guo

37	Jacqueline Hampshire
38	Jiayao He
39	Bonnie Ho
40	Shimin (Mavis) Huang
41	Brooke Hudy-Yuffa
42	Peiwen (Alison) Huo
43	Erich Zakary Jacobi
44	Jeff Minjoon Jang
45	Pooneh Khalegi
46	Shamim Khedri
47	Andrew Lee
48	Kevin Leung
49	Catherine Liang
50	Ashlin Lianne Lithgow
51	Dongge Liu
52	Zhaoyi (Elmer) Lyu
53	Bahia Biddle Marks
54	Rachel McKenna-Marshall
55	Delaney McVeigh
56	Farah Michel
57	Neveen Naushad
58	Keenan Christopher Ngo
59	Haiqa Kashif Nisar
60	Helga Packeviciute
61	Sahar Pashazanousi
62	Viktor Leandro Penaflor
63	David Anand Peterson
64	Robert Raynor
65	Robert Raynor
66	Erik Jinmatsu Roberson
67	Veronika Salamun



68	Priyanka Chirag Shah
69	Hongtao Shen
70	Peishan Shen
71	Dipra Lokesh Shetty
72	FengYao (Allan) Shi
73	Kon Shin
74	Rashmi Sirkar
75	Alexander Sterlin-Altman
76	Man Kit (Michael) Tam
77	Mari Jaeva Tan Tomol
78	Hsiao Yi (Alex) Tang
79	Yungwen (Riley) Tseng
80	Kate Van Bakel
81	Iris Xinyi Wang
82	Jue Wang
83	Yifan Wang
84	Zhuo Wang
85	Evan Douglas Webber
86	Chuchu Xie
87	Yihan Xu
88	Haodong Yang
89	Lucy Yang
90	Yixin Yang
91	Yoyo Tang Cheuk Yiu
92	Lingxin Zhang
93	Meichun Zhu
94	Clara Ziada

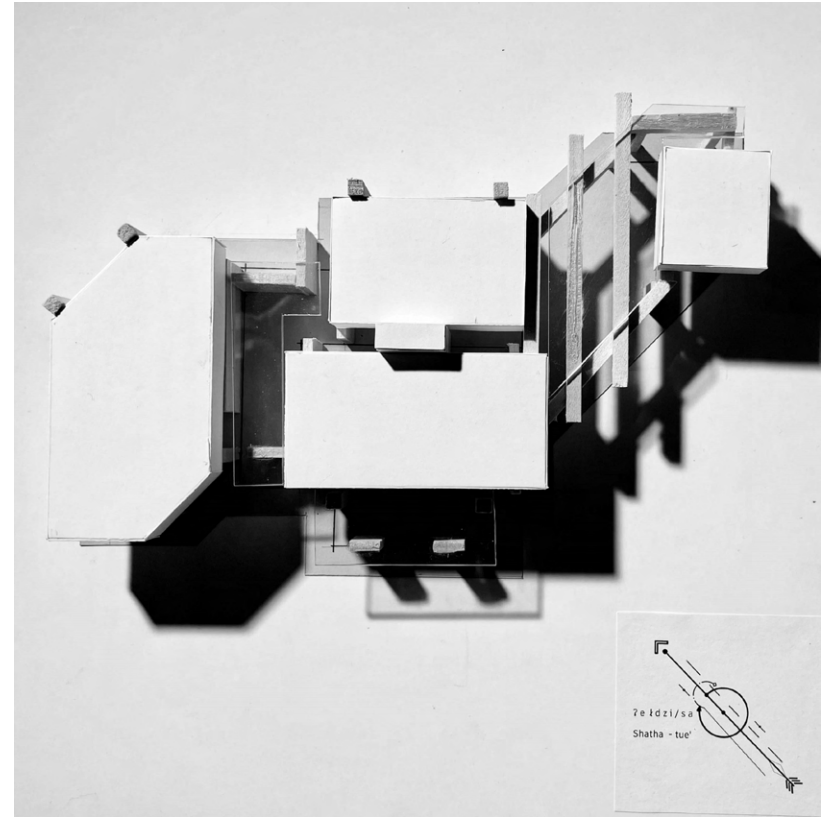
#### **Master of Landscape Architecture**

96	Madison Appleby
97	Evelyn Babalis
98	Temira Bruce

99	Nadia Chan
100	Ngai (Joey) Chiu
101	Xin Xin (Tina) Cui
102	Gabriela Gallo
103	Stefan Herda
104	Yuhan Mao
105	Agata Mrozowski
106	Natasha Raseta
107	Howard Rosenblat
108	Alexandra Sheinbaum
109	Xinran Sui
110	Juan Bernardo Velasco Canela
111	Hongyu Wu

#### **Master of Urban Design**

113	Golbarg Amini, Adriana Araujo
114	Whitney Dang
115	Mitali Gupta
116	Asad Kamran
117	Yike Liu
118	Pradnya Mahajan
119	Pinhan Song
120	Cho Yan Kaylee Suen
121	Yutong Zhao
122	Jiayu Zhi



**James K. Bird**  
MARC

### Process House

Designing a process: Indigenous language as an entry point into concept and design

The focus of this final thesis is on the development of a process that offers a new way of thinking about the design of space for Indigenous family housing. It begins with observations of key social factors as embodied in the Dënesųliné, Cree and Metis cultures and languages. These “cultural and language cues” then serve as entry points for examining the built form and how it can best reflect the specific cultural norms of Indigenous society.

**Advisor: Mason White**

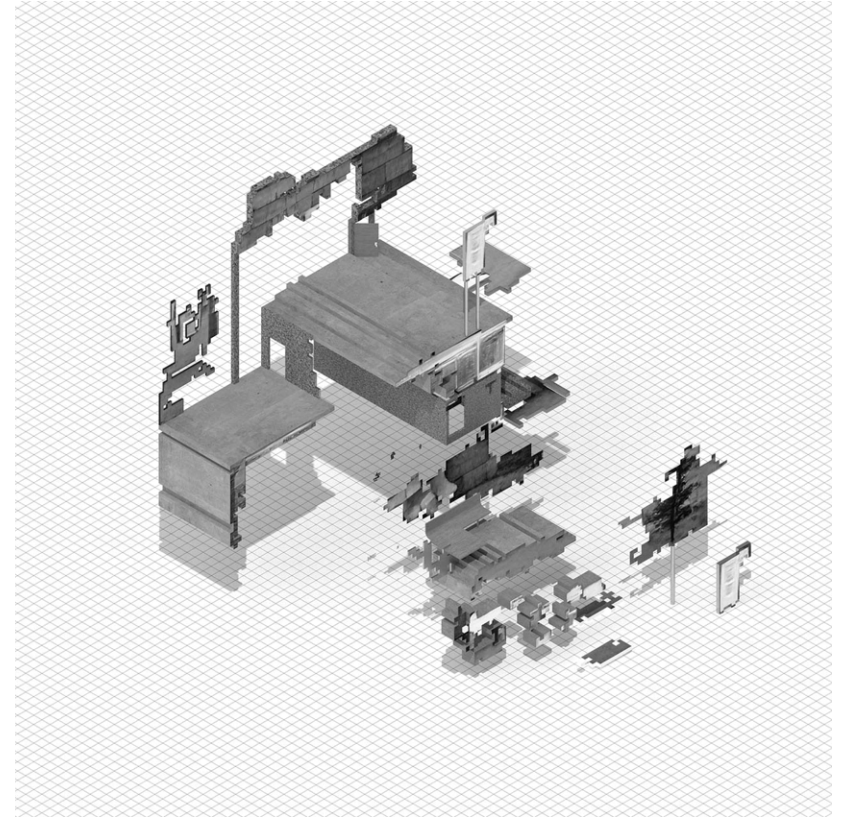


**Lara Hassani**  
MARC

**Conversation Piece: Talking Trash**

Hello? Is anyone out there? I'm still here, in architecture school, keeping something alive. Things are beginning to look desperate, or maybe I'm just now seeing how desperate they've always been. Supplies are running low, but I've made do with what I could find. It all happened so quickly. For ages, it was somewhere else, then suddenly it was here. Now it's just as suddenly in the past, and all I have is this relentless present, this big school building, and you, whoever you are.

*Advisor: Adrian Phiffer*

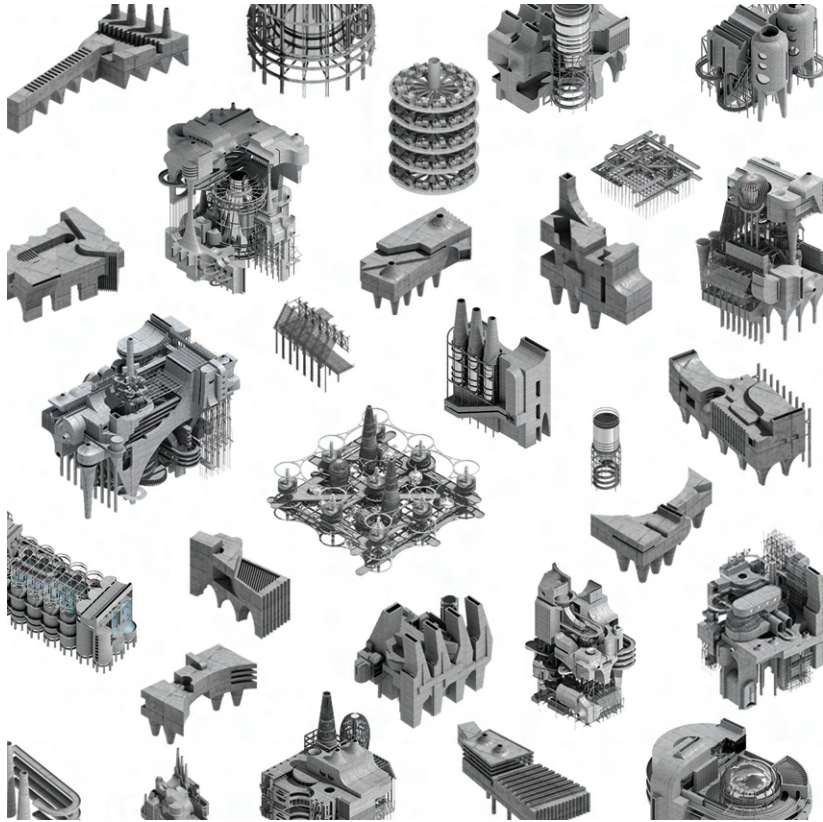


**Connor Stevens**  
MARC

**The Public Factory of Images (And Objects Too)**

The Public Factory of Images (And Objects Too) explores the possibility of engaging communities in the development of design projects. Textual input from users is translated into architectural images using an open-source machine-learning tool. This tool produces and generates images in real time, providing a discursive platform for playful iteration to be shared between the community, architects and, ultimately, the city. The design process aims to amass a repository of architectural images and objects that engender and facilitate discourse about development in their neighbourhoods and empower communities to achieve a collective vision.

*Advisor: Mauricio Quiros Pacheco*

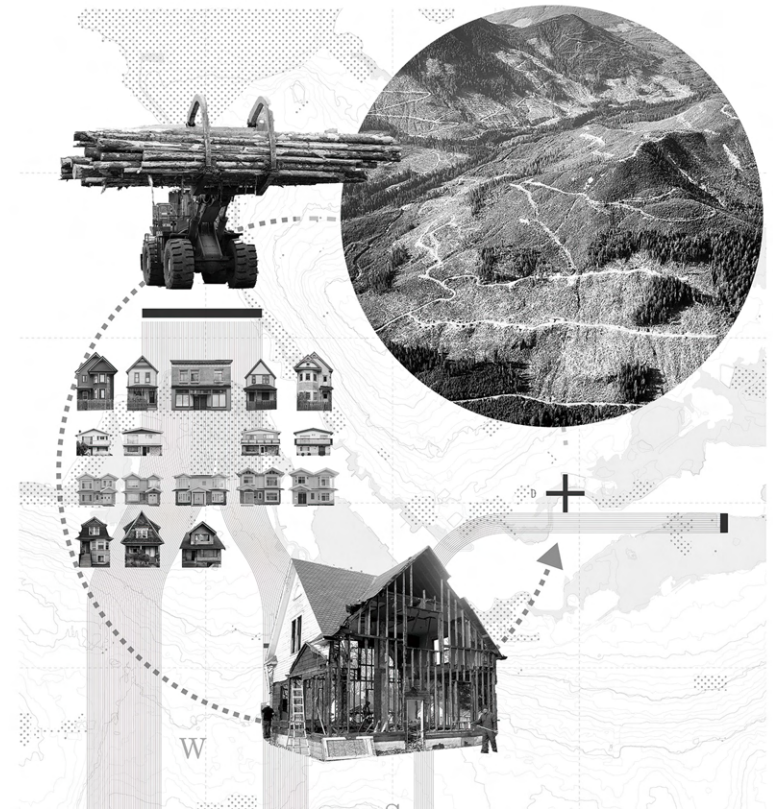


**Chenyi Xu**  
MARC

### Airpocalypse

The word “airpocalypse” was first used in 2013 in China to describe the levels of toxic smog. Today, nearly one million people die from air pollution in China every year. As one of China’s major cities, Shanghai also has serious air pollution problems. In the next 50 years, the air pollution will be the most serious problem in Shanghai. This thesis discusses the possibility of developing a new type of air purification infrastructure that integrates itself within architectural space and the urban environment and becomes an essential component of the new city.

*Advisor: Wei-Han Vivian Lee*



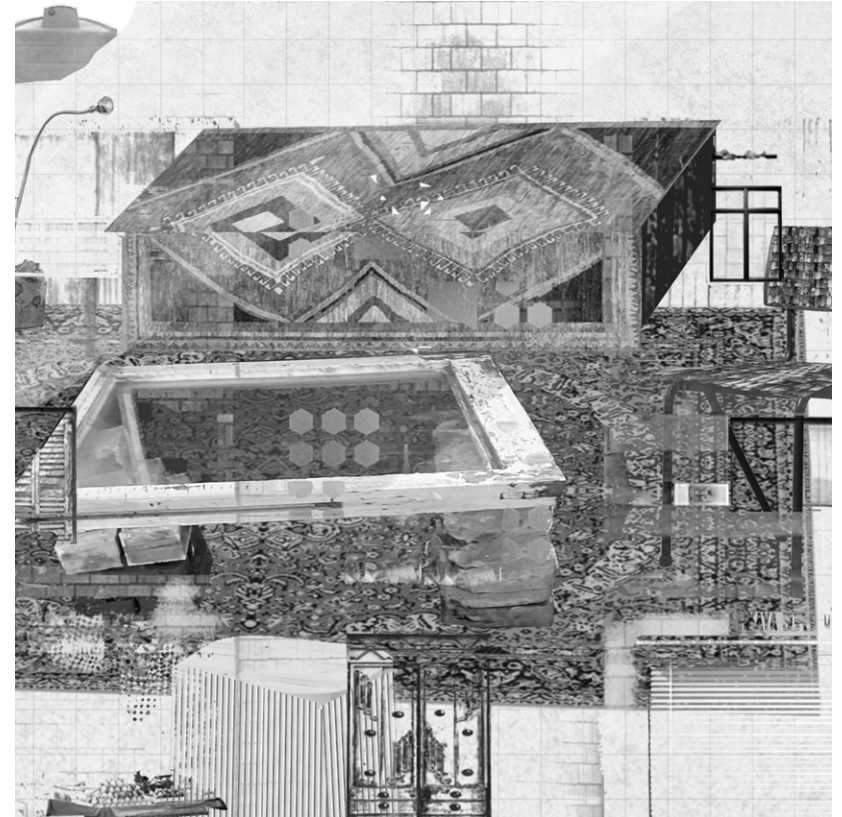
**Xiang Ye**  
MARC

### Lumber Reuse for Your Community and You

In Vancouver alone, roughly 1,000 homes are demolished every year, with one of every four houses sold being demolished. These home demolitions coupled with building demolitions accounted for roughly 40 percent of Vancouver’s waste. It is important to properly organize this “waste” so that it can better benefit the community and society. Through the treatment of wood and wood joinery methods, these “waste” woods are reused productively by the community and the families in the community.

*Advisor: Wei-Han Vivian Lee*





## Tala Alatassi

MARC

### Mahales

It has been 11 years since the conflict in Syria first began. With little to no resources among a landscape of ruins, many of its residents have been living in a condition of permanent temporariness with no possibility of long-term habitability on the horizon. Yet, in a demonstration of human resilience, and through the power of conversation and observation, people survive and adapt by fashioning social spaces and modifying physical environments within inhospitable settings. Can ruins be seen as structures of possibility where Syrians can regain a sense of agency and dignity? Where rehabilitation looks like a collective endeavor and loop of responses that are constantly in flux, adapting to available material and information? How, finally, can conversation facilitate a continuation of existing adaptive reuses through a shift in perspective of ownership?

*Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh*



**Meena Alcozai**  
MARC

#### Kabul, A Story Retold

Kabul, A City Retold is a historical and personal documentation that aims to explore the intangible city through the memories of its migrants. Using an architectural lens, this collection focuses on 30 micro-stories from a network of Afghan refugees. Their stories highlight the complexities of their relationship with the city, detailing domestic experiences, day-to-day subjective life and interactions. Through the act of architectural interpretation, a methodology in the reconstruction of war-torn cities is formed. This is not a catalogue but rather an appreciation and understanding of the connections, overlaps and reciprocities between these stories.

*Advisor: Petros Babasikas*



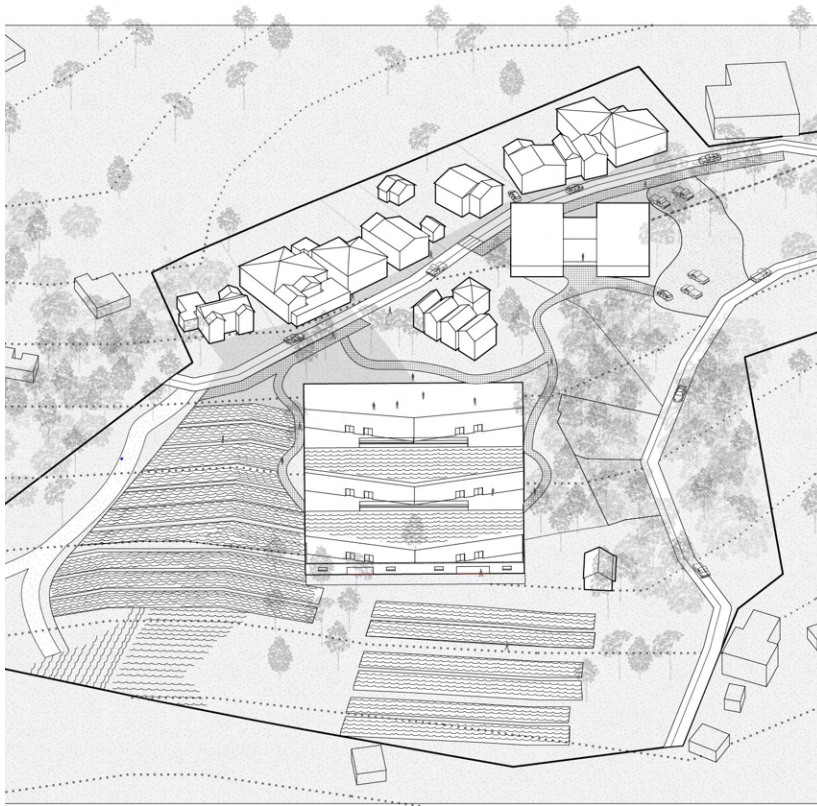
**Farhang Alipour**  
MARC

#### INTER-ACTION

Beirut Open-Source Cultural Hub

In Beirut, years of war and post-traumatic recoveries have created a “fragmented city” with irreconcilable memories, resulting in uncertainty about the future. On such traumatized ground, voids are thresholds representing “other” possible futures. This project investigates how an “Emptiness” or “Loss” can be treated as a new potential for regenerating itself as a site of change and impermanence. By posing one question — How is architecture capable of transforming trauma? — the thesis strives to loosen an Empty/Lost space through unintended public interactions and recast it as an open-source hub that recaptures the trauma and reinterprets it as a new “Found.”

*Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh*

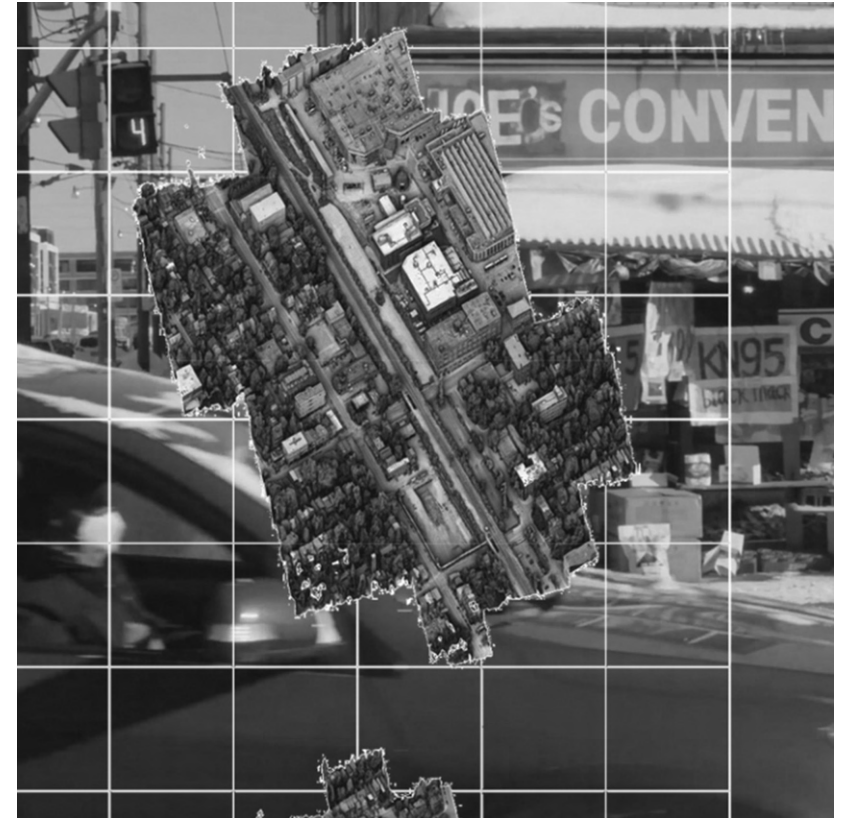


**Latoya Lisa-Marie Barnett**  
MARC

#### Of Red Dirt and Spoiled Fruits

Albert Town, located in a mountainous region of Jamaica, is destined to be mined for bauxite, placing the township's agricultural livelihood, ecological significance and embedded cultural history at risk of deterioration or erasure. Through a series of interventions that connect and integrate the terrain, a formula can be created for the township to enhance its sense of place, akin to a protective shield. These methodologies, which focus on the building, community and regional plan, become repeatable processes for other townships to enact, resulting in the formation of a network of protection.

*Advisor: Petros Babasikas*

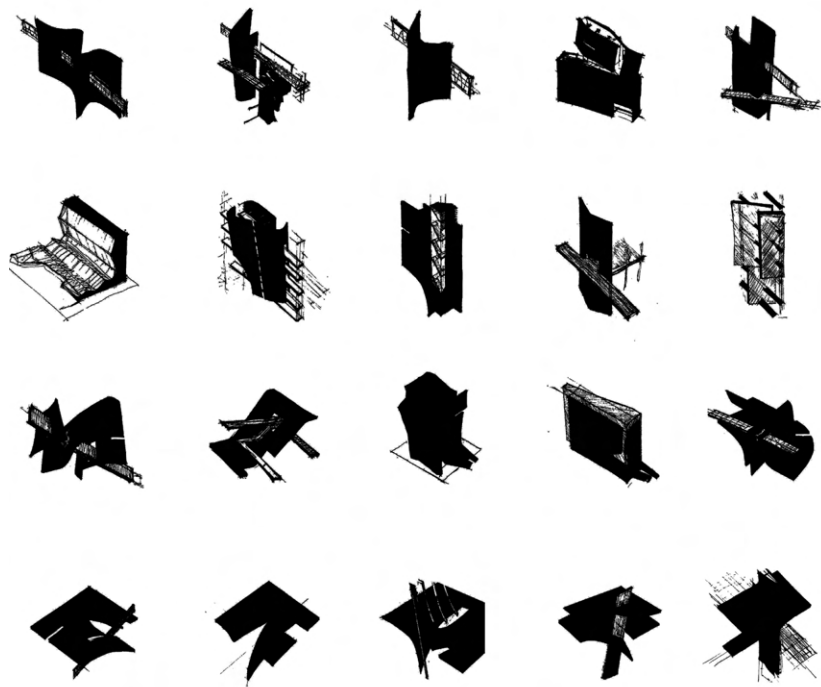


**Ross Beardsley Wood**  
MARC

#### All Stop City

I think we need to slow down. We are vibrating around so fast. So much energy is spent doing what? Learning from Dupont-Geary, the seemingly unremarkable neighbourhood of railway-adjacent vernacular, I found a rich bed of patterns that support a wealth of local activity in Toronto — a neighbourhood of maintenance and slow architecture. I started by taking photos, but now I also take people's garbage. It is amazing what people try to throw out. Sometimes I even give it back to them to see if they like what I have done.

*Advisors: An Te Liu, Mason White*



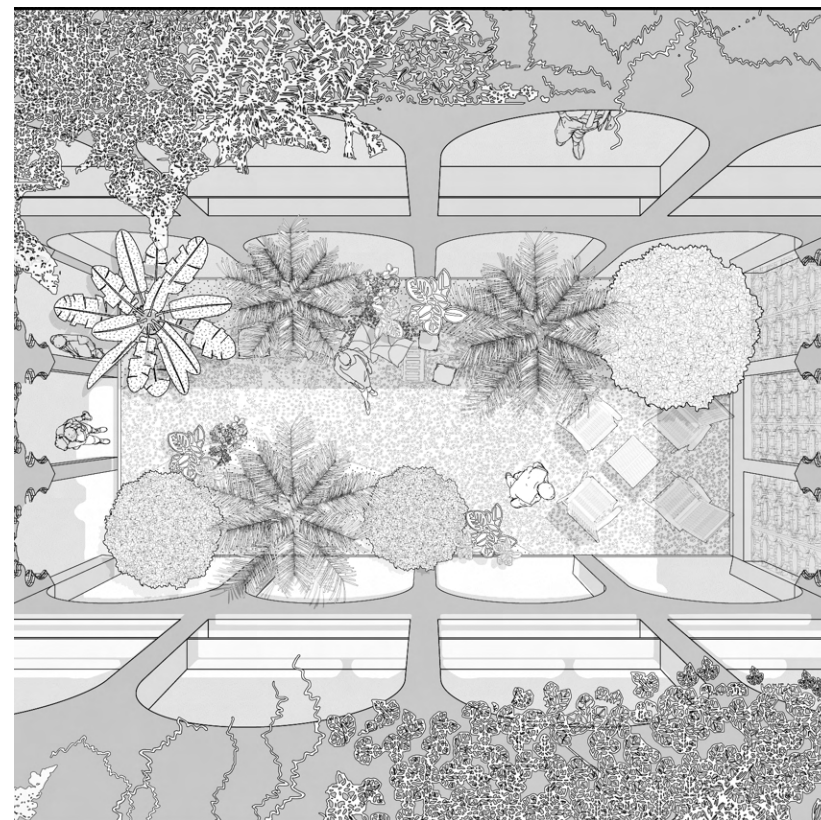
## Harshit Bhatt

MARC

### Functional Dissection — Architecture Fiction

The purpose of Functional Dissection proposes a fictional surface that serves as an interface of time registering the forces of tension responding to an interplay between the subterranean and the surface. The Brane seeks to incorporate a quantifiable interface inside the surface. Interpolated with the brane theory of quantum physics, it becomes a framed centerpiece in architectural design. The Frame is followed by the looping together of two different dynamics, then projected onto a physical rather than a metaphysical aspect of reality. The building envelope tracks its amalgamations, whereby various attendant truths do not belong to a specific location and site context, but rather belong to time.

Advisor: Brian Boigon



## Indu Bose

MARC

### Crossing the Threshold | Addressing Elderly Pilgrim Homelessness in Varanasi, India

The city of Varanasi has served as a beacon for the aging and ailing for several centuries. The belief in salvatory and ablutionary death that Varanasi provides has attracted aged people from all over the Indian subcontinent, which has made it a gerontopolis with thousands of homeless elderly people. This thesis examines the traditional concepts and provision of spaces for the aging to create a familiar and viable palliative environment for the culturally and architecturally diverse urbanscape of Varanasi, as Westernized eldercare models such as long-term care homes and hospices fail in India's cultural landscape.

Advisor: Stephen Verderber





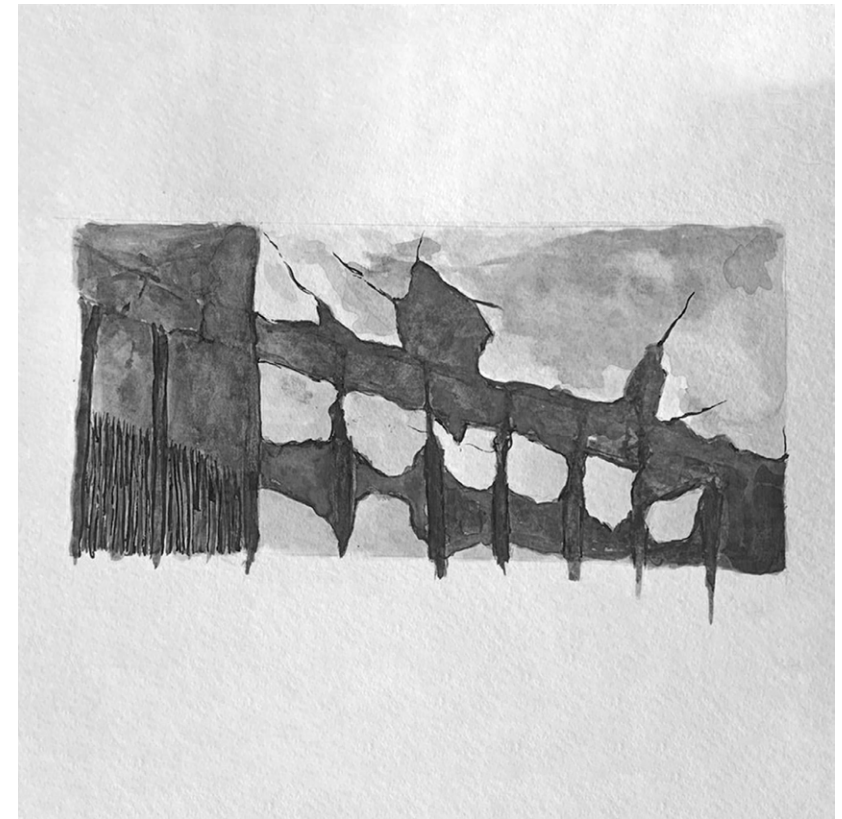
## Nicholas Cabelli

MARC

### Liquid Crystal City Council MMXXII

LCCMMXXII is an ontological inquiry into the emancipation of the banal, unofficial city. Emerging from a methodology of speculation and classification, LCCMMXXII contends that the ultimate agency of architecture is distributed through a territory of relationships between human and non-human entities. Taking the form of a short film, LCCMMXXII adopts the situated, unstable and sometimes a-rational nature of cinema to strive for a representation of space that privileges the potential event over its documented outcome, a flow over a finality. LCCMMXXII is a designed shared experience about striving for the discomfort of contact, an affective plea for a broader architectural imaginary in which time, magic and interconnectedness always matter, as we co-compose alone in dark loud together.

*Advisor: John Shnier*



## Alejandra Chauca Velez

MARC

### Quincha Interventions

In Lima, Peru, there is a co-dependent relationship between heritage and crumbling buildings. World Heritage Lima is rooted in thousands of years of history, superimposed with its pre-Hispanic paths, building techniques and buried canals. However, Lima is also in crisis — one of collapsing buildings, and people unable to save their homes. The ethics of architectural preservation do not align with the need to safeguard cultural and everyday practices. This project outlines an intervention that speaks to the paradoxical state of its bricolage architecture. Through reinforcement, the project calls for surgical incisions that echo the built fabric, capturing the incrementalistic spirit of the readaptations for the city and its people.

*Advisor: Petros Babasikas*



**Yi Chen**  
MARC

### Community-based Long-term Care in an Asian City

With China rapidly aging, the aging problem in the country is becoming more and more significant. In Chinese society today, the main forms of elder care are institution-based and home-based care. This thesis focuses on the necessity and possibility of community-based elderly care in the Chinese context. Taking Guangzhou as an example, LTC Hubs for community aging are designed so that elderly can receive professional care while being close to their families. These LTC Hubs are prefabricated and can be quickly replicated in the future in different cities and communities to meet China's upcoming aging peak in 2027.

*Advisor: Stephen Verderber*

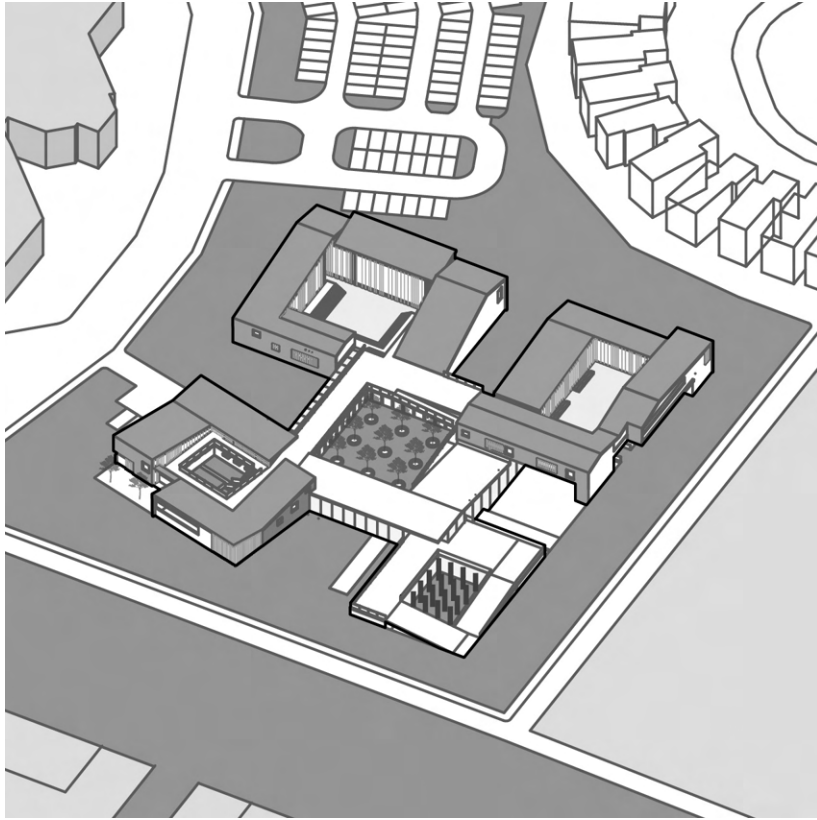


**Bria Cole**  
MARC

### Invisible Borders

A migrant crisis is underway. Virtual walls surveil the borderland regions to detect northbound travellers. Artificial intelligence is touted as a humane solution to securitize the border. Instead, these technologies weaponize geography by funnelling people into arduous landscapes. Invisible Borders maps the militarization of the border and migration journeys in the U.S. state of Arizona to understand the questions: "What is hidden?" "What wants to be invisible?" "What disappears?"

*Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh*



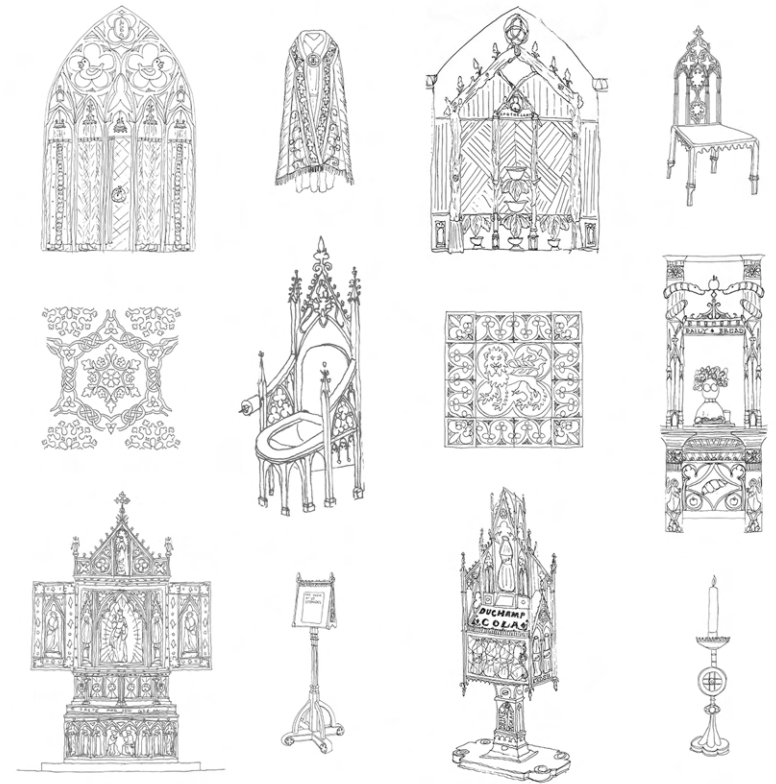
## Wei Dai

MARC

### Scarborough Community Centre for Elderly Immigrants

My thesis project is a community centre for senior Chinese immigrants in the Toronto suburb of Scarborough. It is a building with five courtyards responding to Chinese traditional architecture type. Chinese art programs and music programs are proposed for cultural interaction between seniors and younger generations. Based on a Chinese supermarket nearby, the community kitchen provides connectivity for people through the processes of cooking and food sharing. In addition, more effective senior assistance programs are proposed for better adaptations to life in a foreign land.

Advisor: Shane Williamson



## Jacob Friedrich Drung

MARC

### Quid Pro Quo

In need of resurrection, the Church of St. Stephen-in-the-Fields becomes the scene of a mischievous battle between the spiritual and the corporeal for the soul of Architecture. High Anglican traditions wrestle with a spirit intent on misbehaving under a subversive Lequeusian spell. What emerges is a space of experimentation where the two superimpose their intentions on one another with a transcendent interdependence, thus fulfilling the congregation's somewhat paradoxical desires. Exploring a composition of adjacencies and simultaneities, an idiosyncratic taxonomy of style emerges, tempting us to explore the details of the outcome and showing that architectural mutations may be just what the body and soul have been praying for.

Advisor: John Shnier



## Alexia Dumas-Malouf

MARC

### Scars of Trauma

Trauma creates a void in one's identity, dissociating oneself from the present. Integrating "the traumatic event into the overall arc of one's life" becomes essential to fill this void. Scars of Trauma explores the potential of Beirut's Tobagi Garden as an island of safety in which one's inner world is projected in a three-dimensional space mended in a way where the past, present and future are seen in a much clearer perspective. By exploring the material, functional and spatial qualities that define our built environment, this thesis aims for spatial- and self-identity maintenance and reconstruction.

*Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh*



## Lizeth Natalia Enriquez Goyes

MARC

### If We Fix the Housing Crisis Without Addressing the Climate Crisis, We're Still F\*\*\*ed

How do we reduce carbon emissions in the suburbs while accommodating a rapidly growing population? Canadians have some of the highest carbon emissions per capita in the world, their culturally entrenched demand for space, privacy and personal property having made Canadian housing standards financially and environmentally unsustainable. This project revisits the postwar bungalow, a generic typology, mass-produced and typical throughout Canada, as an opportunity to provide low-cost, low-carbon dwellings. Focusing on my parents' house in London (Ontario's fastest growing city) as a prototype, I explore how the average homeowner can provide new dwelling units using carbon-conscious retrofits and additions, while minimizing material and operational carbon emissions.

*Advisor: Kelly Alvarez Doran*



## Jim Kurt Sarmiento Ereño

MARC

### Interpretive Grounds

The Manila-Acapulco spice trade was the first global trade route connecting Asia, the Americas and Europe. From 1609 to 1814, the Royal Shipyard of Bagatao (Philippines) was a crucial link within this route, constructing the galleons used to transport goods. Today, the shipyards are latent archaeological sites awaiting future excavation. This thesis proposes a research centre, archaeological archive and museum for the study, collection, storage and exhibition of historical and cultural artifacts related to the spice trade and local shipyards. The centre includes local and in-residence visiting scholars, artisans, folklorists and cultural historians, and will also accommodate seasonal tourism.

Advisor: Laura Miller



## Tanner Field

MARC

### Bawdy City: The Sexual Geography of Cruising

Cities have changed over recent history and so has cruising. Places still exist where people meet for intimate encounters, but the sexual geography of a city and its cruising networks now utilize digital mediums to facilitate these encounters. So what does this look like in the modern world, where technology enables individuals to meet anywhere? This thesis is a contemplation of gay hookup culture and its relationship to the built environment. Through the construction of a speculative world, Bawdy City takes the cruise on tour using urban typologies as a vehicle for intimacy and eroticism.

Advisor: John Shnier



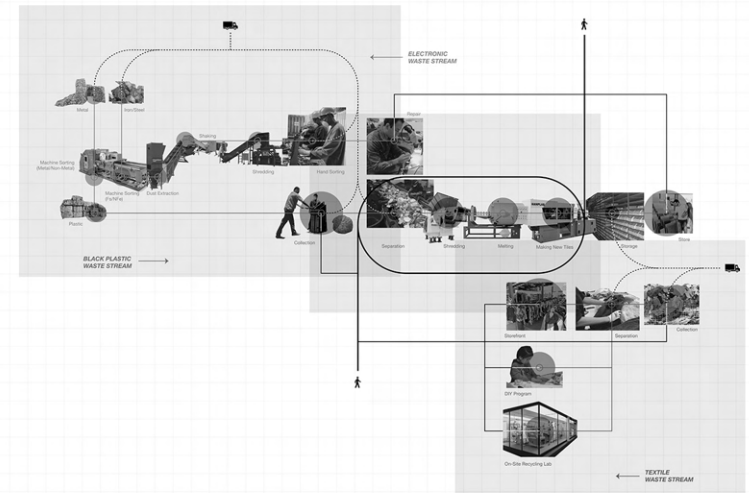


**Deyang Fu**  
MARC

### Reconceptualizing Jackson Square Mall

People didn't like old buildings during the 1950s, and while that sentiment was everywhere in North America, it was particularly strong in Hamilton, Ont. As a result, many historical memories of the Jackson Square Mall site have been destroyed. And the mall today has many problems, such as a high commercial vacancy rate, unfriendly pedestrian environment, large unused roof, etc. The main idea of this reconceptualization is to retrieve historical elements of the original site, keeping original design elements instead of throwing them away, while at the same time solving Jackson Square's current problems and creating greater value for people.

Advisor: George Baird

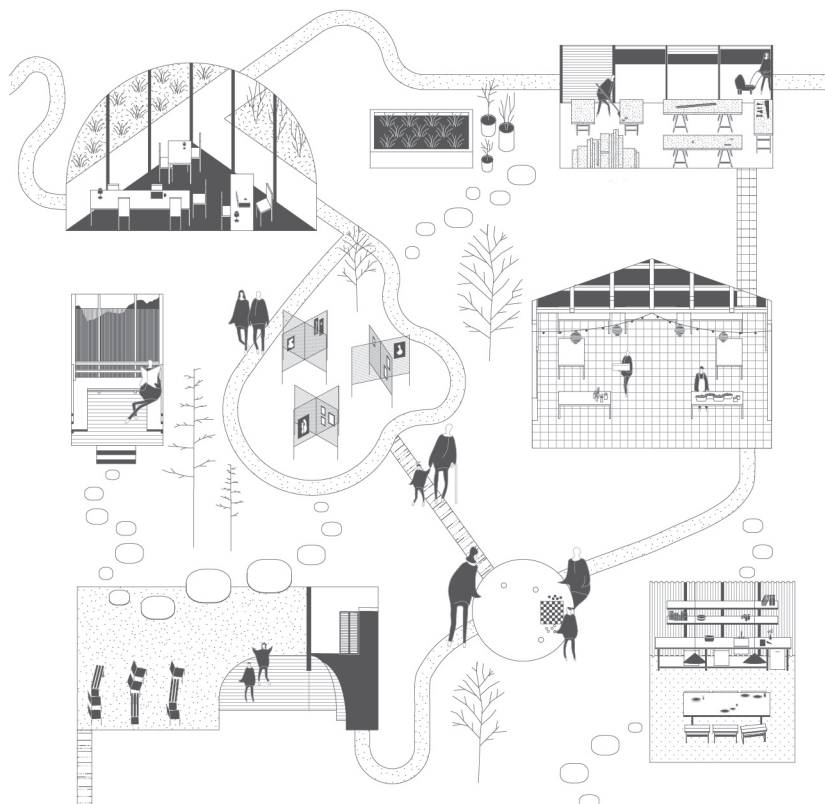


**Shiying Gao**  
MARC

### The Post-Industrial Liminal

When an item once needed becomes "trash," it is "disappeared" to marginal sites hidden from view — hauled outside the city, even shipped offshore. Would making our waste streams more visible affect the way we consume and discard? Proposing that closer proximity between waste and humans can shape a more equitable and environmentally responsible future, this project reimagines the current waste-transfer station on Toronto's waterfront as a hybridized site, with open recycling facilities, learning labs, upcycling operations and the extension of an urban park. Can localizing the recycling process, diverting "trash" and transforming it into usable items be a source of community?

Advisor: Laura Miller



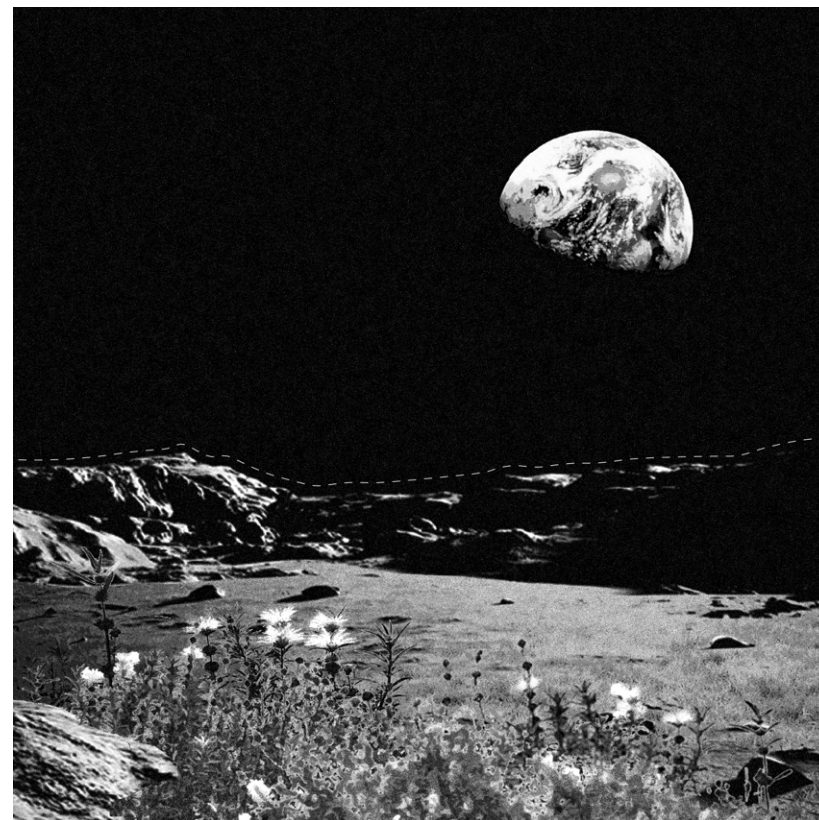
## Jenna Li Rei Gauder

MARC

### Unlimited Villages

Japan is one of the first countries of many to experience the effects of degrowth and rural exodus. Thinning populations have left rural communities with vacant land, abandoned homes and an increasing elderly population. The result is a diffuse landscape, disconnected social sphere and disinvestment to aid current and future residents. Unlimited Villages uses a phased approach to create a scalable framework for rehabilitation that will provide access to amenities, renew housing and encourage social exchange across generations. By reconnecting people to social infrastructure and housing, an aging and once-dispersed rural fabric can promote collectivity and local regeneration to become a village without limits.

*Advisor: Shane Williamson*



## Sarah Ann Goodman

MARC

### Fly Me to the Moon: Well-Being in Lunar Habitat Design

Lunar exploration will bring an abundance of new knowledge to humanity; however, discovery requires humble habitation in extreme isolation. As the barrier between life and death, emphasis is often placed on survivability over livability. Without consideration of the human condition, life in extreme isolation is unsustainable. Well-being must be considered to counter psychological stress caused by spatial, social and sensory isolation. This thesis outlines an architectural framework for addressing well-being in lunar habitat design through means of community, recreation and sensory stimulation. By shifting the focus from survivability to livability, this thesis argues the importance of spatial variety to improve well-being.

*Advisor: Brady Peters*



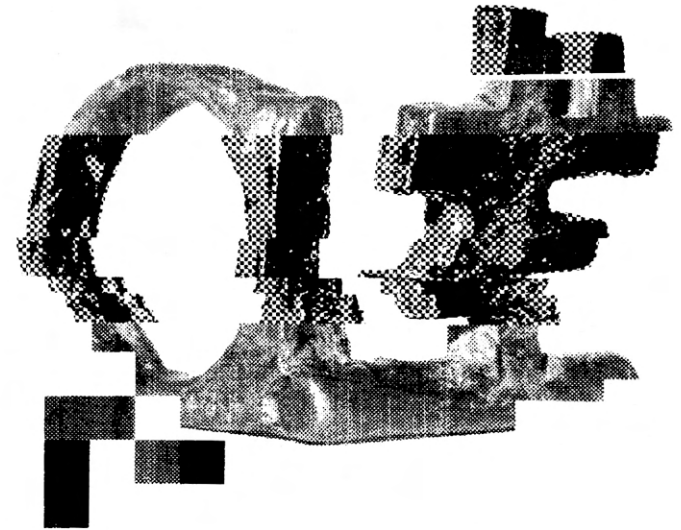
## Menghe Guo

MARC

### Penetrative History

Kaifeng, a modern city, has grown successively on the layered ruins of former cities. The Yellow River's periodic floods have inundated structures with mud and silt, creating stacked ruins that suggest an everlasting process of becoming. Modern flood control engineered an artificial lake, now a tourist attraction surrounded by replicas of many "lost" buildings. An in-between condition exists here: the site's past, not wholly forgotten, confronts the image of a "fake" past in the present. Examining Kaifeng through the lens of archaeological excavation, this thesis hopes to inspire new understanding of the entropic nature of the artifactual realm.

Advisor: Laura Miller



## Jacqueline Hampshire

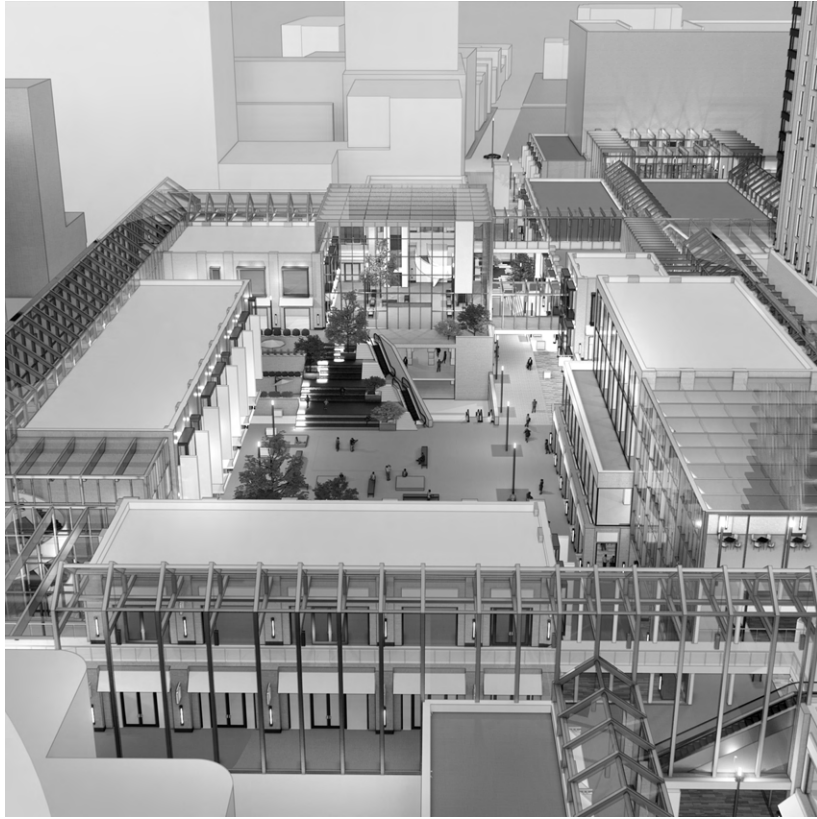
MARC

### Museum *mis*registration

Absence disrupts the museum. It challenges the myth of authority that relies on continuity and completeness to assert itself. Museum *mis*registration responds to the reckoning of institutions as collections are being fragmented through acts of repatriation. Harnessing the medium of printmaking, this thesis explores absence and trace in the imperial museum and makes visible a process that is inherently spatial but often intentionally concealed. In doing so, a future is imagined, one where restitution defines our experience of the museum.

Advisor: John Shnier



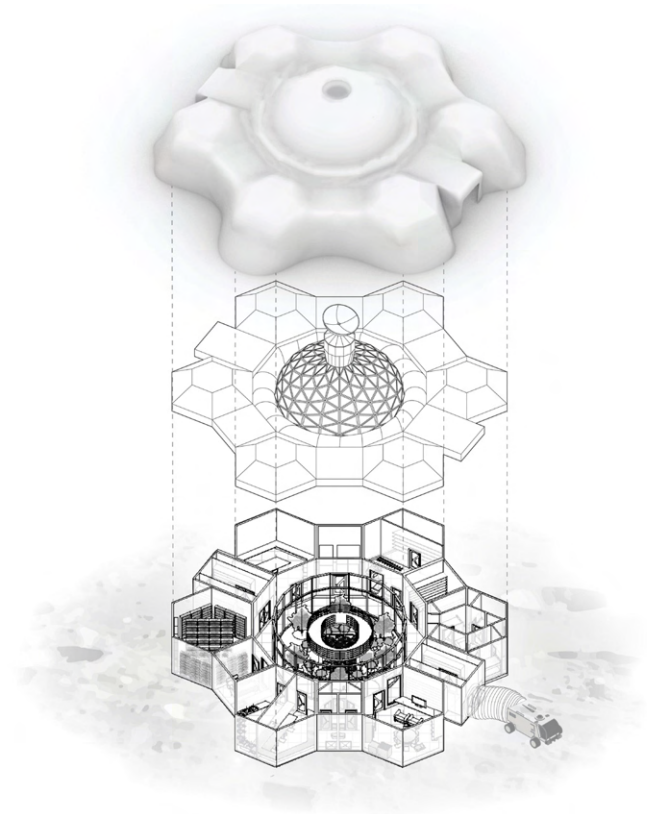


**Jiayao He**  
MARC

#### Reimagining Jackson Square Mall

This project reimagines a 1970s mall in downtown Hamilton, Ont. It responds to the historic significance of the site and its complex urban fabrics, existing condition, traffic flows, adjacent properties and recent developments by introducing a new typology of space organization that marries an open street structure on ground level and arcade spaces on upper levels, bringing higher density and intimate urban scale and providing a controlled indoor climate during the harsh winter months. A private-owned public central space enhances potential for civic life and promotes its commercial value.

*Advisor: George Baird*

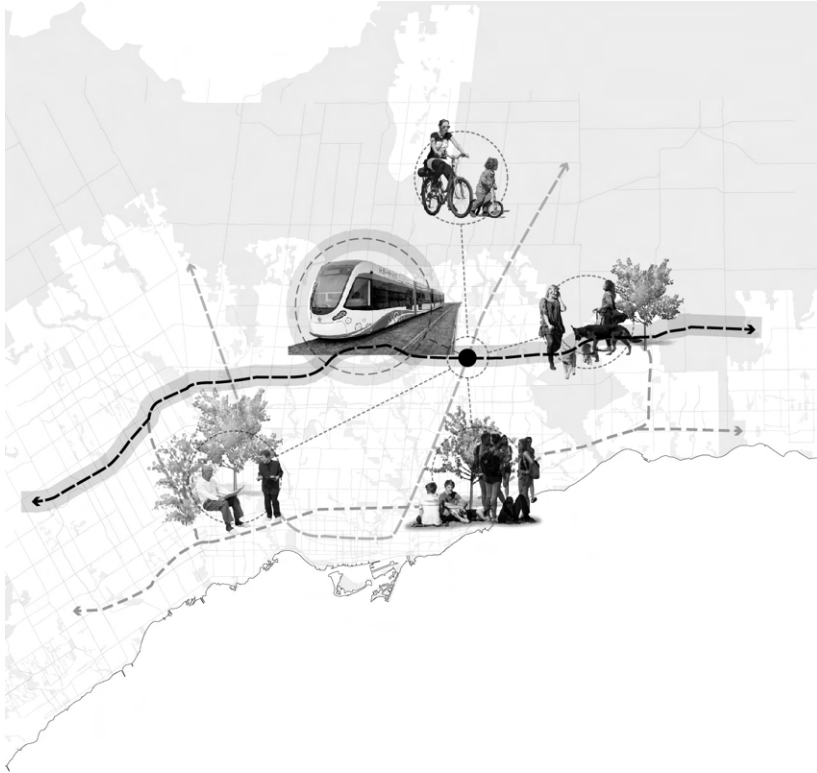


**Bonnie Ho**  
MARC

#### Sustainable Lunar Habitats

Earth's deteriorating health has been largely caused by the exploitation of its resources, improper waste disposal, and linear economy practices. Decades of space exploration has led to the prospect of establishing life on the Moon, which will require the development of resilient systems different from practices on Earth. This project aims to create a self-sustaining lunar habitat for human life and to identify sustainable closed-loop processes for: life support systems, resources and materials. From there, these paradigms and designs could be implemented back on Earth to deal with the haphazard methods of waste disposal and to achieve a circular economy.

*Advisor: Brady Peters*



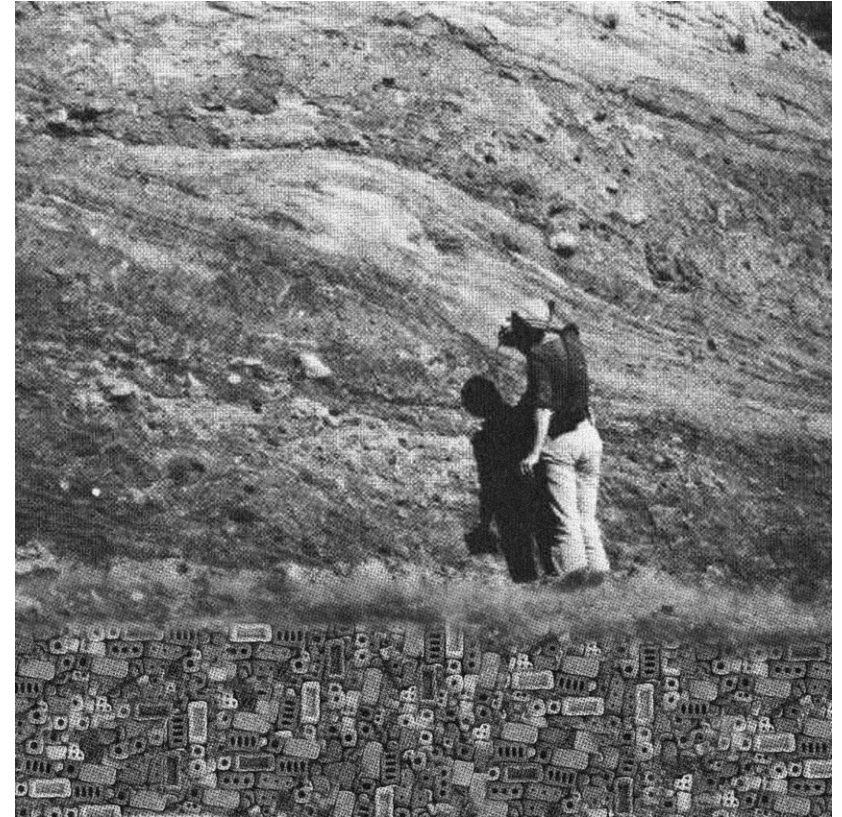
## Shimin (Mavis) Huang

MARC

### Reimagination of the Transportation Corridors

Vehicles powered by fossil fuels have been significantly accelerating the ongoing climate crisis. To halve carbon emissions, electrified public transportation, walking and cycling have become preferred modes of mobility. This project focuses on the development of the transit corridor in the City of Markham, taking Highway 407 as a site for investigating a potential infrastructure revolution and promoting a people-powered, clean-energy-fueled mobility agenda. The proposal focuses on decarbonization by retrofitting the concrete highway into an electrified transit route with sustainable strategies. It also aims to introduce the connectivity and walkability of this inaccessible site, enhancing the public realm.

*Advisor: Kelly Alvarez Doran*



## Brooke Hudy-Yuffa

MARC

### The Don Quarry

The former Don Valley Brickyard in Toronto is an instrumental site for investigating the undetectable relationship between extracted materials and their originating landscapes. This discourse challenges reality by proposing an alternative history and an emergent landscape, The Don Quarry. This alternate past aims to restore the brickyard's memory through formal reconstitutions, where all the demolished bricks of the city are brought back to the Quarry. Over time, the landscape undergoes a radical morphology, reversing the process of material obsolescence. The resultant effect is one where remnants of the city's past are recomposed into monumental structures, preserving the residual memory embodied in material.

*Advisor: John Shnier*



**Peiwen (Alison) Huo**  
MARC

#### **Boundless Spectacle of Taste**

Boundless Spectacle of Taste is a capriccio architecture which speculates on various places of aesthetic judgements. It questions the historical notion of judgement through creation of a fantastical place allowing for the aesthetic judgement to embrace both agreement and disagreement. Boundless Spectacle of Taste positions itself as a satire, poking fun at the tyrannic judgements based on persecution imbedded within pre-established political systems. This thesis is not seeking universal approval, nor does it insist upon a singular conclusion of the judgement of aesthetic. Rather, its ambition is to create a space that is open to acceptance and being at ease with the ambivalent pluralities of aesthetic judgement.

*Advisor: Miles Gertler*

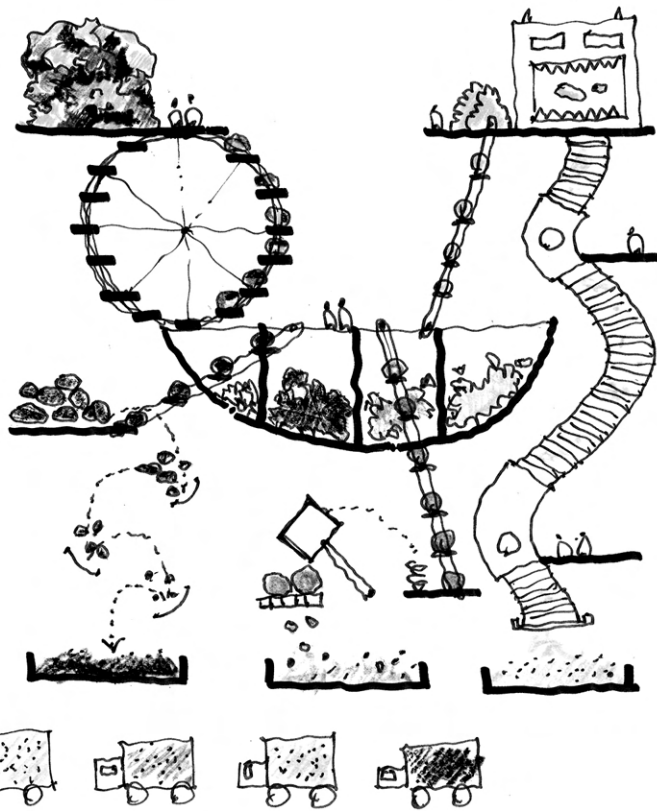


**Erich Zakary Jacobi**  
MARC

#### **Farming Futures**

NAFTA has fundamentally reorganized agriculture and rural landscapes across southern Ontario, sparking a new social, economic and spatial context for farming and rural communities alike. This transition has been reflected in the exodus of small farmers from the industry and the severance of farming and farmers from community life. Farming Futures is a proposal to reintroduce publics into agriculture to prompt conversations around the unsung challenges facing small farmers, the stewardship of our landscape, and the sharing of knowledge and resources in order to grow a socially and environmentally sustainable future for farming.

*Advisor: Shane Williamson*



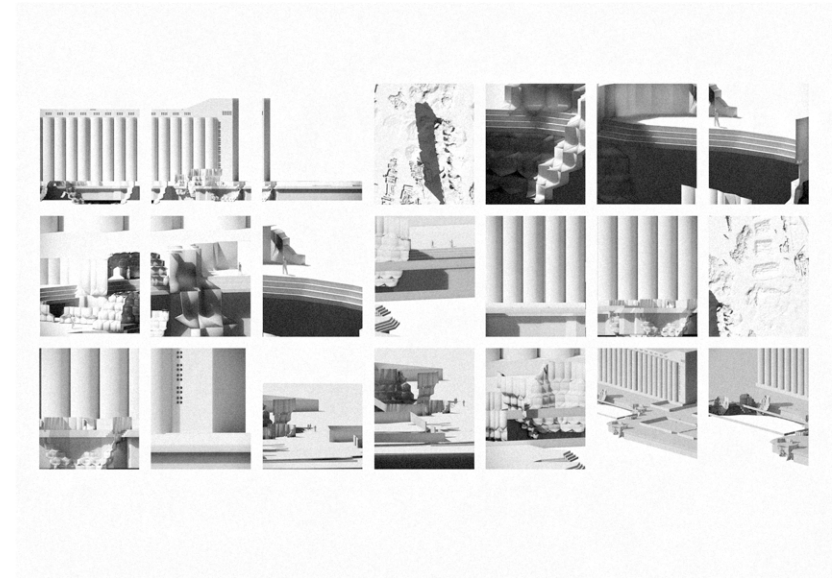
## Jeff Minjoon Jang

MARC

### Architecture as Mnemonic Device: Recovering the Unseen

This project re-evaluates the large amounts of building debris generated by the 2020 blast in Beirut, Lebanon. While rubble is typically considered to have little value, Architecture as Mnemonic Device aims to confound this expectation, shifting our understanding of it from static material evidence of trauma to potent ingredients in economic, environmental and social revitalization. A new typology of a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) is conceived, one that reveals sorting and recycling processes. Through re-imagining this typically industrial function as a material amusement park, architecture aims to fossilize memories of the blast and to serve as a mnemonic device later on.

Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh



## Pooneh Khaleghi

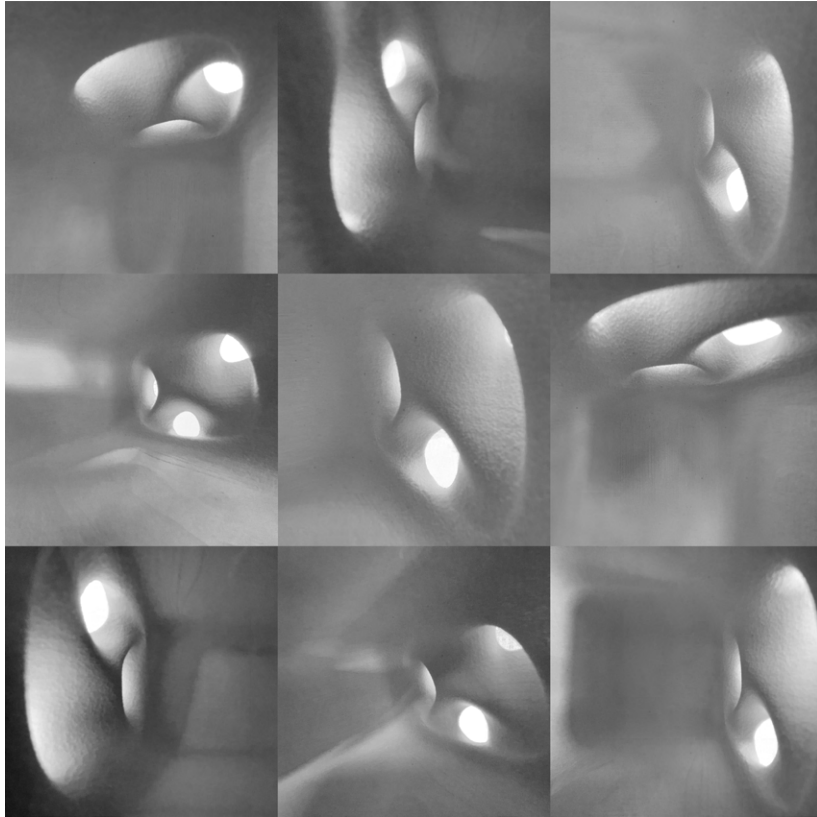
MARC

### On memory, time and place

This thesis critically analyzes and questions the notion of public space in Beirut post-explosion, offering an opportunity for breathing as a way of healing in a post-traumatic landscape. The design intervention situates itself at the centre of the explosion to raise awareness and restore people's right to reclaim the port as their public space. Tools such as transformation, tracing memory and rearrangement are used to investigate trauma and memory on the site. By revisiting a traditional Muqarnas typology and its cultural, religious and environmental influences in the region as a speculative form-finding exercise, questioning its materiality, spatiality, centrality value and pattern, the final design intervention proposes a new Muqarnas vernacular, a dialectic metaphor between destruction and construction at the site of the explosion, enabling an imaginative spatial experience.

Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh





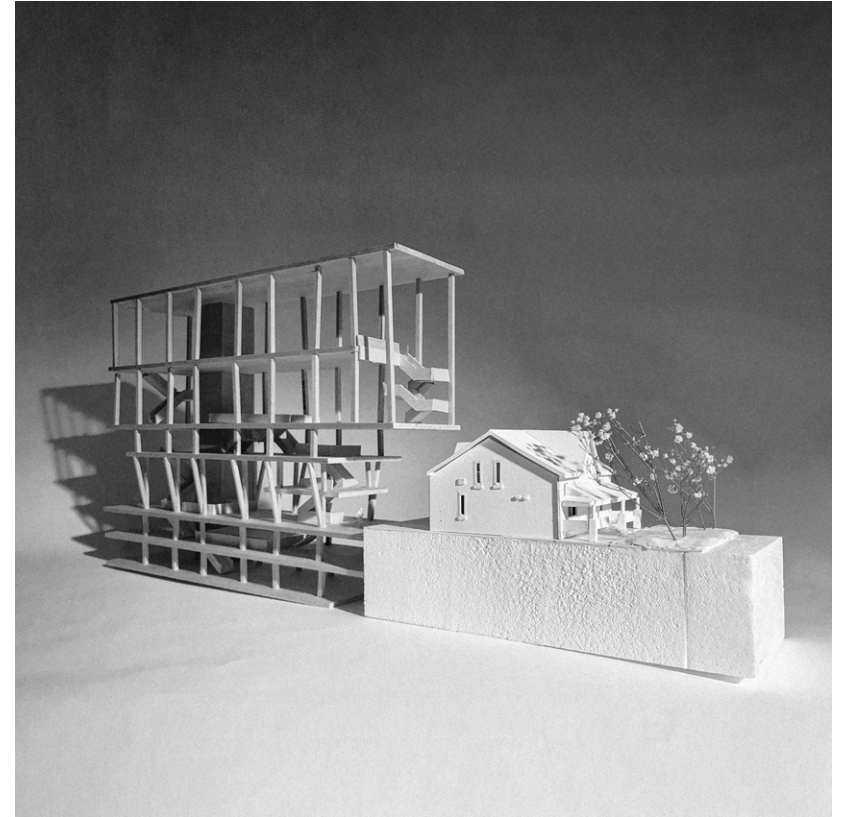
## Shamim Khedri

MARC

### Natural light and the extreme climates

Humans are biophilic by nature, meaning that they have an “innate affinity for the natural world.” As such, living in harmony with nature and more specifically the incorporation of natural light in the design of the built environment has been key for a millennium, as failure in doing so is linked to physiological and psychological health ramifications for users. Given the crucial impact of natural light and the growing interest in outer space exploration, this thesis explores the potential means of introducing sufficient light in the design of long-term habitations on the moon and extreme climates to optimize human well-being and performance.

*Advisor: Brady Peters*



## Andrew Lee

MARC

### Foundation for Workers' Cottage

What are the ethics of heritage conservation in Ontario? The current heritage conservation model in Toronto under the Ontario Heritage Act favours “cultural significance” that can “inform and stimulate the interest of the public in historical, architectural and archaeological matters.” On the other hand, examples of cultural “insignificance,” such as the Irish cottage, the Chinese laundry rowhouse and the “victory cottage,” are at stake of demolition due to urban intensification. This thesis attempts to reinterpret traditional house museum typology by using storage, which is often hidden from the public, as the primary method of exhibiting the domesticity of different working-class cottages.

*Advisor: Laura Miller*



**Kevin Leung**  
MARC

#### Bagno Bagno

Bagno Bagno challenges the normative bathroom environments to be more — more holistic, more expressive and more functional. Through the expression of interior tiles, our specialists augment and redefine the function, form and experience of the bathroom. In a live presentation, Bagno Bagno will field-test experimental bathroom conditions through four family types, represented by the Flexolo, Ablu, Goss and Moosh collections. Each family harbours its own aesthetic aim, while fluidity in their combinations harmonize and contrast the normative programmatic functions of the bathroom itself.

*Advisor: Brian Boigon*



**Catherine Liang**  
MARC

#### Fashion + Information = Identity

What we wear says a lot about who we are. In a rapidly changing fashion industry, and as the space for shopping quickly shifts online, this project aims to design a virtual online gathering space that provides transparency and data about the production and impact of fashion items to promote an increasingly sustainable and conscious way to consume. Using architecture and information representation strategies, this virtual fashion marketplace reexamines data display in a three-dimensional space and redefines the meaning of creating an identity through fashion.

*Advisors: Fredrik Hellberg, Lara Lesmes*



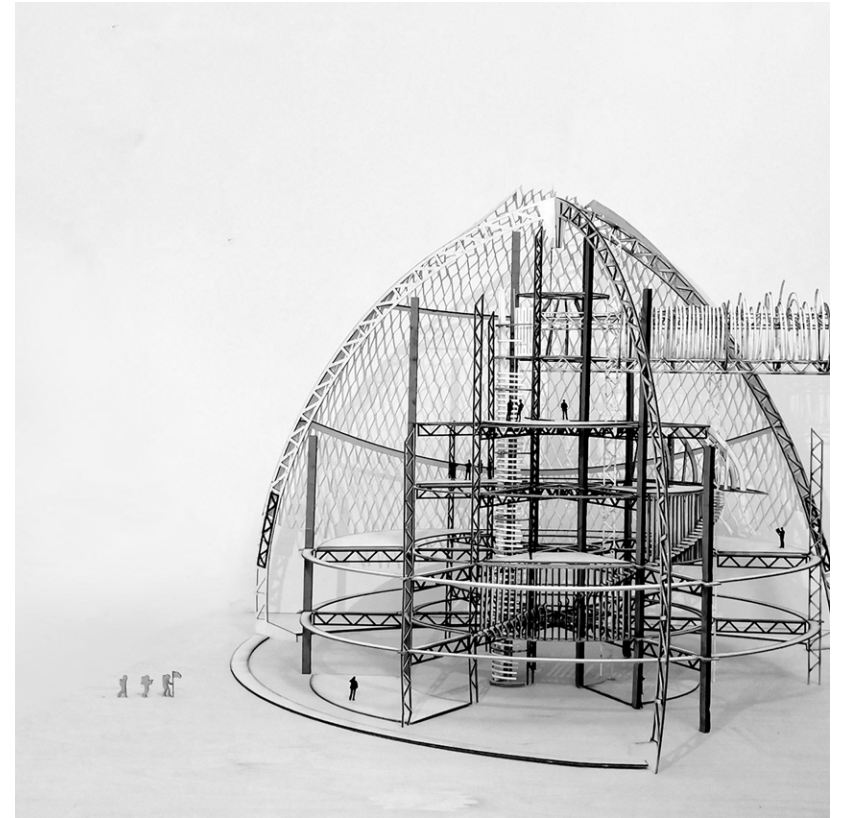
## Ashlin Lianne Lithgow

MARC

### The In-between: A Design for Aging in Place in Toronto's Laneways

This thesis prioritizes the quality of life of the aging population by proposing a multi-generational community that is situated adjacent to unused public laneways as a space to age in place. With an increased life expectancy rate, there is a demand for housing the elderly. The quality of life in an institutional long-term care home is undesirable as it isolates residents from family and the larger community, resulting in a psychological toll. Four city blocks in Bloor West Village are reimagined with multi-generational housing and public amenities along the laneways that support elderly well-being as they age in place.

*Advisor: Stephen Verderber*



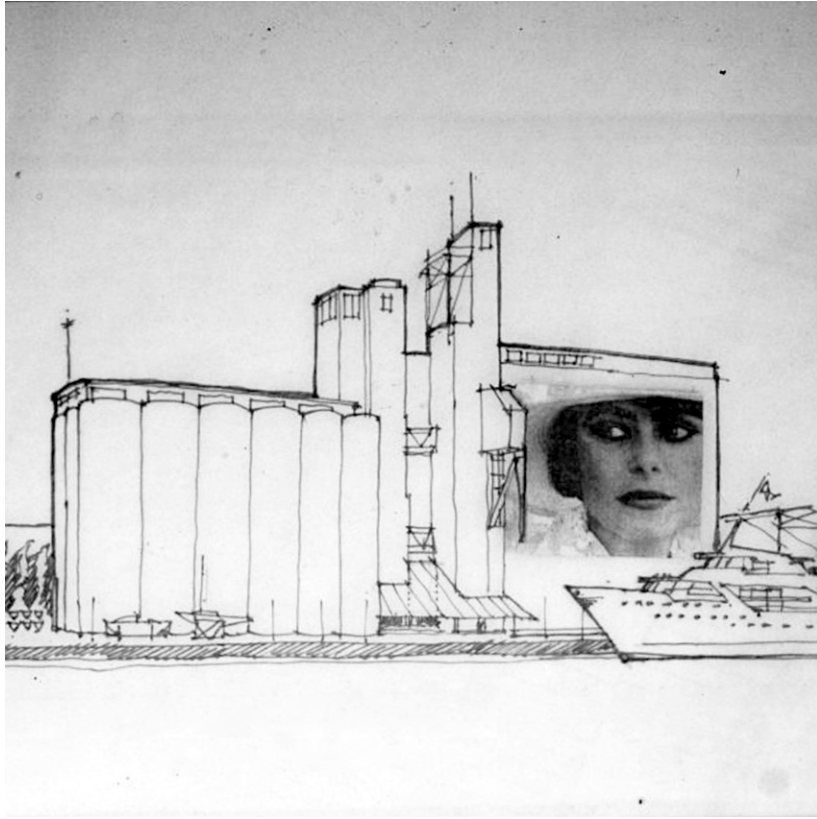
## Dongge Liu

MARC

### Gradient Environmental Changing of Large-scale Lunar Habitat

This project is a hypothesis for large-scale lunar habitat. To solve the conflict between the early execution of lunar missions and the long construction period of large-scale lunar habitat, it proposes a plan that gradually improves the habitat environment from harsh and cruel to livable and comfortable. To achieve this goal, the research focused on a timeline for the construction process, the adaptation of human activities to the lunar habitat during different stages, and structure and material combinations to maximize in-situ resources, as well as the growability and flexibility of the lunar habitat.

*Advisor: Brady Peters*



## Zhaoyi (Elmer) Lyu

MARC

### Bubbleplex

Utilizing the long-abandoned, historically significant Toronto Malting Silos as an urban prop and as sites to stage live performance, Bubbleplex explores the potentials of altered audience and spectacle configurations in the post-pandemic world. Shifting spatial paradigms of daily life created by the pandemic have extended into the world of performance art; now that the pandemic is receding, what does it mean to “gather” for a live performance today? Rather than a hindrance to performing arts’ continued vitality, could the pandemic afford new opportunities to rethink the ways audience members encounter not only staged spectacles, but also one another?

*Advisor: Laura Miller*



## Bahia Biddle Marks

MARC

### Why Is My Bedroom So Cold?

Revisiting Tower Renewal to Address Agency Amid the Climate Crisis

This is my bedroom window. It is situated in the densest neighbourhood in Canada, St. James Town, whose inhabitants come from more than 150 countries and speak over 100 different languages. Despite this diversity, all experience the same extreme weather conditions in their homes throughout the year. Why is My Bedroom So Cold? is a study of 650 Parliament Street as an example of Toronto’s “tower phenomenon.” More than a fourth of Toronto’s population inhabits deteriorating 1960s high-rise residential towers. This project revisits Tower Renewal through a combined carbon and social lens, rethinking approaches and values to address the climate crisis. It explores retrofitting the tower facade to respond to residents’ needs while mitigating the carbon footprint.

*Advisor: Kelly Alvarez Doran*



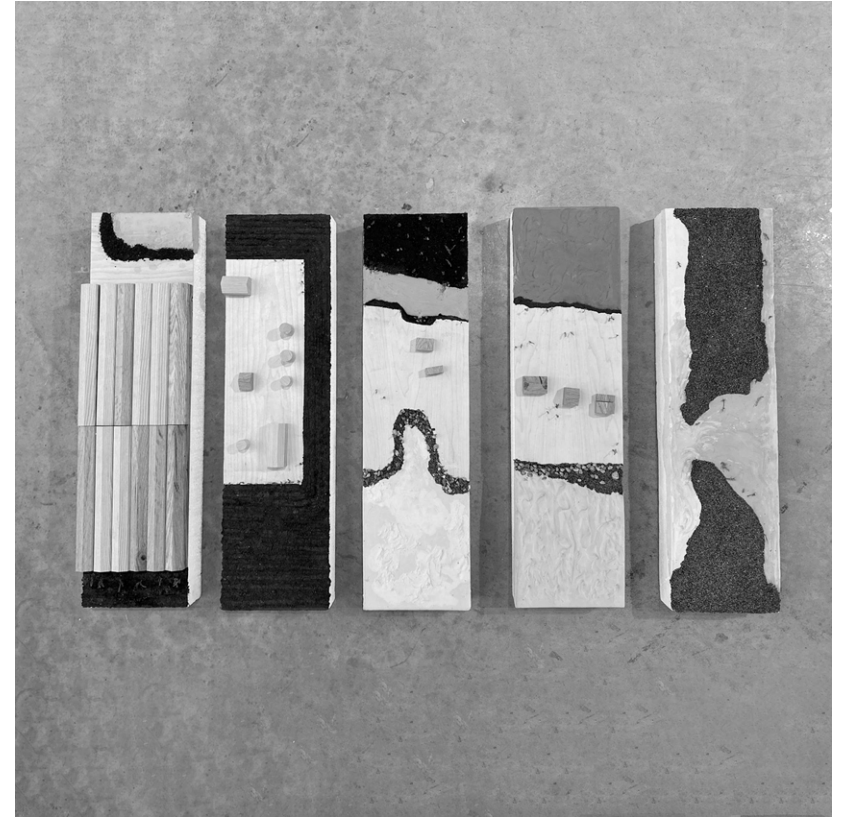


**Rachel McKenna-Marshall**  
MARC

#### Bubble Architecture

In the wake of a cultural renaissance in interest in space, architects can now look to the universe for inspiration. The potential for long-term lunar habitation poses unique questions and risks. How can we design spaces that are resilient in the face of lunar radiation, the absence of atmosphere, and a reduced gravity? Current research in lunar habitation has highlighted the advantages of pneumatics over traditional building materials. Inflatables have the benefits of maximizing volume, while minimizing the costs and quantity of materials needed. They are lightweight, portable and incredibly adaptable. With this exploration of pneumatics, we can now begin to extend the architectural possibilities of form, colour and new spatial organizations when looking to the future of human habitations.

*Advisor: Brady Peters*

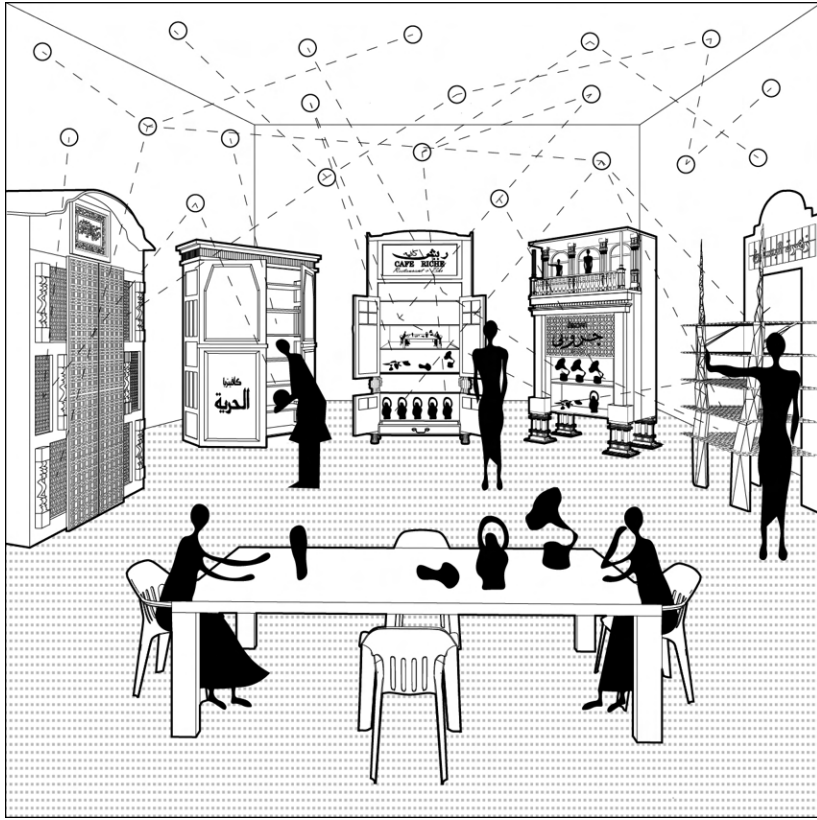


**Delaney McVeigh**  
MARC

#### Eerie Shores

Located at the southernmost point in Canada, Leamington, Ontario is home to diverse wetland ecosystems contrasted by surrounding farmland and greenhouses. A stretch of land is threatened by fluctuating water levels, jeopardizing the billion-dollar local produce industry and intermittent ecosystems critical to migratory birds. A solution that prioritizes sustainability and longevity and is uncompromised by pollutants that stem from local produce sectors is essential. Through multi-part interventions, this thesis looks to redevelop existing greenhouses into multi-use stations as a way to access and understand the complex network of landscape infrastructure. It is time to adapt to living with water.

*Advisor: Petros Babasikas*

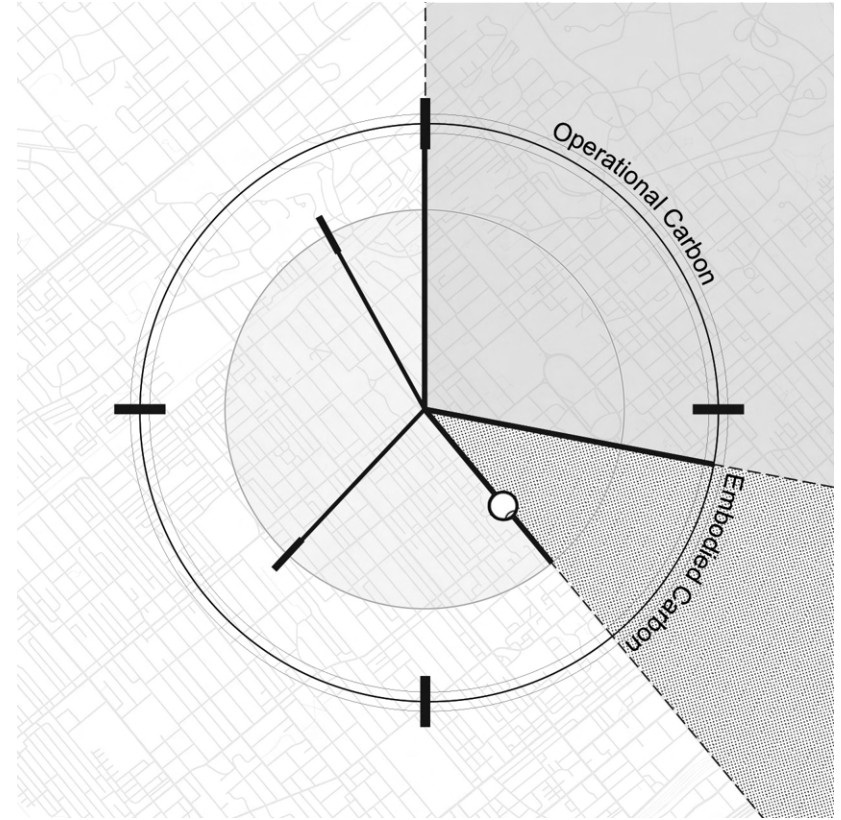


**Farah Michel**  
MARC

لا تنسوا: On the Attempt of Archiving Revolt

Lā Tnswā proposes a virtual framework for an open-source archive that spatializes data about Cairo's revolutions from 1900 to the present. Positioned at the intersection of political activism and immersive storytelling, Lā Tnswā addresses the opposition between individual memory and a nation's constructed history by archiving documents, photos and videos of revolutions. Lā Tnswā organizes data as artifacts chronologically and geographically in idiosyncratic cabinets that correspond to Cairo's political spaces. Here, a shift in scale transforms a cabinet shelf into an occupiable room where the curated artifacts are portals into landscapes of political memory and an opportunity to construct non-linear narratives.

Advisors: Lara Lesmes, Fredrik Hellberg



**Neveen Naushad**  
MARC

Designing with Embodied Carbon: Decoding Embodied Carbon Assessment to Inform Design Decisions

We're running out of time. The accelerating impacts of climate change is more evident now than ever before. With alarmingly frequent and intense climate events, the effects, losses and costs are unforgiving. The building sector contributes at least 37 percent of global carbon emissions annually. Twenty-seven percent of these emissions are comprised of operational carbon and 10 percent of embodied carbon. This research aims to foster discussions at the Daniels Building around the critical need to incorporate embodied carbon calculations at an early design stage and highlight the impacts of design decisions on the whole life cycle carbon of buildings.

Advisor: Alex Lukachko



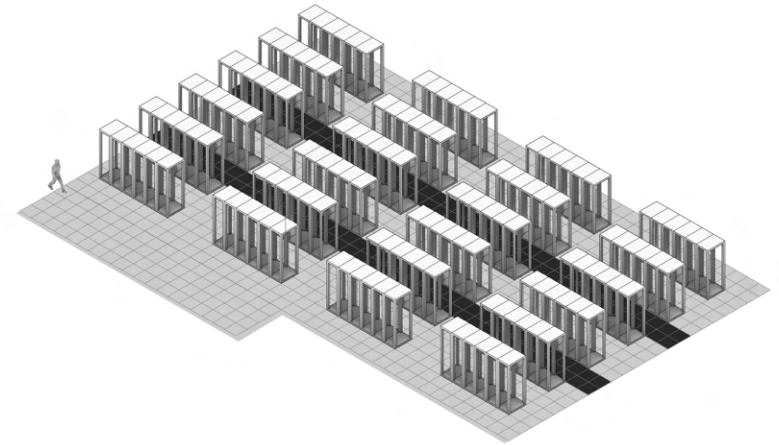
**Keenan Ngo**  
MARC

### Buried Landscapes

Between Toronto and Lake Simcoe, an indigenous portage route called the Carrying Place Trail was used for thousands of years prior to the arrival of settlers to North America. Urbanism has erased the trail leaving scattered remnants in a fragmented landscape. These fragments are an archipelago of stories and memories under a disturbed ground.

To have an intimate relationship with the land requires respect and a curiosity for discovery—seeking out and learning the stories and knowledge hidden beneath the surface. How can architecture reclaim urbanism, alter landforms, and reconstruct landscapes for people to engage with the land?

*Advisor: Petros Babasikas*

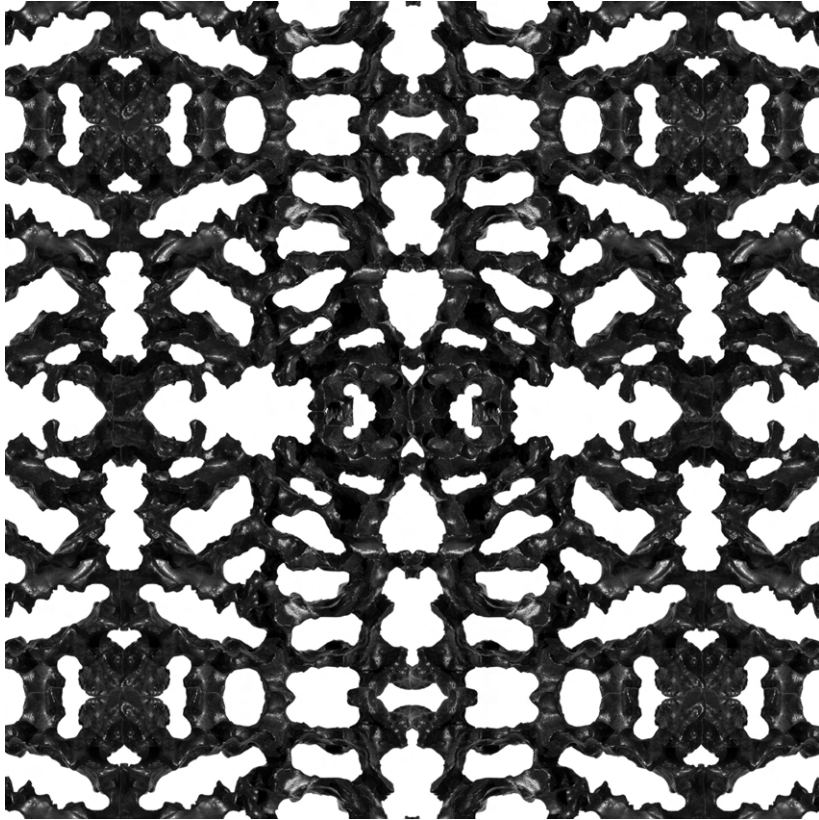


**Haiqa Kashif Nisar**  
MARC

### Data-form Reboot

Today, data doesn't exist "somewhere else," but is physically right next to us due to data distribution trends such as edge networking. No longer routed through gargantuan, placeless data centres, data is growing smaller and closer. Yet the physical forms data assumes remain post-human and utilitarian. Is the shift in data's proximity and scale an opportunity for the form of data storage to engage its immediate physical, social and cultural circumstances? Could human-generated data also instigate human engagement? This thesis catalogues data-form sub-types that symbiotically provide connectivity back to end-users, through a range of programs like heritage preservation, community engagement, and housing.

*Advisor: Laura Miller*

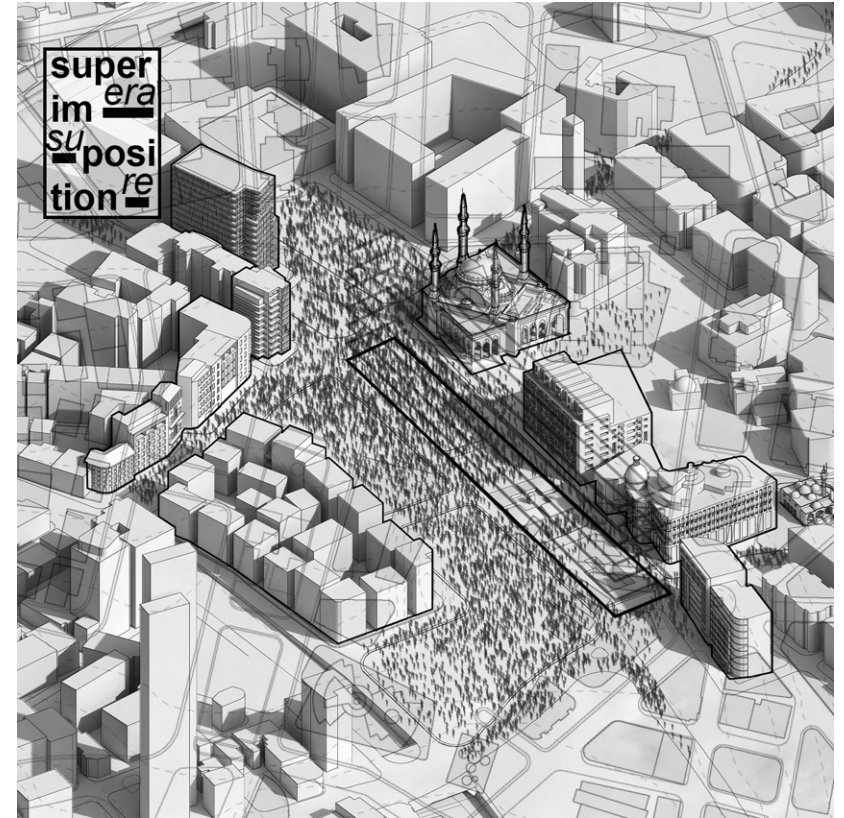


**Helga Packeviciute**  
MARC

#### There, not there

My thesis, a model-based installation exhibition, challenges the traditional perception of an ornament as being a non-essential feature of a building. Instead, it develops the notion of ornament as transgressing the boundary between an architectural form and an aesthetic object, applying this within the design process. This confluence blurs the distinction between architecture and ornament — the ornament is no longer simply an additive, but also the architectural form. This suggests an alternative reading of a space where the ornament is there and not there, in which the scale and representation of a space is perpetually changing.

*Advisor: John Shnier*



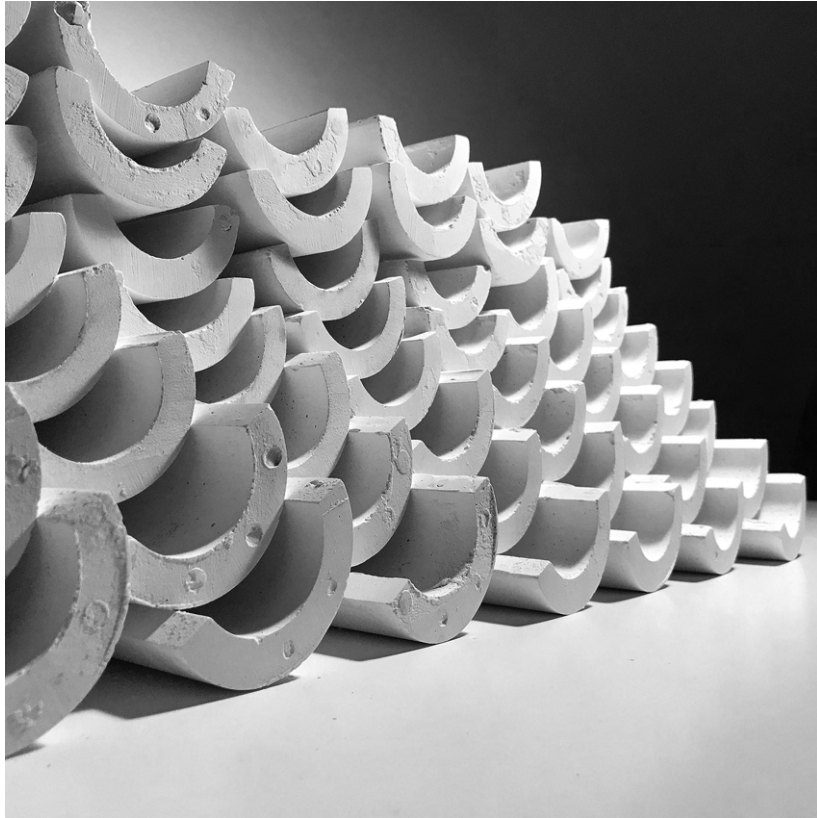
**Sahar Pashazanousi**  
MARC

#### Superimposition of Erasures

This thesis focuses on redesigning Beirut's primary public square, Martyrs Square, which has undergone substantial changes throughout its history. Its constantly changing structure and the continuous erasure of its built fabric have formed its identity. In its ever-changing forms and boundaries, it has maintained its significance as a collective ground that enables people to appropriate it through their interactions and heal this traumatized situation. This project strives to unify all these narratives to reassemble a new interpretation of the traumatic landscape where, despite healing the scars, they can be seen, to preserve the memory and identity of the city.

*Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh*





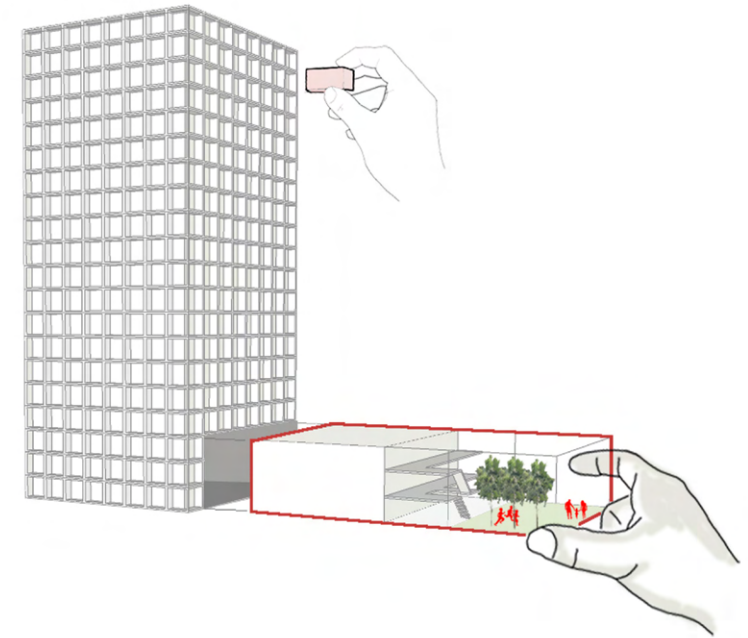
## Viktor Leandro Peñaflor

MARC

### Facsimiles in Search of the Mutability of Monumental Forms

This project reimagines a monumental tectonic form that is perceptibly immutable. It is an abstract and conceptual exercise that explores the tension between immutability and forces of creative entropy. The thesis believes a new expression or understanding of monumental form may emerge from the suspension of its current state, through a reimagined state imposed upon it. Through a process that facilitates manipulation, a facsimile or several facsimiles may emerge. Thus the original form may be liberated, creating a space for the imagination to explore the territory between the immutable and the mutable.

*Advisor: John Shnier*



## David Anand Peterson

MARC

### Space to Play

#### Socially Fit Housing Forms for Children

This thesis takes a child's social needs as a basis for examining housing design, showing how cul-de-sacs and courtyards have much in common as social typologies. The close relationship between their home and a shared social space provides young children with a degree of independence unmatched by other housing choices. The lessons learned from these housing types are used as an analysis tool for critiquing the design of towers. The result is a series of design principals and project proposals that correlates forms and children's wellbeing.

*Advisors: Erica Allen-Kim, Stephen Verderber*



## Robert Raynor

MARC

### The Post-Car(bon) Suburb

Everyone needs a home, and there is currently a national housing crisis in Canada. Construction accounts for two-fifths of all carbon emissions, and there is currently a global climate crisis. When accommodating a growing population, municipalities typically respond in two ways: by densifying the existing built environment, or by creating more built environment, most often in greenfield sites surrounding urban areas. In north Pickering, Ont., Seaton is a sprawling community of 18,000 homes presently being built on empty farmland. Can this brand-new suburban development be reimagined as a tool to set a growing population up for carbon-neutral living by 2050?

*Advisor: Kelly Alvarez Doran*



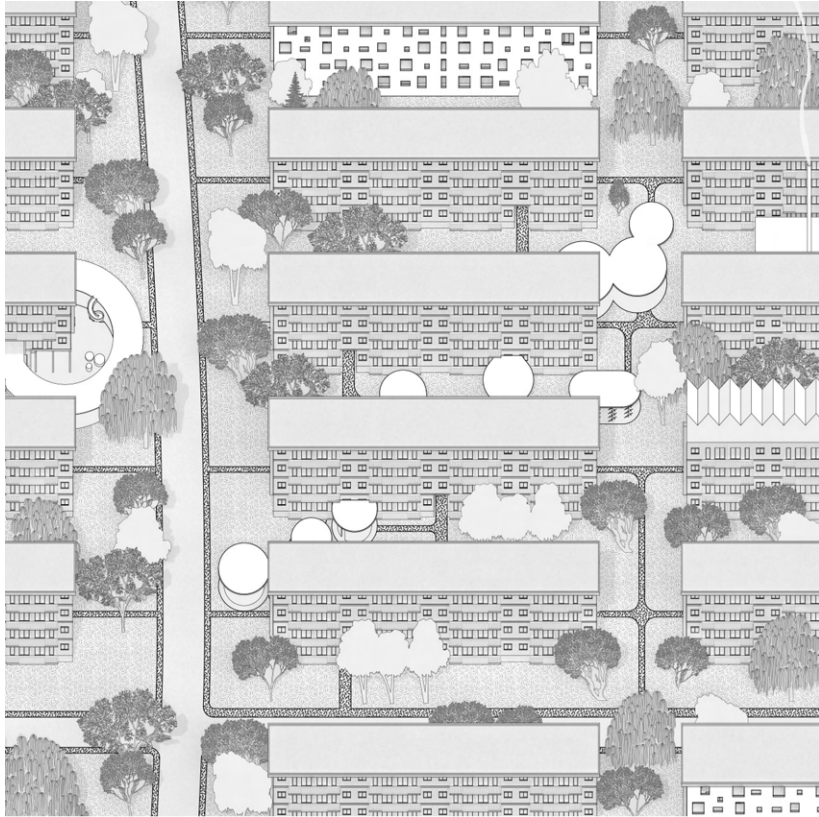
## Robert Raynor

MARC

### SOMEONE LIVES HERE / DO NOT REMOVE

We are all one step away from being homeless. Does the architecture we build actually serve our human needs?

*Advisor: Reza Nik*



## Erik Jinmatsu Roberson

MARC

### New Danchi

*Danchi*, a typology of postwar housing clusters in Japan, symbolized a cultural movement toward housing for the nuclear family. While originally intended for multigenerational living, they eventually developed a direct association with the aging demographic and the phenomenon of *Kodokushi*, or lonely deaths. Today, there is growing interest to reutilize these former symbols of modernity outside of nuclear family households; however, just as populations have aged, so too have the buildings, which have proved remarkably insufficient for this transition. This thesis will explore the shortfalls and possibilities of the Danchi through a retrofitting lens with an emphasis on the prospects of multigenerational communities.

Advisor: Shane Williamson



## Veronika Salamun

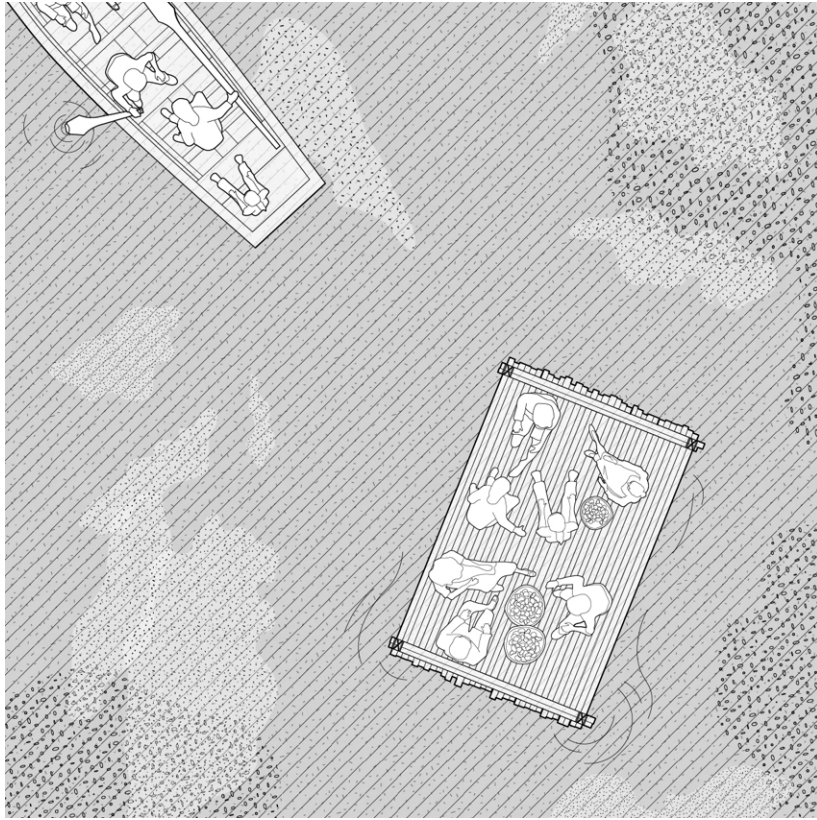
MARC

### Ruin[ed]: Rebuilding the Abandoned Hotel City, Kupari, Croatia

Along Croatia's Adriatic coast rests a former military resort-turned-hotel graveyard on Kupari's Župa Bay. This site is part of a network of abandoned coastal sites that share double histories of tourism and war, where the presence of the opposing cultural conditions is still felt today. Due to the hotels' strategic location, both economically and historically, they are destined to be redeveloped in service of mass tourism. This thesis aims to celebrate the painful and vibrant cultural-historical-architectural identity of the site by proposing a new city that focuses on the ground plane as a continuous accessible space belonging to the public domain.

Advisor: Petros Babasikas





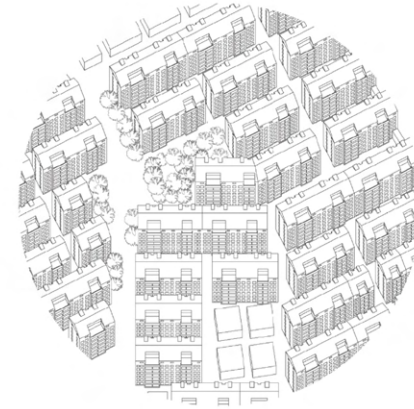
## Priyanka Chirag Shah

MARC

### Adrift: A Narrative on Coastal Migration and Village Rebuilding

As waters rise in coastal Bangladesh, the threat of displacement for rural inhabitants becomes increasingly significant. Historically, migratory patterns suggest that these environmental refugees resettle in urban centers — an exodus done out of necessity. Through cataloguing building techniques and cultural narratives, the work offers itself as a guidebook for an alternate migration — a process for resettlement on water that protects way of life. The project generates a social fabric through a series of coastal resilience strategies and bottom-up design approaches for amphibious structures. This incremental urbanism focuses on protecting vulnerable communities and their way of life, while allowing for a continual adaption to these fluctuating conditions.

*Advisor: Petros Babasikas*



## Hongtao Shen

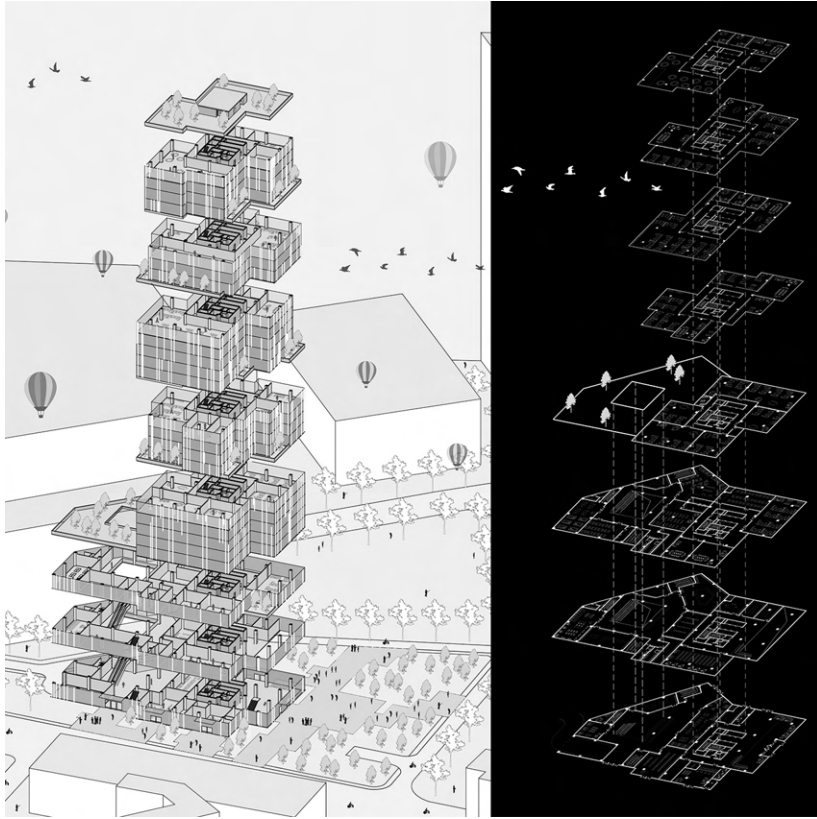
MARC

### Microdistrict: Adaptive Reuse

In the 1960s, the Chinese government commissioned a collective-living model to respond to population growth. Today, nearly one billion people live in this Microdistrict (Xiao'qu) housing. At the same time, the Microdistrict model faces a crisis of obsolescence and loss of identity. In response, this thesis project proposes incremental steps to extend its buildings' life expectancy and support its distinct identity. By creating new building envelopes and rearranging ground conditions in the neighbourhoods, the design will create new communal spaces, guiding and strengthening interactive moments in neighbourhoods. With the cooperation of residents' committees, the proposal aims to speak to the needs of residents, having the spaces respond to the call of their own users.

*Advisor: Petros Babasikas*



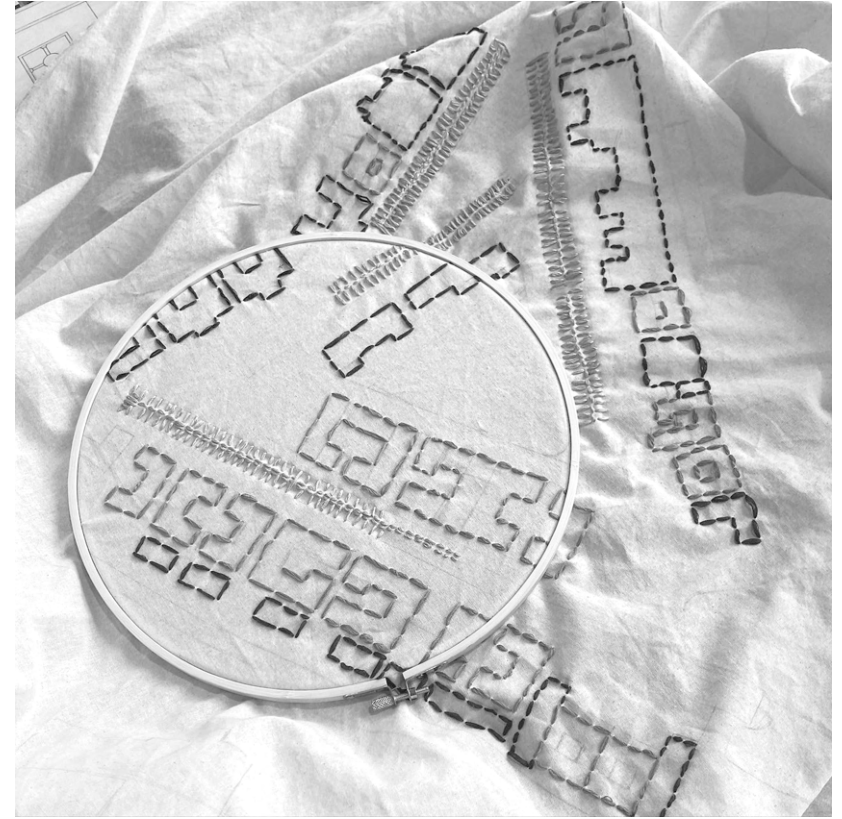


**Peishan Shen**  
MARC

#### Emotions and Sustainability

Sustainability and high-rise residential buildings have developed into critical trends in the architectural design industry. When designers focus on reducing energy consumption, they may neglect that some sustainable design elements can bring discomfort to high-rise residents. Besides, there are very few sustainability evaluation criteria based on users' psychological well-being. Therefore, this paper intends to research the relationship between occupants' psychological well-being and sustainable high-rise building strategies in Toronto. The research results could be a guideline for optimizing sustainable features without compromising residents' comfort and emotions.

*Advisors: Alstan Jakubiec, Roberto Damiani*



**Dipra Lokesh Shetty**  
MARC

#### The Washing Place

In Mumbai's Mahalaxmi Dhobi Ghat, a close-knit community of washermen (dhobis in Hindi) wash approximately 750,000 items of clothing per day. Over the years, their work site has been transformed into a collage of domestic and vocational activities seeping into spaces they are unfamiliar in. The dhobis, who work independently servicing the city of Mumbai, are consequently trapped by legislative constraints, remnants of casteism, and pressures to vacate their homes to make way for high-rise condos. This project aims to give the community infrastructure that strengthens their access to water to ensure their wellbeing until better protections are put into place.

*Advisor: Petros Babasikas*

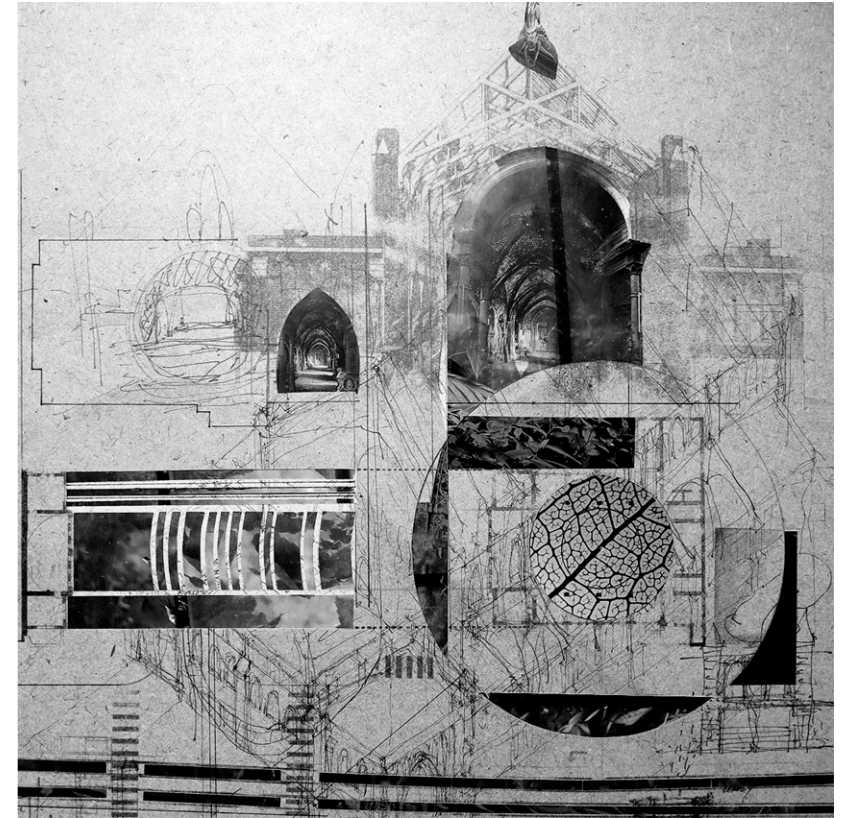


**FengYao (Allan) Shi**  
MARC

#### **Scent of Loss**

Architecture has long developed tools to design for light and shadow, acoustics and tactility, but it has largely ignored the development of spatial tactics that enhance our engagement with fragrance. In the human sensorium, olfaction is the sense that exhibits the most direct and expressive neurological links to memory. As the built world expands, the olfactory environment is threatened and reduced by anthropogenic change. Conscious of odour diversity's precarity at the planetary scale, this thesis produces a speculative fiction that argues for an expansion in architecture's expertise with olfaction, while advocating for the preservation of global odour ecology in an embrace of its evident link to memory.

*Advisor: Miles Gertler*



**Kon Shin**  
MARC

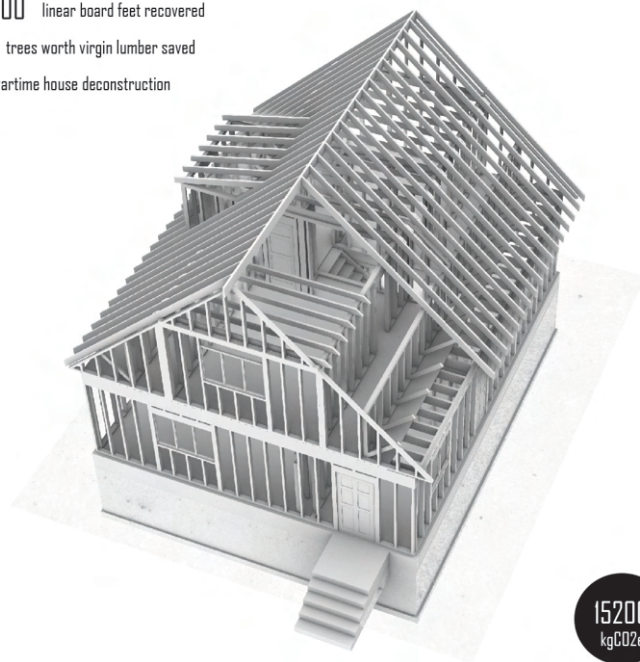
#### **Reclaiming a Church as a Garden for Truth and Reconciliation**

Due to plunging congregations, many churches across Canada are closing. In Toronto, that means that church properties offer lucrative development opportunities, with many of them being repurposed as condominiums. Although this privatization can mean a loss of public space and history, church buildings are also markers of settler colonialism. To Indigenous peoples, they often symbolize atrocities related to residential schools. This thesis, which has the consultation of Indigenous communities as its driving process, explores the possibility of a space for reconciliation. It takes on the contradictions of development and legacy, reclaiming a vacant church as a garden and its extended domain as a public space where Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians can come together, reflect and connect with the land.

*Advisor: Petros Babasikas*



9000 linear board feet recovered  
12 trees worth virgin lumber saved  
1 wartime house deconstruction



15200  
kgCO<sub>2</sub>e

Biogenic Carbon Stored

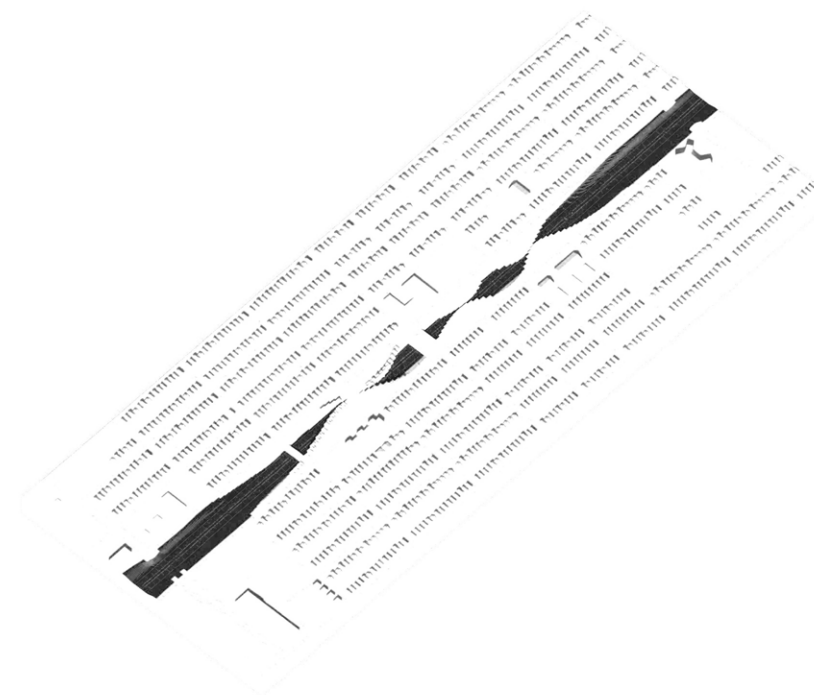
## Rashmi Sirkar

MARC

### Why Waste Wood? Resourcify Toronto's Building Stock

Wood is once more at the forefront of sustainable architectural strategies due to its biogenic storage of CO<sub>2</sub> as the planet moves toward a carbon-based economy. Wood is also the third-highest material type per capita that is landfilled in Canada every year. How could reusing this resource help keep our forestry practices more sustainable and reduce the pressure on solid waste disposal? How can we design for the circular economy of wood in Toronto that adequately addresses questions of economic viability, material conservation, spatial logistics and a shift in architectural aesthetics? This project is a multiscalar investigation of these questions using mapping, modelling, life cycle analysis and the study of policy precedents and successful deconstruction and salvage businesses.

Advisors: Kelly Alvarez Doran, Michael Piper



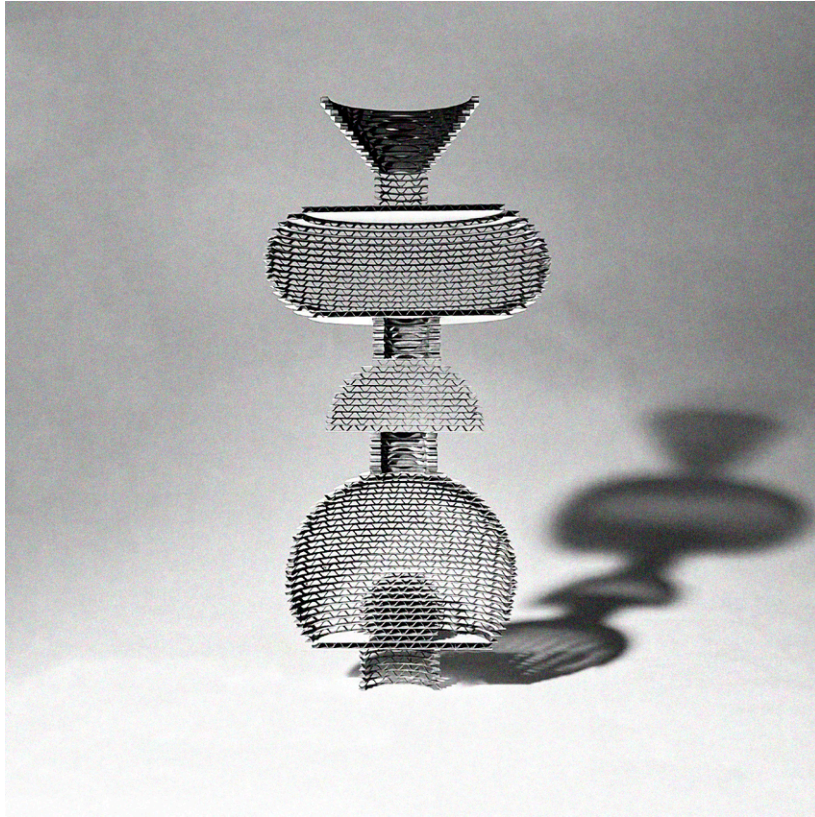
## Alexander Sterlin-Altman

MARC

### Remediating Infrastructural Divisions

This thesis project explores the way in which freeways have created infrastructural voids across America. Through the case study of Rondo, Minnesota — a once thriving urban neighbourhood directly between St. Paul and Minneapolis — Remediating Infrastructural Divisions questions how the influence of car culture and the Eisenhower Interstate system can change with our evolving urban centres and their respective evolving cultures. The project proposes a micro-scale approach to remedy this macro-scale infrastructure. Through reducing the scale of the remedy, the impact the highway creates can be softened, and a human scale environment can begin to be fostered.

Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh



## Man Kit (Michael) Tam

MARC

### O Cannabis!

In 2018, Canada formally legalized the cultivation, acquisition, possession and consumption of cannabis and its by-products, becoming the second country in the world to fully legalize the substance. Today, cannabis dispensaries have proliferated in cities, yet their appearance as shrouded storefronts closed to public view is a hangover from past attitudes, reflecting the former marginal status of cannabis consumption in society. This thesis aims to create a new, public site to encounter the different facets of cannabis consumption: medicinal uses (spa, dispensary, therapeutic spaces); recreational, social and entertainment uses (experiential, immersive spaces); and production (grow-op facility, tours and “tasting” rooms).

*Advisor: Laura Miller*



## Mari Jaeva Tan Tomol

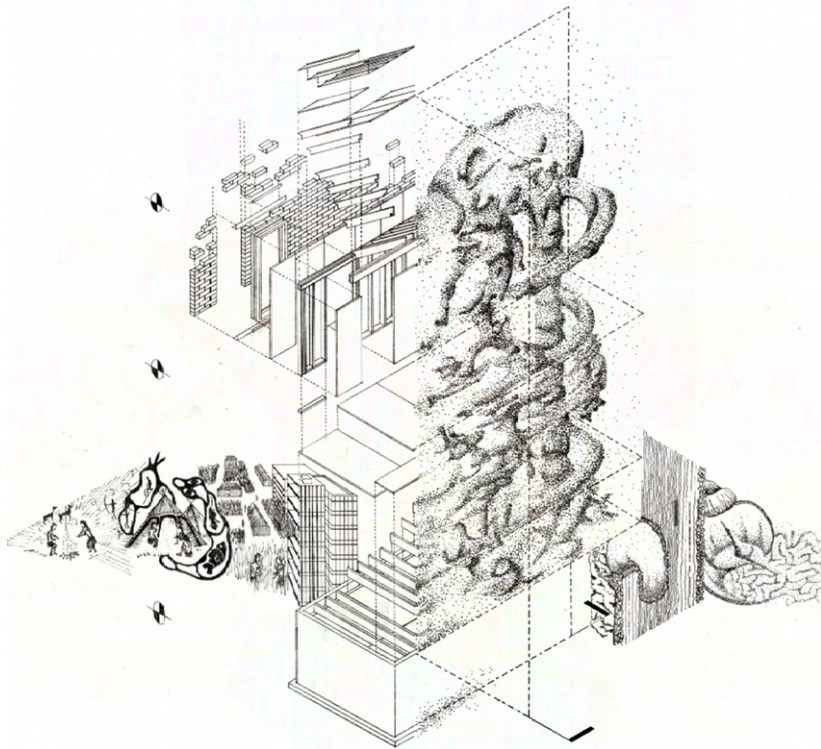
MARC

### SaMPLE

The Sound and Music PLAYground Experience is an interactive space that aims to educate visitors on the evolution of music by presenting the journey from sound to song. SaMPLE provides visitors with access to extensive information regarding copyright laws and music production and becomes a response to the flawed notion that the modern practice of music sampling is a violation of intellectual property by highlighting the collaborative process it represents instead. Visitors will have the opportunity to listen and follow the progression of music over time and discover how sampling has become an integral part of music today.

*Advisors: Lara Lesmes, Fredrik Hellberg*





## Hsiao Yi (Alex) Tang

MARC

### Osteogenic-architecture

It emerges  
 It senses, as It grows.  
 It reacts, as It ossifies.  
 It lives, as It nurtures.  
 It ages, as It dies.  
 It is an Organism,  
 It is an Architecture.

it collaborates, as it metabolizes.  
 it spawns, as it evolutionizes.  
 it is not for human,  
 it is for more-than-human.

Advisor: Brian Boigon



## Yungwen (Riley) Tseng

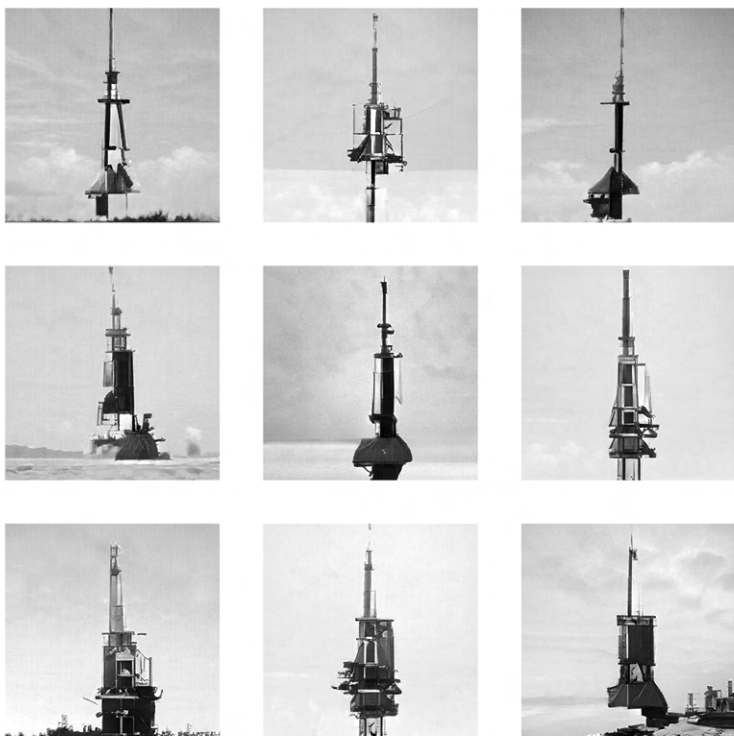
MARC

### Observe Speech

As the boundaries between the physical world and the immersive Internet continue to blur, virtual worlds requiring their own regulatory systems are simultaneously being constructed. We have seen an example of this in the proposed regulation of social media platforms, a process that has been devoid of user participation. This project envisions a virtual repository where cyber laws can be collected. The repository has a hybrid function, working as archive, debate space and protest site. It is a place where historical records can be reviewed and discussed publicly, identifying precedents and keeping track of new cases that shape the future of digital human rights.

Advisors: Lara Lesmes, Fredrik Hellberg





## Kate Van Bakel

MARC

### /NDUSTR/A

/NDUSTR/A is a speculative project that articulates a data-driven choreography of structure, exploring and expanding upon qualities of digital and analogue infrastructural systems. Industrial structures and mechanisms of the early 20th century are studied and assembled into an inventory of forms. This indexed system was then warped, mutated and re-imagined into a sequence of digital-industrious beacons, assisted by machine-led design. Blurring the bygone and the novel, /NDUSTR/A initiates expeditions into the dynamic and physical manifestations of an imperfect global system of data management and technological dominance, speculating on what transpires when the machine facilitates its own design.

*Advisor: Brian Boigon*

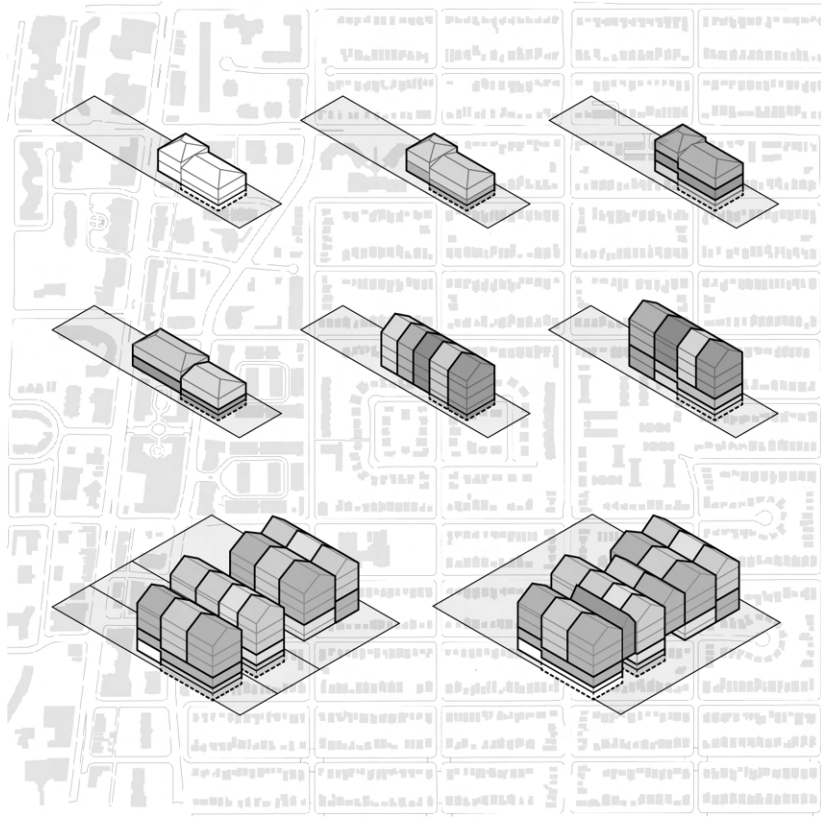
## Iris Xinyi Wang

MARC

### Sensorial Learning

Experiencing the sensorial aspects of both the human-made and natural environments is critical to early childhood learning, sparking children's curiosity and knowledge of the world. Likewise, the importance of play in fostering cognitive growth, social skills and physical independence is well-known. Such ideas are inherent in innovative education — see the Montessori and Waldorf schools, for example — and are also incorporated in more conventional curricula today. Yet the physical form of schools has mostly remained unchanged. How can the design of a school's physical environment better embody the central importance of play and tactile, sensory learning?

*Advisor: Laura Miller*



**Jue Wang**  
MARC

### Homes in Willowdale: A New Way of Densifying Neighbourhoods

This project envisions a new way of adding density in the Toronto neighbourhood of Willowdale. The current development of condominium towers in the area concentrates density growth along Yonge Street, which is believed to be unsustainable due to the high carbon emissions of the high-rises. This project proposes to maintain and improve the smaller developments along major streets and distribute the density across the whole neighbourhood by modifying current zoning mechanisms. Along with the residential area being densified, new amenities and public spaces are introduced, which contributes to bringing in more activities to the residential area and creating a low-carbon lifestyle.

*Advisor: Kelly Alvarez Doran*

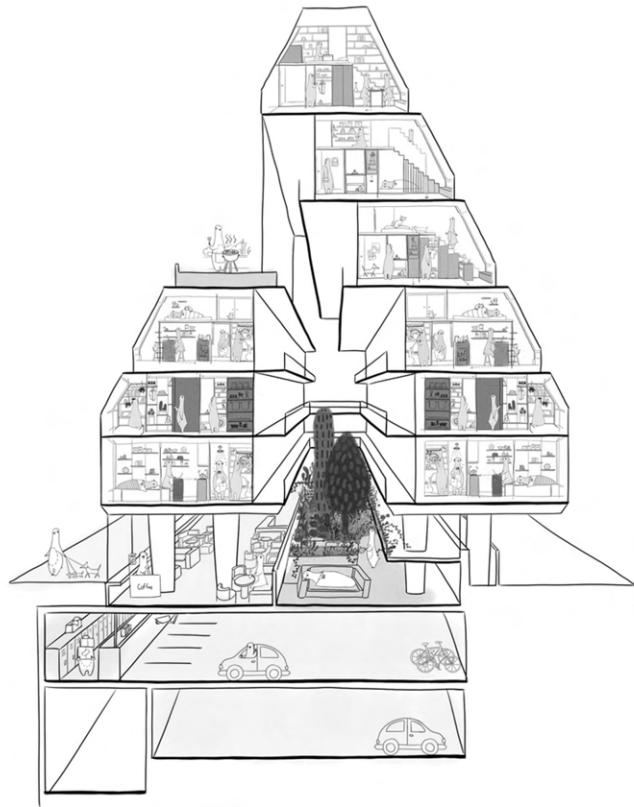


**Yifan Wang**  
MARC

### Aging in Place — Architecture in Contemporary Chinese Low-Density Suburban Society

Over the past decades, with the prosperity that has come through economic development, China has built the world's largest social insurance network. But concerns are rising that rural elderly have not benefited from economic growth to the same extent as the urban elderly have. Located in the suburbs of Beijing, LiHua village can be regarded as a representative case, demonstrating the contradiction between the vehicular build environment and aging life. This thesis incorporates the changing needs of the elderly for living space as their level of activeness changes, as well as traditional architectural elements, in order to provide a prototype of all-stage care for Chinese rural elderly.

*Advisor: Stephen Verderber*

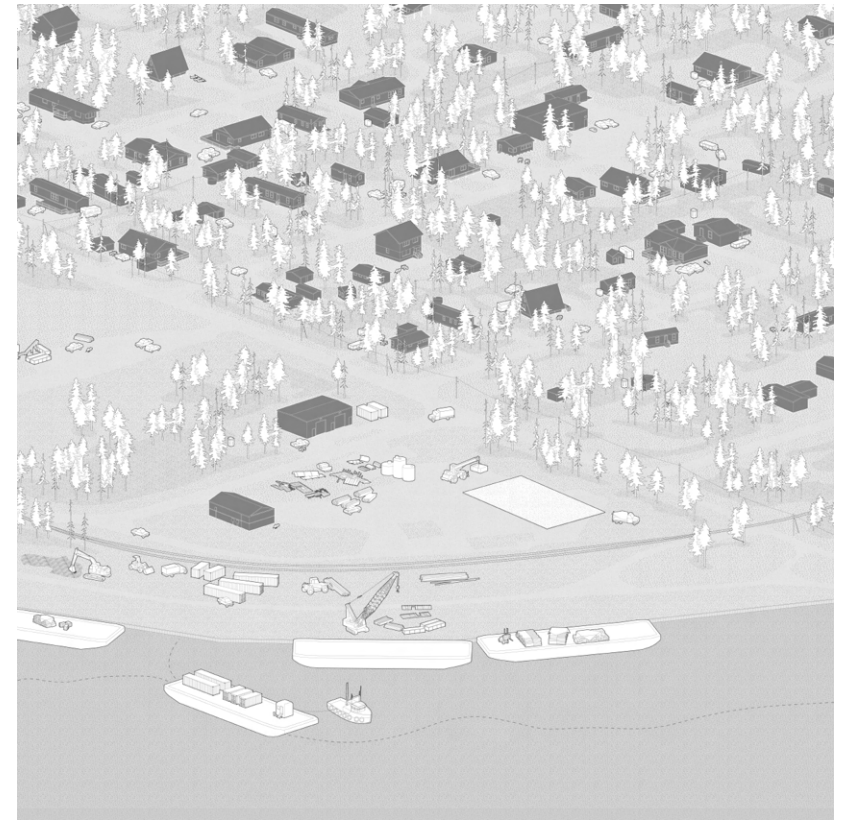


**Zhuo Wang**  
MARC

**Micro Living in Toronto: A study on optimizing the design of small affordable-housing units**

There is a housing crisis in Toronto. But to create more units, the city has focused on quantity rather than quality. By encouraging increased floor depth and promoting windowless bedrooms, Toronto has produced an abundance of small units with narrow, deep spaces and some tiny apartments with bedrooms without daylight. As an alternative, I will study the possibility of creating fluid and changeable interiors with furniture that maximizes space efficiency with better quality.

*Advisor: Michael Piper*

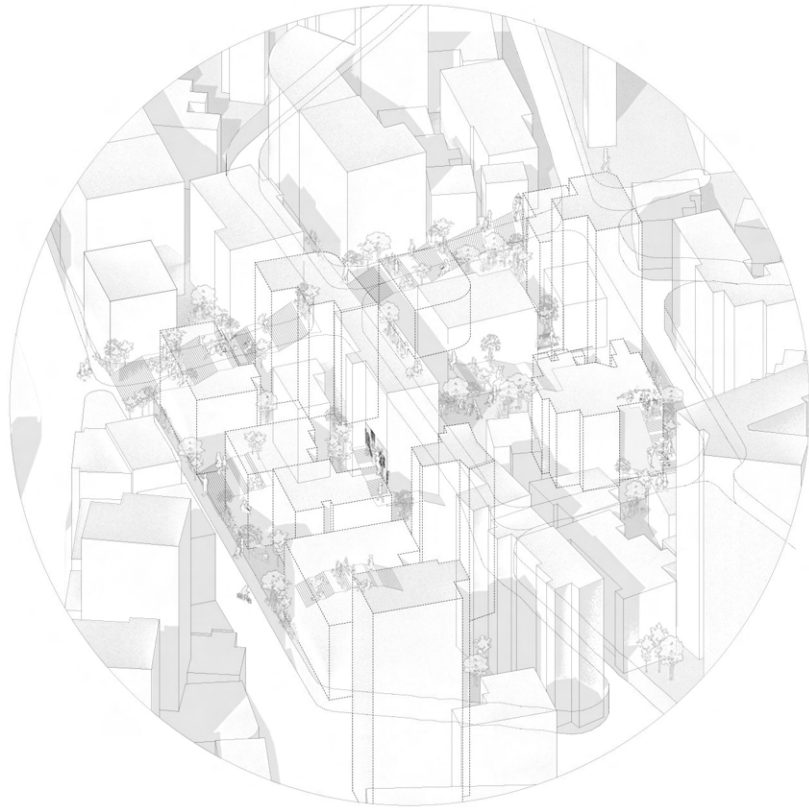


**Evan Douglas Webber**  
MARC

**One Log at a Time**

In Canada's northern territories, housing is not derived from experience, or local practices, but rather through a legacy of government programs which has removed communities from the process of housing production. Compounded by a rapidly aging population and deteriorating housing stock, the need to mediate between cultural appropriateness, environmental suitability and the logistics of material delivery requires new ground that reestablishes local industry and community agency. Integrated in the Northwest Territories, a local centre for housing research, education and fabrication engages northern peoples and traditional knowledge in each stage of the production process, from extraction of raw building materials to housing design and construction.

*Advisor: Shane Williamson*



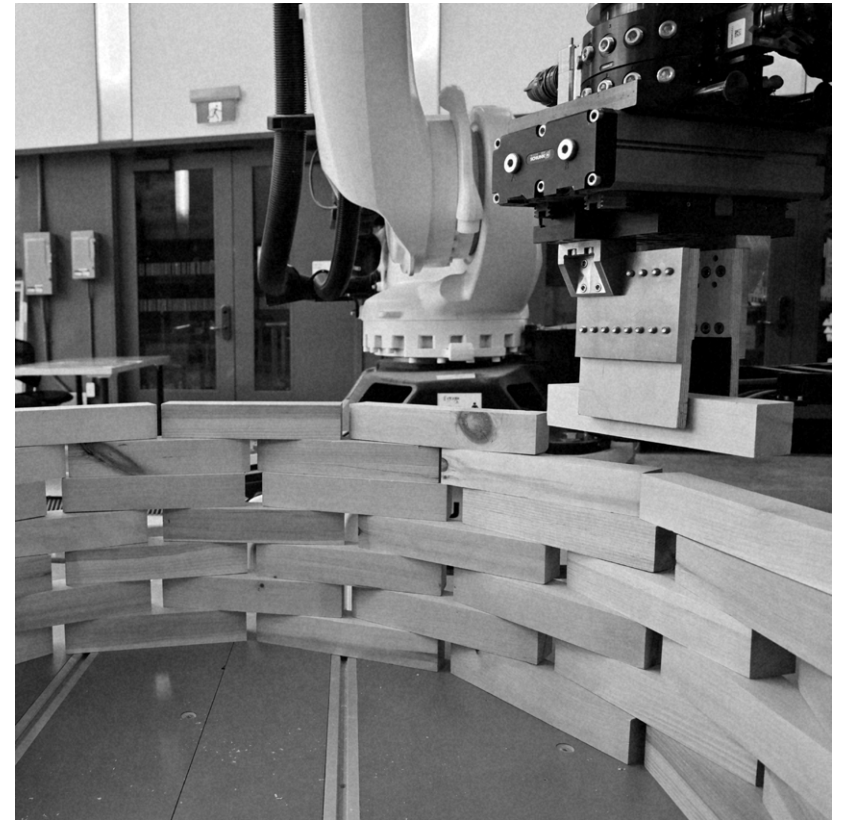
## Chuchu Xie

MARC

### Public Life Inserted into Urban Vacancies

Allowing for more flexibility, creativity and engagement with the communities, the small-scale vacant plot in Beirut is a rich source of public life that reactivates urban form and provides a space for healing and collective memory. By introducing stair structures into these sites, the vacant plots are able to join the existing urban fabric and create a network of open communal spaces that help to foster a vibrant public life — one inclusive of people, memories, nature and senses in the urban morphology of Beirut.

Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh



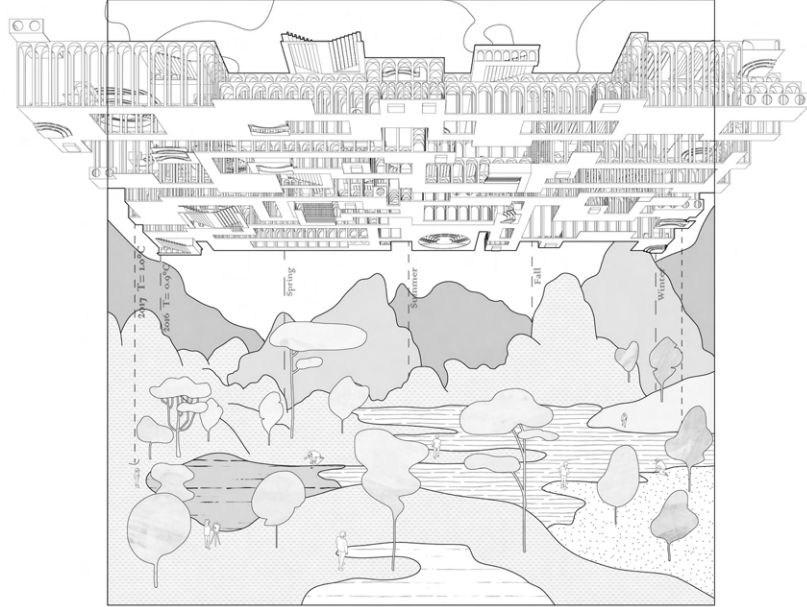
## Yihan Xu

MARC

### Robotic Stacking on the Moon

The purpose of this thesis research is to examine the robotic stacking of lunar habitats. The proposal is based on the Phase 3 development of the moon to prepare for long-term construction of lunar structures. To this end, in situ construction material such as regolith brick will be combined with robotic stacking technique in the design of lunar habitats. The image shows the stacking test of 104 pieces of 300mm by 56mm by 56mm wood blocks.

Advisor: Brady Peters



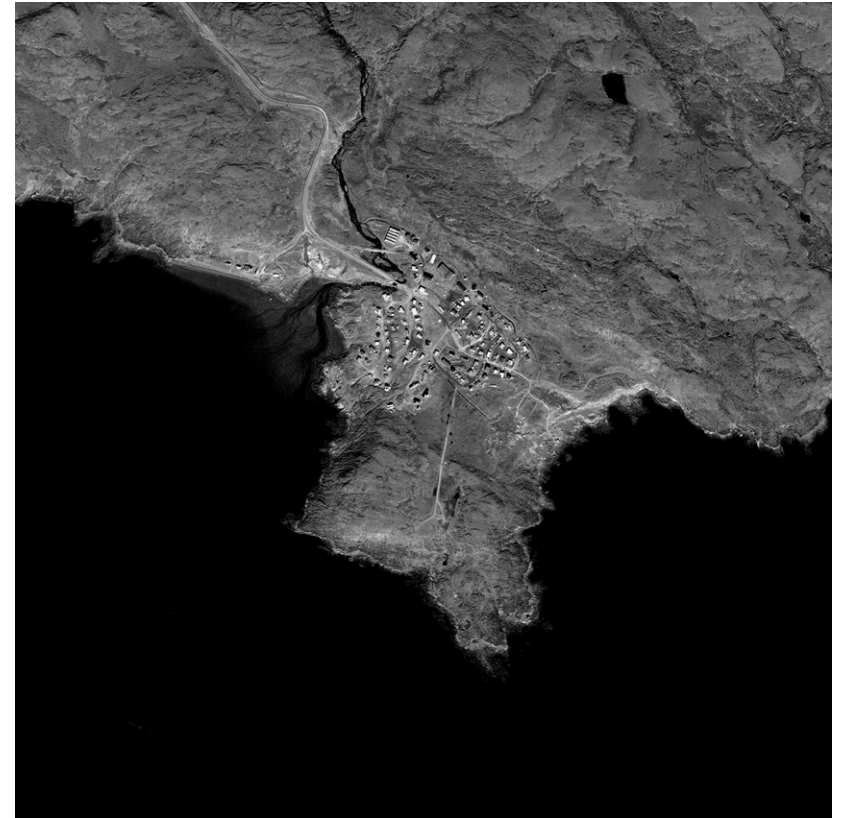
## Haodong Yang

MARC

### Experiencing as We Go

With the idea that the interaction between people and the built environment is largely sensorial, architects can create immersive environments to help people interpret data. This project proposes a virtual database for climate change information that can be experienced through different senses, as a way to raise awareness and provide a working environment for researchers. Natural elements are used as hybrid-object to represent climate data and create bridges between the physical and virtual environment.

*Advisors: Lara Lesmes, Fredrik Hellberg*



## Lucy Yang

MARC

### Compassionate Behavioral Healthcare for Underserved Populations: The Case for a Forensic Psychiatric Facility in Nunavut

Over the last century, Inuit in Nunavut have experienced rapid cultural and societal changes as a result of colonial and racist systems of oppression. And there is currently no dedicated forensic psychiatric facility in the sparsely populated territory. As a result, patients are typically relocated to facilities in Southern Canada, where they experience a loss of culture, language and community in the pursuit of mental health care. Thus the need is great for incorporating socio-cultural traditions with salutogenic design principles in the design of a compassionate behavioral health facility that encompasses an Inuit conception of health and holistically generates spiritual, emotional, cultural and physical wellbeing.

*Advisor: Stephen Verderber*





**Yixin Yang**  
MARC

**Arrival Village: Multigenerational Living in Urban Village Enclave**

Two big moves by the Chinese Government in 1979 are behind this project: the launching of the first stage of China's Market Reform, and the implementation of the One-Child Policy. The former initiated the rapid construction of modernist housing developments that took up what used to be farmland and transformed existing villages into urban "village enclaves," with the latter housing a disproportionate number of the aging population today. This project visits Changzhou, a second-tier city too often left unexamined, in order to seek better connections between the aging local inhabitants and the young migrant workers also living in urban villages, proposing co-living solutions with respect to the existing urban fabric.

*Advisor: Shane Williamson*

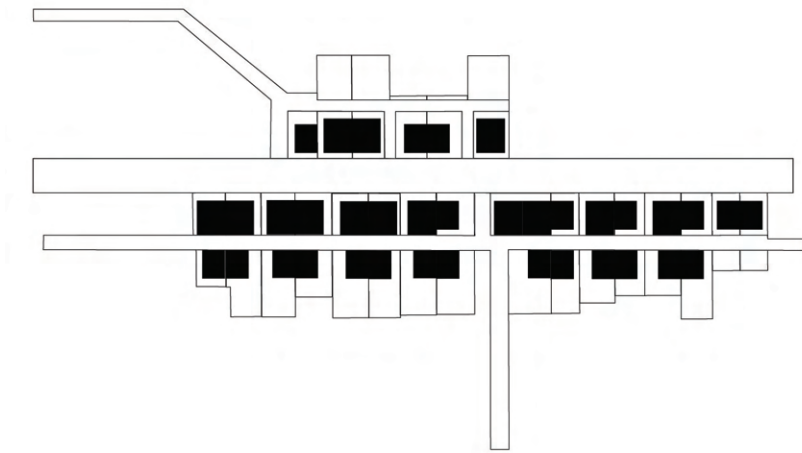


**Yoyo Tang Cheuk Yiu**  
MARC

**Mosaic Moment in Time, Space and Demands**

A post-traumatic landscape. It is perhaps not a solidified object, a catastrophic land bombarded with ruins and debris. Rather, it is a mosaic moment in time which wanders in between the past and the future, constantly evolving around unexpectancies. This project proposes to assist rehabilitation in Beirut with the reuse of scaffolding that has long existed within the cityscape due to wars. The structure is designed to provide maximum flexibility in accommodating various degrees and phases of needs, building restoration and a collective recovery process. It transforms and adapts in time, reintroducing hope, vibrancy and a sense of belonging to catastrophes.

*Advisor: Lina Ghotmeh*



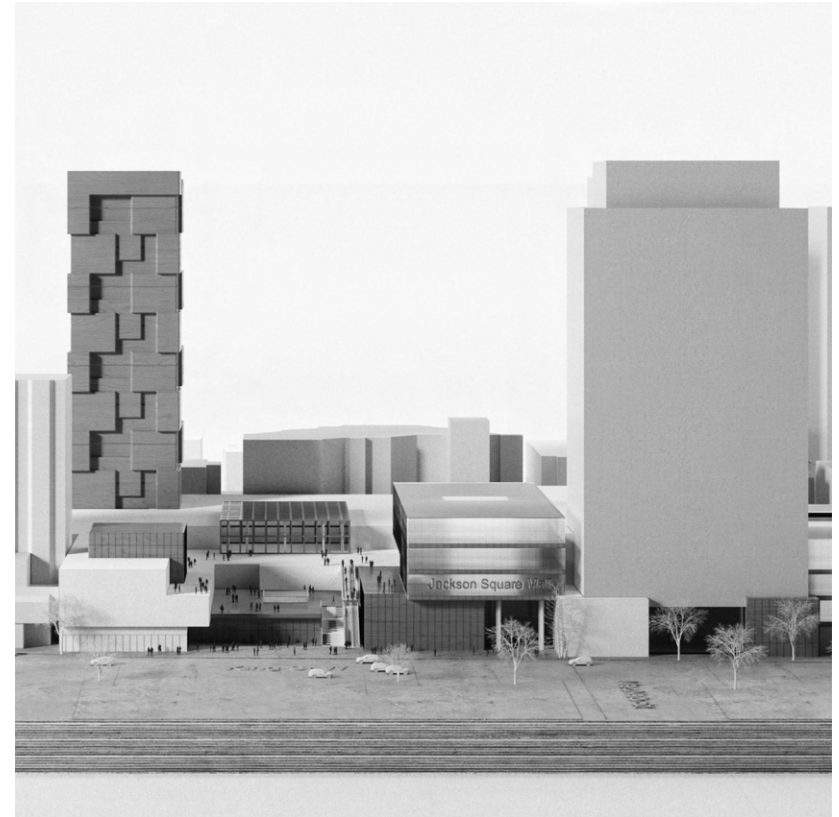
## Lingxin Zhang

MARC

### Laneway Modular Micro-Community

Today, more and more people live alone in Toronto, especially younger generations who come from other cities or countries in order to study and work. Living alone in a small space like a studio in a condo can cause stress and depression because of isolation and lack of community ties. This thesis proposes a laneway site in Chinatown for the development of a modular micro-community, examining how heightened laneway densification can build a connection between residents, strengthen community and address the loneliness many experience in a city.

*Advisor: Laura Miller*



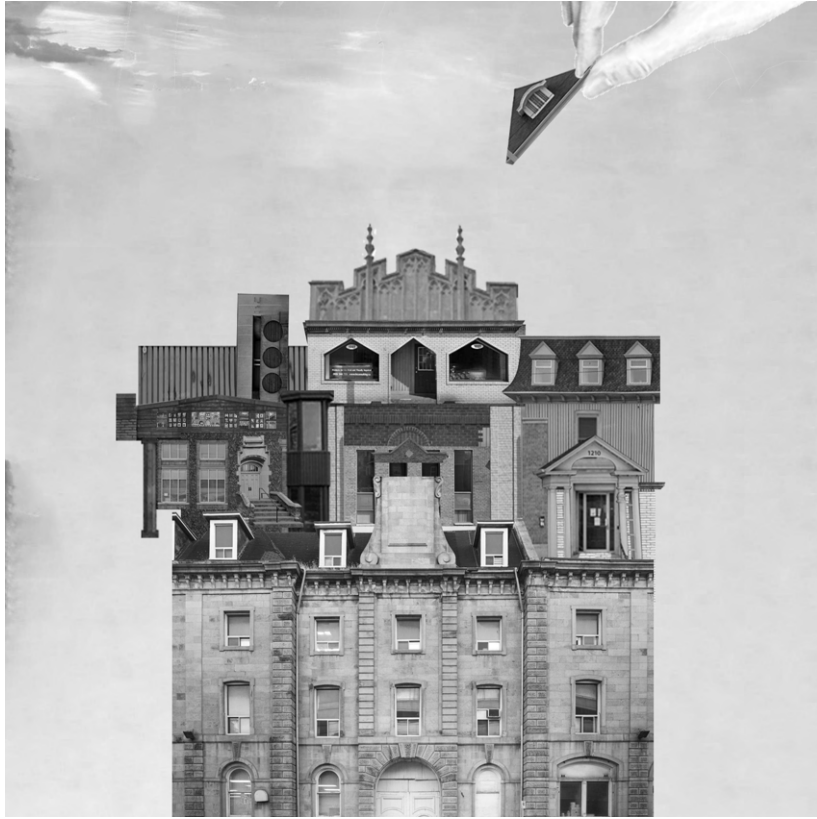
## Meichun Zhu

MARC

### Reconceptualizing Jackson Square Mall in Downtown Hamilton

The proposal seeks to solve problems of the existing mall, including destroying the urban fabric, loss of public space, and no regard for citizen input caused by its superblock urban form. The renewal design applies stacked and interlaced cubes to integrate with the existing modernist structure while respecting its surrounding context through height gradients. Meanwhile, the project emphasizes the concept of promoting social engagement by bringing back two important historical streets as main inner axes, creating various public amenities and landscapes on the street level, and proposing stepped terraces as public plazas for better rooftop uses and activities.

*Advisor: George Baird*



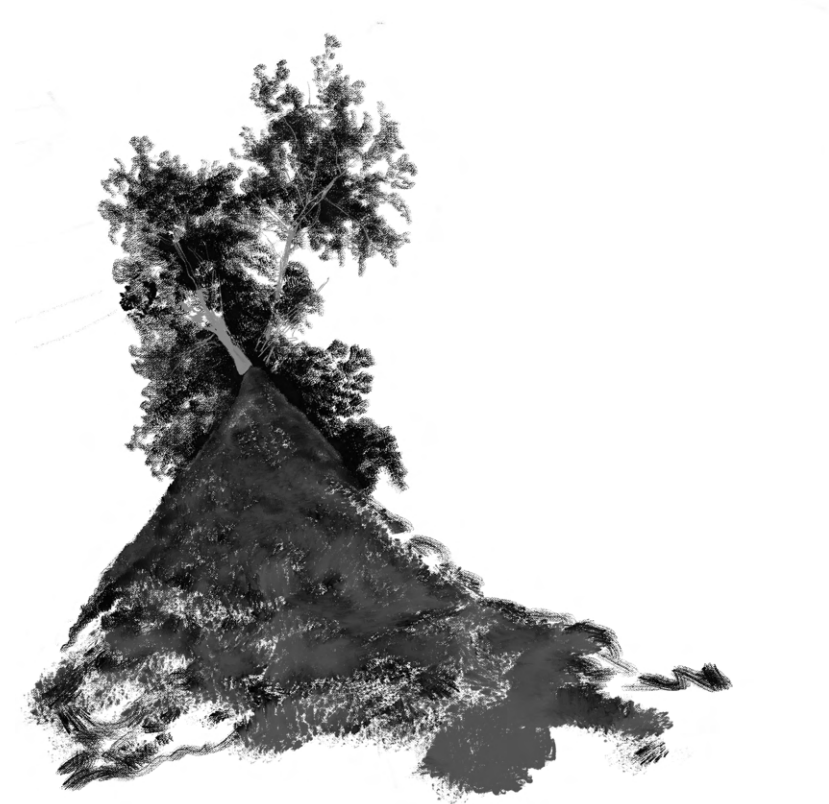
## Clara Ziada

MARC

### Re-Value: Imagining Hamilton as Palimpsest

How can we reevaluate our value system to redefine what is “heritage” and what is “waste”? Through demolition, buildings die in landfills. Through heritage recognition, buildings are frozen forever. As the city of Hamilton, Ont. grows, it must balance historical preservation with new development so that the current building stock may sustain future build. As a densification proposal with a focus on low embodied carbon and an advocacy for material value, the Coppley Building exemplifies how Hamilton can keep existing buildings and densify with salvaged materials to promote a circular economy and deconstruction, offer a new material language and aesthetic of reuse, and evolve a layered history of the city.

*Advisor: Kelly Alvarez Doran*



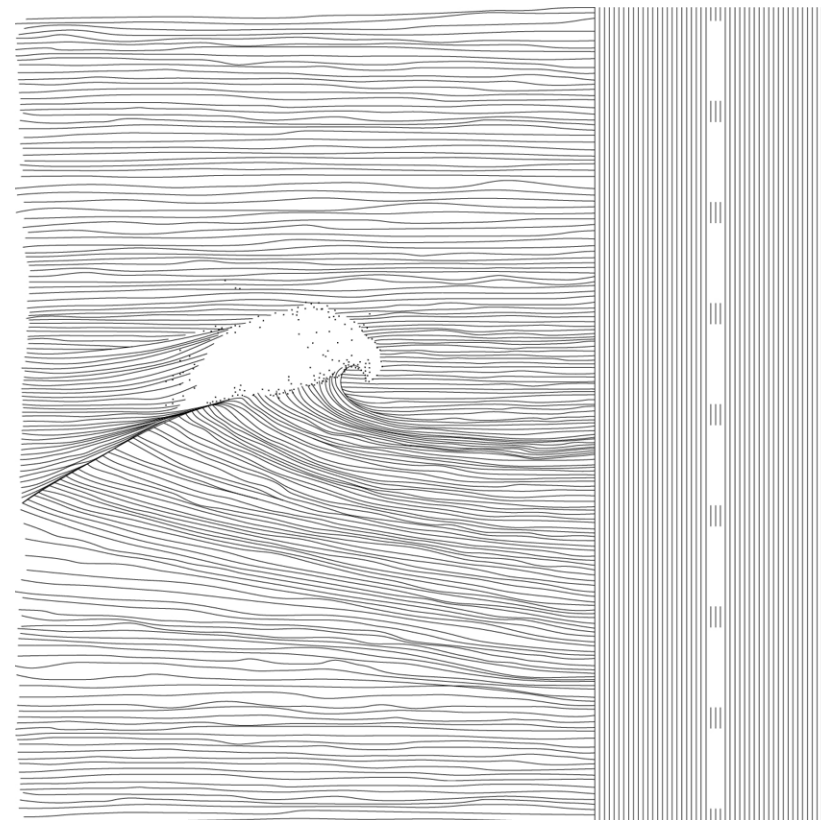
## Madison Appleby

MLA

**“The whisperings of roots”: The story of the understory, speculative futurism storytelling as research methodology**

In reaction to the conflict surrounding the Fairy Creek (Ada'itsx) blockade in British Columbia, a story of the future and past was created, told from the perspective of the forest and the internet. Drawing from the tenets of Indigenous futurisms and relational accountability, and in response to science fiction's role in colonial discourse, this story intends to redirect trajectories surrounding technology and extraction to create space for empathy in a difficult present. Stories in this future were technology, spinning words into meaning and meaning into action. The power of a story could shape the trajectory of the future. In this sense stories were treasured and carefully told.

*Advisor: Liat Margolis*



## Evelyn Babalis

MLA

**What is a Beach if not a Destination?**

A beach, simply stated, is a narrow, gently sloping strip of land that lies along the edge of a body of water. More conventionally, a beach is a destination of soft sandy shores catered to the desire to relax. Climate change challenges these static, anthropocentric definitions. Rebuilding Fort Lauderdale's barrier island through protective and adaptive planting strategies and urban [retreat] planning redefines the beach's cultural and ecological value. Once characterized as an idealized version of a synthetic nature, the process of attentive, ecologically driven design along the Florida city's coast redefines how green infrastructure can contribute to a resilient future for both humans and non-humans destined to experience Fort Lauderdale's dynamic landscape.

*Advisor: Behnaz Assadi*



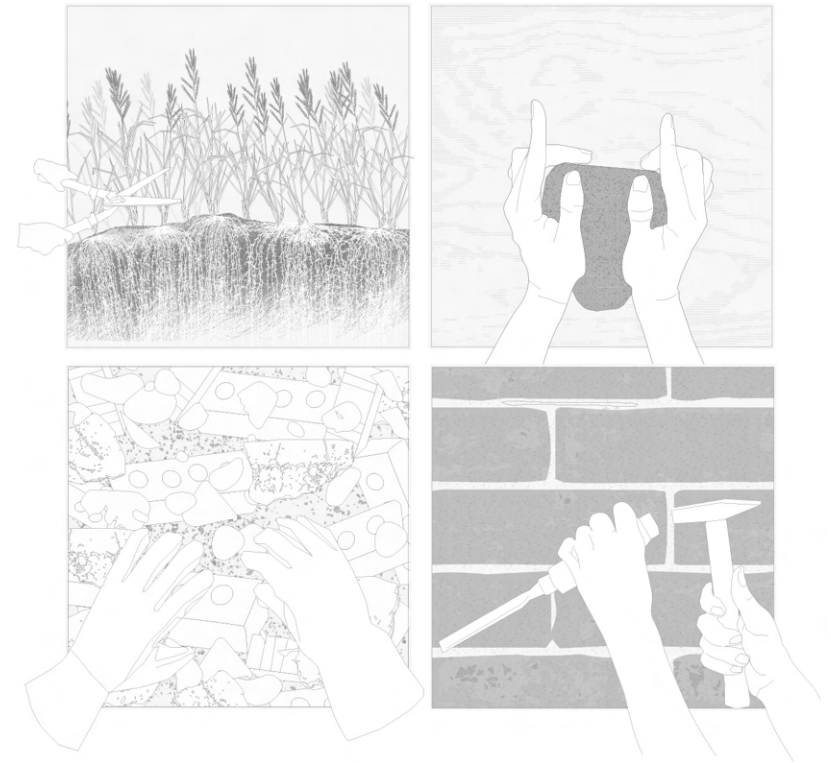
## Temira Bruce

MLA

### A Future for Fairgrounds

A fairground lies in a forgotten corner in almost every Ontario town. Fairgrounds were once critical pieces of infrastructure bolstering agricultural advancement at annual fairs. Today, fairgrounds have lost their purpose with the rise of industrial farming and a globalized food system, and their large landholdings and once-a-year use have left them vulnerable to development. As Ontario plans to grow, fairgrounds are perfectly situated to take on a new purpose within their communities as nodes of and entry points into a trail network, securing access to greenspace across the whole of the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

*Advisor: Matthew Perotto*



## Nadia Chan

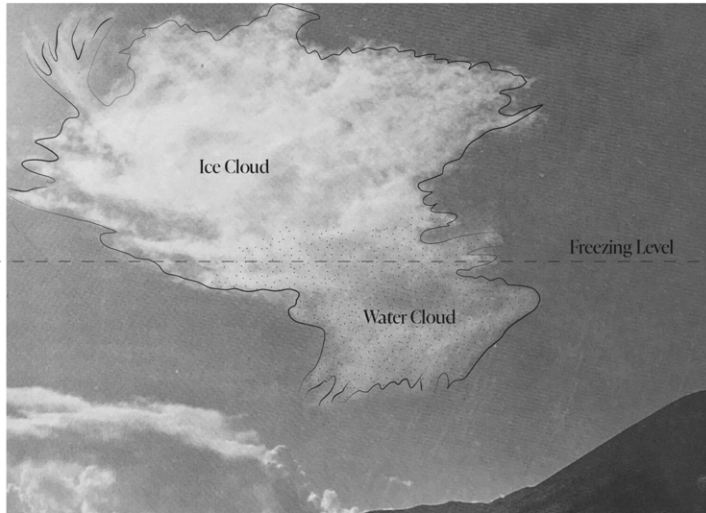
MLA

### Shifting Matter

Grounded in the clay of the Hamilton Pressed Brick, this thesis reflects on our entanglements with soils and explores the ways in which situated practices of care and maintenance can become a basis for landscape renewal. Through the operations of mending, cultivating and unbuilding, the project aims to re-establish ourselves as members of the soil community rather than just beneficiaries, shifting the site's narrative of colonial extraction to that of reciprocity. Working with clay, the site's transformation develops through ongoing strategies of soil care and material re-use, enabling engagements with stakeholders and practitioners to inform practices with clay regionally.

*Advisor: Aisling Marie O'Carroll*





Location: Qinghai-Tibet Plateau (4100 m.)  
Weather forecast: fine day, before rain.

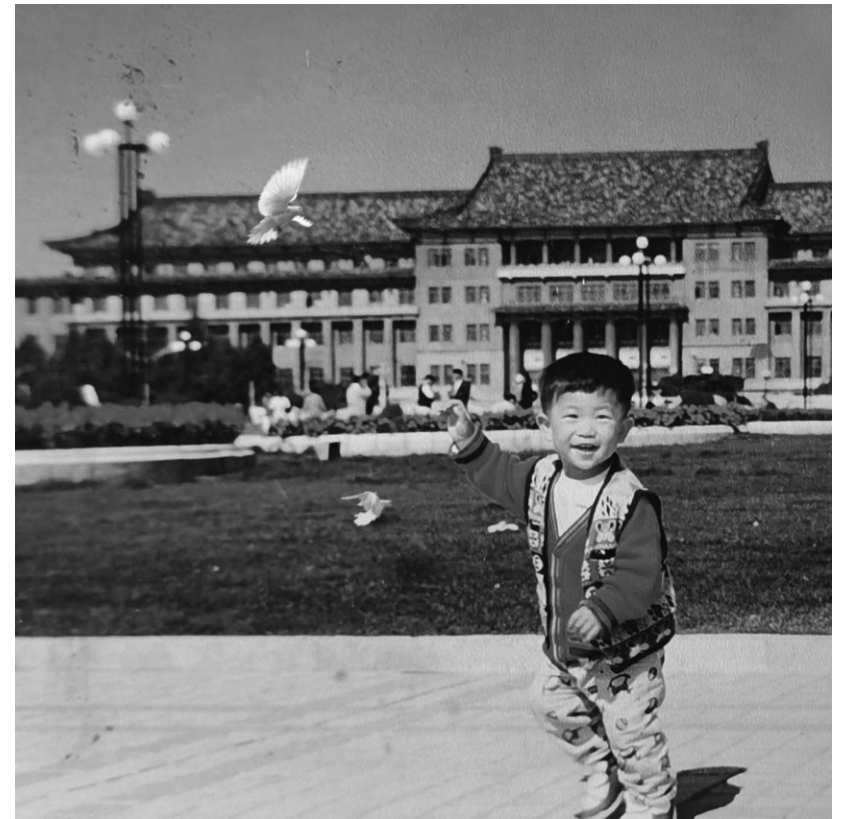
## Ngai (Joey) Chiu

MLA

### Under the Grey Clouds

Sky River is a state-led climate modification project that employs cloud-seeding technology to extract water resources in the atmosphere as a geoengineering solution to China's water scarcity. With rain enhancement operations offering an industrial promise of survival, how will increased precipitation impact the hyper-arid landscape of the Qaidam Basin of Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, a terrestrial analogue for Mars and a fragile landscape undermined by salt and lithium mining extraction. Under the Grey Clouds alludes to an uncertain future — a Sky River ideology explored through a speculative dystopian scene set upon a nation-state's climate reality.

Advisor: Aisling Marie O'Carroll



## Xin Xin (Tina) Cui

MLA

### Pigeon Culture

Pigeons are an important cultural icon in China, representing both vigour and peace. Beyond their powerful symbolic representation, they serve as an influential metaphor for the current cultural and environmental condition along Xinmin Street. In 2018, Xinmin Street and its surrounding landscape was nominated as a national historic district by China, an acknowledgment of the Manchukuo invasion. What is the best way to highlight the distinct heritage values of Xinmin Street, while maintaining relevance to contemporary society through sustainable urban public realm redevelopment? The goal of this project is to bring design precision to the government's Heritage Conservation District Plan, toward a holistic landscape-design approach that envisions historical, cultural and ecological aspects as integrally related.

Advisor: Alissa North



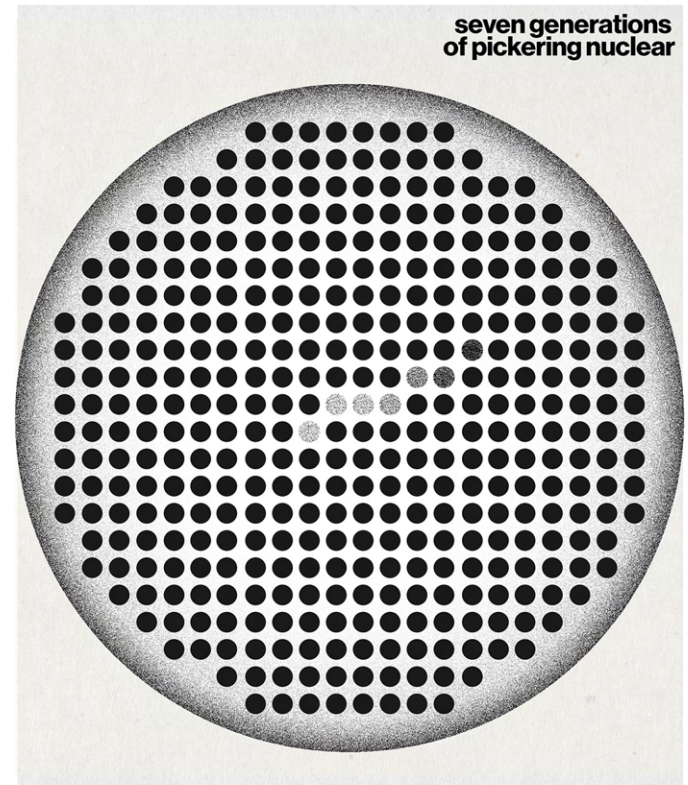
## Gabriela Gallo

MLA

### Building on “Protected”

As urban sprawl inevitably encroaches on landscapes within southern Ontario’s ecologically important Oak Ridges Moraine, Building on “Protected” questions the use of terminology in implemented conservation-based guidelines that only see the value in current landscape conditions. The project argues for the departure from plot-by-plot development towards a larger-scale green-systems planning approach that uses conservation of these fragmented landscapes as a base point instead of the end goal. Building on “Protected” aims to not only protect what is currently there but also to explore additional measures that allow these ecologically rich areas an enhanced future context surrounding development.

Advisor: Liat Margolis



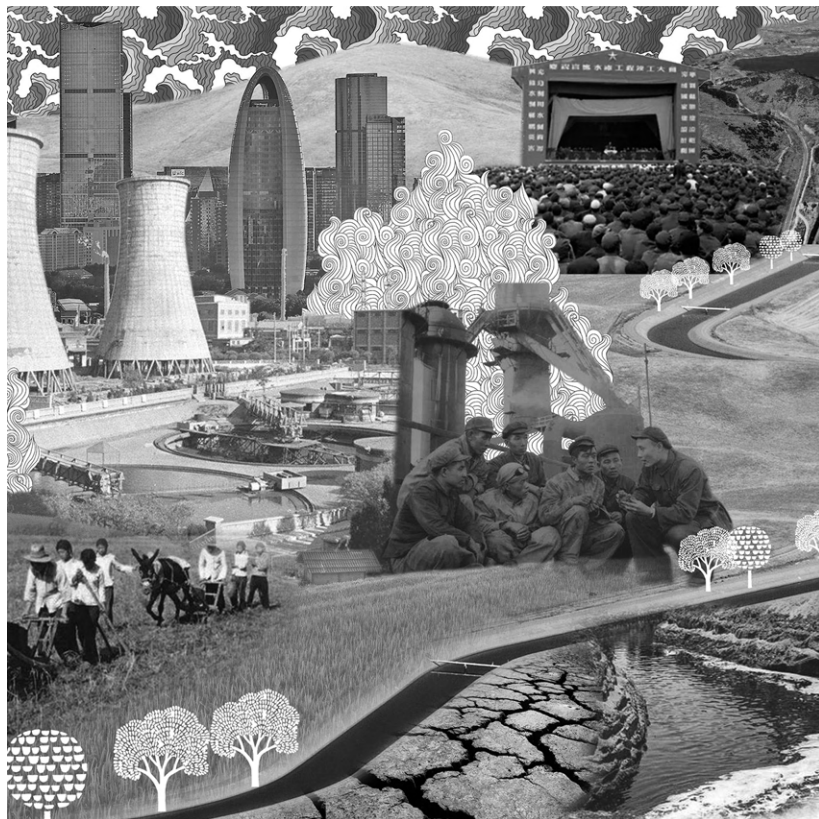
## Stefan Herda

MLA

### Seven Generations of Pickering Nuclear

As nuclear generating facilities along the shorelines of the Great Lakes approach the end of their operational lives, the monumental task of their safe decommissioning will take generations. This thesis presents a series of interim conditions of Pickering Nuclear Generating Station’s landscape, redirecting its role from energy production into a carbon sink. Despite the challenges resulting from contamination, the politics of power generation and Ontario’s unresolved nuclear waste management timeline, how will a gradient of interventions founded on carbon sequestration, afforestation initiatives and metabolic recycling reimagine and remediate this post-nuclear site as it transforms over decades?

Advisor: Fadi Masoud



**Yuhan Mao**  
MLA

### The New Scroll of Connection

Beijing, with its history of a thousand years, is a city at the centre of Chinese culture. At the city's heart is the Yongding River, the reason for its existence. The Yongding River Diversion Canal was one of the earliest hydraulic projects in China, diverting water to the urban core. Today, however, it has stepped off the main stage, assuming the status of cultural heritage — left behind by the gears of time. In the future, though, the canal will once again adapt to society's needs, expanding its cultural storyline and creating a one-of-a-kind scene for the capital just like half a century ago.

*Advisor: Peter North*



**Agata Mrozowski**  
MLA

### Down By Law: Examining the City of Toronto's Community Aspirations at a District Scale

Through the investigation of a 24,000-square-foot fenced off-open space — property of the Toronto District School Board, situated in the heart of the Parkdale neighbourhood — this thesis maps the incongruencies between the city's proclaimed aspirations around wellness, food security and open space, community needs, and existing bylaws and policies that contradict the goals set forth by the City of Toronto. As certain bylaws restrict cultural expression and practice within the public realm, and disproportionately target the most marginalized constituents of society, how can landscape architects challenge existing bylaws and design with contextual specificity to advance autonomy, equity, dignity and care within the urban realm?

*Advisor: Liat Margolis*





## Natasha Raseta

MLA

### Mapping Bordered Regions Around Plješivica Mountain

*"History is a polyphonic process, one of the finest barometers of the spiritual atmosphere in society. It is also a complex connection between interpreting the past, perceiving the present, and hoping in an uncertain future." — Dževada Šuško*

Situated along the border of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia, the region in question here reveals both historical and contemporary instances of human displacement. How does the landscape carry the burden of remembering? It is the act of documenting these uncovered histories through the journey of a transboundary trail network that becomes an archival tool for memory.

Advisor: Peter North



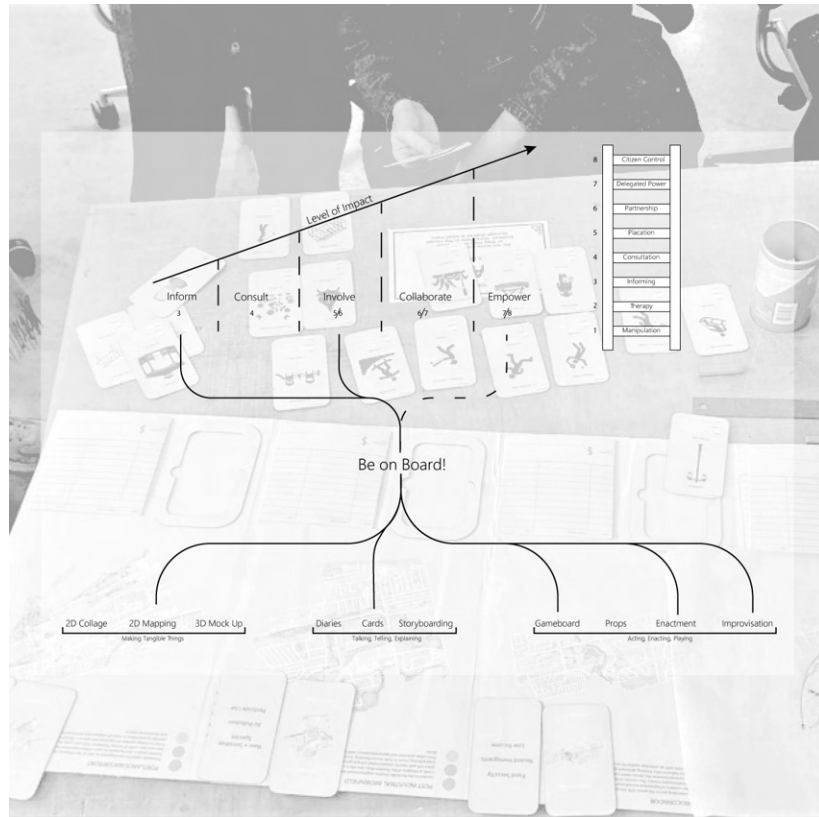
## Howard Rosenblat

MLA

### Unearthed: Making the intangible tangible in the Dolime Quarry

How can we humanize the extractive landscape? Within Ontario, there is a requirement for quarried landscapes to be rehabilitated following strict guidelines that typically exclude people from the process. This has created a disconnect in our understanding of these unique spaces and how they are shaped by a stratum of anthropogenic and natural histories. This project rethinks how we engage with material legacies embedded within the landscape. It seeks to engage the senses within the quarry and bring attention to the novel ecosystems emerging in the aftermath of extraction.

Advisor: Matthew Perotto

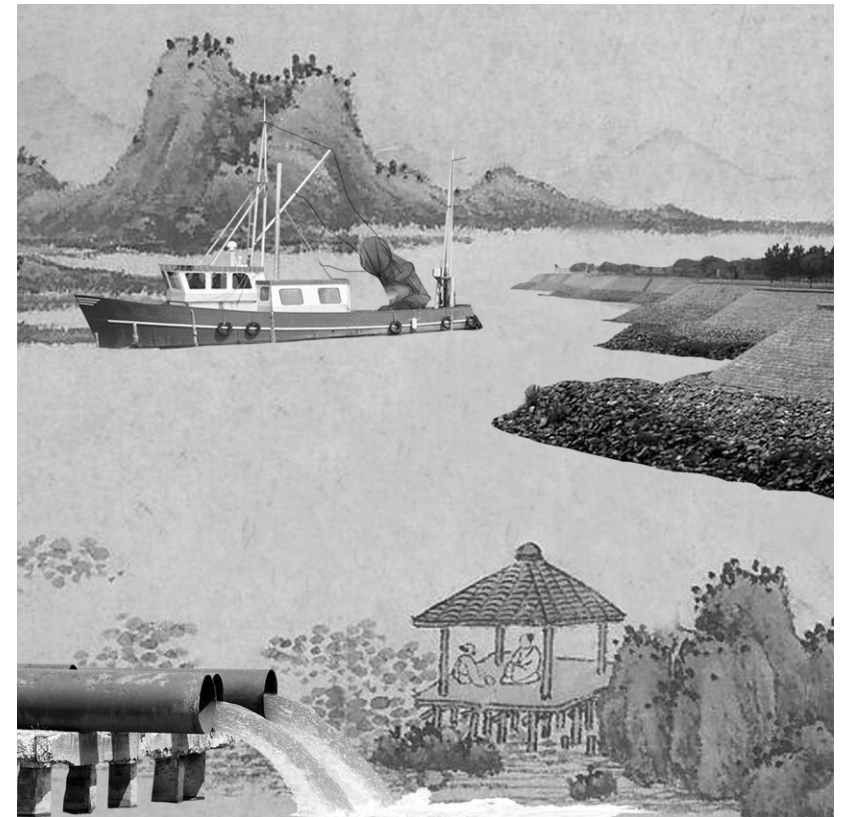


**Alexandra Sheinbaum**  
MLA

### Be on Board! Designing with Community

Tackling inclusivity and resilience through participatory design requires a deeper understanding of city building processes. Park equity highlights the intersection of urban development, open space and municipal policy, focusing on barriers to civic engagement and democratic decision making. Critiquing current tokenistic consultation methods, Be on Board! addresses issues of park equity by designing a new generative participatory tool that emphasizes education and landscape literacy through a gamified urban design process. The final result is the beginning of a participatory design toolkit that can be used to generate policy changes, new open space design and potential community design-build projects.

*Advisor: Behnaz Assadi*



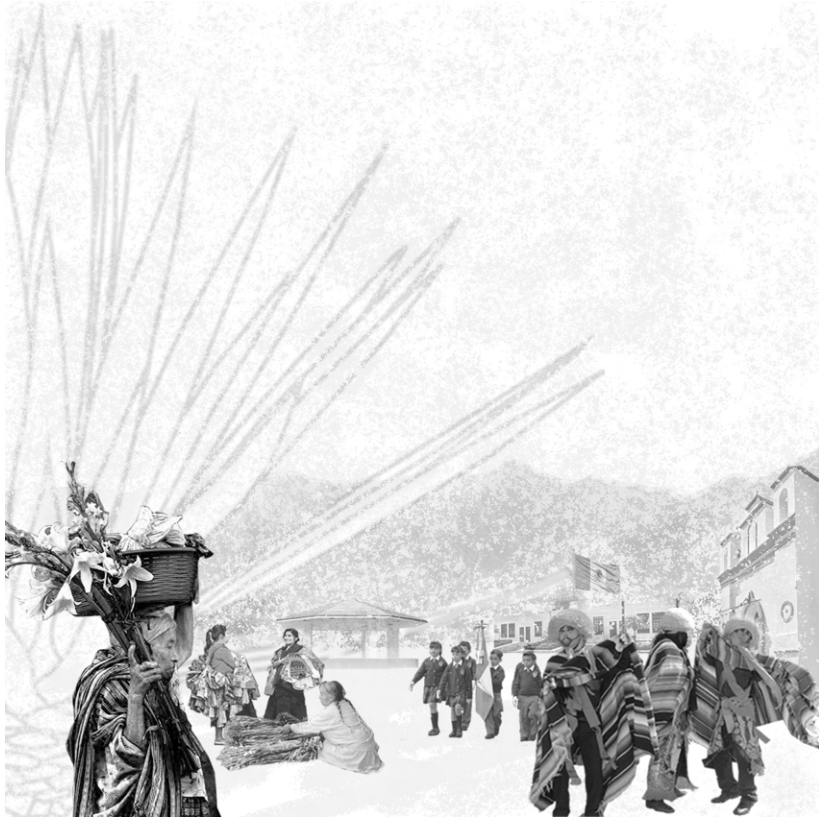
**Xinran Sui**  
MLA

### Relinking Water and Land

The Yellow River levee system is an engineered flood-control solution, with thousands of years of history in the lower reaches. But with more intense future storm events predicted, it is possible that the historic stone levees will no longer be able to protect as they once did. This thesis aims to develop a landscape architectural solution that responds to this engineered infrastructure, which has little ecological value and does not support the balanced development of city and natural systems. It proposes alternative strategies for flood defence, building a more ecologically diverse river landscape, and bringing impact on a local and regional scale.

*Advisor: Peter North*



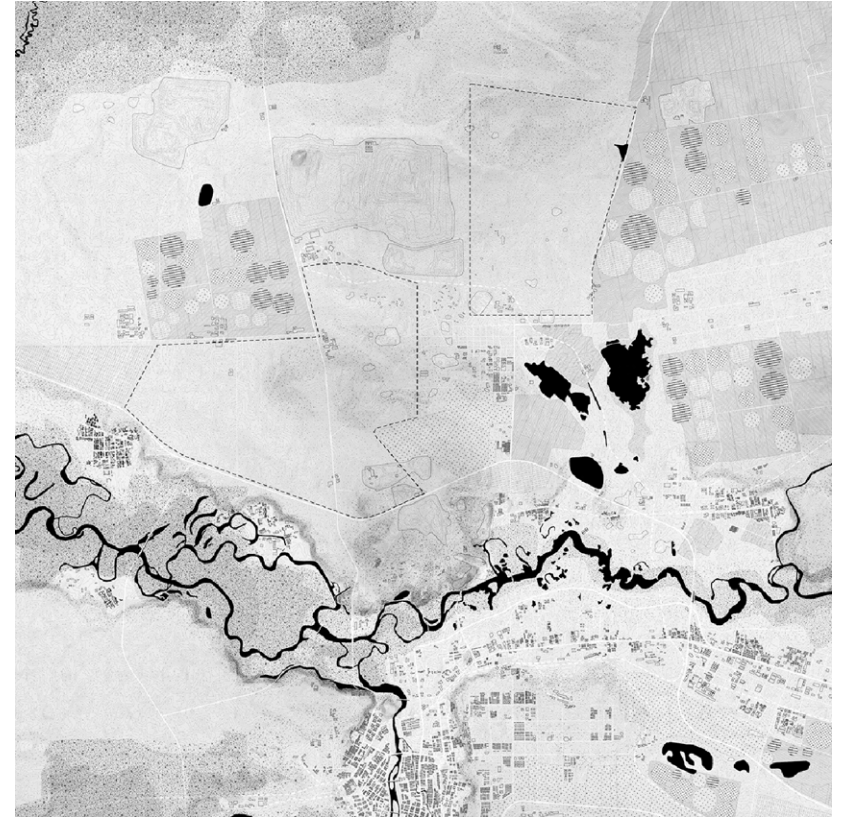


**Juan Bernardo Velasco Canela**  
MLA

#### From Ixtle to Thread

From Ixtle to Thread is a proposal for how small landscapes can generate favourable large-scale contextual impacts, benefiting people and the environment, while preserving culture and traditions. Ixtle is a plant found in Mexico, whose fibre is used for cordage. This landscape-design proposal is located at the central plaza of the small town of Berriozabal in Chiapas, which is a community that is mostly unseen by regional and federal governments. It is a crossroads of interaction between people, culture and traditions. Although the site hosts many peoples with high rates of marginalization, it also holds high potential for positive impact at both local and regional scales.

*Advisor: Alissa North*

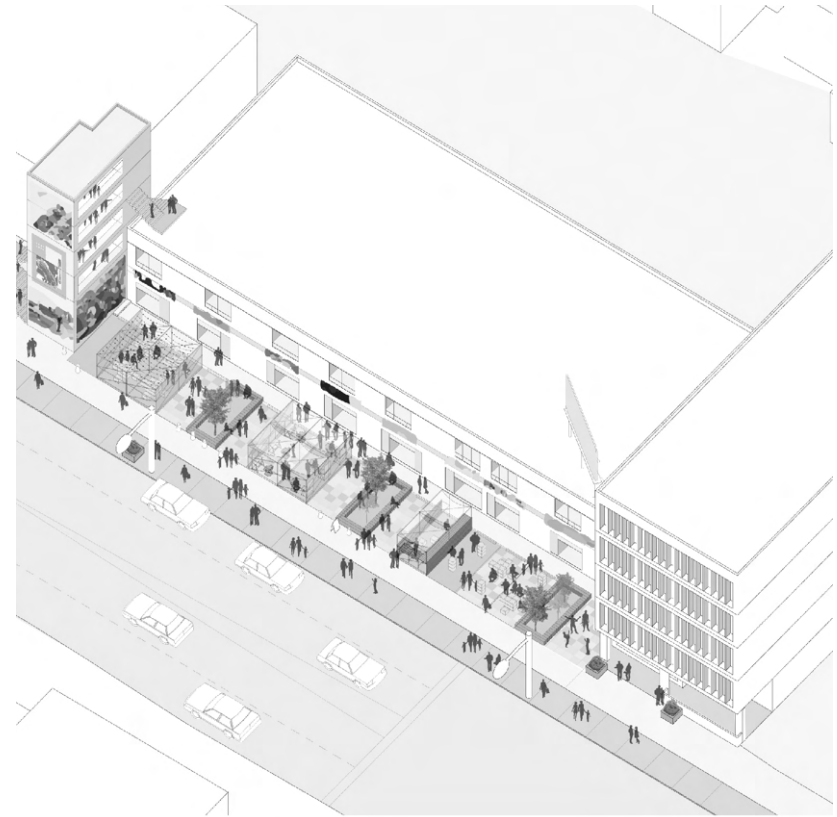


**Hongyu Wu**  
MLA

#### Boundaryless Land — A New Regenerative Grazing Lifestyle

Accelerated industrialization has contributed significantly to the fragmentation and degradation of grassland habitats around the world. In China, the soils of the Hulunbuir steppe, once a thriving grassland landscape, are now contaminated by abandoned open-pit coal mines. Fences surround the grazing pastures of local nomadic tribes, while modern farming exacerbates soil erosion. Using Baorihile village Hulunbuir as a testing ground, this project explores new regenerative grazing and rotational planting among grasslands, croplands and local nomadic cattle grazing. By proposing a merging of nomadic heritage, bio-forestry, regenerative agriculture practices and phytoremediation strategies, this project seeks to reconcile the relationship between landscape and urbanization, building resilient grasslands through a cohabited public realm and sustainable land uses.

*Advisor: Fadi Masoud*



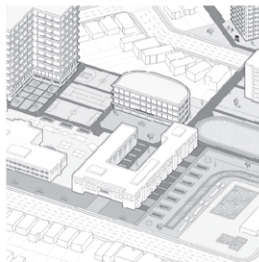
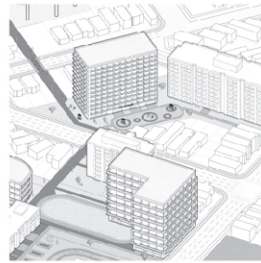
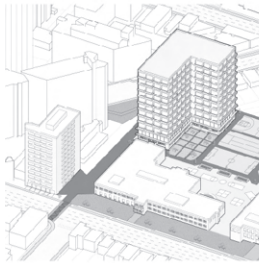
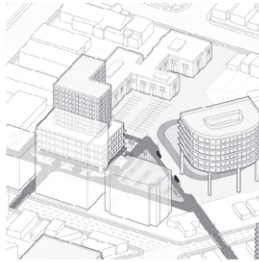
## Golbarg Amini, Adriana Araujo

MUD

### PLP Fictions: Parking Lots as Public Space in Little Jamaica

The Green P parking lot at Reggae Lane is for more than parking cars. Each weekend during the summer, it is closed off and brought to life with music, vendors, food and crowds. As such, it has become an important public space in Toronto's Little Jamaica. This project seeks to preserve and build on the legacy of this kind of public space by providing an infrastructure for events that invites people to gather, have fun and keep Afro-Caribbean culture alive. Our design intervention is mobile, lightweight and easy to install, while also elevating the characteristics of existing plazas. The modular structures accommodate a range of different activities that currently take place in the parking lots or are planned for the neighbourhood, including the Afro-Caribbean Farmer's Market, Jerk-Fest and Rasta-Fest.

**Advisors:** *Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*



## Whitney Dang

MUD

### Afterschool Special: Housing on Public Land to Promote Affordability

The portion of the Eglinton West Corridor known as Little Jamaica has been blighted in recent years by the construction of the Eglinton Crosstown LRT, which hasn't only negatively impacted the businesses along the thoroughfare, but also increased the risk of gentrification, displacement and cultural erasure there. Currently, there are few official plans to recognize the pressure of unaffordable housing in the area; what's more, the city has conspicuously omitted it from its inclusionary zoning map. This project investigates possibilities for affordable residential development and community assets on underutilized public lands, building on programs such as Inclusionary Zoning, Housing Now and Tower Renewal. The project is imagined as a cluster of community assets that respond to the neighbourhood's needs by building on existing resources as anchors for new development.

*Advisors: Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*



## Mitali Gupta

MUD

### Build In My Back Yard — Assisted Incremental Housing through Small Parcel Residential Infill

As Toronto's Eglinton Crosstown LRT nears completion, Little Jamaica has seen a surge of development proposals. With this onslaught of new developments, which lack provisions for affordable housing and retail, the culture, character and identity of the neighborhood face the very real threat of erasure. How do we retain the vibrancy and small-scale fabric of the community while also meeting the desire to densify? Build In My Back Yard (BIMBY) is a proposal that seeks, through the use of mechanisms such as Community Land Trusts (CLTs), to redirect and encourage infill growth and density in low-rise residential neighborhoods while rehabilitating and rezoning to provide additional community amenities and assets.

*Advisors: Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*



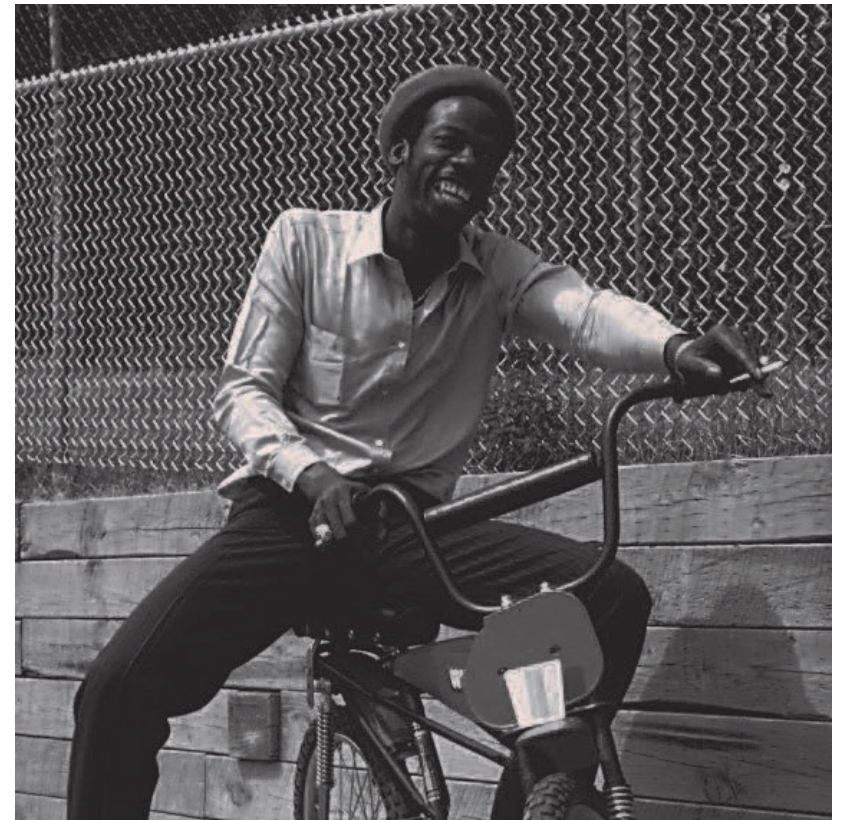


**Asad Kamran**  
MUD

**A Little More than a Haircut: The Evolution of Culturally Significant POPs**

Barbershops in Little Jamaica have long been places that offer supportive interpersonal connections and are spaces that enable the transmission of culture. This project is an investigation into the possibility of barbershops as formal extensions of the public realm, serving to accentuate the informal services provided by barbershops whilst positioning them to become recognized community hubs and places of cultural and artistic significance.

*Advisors: Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*

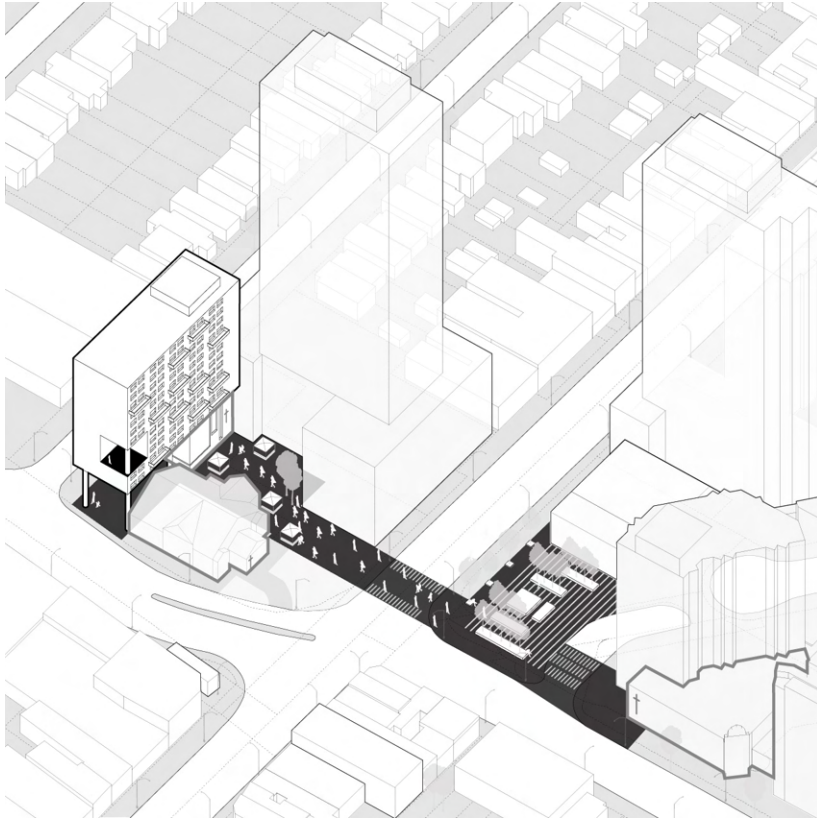


**Yike Liu**  
MUD

**Ride Back Home: Reframing the Public Realm in little Jamaica**

Little Jamaica has been a distinct ethnic and cultural hub for Caribbean and African immigrants in Toronto for more than 40 years. The construction of the Crosstown LRT and the repercussions of COVID-19 have dramatically impacted the neighbourhood. Dozens of Black-owned businesses in the area have closed, and storefronts remain vacant. This design establishes high-rise buildings to increase the local population while creating attractive public realms in the most iconic destinations: Nia Centre for the Arts (Canada's first Black professional arts centre), Reggae Lane (the heart of little Jamaica) and Fairbank village (the earliest settlement). These three attractive destinations and connections offer the possibility to host a variety of revenue-generating cultural events that will benefit Black-owned businesses while revitalizing and maintaining a dynamic home for locals.

*Advisors: Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*



## Pradnya Mahajan

MUD

### Eat. Pray. Live.

For more than a decade, the Little Jamaica area of Toronto has been impacted by the ongoing construction of the Eglinton Crosstown LRT. With businesses closing and residents being displaced, the result has been a considerable loss of culture and community. As the LRT construction nears its completion, the area has seen an influx of development proposals that threaten to replace existing affordable housing units above retail stores with condominiums. And because of Little Jamaica's omission from inclusionary zoning areas, neither affordable retail nor affordable housing are being proposed in the neighbourhood. Eat. Pray. Live explores the possibilities of creating affordable housing in partnership with existing places of worship, promoting growth and vibrancy while mitigating the displacement of residents.

*Advisors: Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*



## Pinhan Song

MUD

### Density Dilemma

The fate of Toronto's Little Jamaica neighborhood, home to the highest concentration of Black- and Caribbean-owned businesses in Canada, is uncertain. Over the last decade, discussion about the area has focused on the Eglinton Crosstown LRT construction, its delays, and its ensuing risk of gentrification. Now that the city is in the midst of a housing crisis, the Eglinton Crosstown line is seen as a catalyst for density, focusing city-wide demand on neighbourhoods like Little Jamaica. But what should this density look like and how can it protect the culture, community and legacy of the area? Density Dilemma is an attempt to wrestle with this proposition by exploring a new framework for where to build and, perhaps more importantly, what to leave alone.

*Advisors: Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*



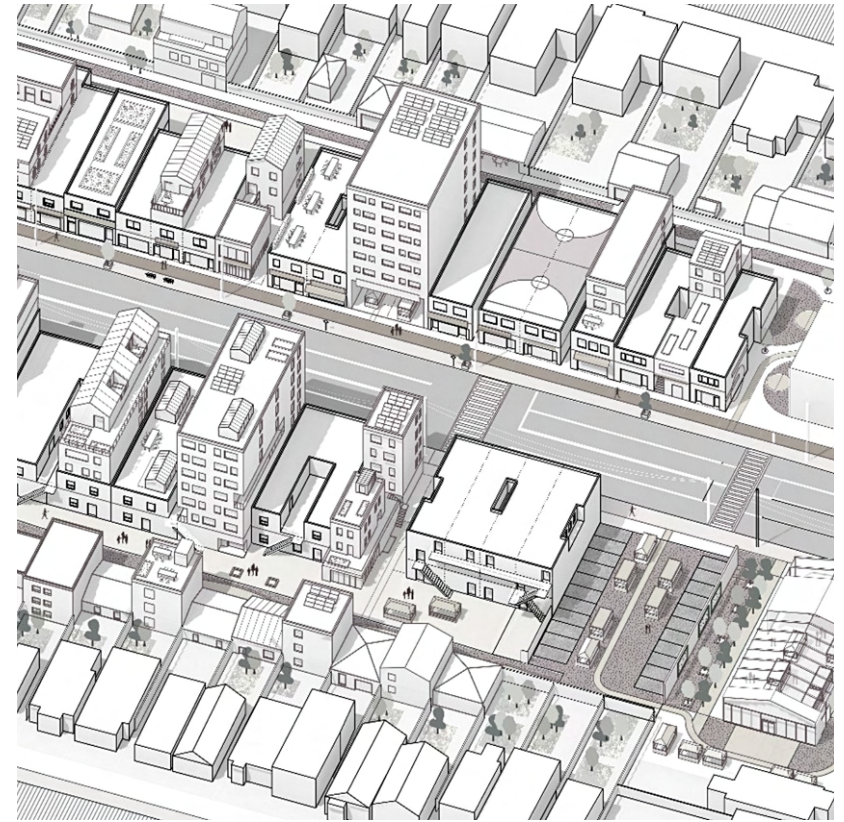


**Cho Yan Kaylee Suen**  
MUD

#### The Common Ground

Toronto's Eglinton West corridor is a commercial main street that has been of great cultural significance to the city as a hub for Caribbean and African immigrants over many decades. But the Eglinton Crosstown LRT line is threatening major change in the neighbourhood, with the improved transit access increasing the overall desirability of living, working and playing there, leading inevitably to land value increases and new commercial and residential development. This project — The Common Ground — proposes connecting existing community assets with the ground material from the Fairbank station plaza to create a vivid and playful social service area. As a communal part of the area, it ought, in other words, help the community as a whole find common ground.

*Advisors: Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*



**Yutong Zhao**  
MUD

#### Micro Density: Growth and Preservation Through Small Fabric Infill

Toronto's Little Jamaica is facing economic pressure from the construction of the LRT and many small businesses have closed. The city, meanwhile, promotes mid-rise buildings to increase density in the area. But as Black Urbanism TO notes in a report, this kind of built form tends to ignore the existing fine-grained urban fabric and small-scale, culturally specific retail it supports. So a key question has emerged: how to increase density while preserving a sense of belonging. This project is focused on Reggae Lane, which often hosts temporary events and is home to murals that highlight the culture of the community. The design begins by researching the existing built form, defining which buildings need protection and which can increase density. Based on the research, it proposes an incremental process for infill, imagining alternative scenarios for building density over time.

*Advisors: Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*



## Jiayu Zhi

MUD

### Colourful Worship

As part of Toronto's Crosstown plans, public space in Little Jamaica has been imagined in a rather standard way that doesn't connect with the local community. Still, the neighbourhood offers many opportunities for cultural preservation through religious and musical practices that are an indispensable part of community building there. This project uses a place of worship to imagine public spaces that promote local culture. New plazas create room for food banks, new housing is built to frame these spaces, and outdoor furniture is used to create space for informal activities and to improve street life. The result is a new, colourful cultural space that builds on existing communities of religion and worship.

*Advisors: Michael Piper, Otto Ojo*

