

# EXPRESSED EMOTIONS ARCHITECTURE





## Expressed Emotions Architecture

Darnell E. Parker II

Thesis submitted to the faculty of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture in Architecture

Howard S. Gartner

Steve Thompson

William U. Galloway III

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Blacksburg, Virginia

keywords: emotion, metal, shadow, space, time, wall

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Two primary ideas contribute to the design of this Community Art Center in the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, particularly, in the neighborhoods of Avenue West and Midtown. The quality of light expressed through the movement of shadows in time is cast in the interior by openings in the roof and on the exterior walls by columns surrounding the building. These exterior and interior walls of the building are the result of rigorous experimentation to maximize space for interaction. The walls and quality of light is expressed both in the interior and exterior of the building. The second main idea is centered around creating a place for interaction to generate communication and collaboration within the community. The primary design is of the delicate undulating walls as it continues to define interaction space in the Community Art Center. It is the form of the walls and quality of light that express movement.

As a secondary concern, these neighborhoods are on the edge of Milwaukee's near west side that includes the Milwaukee High School of the Arts (MHSA). The community expresses art in the form of dance, music and creative writing. The building expresses art in the form of a decision. Each decision that is made expresses a quality about design. Each space is transformed into a place by the nature of its design. The building achieves a sense of community through the primary ideas expressed through the notion of emotions.



I would like to express my appreciation by saying thanks.

First, thanks go to Howard S. Gartner, my Advisor and a Professor of the School of Architecture + Design, CAUS at Virginia Tech who guided me through this thesis. He continues to inspire me profoundly with his wisdom and passion for architecture.

Secondly, to the rest of my committee, Steve Thompson and William U. Galloway, whose advice helped strengthen my thesis.

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My many colleagues who have supported me over the years.

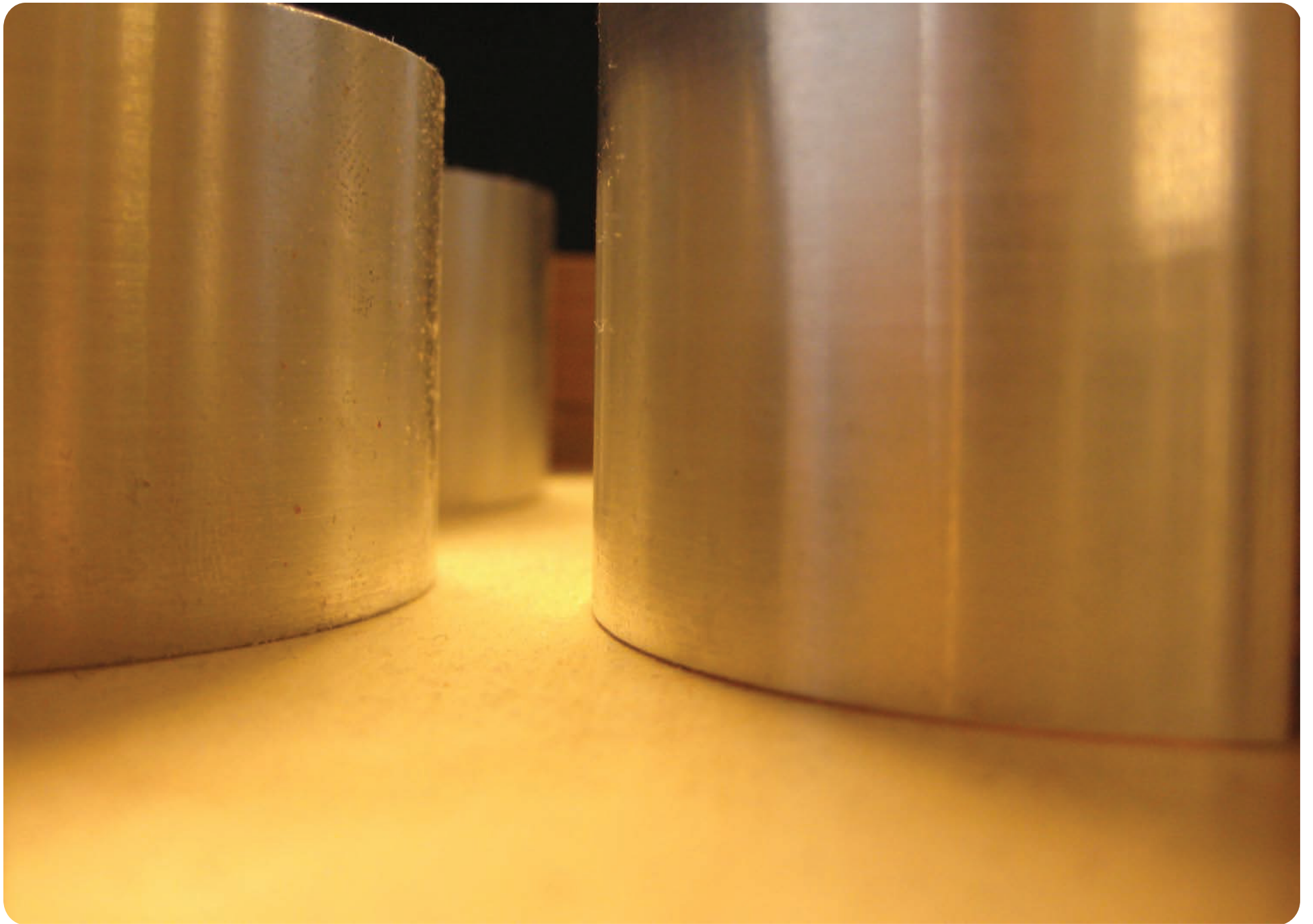
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All images is created by the author. 2011











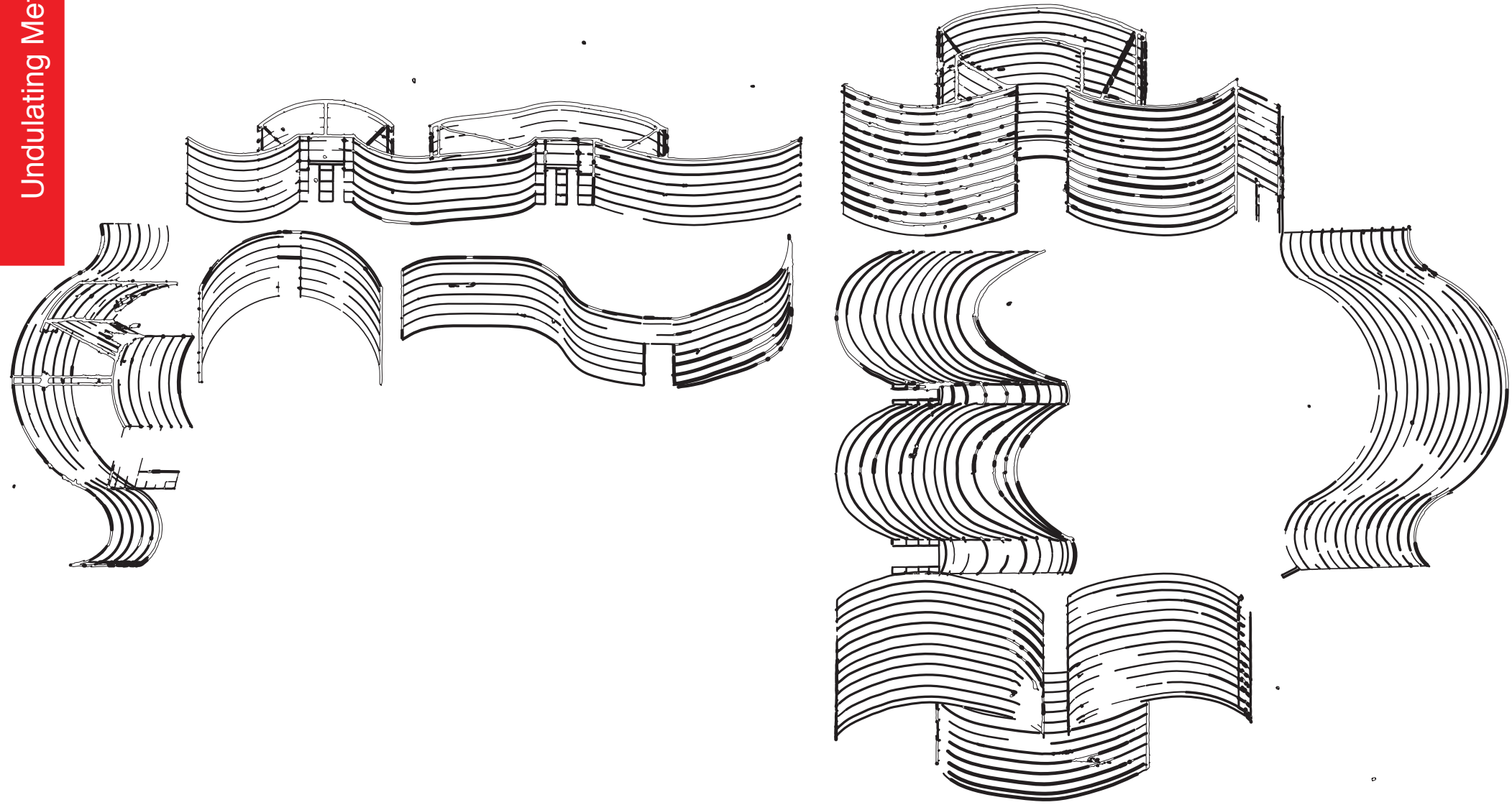
## Introduction

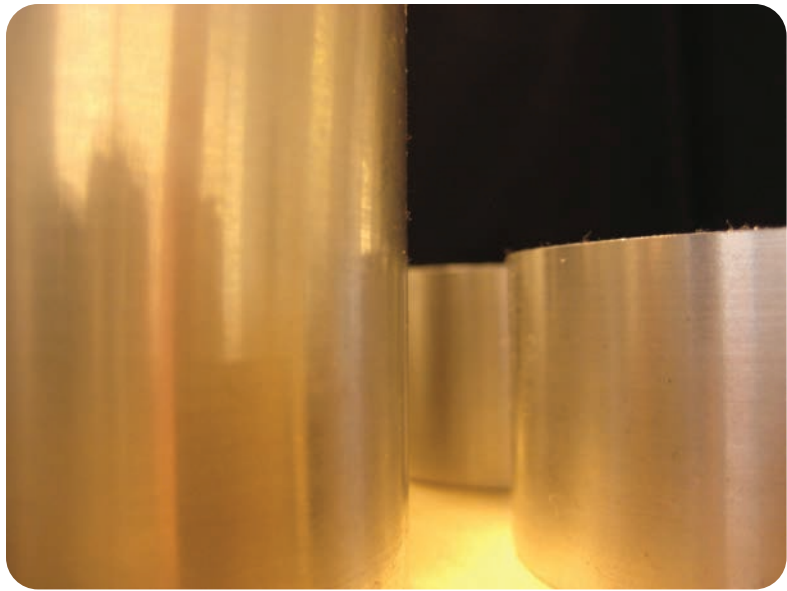
The quality of light, shadows, delicate undulating interior and exterior walls, and quantity of space – all of these characteristics can encourage interaction. This thesis is about space and light, but it is also an expression of emotions.

Often, emotions are expressed through the arts in the form of a dance, a song, or a poem, but emotion can also be expressed in the form of a design. Each design scheme led to a decision to create space. The space is meant to be flexible to create interaction between the surrounding neighborhoods and schools.

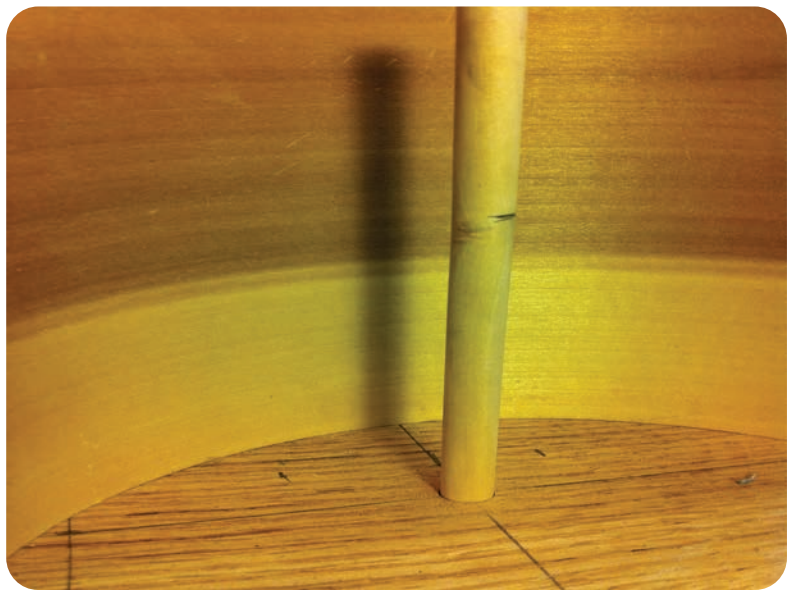
The Community Art Center is, in part, a flexible space transformed into a place where people can interact. Each space is activated by the nature of its design qualities and the arts. The nature of the design is sensitive to the primary need of a community, to provide a place for people to gather and be inspired







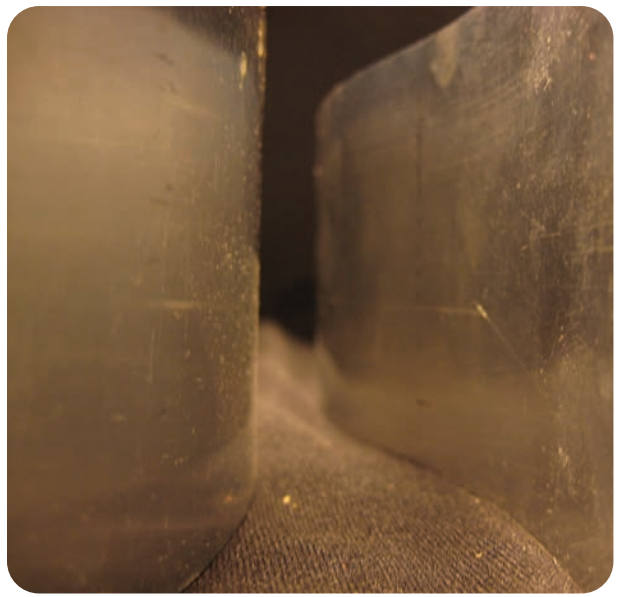
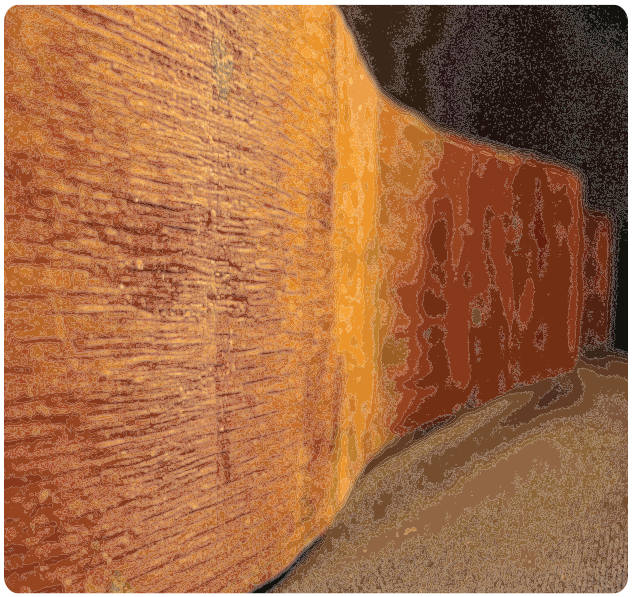
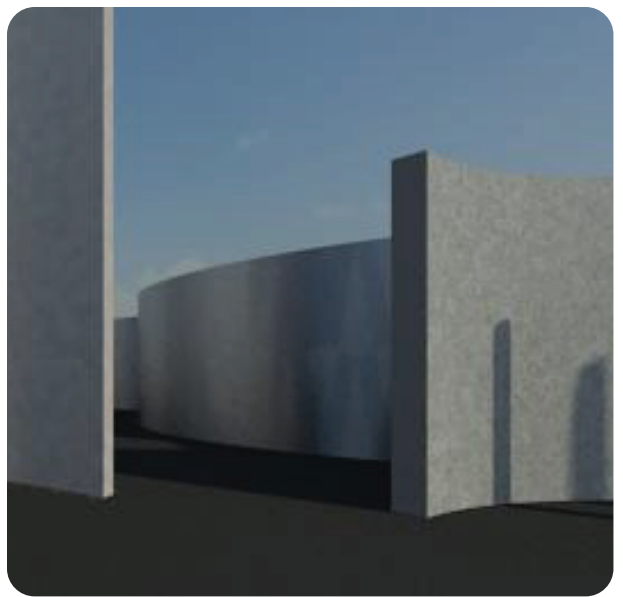
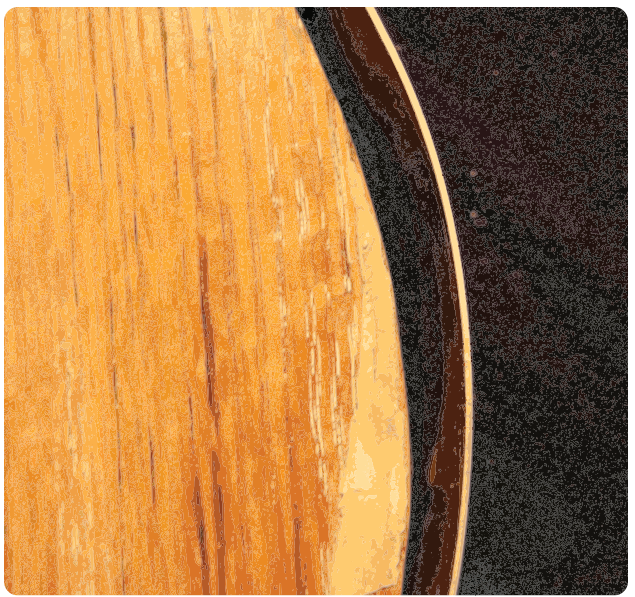
Study of Metal + Wall



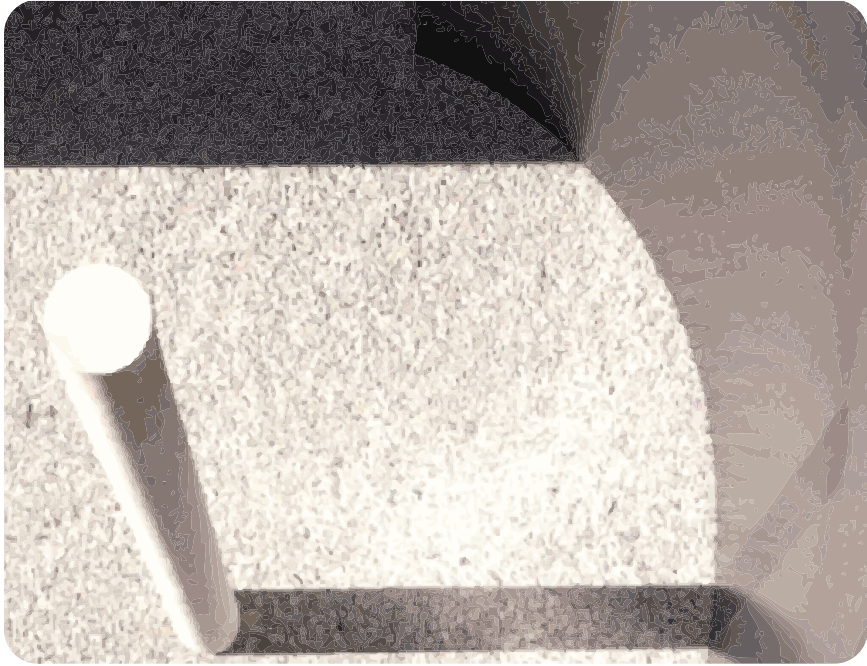
Study Column + Light

### Methodology

The conditions of the metal...



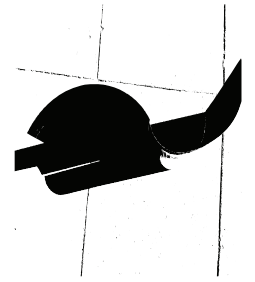
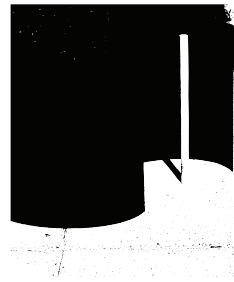
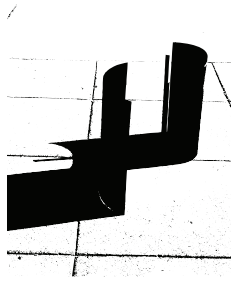
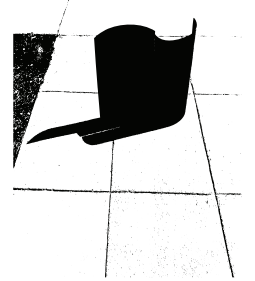
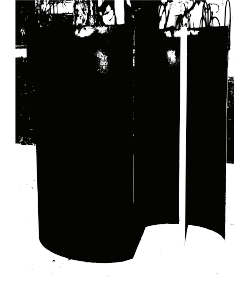
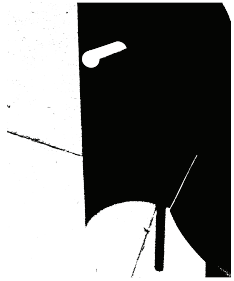
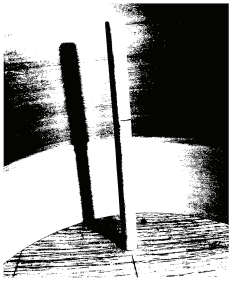
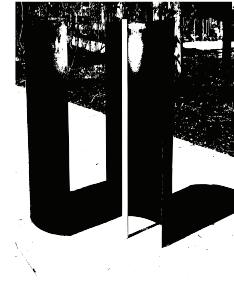
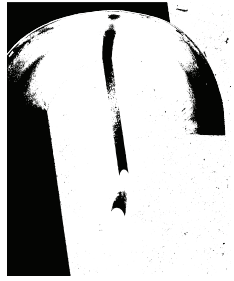
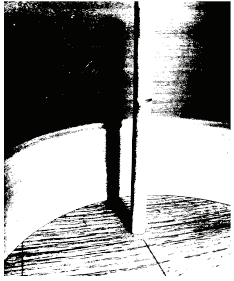
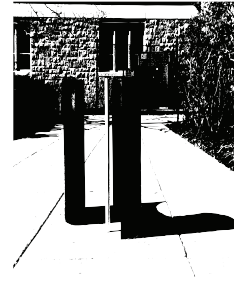
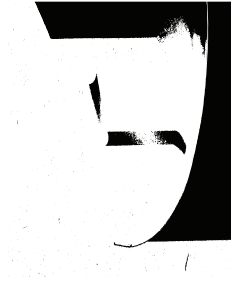
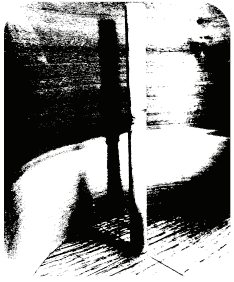




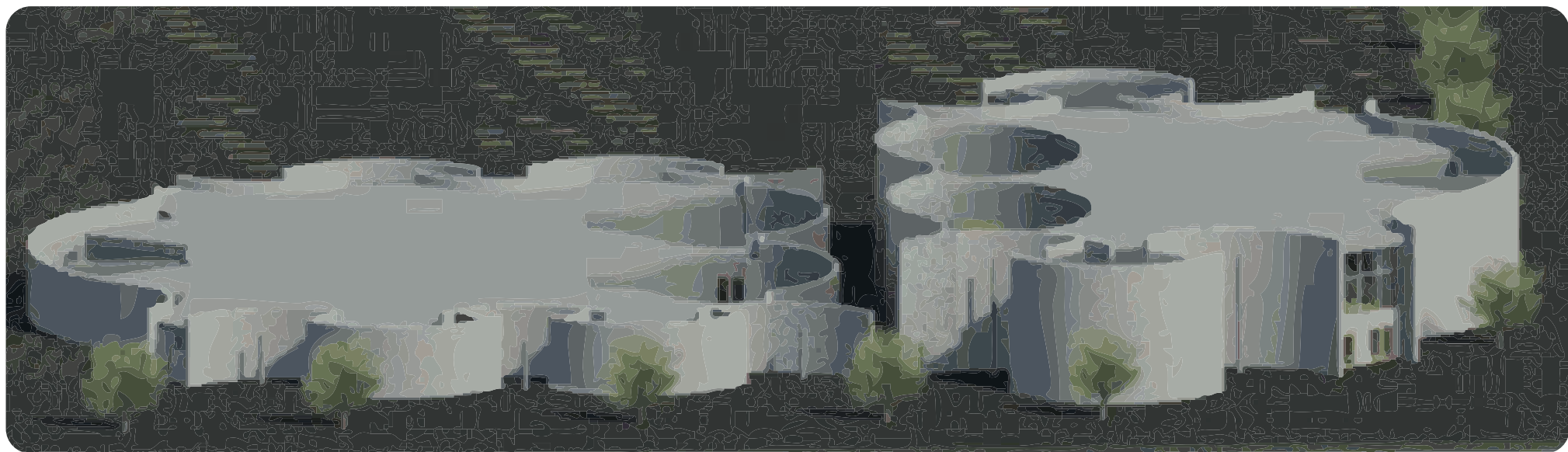
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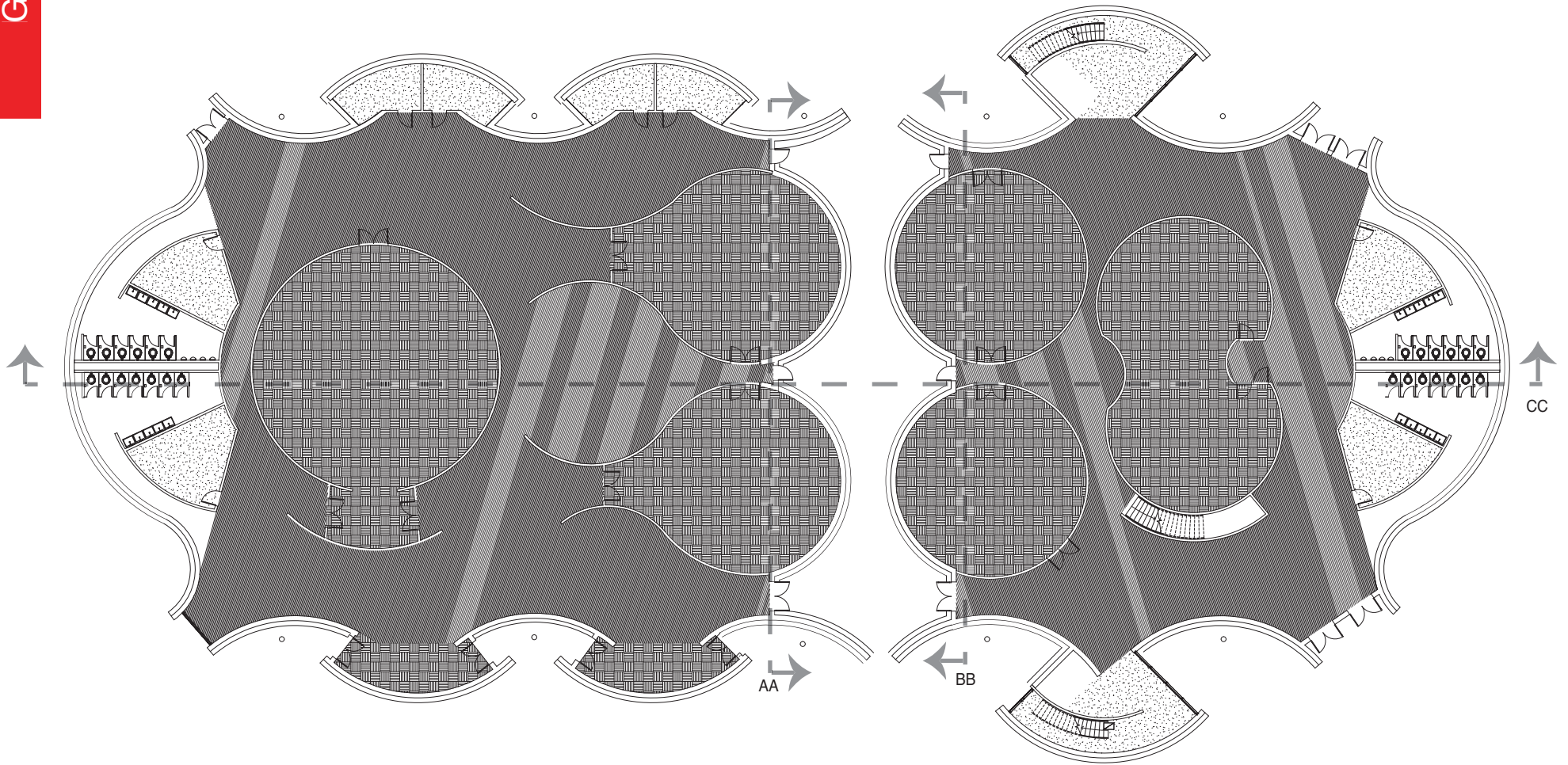
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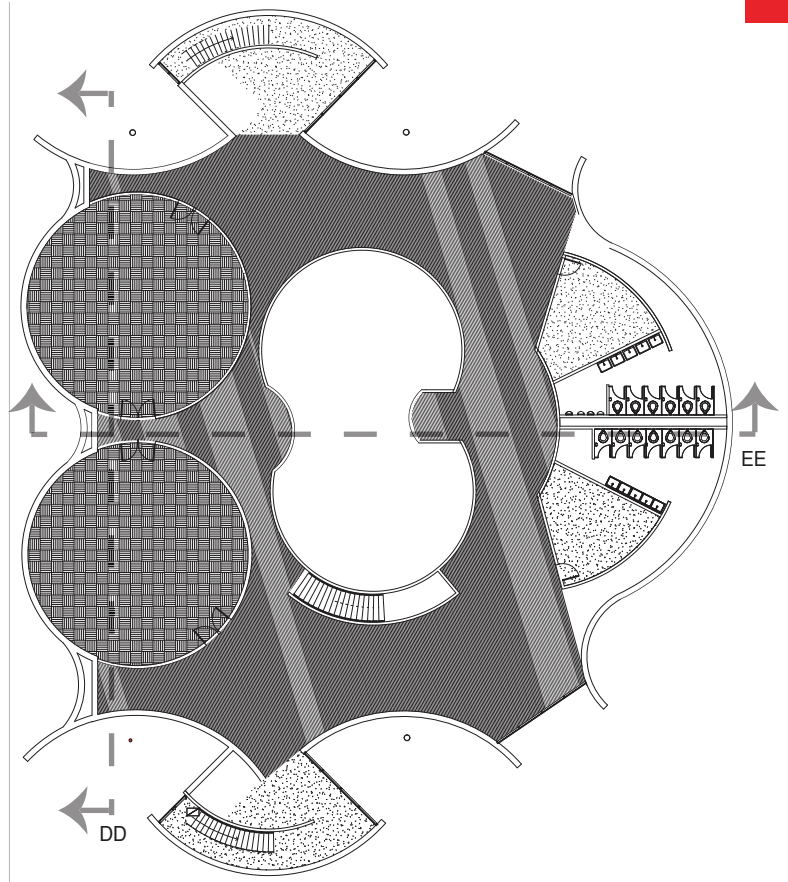
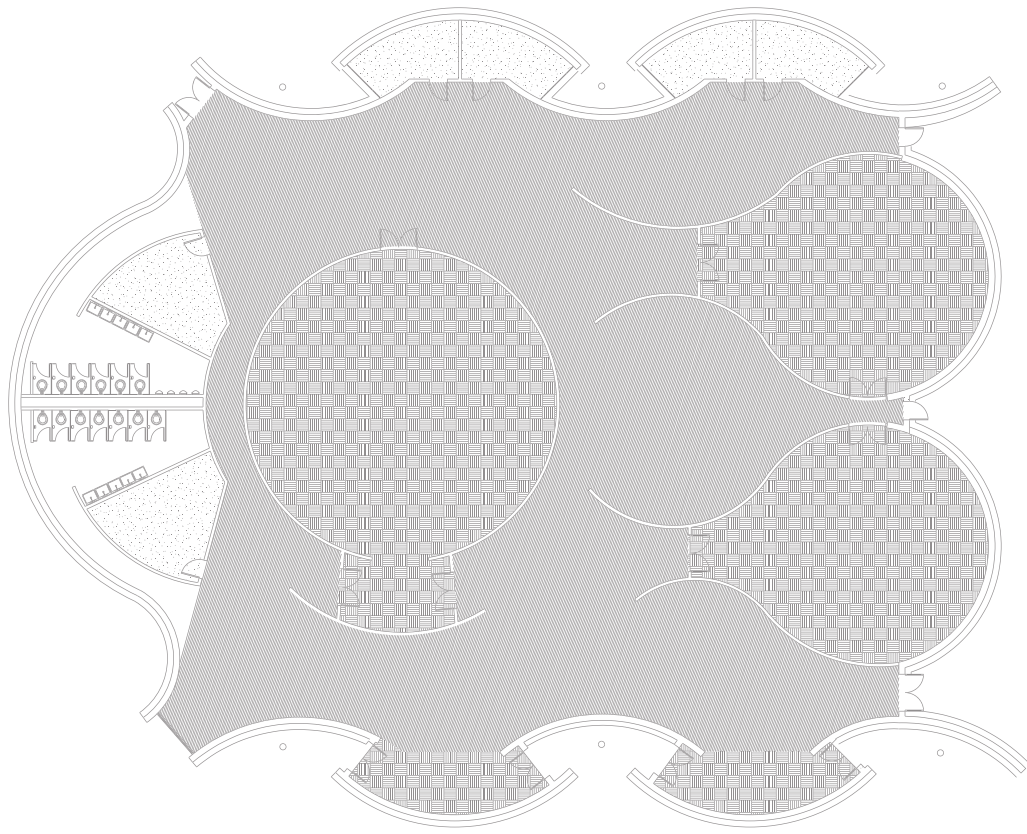




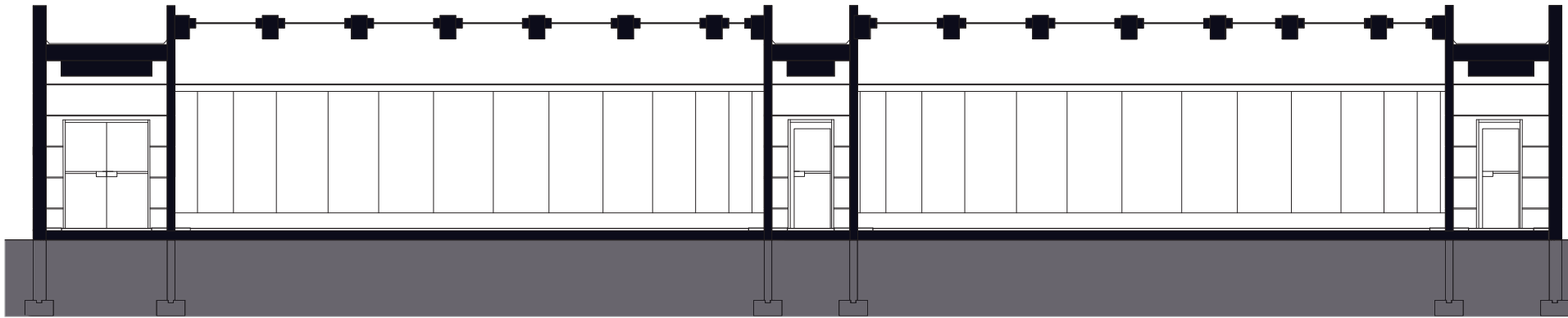








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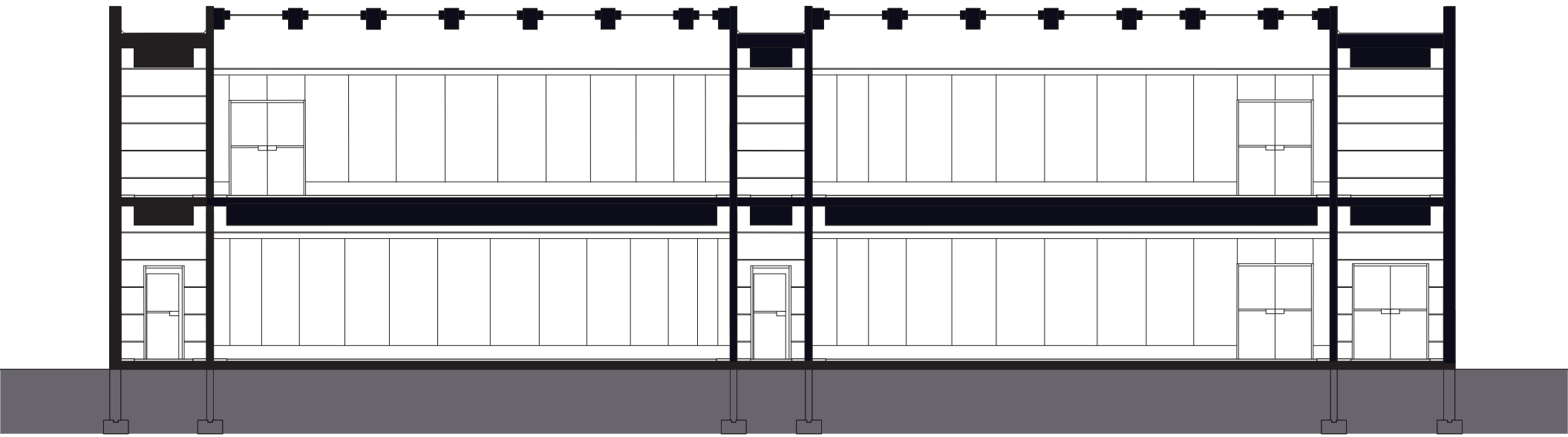


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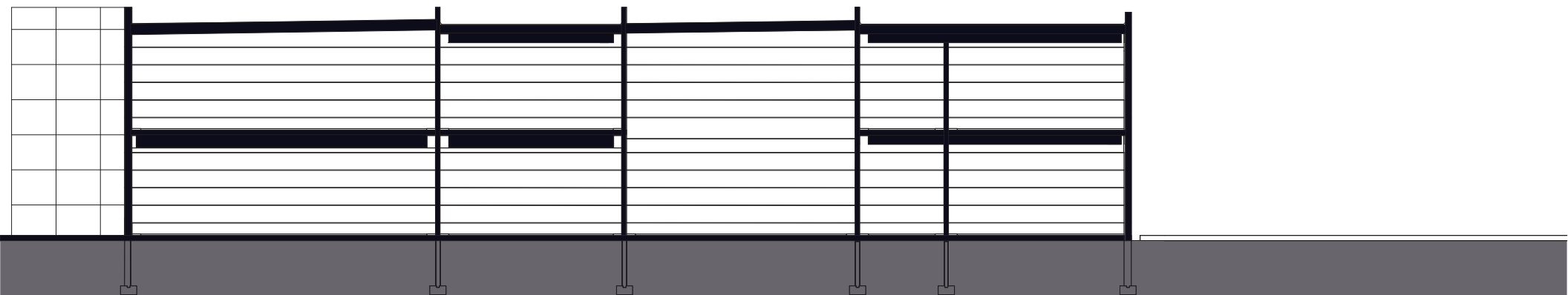


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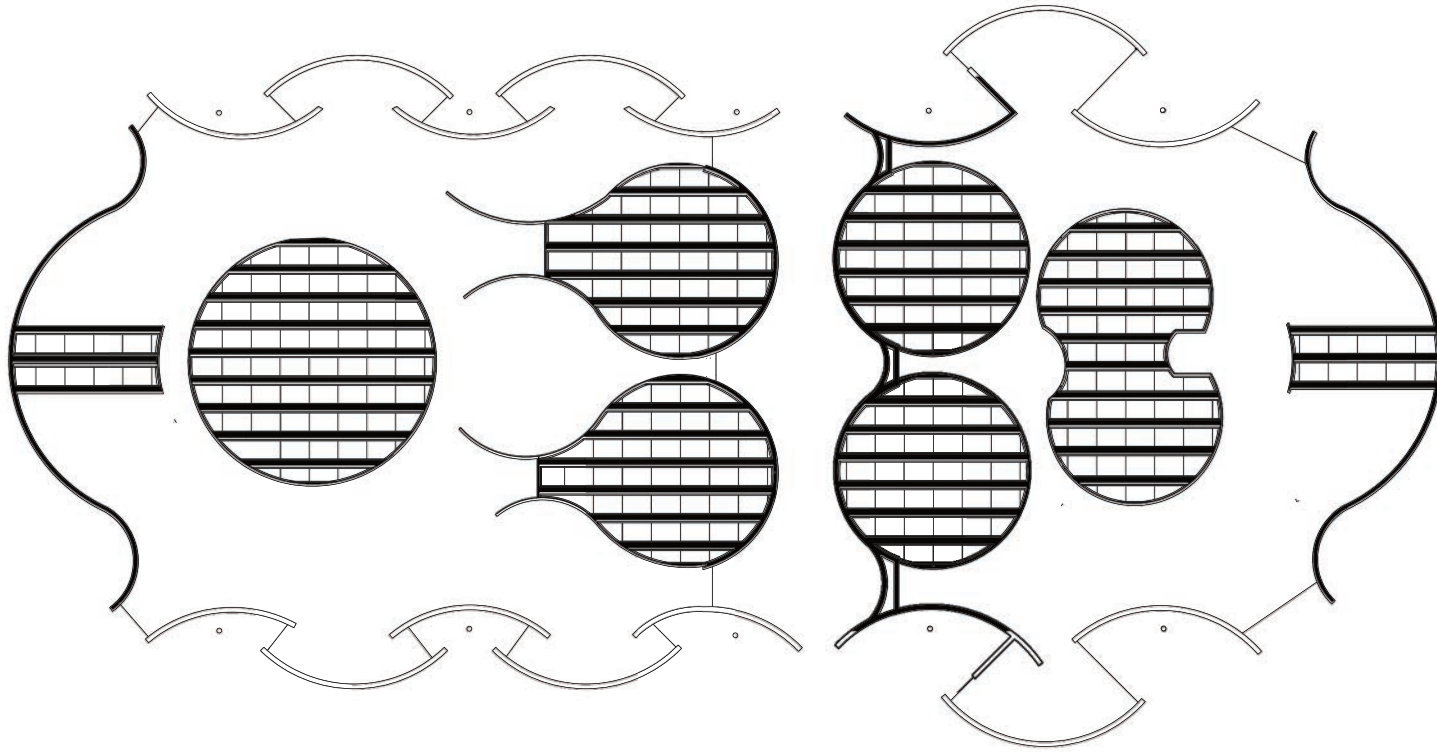




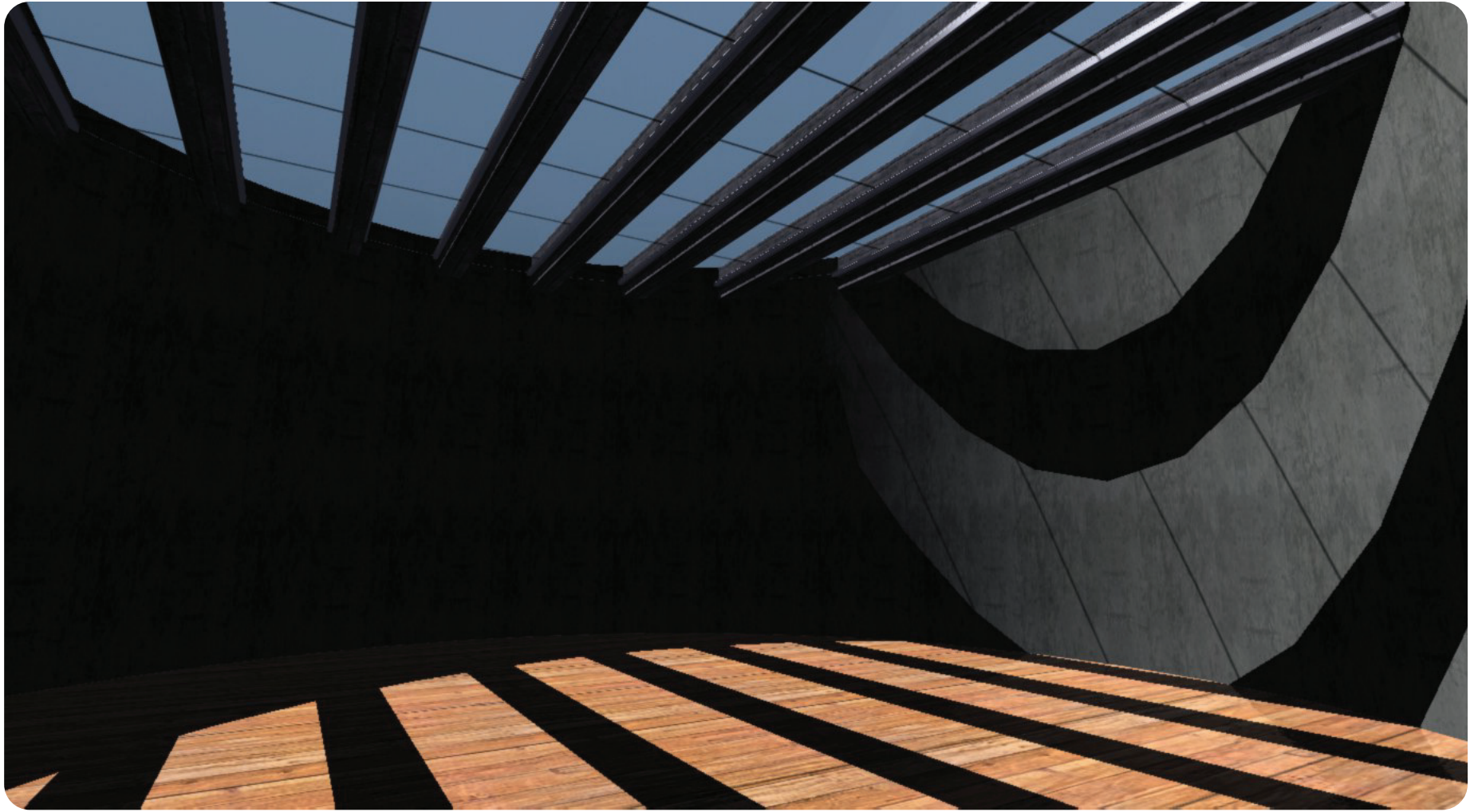
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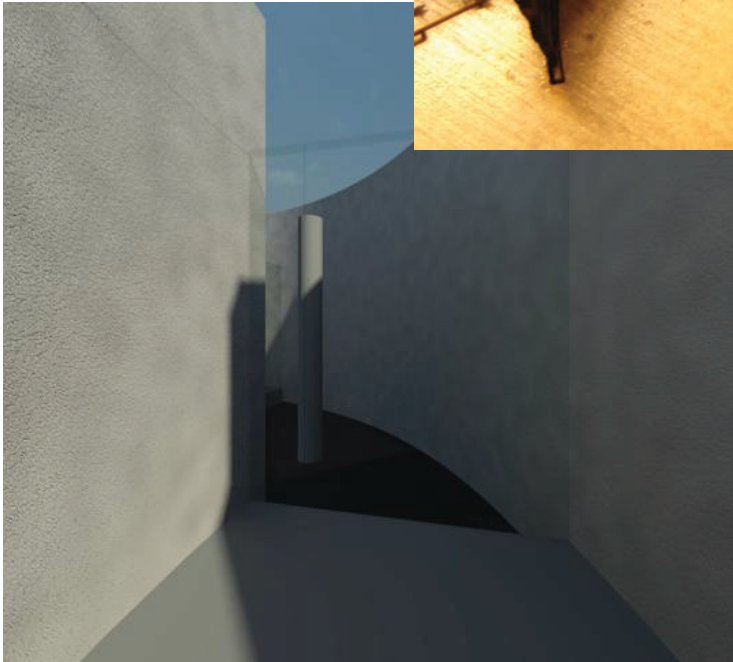
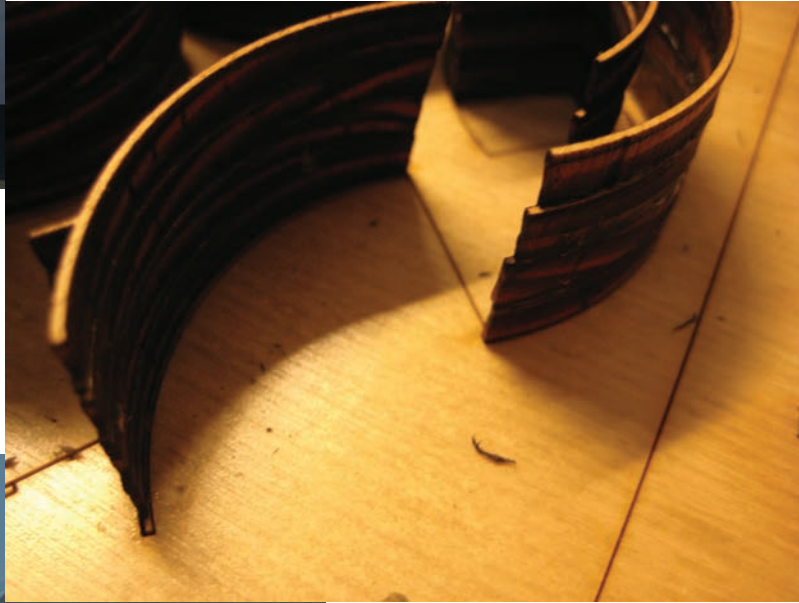


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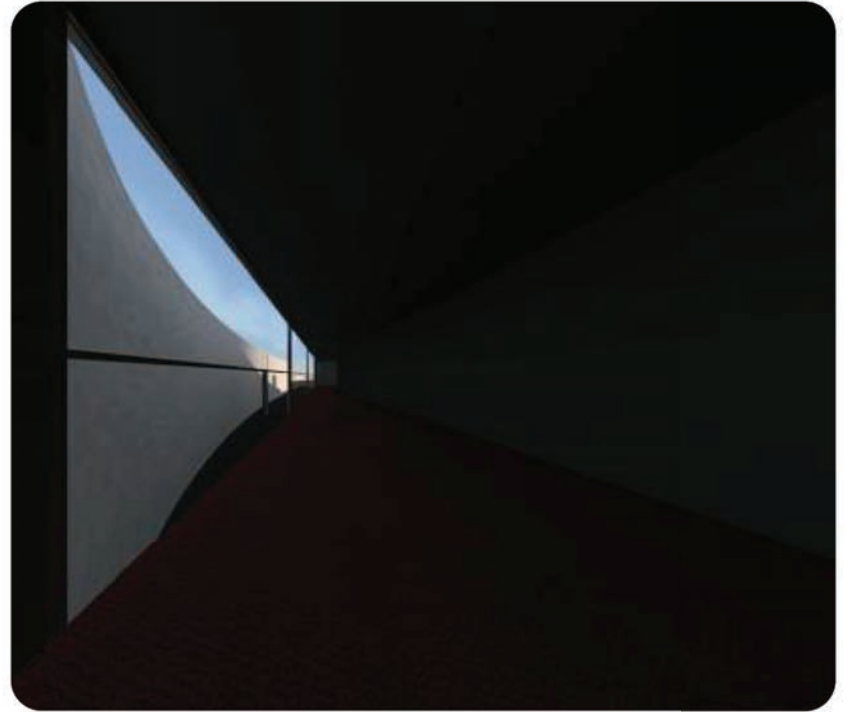


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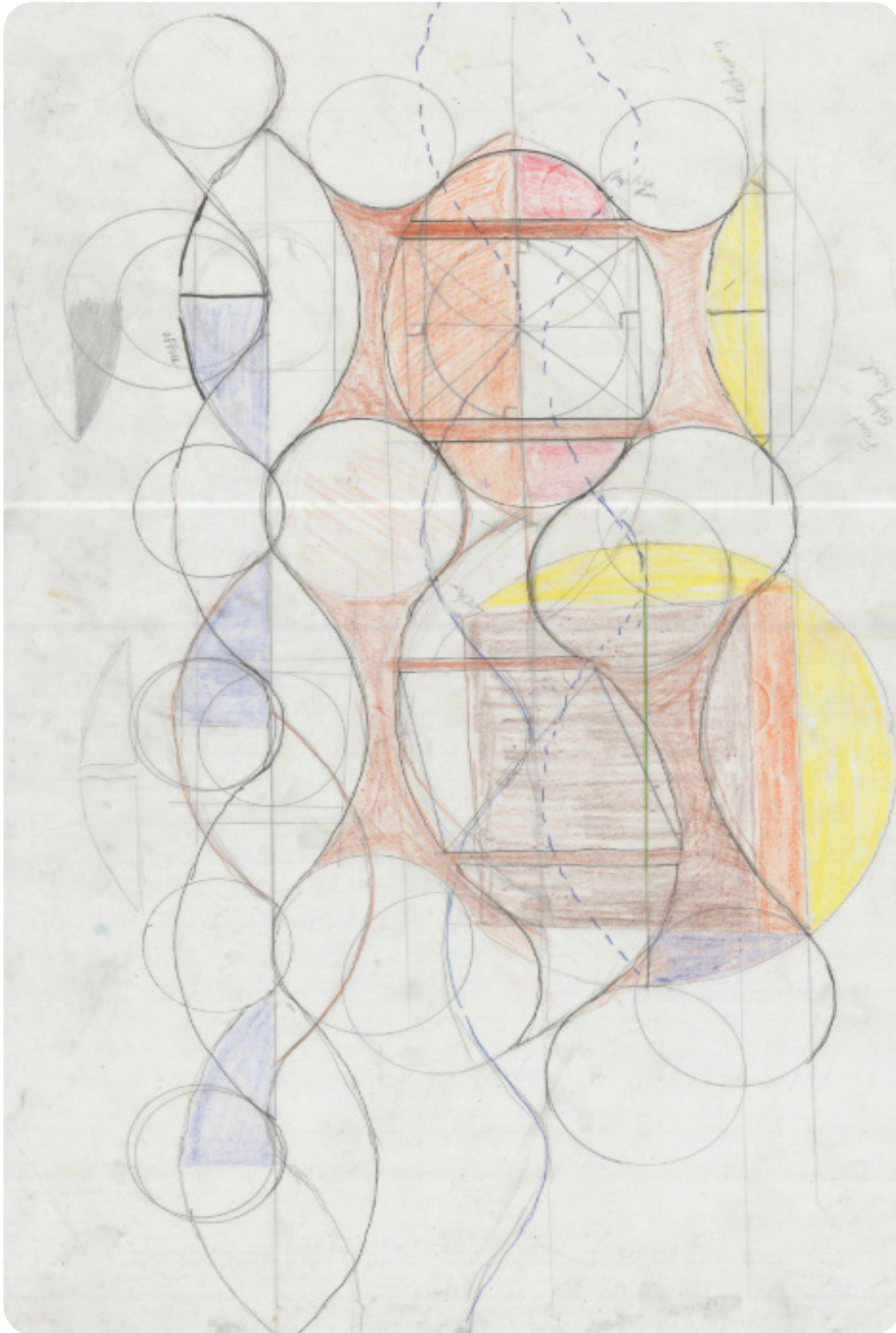
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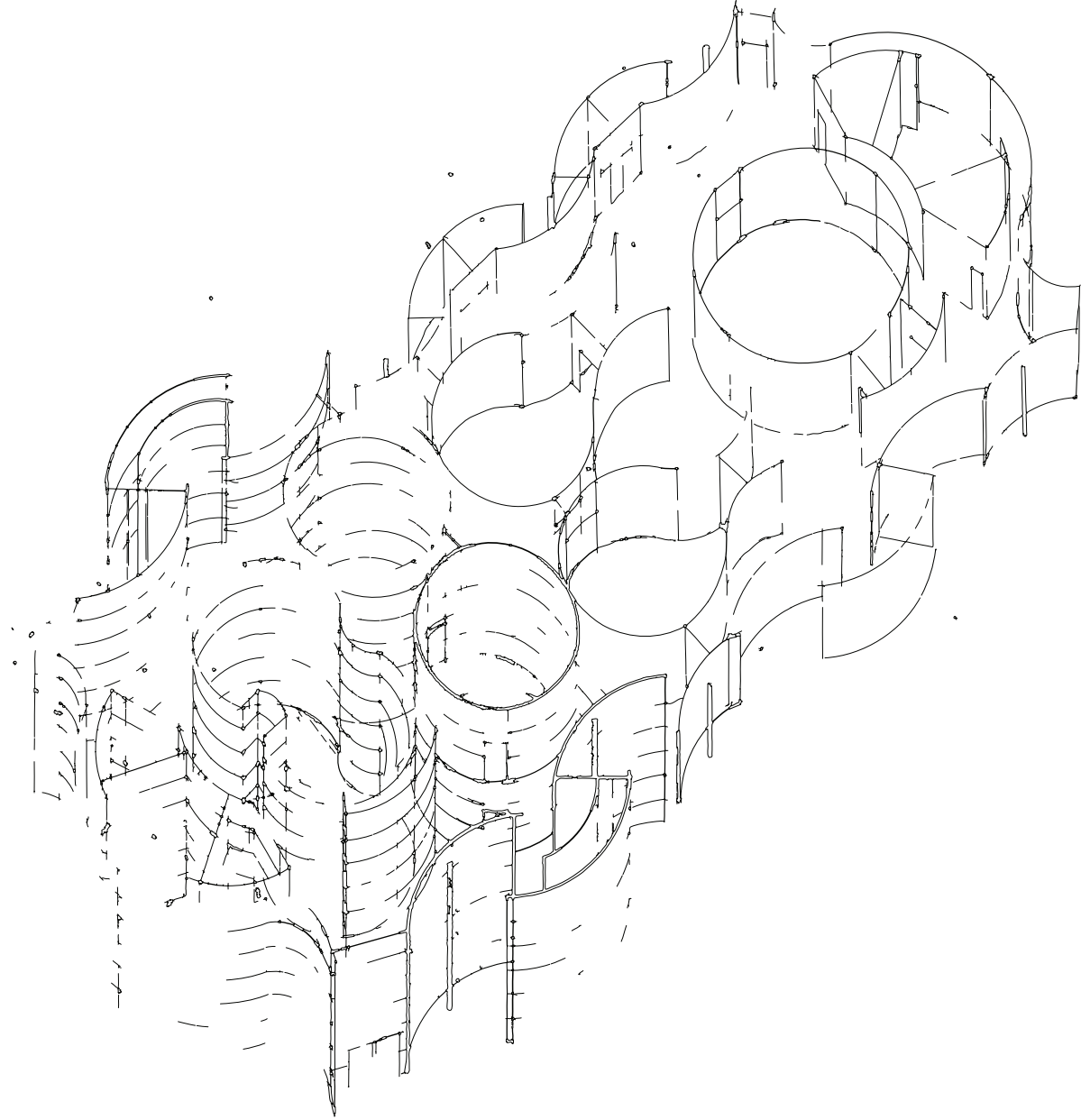




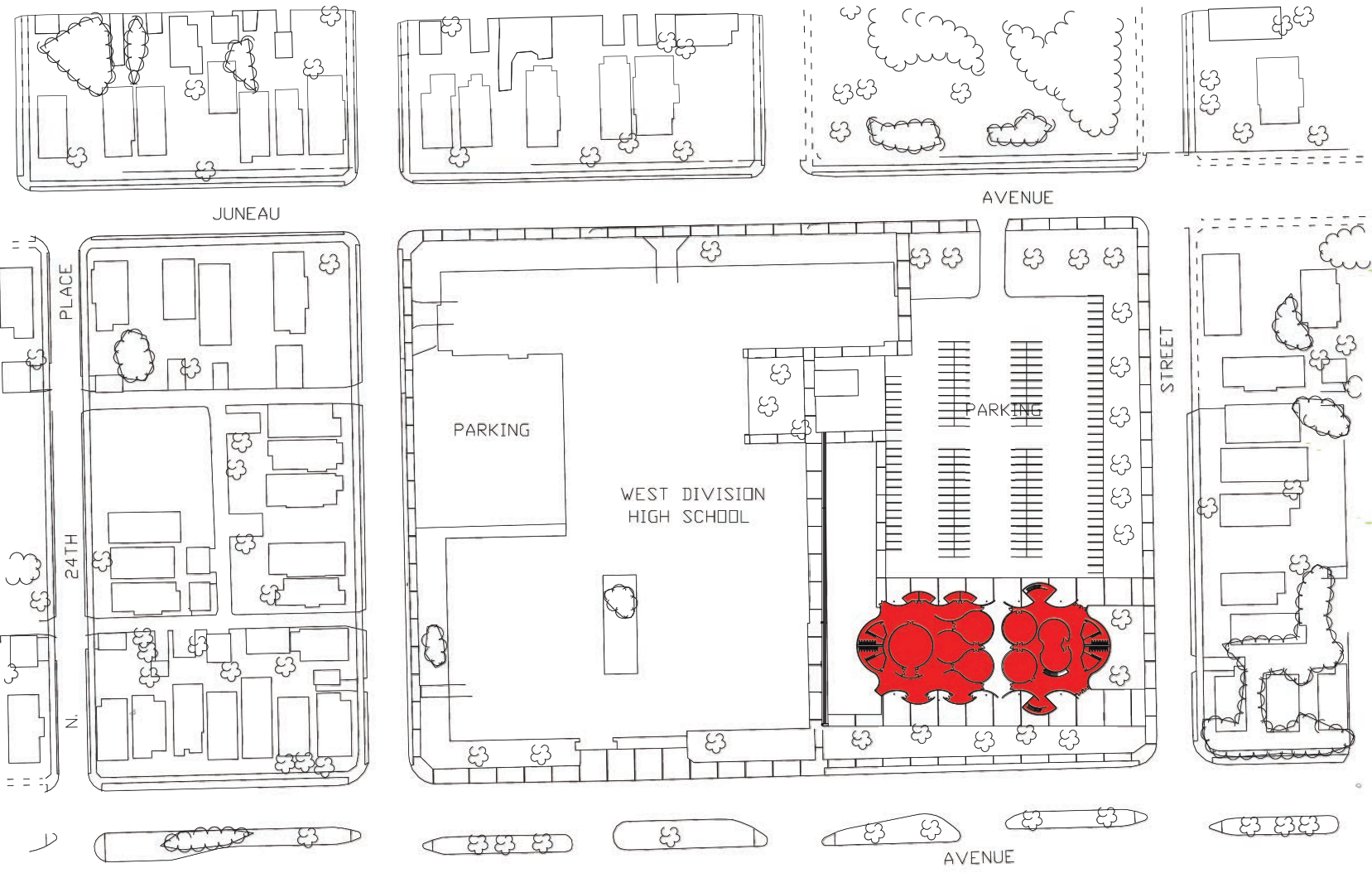
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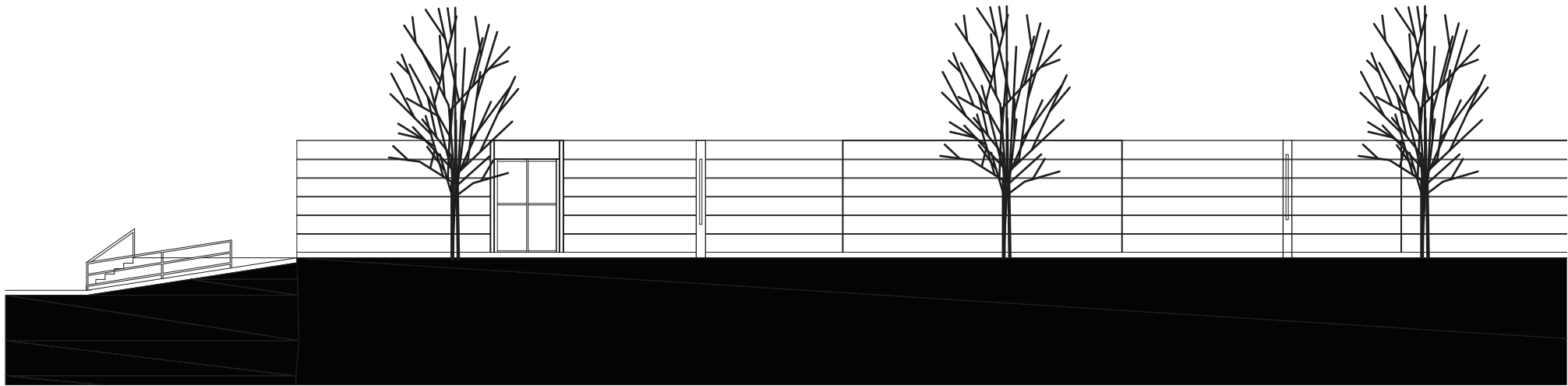


Facing page: A model showing interaction spaces

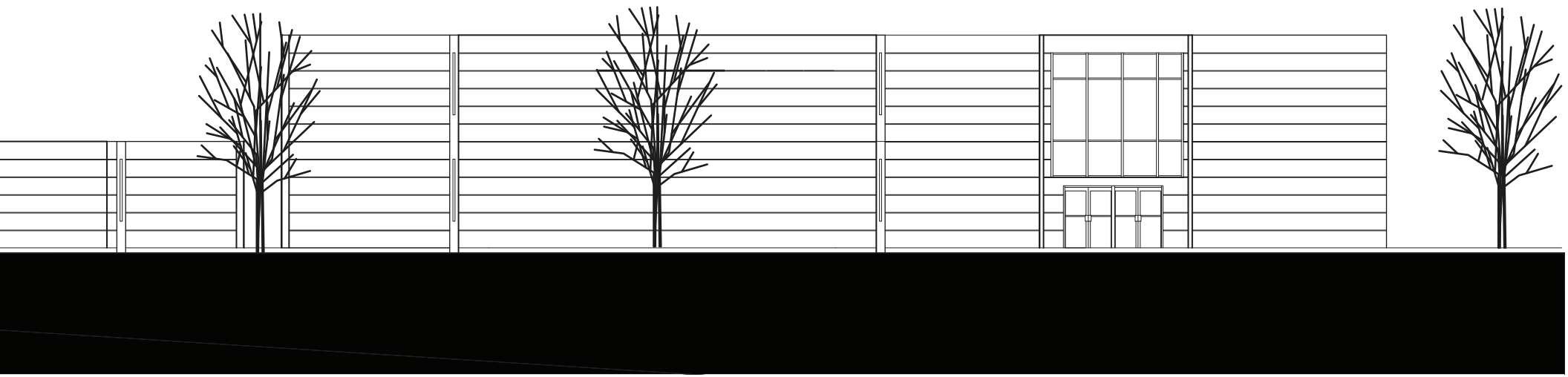






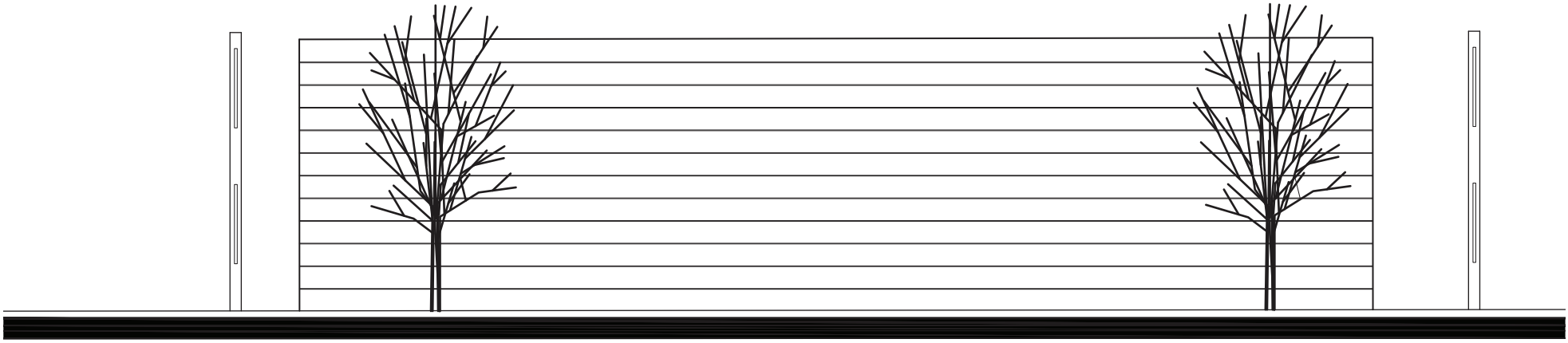


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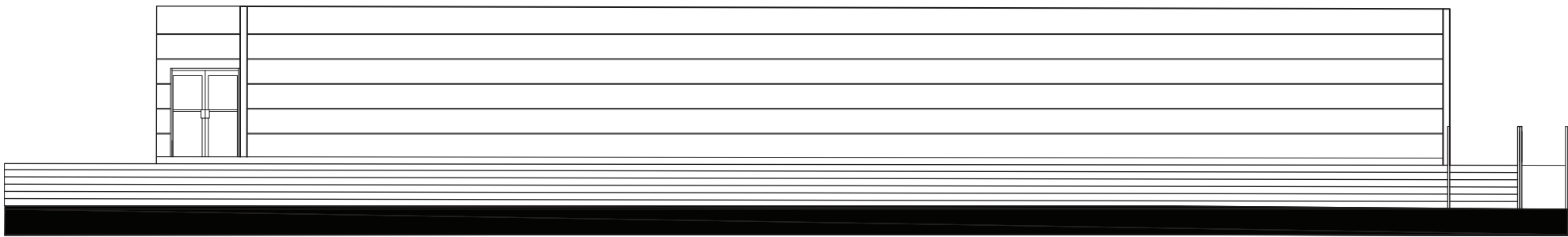




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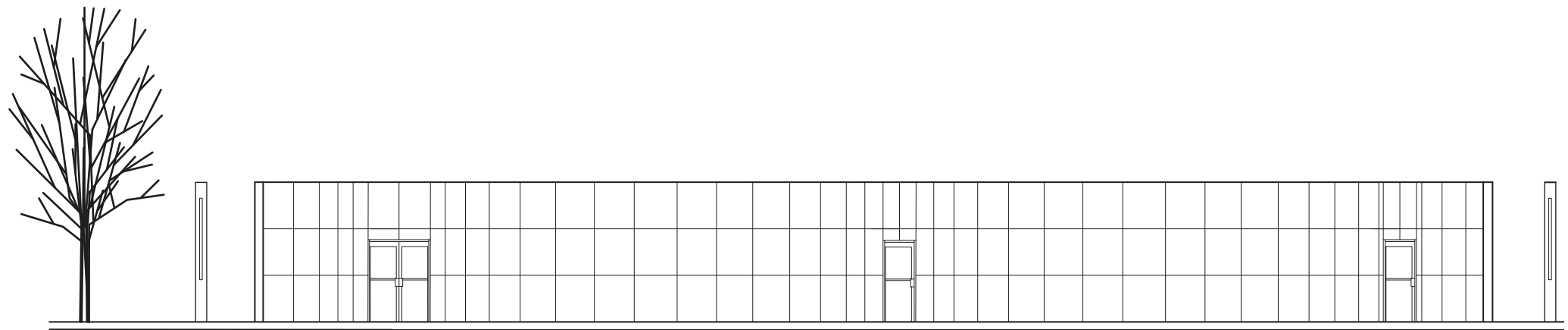



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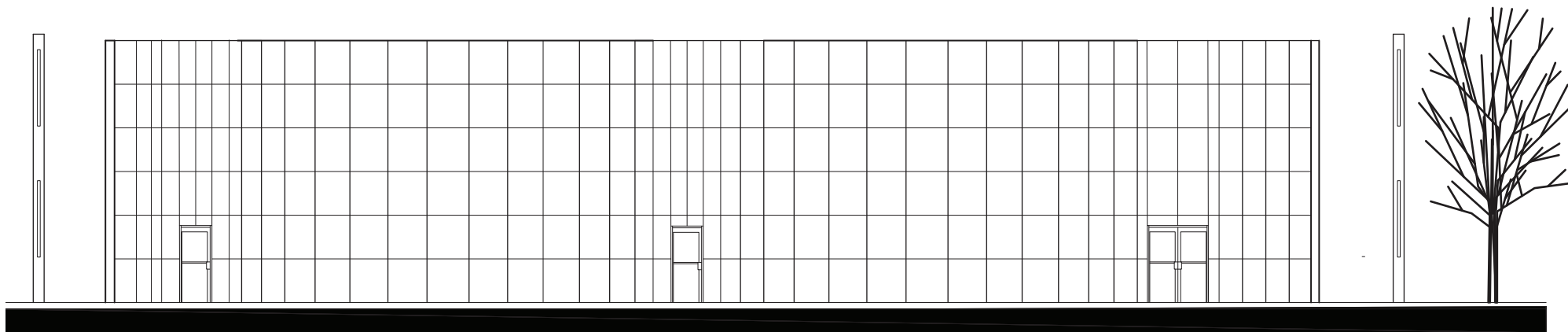


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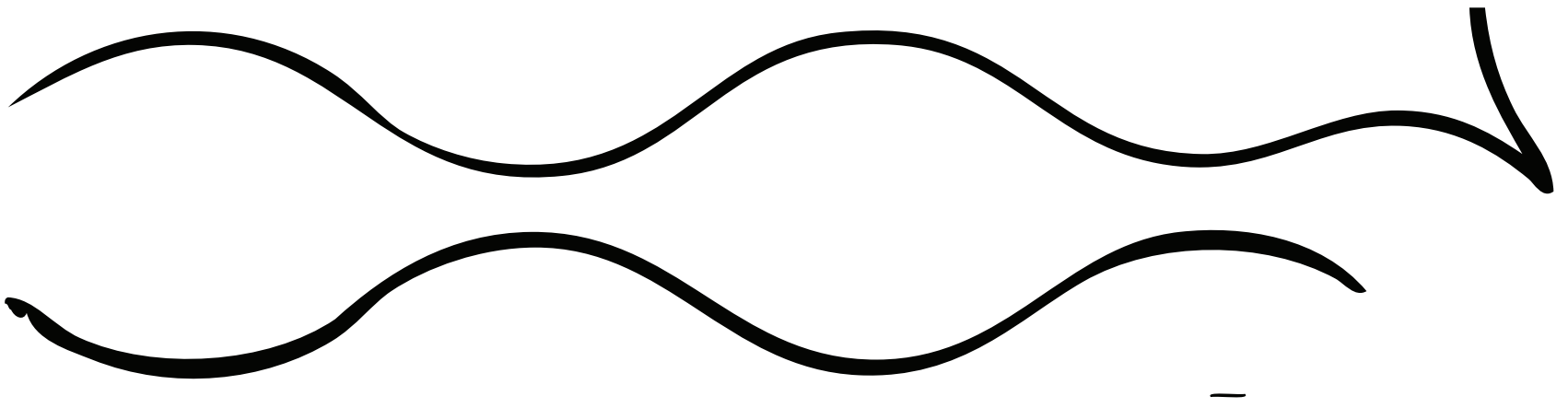
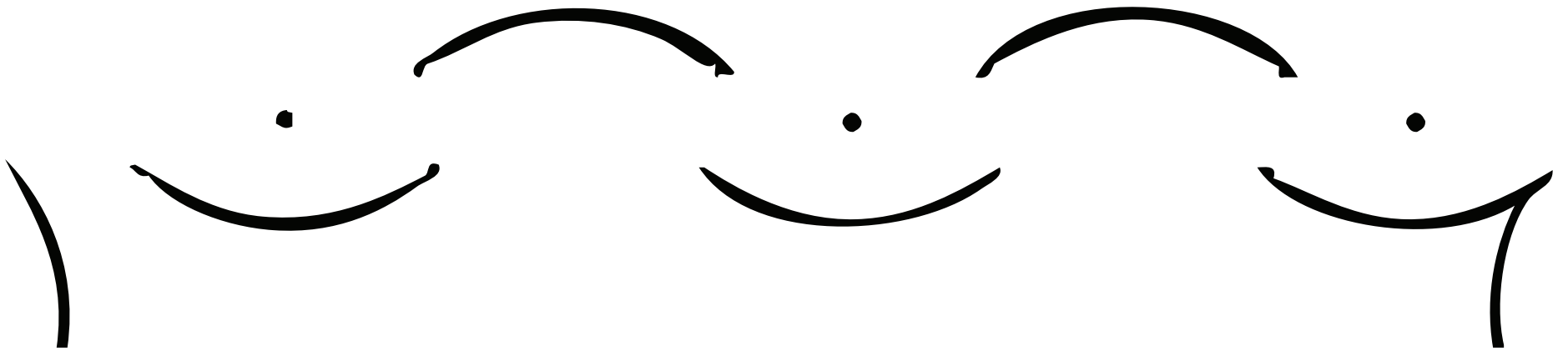
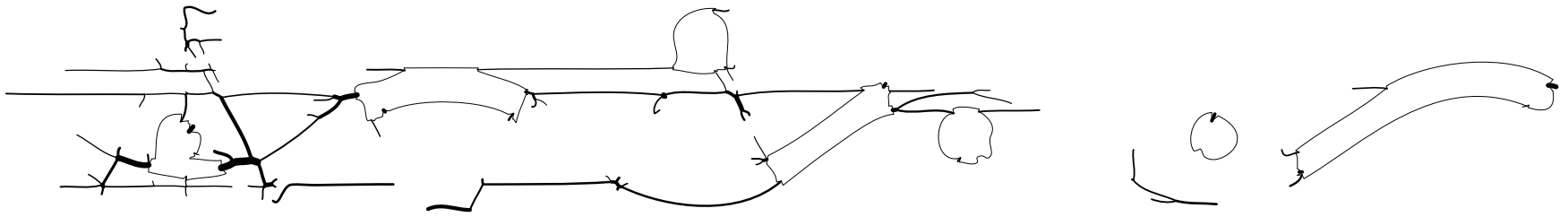
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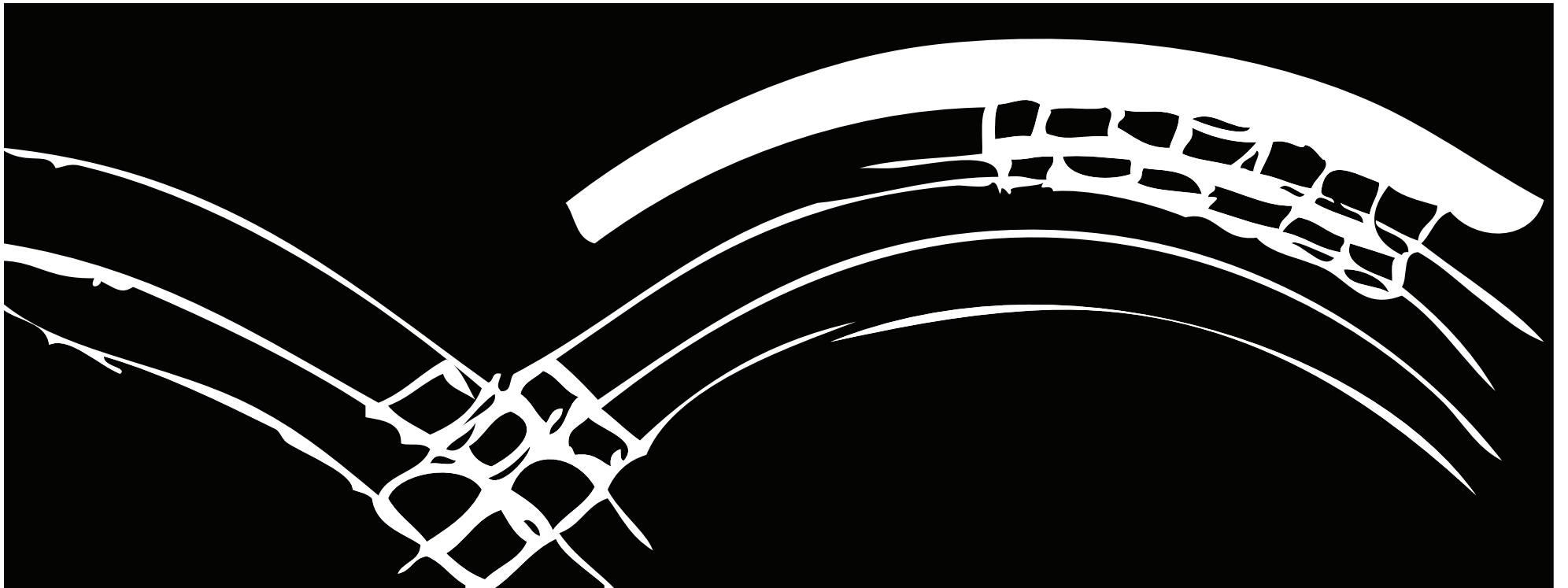
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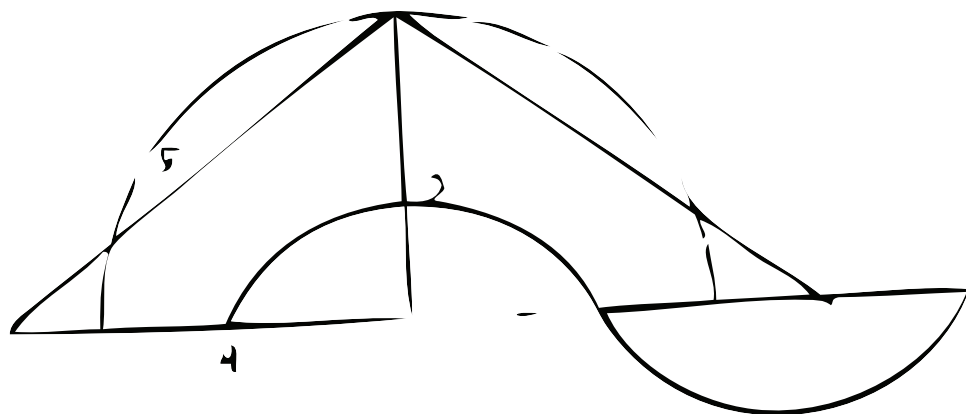
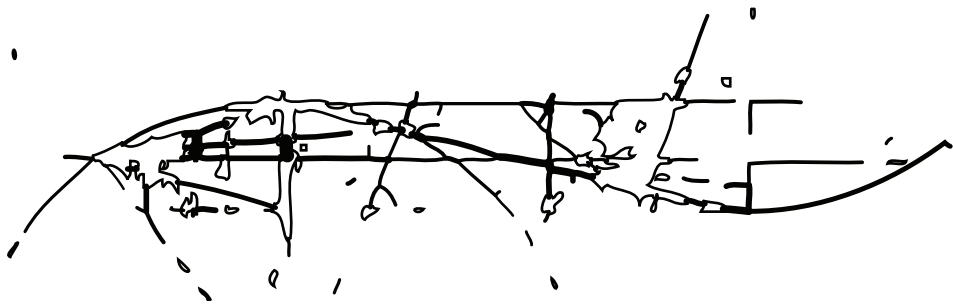


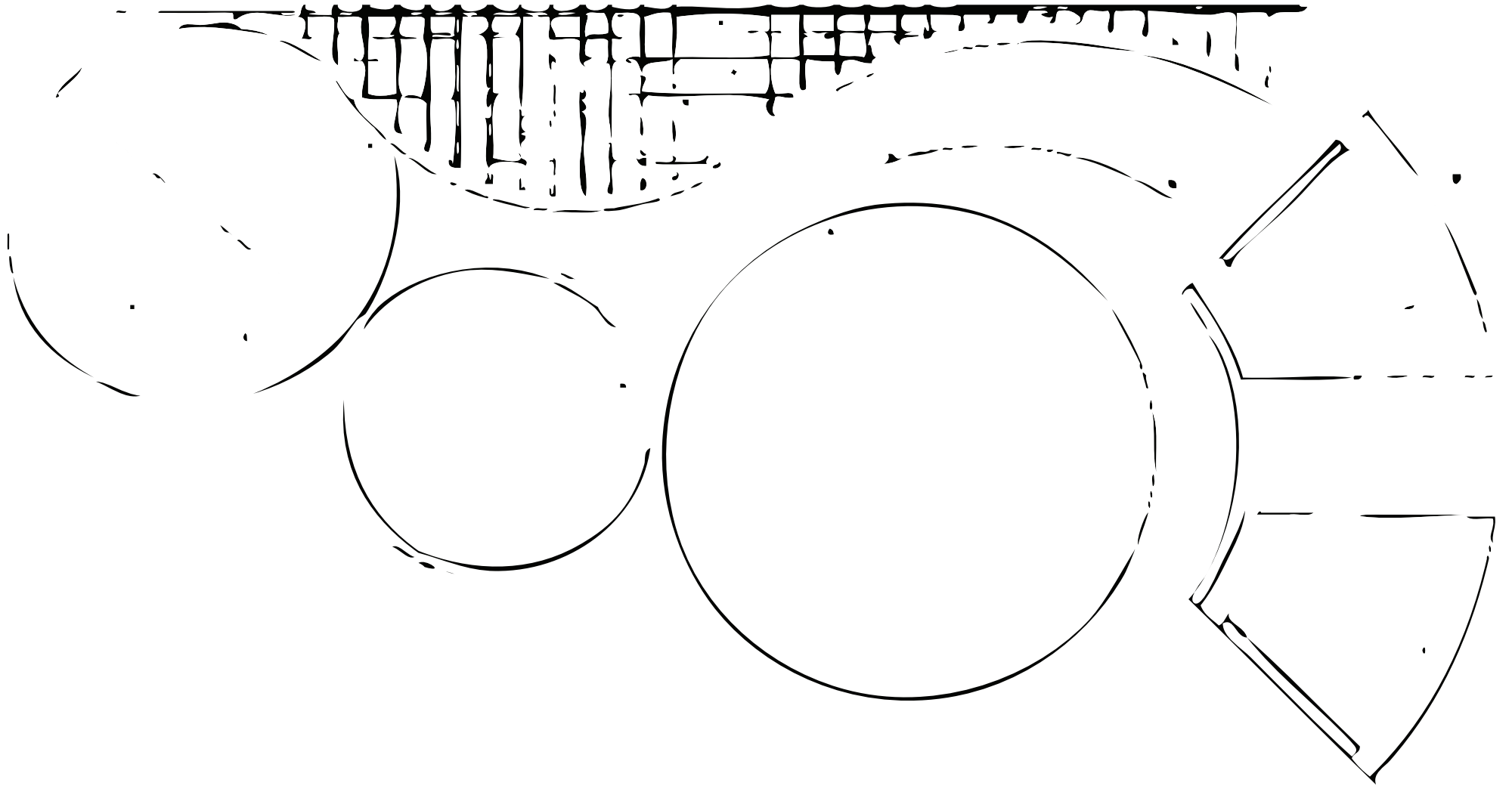
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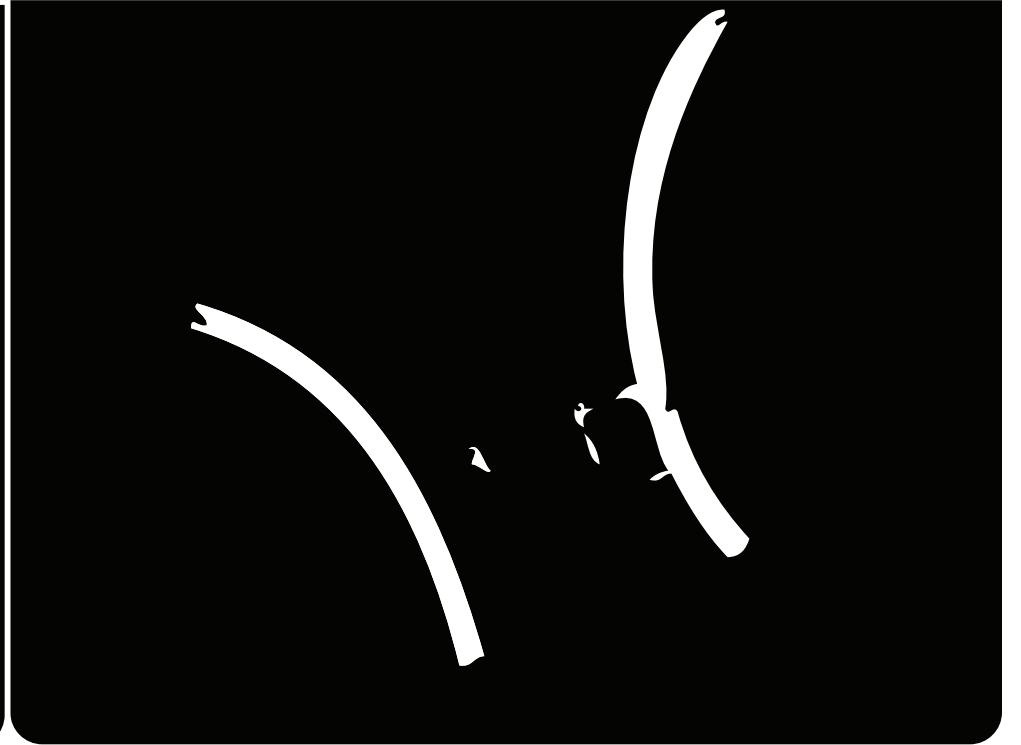
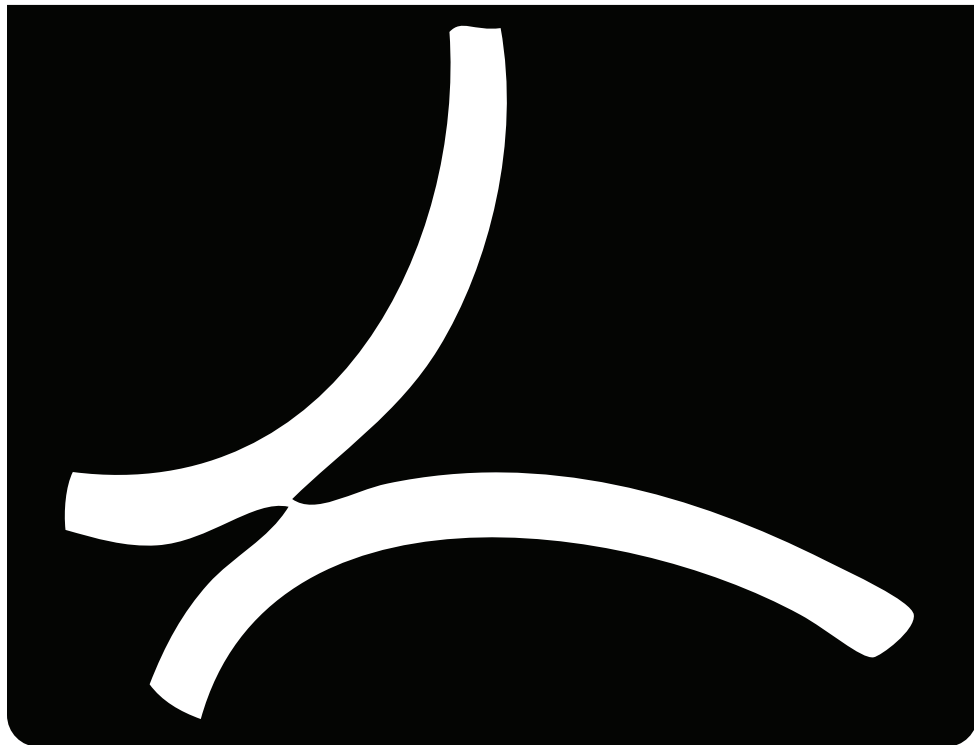
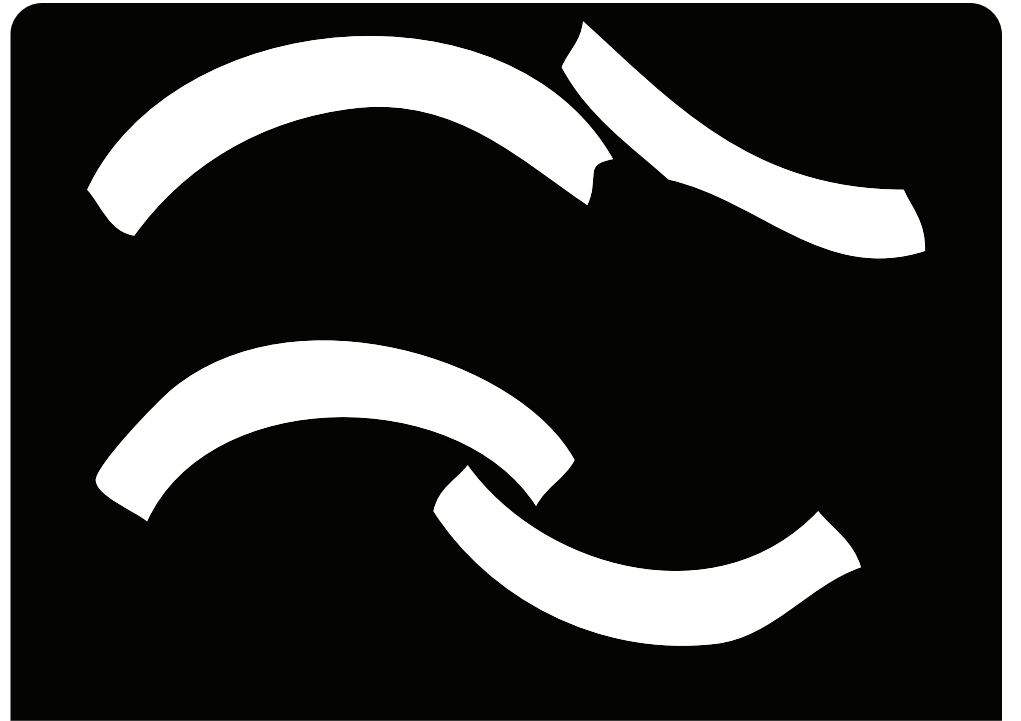
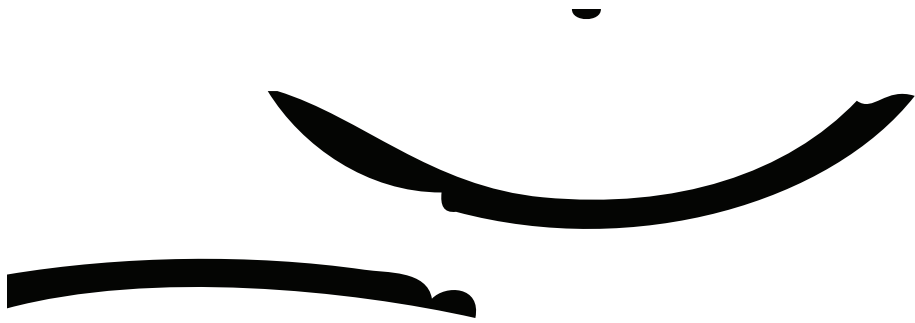


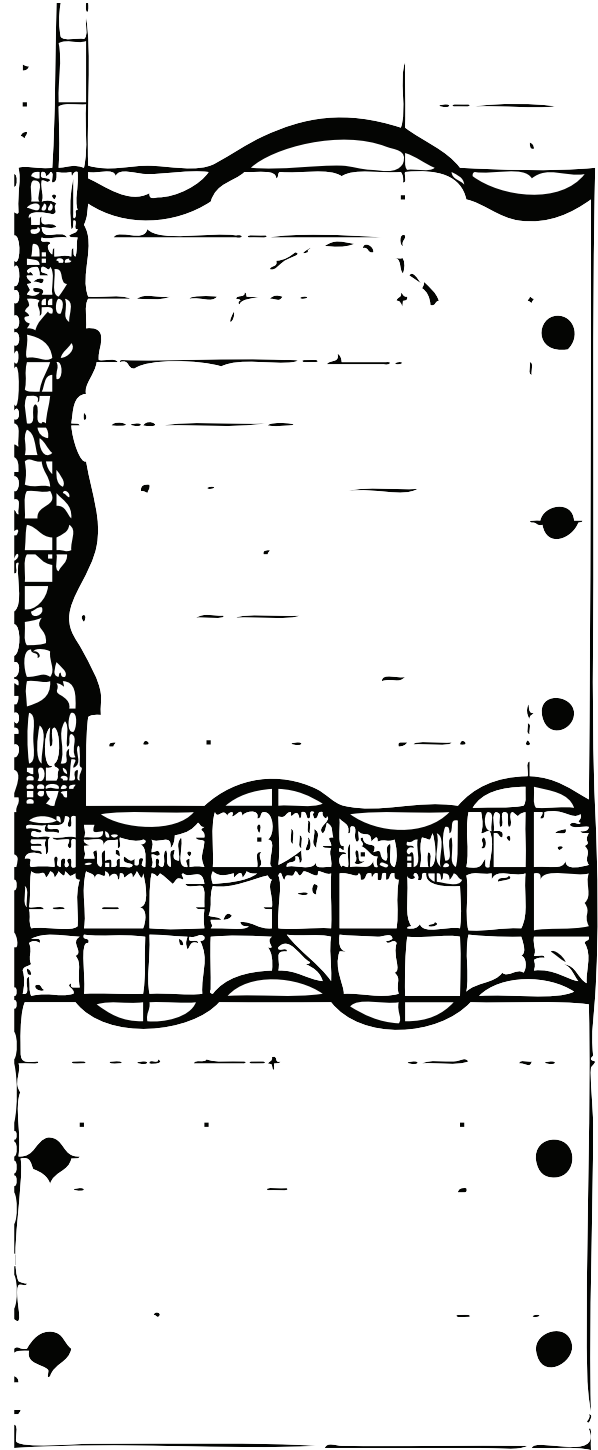
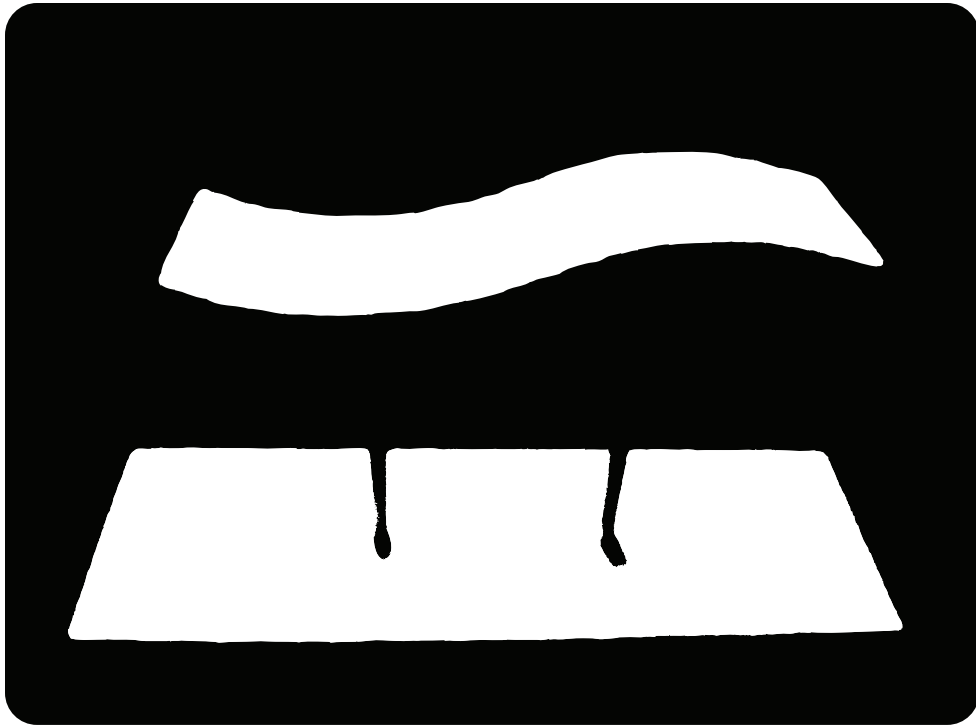


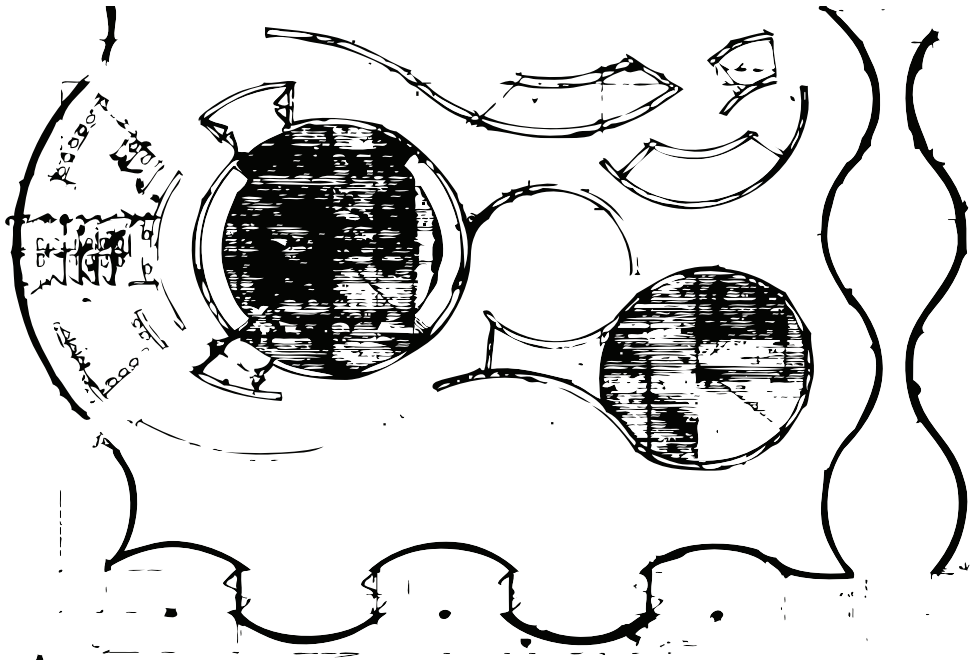




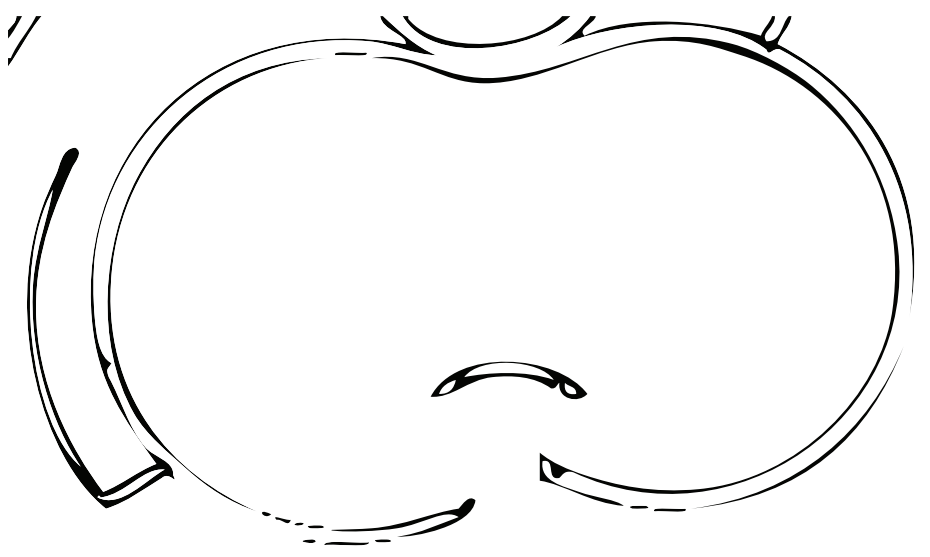
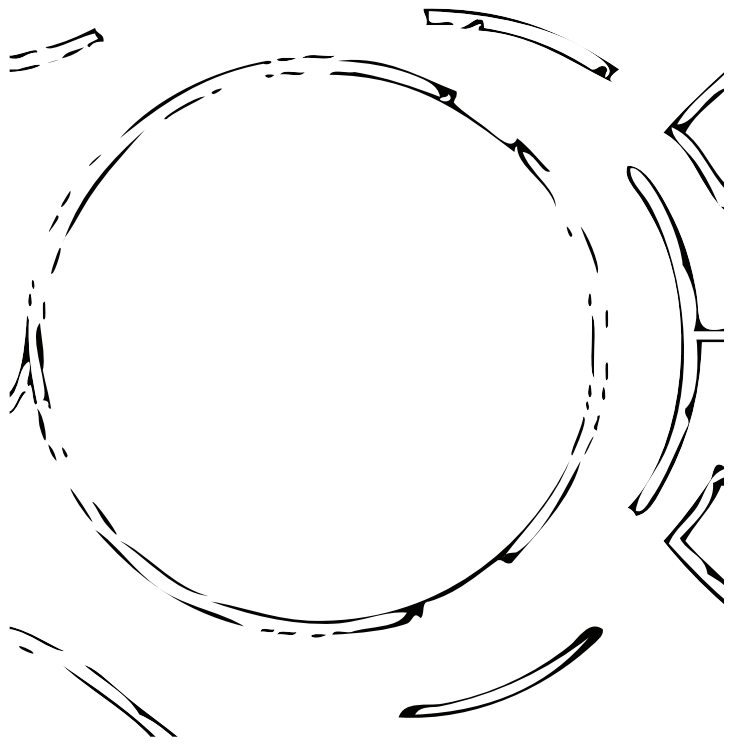
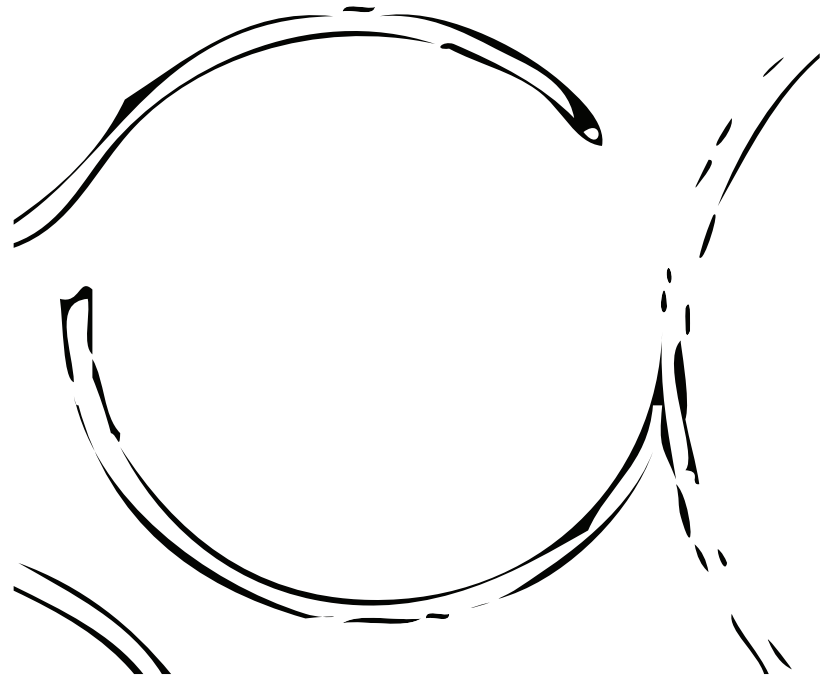


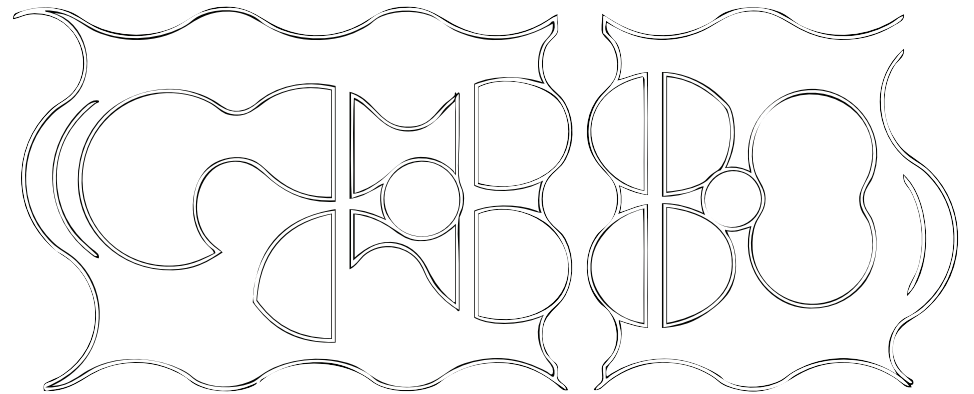
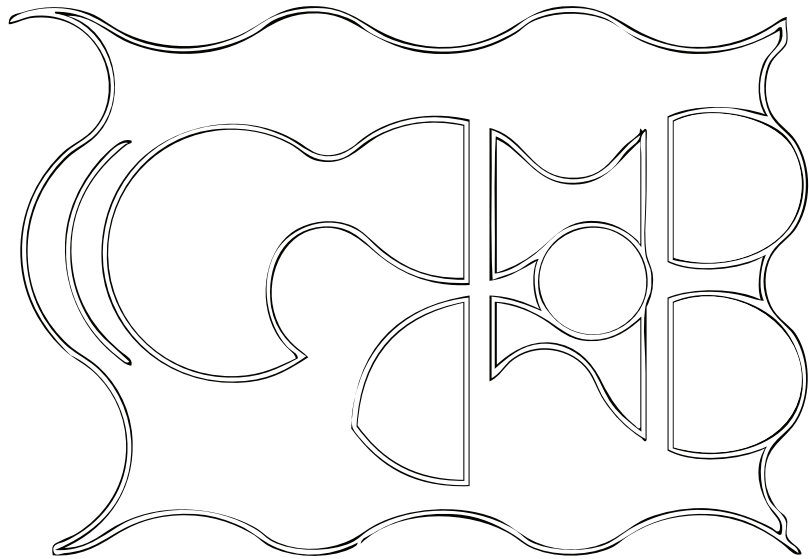
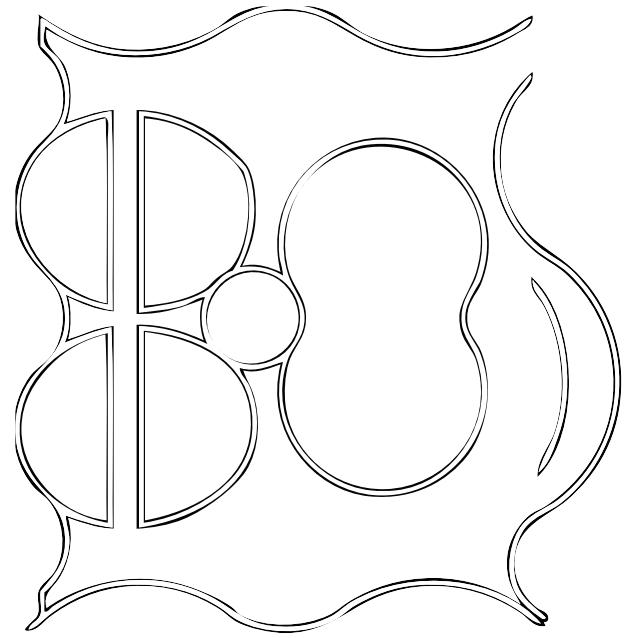
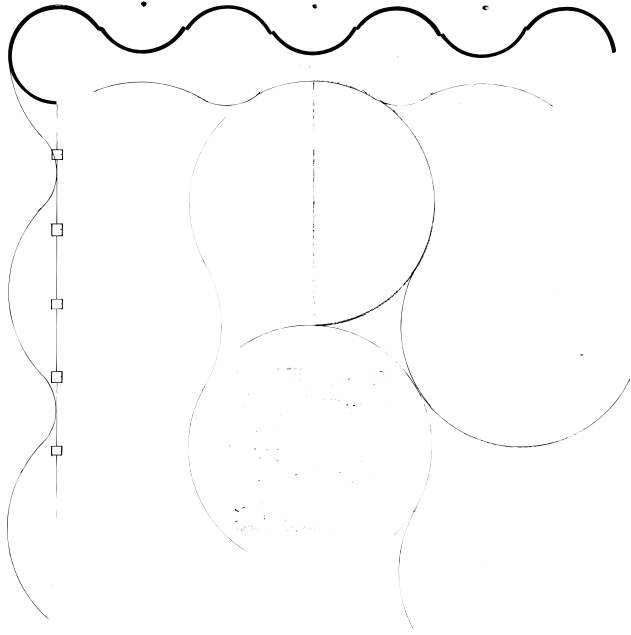




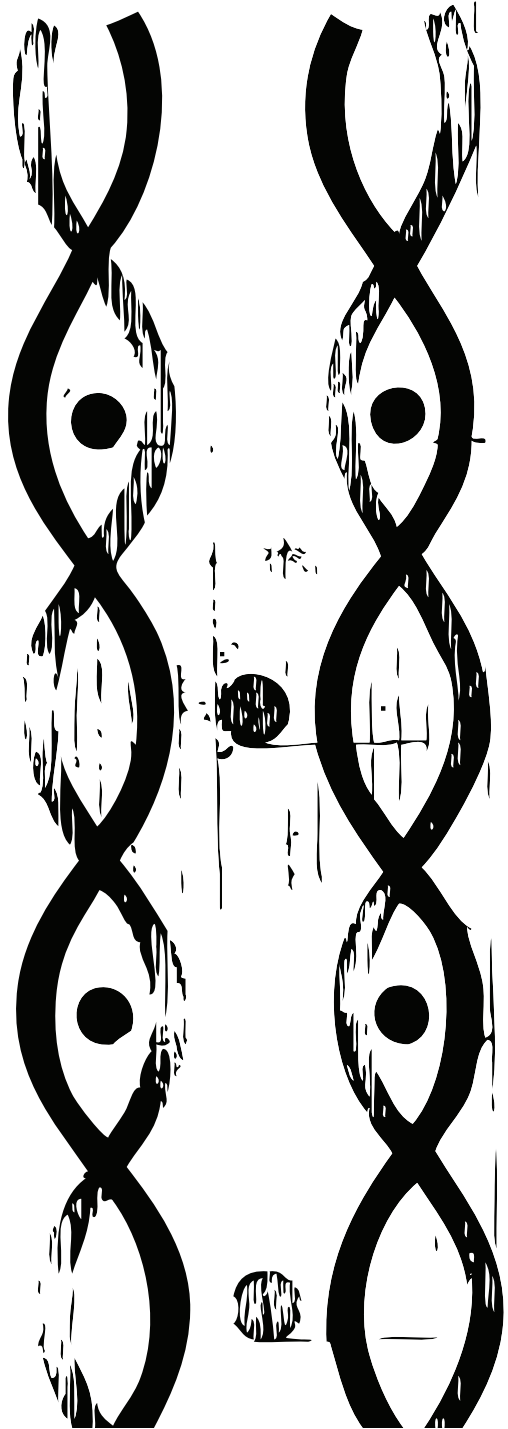
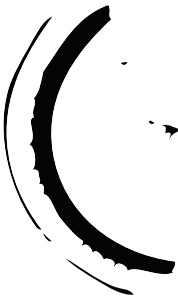
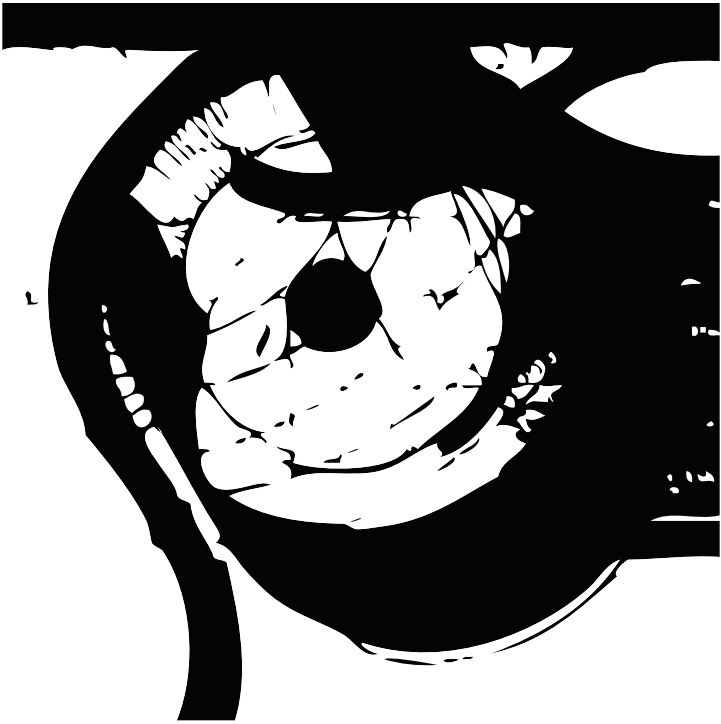


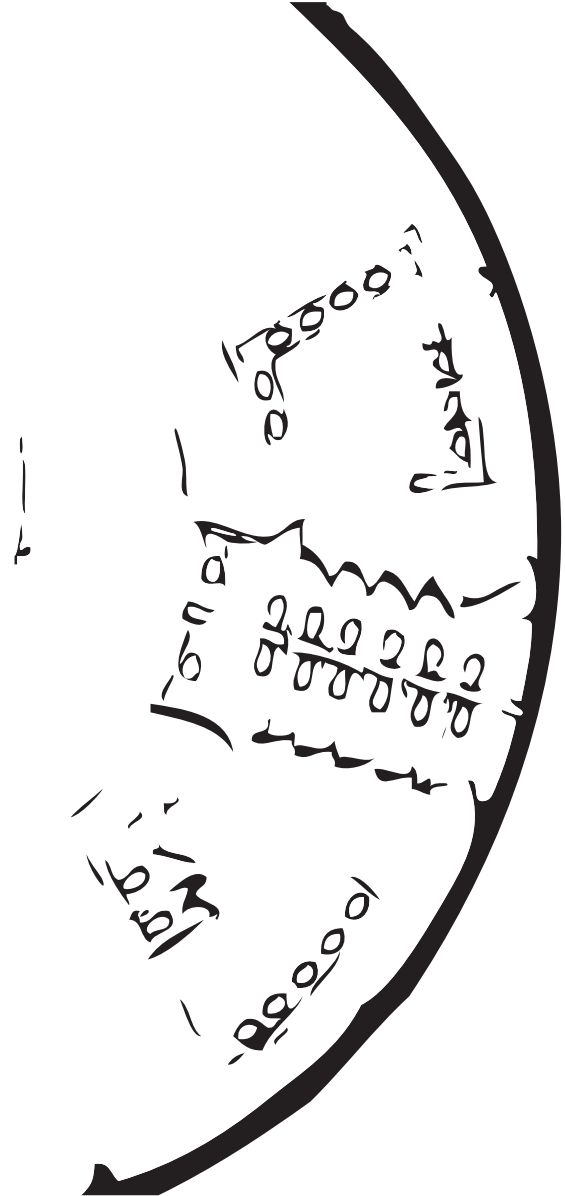
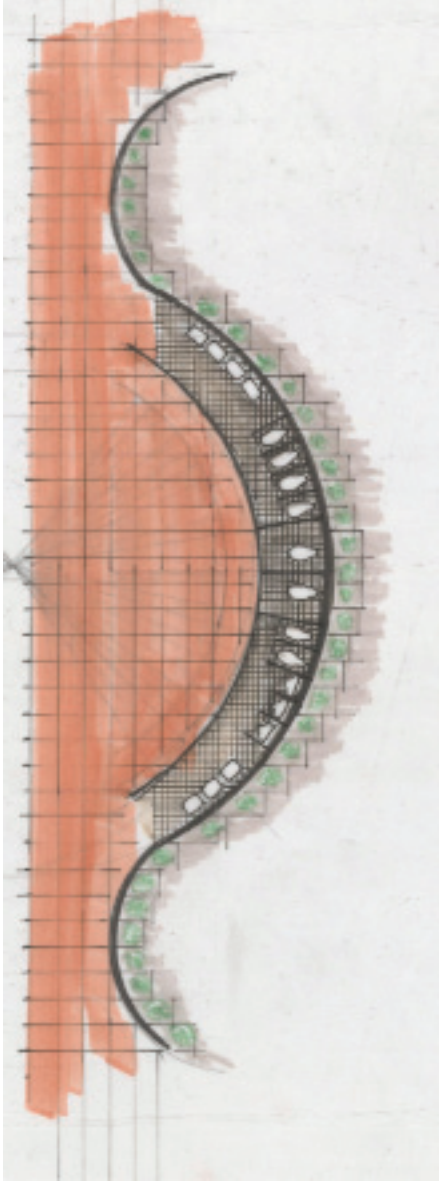
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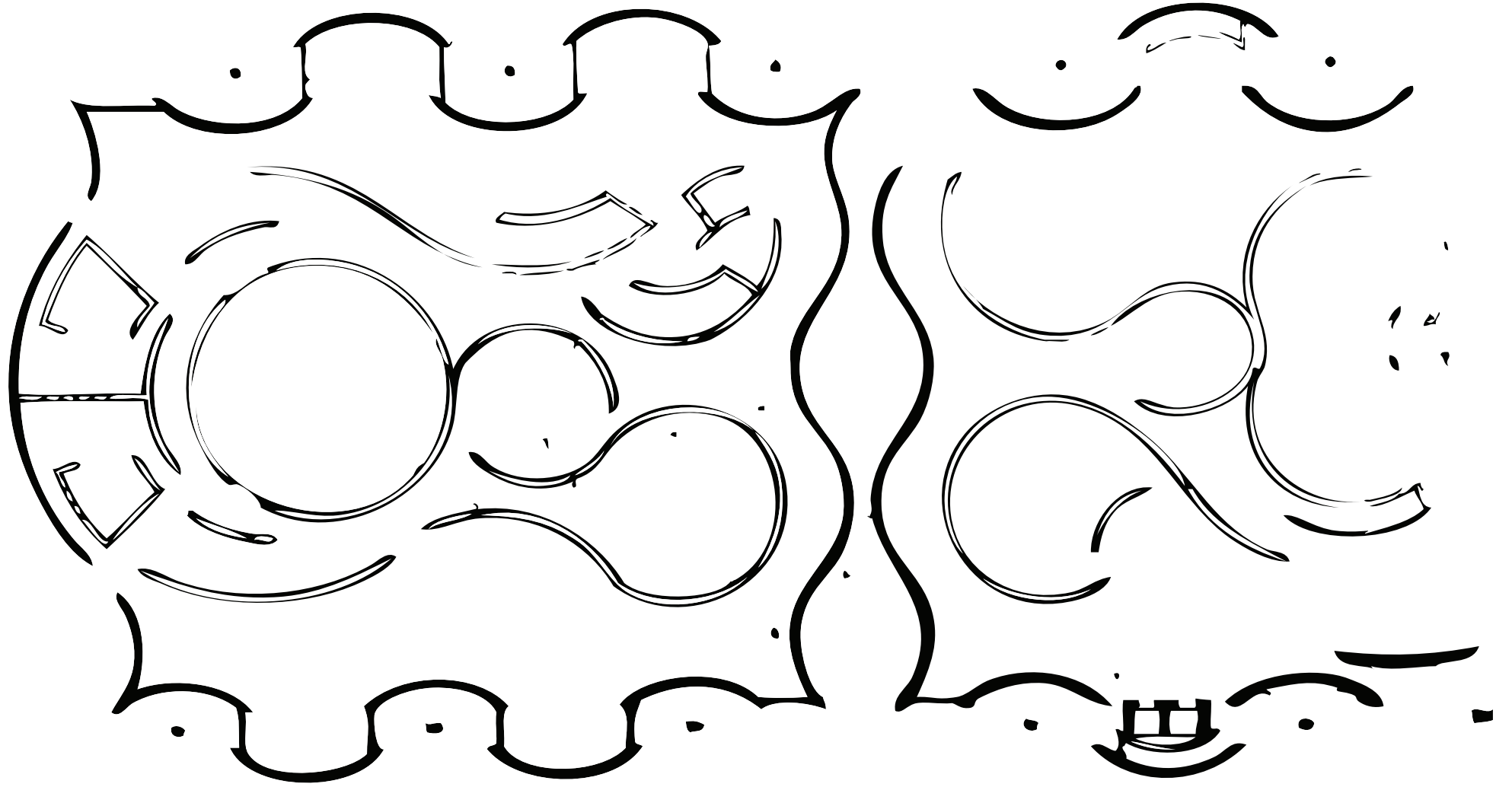


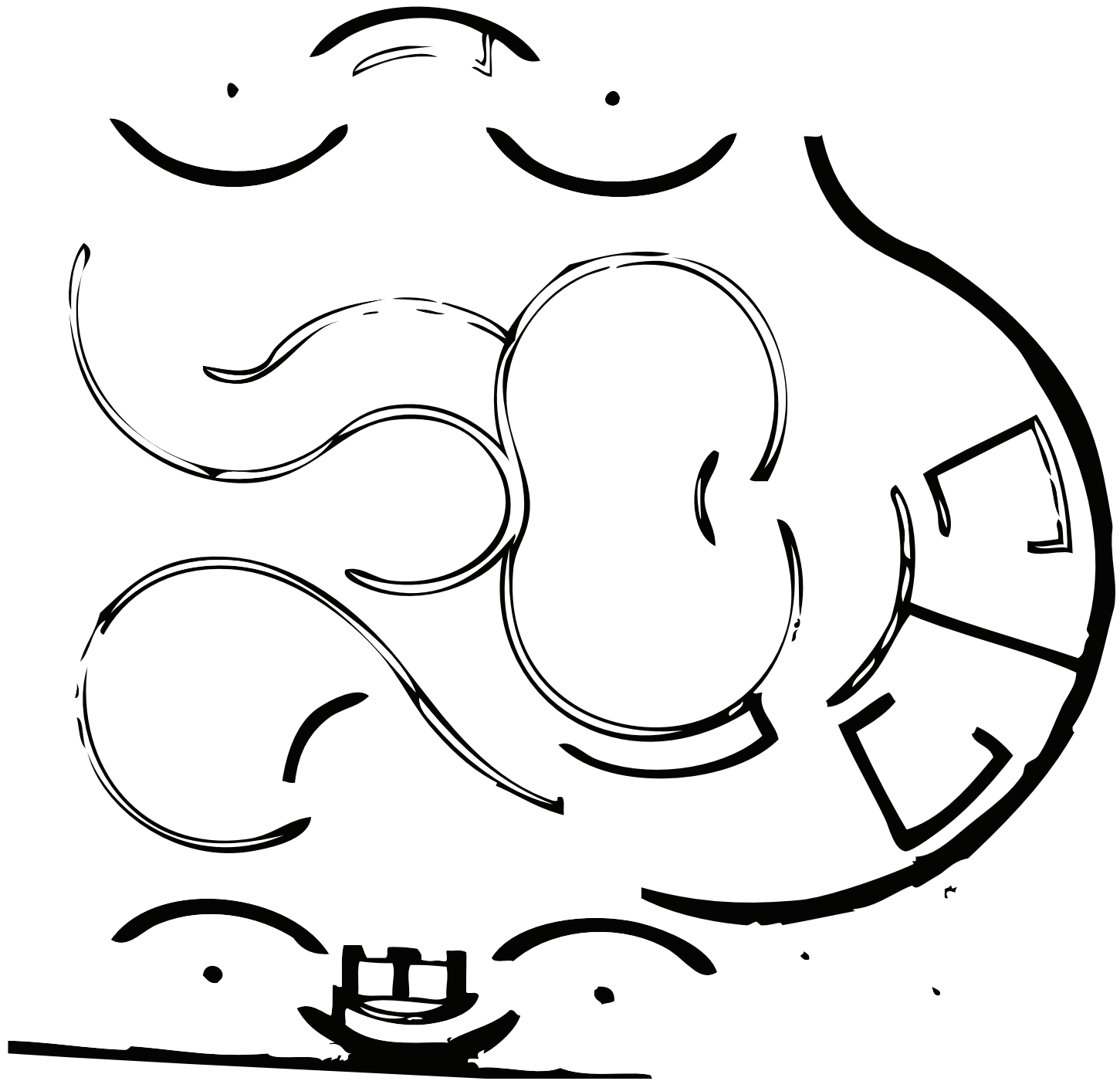


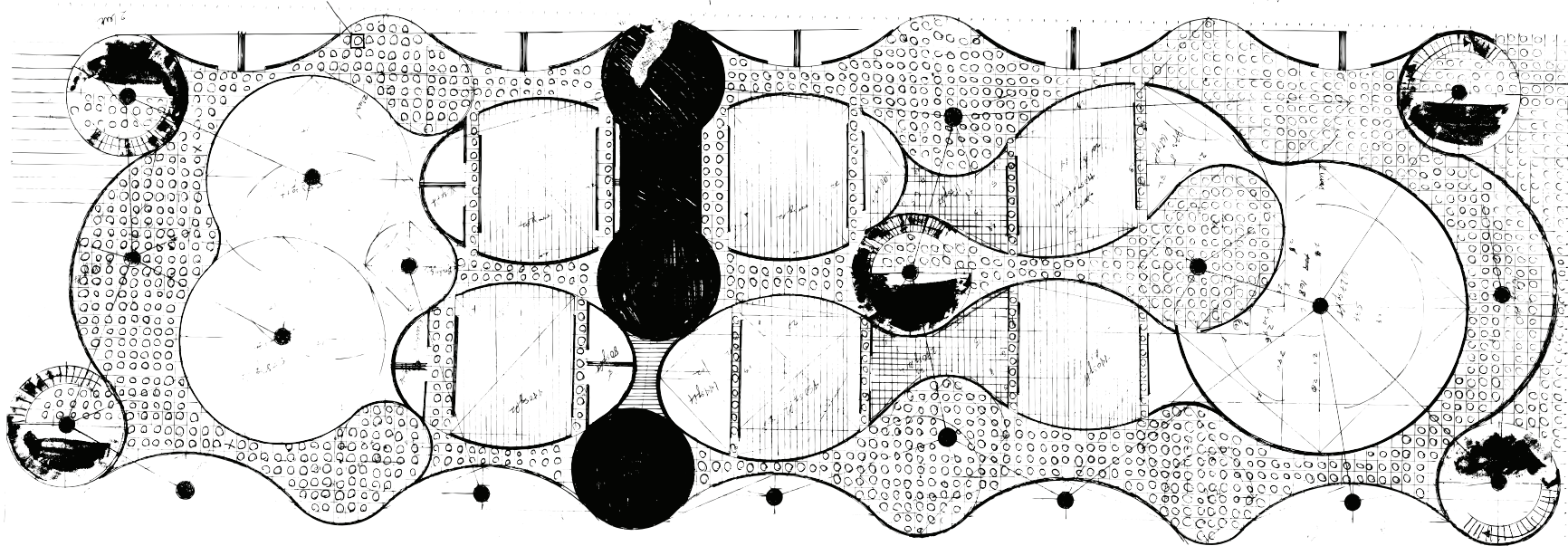
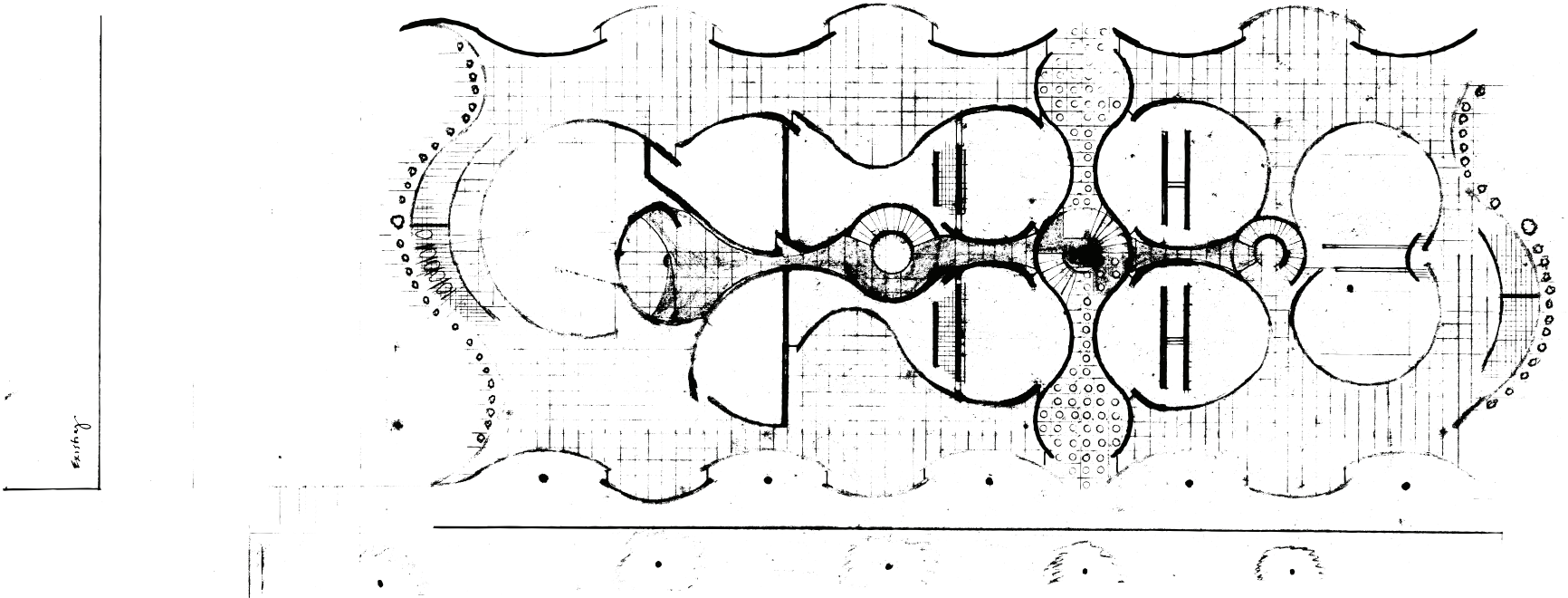




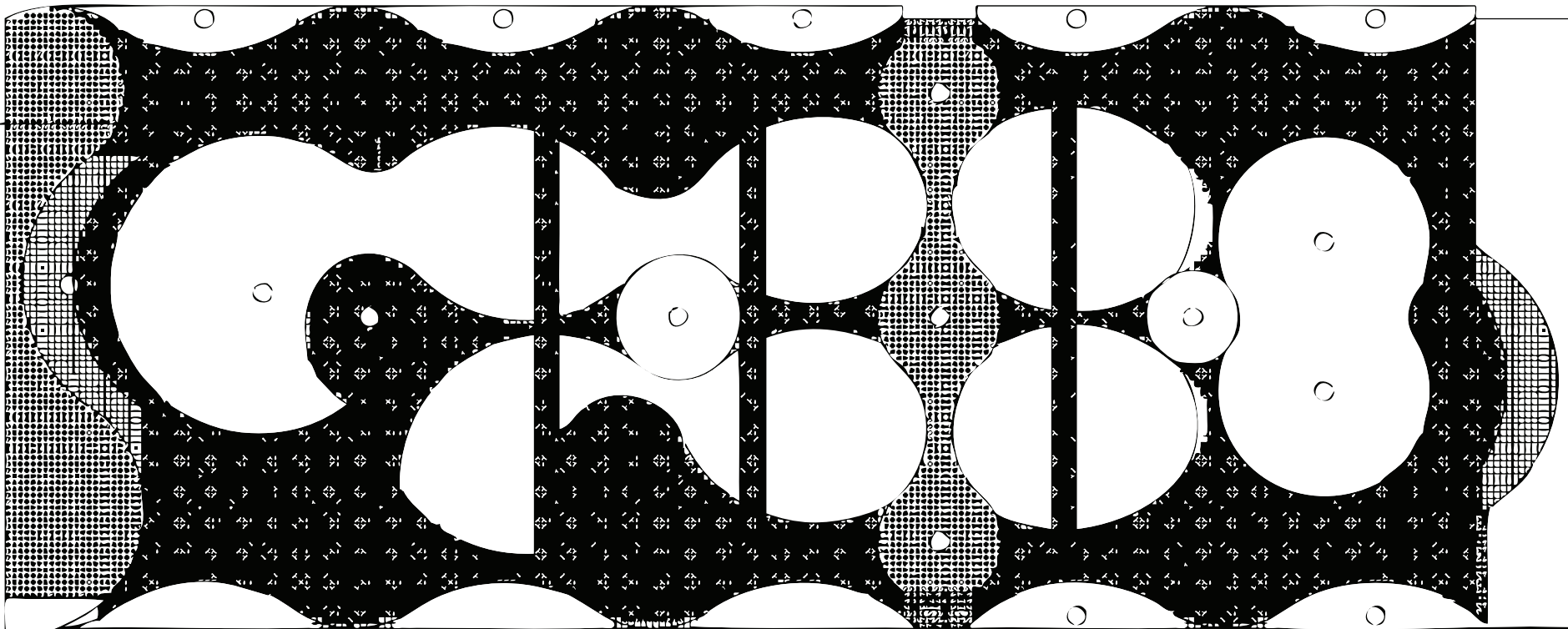
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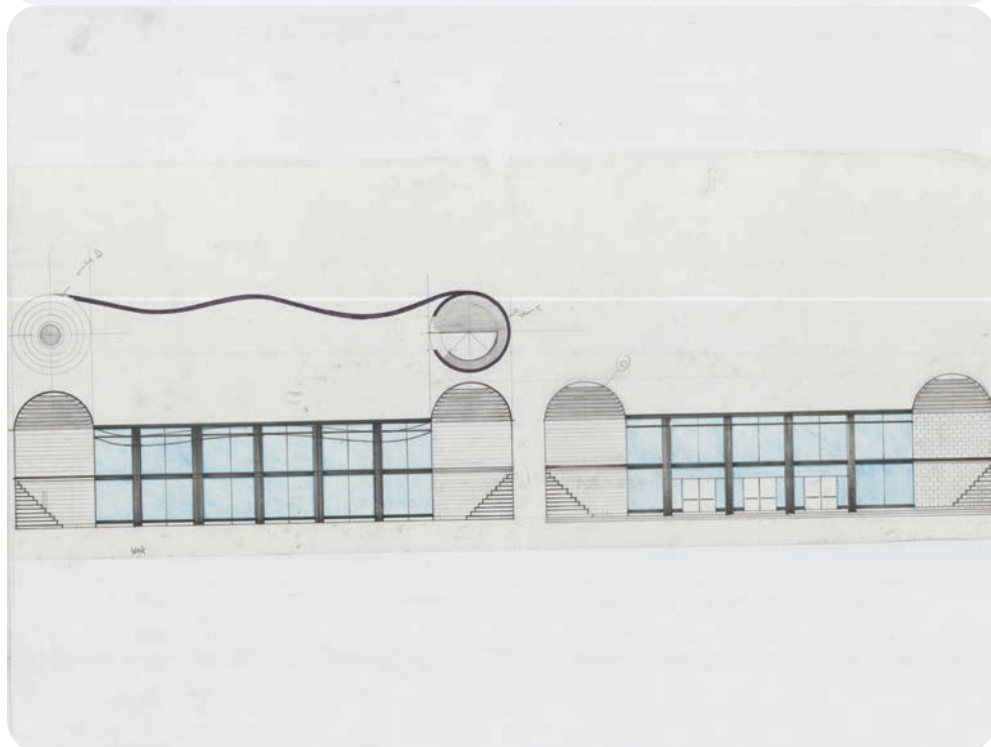
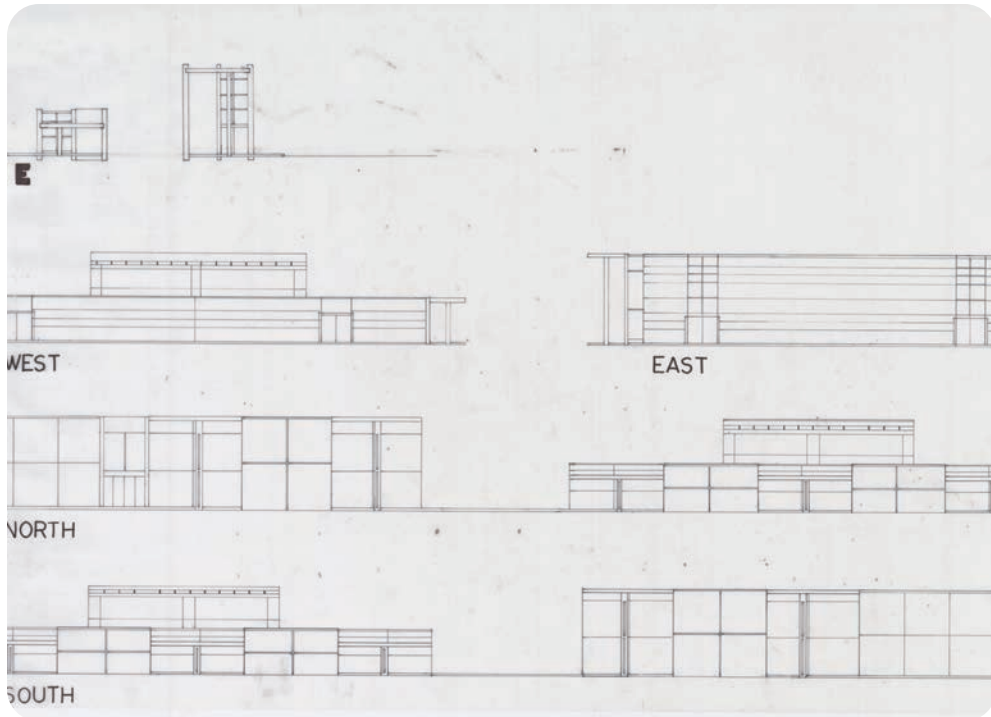


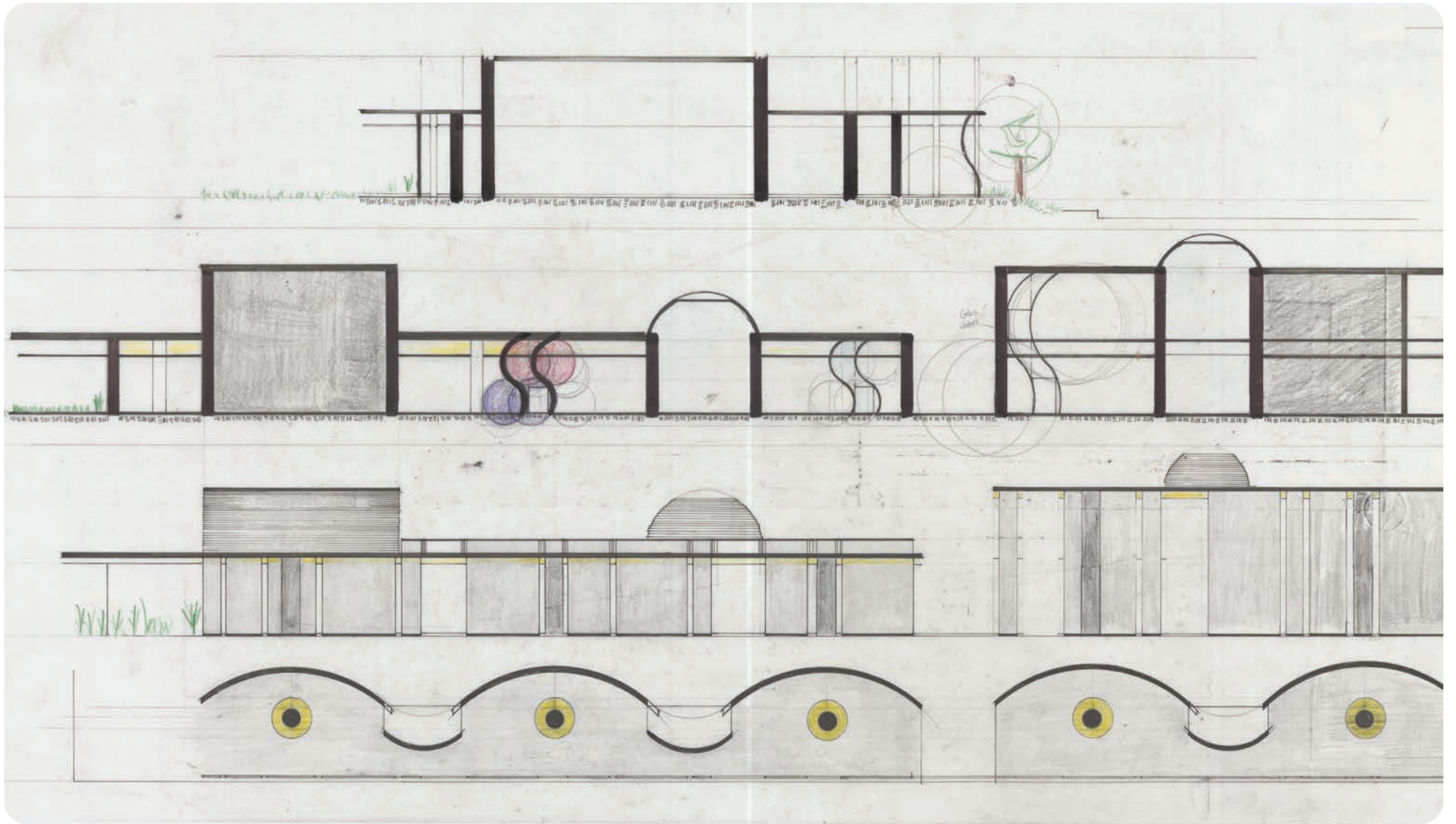








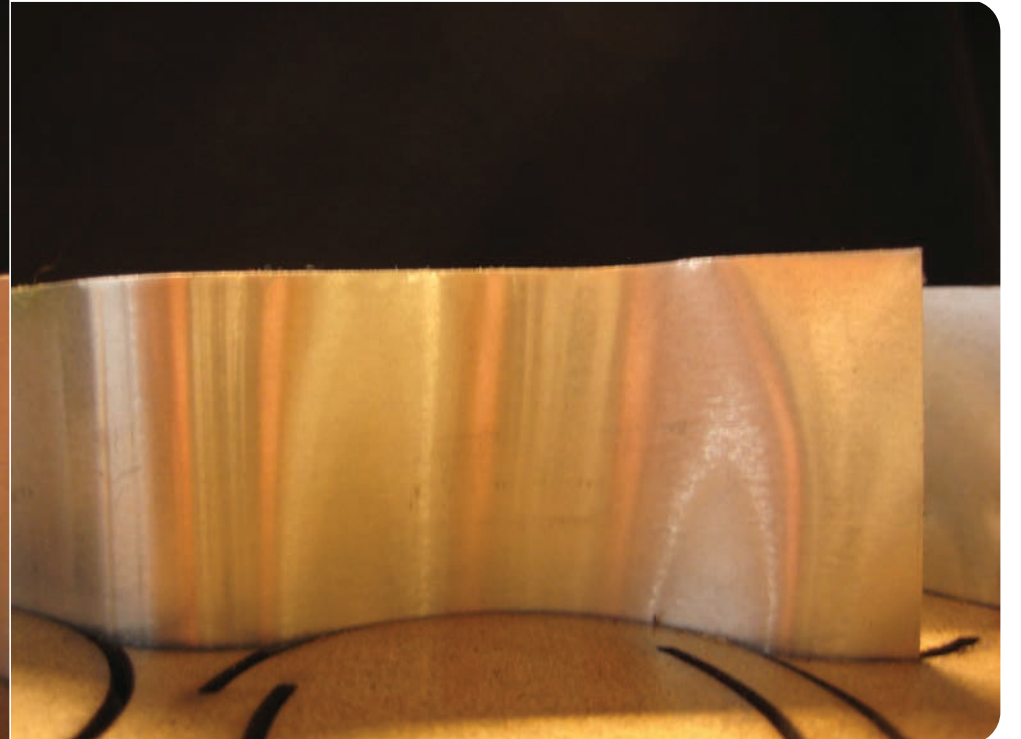
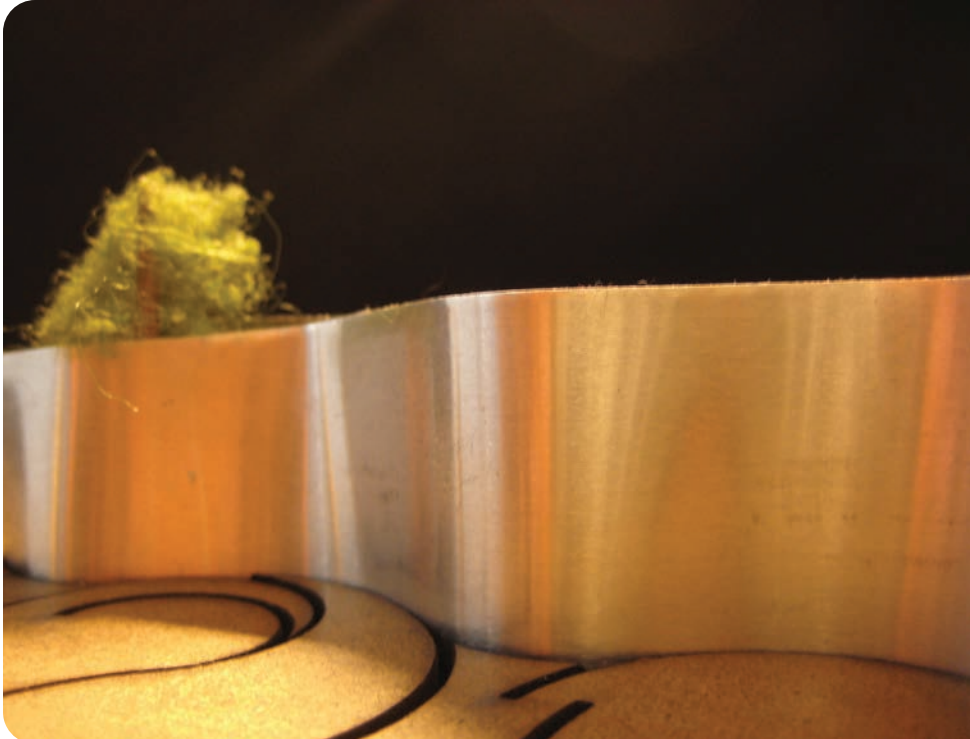
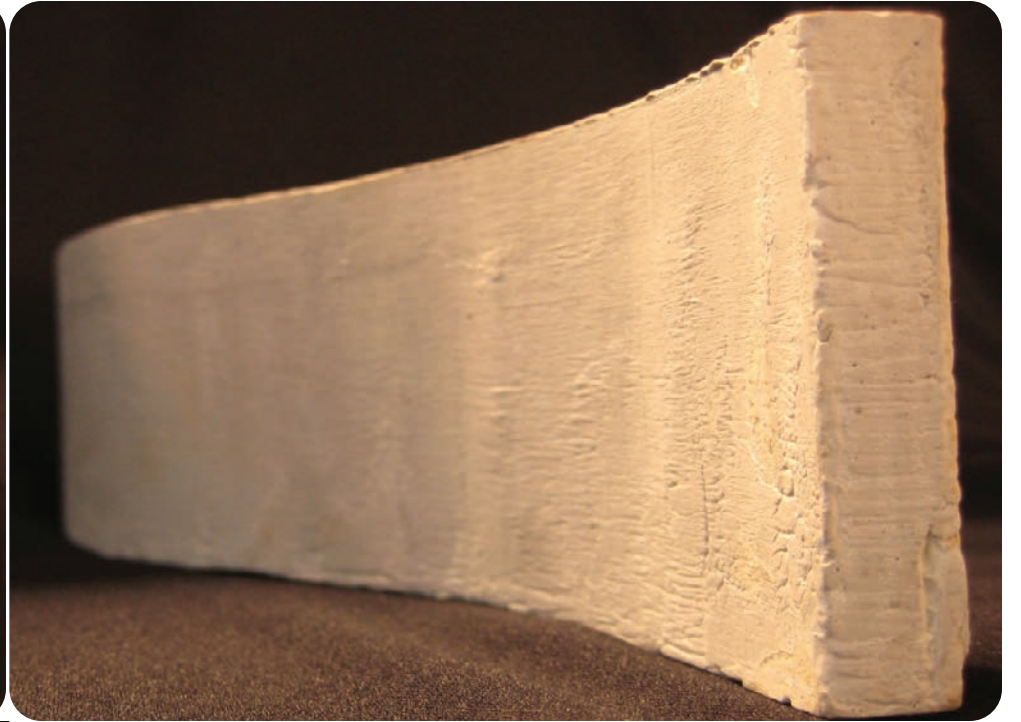


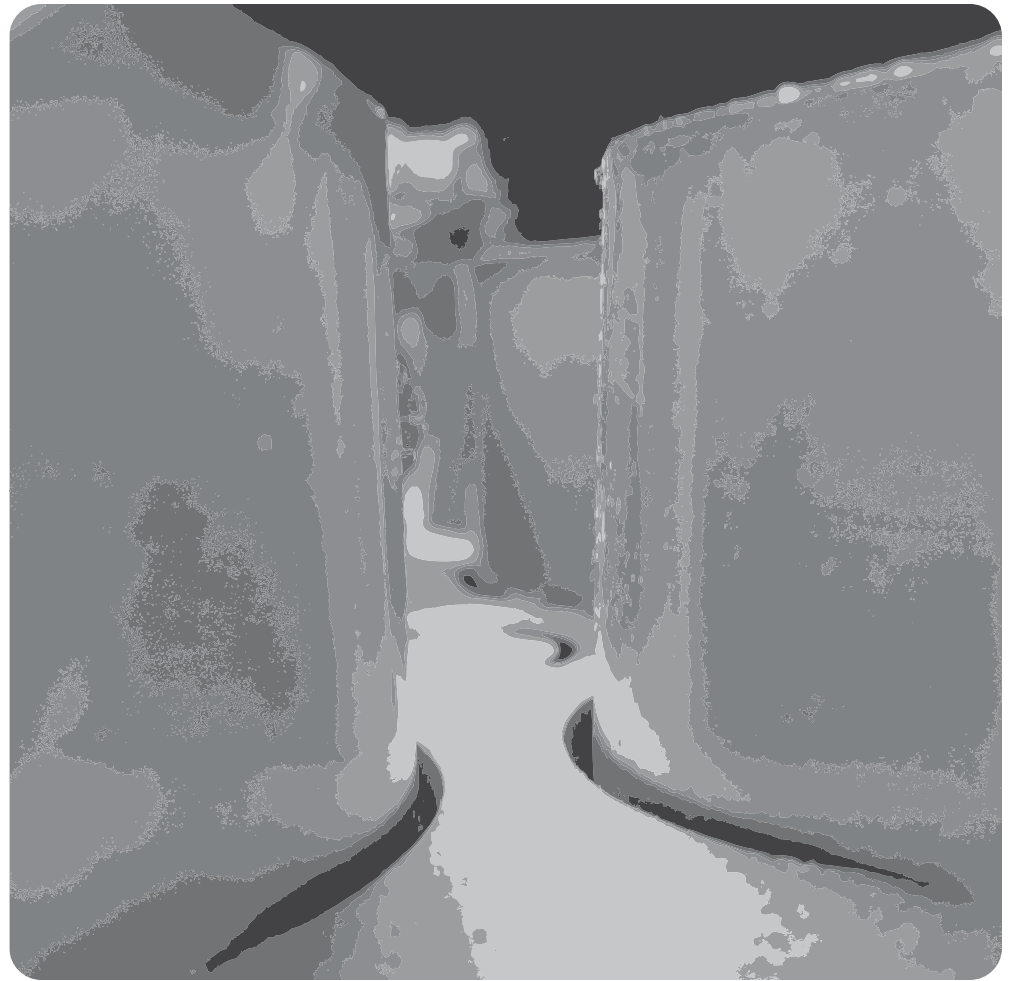




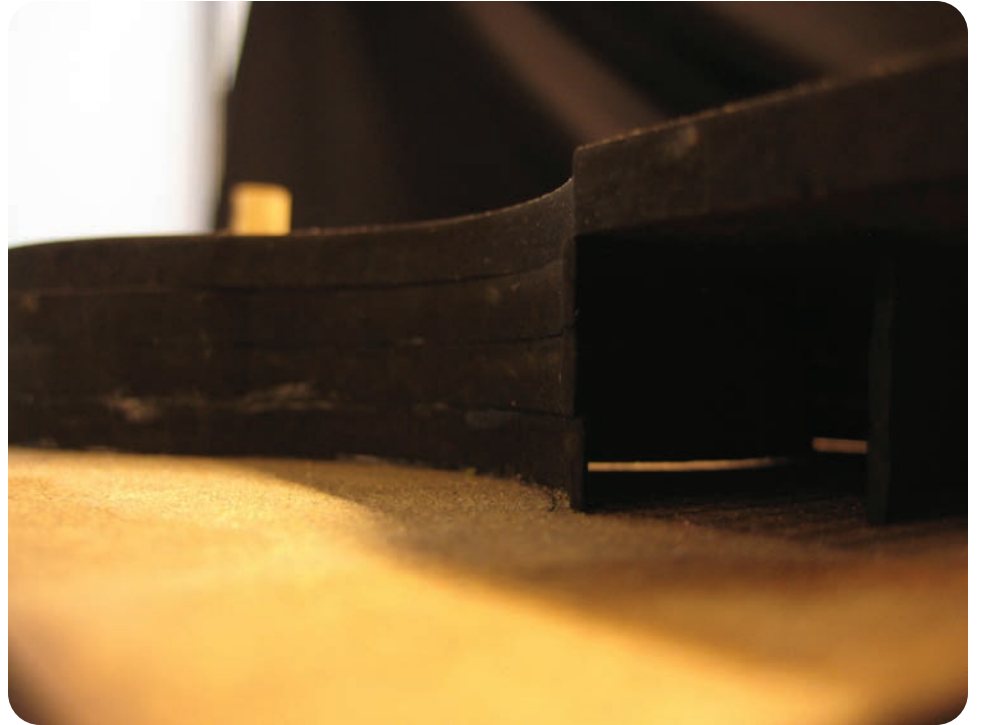
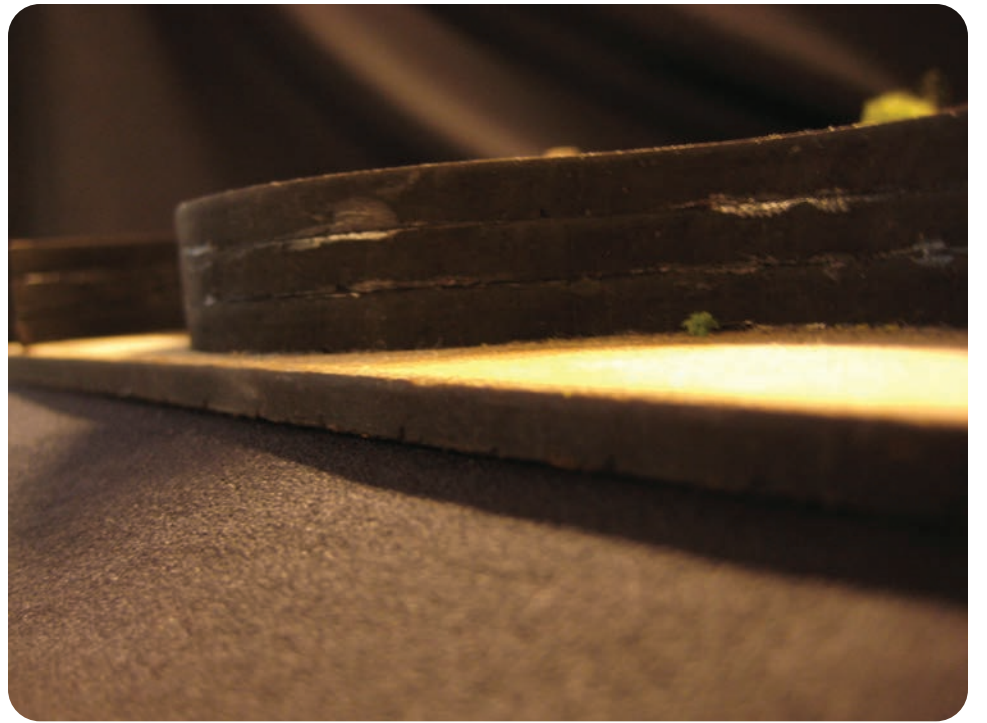
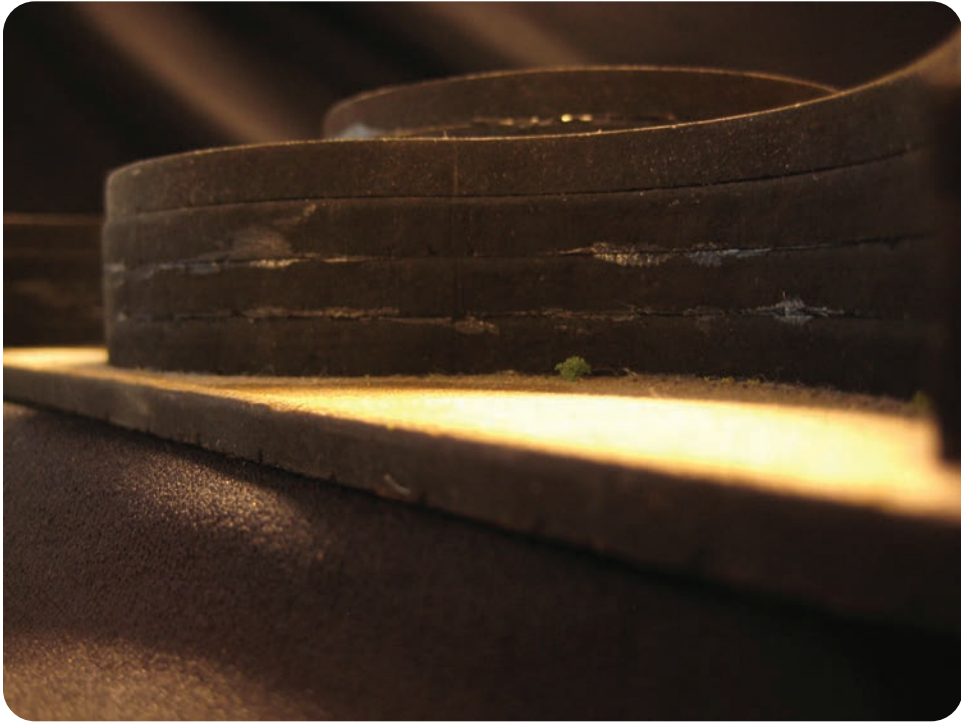
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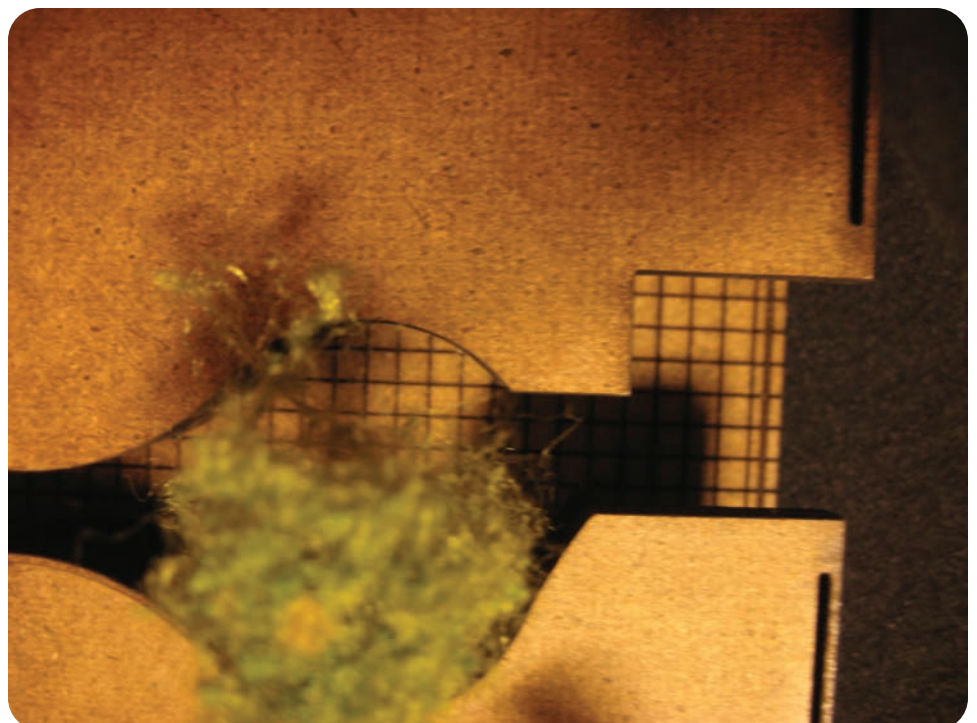
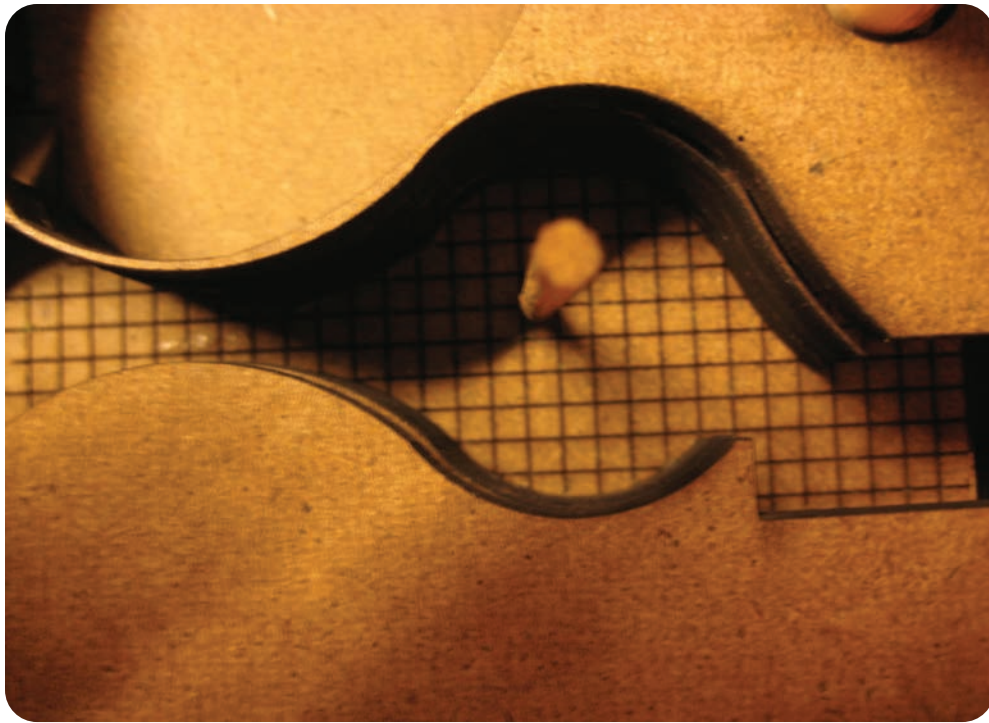
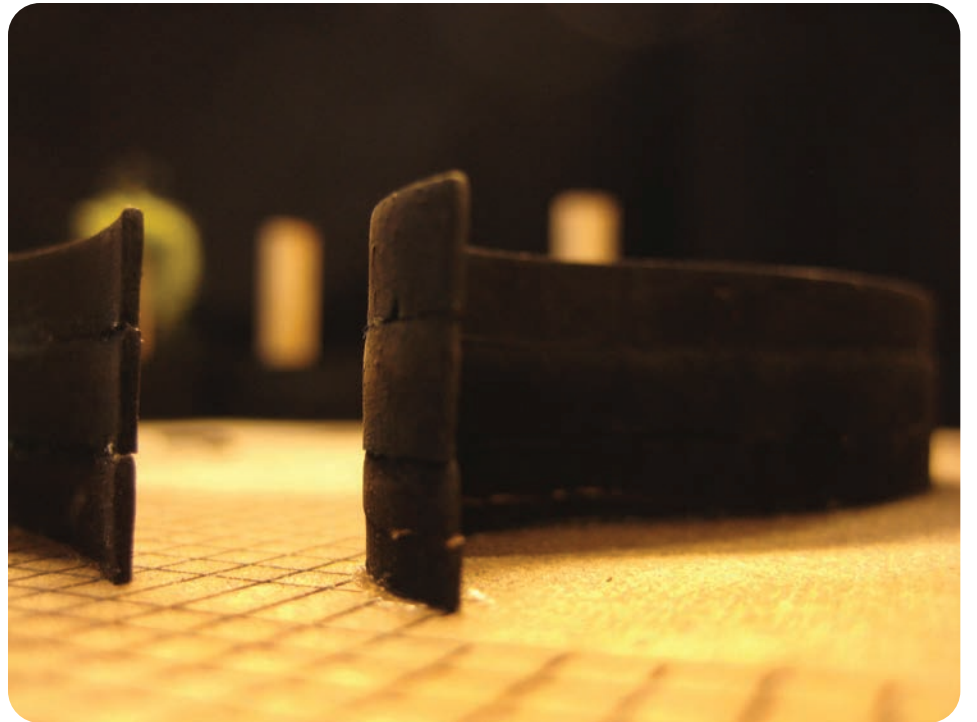
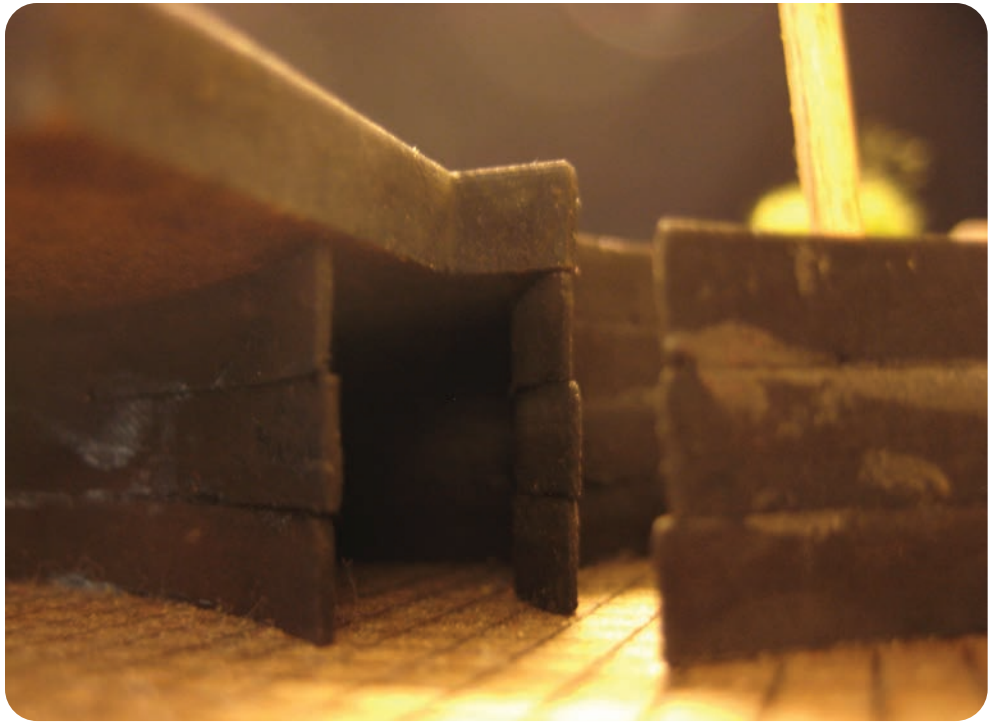








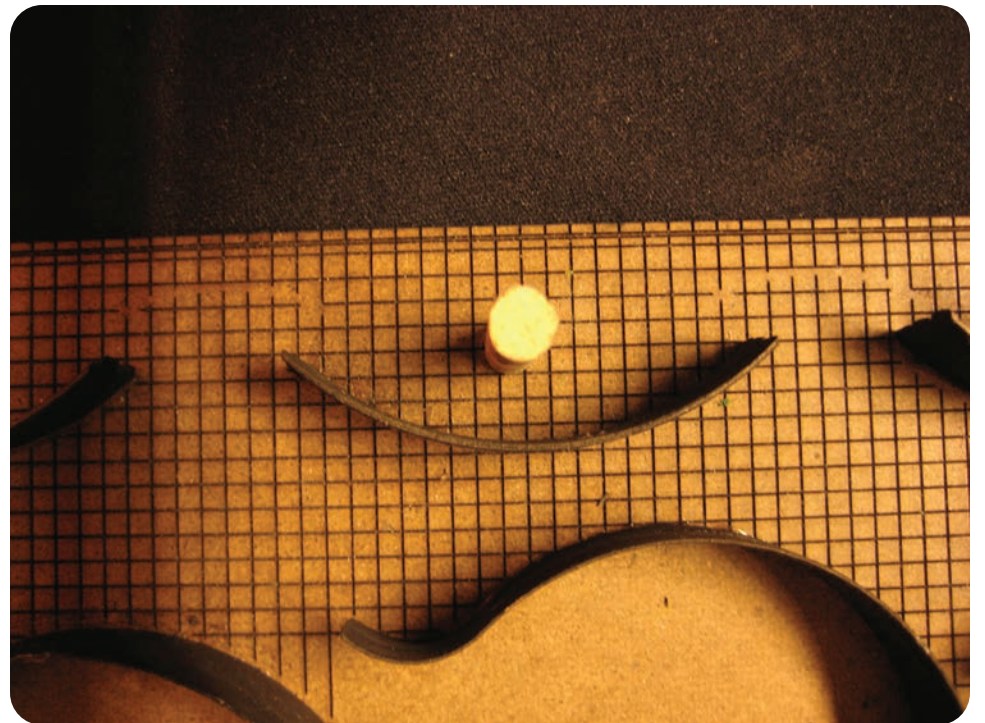
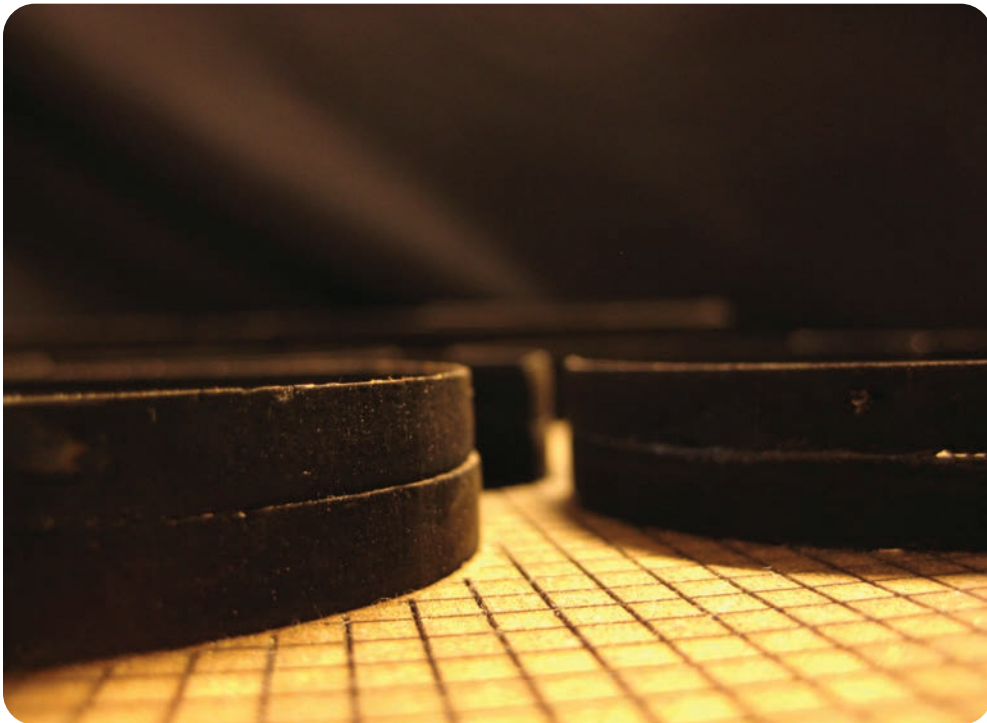
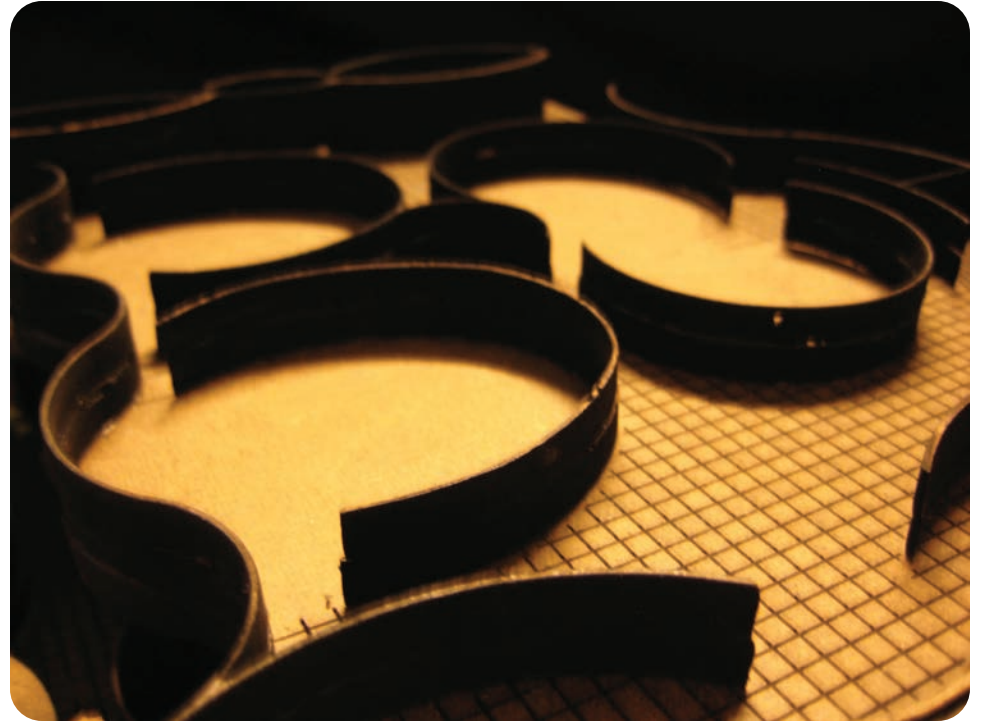
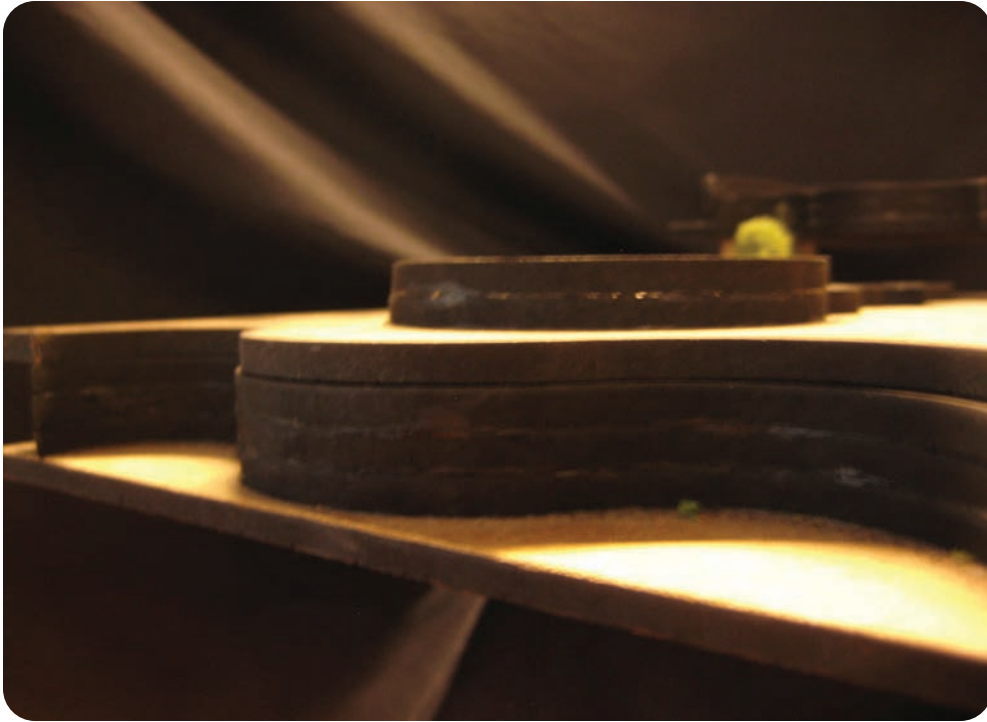




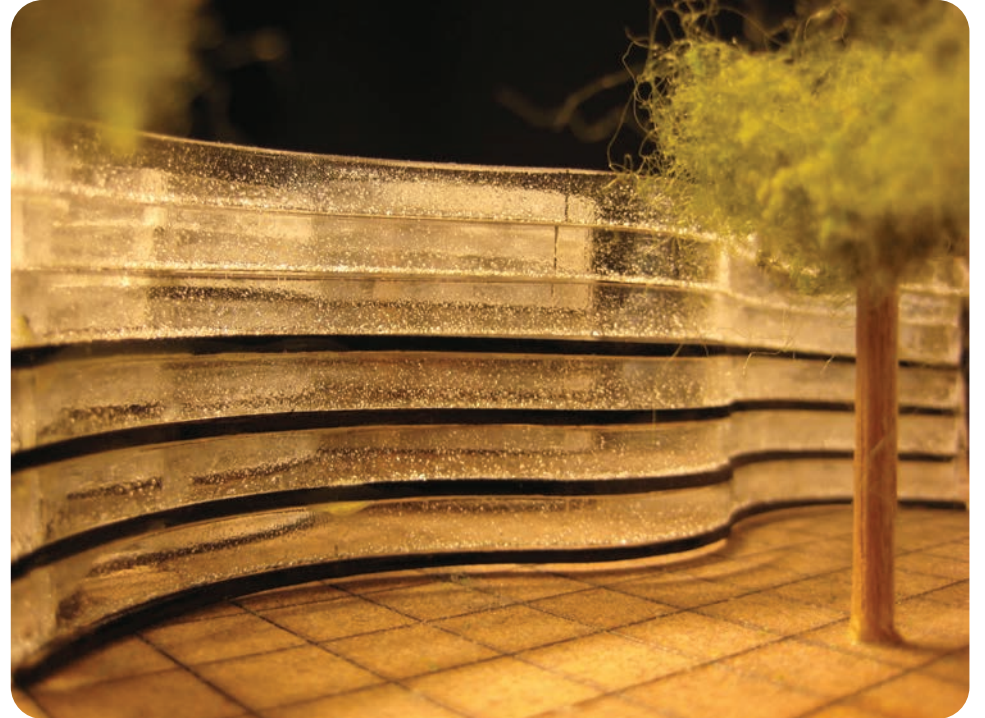




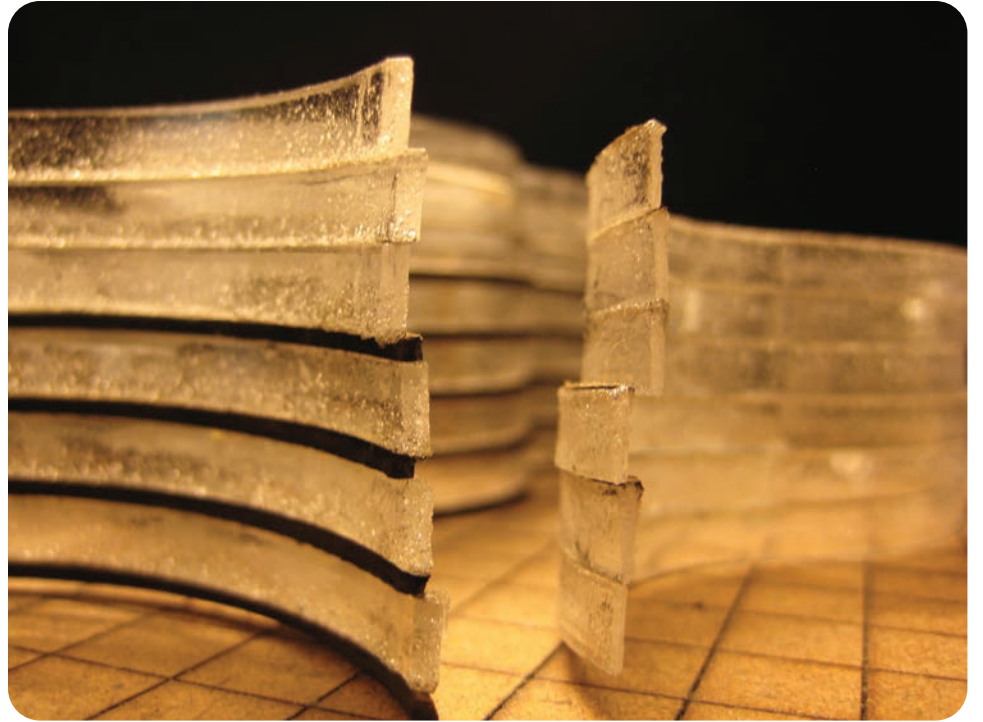
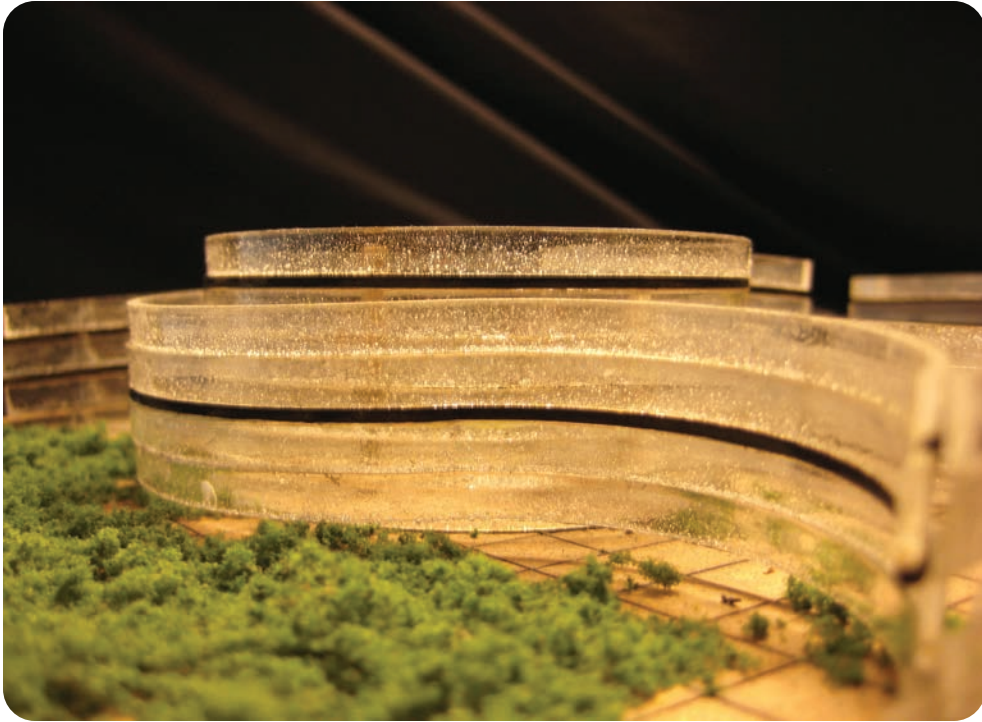




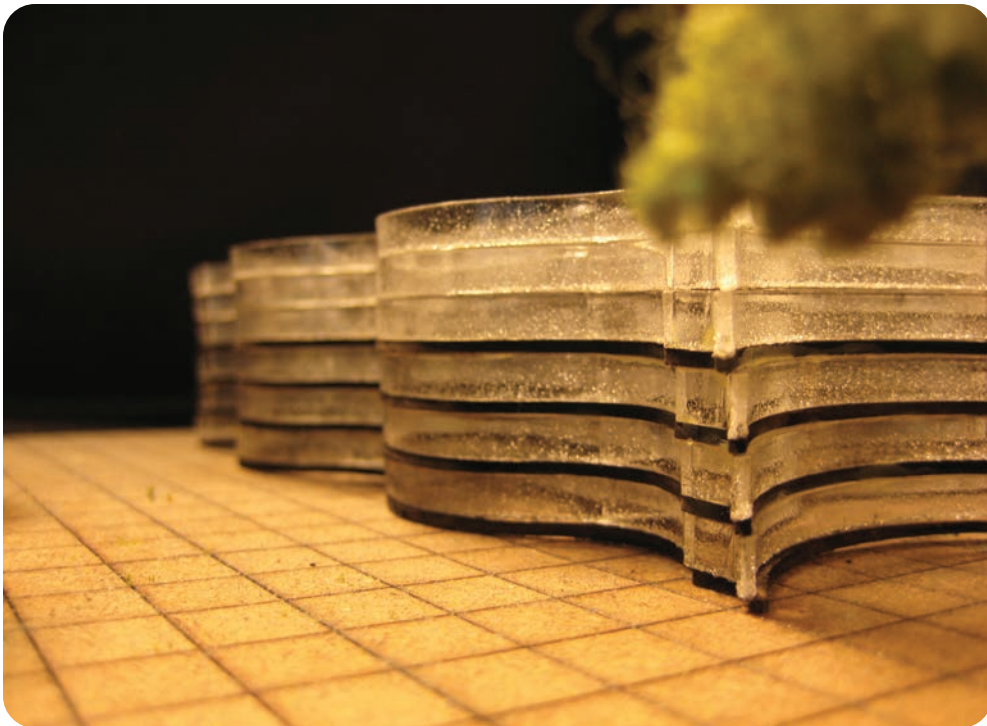




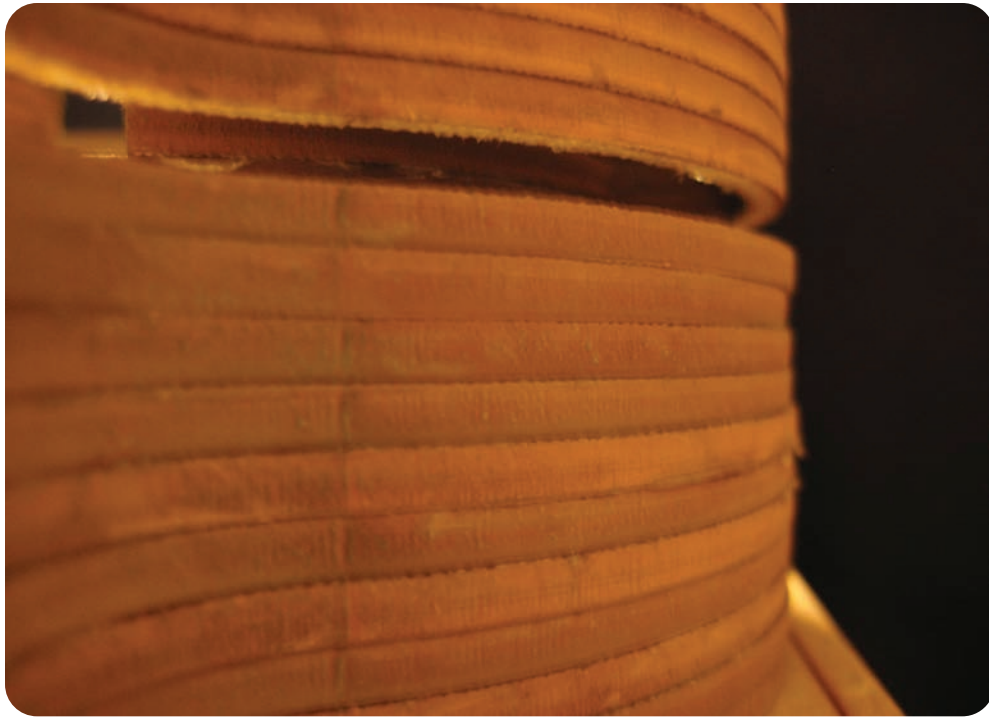




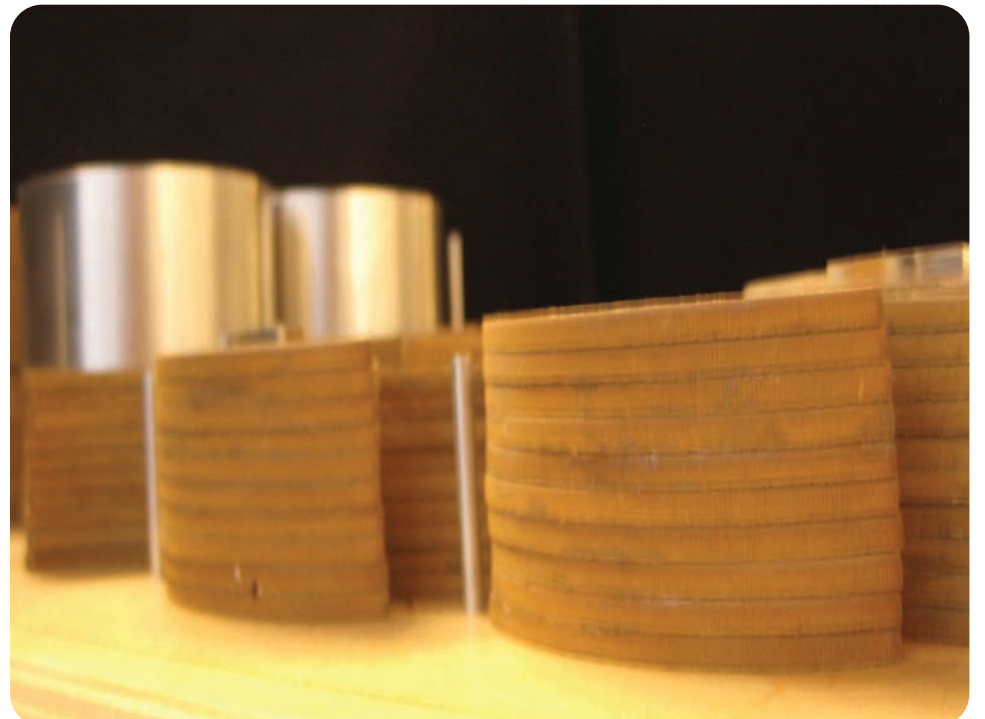
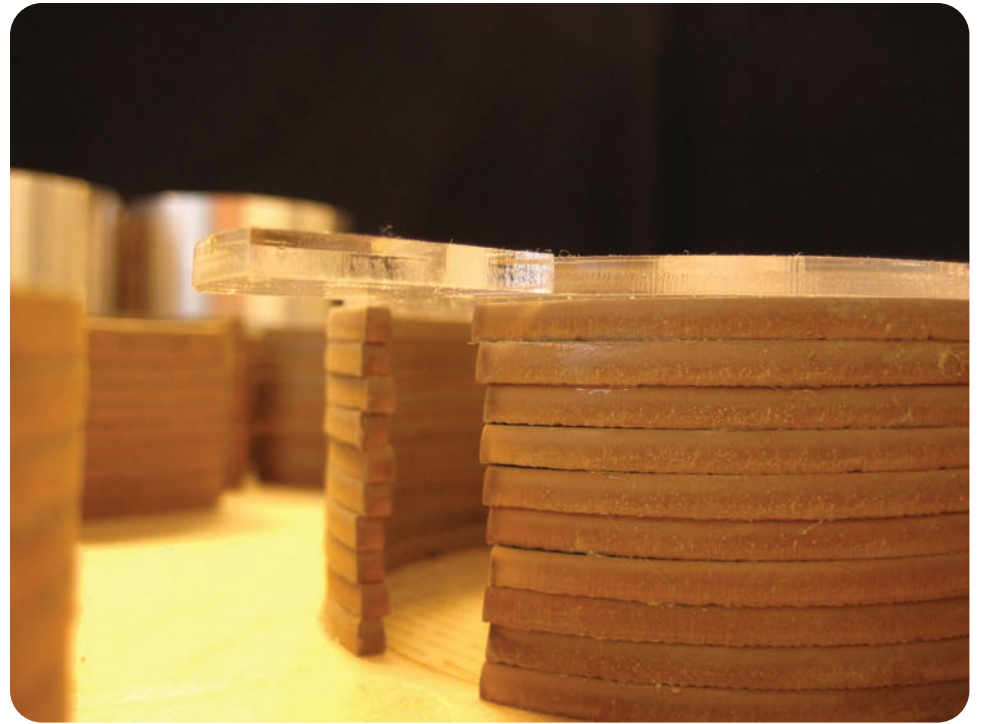




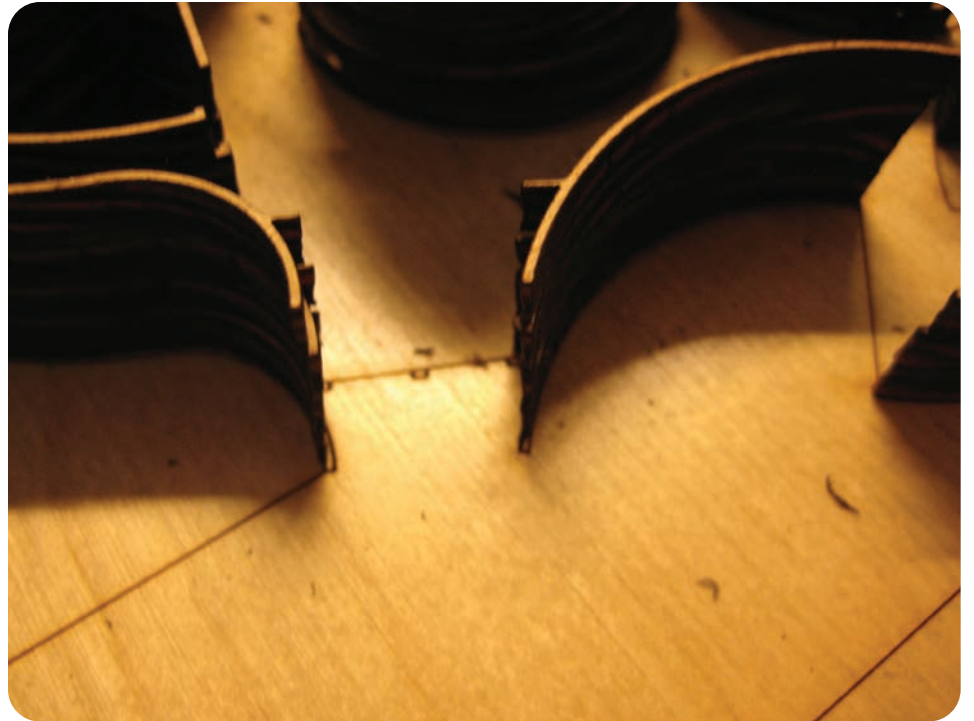




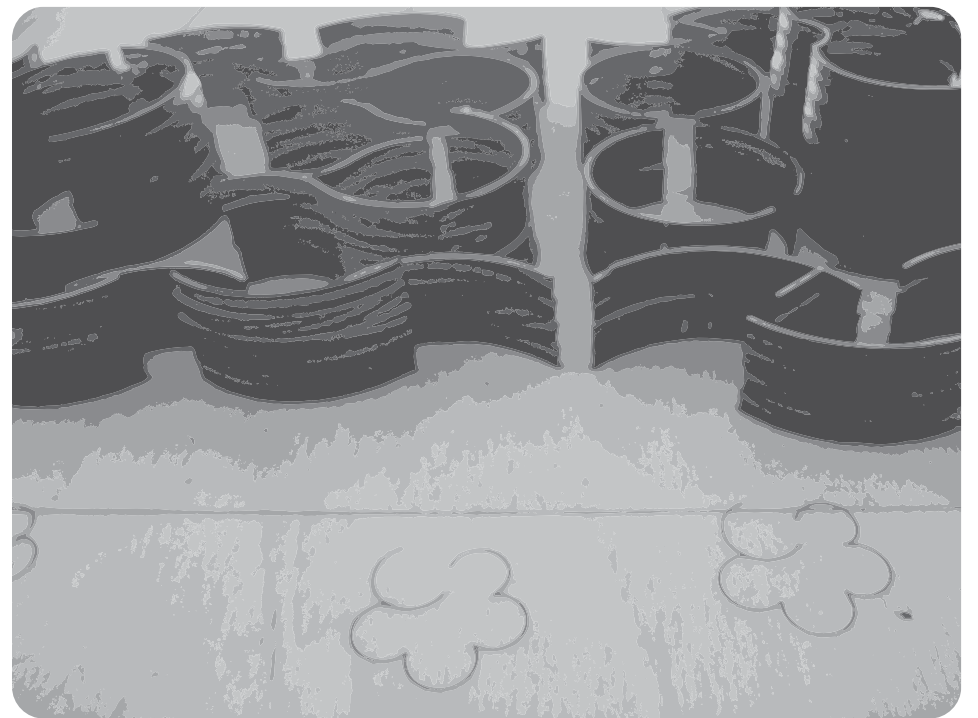
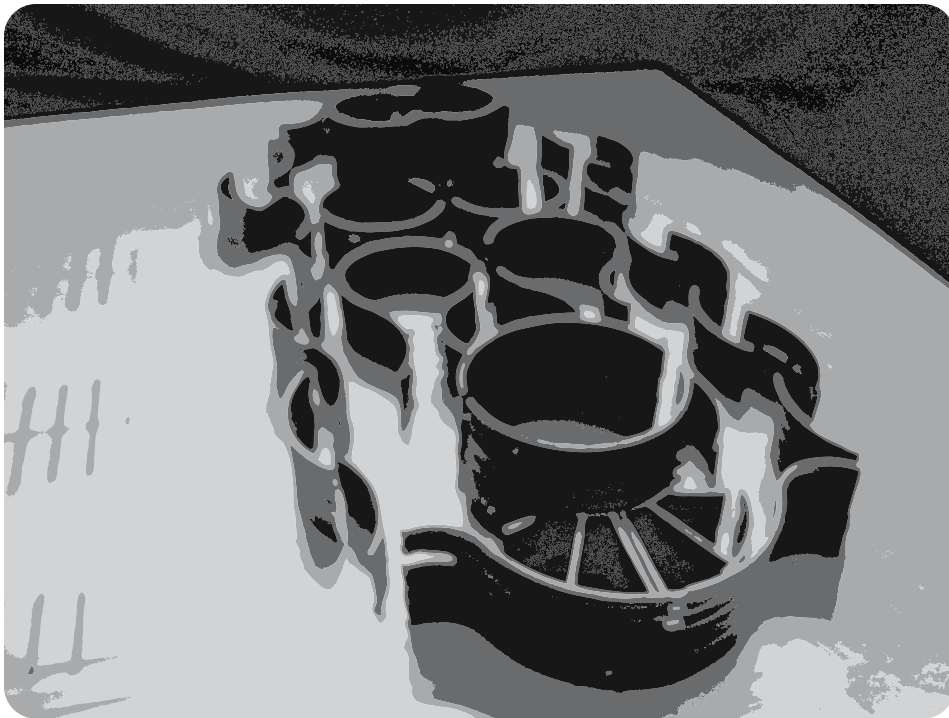
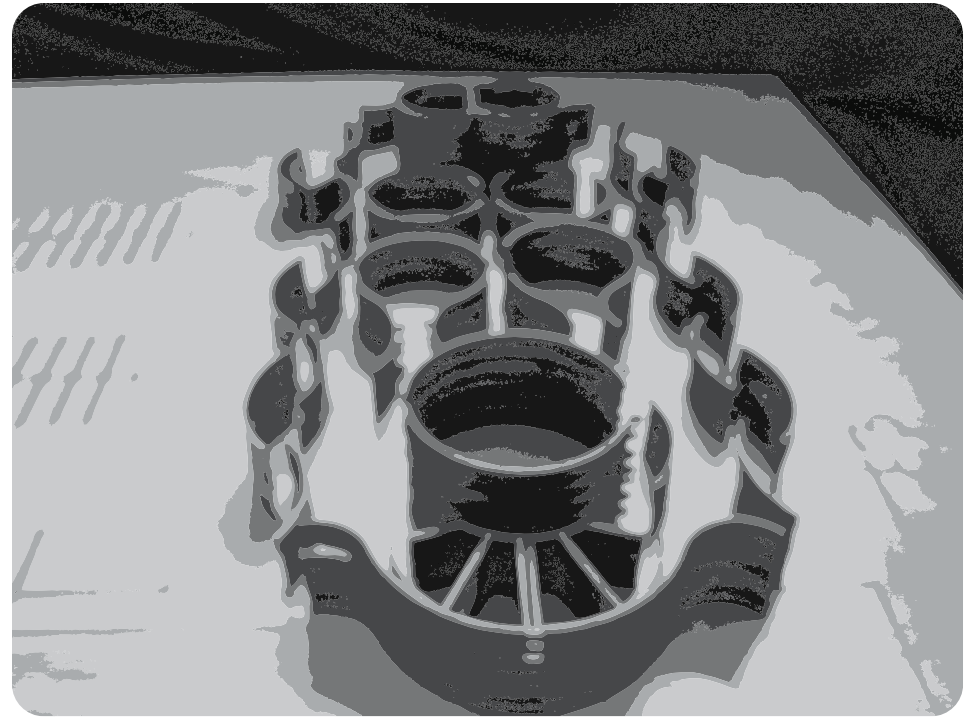
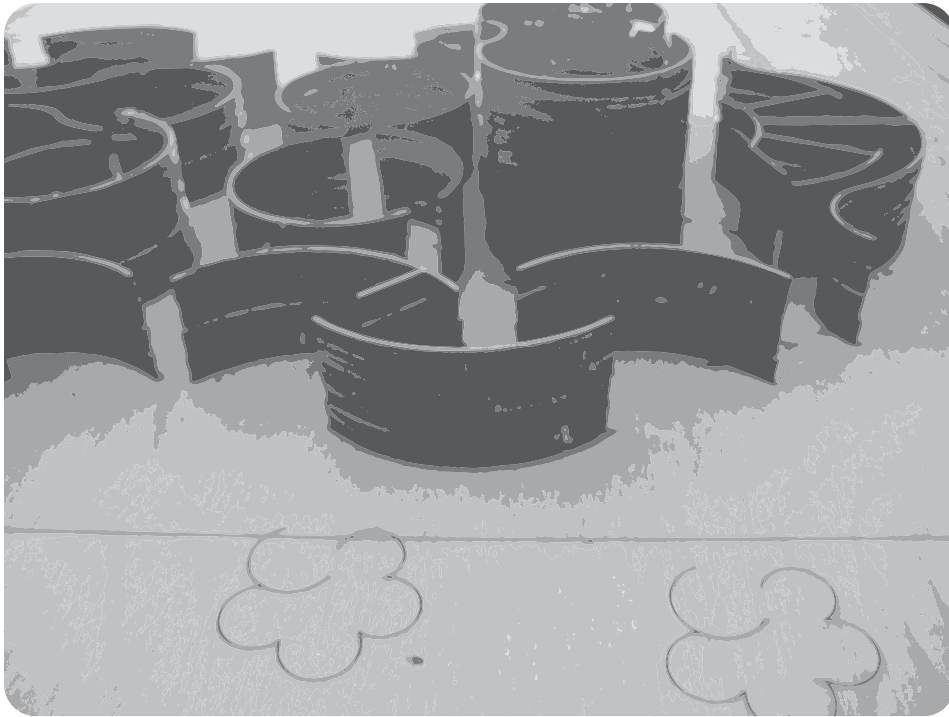














## Concluding Thoughts

The nature of my thesis is based on heart felt design decisions. The quality of light expressed through the movement of a shadow along the undulating walls that truly reveals the heart of my design. It is what comes from the heart that expresses the idea(s) of my design. Each decision expressed a emotion I felt while designing. It is those feeling which transformed vacant space into a Community Art Center.



Expressed Emotions



For My Colleagues,

Reflecting back on my thesis, it has definitely developed into an idea instead of a building that serves only its functional purpose. I'm sure many have experienced walking into a building that only serve one purpose, which is to function properly according to the client needs. However, I hope when people look at my work they see the idea(s) as it serves the functional purpose of the building.

In short, the idea(s) is what really define a building, giving it character. The characteristics are used to strengthen the idea and give the building quality.



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