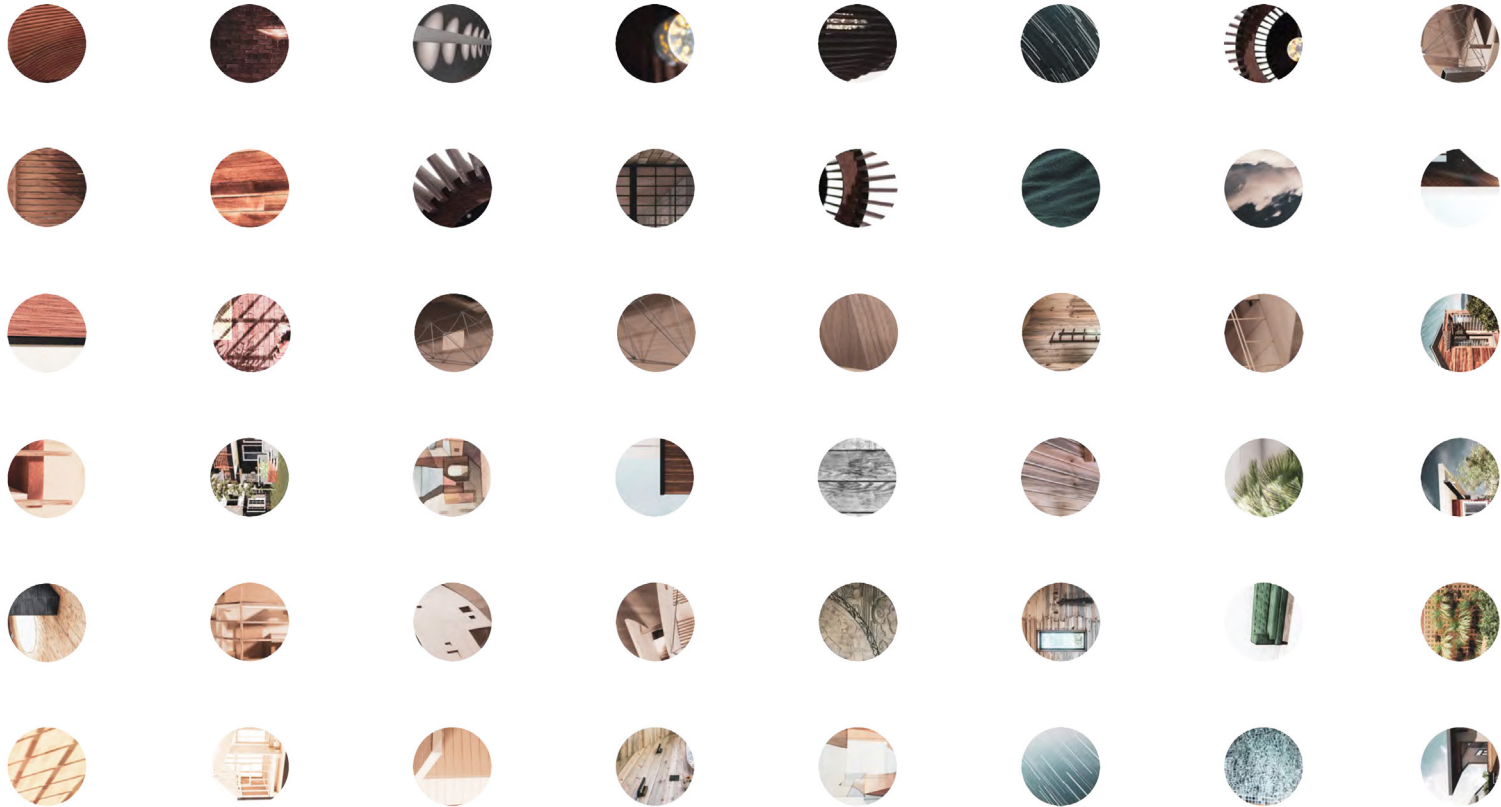


# Alexis Dentino



Portfolio

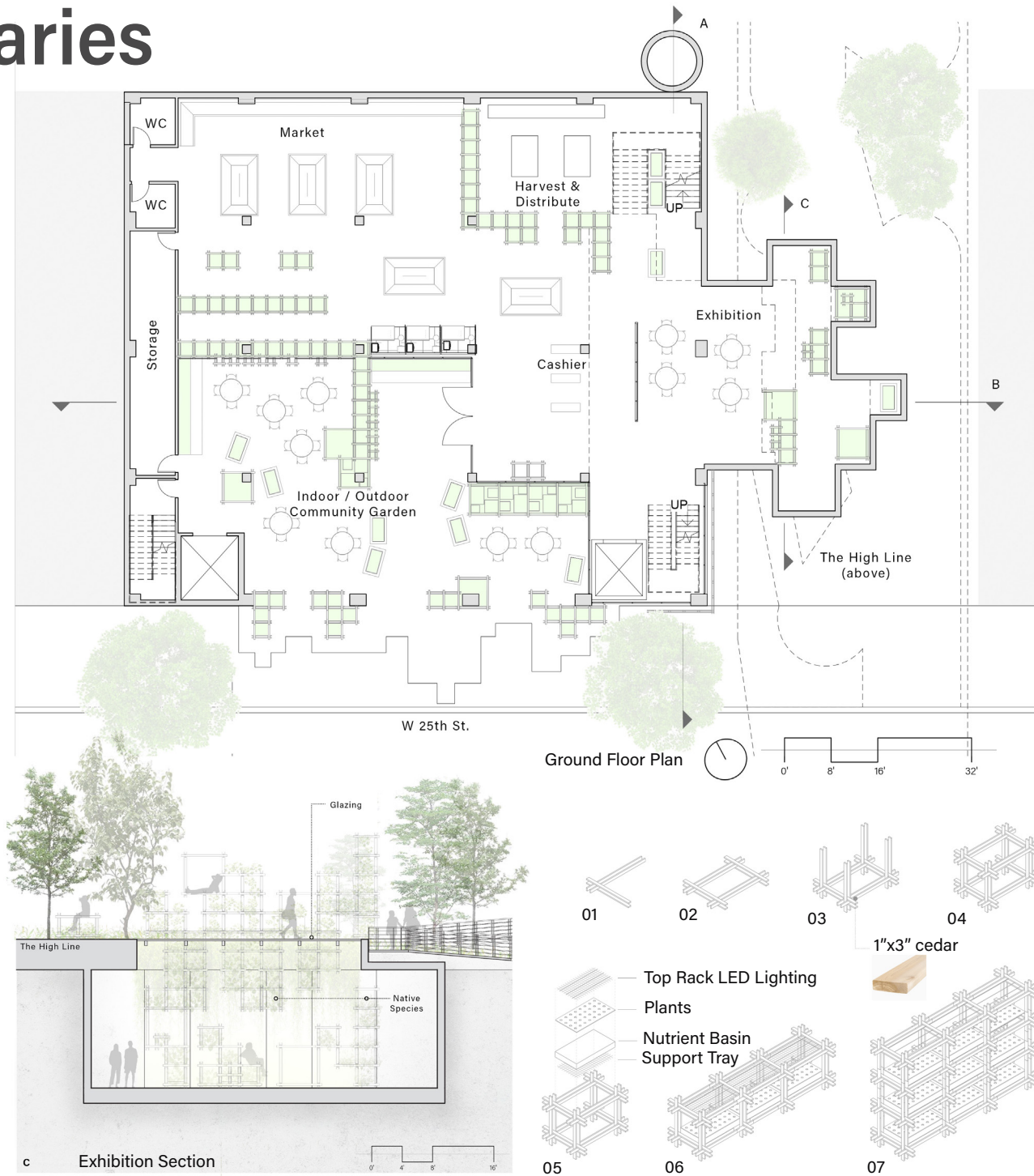
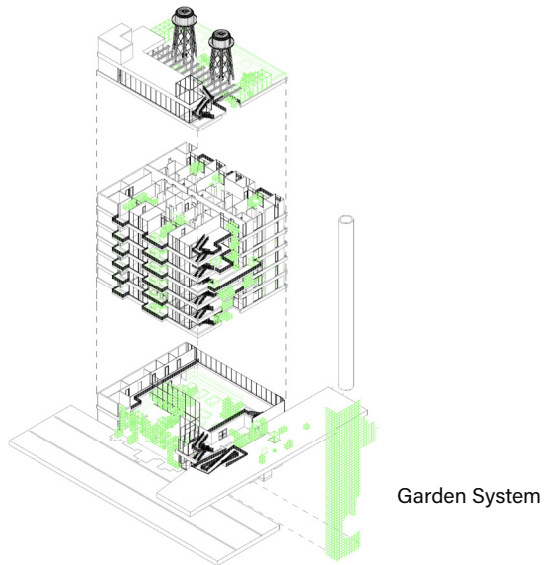


# Eroding Boundaries

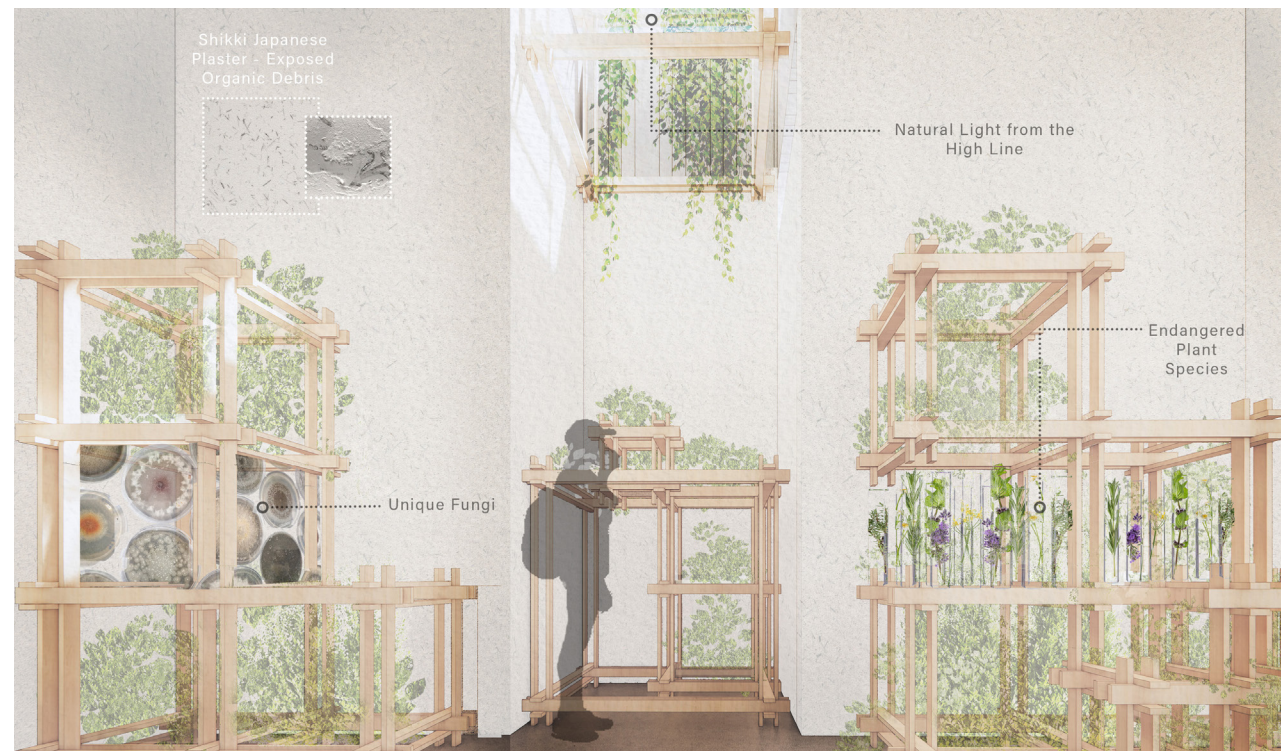
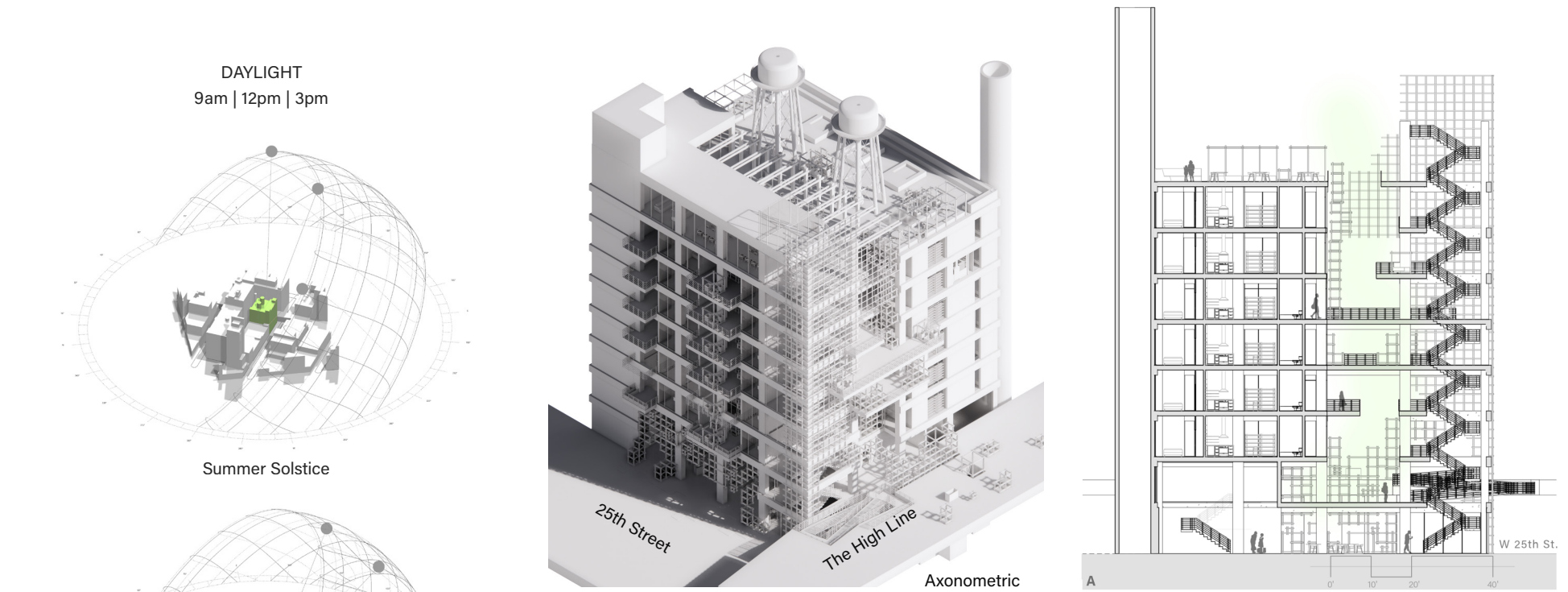
MFA Interior Design Thesis | Pratt Institute | 2021

This thesis explores the erosion of the edges between the interior and exterior of an existing building as a device for reintroducing biodiversity within New York City. Throughout the project, a carefully orchestrated system is introduced to support a variety of plant growth, to connect city dwellers to nature, and to create a didactic space that fosters a sense of empathy and awareness to local food production.

The 9-story mixed-use building consists of public community gardens, a farmer's market, an exhibition space, a public rooftop, and affordable housing residences. The High Line Park (adjacent) is located along an abandoned railway. It encourages biodiverse plant growth through the varying filtration of light and atmosphere. This unique adjacency allows for the continuation of biodiversity to filter into the interior environment and for barriers between interior and exterior to be eroded, to ultimately create a space where nature and the built environment are equally supported.

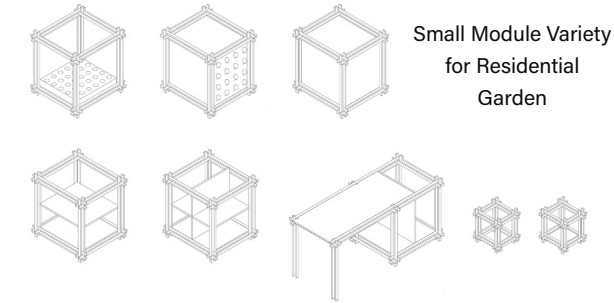








Each affordable housing unit has a patio and a small flexible space that can either be an office or turned into a nursery. The units with the shared system are designed to create empathy between the residents by the mutual taking care of the garden. The boundary condition between units changes with the growth cycle of the plants. The floor plate of the units is cut where the system occurs. This creates a visual connection between all of the residents to bring greater awareness to their neighbors vertically and to promote a sense of community.



Residential Garden System



Apartment Unit with Individual System

Apartment Unit with Shared System

E

Plant ..... Harvest  
Boundary Changes with Growth Cycle

Vertical + Horizontal  
Visual Connection



Frosted  
Glass Floor

Apartment Unit with Shared System

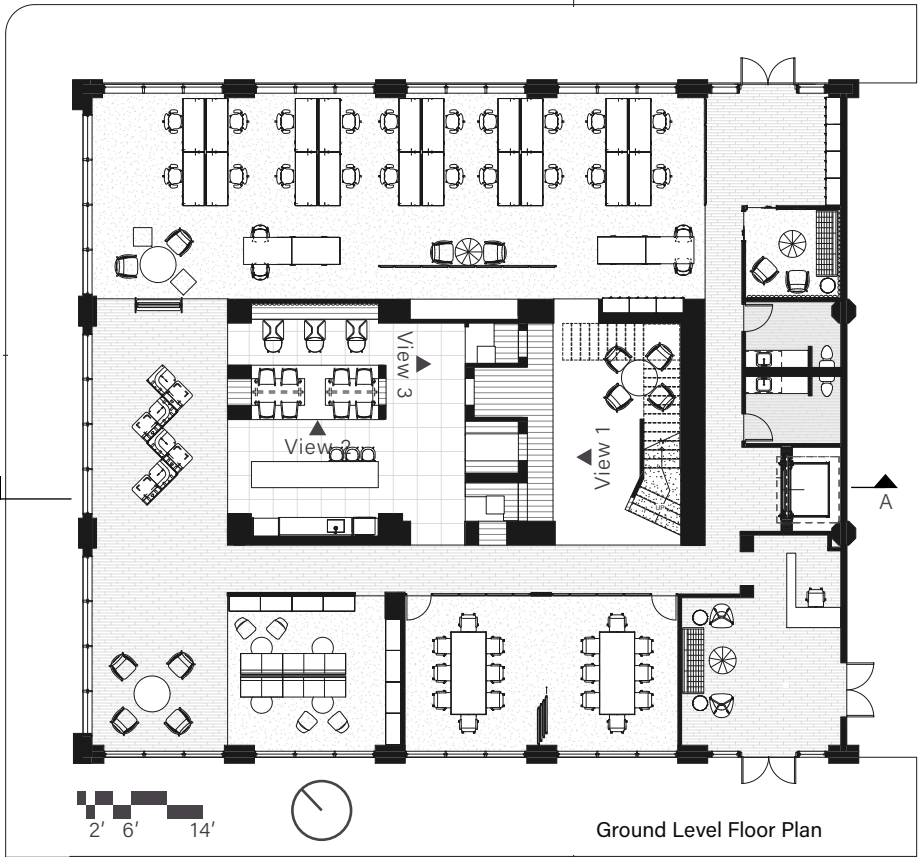
Manhattan  
Schist



# Industry City Music Office

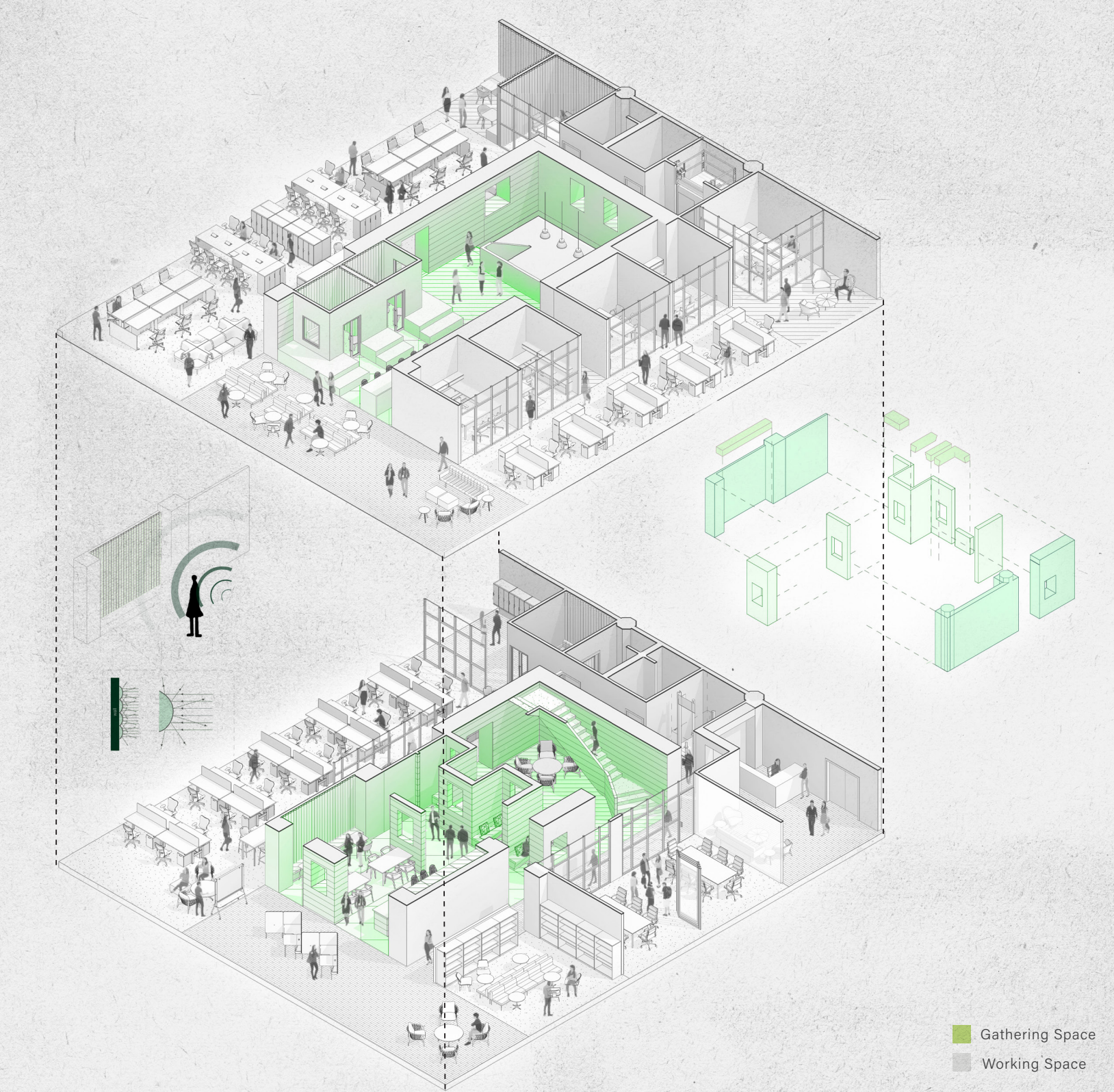
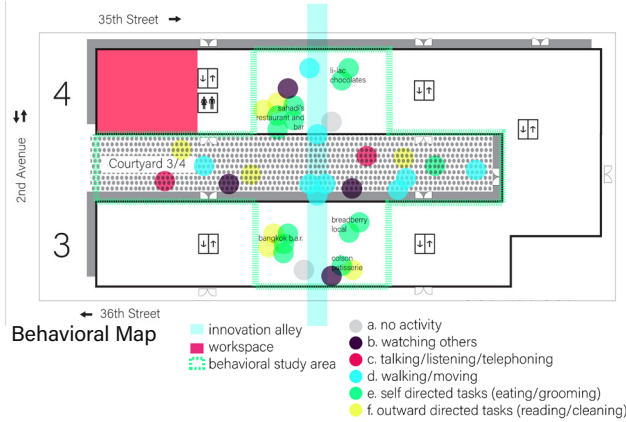
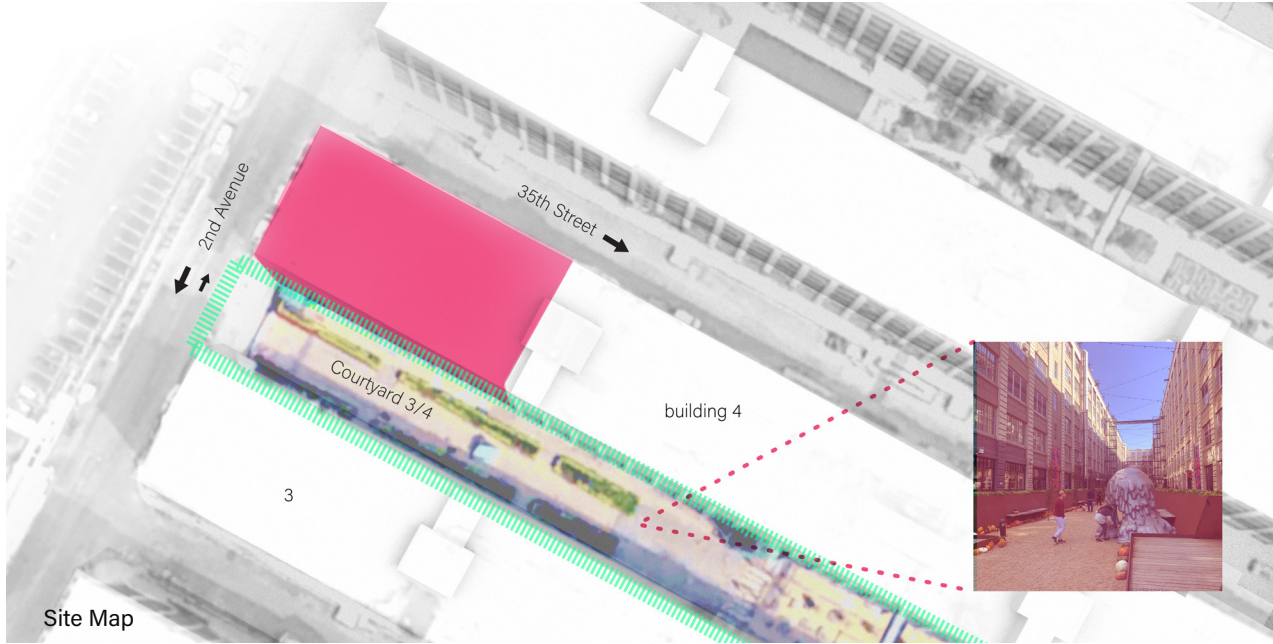
Workplace Design | MFA Interior Design Studio

In the music industry, work and play are often intertwined. With music at its heart, the office is a vibrant and flexible place that encompasses work and play, but seeks to separate the two. This separation encourages employees to be fully focused at work, or fully relaxed at play. The work environment will promote constant exchange of creative ideas, and the play environment will be dedicated to gathering where employees can connect on a human level in order to foster strong teams. This division is emphasized by enclosed functions that are near the core of the building, and also frees views of the east river and Manhattan, maximizing natural light and sight lines within the work area.





The connecting spaces on the second floor reflects the larger scale plan of Industry City and specifically Innovation Alley, which provides connections to various businesses and restaurants of Industry City, while also providing light and openness to the first floor. The division of work and play is emphasized by creating a radical material palette: green, concrete, and wood.

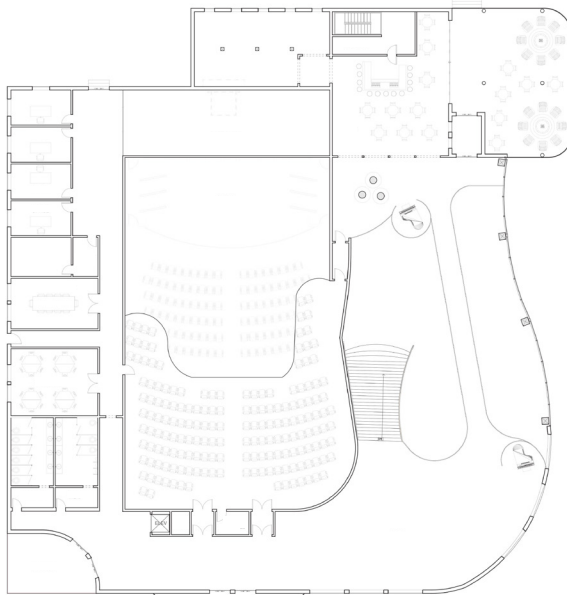




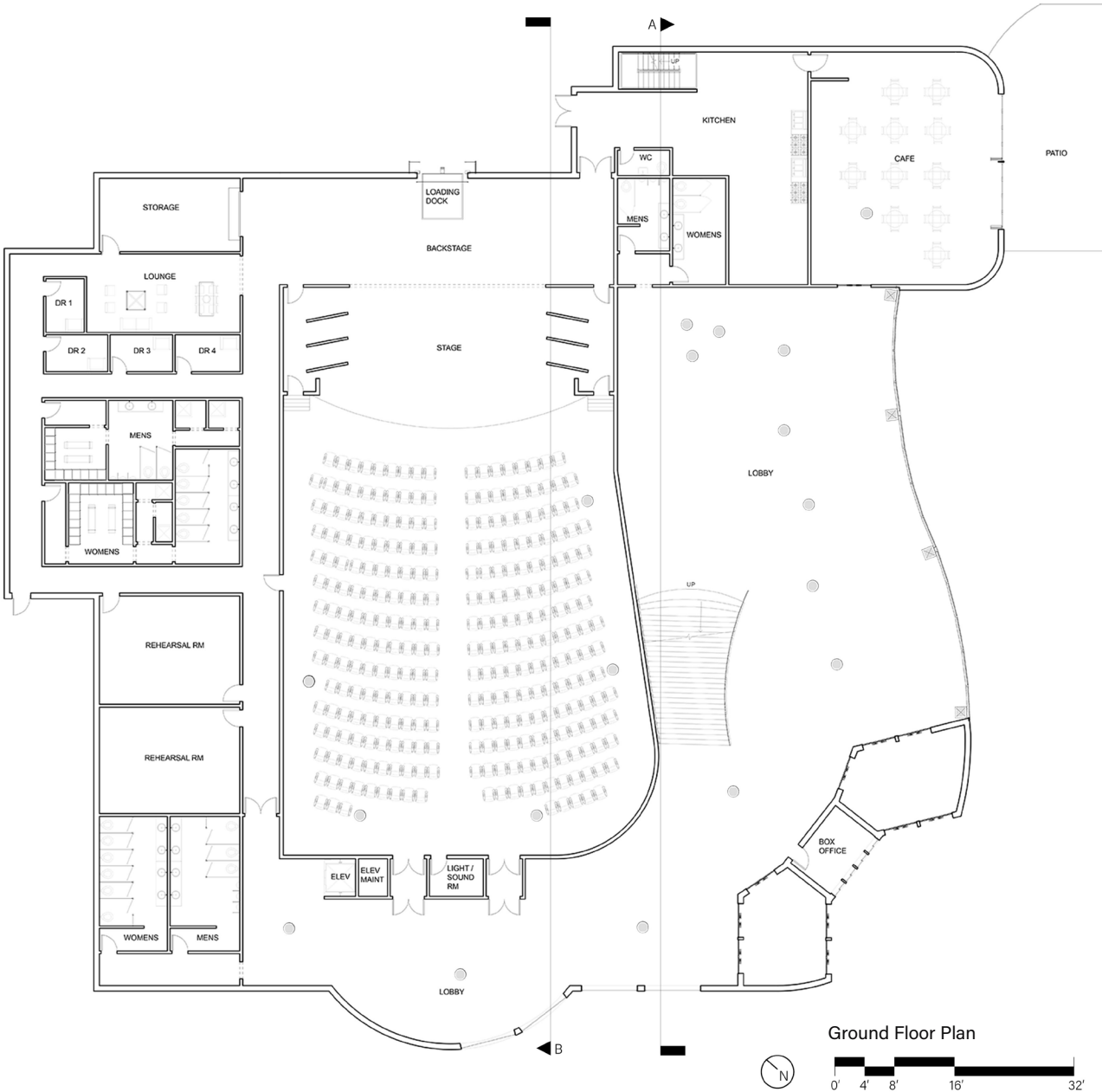
# Crested Butte Performing Arts Center

Cultural Project | B.Envd Architecture Studio

Crested Butte is a quaint mountain town in the Rocky Mountains, prized for its world class skiing. This project was completed in response to a Request for Proposal to design a performing arts center next to the ski mountain. The design was inspired by the surrounding mountainous environment with a balance between rigidity and flexibility that is found in nature. The columns in the lobby are constructed of natural tree trunks, mirroring nearby pine forests. Local stone and wood are used on the facade to echo the Rocky Mountains. In addition to the theater, the center features a cafe, a ballroom, outdoor fire pits, and a double-high atrium in the lobby with floor to ceiling glazing to allow for natural daylight. There is a bridge running through the atrium, where people can be seen walking between the balcony and the cafe. At night, the structure acts as a lantern as the extensive windows fill with light from the interior, filtering light to the ski lodges after the mountain closes.



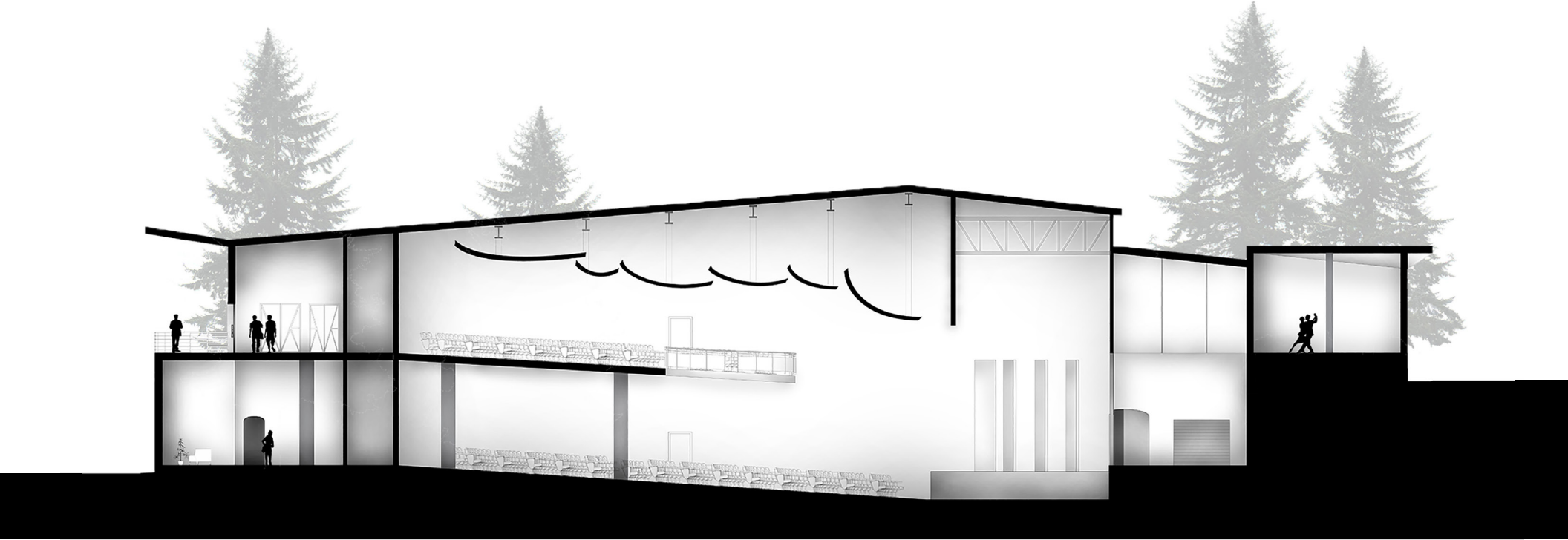
Level 2 Floor Plan



Ground Floor Plan



Section A



Section B





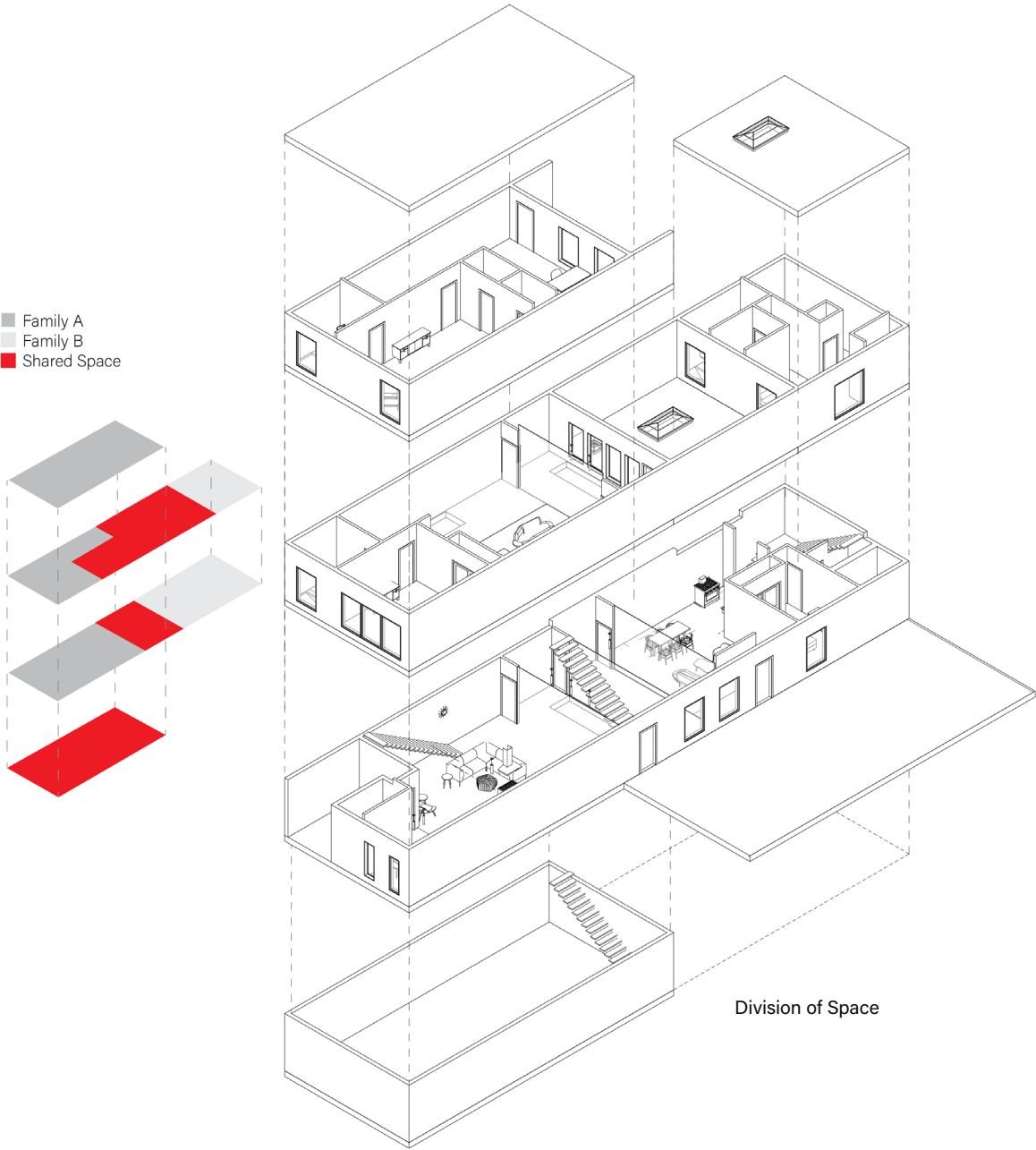
# Gramercy Park Co-Living Apartments

Residential | MFA Interior Design Studio

The domestic environment is more than a commodity or style, it is a story – poem, novel, movie, memory, adventure – a creation and a happening. We are here to think about the impact of setting the stage of the unscripted life of others. The clients are two families who are seeking to reinvent - or at least tweak - the residential paradigm of apartment living vs. private housing. This design imagines a lifestyle together yet apart in a cooperative and community minded way. The existing building does not have many windows, which led me to design each apartment to allow light to flow into each space as much as possible, while still maintaining a high degree of privacy for each apartment. The display room is an area where both families’ unique qualities come together and also provides natural light for each apartment.



Shared Space

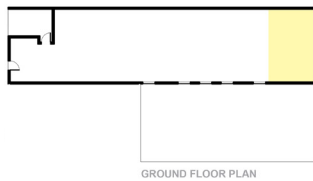
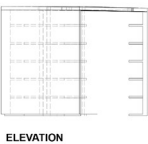
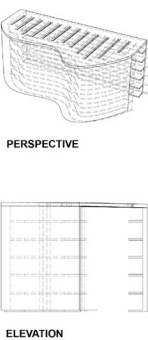
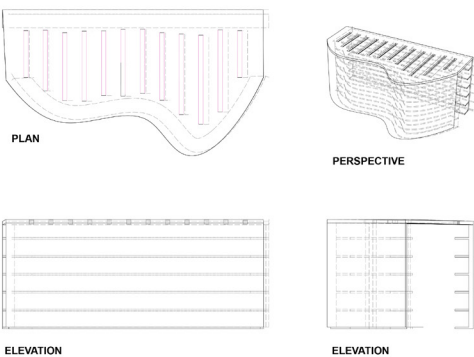
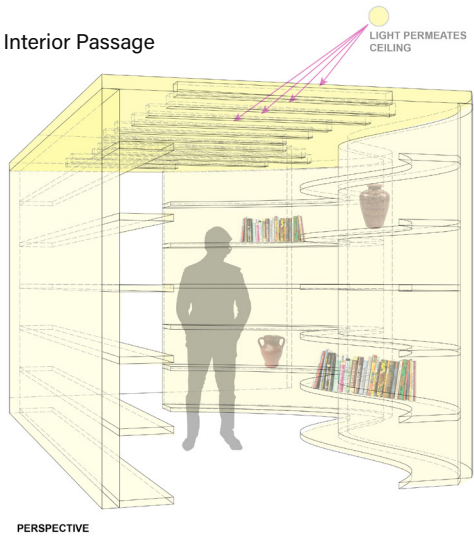


Division of Space

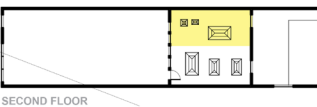
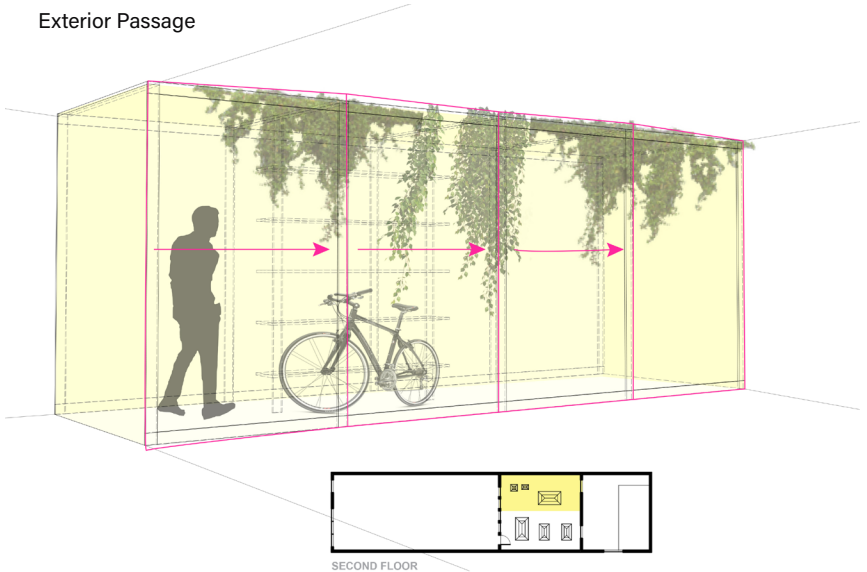




Family B Living Room  
Furniture Selection



Family C Living Room  
Furniture Selection

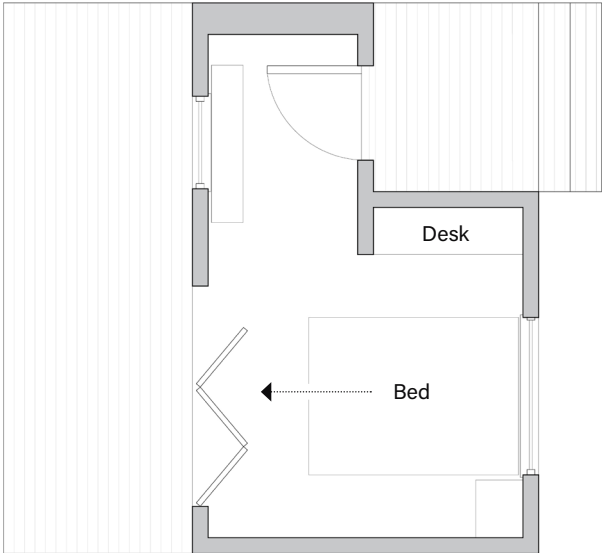




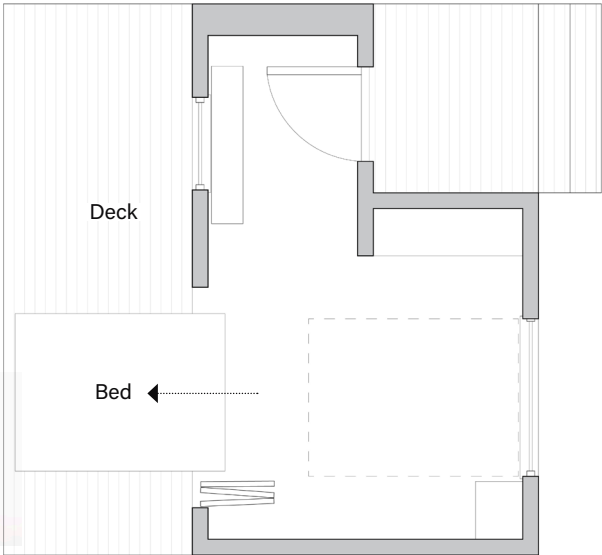
# Sandia Hut

Design-Build | B.Envd Architecture Praxis

Our praxis studio class partnered with the Lama Foundation, located in the mountains of Northern New Mexico. The Sandia Hut was among the top three designs in the class to be chosen for construction in the subsequent summer studio class. The intent of this project was to create a place where visitors can reside if they are unable to camp at the Lama Foundation. The driving concept of the Sandia Hut was the incorporation of a movable bed, placed on a track, that can be rolled out on the deck so visitors can enjoy sleeping outside without having to camp (something that most visitors experience at the foundation). The hut is typically used during summer months and the climate in Northern New Mexico allows for a comfortable night's sleep under the stars. A rammed earth wall on the northern side is included in the design to passively cool the space. The wood used in this design is beetle kill pine, a sustainable, local resource.



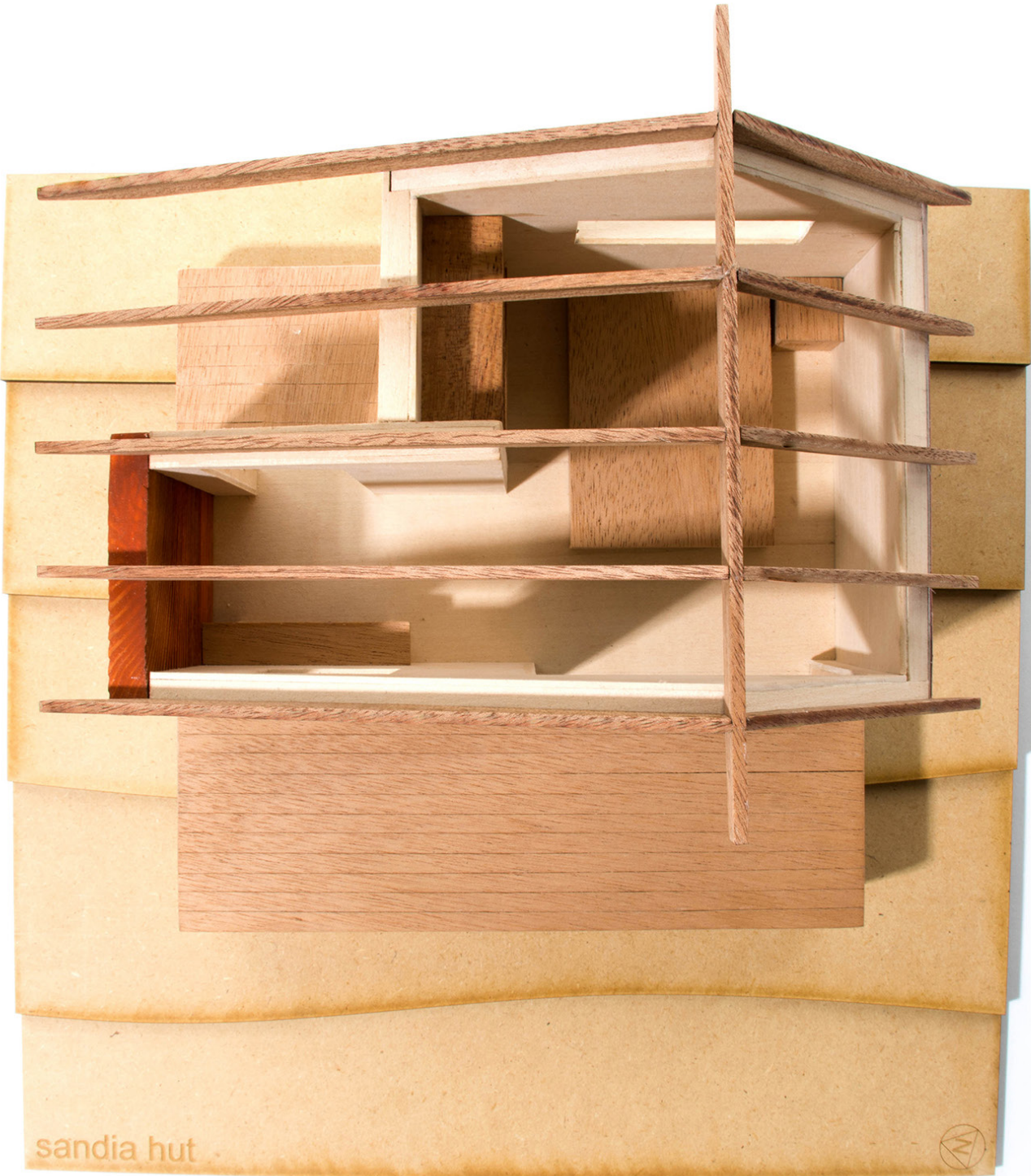
Floor Plan



Rammed Earth Wall



Framing Model





# Sky Hut

Design-Build | B.Envd Architecture Praxis

The Sky Hut was built as a studio class project at the Lama Foundation in Questa, New Mexico. Our class designed and built everything from the foundation to each piece of furniture within the hut. The entire class participated in the final design, as well as the construction process. We were each assigned certain elements inside the hut to design. I was commissioned to design the skylight cover and the desk. The skylight cover is 4' x 4' and is attached to a pulley system on the ceiling that enables residents to raise and lower it easily. Engraved (by CNC machine) in the wooden cover of the skylight are constellations one will see while stargazing in bed at night. The desk takes on a simple rectangular form to act as a cubby (due to size constraints), and can also fold out to be twice as wide for residents to read or write. The experience and knowledge I gained throughout this design/build project was invaluable, and it gave me a greater understanding of the design process and what it takes to construct a building.



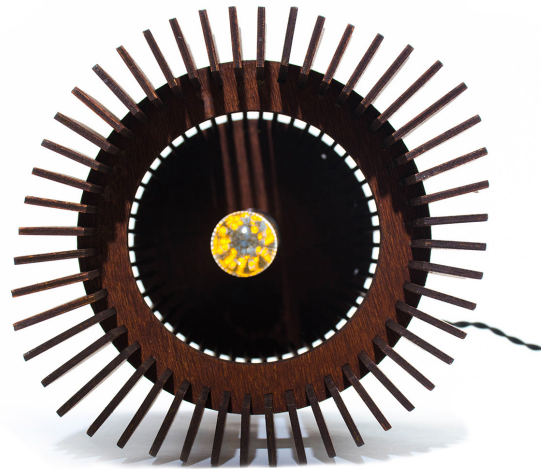
Beetle Kill Pine Interior





# Hikaru Luminaire

Digital Fabrication | B.Envd - Architecture



# Rethinking Eames

Furniture | MFA Interior Design



# ◀ Soulages Museum

Light and Material Study | MFA Interior Design

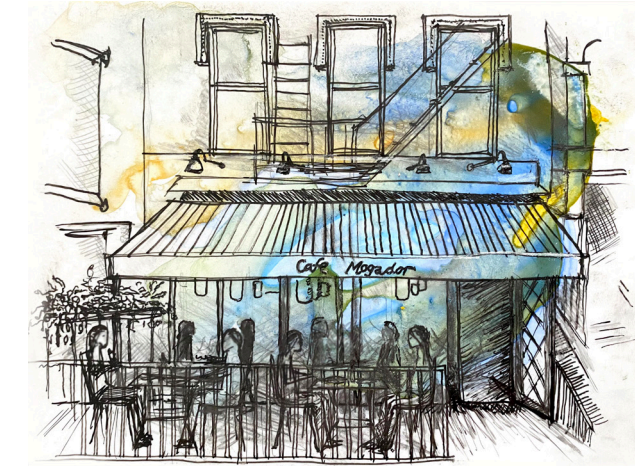
# Seattle Roastery

Ink and Watercolor



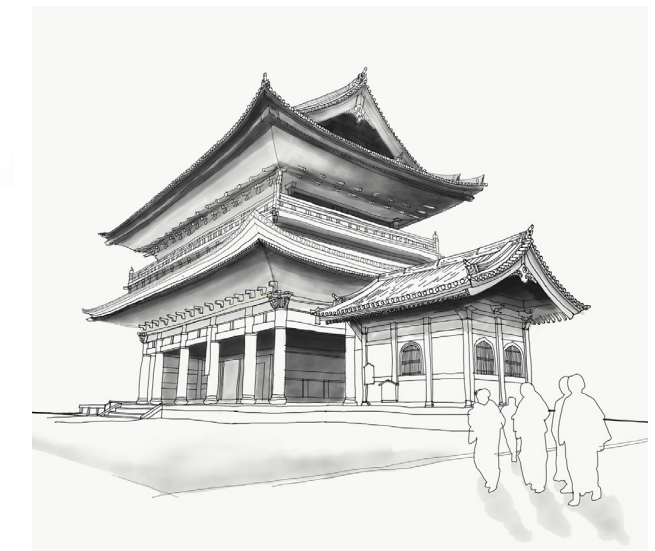
# Covid Nostalgia Series

Watercolor and Colored Pencil on Yupo Paper



# Other Drawings

Ink and Colored Pencil on Toned Tan Paper





# American Art Museum - Williamsburg

Cultural | MFA Interior Design

At its core, the museum is about the passing of time, a heterotopia that distinguishes itself from its surroundings. Elapsed time, light, and the dialogue between old vs. new are the driving forces of my design. The project is organized by two major formal moves: a wood lattice core punctuating all floors, and floor to ceiling shelving display wrapping around the perimeter of the building on all floors. The wood lattice on all floors encompasses the stairs, and also partially covers the windows to filter the natural light. The lattice creates subtle shadows that the visitor can experience and be aware of the passing of time. This wood lattice houses the primary circulation as well as acts as a surface to display paintings and small sculptures. It is set apart from the existing column grid of the building to distinguish the old building vs the new and highlight the insertion art in the building. The second feature is the floor to ceiling shelves that wrap around on each floor that display various objects from the collection, inspired by the idea of a cabinet of curiosities. In my precedents, I looked at different ways to work the wood lattice into the space.





# Boulder Mountaineering Center

Cultural | B.Envd Architecture Studio

The Mountaineering Center was an individual project. The Front Range of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado attracts outdoor enthusiasts and mountaineers alike. The Mountaineering Center is nestled along the Front Range, allowing visitors to easily access surrounding hiking and biking trails, and climbing areas. Many design idea diagrams (parti), were made before the form was finalized. The design intent of the curved walls was to help deter the high winds around the structure that are common in the area. The facade has kinetic metal cladding that moves with the wind as it passes over the building. Floor to ceiling, open windows on the south side let in large amounts of natural light. Passive heating strategies are utilized during the cold winter months. This three-story 25,000 sq. ft. building has areas dedicated to climbing and bicycling gear rentals, an indoor rock climbing wall, a workshop, an educational space, a local exhibition area, a café, and a supply shop. Additionally, there are three outdoor patios with framed views of the iconic Flatiron Mountains to the west, and views east that extend down into the valley toward Denver.

