BINDER 2

SIMEN GLOPPEN DIPLOMA FALL 2023

(Documentation of the process, sketches, process material, etc.)

PRE-DIPLOMA (extracts)
SPRING 2022
(page 2-6)

PHASE 1: AUG-SEPT *INTIAL PHASE (page 7-31) PHASE 2: SEPT-OCT *EXPLORING PHASE (page 32-61) PHASE 3: NOV-DEC *FINAL PHASE (page 62-92) PRE-DIPLOMA (extracts)
SPRING 2022

PRE-DIPLOMA Who am I?

Statement 25.01.2022 Pre-diplom Simen Gloppen

My interest in architecture is when it can provide something to the surroundings beyond the actual building. When a project can make you more aware of who you are, who you surround yourself with, and how humans and the society works. When a project has an element of surprise, which you didn't know about, when a project affects you without being instructive.

The projects I have enjoyed the most, are the project where I have trusted the process, where I didn't have a clear thought of the outcome from the start. These projects often teached me something new, and challenged med to be openminded to my own projects.

I enjoy reading articles, mainly related to society studies and art, but I have also enjoyed reading fictional texts during my years at the school, such as Virginia Woolf and Kafka. What triggered me here was in what way the architecture surrounds and effects the characters and their behaviour. In the articles i enjoyed the aspect of how architecture have changed, not because of styles and eras, but how it has changes as a response to needs for certain groups of people.

I believe the role of an architect should be as openminded as possible and as including as possible, with the fact in mind that it can never be this 100%. But it should be a main goal for architects.

The spaces that interest me are the spaces which are not defined, where the architect facilitates for the users imagination, but still manages to have a precision.

If I look back on my years at AHO, I can sense three topics reoccurring. Openness, inclusion and ability to transform. This is something that as grown in my awareness during the last years.

NOTES:

An interesting and self-realizing start to our pre-diploma.

It was a nice experience to reflect upon what I've learned, I how my interest in architecture has changed and evolved during my studies.

3

PRE-DIPLOMA Inspiring statements



Architecture represses plurality and queerness in favour of a heteronormative culture, writes *Adam Nathaniel Furman*

The right to be different, to exist openly and without fear of repression, is a primary principle of modern liberalism. As someone who doesn't conform to the norms of the majority, to be able to both live a life that is in consonance with your nature, and be free to express that existence openly and with pride in the public arena, is a benchmark for how inclusive society is at any given point in history.

The struggle for trans* equality is only the latest battle in a century-long fight against a tendency towards social homogenisation. It is the latest stage in the unfinished project of achieving the complete participation in all areas of society, the economy, politics and culture, of those who aren't male, hetero, eisgender, and who refuse to relinquish their distinct identities in pursuit of acceptance. The visible physical presence of queerness in all its manifestations is a litmus test of how close, or far, we are from creating a genuinely inclusive environment.

Expression has a vital role to play in this journey. It marks the transition between tolerance and acceptance. On the one hand, marginal groups and identities are tolerated but restricted to private spaces, with any forms of spatial expression of their shared existence kept from the easily outraged gaze of the wider public - effectively, licence to do as you wish as long as no one can see the things you do and make. On the other hand, with acceptance comes the difficult process of incorporating different modes of expression into the shared and - once diversified - contentious space of the visible.

We are moving towards a situation in which difference is, potentially, tentatively beginning to be widely accepted in the social realm, but this newly uncovered plurality of orientations, experiences and genders, with their alternative approaches to expression and aesthetics, has been repressed and excluded from the built environment and the profession of architecture.

It is human instinct to externalise our identities through the form and decoration of our environments and buildings. Architecture has a duty to reflect the nature and make-up of those who produce it, and those it contains. Alternate taste or cultures from those of the mainstream have an equal right to presence in the urban context. Within architectural circles, it is, to a degree, acceptable to be queer in your life but it is not, and has never been, acceptable to express this through the architecture you produce. You will be tolerated, not accepted.

When a project or series of projects that operate as a product of queerness is built proudly in the shared sphere of the city,

shockingly narrow, heteronormative framework of mainstream architectural culture's arbitrary parameters of taste, they are instantly othered as unserious, capricious, ridiculous or, at best, exotic—all of which are the kiss of critical death.

Be warned, the built form of the city is a symbolic space only for the middle-aged cis hetero men and women who abjure any and all alternate identities, and conform in their entirety to the deathly status quo. As a queer architect, you can write essays in academia and you can live your life openly while working in an office that produces the eadaverous brick silos of contemporary British architecture, but God forbid you try to express yourself, your community, your background and your life through your architecture. In this respect, we might as well be in the 1960s.

Modern times have not been a beacon of utopic acceptance. If you turn yourself into a harmless joke, a throwaway stereotype, if you neutralise your radical potential, you are allowed to exist in plain sight. This court jester or lovable freak role is not acceptance, it is ritual humiliation, and it is currently the only way an architect may operate in a mode that does not entirely disown his, her, they, their, them, ze, sie, hir, co, or ey's radical and intact difference.

The perpetuation of architectural and aesthetic conformity in our urban environments with its enforcement beginning with the architectural profession's self-imposed normativity, is much more than just a harmless desire for continuity: it is the material embodiment of exclusionary tolerance. It is a dangerous cultural suppressant that soothes wider society into believing nothing has changed, both belying the massive shifts and reorientations that are occurring just under the nostalgically uniform surface, and ostracising the visible presence of those who are agents of those very changes. It is a tragic, narrowminded and shockingly unrecognised impoverishment of our built environment.

Our cities should be parliaments of social signification in which the depth and variety of our history is celebrated, and the plenitude and complexity of our present is represented. Where queerness can thrive, there is space for elements can be the traditional and the quasi-modern kind, our planning system and the general tenor of debate on the form of our cities leaves barely the slightest glimmer of hope that one day our streets might be allowed to be as queer as fluck, as the best parts of our society are starting to

02 CONTEXT
Pre-diplom
Simen Gloppen

THE TEXT

The text «Outrage: Architecture represses plurality in favour of a heteronormative culture» in Architectural Review no. 1459, p. 55, is written by Adam Nathaniel Furman in 2019. The theme he is writing about is the lack of queerness, individuality, personality, the architects background and life in the modern architecture. Furman's thesis is a longing for a broader field of architecture, where the spaces architects creates is for everyone. He writes that the spaces today are built almost for none.

The problem for Furman is how we today create spaces, cities and buildings for a hetero-normative lifestyle, where the queer architects is being criticized for being unserious, ridiculous, or at best, exotic, when the architecture is outside the heteronormative framework. The problem he issues is stated in a deeply personal text, almost like an intens debate speech, where he has hold in hes feelings for too long, and now finally have a platform to speak out.

When Furman writes this text he is, as the title insinuates, outraged and angry. His audience for this article could be equally angry architects which feels that they are being held down by the old-fashioned, safe and traditional way of creating architecture. In his essay, he is presenting more of a problem than a solution, but what I can read out of the little he writes about a possible solution is that our cities should aim to be parliaments of social signification, where the depth and diversity of our history is celebrated, and the complexity of the presens is represented. I ask myself, how?

He ends his essay with saying he hopes that one day our streets is being allowed to be «as queer as fuck, as the best parts of our society is starting to become». And how do we do that? Maybe by starting with our mindset, our thinking, and train our brains to celebrate diversity instead of critizing, when we see something different than our own taste of architecture.

NOTES:

This essay got my mind going. An essay we read in an elective course during masters called 40 413: Feminism in architecture, lead by the amazing professor Alma Elisabeth Oftedal.

I brought this essay into my prediploma as a clear statement to be inspired by.

PRE-DIPLOMA Inspiring work



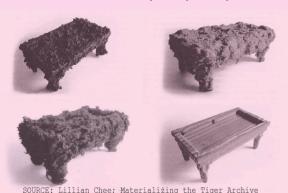
Lillian Chee is Associate Professor at the Department of Architecture, National University of Singapore. The theme she is interested in is how history and architecture and it's elements are connected to heteronormative history and narrative and connected to a specific gender.

She wrote an article about how the last seen tiger in Urban Singapore was seen and shot in the Raffles Hotel in Singapore, and how the dead animal was drawn out from underneath the biljard table, in the biljard room in the hotel. This incident has no physical evidence, but the myth about this is still alive in cartoons and storytelling among kids. The history of the tiger have survived, and especially the aspect of the dead tiger that were found under the biljard table, and by who it was killed and found.

The problem Chee is presenting is how we look at historical architecture, and how we forget to view it win the middle of things». To take in the historical context, and how stories are told to the next generation, and how it effects our view on gender.

She is interested in how this Biljard room and the biljard table, which in Chee's case, has a masculine character, can be viewed in different ways, and through models recognize or discover new elements and aspects of a room with traditional history or marks connected to it. Her way of working further was to examine the table both as a material artifact and as a metaphorical phrame.

Chee says that models are the core of architectural work and also an idealized perfect way of presenting architecture. Chee says the biljard table is a model in the biljard room in the hotel, which carries a history of colonialism and masculinity. Chee continued to research in different models how the table could represent the tiger, more than the values of masculinity and colonial past. She re-appropriated the model, with elements connected to the tiger, and tried to see if the table maybe changed it's gender connection.



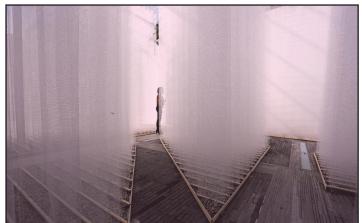
NOTES:

The article "Materializing the Tiger in the Archive: Creative Research and Architectural History" (2011). was inspiring. Lillan Chee's text inspired me to think about context, and how architecture and objects can be related to gender and have a speci ic history.

PRE-DIPLOMA Inspiring projects



23 Studio Projectione



1 Deve Architects

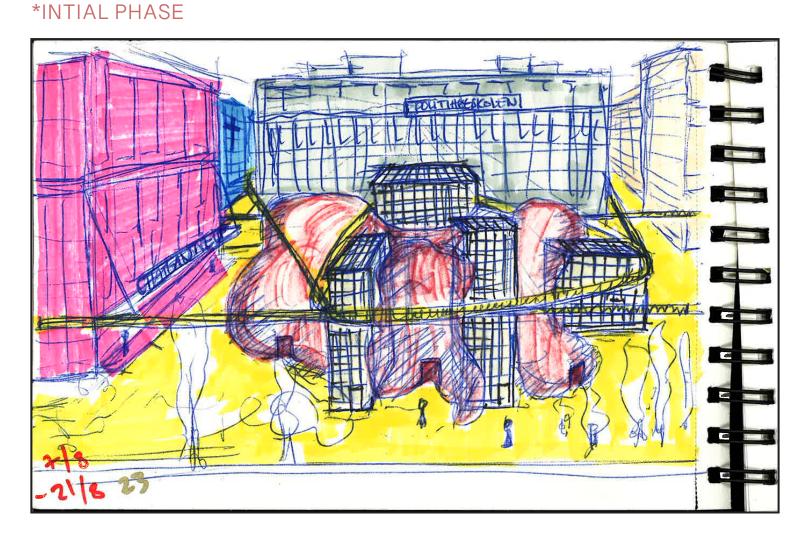


NOTES:

In our pre-diploma we were asked to collect 40 photos to inspire us into our diploma work.

Picture number 1, 32 and 33 cought my interest especially.

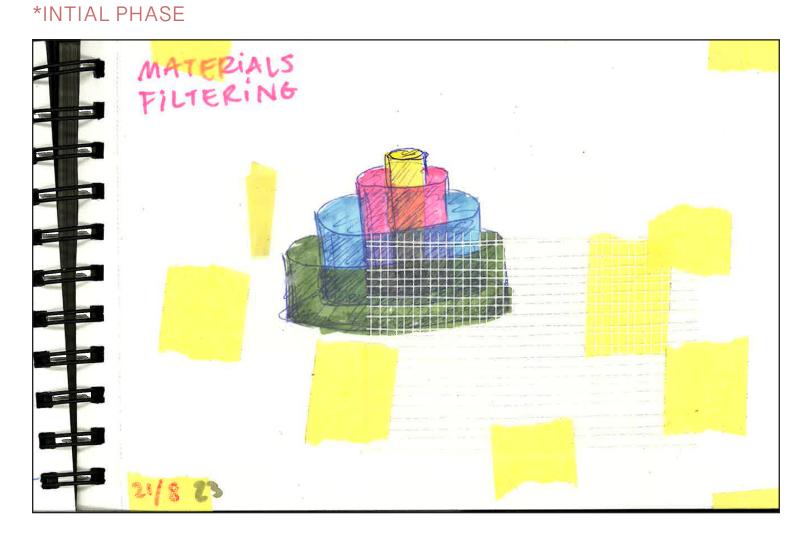
- 32. The space we live in is filled with personal objects which we own, use, look at and touches. You think you own the space, but the space itself has beed used by others before, and will be used by others later.
- 1. We remember spaces in certain ways, and we connect spaces to history and feelings. We tend to forget to stop and reflect. A simple layer of fiberglas can show us how memories are hidden. Can we see our history different through architecture?
- 33. A space can be dangerous because of it's history. Poor space. Let the space be rewritten, and the feelings attached to it.



NOTES:

My first sketch in the diploma semester. It started before we entered the studios.

My mind was buzzing. Volumes meeting wrapping eachother.



NOTES:

More quick sketches was made. A diagram of layers into the core.

The "filtering in"-theme had started.

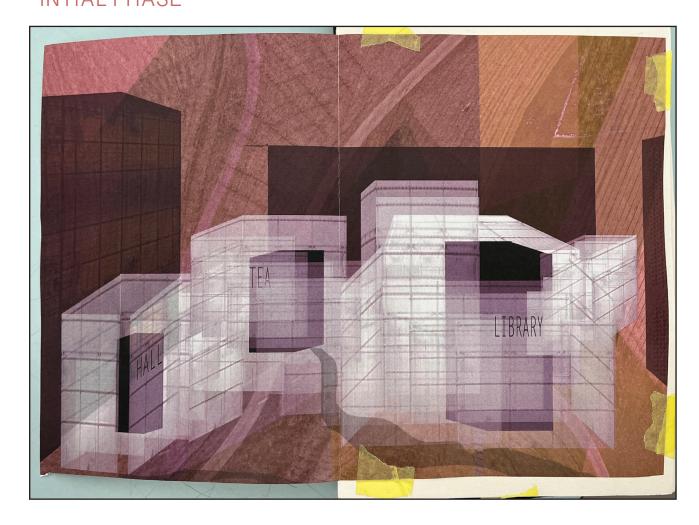


NOTES:

Another quick drawing. I liked this one! Some elements were set and clear, and some element floated. Some elements were hidden and some exposed.

Four programs was brought into the sketch.

How could these melt together and wrap eachother?



NOTES:

A quick digital drawing.

Adding layers and programs in Photoshop.

*INTIAL PHASE



NOTES:

Moving my favorite analog sketch into a digital world, seeing it with a more 3D view.

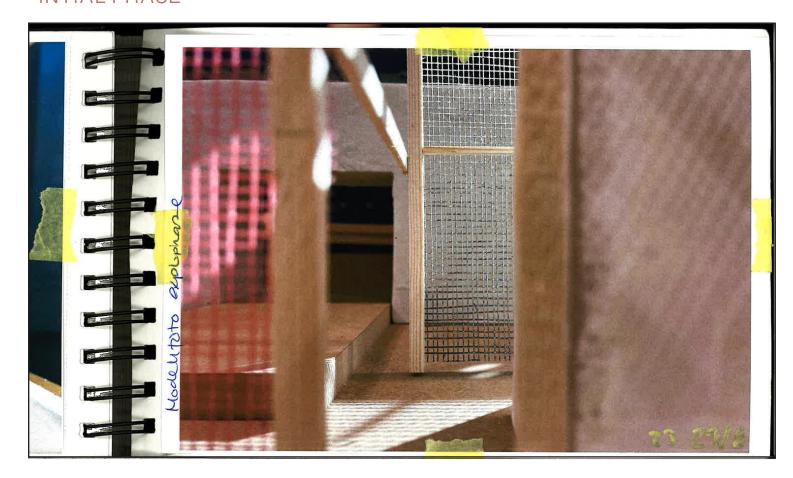


NOTES:

Another digital sketch in Photoshop to explore different materials mashed together.

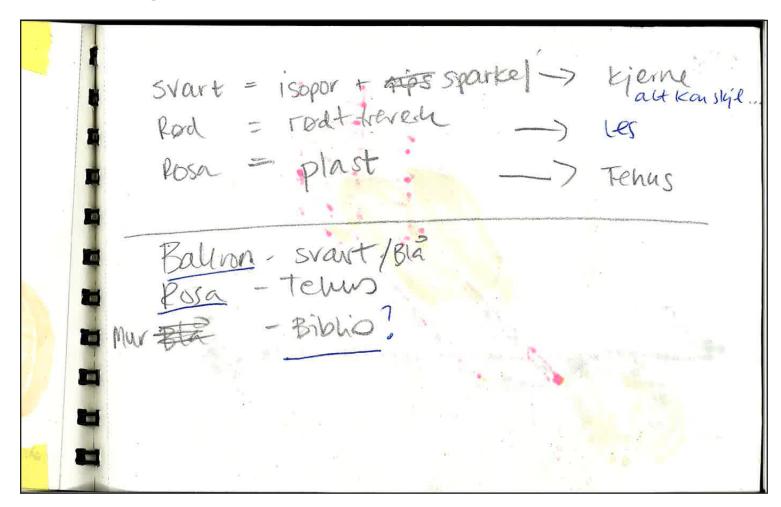
Bricks Glass Fiberglass

Smiljan Radic' "Serpentine Pavillion" in London inspired my fiberglas idea.



NOTES:

Quick models of the sketches were made, to investigate space.



NOTES:

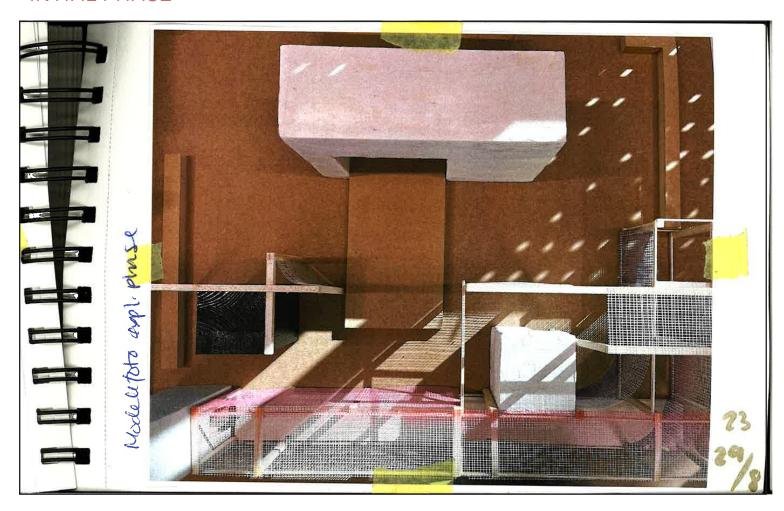
Written discussions with myself.

COLORS:

Should the programmes be defined in colors?

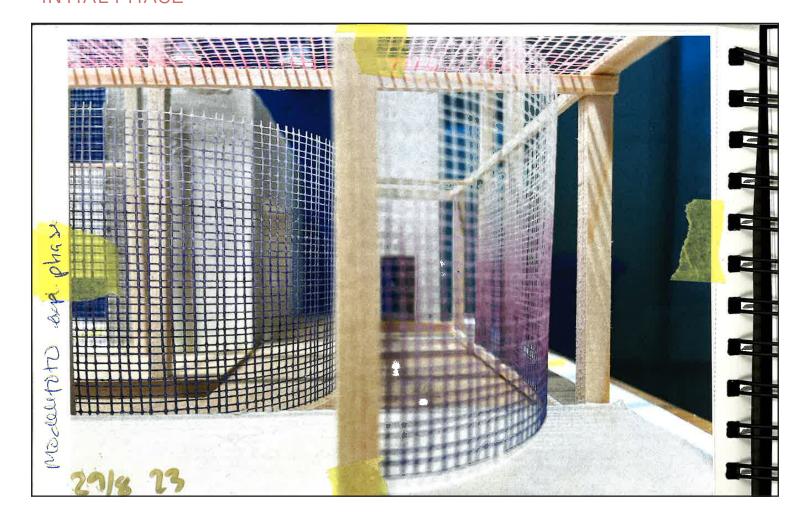
HIERARCHY:

Should the materials follow rules? Should one program protect another?



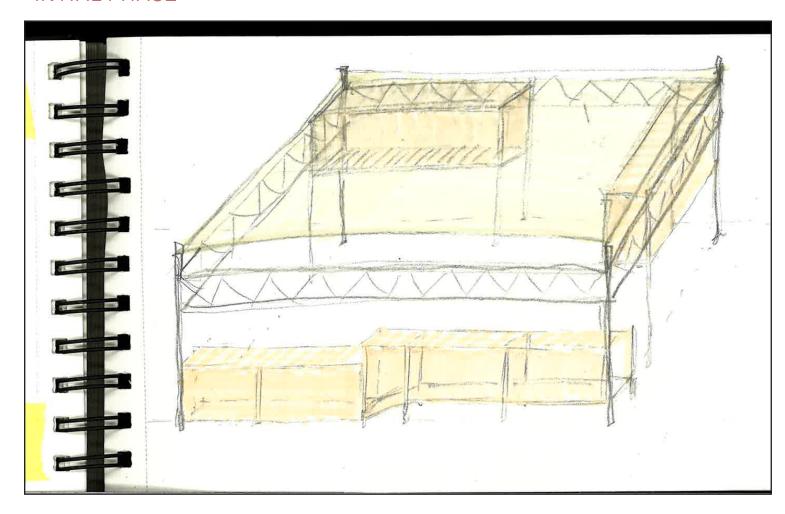
NOTES:

More volumes was added around my sketch model, to see what it gave me spacially and materially.



NOTES:

Translucent layers seperated the different programs.

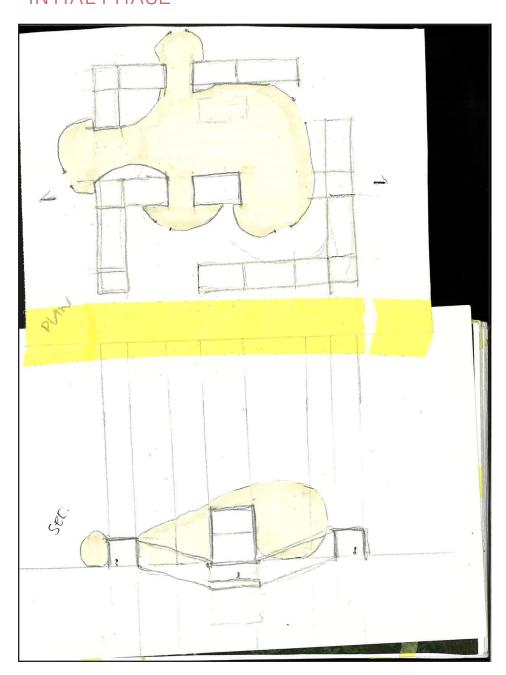


NOTES: Should my quick model get a roof? A top filter?



NOTES:

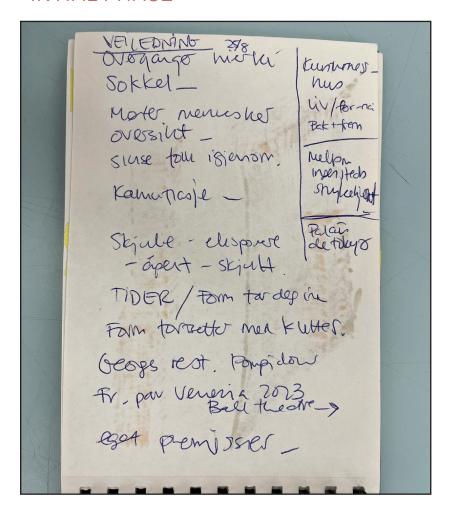
The light filtered through the layers, and a closed dark space appeared.



NOTES:

A drawing of plan and section.

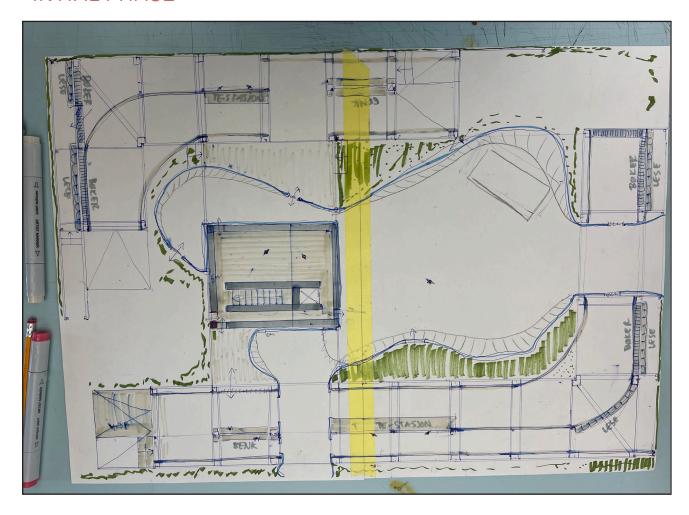
How could a space surround another in different axes?



NOTES: Notes from an early a desk crit.

Hidden programs = 15 protected. Public programs = filtering markids. Floating programs = protects the midden. AARON BETZKY & the mirror

NOTES: Personal notes about the hierarchy and the programs.



NOTES:

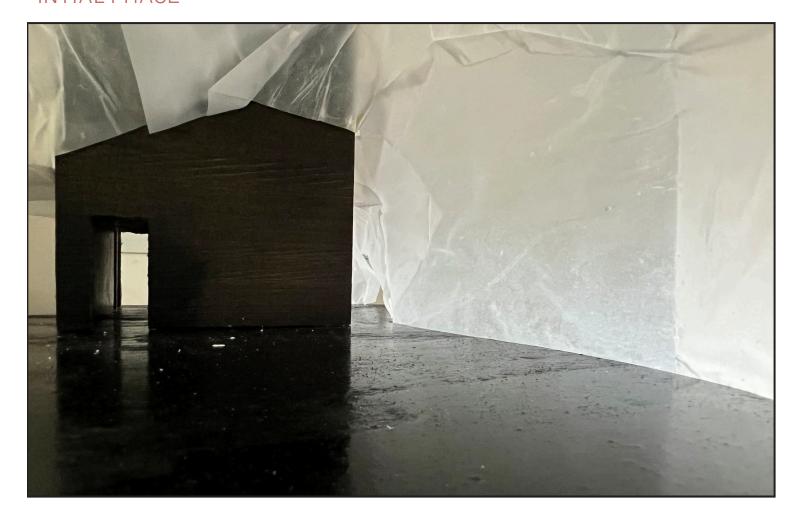
A sketch were the thought of a court-yard was shown. Still no roof.



NOTES:

An early model exploring volumes.

Solid vs. transparent.



NOTES:

An early model made of wood and paper.

How could the solid walls also show hints of the other side?



NOTES:

Edited model photo.

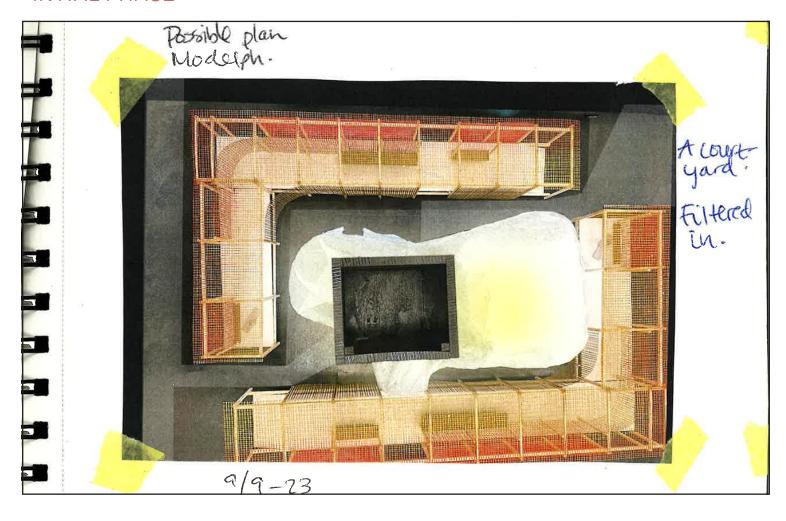
Add life, shadows and colors and see what happens.

The paper protecs a concrete core.



NOTES:

Add more life on the outside of the paper hall, and the layers starts to be visible.



NOTES:

The court-yard idea brought into model.

Here it is the same amount of layers on all sides.

But is it a more surprising way to do this?



NOTES:

A model photot brought into Photoshop and out again for analog sketching.

Adding color and people.

Could the color inhence the filtering?



NOTES:

This diagramtical section was made to give me som answers and a vocabulary.

This choreography of movement inspired me.

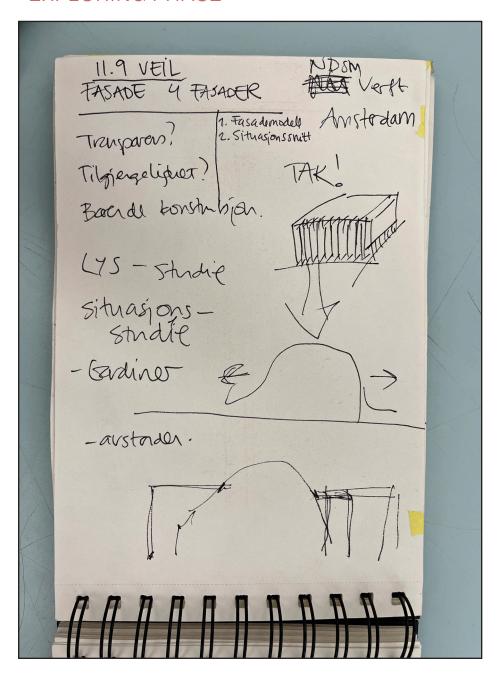


NOTES:

I went back and forth to my site.

Yes, I had a site from the prediploma, but my project evolved into a typology study.

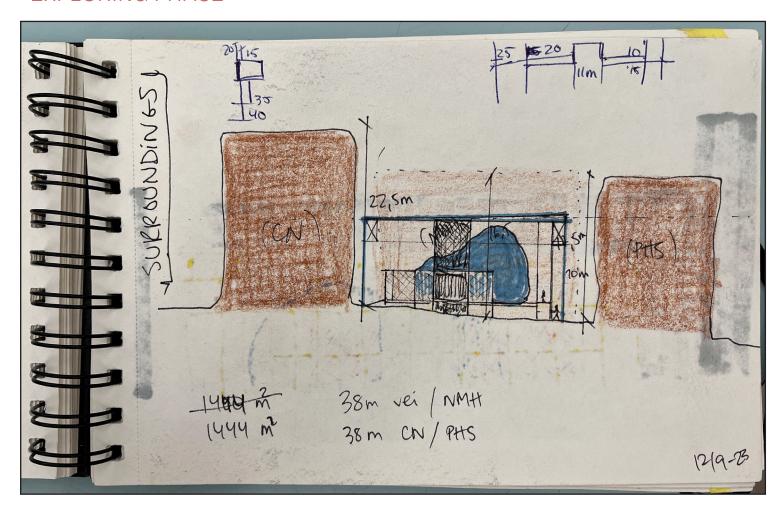
I brought with me the surroundings to adjust them into my project.



NOTES:

Written notes about what to focus

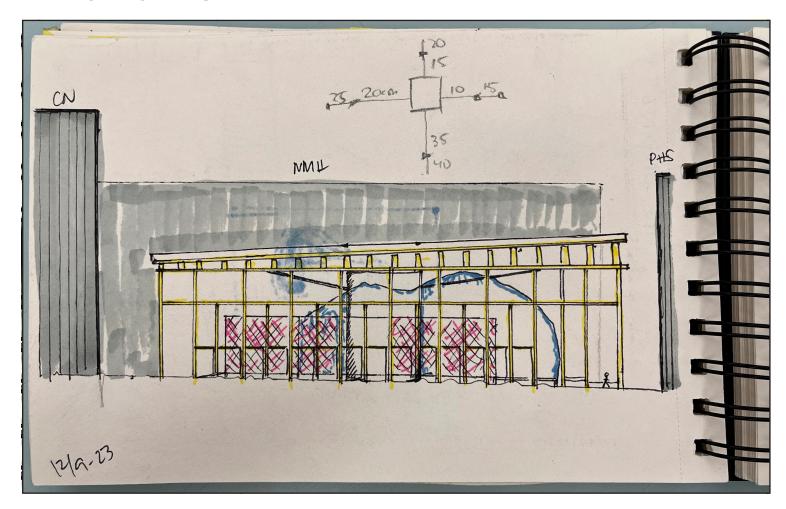
Transparency, accessabilty, construction, lights. ROOF!



NOTES:

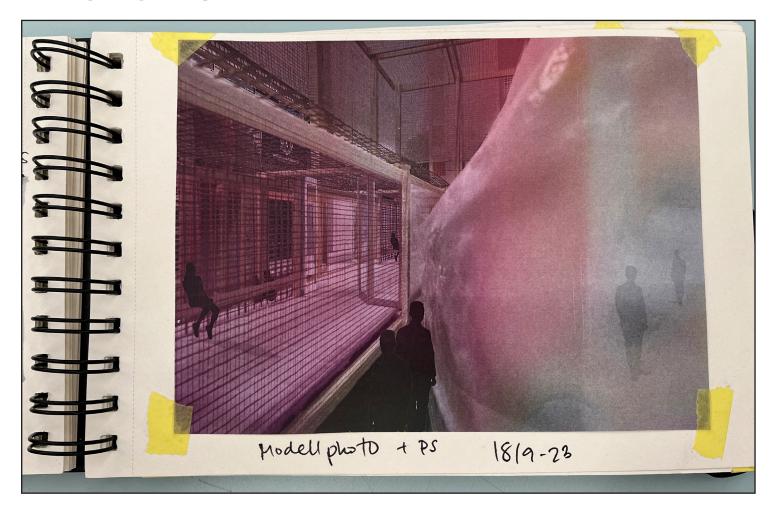
My typology of a building takes inspiration from the surrounding construction and materiality.

Hights, lengths and widths were taken into consideration.



NOTES:

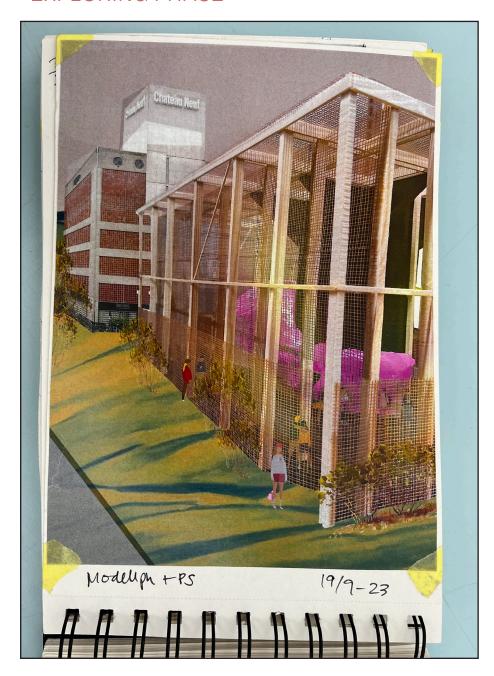
How does the surroundings affect the size of the building?



NOTES:

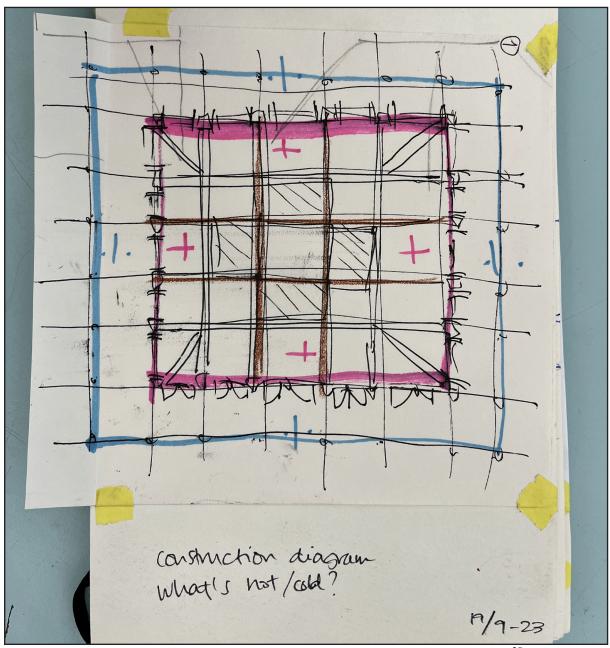
A roof was made, and my sketch model was put inside.

Photos were taken, and digitally edited.



NOTES:

The roof and walls met the situation and materiality in this model photo edited digitally.

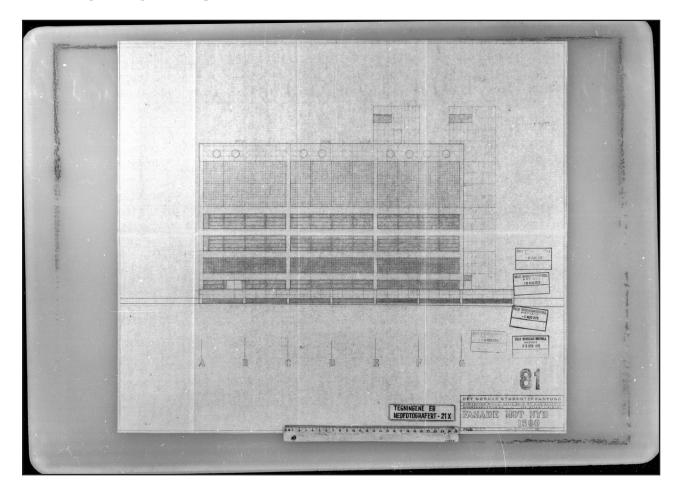


NOTES: What is hot and what is cold in this new construction?



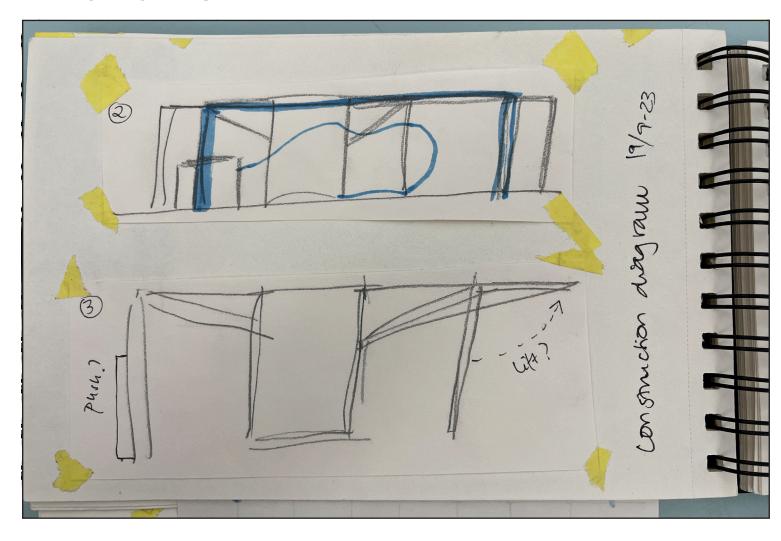
NOTES:

A facade had to be thought about, and these two facades inspired me.



NOTES:

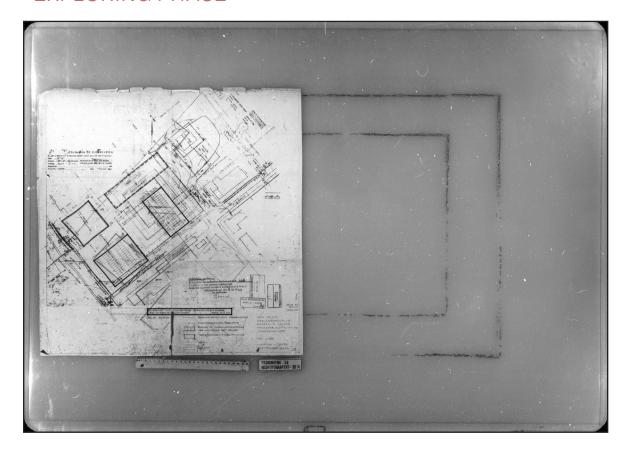
And this surrounding facade inspired me.



NOTES:

How could this roof be held up?

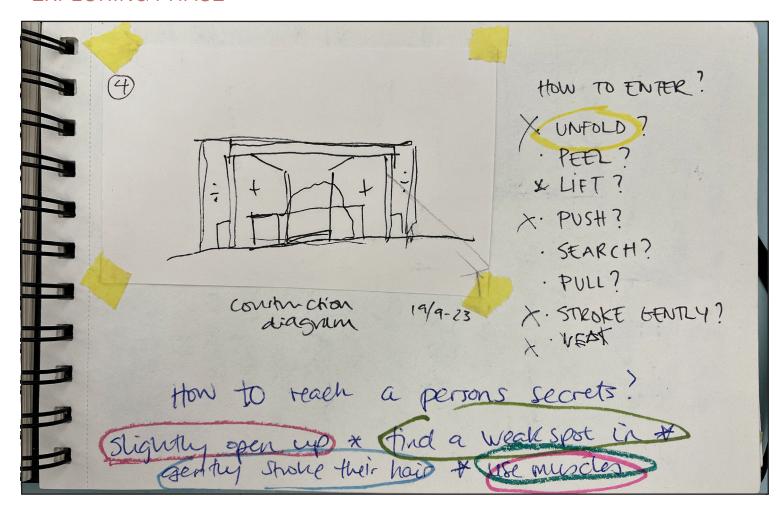
A quick diagramatical sketch was made to try to to sort it out.



NOTES:

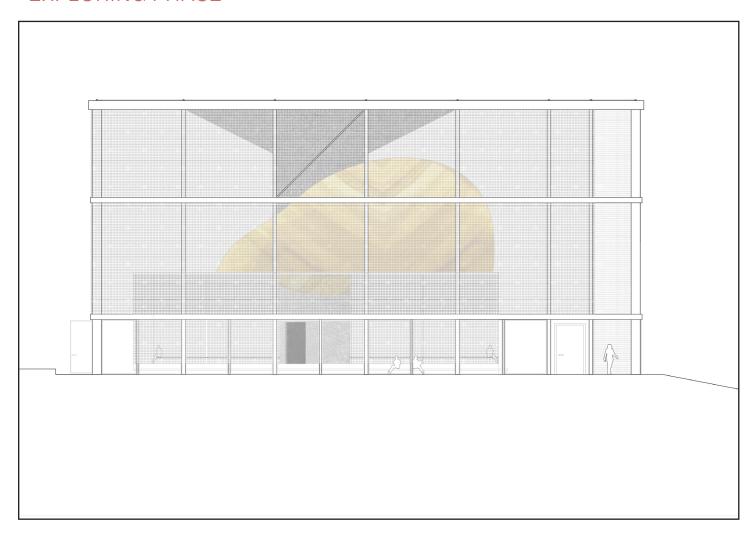
The site I chose had a tentative plan, but was never realized.

Here with programme for lectures.



NOTES:

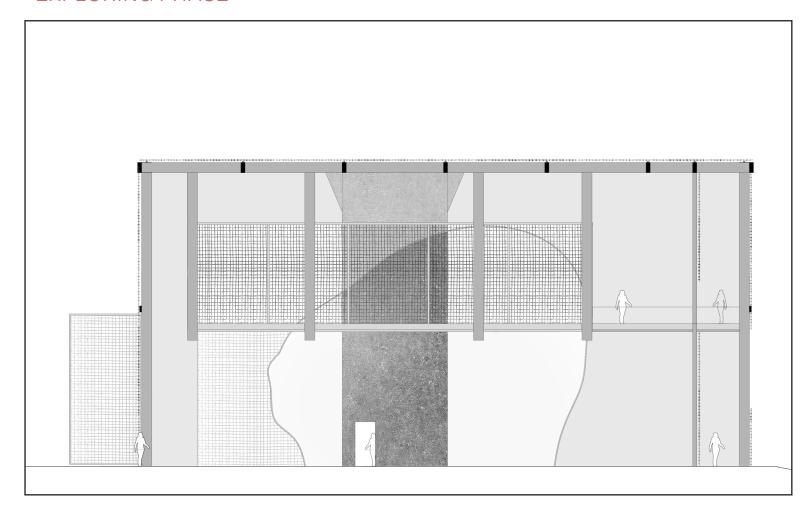
A hand sketch discussing whats hot and cold, and how to enter the building throug this new layer of walls.



NOTES:

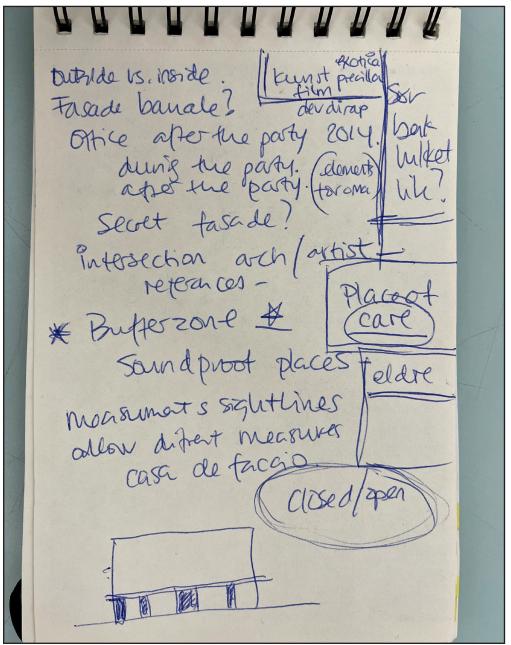
A digital elevation was made, to explore how the new volume would appear.

Layer upon layer into the dark core.



NOTES:

Here I moved the indoor space up into the roof construction, to create a big floor.

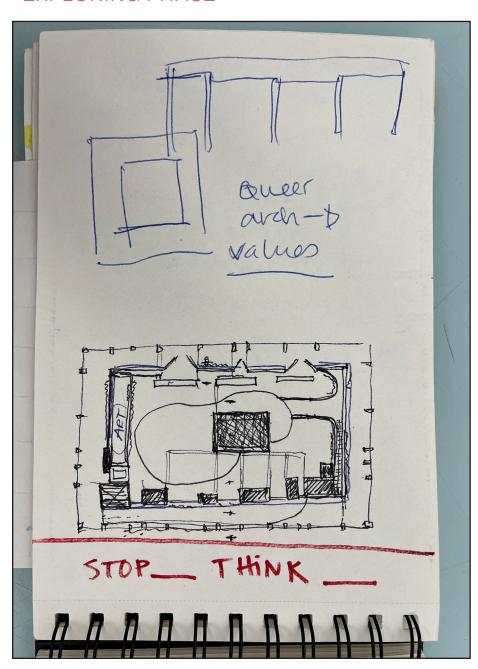


NOTES:

Writings after our first critic with architect Christine Fontaine.

A lot of interesting topics came up:

- The facade
- A timeline
- Does the secrets pop out in the facade?
- Think of a buffer zone
- Sound proof places
- Sight lines
- A place for care?
- Exotic, artistic?



NOTES:

After this critic I reflected on queer values in architecture.

I drew a plan with new thoughts.

And I stopped, took a much needed break.

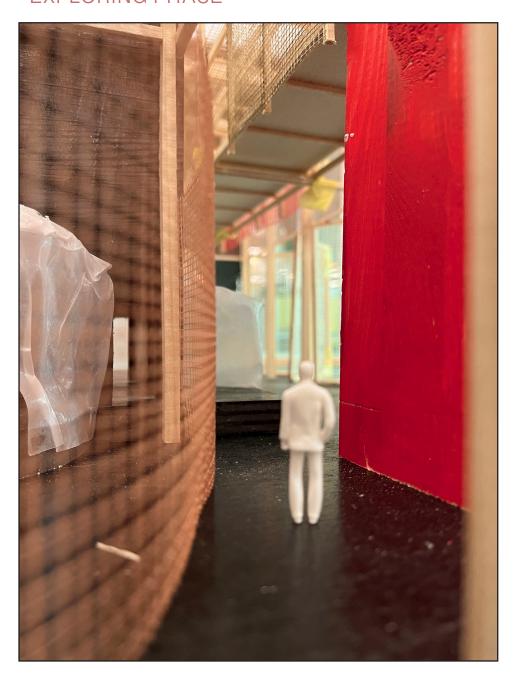


NOTES:

I returned to my models, and took som photos.

I made a sequence to imagine a life.

This guy has pushed a heavy door to the side to enter.

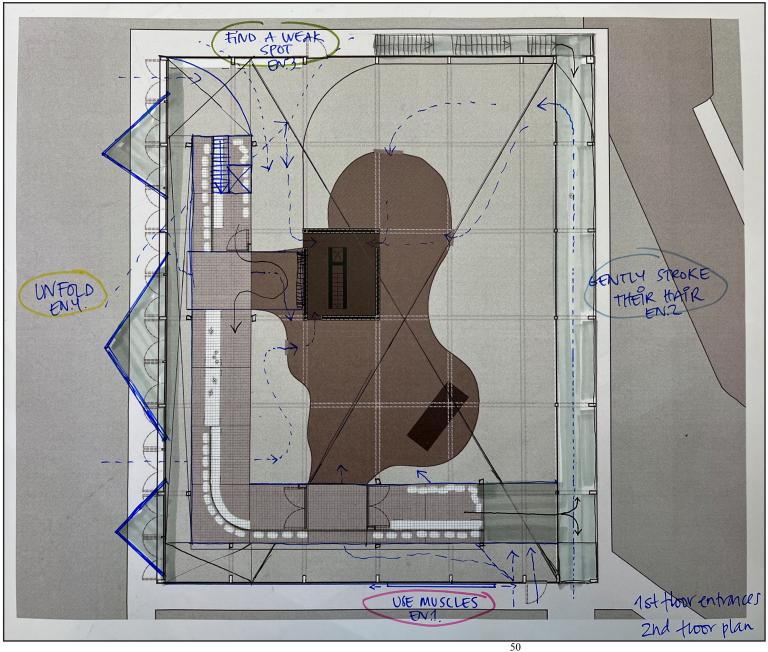




NOTES:

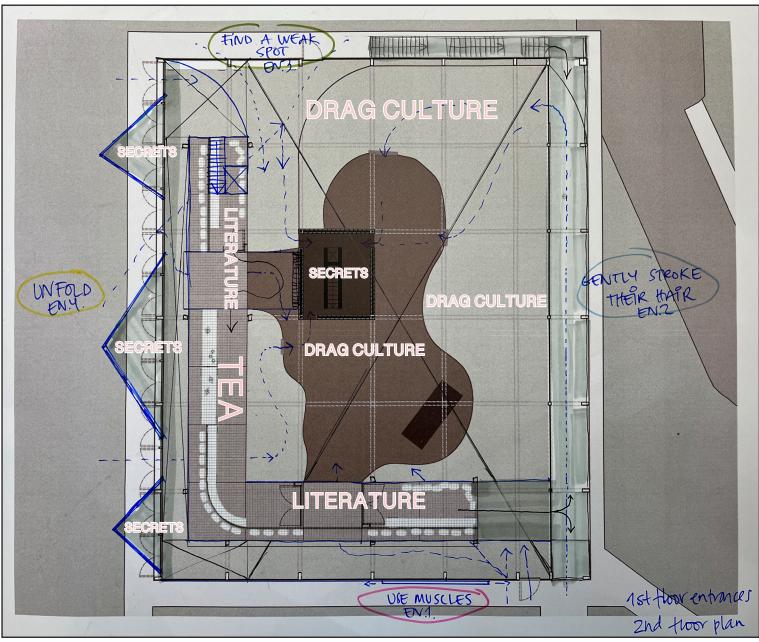
He continues in to the building, exploring.

And he sees another person 30 metres away. Interested.



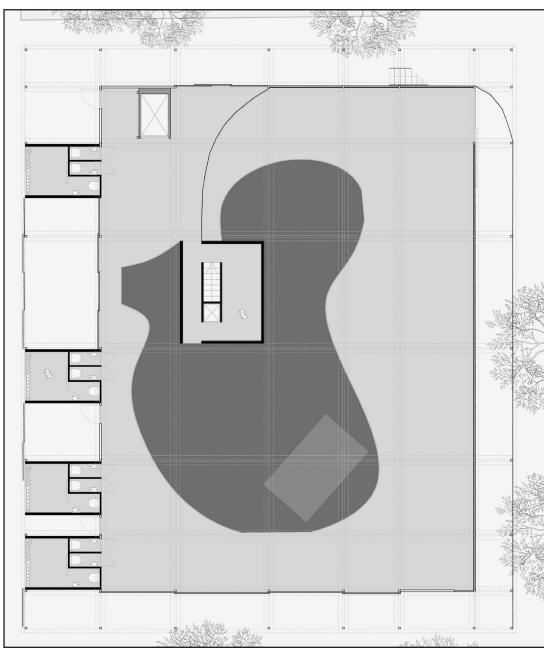
NOTES:

I created a suggestion for a plan, and drew on it, to see where I was in my process.



NOTES:

I started to sort out a use for the space, and four ways to enter the building.



NOTES:

I continued to explore the plan, and updated it. The secret rooms to the right went all the way out in the facade.

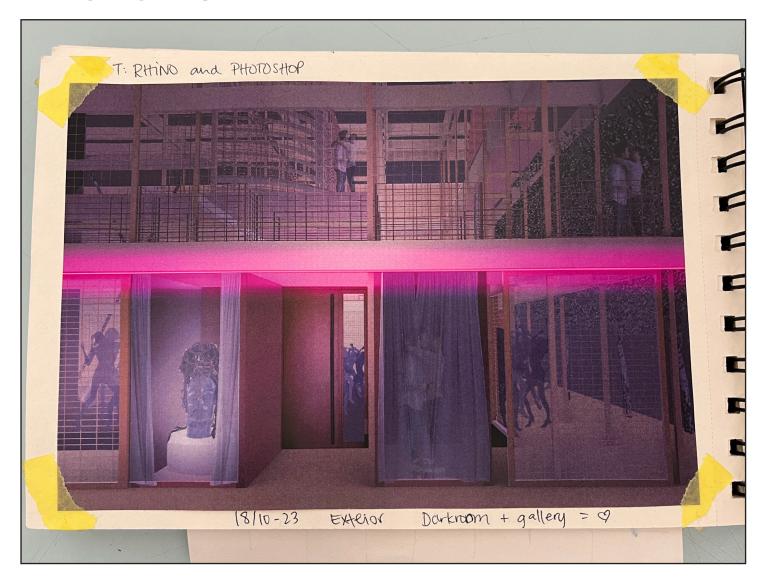
A conceptually move.
Spaces for secret inter-action out in the facades. Secrets popping out. Might be provocing.



NOTES:

I needed to visualize life, so I started with my 3D- and Photoshop vizualisations.

You can see life through a wall.



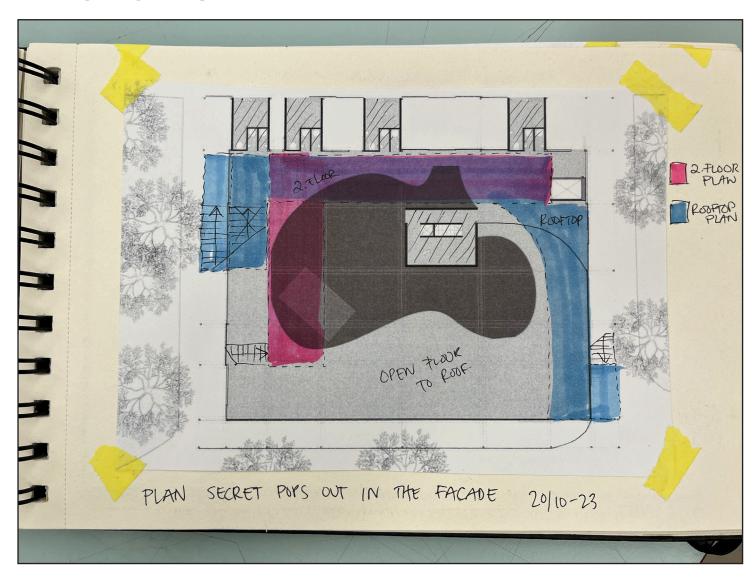
NOTES:

In the exterior the secret pops out, and a thin curtain is all that is seperating two men hooking up and the outside world.

After discussions about this, I realized this might be too unsafe.

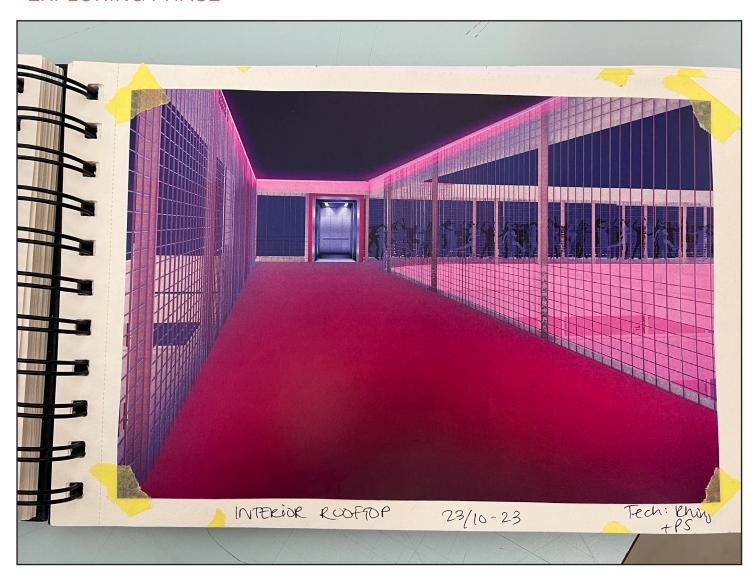
The windows was inspired by Red Light District in Amsterdam.

This had turned into a queer culture house, and I wanted to include more sides of the queer life. Also the secret hook ups.



NOTES:

Sketching on top of a printed plan gave med insight in the filtering from the top to the bottom.



NOTES:

I was for a long time unsure of what to do with the roof.

I tried to add another layer, but realized I didn't need this. This programme allready existed.



NOTES: My situation plan in progress.

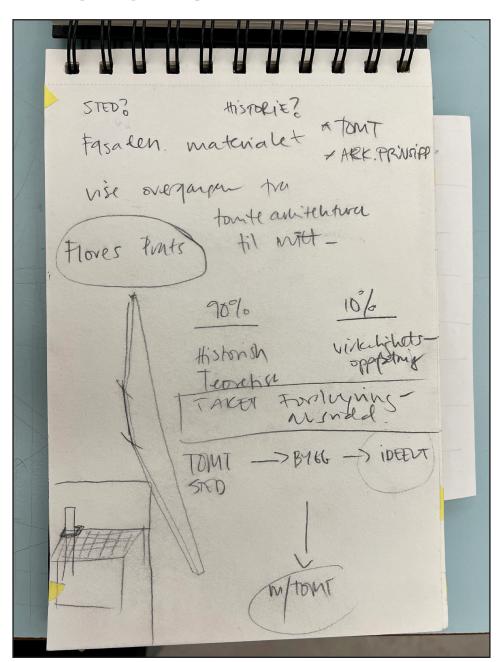


NOTES:

In this vizualisation i tried to imagine a daytime life as well.

This was not thought through at this point. An empty space, but yes, it's day time.

Still needed to figure this out.



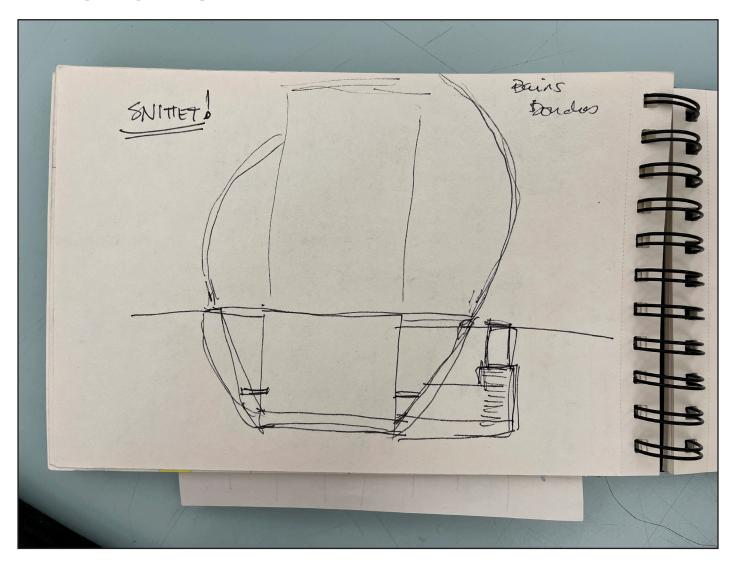
NOTES:

We went into a discussion about my hook up rooms in the facades.

I wanted them, and I didn't care about haters that might be outside the rooms waiting.

We discussed that I made my dream plan, and a realistic plan.

I quickly realized that I needed to work more on the plan.

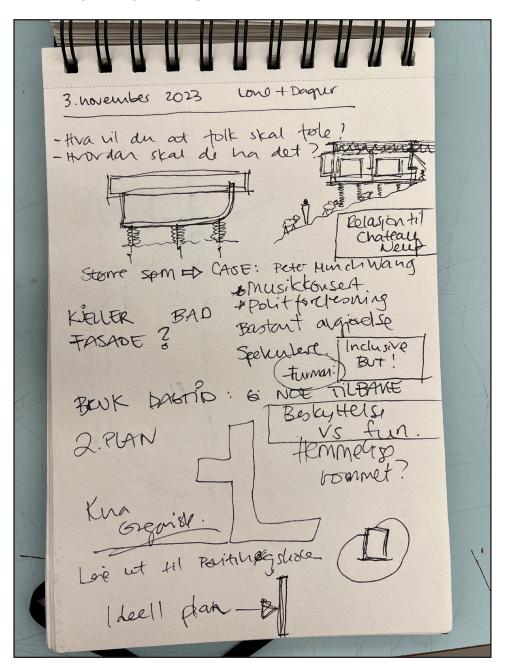


NOTES:

And the section.

The basement was very normal. It was an add-on, but this needed to be worked at.

THE SECTION!

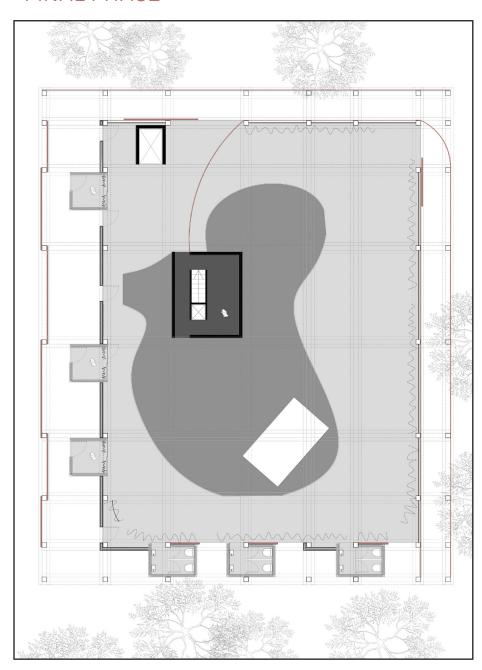


NOTES:

This are written notes from our second and final critic with architechts Dagur Eggertsson and Lone Sjoeli.

We had an interesting discussion again:

- How do I want people to feel?
- What happens in the basement? A bath?
- How is this used during daytime?
- How is the relation between protection and fun?
- What about renting the space out to the surroundings during daytime?



NOTES:

I was getting closer my final plan.

I drew the hook up spaces back 1,5 metres creating a protective filter from the outside.

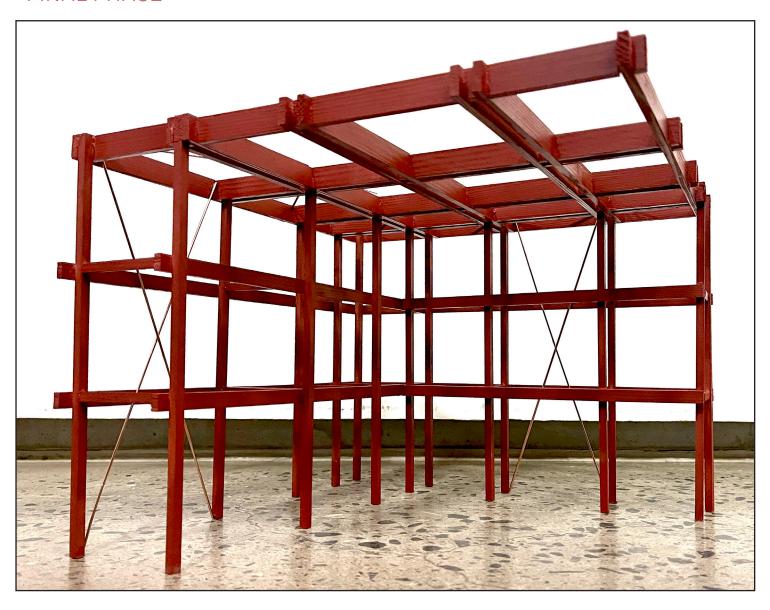
I mirrored the hook up spaces, so the windows was pointing in towards the safe common floor.

I introduced curtains all around the buildings inside, but these were taken away.



NOTES:

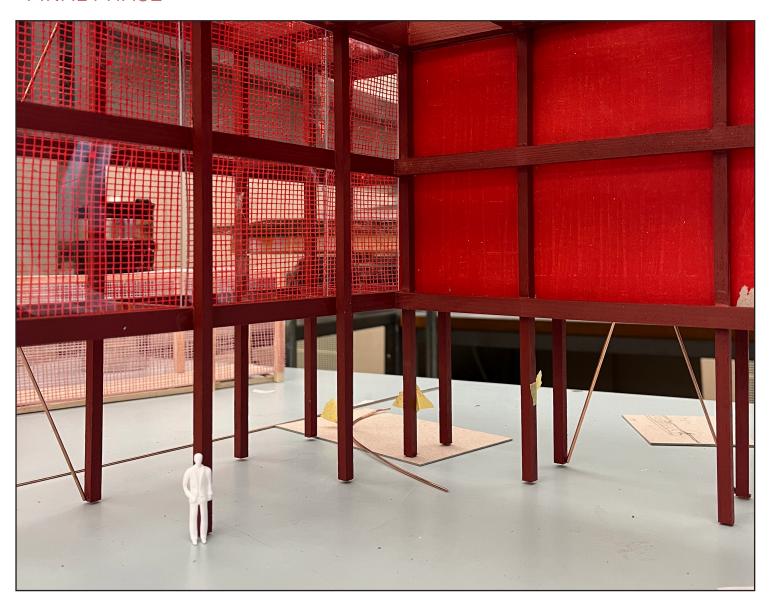
This section made me realize i needed to work on the basement.



NOTES:

I continued into my practical work. Building final models.

I started out checking one corner 's construcion.



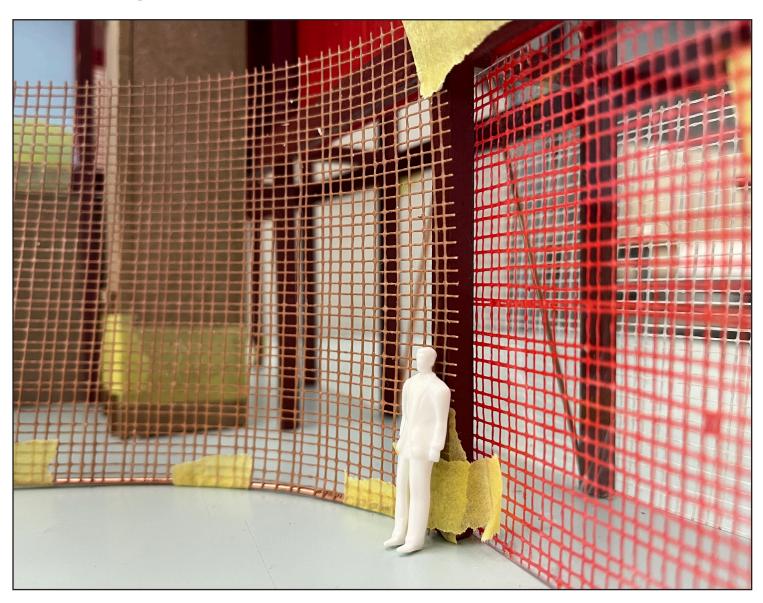
NOTES:

I added windows and walls, trying to figure out the hierarchy of the construction.



NOTES:

Added walls and an elevator.



NOTES:

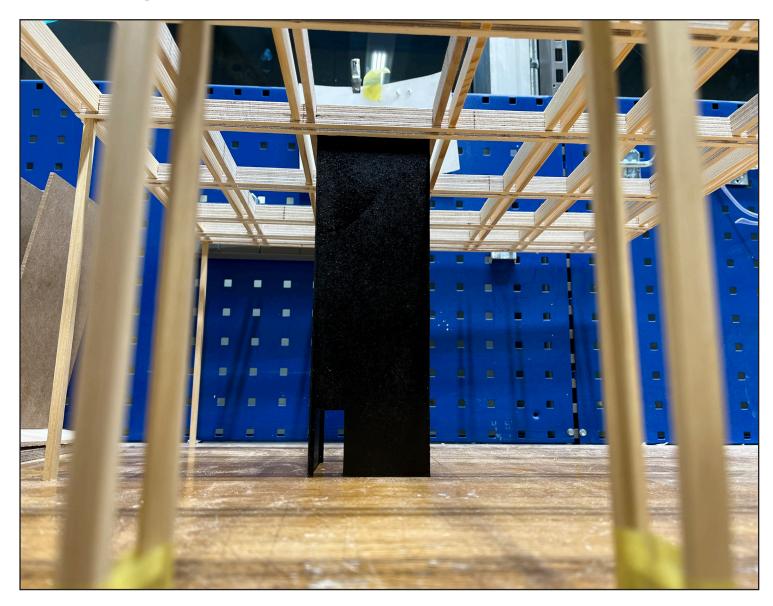
A person leaning against the mesh.



NOTES:

The roof took ages to make. It all had to fit precisely.

Once it all was correct, the roof was extremely stabil.

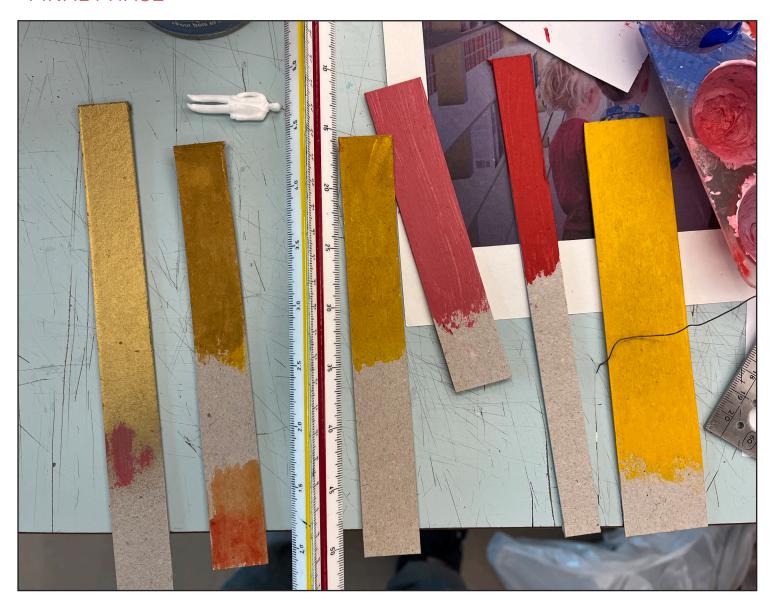


NOTES: The core was tested. It fitted.



NOTES:

The model was spray painted with the color "AARGANG". A deep red representing the bricks on the site.



NOTES:

I experimented with more colors than terracotta.

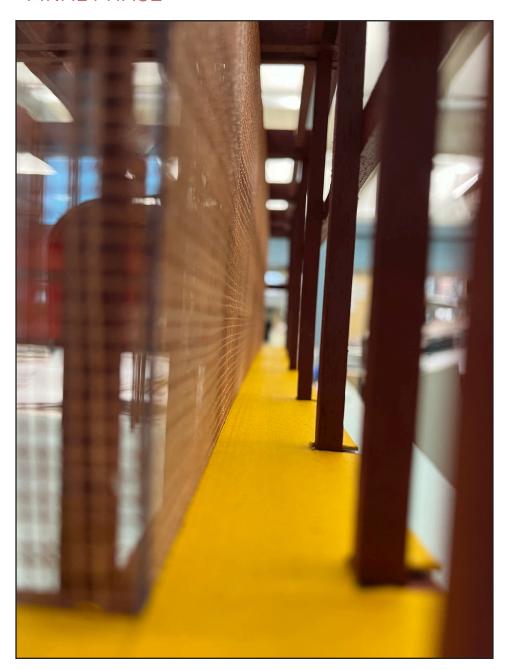
In bricks yellow occurs, and I wanted to see if it complimented the building adding other colors.



NOTES:

I felt that the yellow color made this path more imortant than the rest, so I decided to keep it all in the same color.

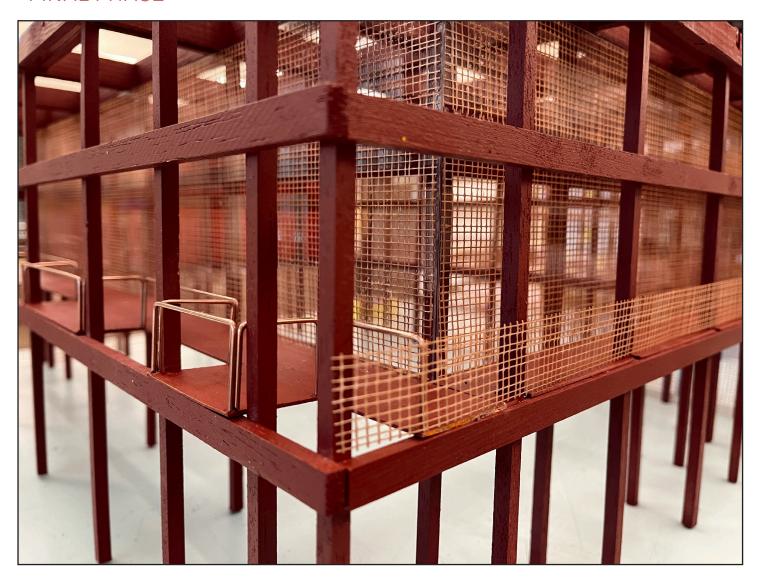
The only part of the building which is black is the core. The deepest secret.



NOTES:

Another photo made me realize that the floor popped to much in contrast to the rest of the building.

I spray painted it terracotta again.



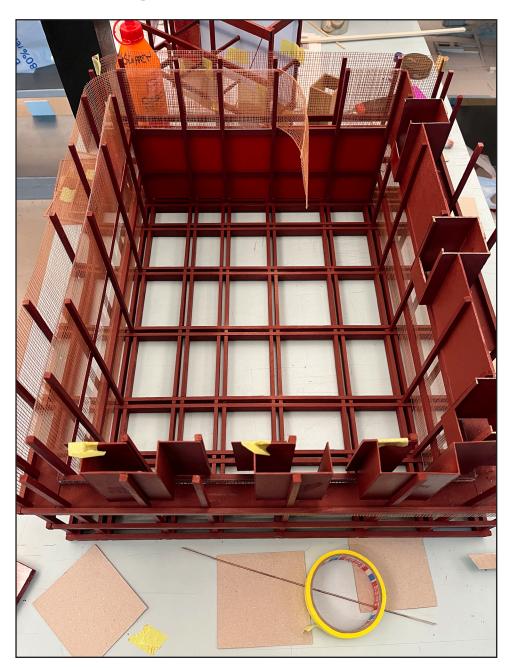
NOTES:

All in the same color made it melt together, and strengthening my concept of a building of filters.



NOTES:

The black core is visible from every part of the building.



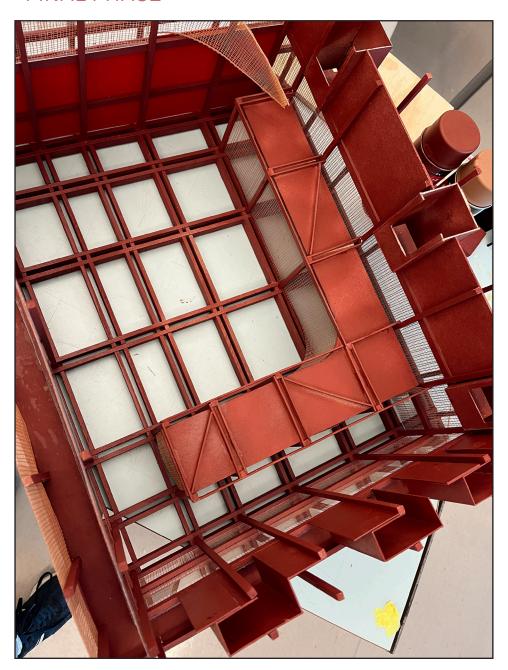
NOTES:

This photo is from the model building process. I turned it up side down and mounted on the hook up spaces and the toilets.



NOTES:

This photo is from constructing the hanging floor. A difficult task to make the coloumns fit the small holes in the roof.



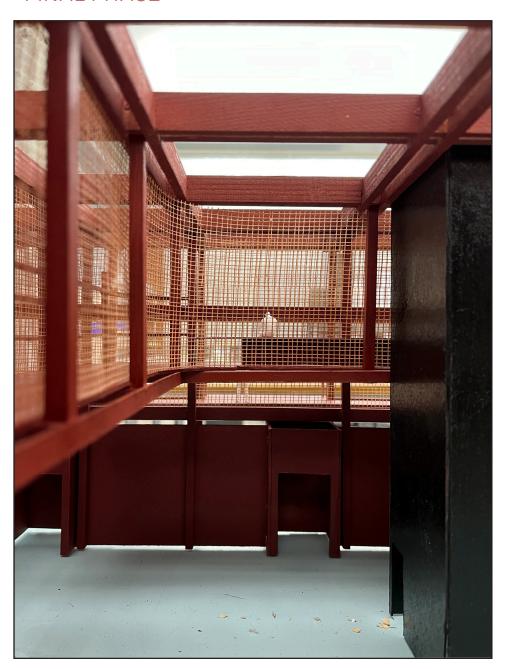
NOTES:

The hanging floor was finished and mounted on. No way back.



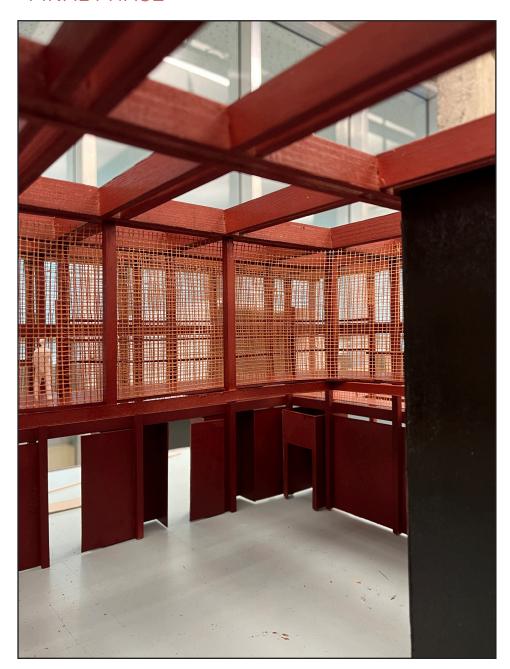
NOTES:

This model photo made me happy.
The light in this space felt gentle and soft.



NOTES:

This photo is outside the hanging floor, and shows a man sitting on the desk.



NOTES:

Another model photo made me happy. The layers showing and hiding.



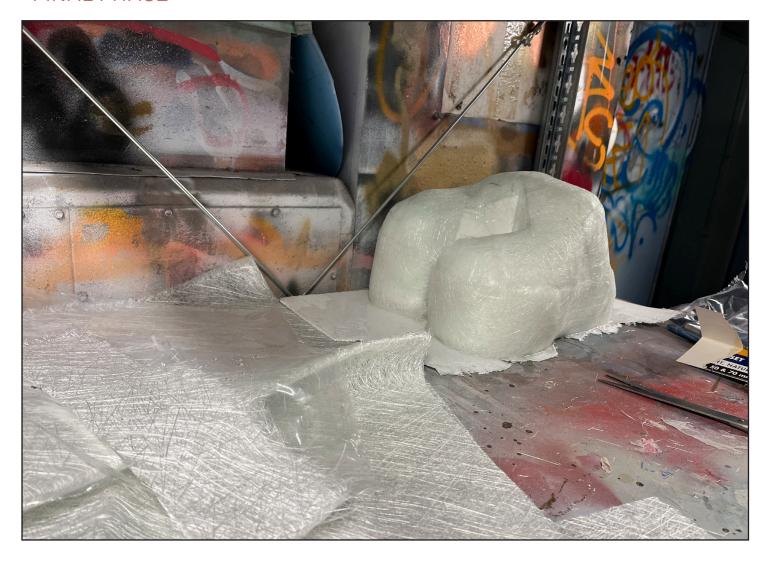
NOTES:

I made the hall wrapping the core in polysterene, placed it in the middle of the building, and quickly saw that this center piece would be visible from the outside.



NOTES:

In this photo I saw how the center piece vas visible both through the doors and through the mesh.

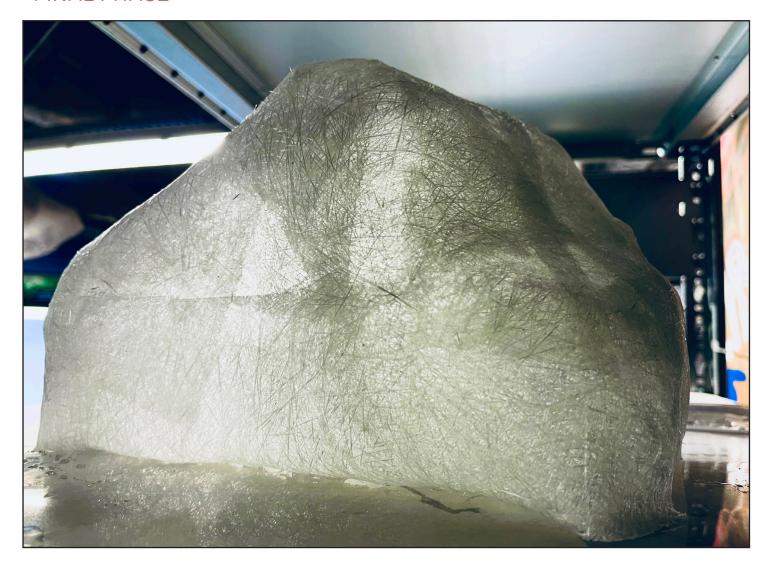


NOTES:

This photo is from a period I was scared. I casted real fiberglas around my polysterene.

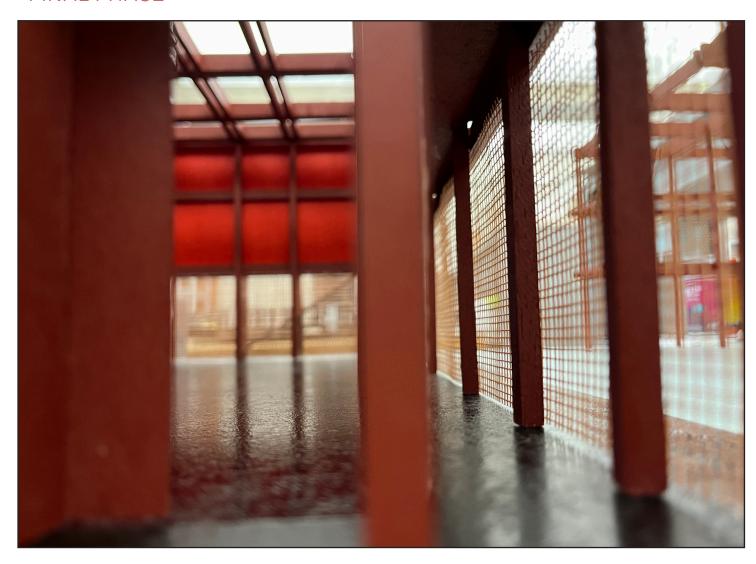
I used melted glass as my raisin, painted it on fiberglas sheets.

And let it dry on the shelf in the workshop.



NOTES:

I took a picture, and the lamp in the background gave the faberglas a beautiful life.



NOTES:

This is a photo from one of the entrances.



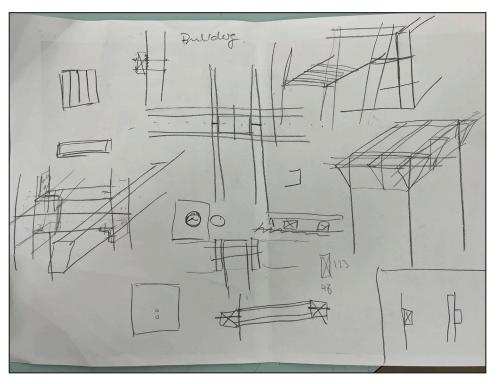
NOTES:

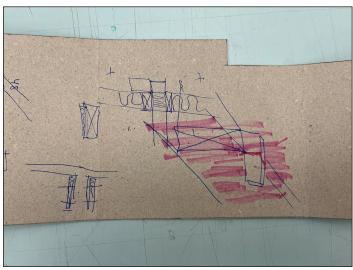
A photo looking in to the space from outside.



NOTES:

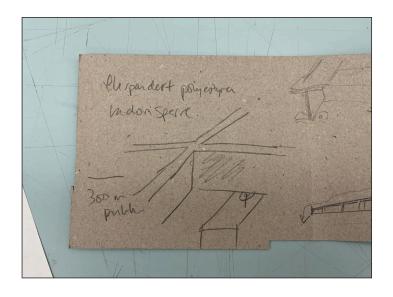
I inserted my fiberglas hall into the model, and took a photo.

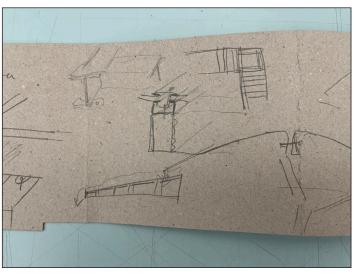


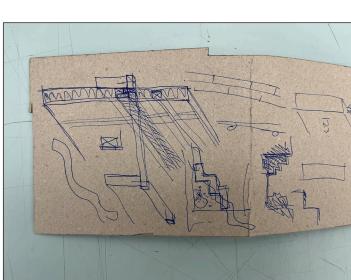


NOTES:

Towards the end I met problems. I talked to the engineer many times to solve my construction.

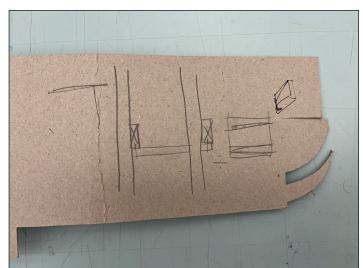






NOTES:

A lot of sketches were made during these metings, on the materials I had on my desk.





NOTES:

I finished my model with a laserprint of the glassroof covering the construction.

The only part of my model wich is a clear straight grid is what is made by a computer. Otherwise everything is handmade.