

SW608

WALK YOUR CONCRETE MEMORY



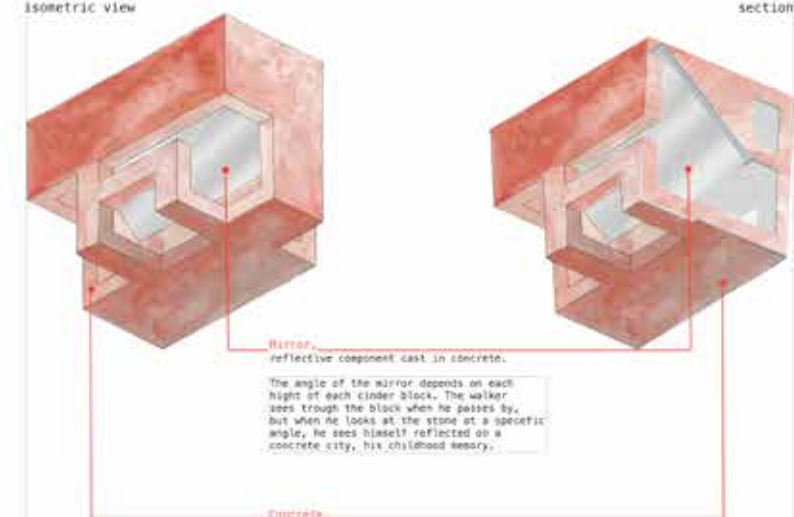
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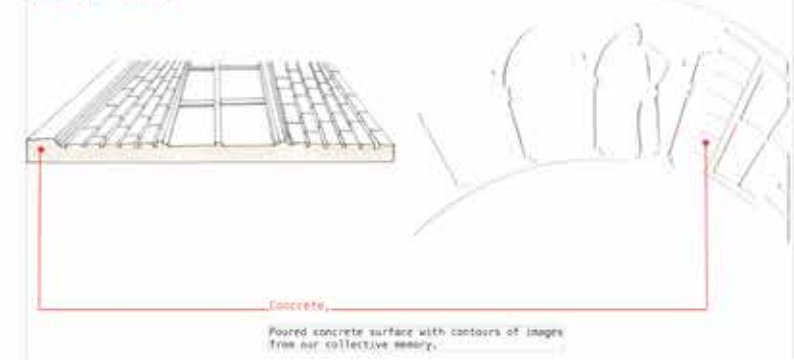


2 COMPONENTS

CINDER BLOCK

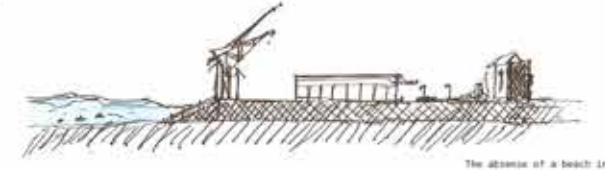


MEMORY LANE

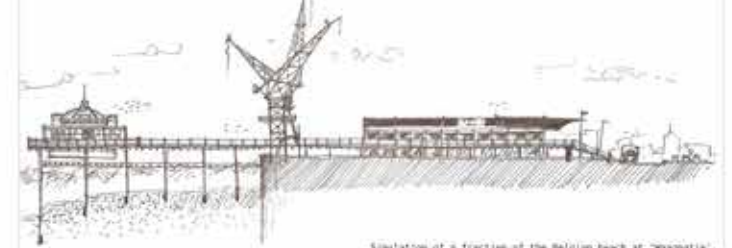


CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCE

There is a forgotten place in Antwerp Belgium, called 'Waagnatie'. Flemish people are not attracted to this industrial spot nearby the harbor and it's being used as a parking lot. Except on one day a year. An urban beach is applied to the location and the residents feel like they are children again. That particular day they are able to relive their childhood at the Belgian beach. They play a role on a stage, a stage called 'Waagnatie'.



I, as a designer, want to create an installation that provides a richer future for this spot. If I could, I would overlay a new city on the existing. I would overlay a fraction of Belgium's beaches on Antwerp. If the residents could experience the daydream living at the urban beach, they would reexperience their collective childhood as a simulation of the everyday.



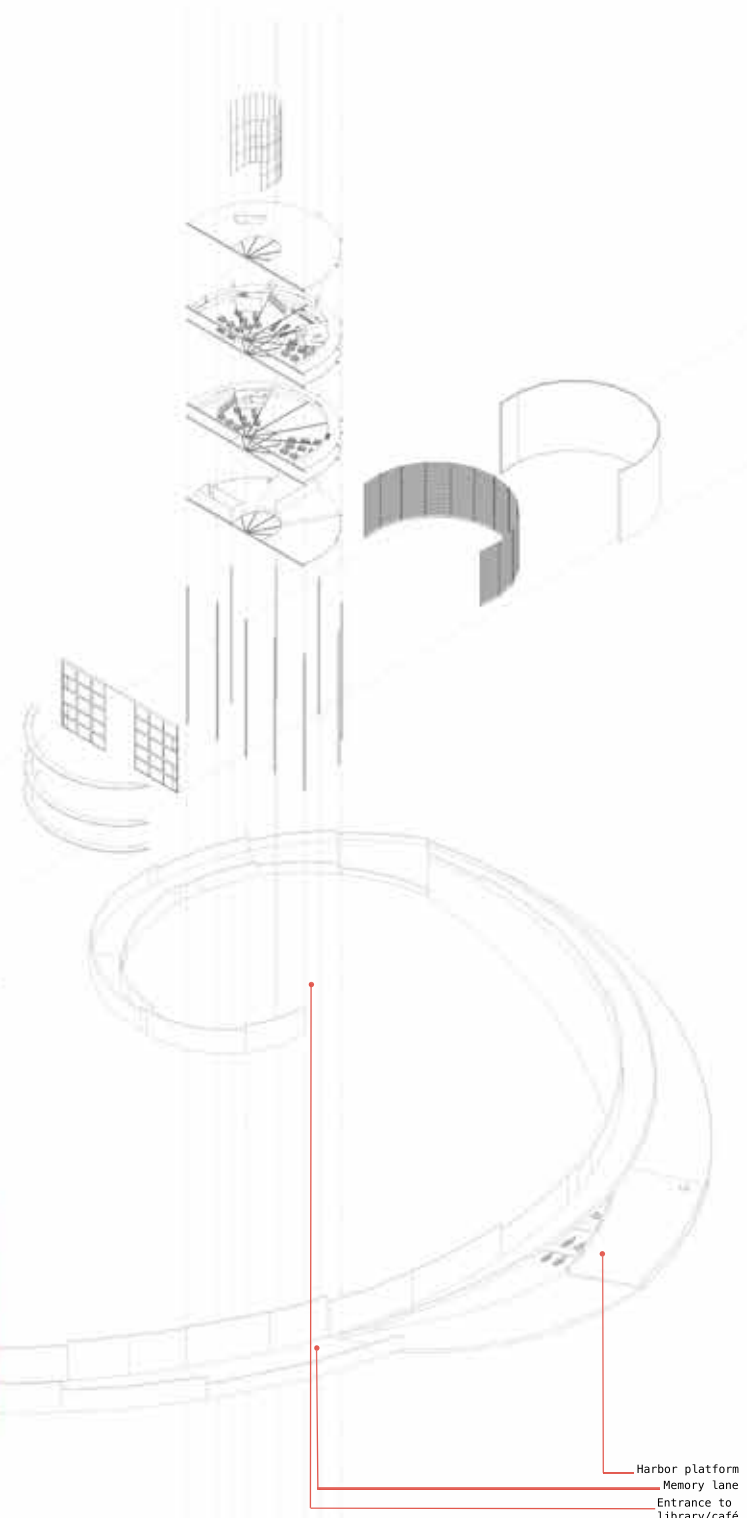
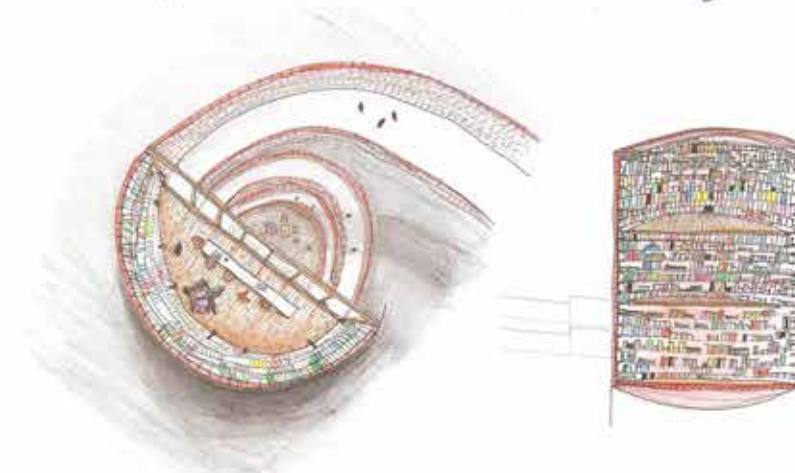
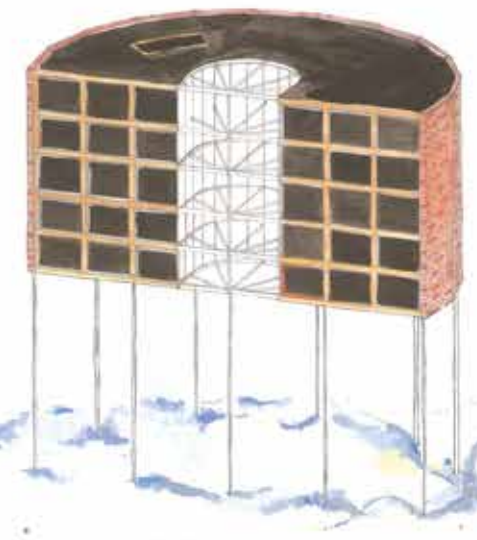
This new city-layer may not be in the spotlight and can not dominate 'Waagnatie'. It must be seen as a 'heterotopia' (Foucault's definition of a place that is not in the everyday, like a reflection in a mirror) and must be subtle. The installation should not give up its secrets at first sight. There are more layers of meaning than immediately meet the eye and their visitors need to discover the new city-layer once at a time, step by step. It will be a playground for adults, a place where they can play being children again. Actors on a stage.

INSTALLATION

The new city is hidden in the interaction between the cinder stone and the memory lane. The installation has more layer than immediately meet the eye.

My experience of the walks at the sea banks, as a kid with my parents, can be described as an endless walk. The sea bank never stops and neither did our walks. In my design I refer to the Fibonacci Spiral and make use of the memory lane as a walking path. In this manner the new city seems to be 'endless'.

The installation will cross the water, but will never reach the other side, 'Linkeroever'. In stead of that, it passes by a small harbor for pleasure boats and flows into a library/café. Reading and enjoying a coffee only a few meters above the waterfront. If the visitors could daydream about their nostalgic childhood and if this feeling overwhelms the industrial atmosphere of 'Waagnatie' for even a few minutes, I will consider my project as a success.



SCENES

The wall, built with these building blocks, thus becomes subtly integrated into the urban environment. It does not draw attention, but focuses on the surrounding context.

