

# FORM-WORKS

I was aiming to find a new expressive language that was true to the nature of concrete as a material. That engaged with the transient state of concrete during its curing process and manipulate it in the form work. Making the form work throughout the curing phase in order to release a new beauty.

The approach to the material was informed by my view of how concrete was seen in contemporary society, where many individuals' attraction to concrete is fundamentally rooted in the love of the aesthetic quality of concrete. This often times was part of the driving force for the current brutalism concrete revival being seen on platforms such as Instagram and Pinterest. I decided to focus my research in the creation on decorative modular units.

Trying to find a new form of expression of concrete. I was interested in the change form as it would set. Hoping that the imperfections that would occur in the concrete's appearance would create a new type of decoration.

The idea of balloons that could be inflated and deflated in a controlled manner and hopefully through that create an expressive form that I desired. By inserting different inflated forms and releasing them at different stages in the curing process I was able to come up with quite interesting effects. By suddenly exploding inflated objects early in the curing process it left a rippled effect that was quite pleasing. Another variation was by trying to keep inflated objects submerged throughout the whole curing process and removing them once the concrete had fully cured revealing very smooth cave like structures.



## Application:

Throughout this while process I was approaching the concrete's application always as a decorative element. This is why I was trying to find this true expressive form. But upon further research there could be very practical applications for these concrete tiles.

One application of the tiles could possibly be for an acoustic tile. Due to the deformities in the surface this could be used to improve the acoustic quality of a space. I think this is quite an interesting application as most people instantly assume that concrete is a bad material for acoustic as its traditional hard smooth surface bounces noise around the room. So through the performance of these tiles it is a total inversion of people's perception of the material.

Another possible application of these prototypes could be in ceiling construction. Formed something like a waffle slab. This would create an interesting roof future. It also could be a more sustainable use of concrete as the voids mean that less material would be used in the creation of the surface.

