The Human Senses: 
Designing Beyond Intuition
Freeway Park in Seattle, Washington

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Thesis
NDSU
Landscape Architecture 572
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How do you experience your landscape?

Do you listen to your soundscapes?

Do you smell your smellscapes?

Can you smell the Henderson’s Relish factory?
Sheffield Smellwalk route plan
Problem Statement - There is a lack of understanding on the extent of which you can utilize sensory design elements. Landscape architecture has been dominated mainly by the visual medium. If we dive deeper into the science of the senses and their processes, we are opened up to the different dimensions of the senses and to new design strategies that can engage humans into the built environment. Utilizing smell, sound, and touch can create and form spatial perception just as effectively, if not, more intensely than the sense of vision.

Philosophy - My philosophy is important in my design as it acts to unify elements within the concept. Eastern philosophies have held an influence on many of my designs. Bringing people into an awareness of their space is what I can offer for others to help bring them back to themselves and into the realization of the space you are in.
About Freeway Park
Freeway Park’s Current State

Textures and Materials

Halprin’s Design Philosophy
Central Plaza’s Engaging Sensory Experience
Halprin’s Original Design
Masterplan Overview
Sensory Design | Vision

Hubbell Place

6th Avenue

Seneca Street

I-5
Fractals are consistent with the research that explores the use of window views of natural environments for health benefits.
Sensory Design | Vision

Chaotic pendulum used to create fractal and non-fractal poured painting patterns by Richard Taylor
Sensory Design | Vision

Dragon Curve
Sensory Design | Vision
Sensory Design | Vision
Sensory Design | Vision
Detail of gate and paver

Sensory Design | Vision
Playing off of nearby Westlake Shopping Center's outdoor pavers
Sensory Design | Vision

12"x9" wave pattern permeable pavers
1" Bedding Sand
4-6" Compact Aggregate
Compact soil subgrade
Sand filled joints

Concrete Permeable Paver
Loud edges gives a perceived quiet center at Central Plaza

Center of Plaza

Park Place Daycare

Sensory Design | Sound
Center of plaza could be the best resting space for pedestrians and an optimal space for engaging users with sound.

Creating a transition space geared towards the daycare center can create more social interactions between users and children by incorporating children into a public space.
Dwarf Miscanthus mimics the sound and look of a wave ripple.

Plantings should be spaced 2' apart.

12”-72” of soil depending on planting of area. Root depth grows up to 15”.

Fertilizer and irrigation system

Light Weight Soil Mixture

1/3 Peat

2/3 Fine Sand

Sensory Design | Sound
Sensory Design | Movement/Touch
Sensory Design | Movement
Sensory Design | Movement/Touch
Sensory Design | Movement

- Interlocking Joints
- 3" elevation difference
- 8'
Sensory Design | Smell

A. High speed traffic from I-5 on ramp

B. Low height of planters
   - Wide open entrance from sidewalk

C. 15' difference over 60'

D. Void of sense of smell

Views

Prevailing winds on site

Optimal space to address smell
Sensory Design | Smell

Time to musk up.

Now in a convenient 2 gallon bottle.


http://www.timetomuskup.com/
Sensory Design | Smell
Sensory Design | Smell
Weep hole for drainage

3/8" Nut

Spacer

2"x14mm Bolt

Spacer

3/8" acrylic

Spacer

Nut

Downspout built into the center column of the kiosk and trenches to the existing infrastructure.

Design Inspiration


Sensory Design | Smell
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Sensory Design
Sensory Design
Sensory Design