REFRACTIVE ARCHITECTURE:

A PARADIGM SHIFT IN EDUCATIONAL DESIGN

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA - ALTERNATIVE SECONDARY EDUCATION

MATTHEW PLASENCIA

A PLACE OF NO PLACE, VOID OF CONNECTION OR MEANING. WE ARE MOVING EVER MORE RAPIDLY INTO A UTOPIAN SOCIETY. A SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTONS, OPERATING AS MACHINES. ASPECTS OF OUR WORLD TODAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED AND CATEGORIZED TO A POINT THEY BECOME VOID OF ALL MEANING. THIS ABSTRATION IS ROOTED IN INFORMATION GOING AS FAR BACK AS THE 15TH CENTURY. WHERE THE KNOWLEDGE COULD BE THOUGHT ABOUT AND NOT PRACTICED. WHERE EDUCATION WAS REMOVED AS AN EXPERIENCE AND TRANSITIONED INTO A REDUCTIVE REPRESENTATION.

1 - OUTDOOR PATIOS
2 - CLASSROOM
3 - LIBRARY
4 - ADMINISTRATIVE

THIRD FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"-1'

1 - CLASSROMS
2 - CAFE
3 - OPEN STUDIOS
4 -OPEN ATRIUM

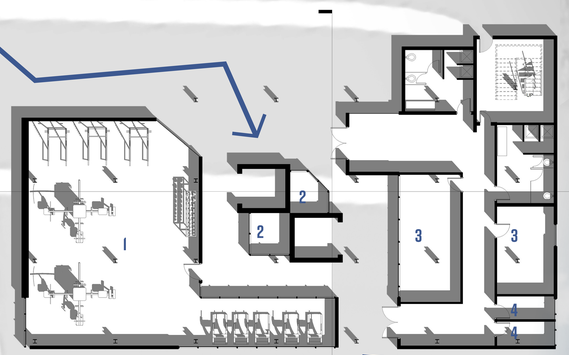
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"-1'

NORTH SECTION
SCALE: 1/4"-1'

EAST SECTION
SCALE: 1/4"-1'

ENTRY

1 - MOVEMENT AREA
2 - ENTRY OFFICES
3 - MEDITATIVE STUDIOS
4 - INDIVIDUAL MEDITATION STUDIOS

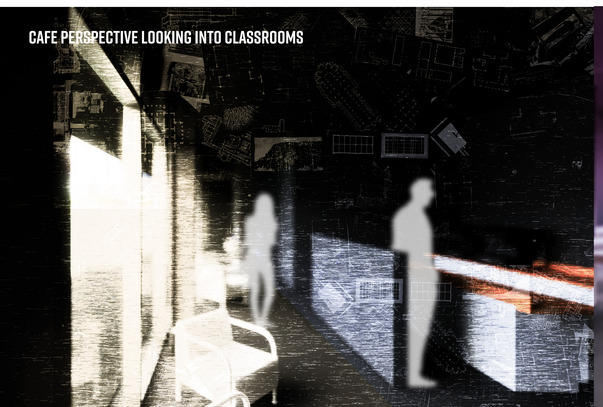


FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"-1'

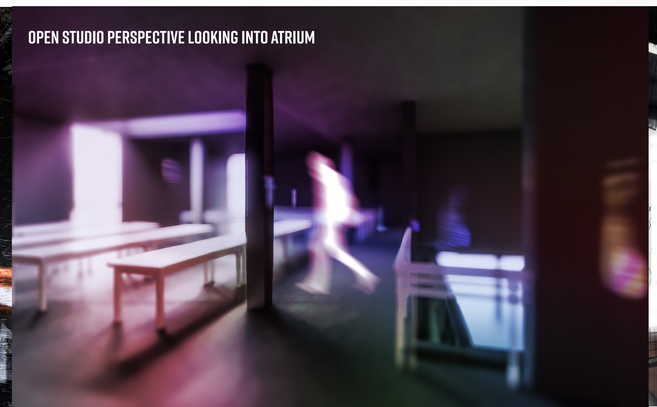
ENTRY

THROUGH A PRISMATIC APPROACH TO ARCHITECTURE, A CLASSROOM IS NO LONGER VOID OF CONNECTION OR CONTEXT TO OTHERS. THE FOUNDATION OF THIS REIMAGINED EDUCATION LIES WITH THE INDIVIDUAL. WHERE THE FOUNDATION OF 'BEING' IS BUILT FIRST. THEN BROUGHT FORWARD INTO ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF LIFE. ALLOWING FOR A MORE WHOLISTIC APPROACH TO LIFE. BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY ALLOWING THE MAXIMIZATION OF THE INDVIDUAL THROUGH ARCHITECTURE, IN A WORLD THAT CURRENTLY CELEBRATES MEDIOCRITY.

SUBJECTS ARE TAUGHT WITHOUT RELATION OR CONTEXT TO EACH OTHER OR THE GREATER WORLD AROUND THEM. BUT WE KNOW THAT IN THIS WORLD, NOTHING EXISTS WITHOUT THE INFLUENCE AND CONNECTION TO EVERYTHING ELSE AROUND IT.

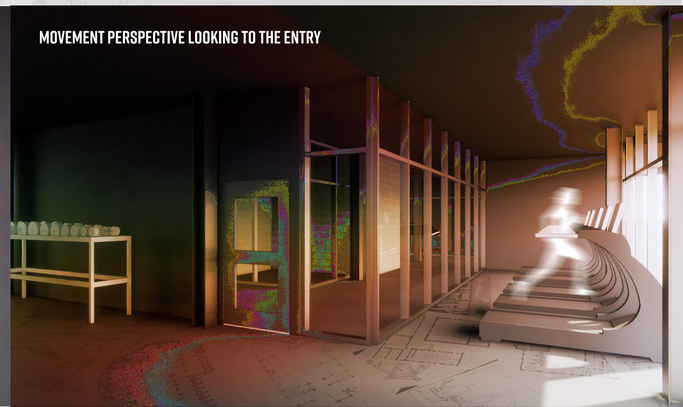


CAFE PERSPECTIVE LOOKING INTO CLASSROOMS



OPEN STUDIO PERSPECTIVE LOOKING INTO ATRIUM

CLASSROOM PERSPECTIVE LOOKING THROUGH



MOVEMENT PERSPECTIVE LOOKING TO THE ENTRY