

ATEM

[a : tem] noun (German)
1. Breath; the act of inhaling and exhaling air — essential to life, rhythm and presence
2. In architectural context, Atem symbolises a space that breathes with its users — responding to motion, enabling exchange and connecting bodies, cultures and environments through spatial rhythm

ATEM is a community hub envisioned as a breathing **spatial organism**, that responds to motion, fosters exchange and creates new **pathways** for cultural interaction. Located at the threshold between the urban fabric of Duisburg-Marxloh, Germany and its adjacent public park, the project emerges as both a civic anchor and a connective corridor. In a district home to over 92 nationalities, **culturally fragmented** and **socially isolated**, ATEM becomes an **infrastructural heart**: a space that facilitates encounter and access.

The space draws its logic from the physiology of the human heart. Pedestrians descend through a sloped portal, a gesture of **inhalation**, while cyclists flow above through an elevated path that enters from the city and exits toward the park, echoing the movement of **arteries and veins**. These two circulatory speeds define the experience: fast, linear motion pulses through the structure, while slower, social movement unfolds around a central courtyard, a market hall and workshops.

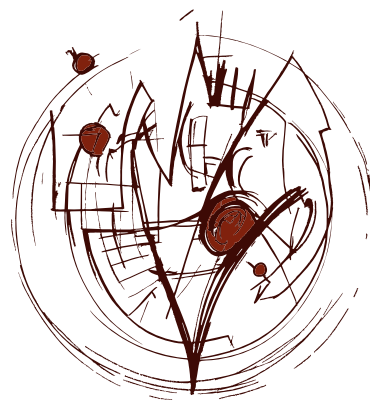
Motion binds the programs, a continuous rhythm where production, exchange and gathering are sequenced. The courtyard, only accessible from within, becomes a collective pause in this flow, a space for shared rest and informal connection.

ATEM proposes a form of communication that **transcends language**, grounded in movement, making and presence. It reimagines public space as a living, responsive framework for belonging.



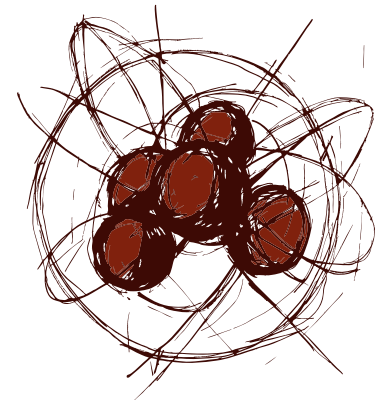
Pulse Carriers

People are the moving force, flowing like blood through space



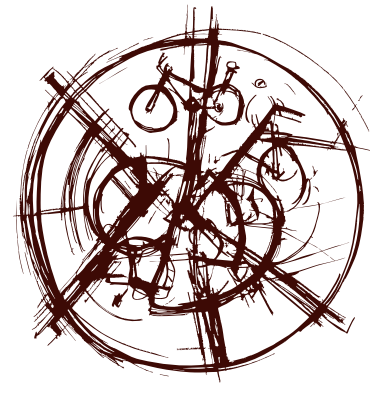
Tacit Communication

Language is movement, people connect by doing, not speaking



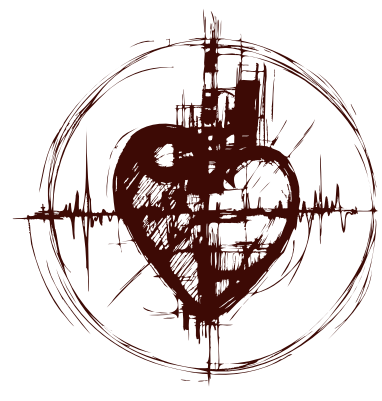
Pulmonary Loops

Slower, social circulation, pedestrians loop through the interior to dwell and connect



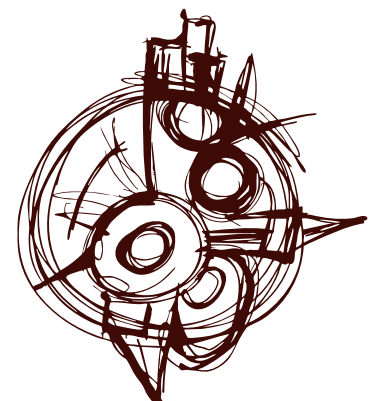
Arterial Flow

Fast movement: cyclists enter and exit, connecting city + park



Synced Rhythms

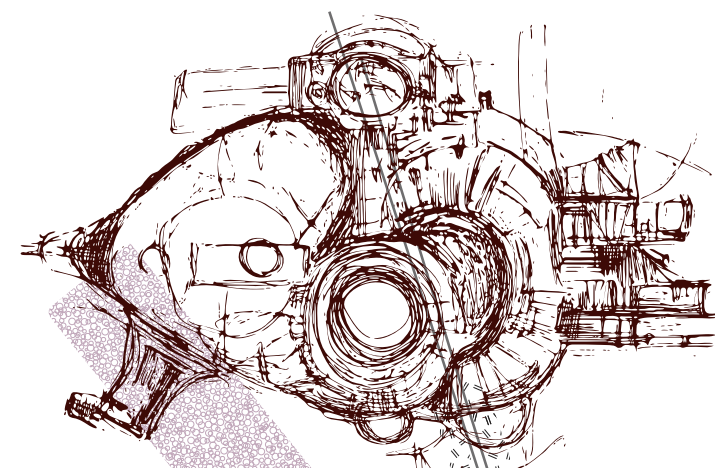
People's different speeds pulse together into one system



Adaptive Muscle

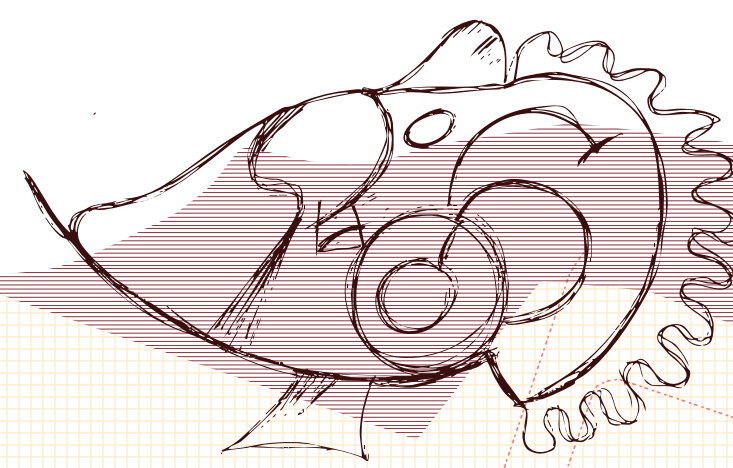
Space flexes with reconfigurable tables, seating modules and stalls

Plan Evolution



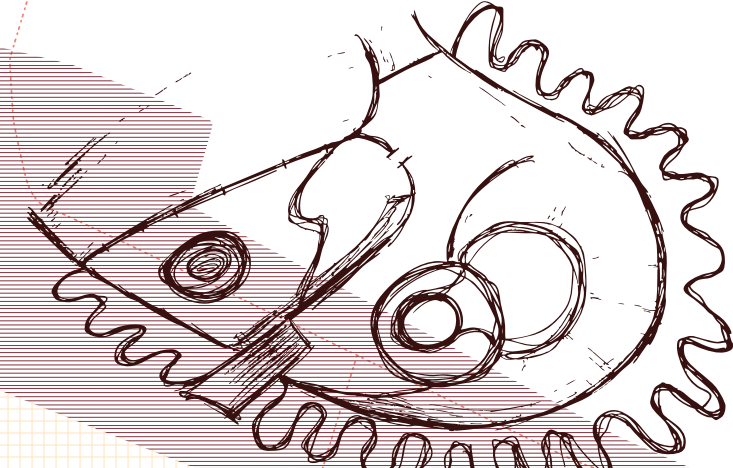
Phase 1

The process begins with the anatomical heart, not as a form, but as a diagram of chambers, flows, and directional motion, a spatial logic that drives circulation



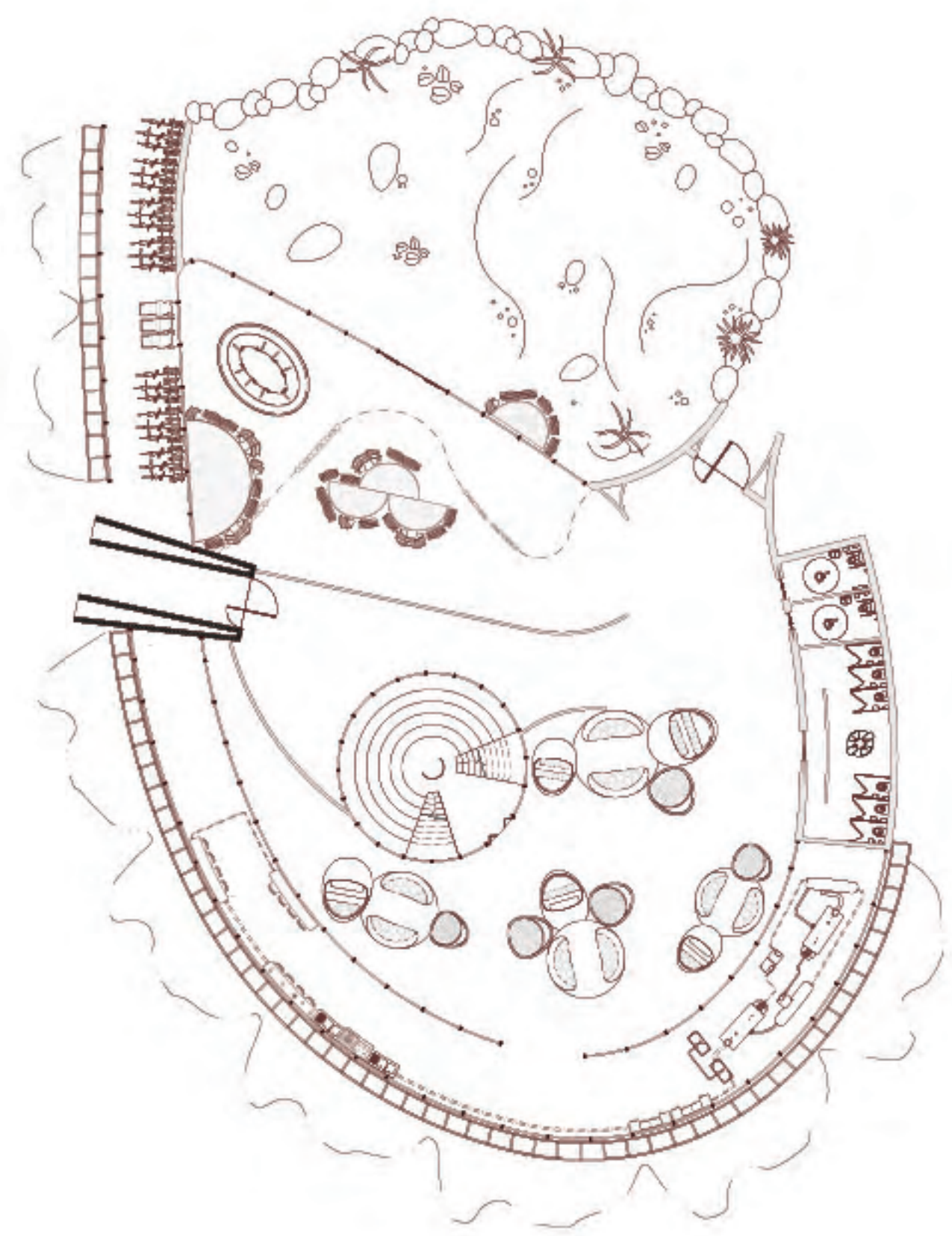
Phase 2

The heart's asymmetry and dynamic interior are abstracted into a continuous yet irregular form. Gears and loops emerge, capturing circulatory complexity and suggesting zones of pause, redirection and compression, not as fixed boundaries, but as rhythmic sequences



Phase 3

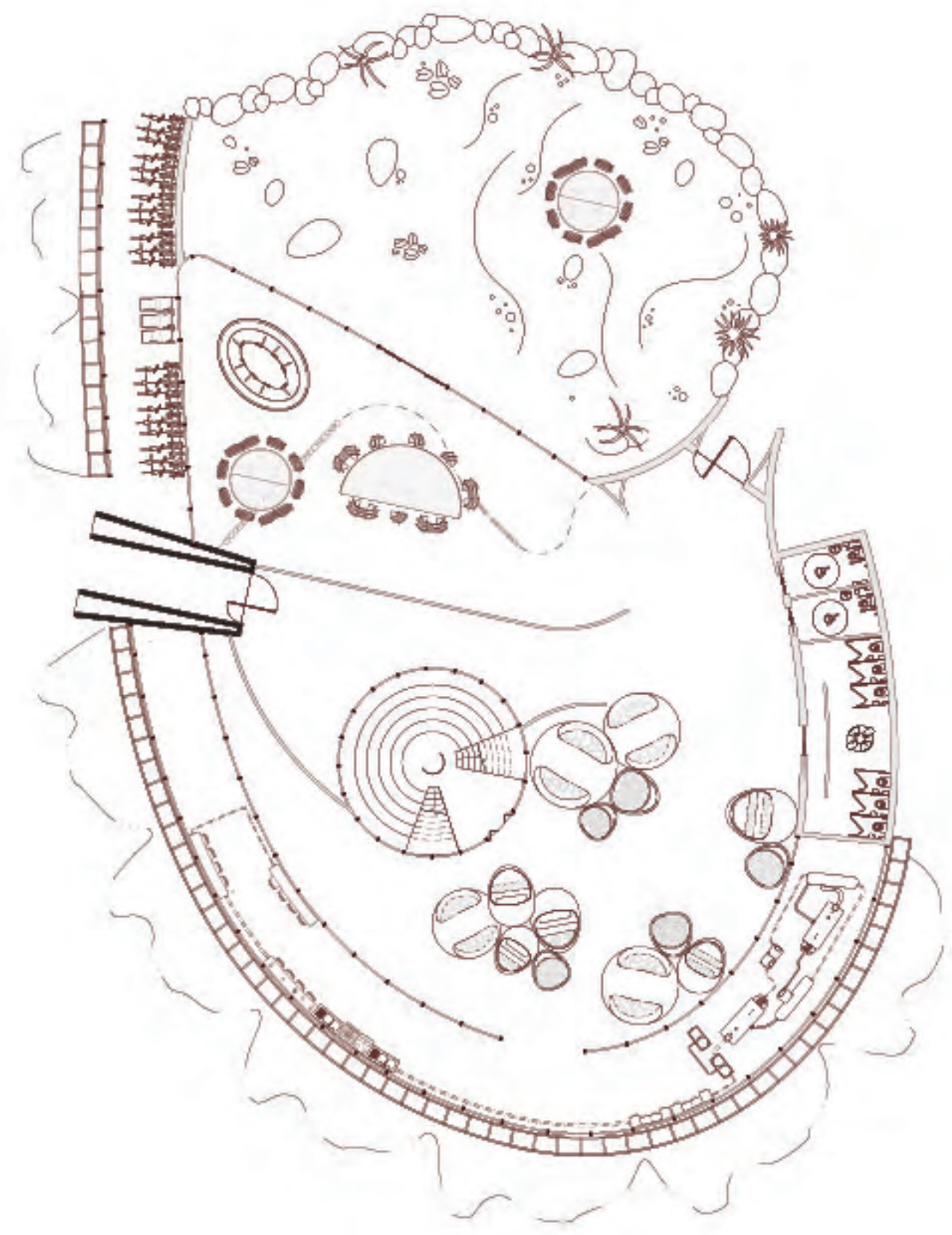
The diagram becomes space: layers open up to suggest interior cavities and external envelopes. The emerging form behaves like a vessel, anchored, porous and in motion, where enclosure and exposure respond to movement, much like valves and membranes within the heart



Building Scenario 1



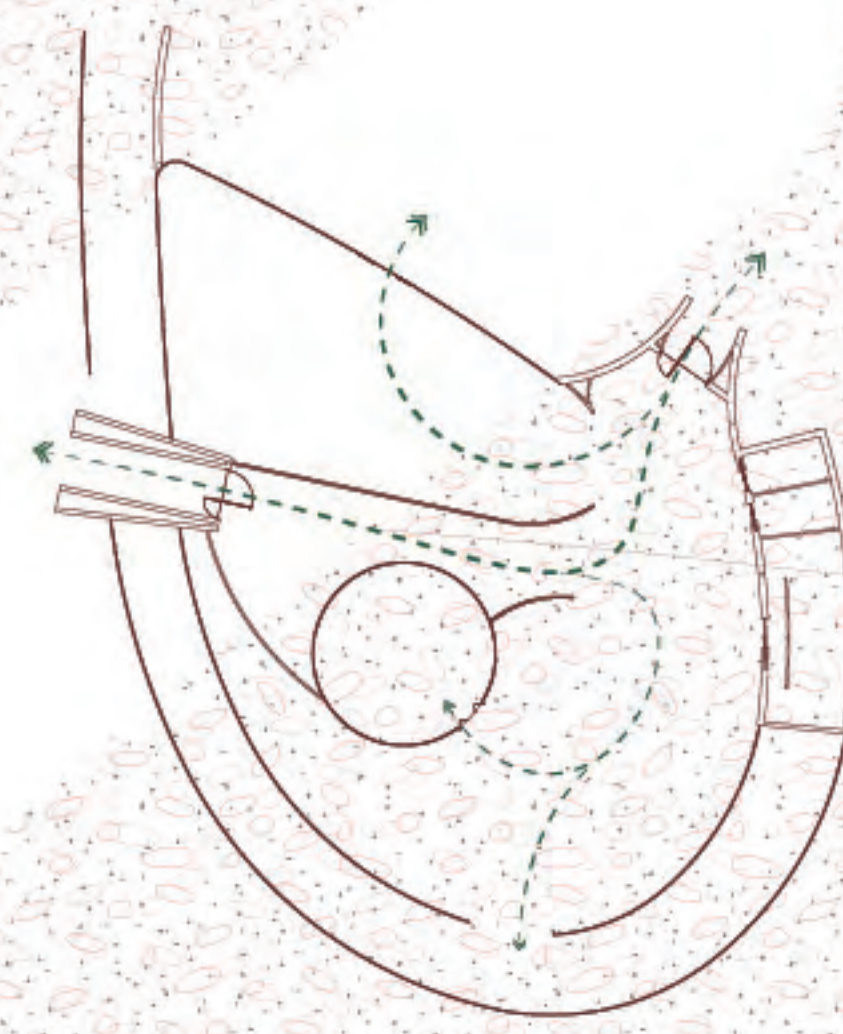
Building Scenario 2



Building Scenario 3

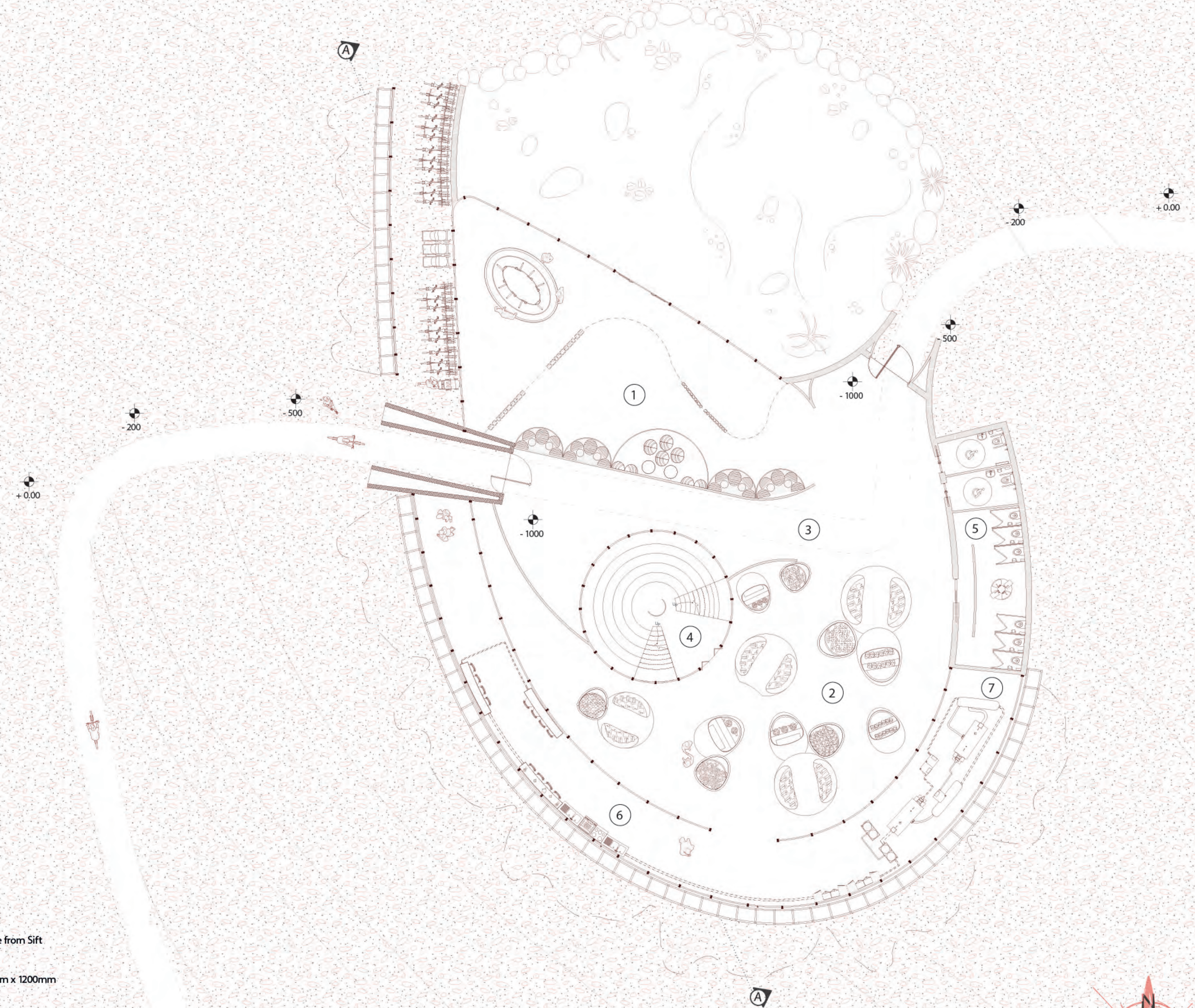
Spatial Flexibility

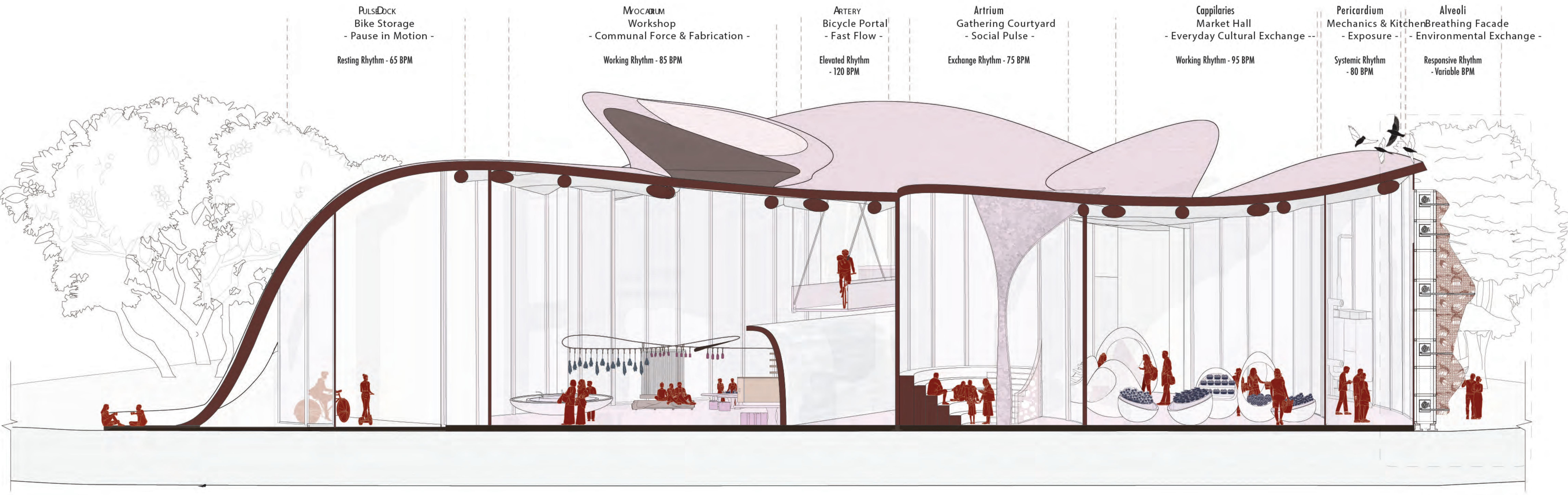
Inside this home of motion, the interior reshuffles itself like a heartbeat, pivoting glass, gliding stalls, and mobile workstations allow the space to breathe, adapt and make room for whatever the day demands.



The plan layout places openings on the east side, facing the urban road and the west side, opening to the public park, enabling cross ventilation and enhancing the building's connection to both its social context and environmental conditions

- ① WORKSHOP AREA
Floor cover: Microcement
- ② MARKET HALL AREA
Floor cover: Microcement
- ③ FOYER
Floor cover: Microcement
- ④ GATHERING AREA
Floor cover: Polished Concrete with Aggregate from Sift
- ⑤ RESTROOMS
Floor cover: Cotton Terrazzo Seed Tiles, 1200mm x 1200mm
- ⑥ WET AND KITCHEN AREA
Floor cover: Microcement
- ⑦ MECHANICAL AREA
Floor cover: Microcement

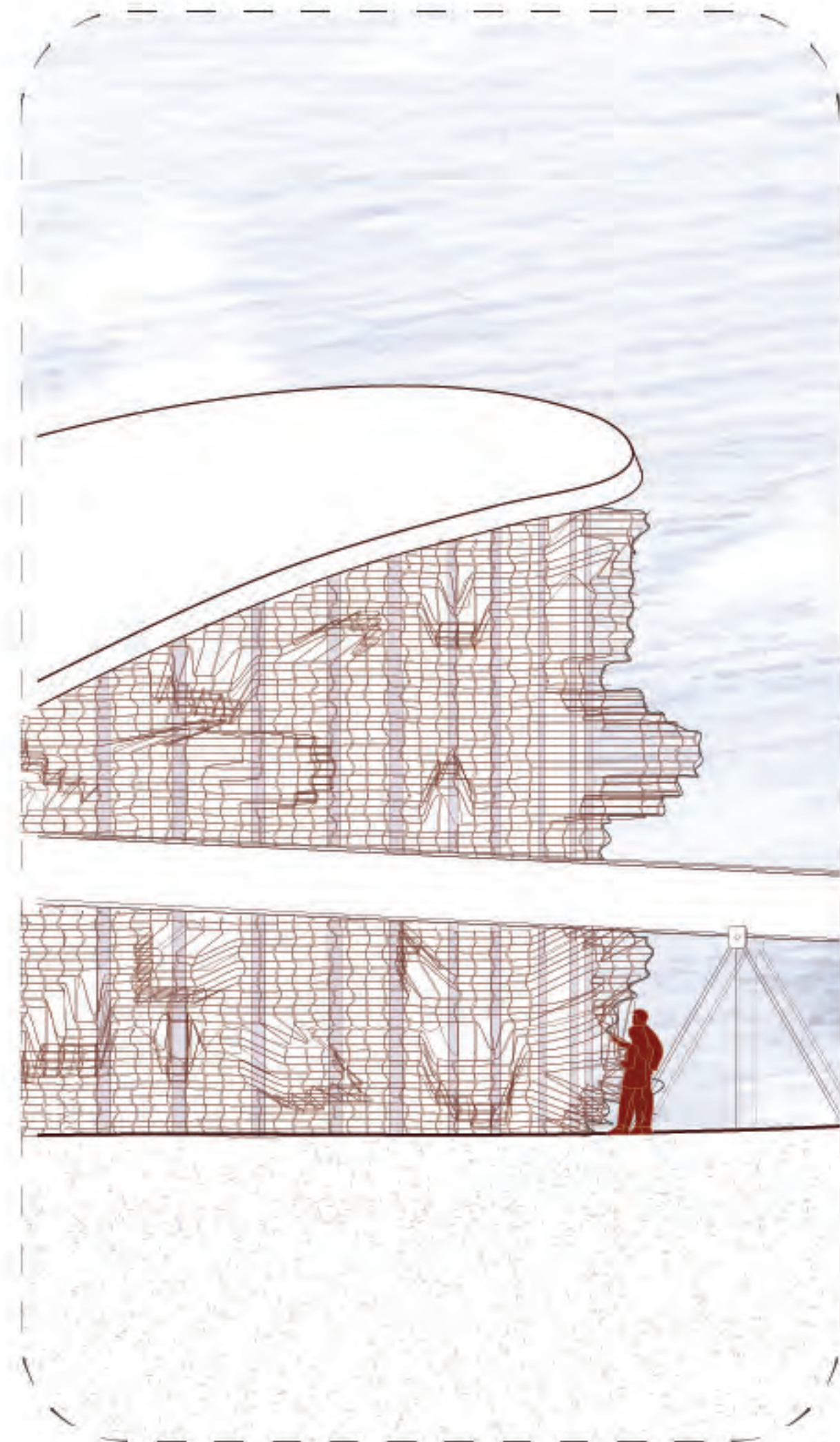




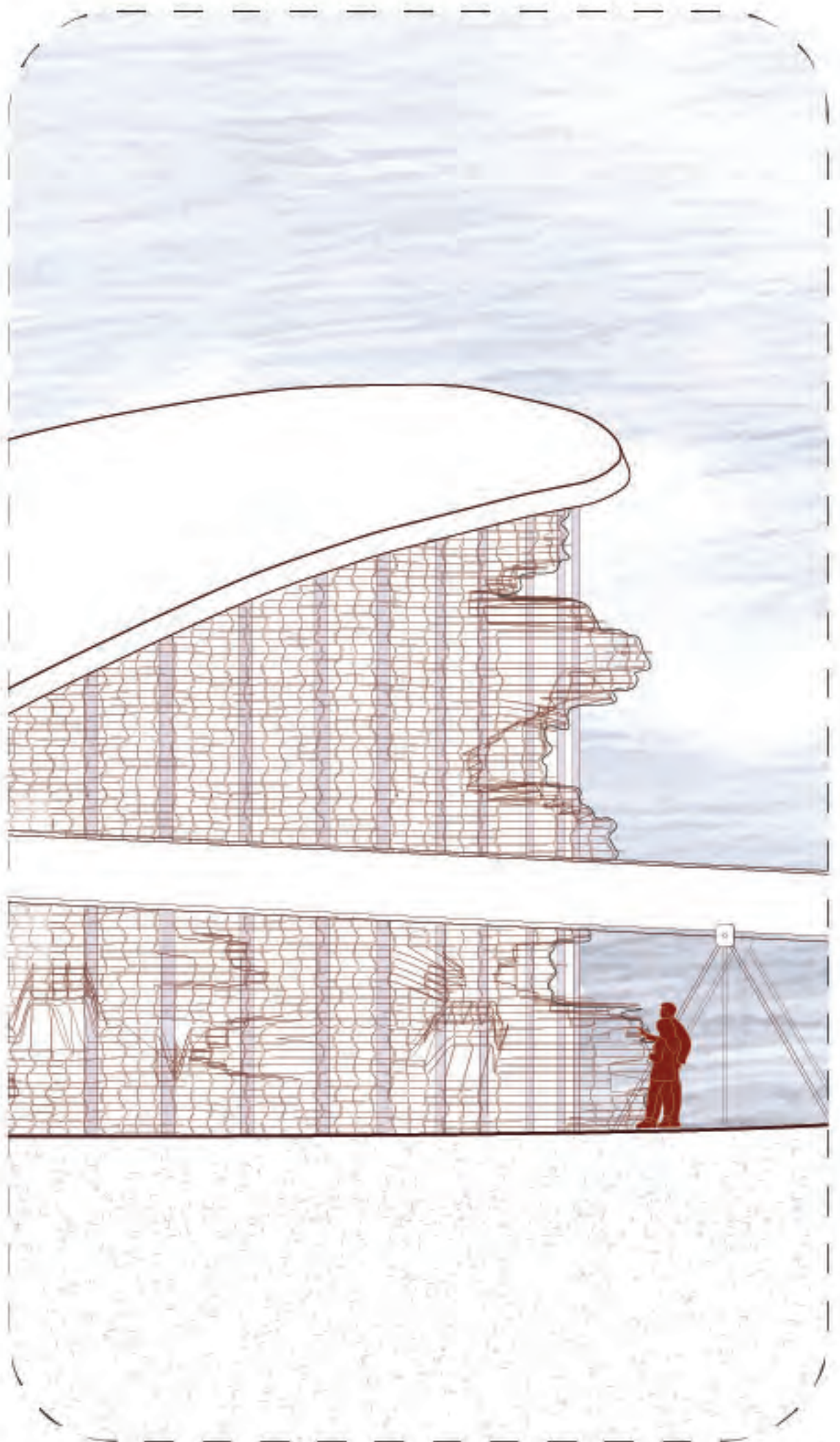
Sectional Narrative Perspective A-A | Scale 1:100



Exterior View of Kinetic Facade with Roof Connected To The floor



Scenario A



Scenario B

Kinetic Facade Scenarios | Scale 1:100

