

The Alchemy of Knowledge through Fairytales

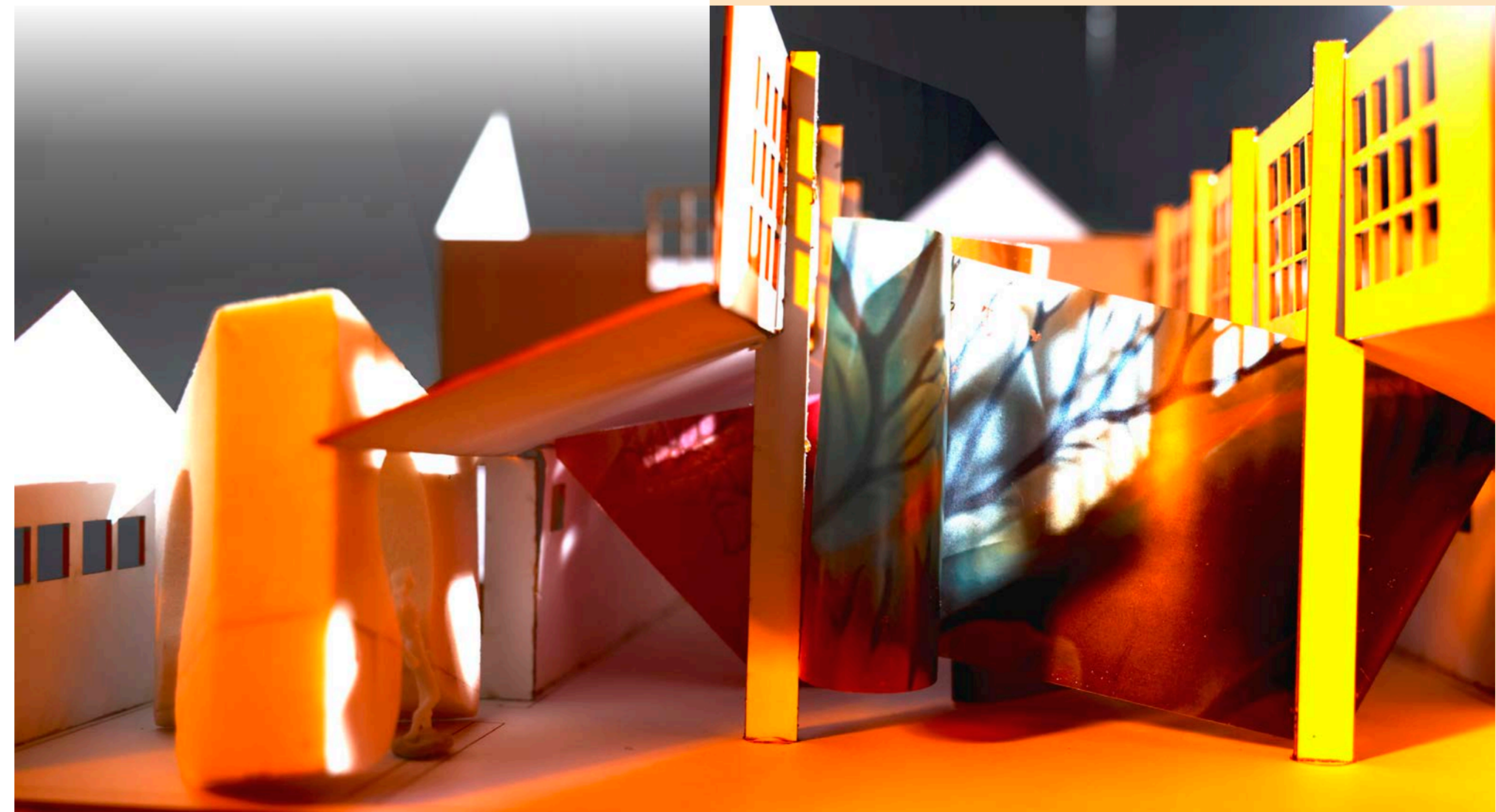
Find a function of the library in 2033 using the imagination in order to maintain the access to analogue books (a hope for the future) whilst developing a culturally democratic place that is relevant to the occupants of the local community.

Starting from the two clients, the librarian and the alchemist, already the space is starting to build its shape and make its presence felt. From the idea that many people has about the alchemy, which is magic, fantastic and connection with the four elements of the nature and the feeling and the importance of the library, the intention starting to form.

Promoting the *fairytaleness* of the space through the *unknown* and the *uncanny*, but in the same time keeping the *essence of the library* alive, building together for the community, accepting and including everyone.

Reading and staying in nature, its always quality time spent.

Library is a safe space, a welcoming space where everyone should feel good, relaxed and fulfilled. Adding a bit of story, adventure and mystery, can colour its soul... **a getaway to the imagination world through books and fairytales.**



Învată de la apă să ai statornic drum,
Învată de la flăcări, că toate-s numai sturm.
Învată de la umbră să stai și să veghezi,
Învată de la stâncă cum meclindă să crezi.
Învată de la soare cum trebuie să spui,
Învată de la piatră, cât trebuie să spui.
Învată de la vântul ce adie pe poteci,
Cum trebuie prin lume de liniștit să treci.
Învată de la toate, că toate-ți sunt surori,
Cum trebuie să treci frumos prin viață, cum poți frumos să mori.
Învată de la mormine să mîmmeți mu-i uitat,
Învată de la nufăr să fii mereu curat.
Învată de la flăcări ce avem de ars în noi,
Învată de la ape să nu dai în apă.
Învată de la umbră să fii smerit ca ea,
Învată de la stăncă să-mduri furtuna grea.
Învată de la soare ca vremea să-ți cunoști,
Învată de la stele, că-m tot sunt numai stele.
Învată de la gheț, când singur ești să cânti,
Învată de la lună să nu te îngrijimărești.
Învată de la vulturi când umeri și-o gîoi,
Și du-te la furnică să vezi sporărea ei.
Învată de la floare să fii gingaș, ca ea,
Învată de la paie să ai blîndetea sa.
Învată de la pășuni să fii mereu în orb,
Învată de la toate, că totu-i înecător.
În reamă fii al jîlfei prin lumea care treci,
În-metă din tot ce price, cum să înțelegi pe neci.

Învată de la toate
de Traian Botez



*If you want your children to be intelligent,
read them fairytales.*

Albert Einstein

Everything is evolving and time does not seem to have a break hurrying into a bigger, brighter and more technological future. But what if in all this rush we can keep some constants, keep in mind some things of the past? People were happier in real life than are now in the online world. Offline was always healthier, more energetic and revitalised. Going into future does not mean to change everything and forge the past, the nature and other people.

Spending time together live, spending time in nature and connecting with it it is natural, it is something that the new generations should learn. The experiential activities, the feelings that a person get while touching, smelling, hearing and visualising things around can not be given in the online world.

That is why my future library is based on a natural experience.

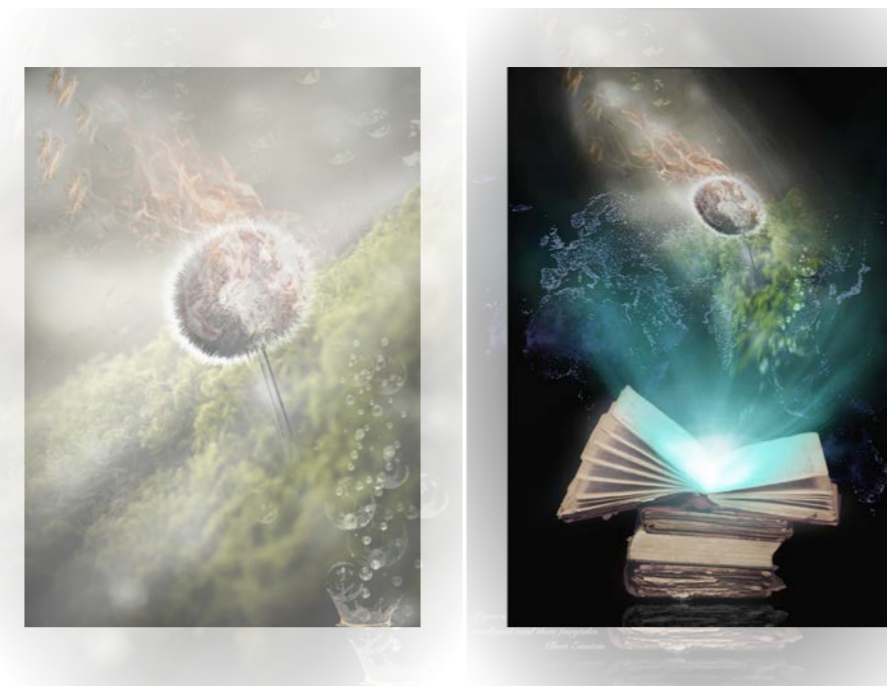
The space is taking people into a fairytale world, where everyone is accepted and integrated, Acceptance is important, as it is in a forest, where every plant and animal is accepted, creating a perfect unity, an unity based of diversity. Is getting harder and harder to experience the natural world of the nature, fact that makes the experience into the library 'foresty', dark and light, colours and rainbows, portals, quiet and natural sounds, and stories around the imaginary fire. In the end, everything goes back to the roots, future does not exist without past an present, and a successful design (in my opinion) is the design created by everything around us; there is an analogy between design/architecture and literature, art, feelings, nature and imagination. The only thing that makes it real consist in our acceptance and power to see it and a desire for exploration without being afraid of the unknown.

The first manifesto is based on the alchemist and on her **connection** with the **nature** and the four elements of it: fire, water, earth and air. These elements were always here, shaping the life around us. Celebrate nature, listen to it, emphasise with it and protect it.

Nature is and always will be a part of our homes, inner peace and a part of our souls through out our existence.

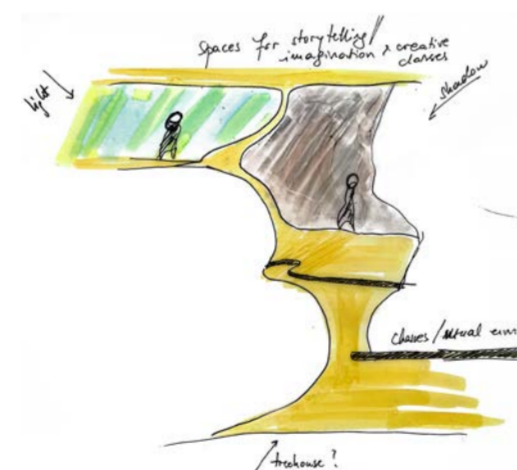
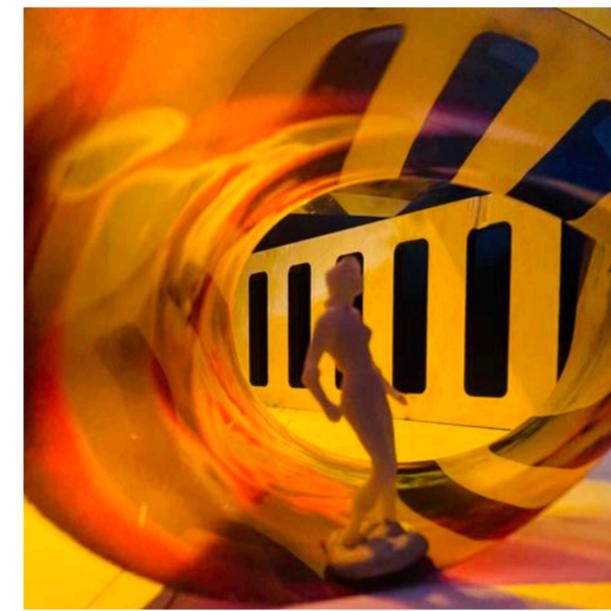
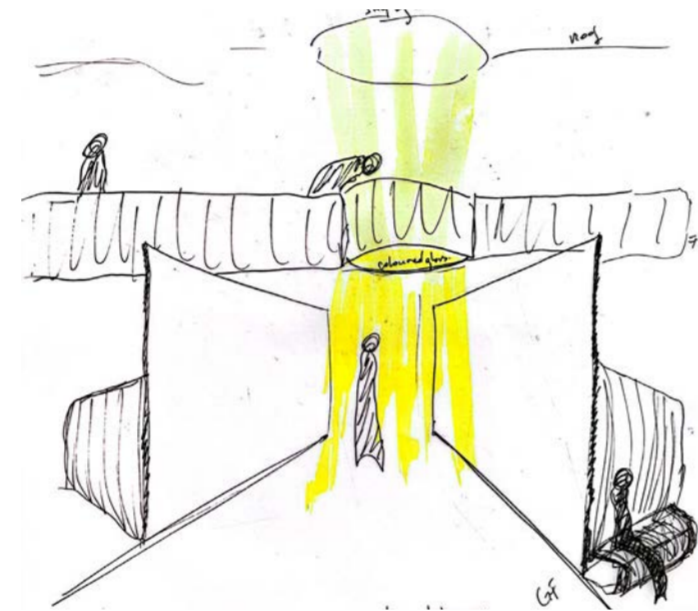
The second manifesto represents the **connection** between nature and the alchemist with the library and the **essence** of it. The **power** that can be achieved and the mystery surrounding it. Everything its matching and combines in better, the transformation, and the science, the **knowledge meets the belief**.

The **evolution** through learning that leaves our mind and soul free.



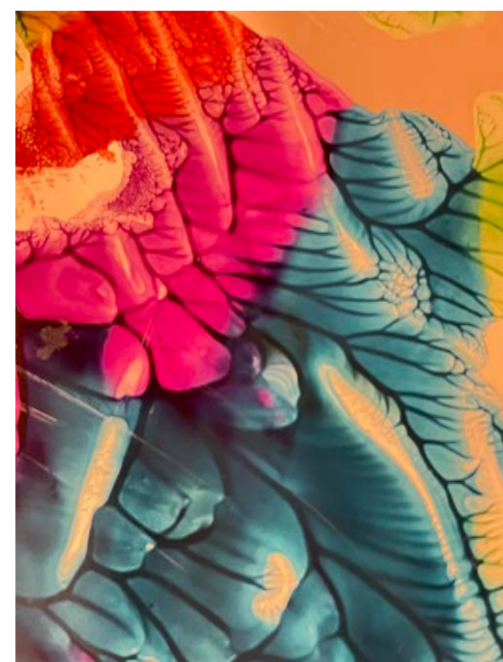
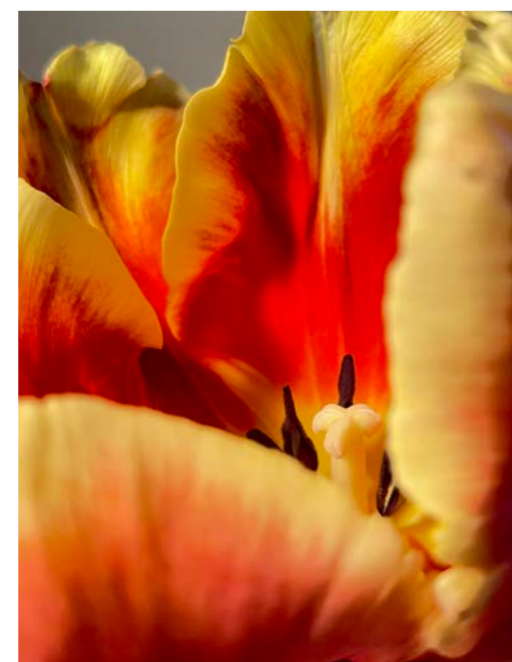
A mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

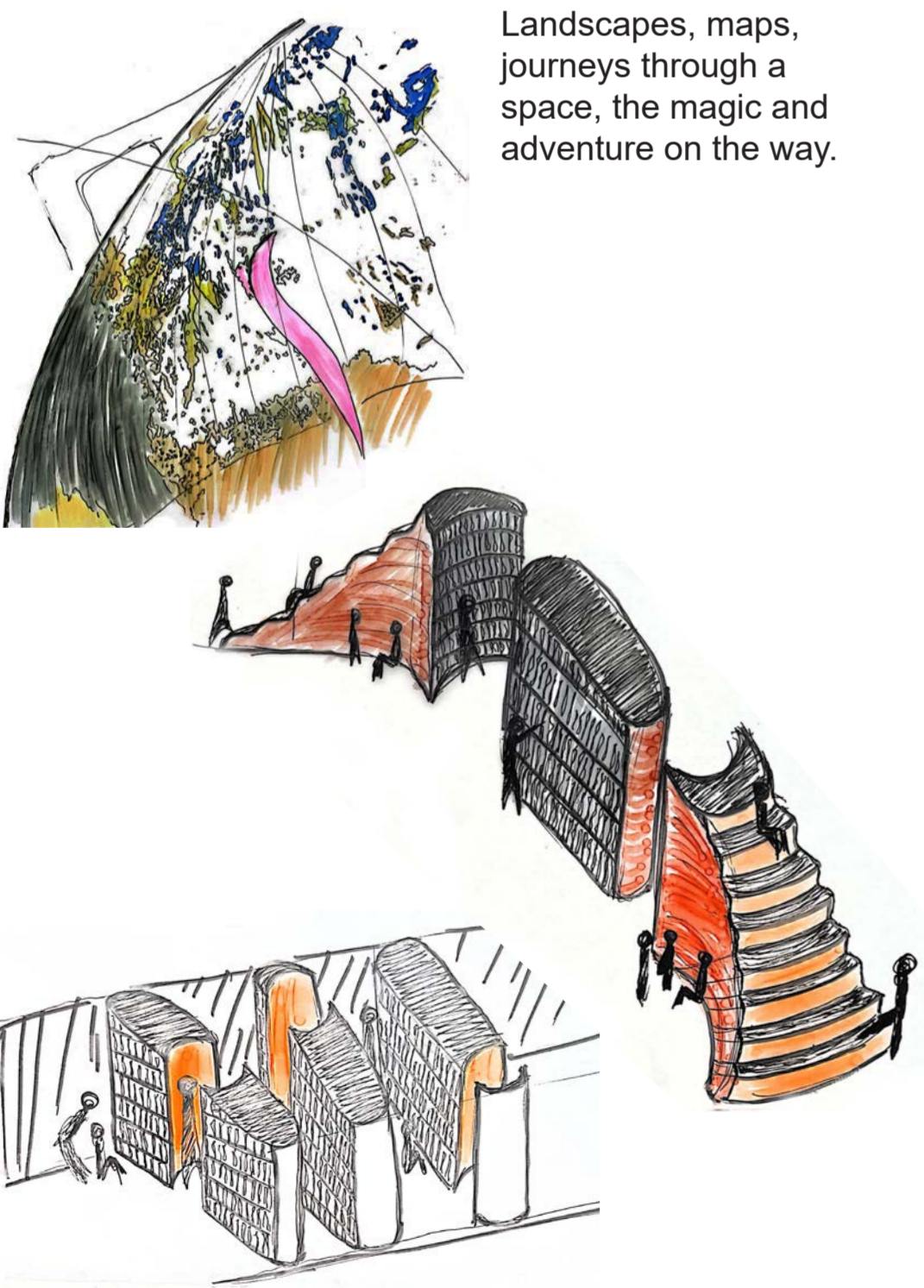
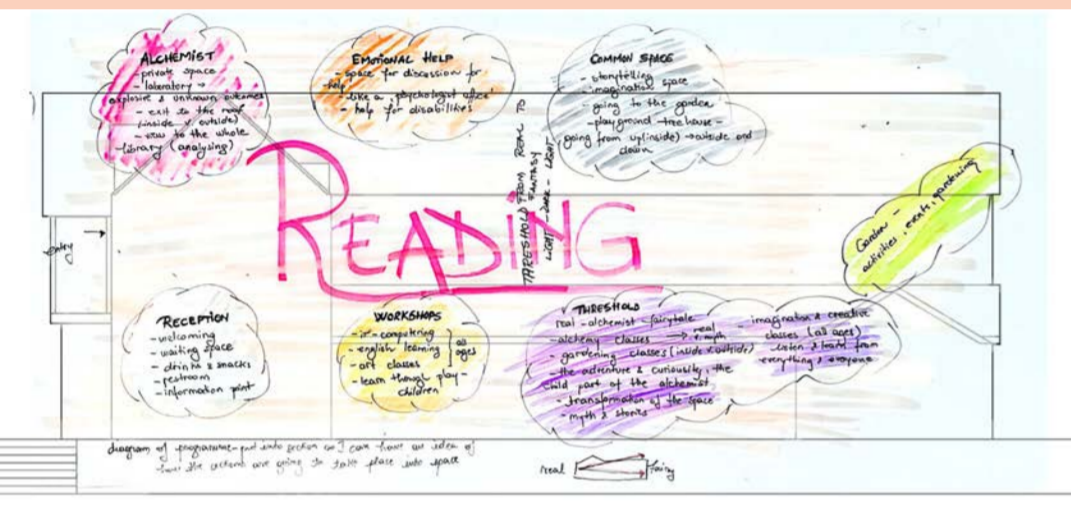
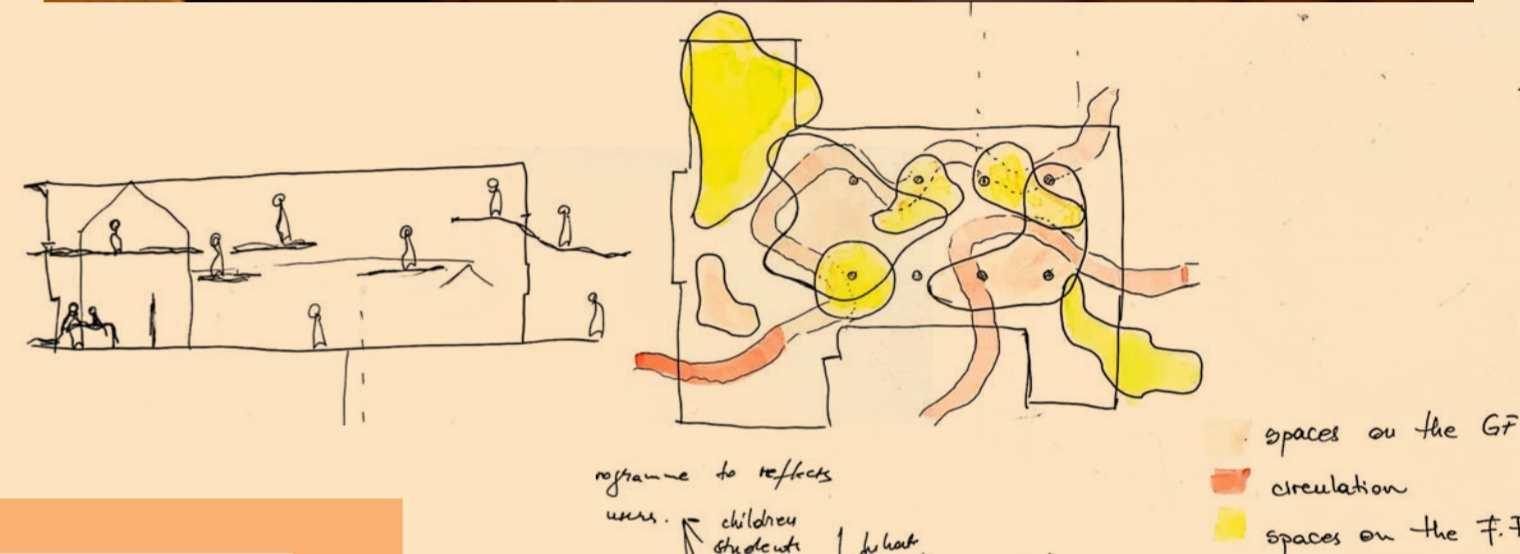
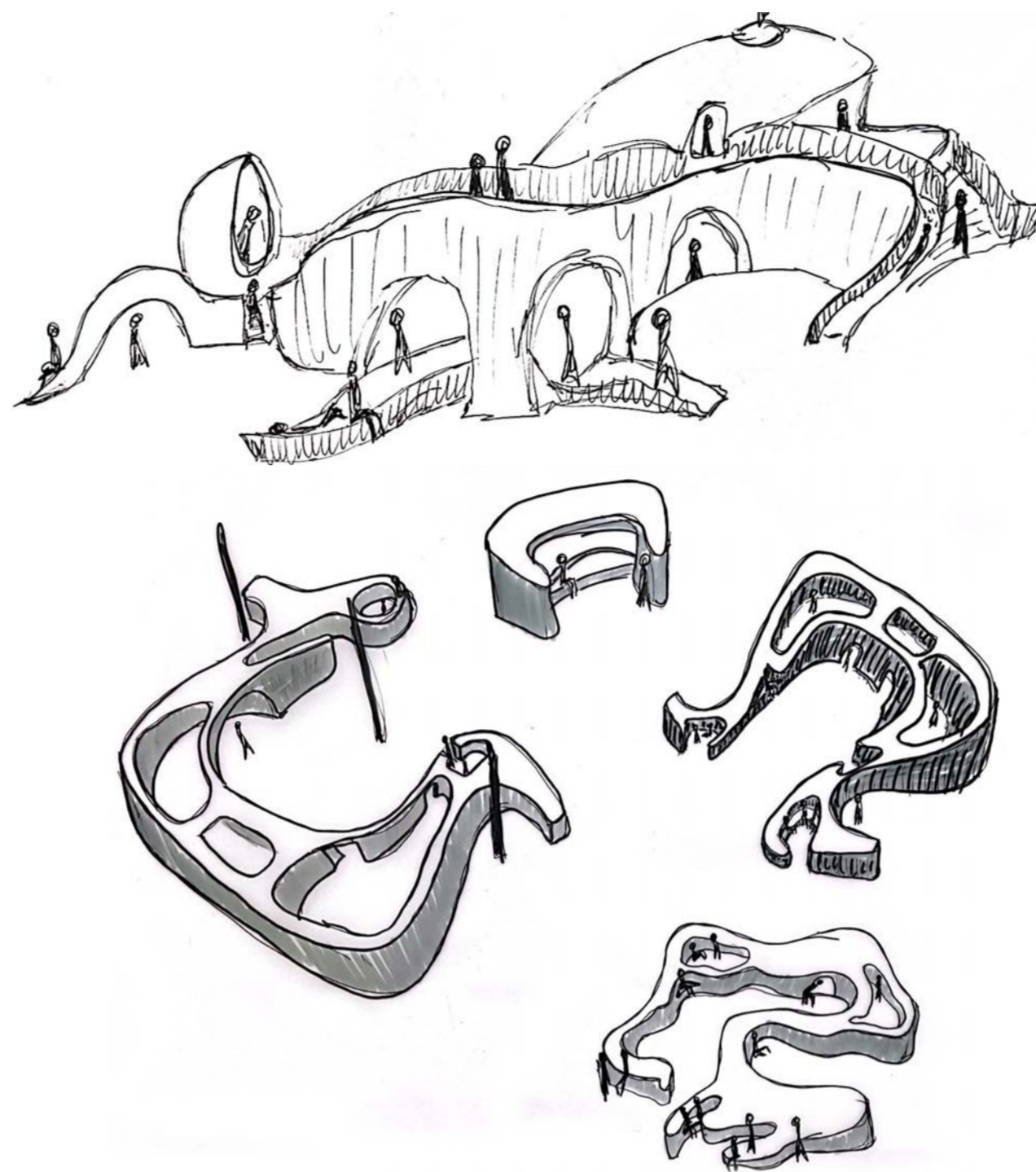


The **alchemist** is specialist in ethnobotany and bio-materials, transforms things for the better. She is curious, adventurous and fearless, full of energy and active. She love to create magic through playfulness, keeping her soul young; part child - part scientist. She is ambitious, she likes to digs into history but in nature too, and always applying her learnings and experimenting with the new. She is learning from everything, makes combinations and uses her imagination, dreaming with her eyes open.

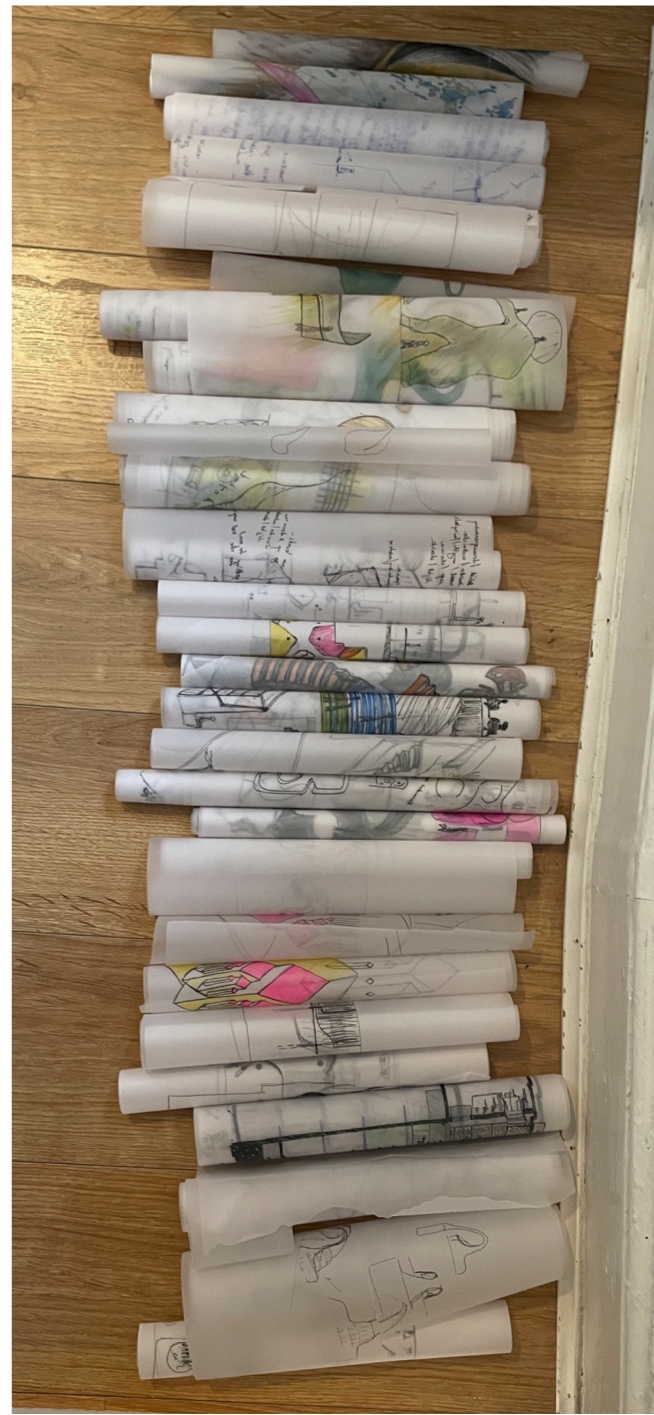
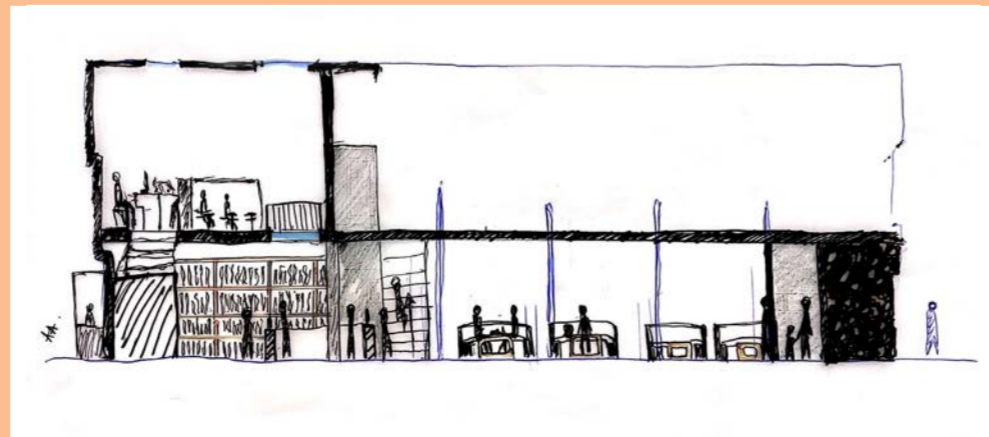
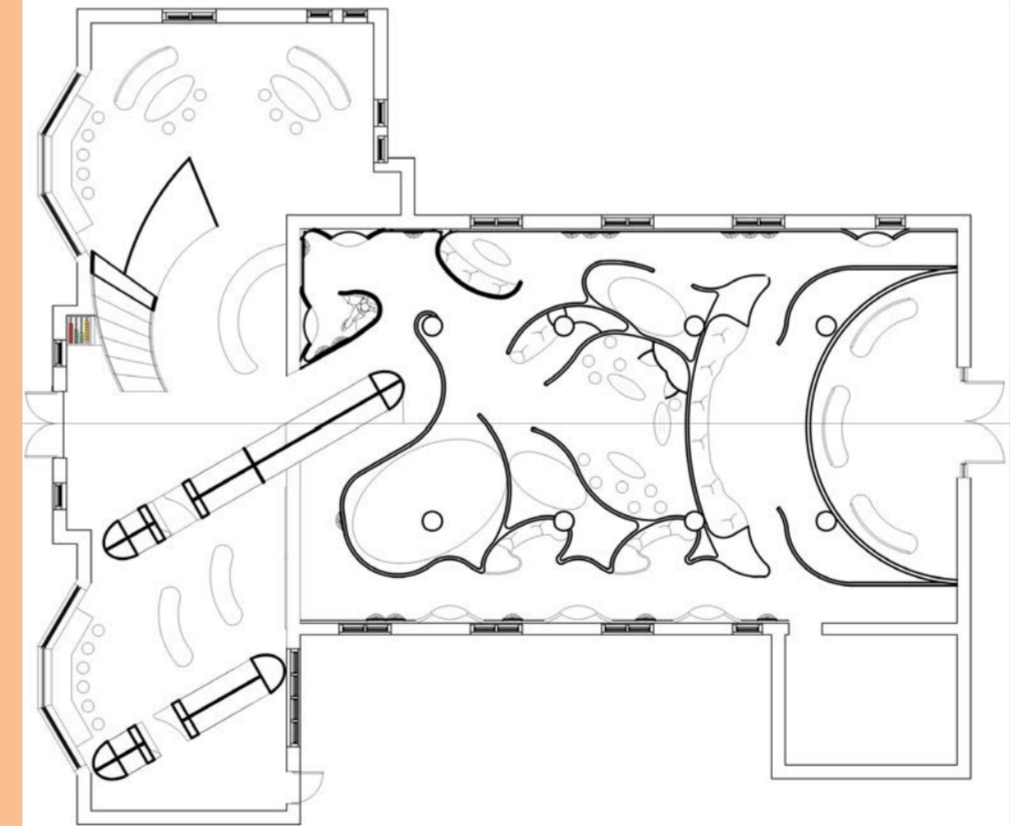
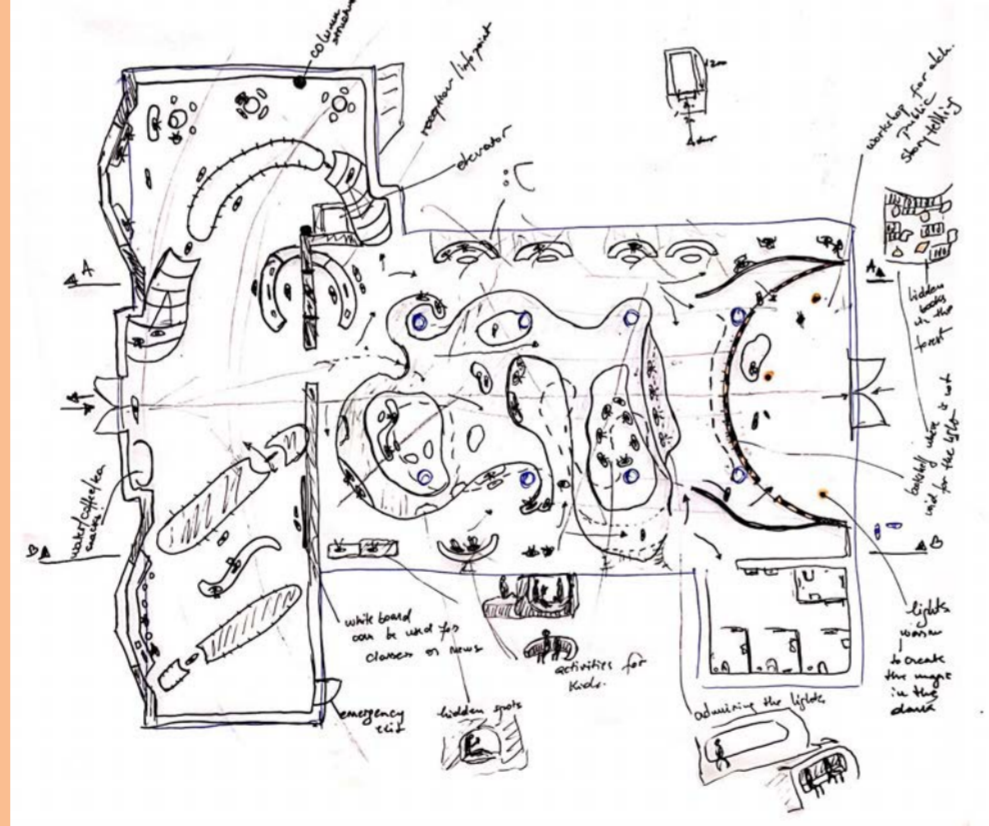
... emotion, connection between humans and nature, layers of history and understanding of time ...



For year and years, libraries were the place where people would go while feeling uncertain, in danger, hungry for knowledge, alone, seeking for shelter, warm, relationships, eager to communicate or just to be. Libraries are important spaces that shape ourselves throughout the years and growth. A library is the core of kindness, knowledge, imagination and community.



Landscapes, maps, journeys through a space, the magic and adventure on the way.

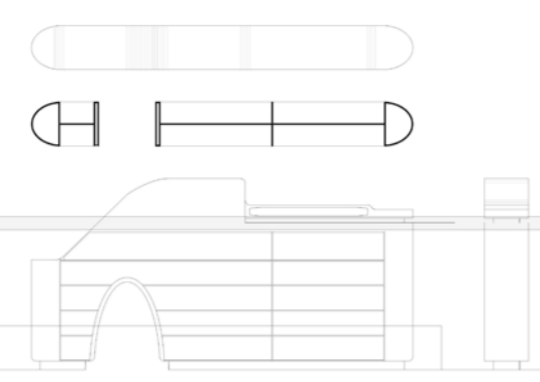


All my sketches done on tracing paper were rolled and created a sketch archive in a role.



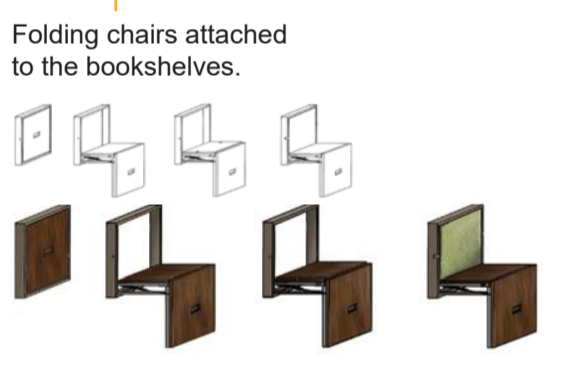


Circular stairs with a tunnel for passing and bookshelves underneath.

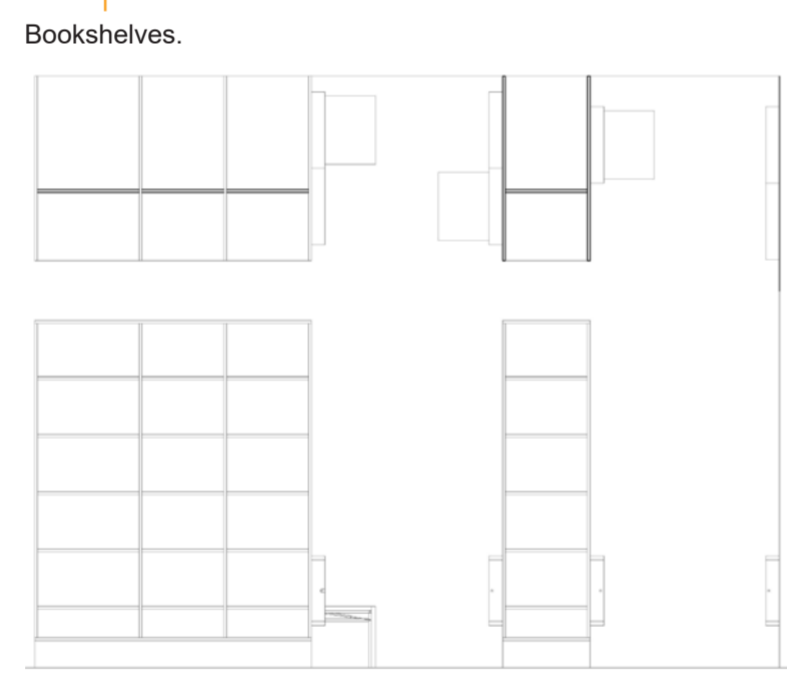


The bookshelves is emerging through the ceiling on the first floor becoming seating.

A mixture between in and out, both parts offering bookshelves and seating, meanwhile has the secret door.

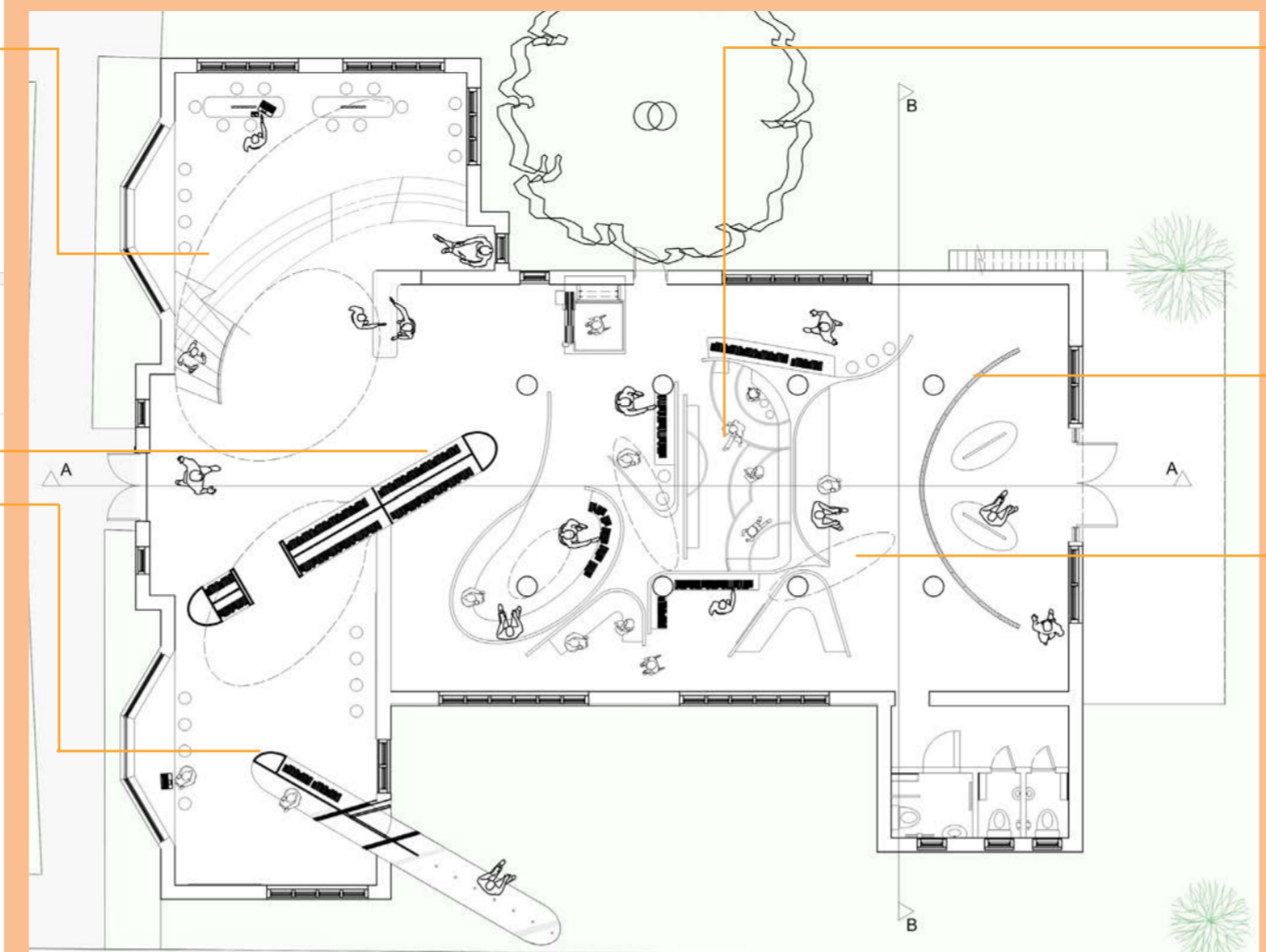


Folding chairs attached to the bookshelves.

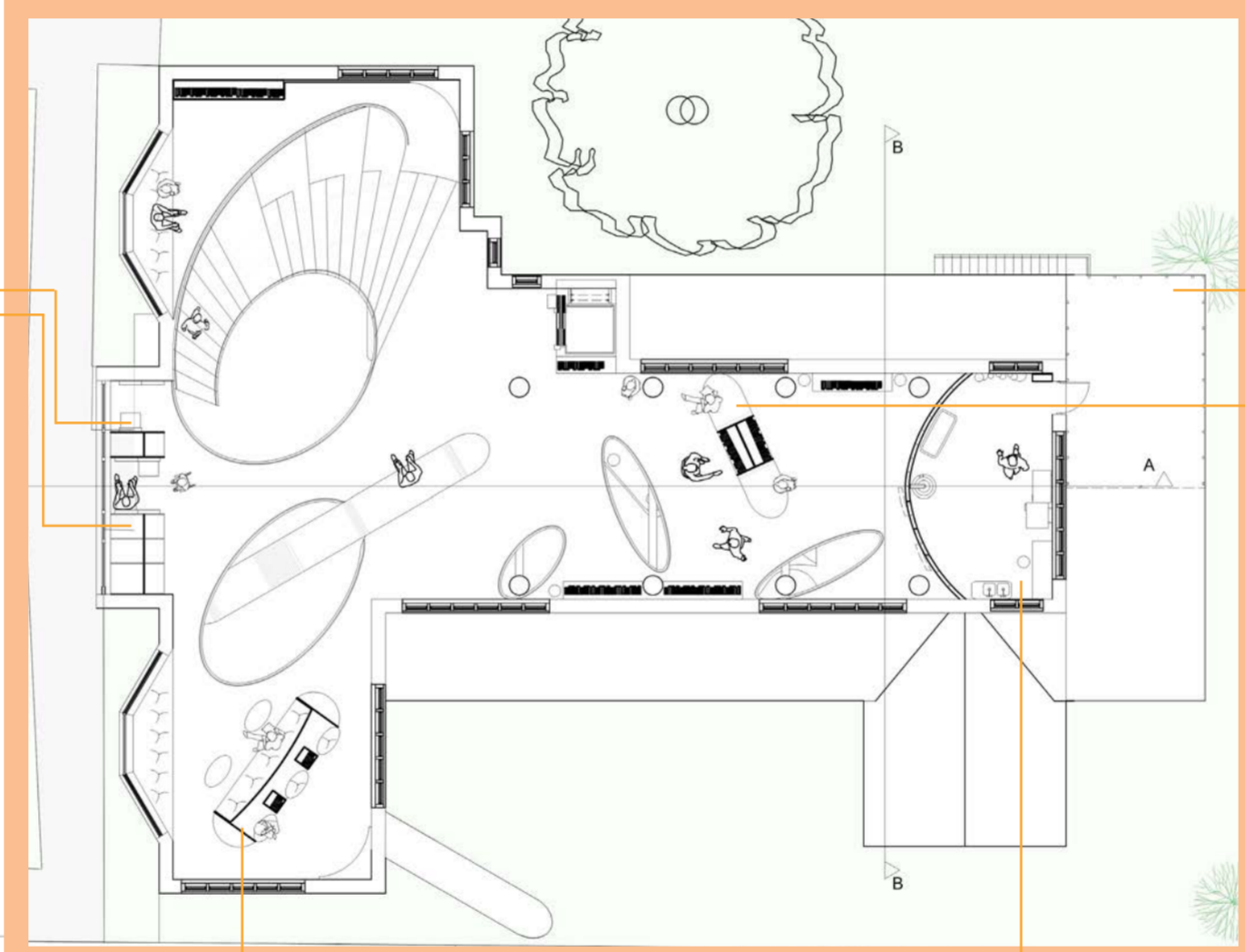


Bookshelves.

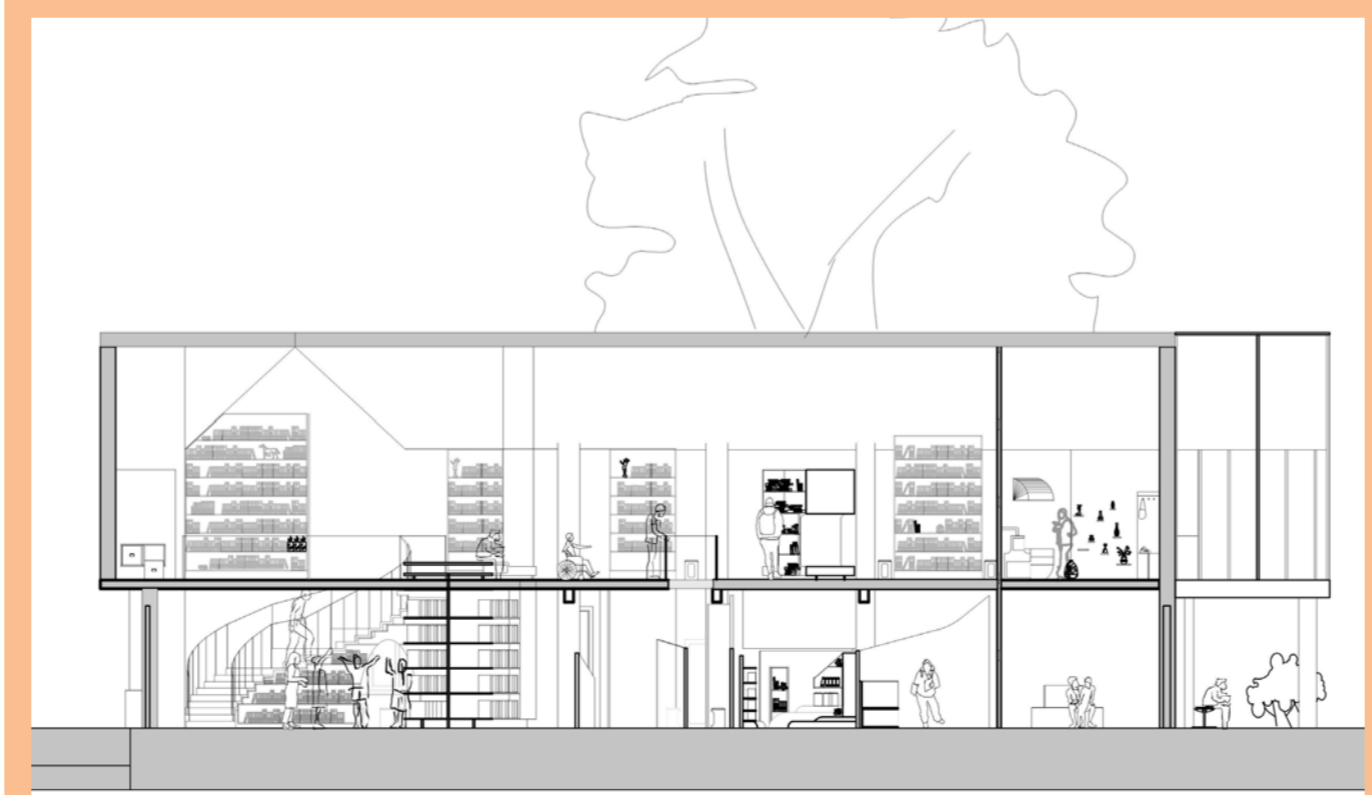
Seatings for individuals and groups, with bookshelves on the side.



Ground Floor



First Floor

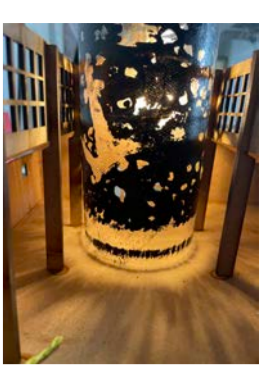
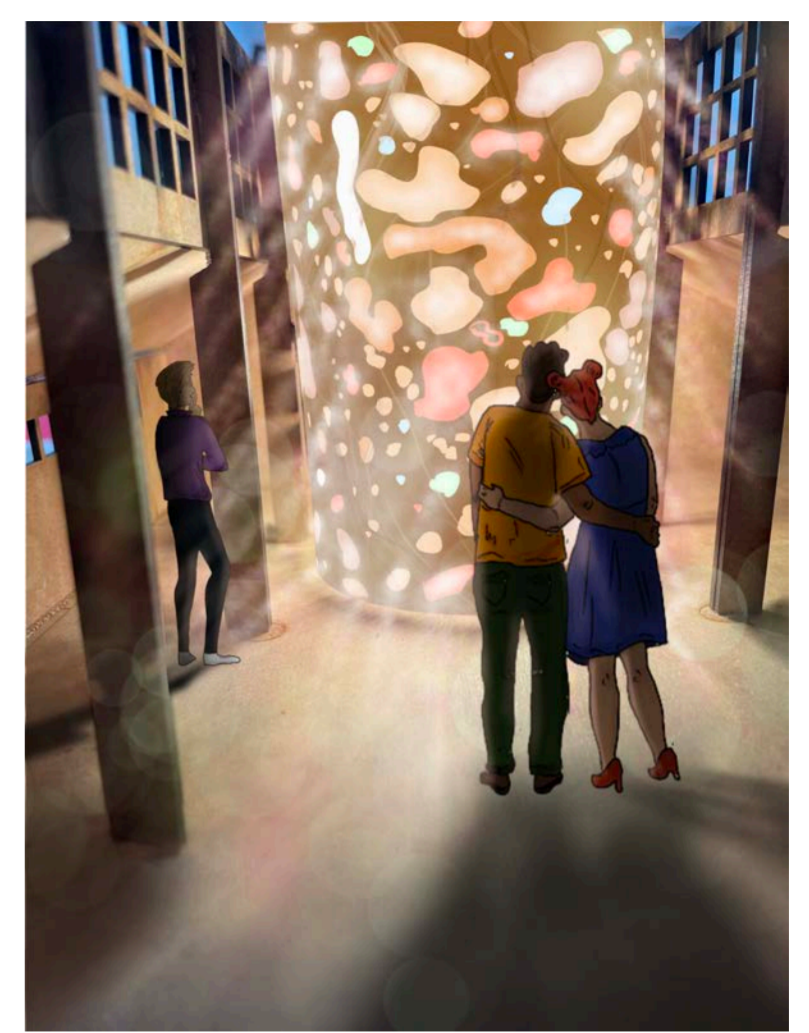


Section AA

Ceiling voids - allow natural light to come into space.

Acrylic circle - steel structure and tube lights between acrylic sheets; the light is creating the magic going through the pattern of acrylic.

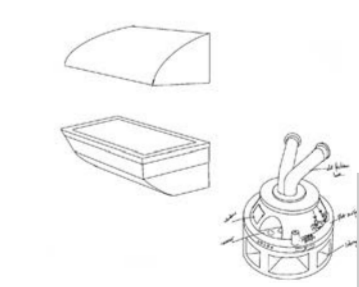
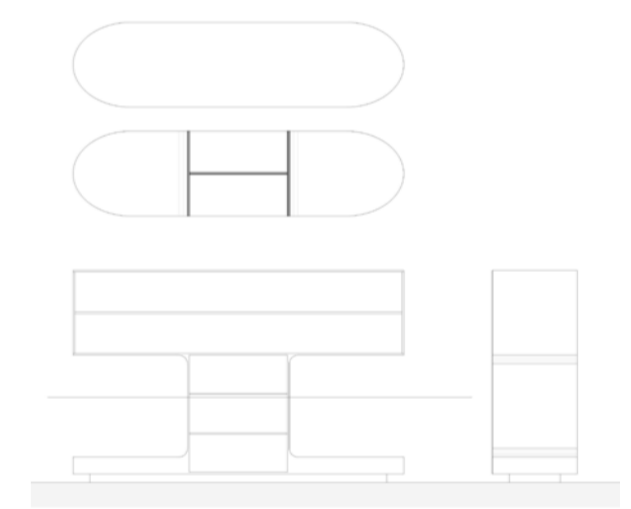
Children space - the core of the space, offering protection; the materials are softer and the ceiling is lower becoming a perfect size for children.

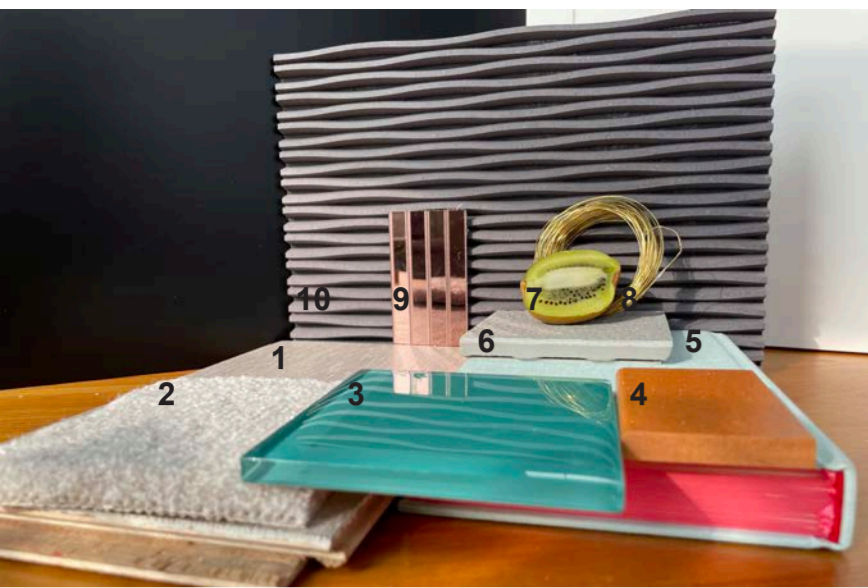


Alchemist private garden.

Bookshelves and seating.

Alchemist private laboratory.



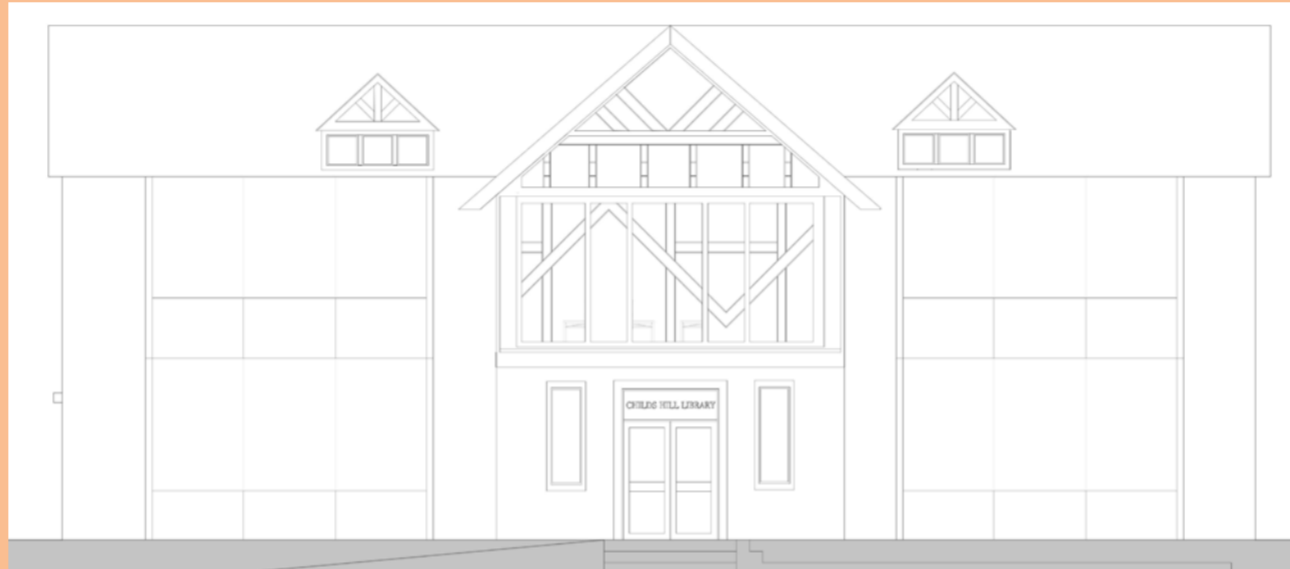
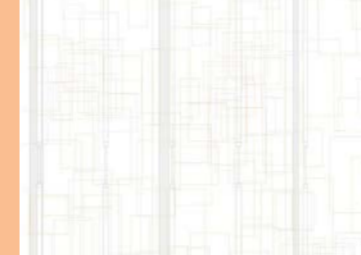


1. Painswick Seal Oak
2. Harrison Twist Carpet - Almond
3. Glass Tile
4. Valchromat Engineered Wood Fibreboard - Orange
5. Found Object - Agenda
6. Caesar - Tecnolito
7. Magnesium Str
8. Found Object
9. Mirror - Flexi Strips - Peach
10. Flexible Wood - Foli



Section BB

Details of the acrylic circle:
 - the circle in plan; acrylic sheets, tube lights and structure can be seen;
 - tube lights in section and connection between them;
 - the pattern of the circle.



Facade

The facade has been changed in a way that kept the old design of the building, a combination between **old and new**. Evolving and in the same time considering the past. The sides increased the area of windows allowing more natural light inside. The center of the first floor took the pattern of the timber and substituting it with stained glass in order to create a bit of magic and playfulness with the help of sun.

