

REVIVING THE CANVAS

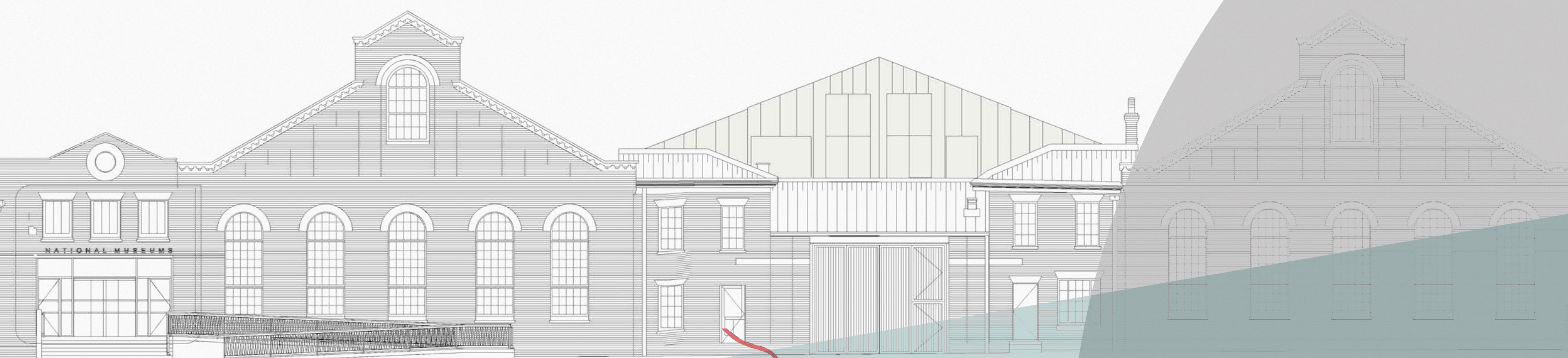


PROJECT OVERVIEW

This project is about reviving the canvas and transforming an abandoned space into a Kandinsky-inspired theatre, a place where music and art converge. Inspired by Kandinsky's exploration of synaesthesia, where he experienced colours when listening to music and heard music when painting, I aimed to create a space that celebrates this unique fusion of senses.

The theatre features dynamic shapes and forms, mirroring Kandinsky's artistic approach. By incorporating these elements, the space takes visitors on a journey, immersing them in an environment where the boundaries between visual art and music blur. Each element of the theatre is designed to evoke the feeling of music, creating an atmosphere that is both visually and aurally stimulating.

In essence, this project transforms an abandoned building into a vibrant cultural hub, where the spirit of Kandinsky's work comes to life through the harmonious interplay of shapes, colours, and sounds.



WHERE...

The Historic Dockyard, which closed in 1984, is a site of international maritime heritage significance. Spanning 80 acres, it contains over 100 buildings and structures, most of which were constructed between 1704 and 1855. However, after the war, many of these buildings have been re-purposed. My project aims to push this adaptive reuse further by creating a theatre space for the community.

Upon researching Chatham, I discovered that the once-vibrant city has declined due to the dockyard's closure and rising unemployment rates. Chatham, for its size, has a higher-than-average percentage of homeless individuals. The city is in extremely poor condition, and the historical district is suffering from a lack of tourists.

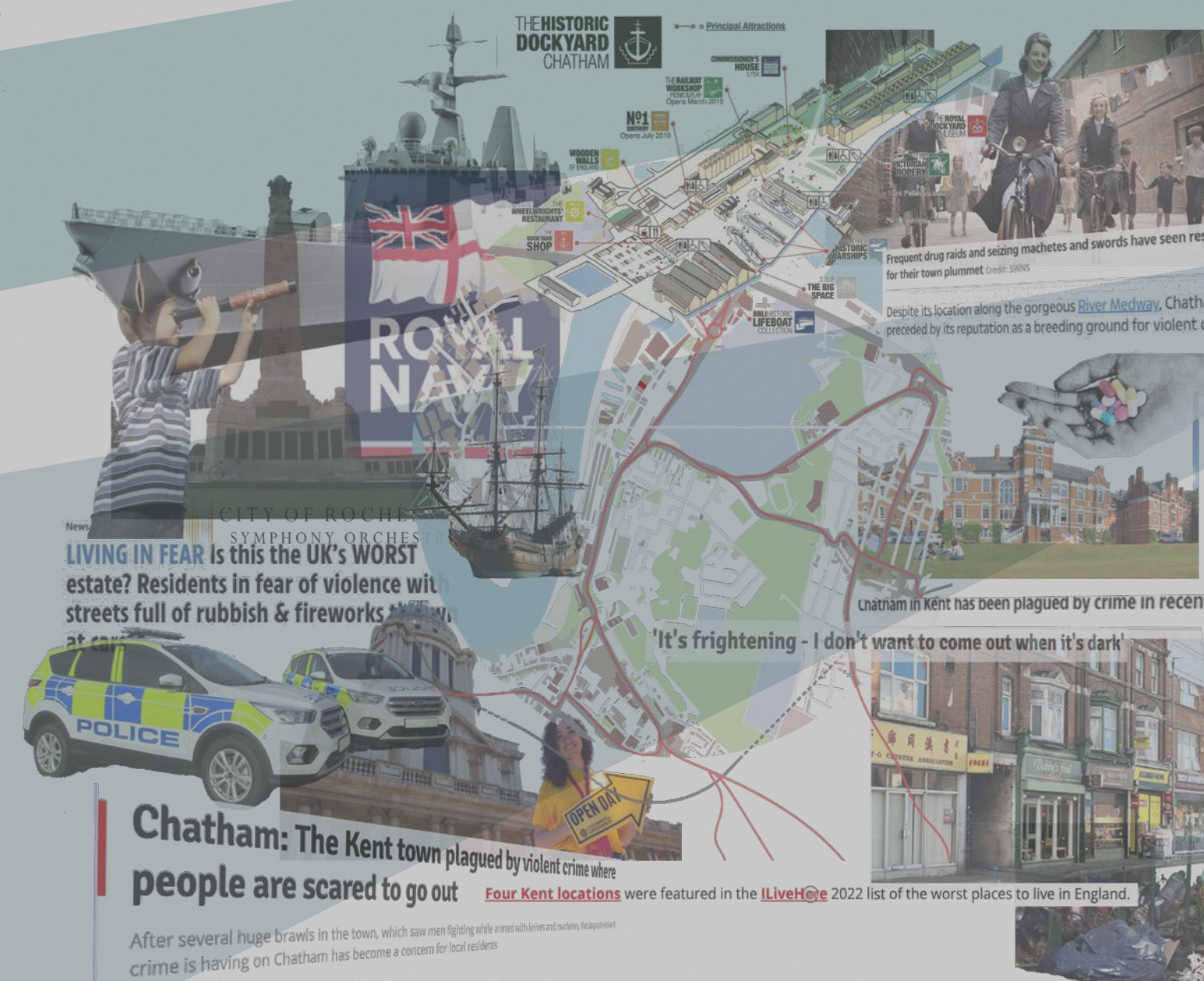
By establishing a theatre space inspired by Kandinsky's work, I hope to breathe new life into the community. This theatre will not only serve as a cultural hub, celebrating music and art, but also help revitalise Chatham by attracting visitors and providing a space for communal engagement. Through the creative exploration of shapes and forms, mirroring Kandinsky's artistic style and his concept of synaesthesia, the theatre will offer a unique, immersive experience. This project aims to transform the neglected historical district into a vibrant centre of cultural and social activity, fostering a renewed sense of community pride and economic revitalisation.

WHO...

The client for this proposal is The Medway Music Association - Music center is open to children and young adults aged 7 to 18 who would like to learn an instrument, play an instrument already and also for those who love to sing. This would be an ideal venue for children to learn an instrument and put on performances as at the moment it is held at Reinham Mark Grammer school, this would open up an entirely new creative space dedicated to creativity and music.

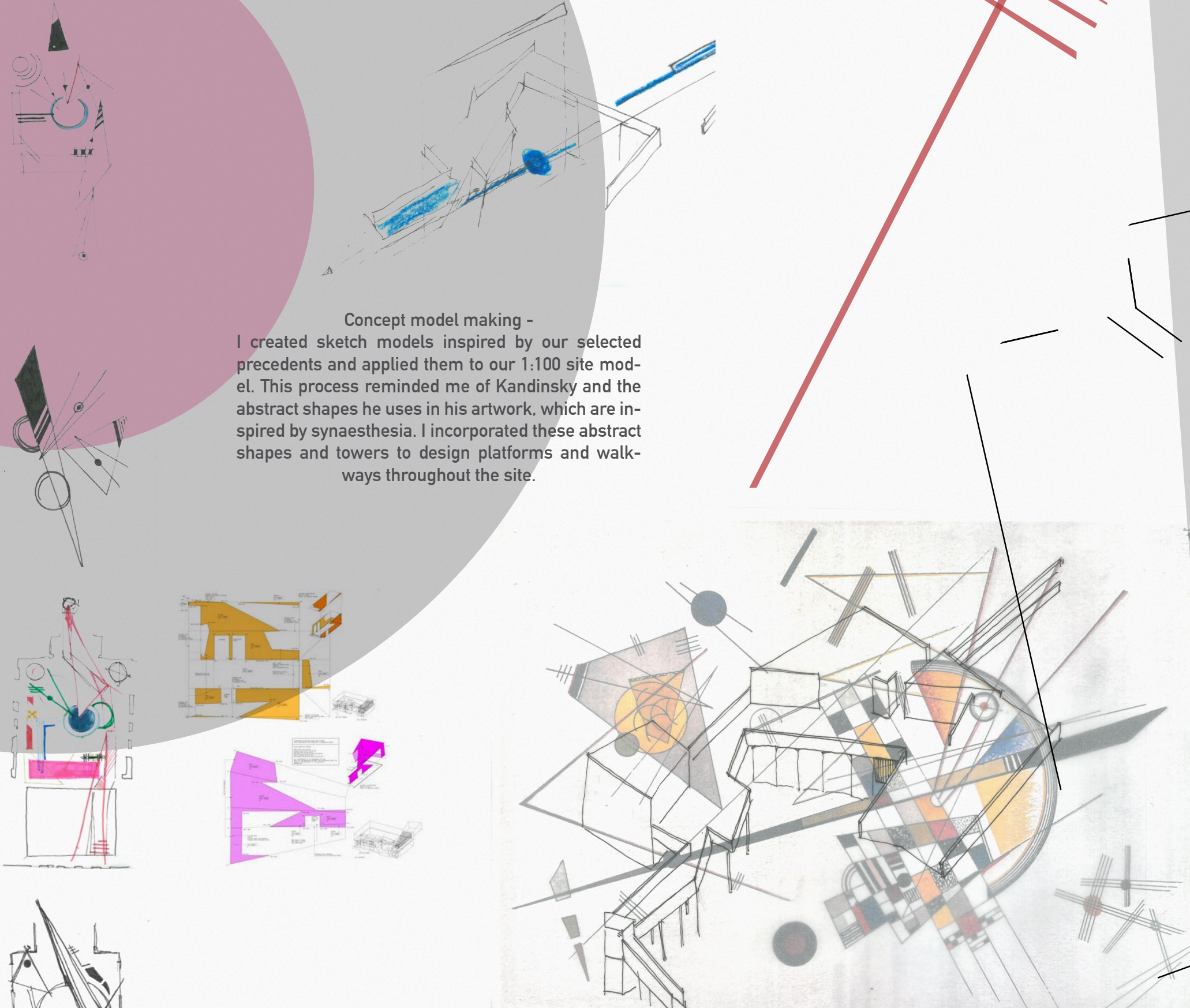
The City of Rochester Symphony orchestra would also be a key participant for this theatre. This December they are hosting their Christmas Concert in the Glass box Theatre, Mid Kent College. This would provide another space for them to practice and perform.

It would also create new ties and bonds with Chatham rather than just Rochester and would create a bigger audience which will hopefully inspire the younger generations to be more interested in music.

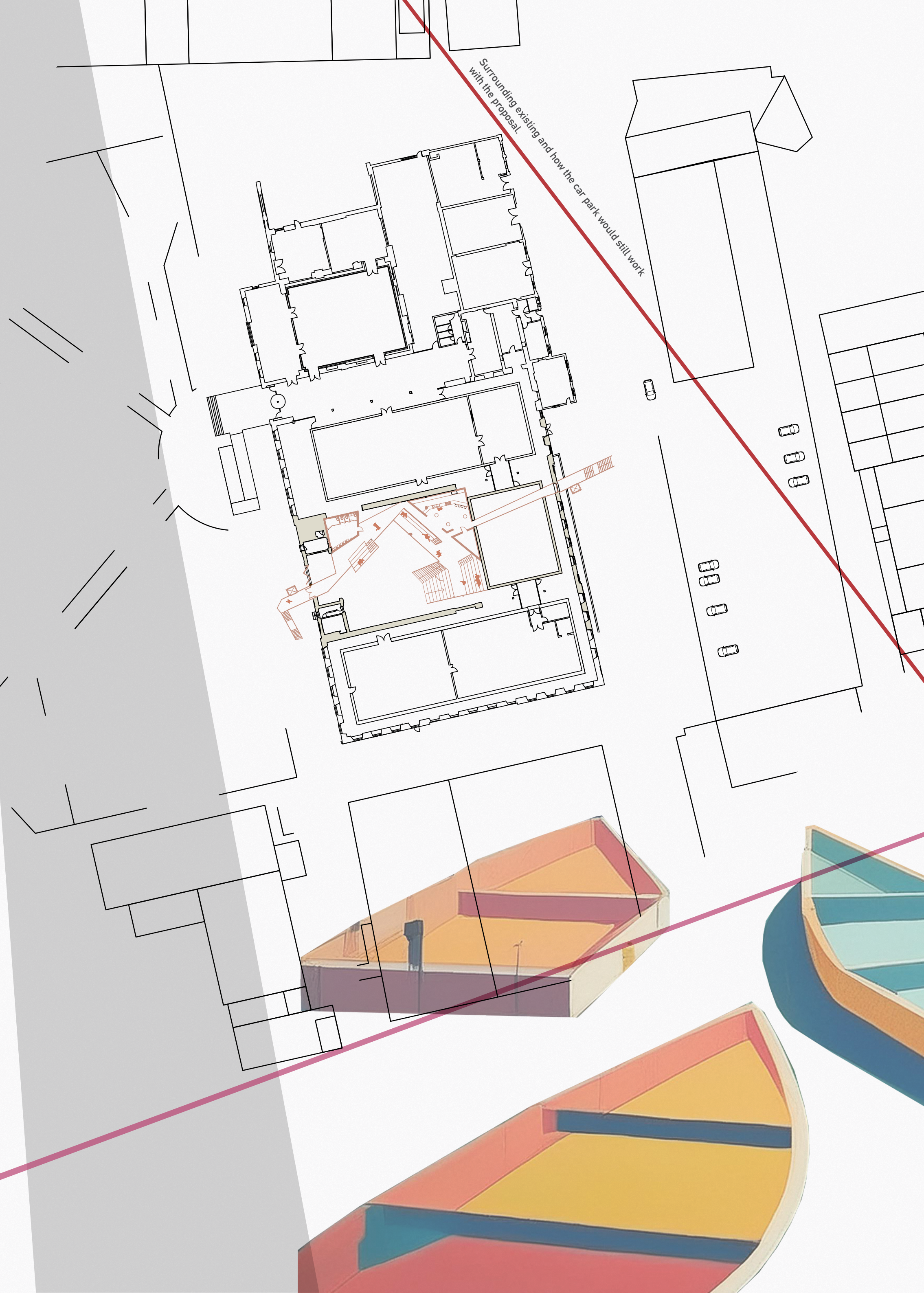


- Site - No.1 Smithery
- Residential housing
- Green spaces
- Educational facilities
- Hospital
- Road
- Trainline
- Restaurant/Pub
- Industrial/Independent Commercial
- Bus routes

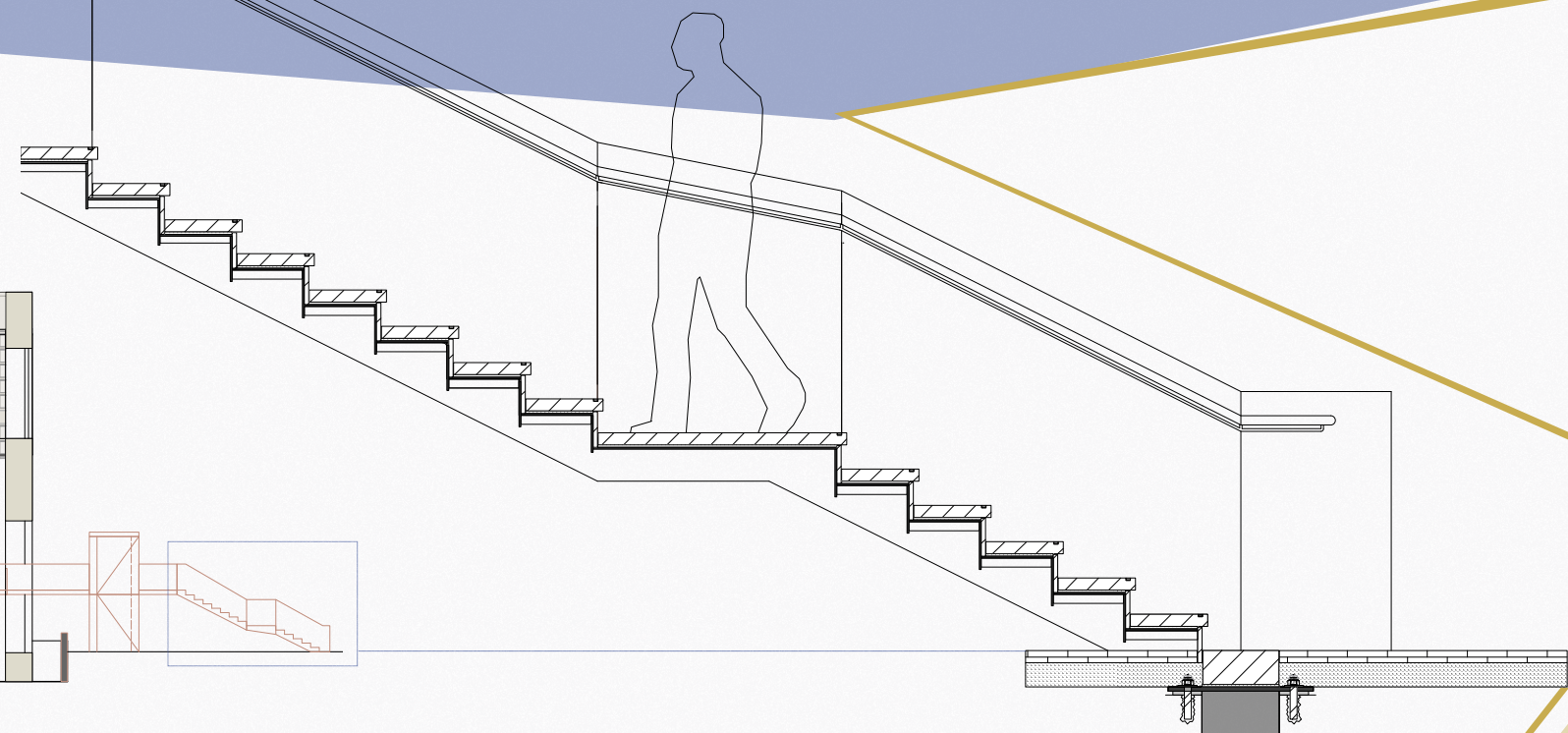
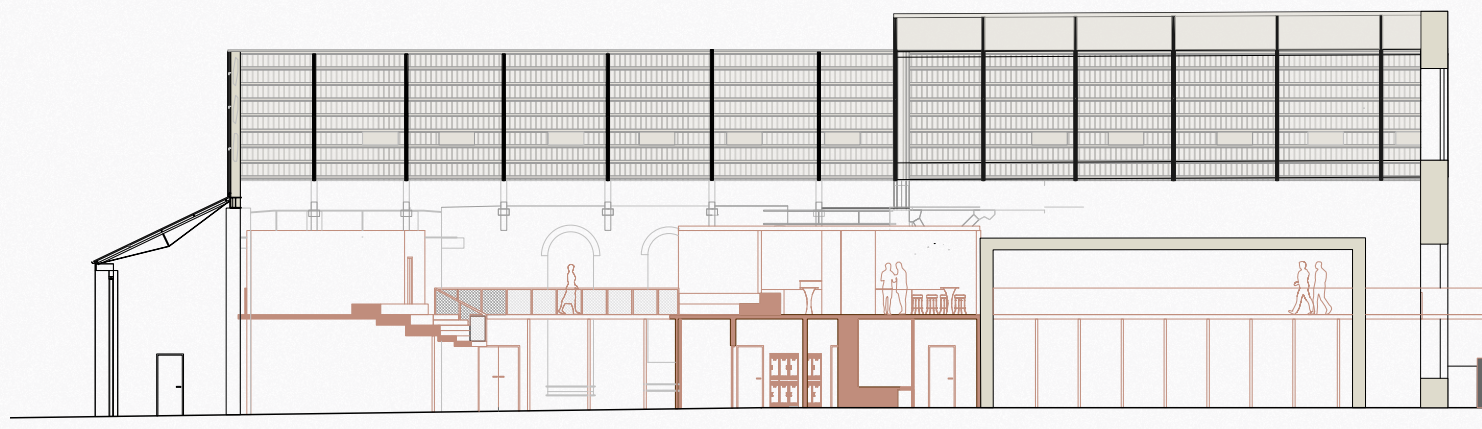
Concept model making - I created sketch models inspired by our selected precedents and applied them to our 1:100 site model. This process reminded me of Kandinsky and the abstract shapes he uses in his artwork, which are inspired by synaesthesia. I incorporated these abstract shapes and towers to design platforms and walkways throughout the site.



Entrance walkway - By removing the roof of the existing white box storage structure, the walkway not only serves as the main entrance to the theatre but also provides an elevated view of the historically significant boat storage from the dockyard. This normally hidden aspect of the dockyard will be visible from above, adding an element of discovery and historical appreciation as visitors make their way into the theatre. This design choice not only enhances the aesthetic appeal of the entrance but also connects the new theatre space with the rich heritage of the dockyard.



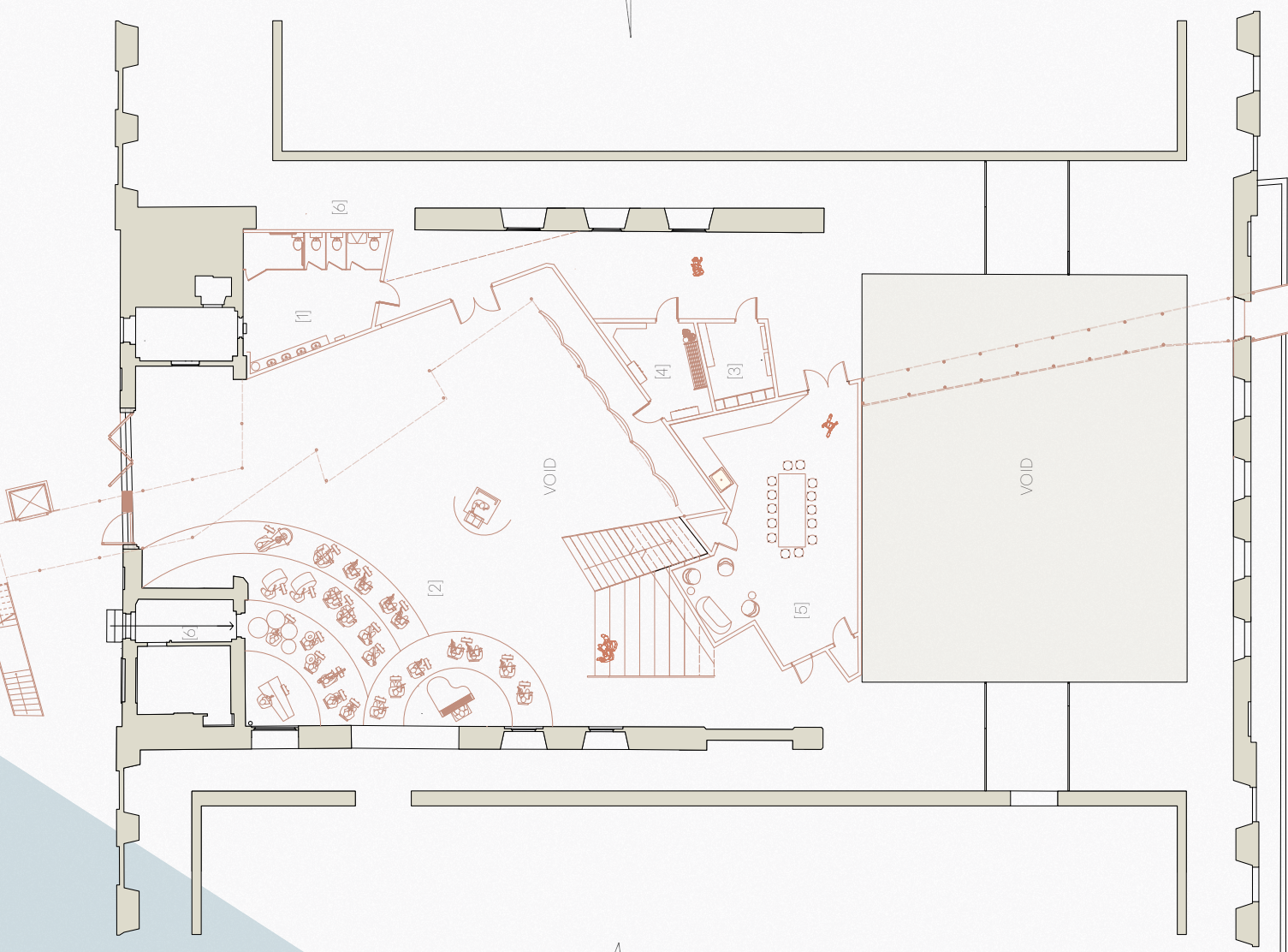
Proposed Sections



Materiality Palette

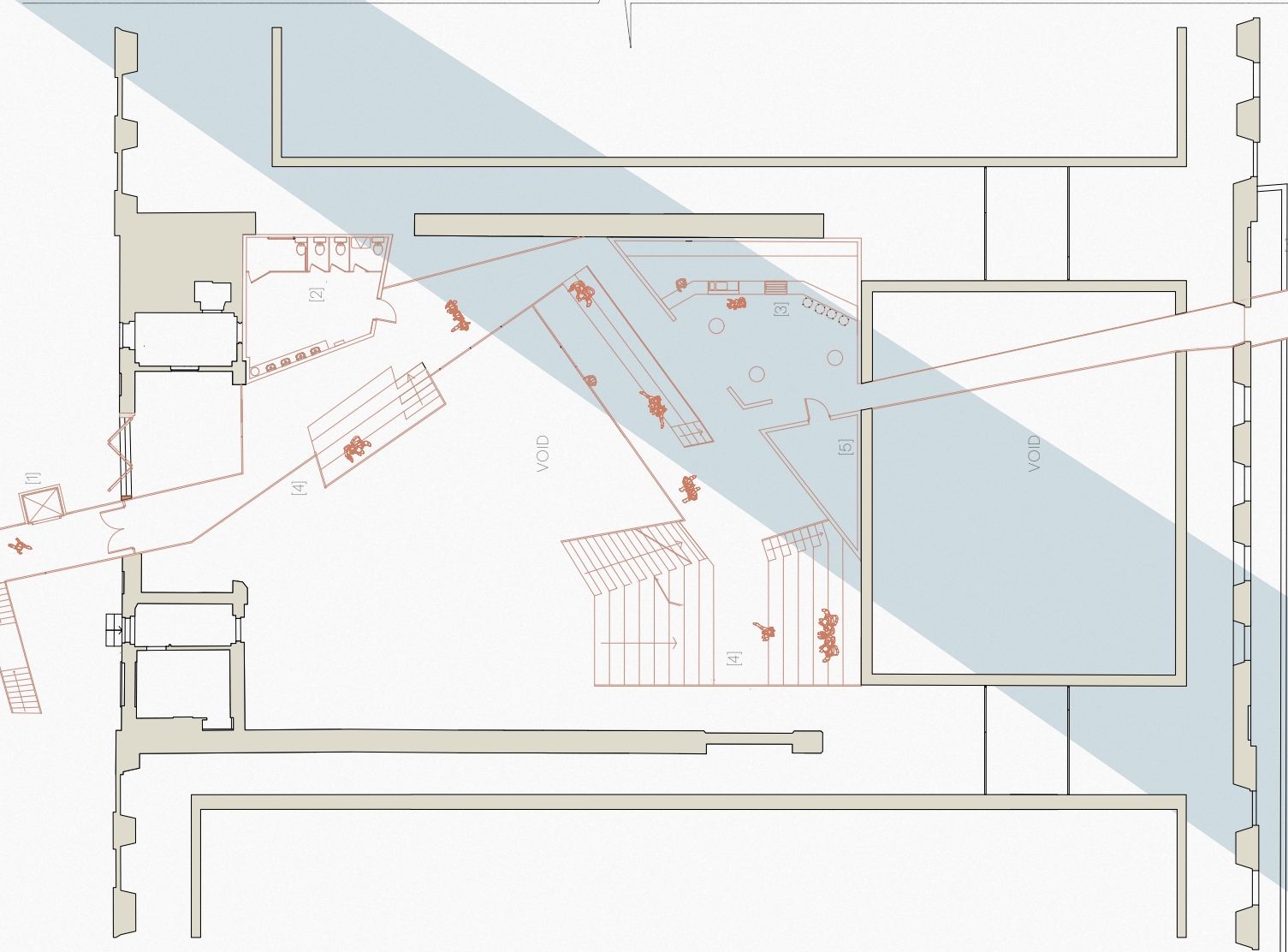


Construction of stairs



- Ground Floor**
- [1] Toilets
 - [2] Orchestra performance stage
 - [3] Changing room
 - [4] Musical instrument storage
 - [5] Orchestra hangout, practice area
 - [6] Private entrance for musicians

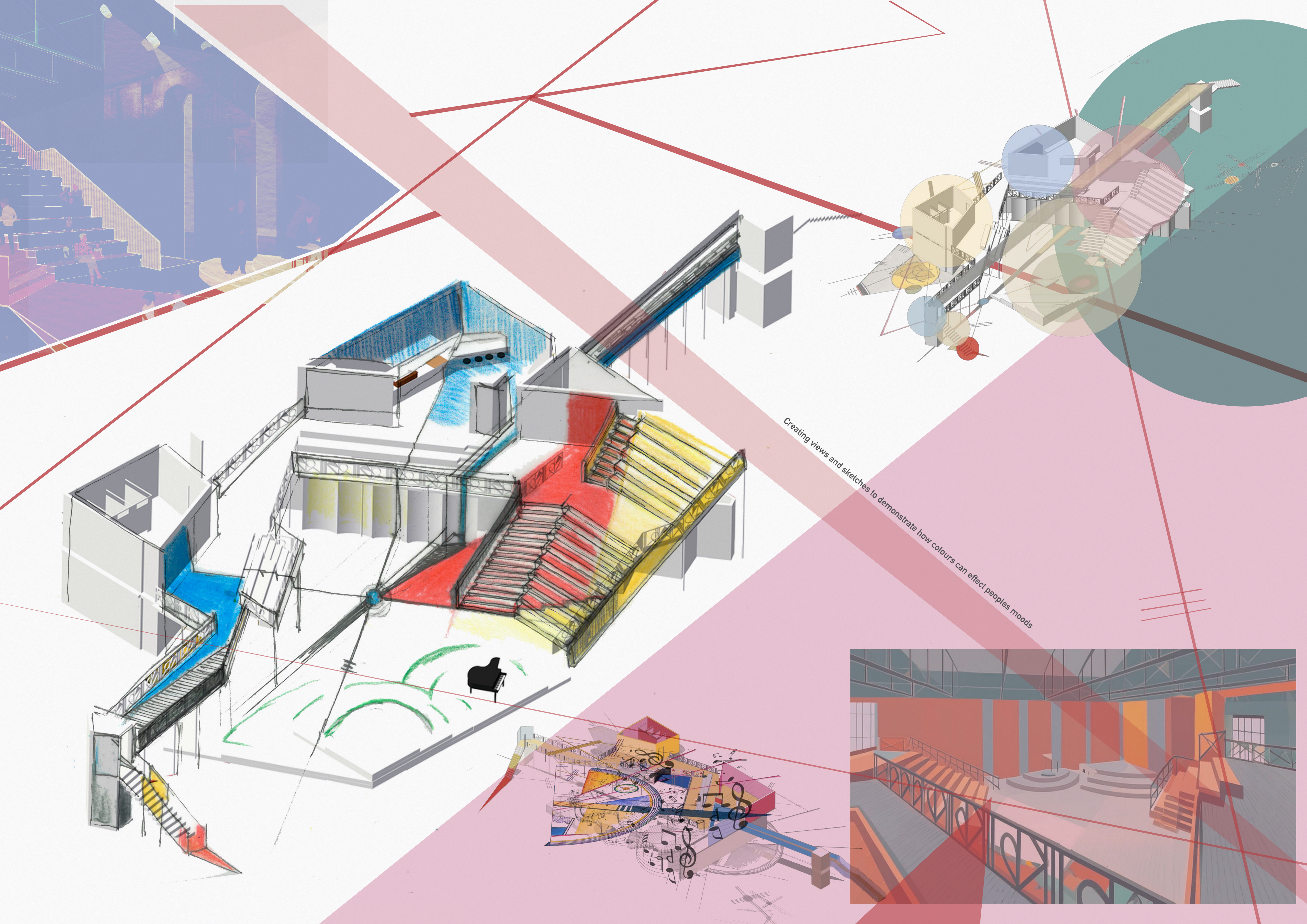
Creating a space inspired by Wassily Kandinsky's artwork can profoundly stimulate the mind and inspire those who enter. To achieve this, the design should incorporate vibrant colours and dynamic shapes reminiscent of Kandinsky's abstract compositions. Walls painted in bold, contrasting hues such as deep blues, rich reds, and bright yellows can evoke the emotional resonance found in his paintings. Integrating geometric patterns and flowing lines in the decor and furnishings can mimic the rhythmic and harmonious qualities of his work, encouraging a sense of movement and energy within the space.



- First Floor**
- [1] Private viewing platform for visitors
 - [2] Toilets
 - [3] Bar
 - [4] Seating for viewing
 - [5] Storage
 - [6] Private entrance walkway for visitors

Proposed Plans





Creating views and sketches to demonstrate how colours can effect peoples moods

