

self³

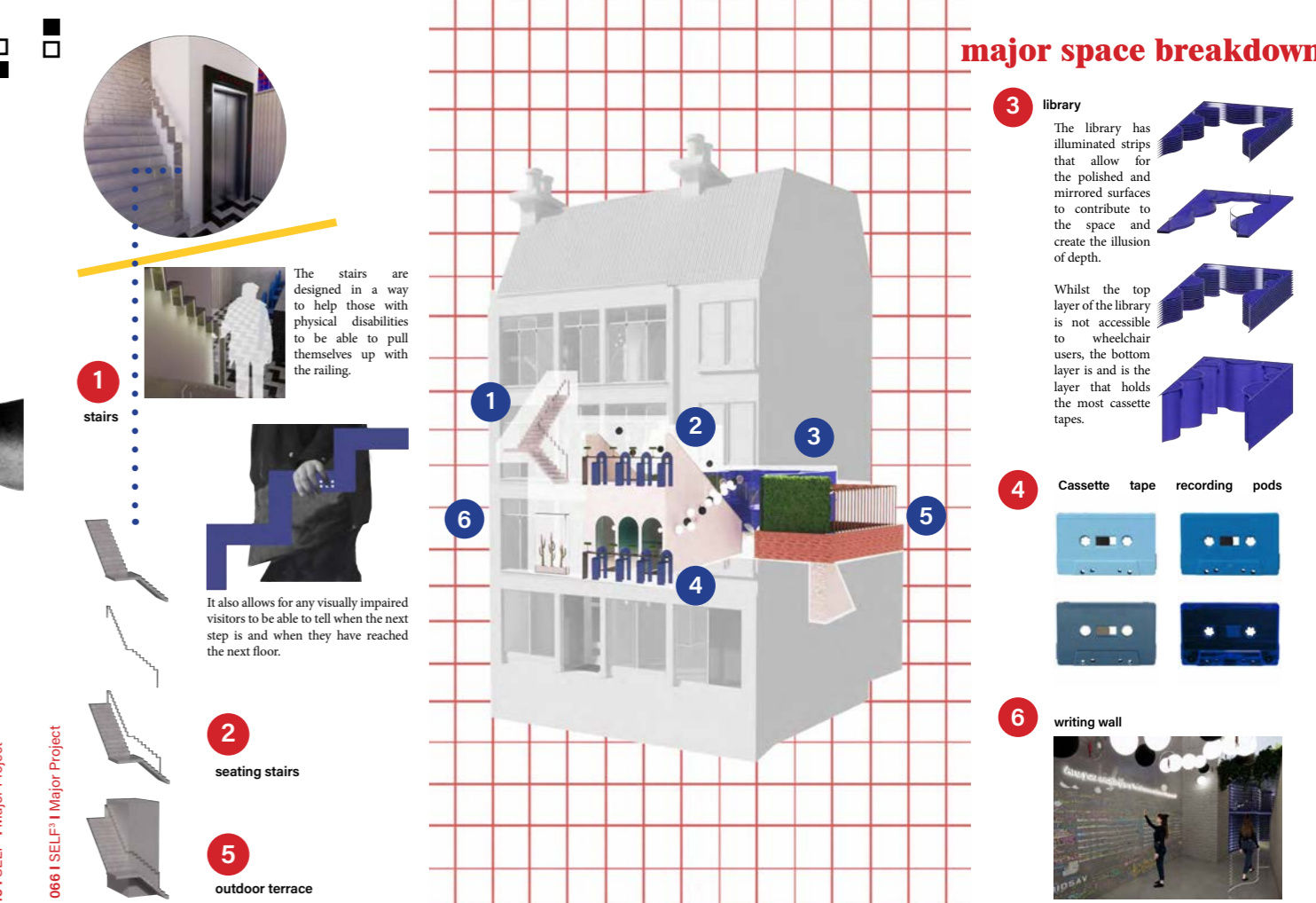
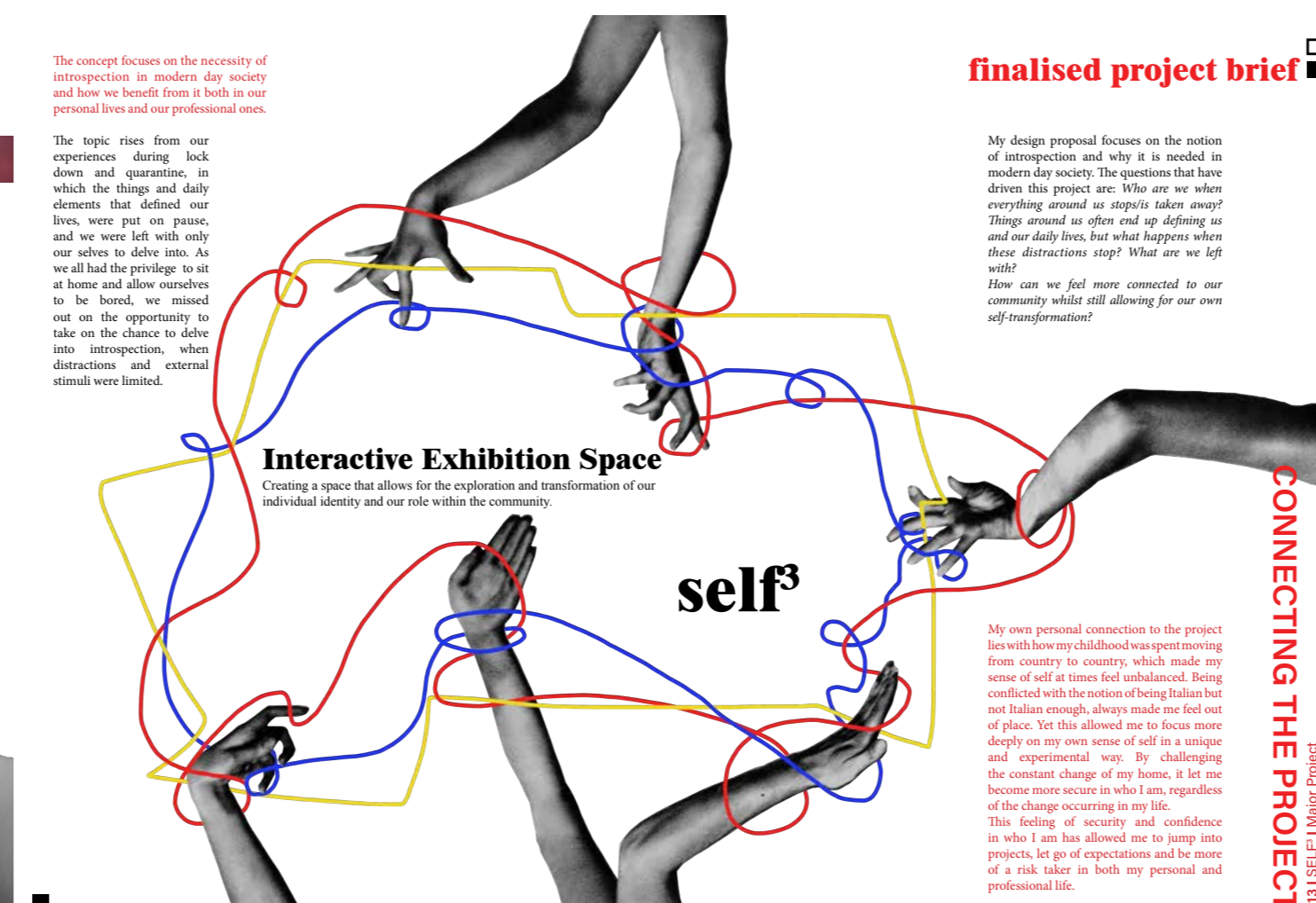
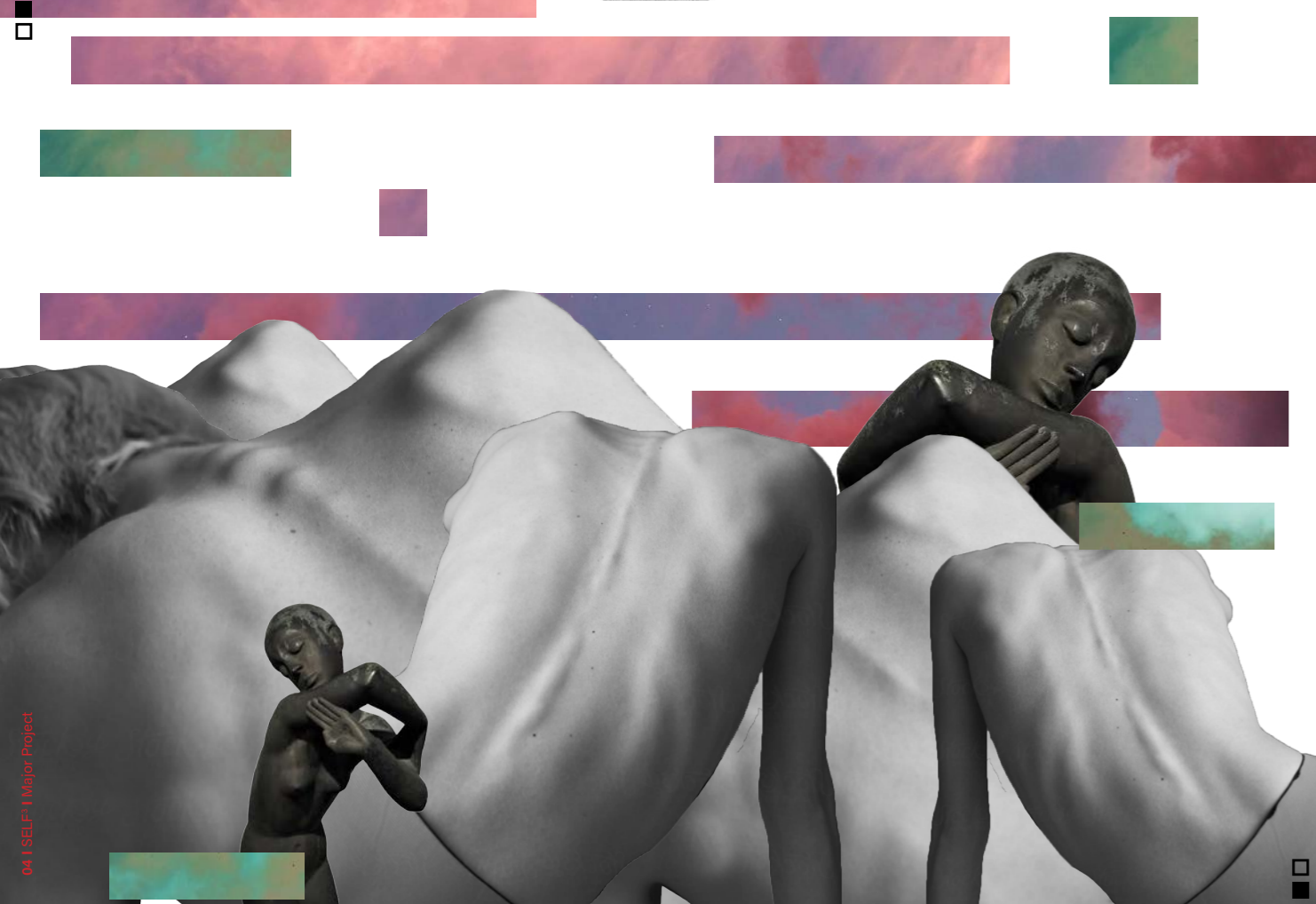
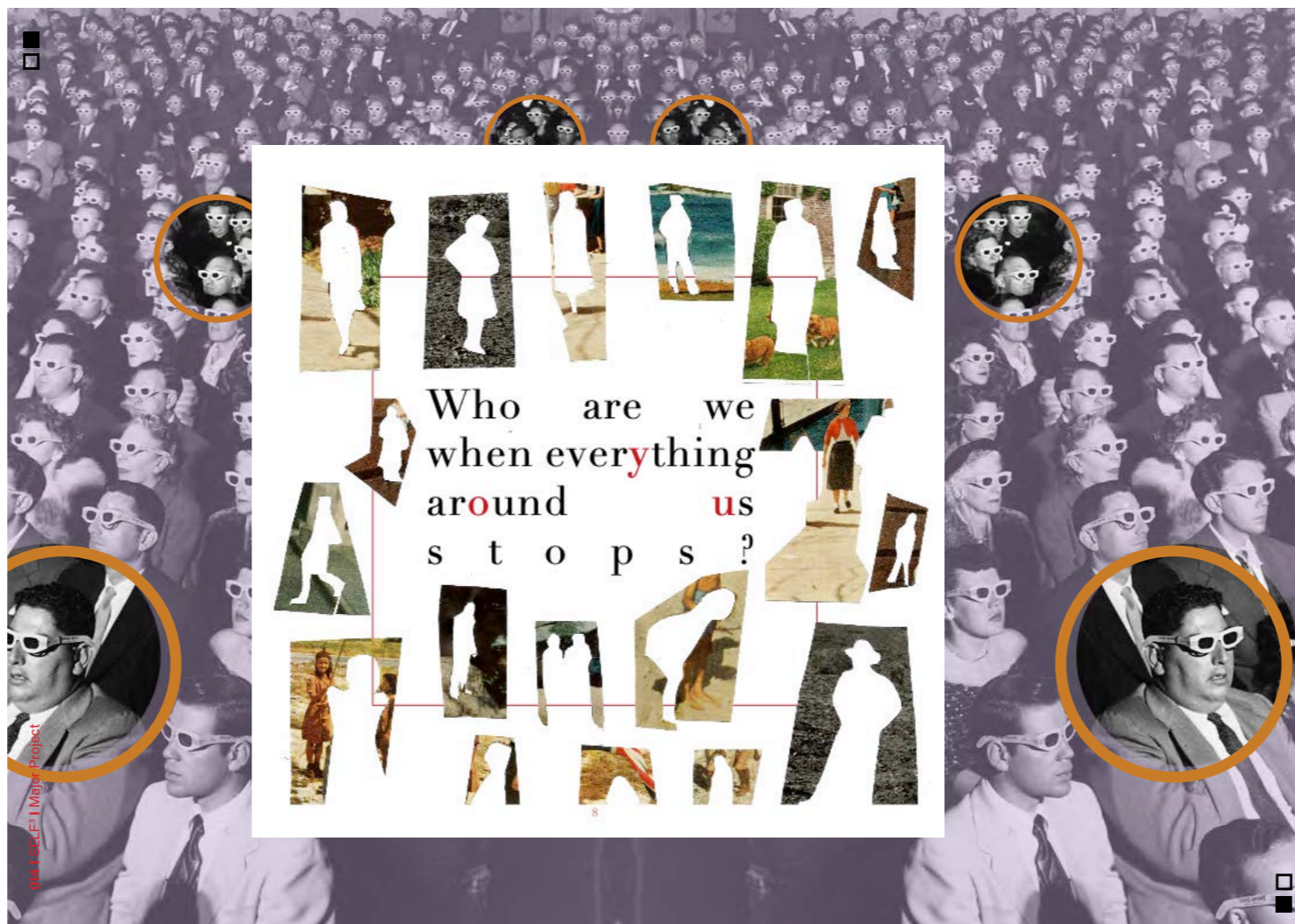
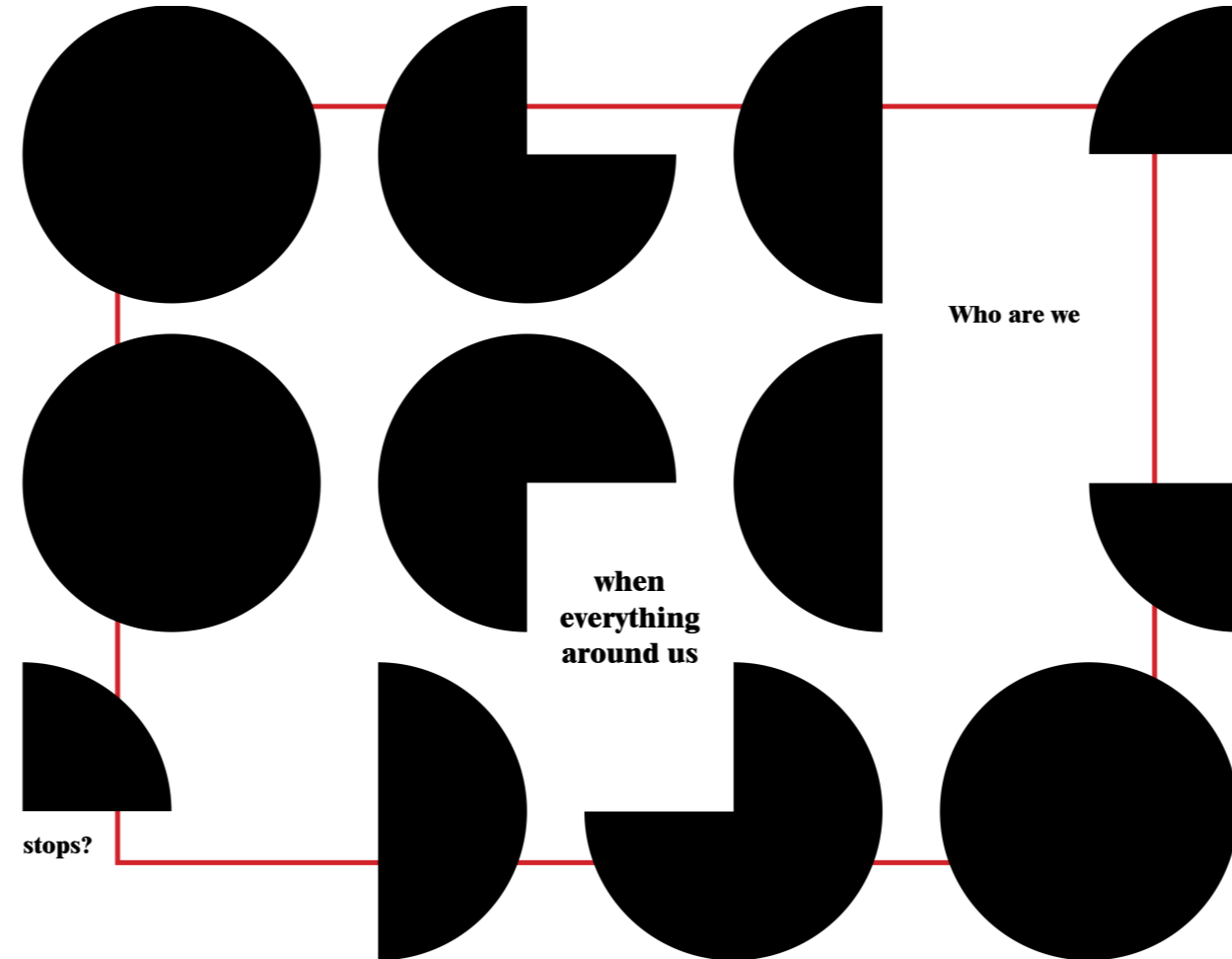
major project book

est. 2021

My major project focuses on the notion of introspection and its importance to our development both as individuals and to our roles in our community. The exploration of the self and of our identity is a life-long process which we are often expected to do on our own and to have already completed it before we've even had the time to begin. This project is an attempt to help start the conversation of identity within ourselves and within our community.

Giulia Preponis

012 | SELF | Major Project



090 | SELF | Major Project

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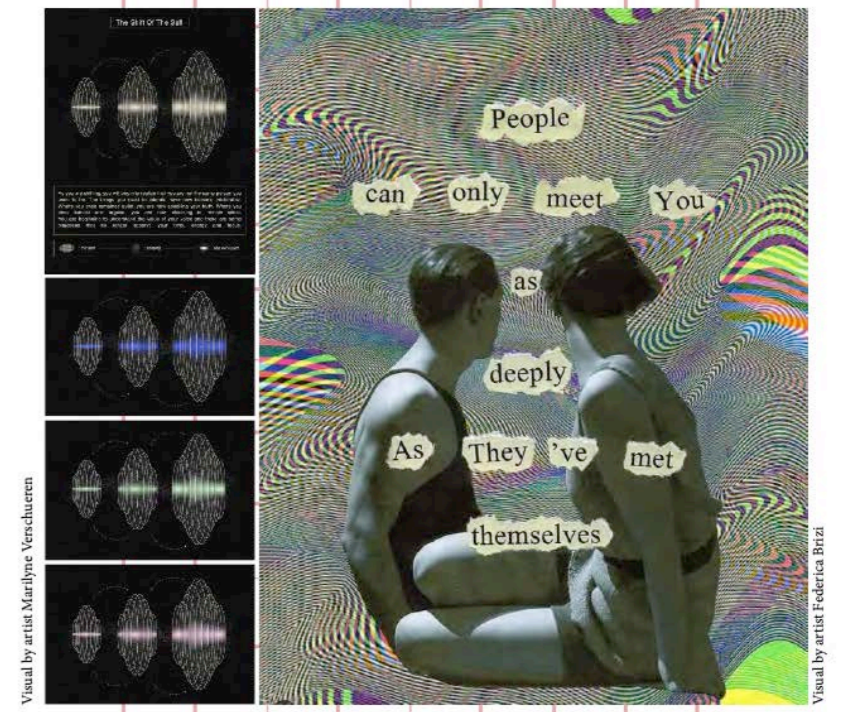
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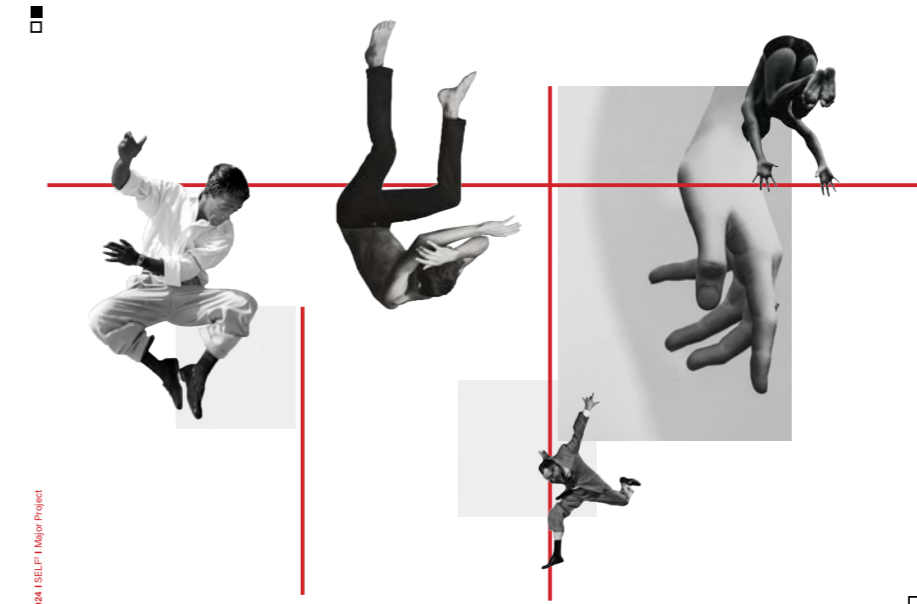


Rendered visual of seating stairs



Visual by artist Marlyse Verschueren

Visual by artist Federica Birra

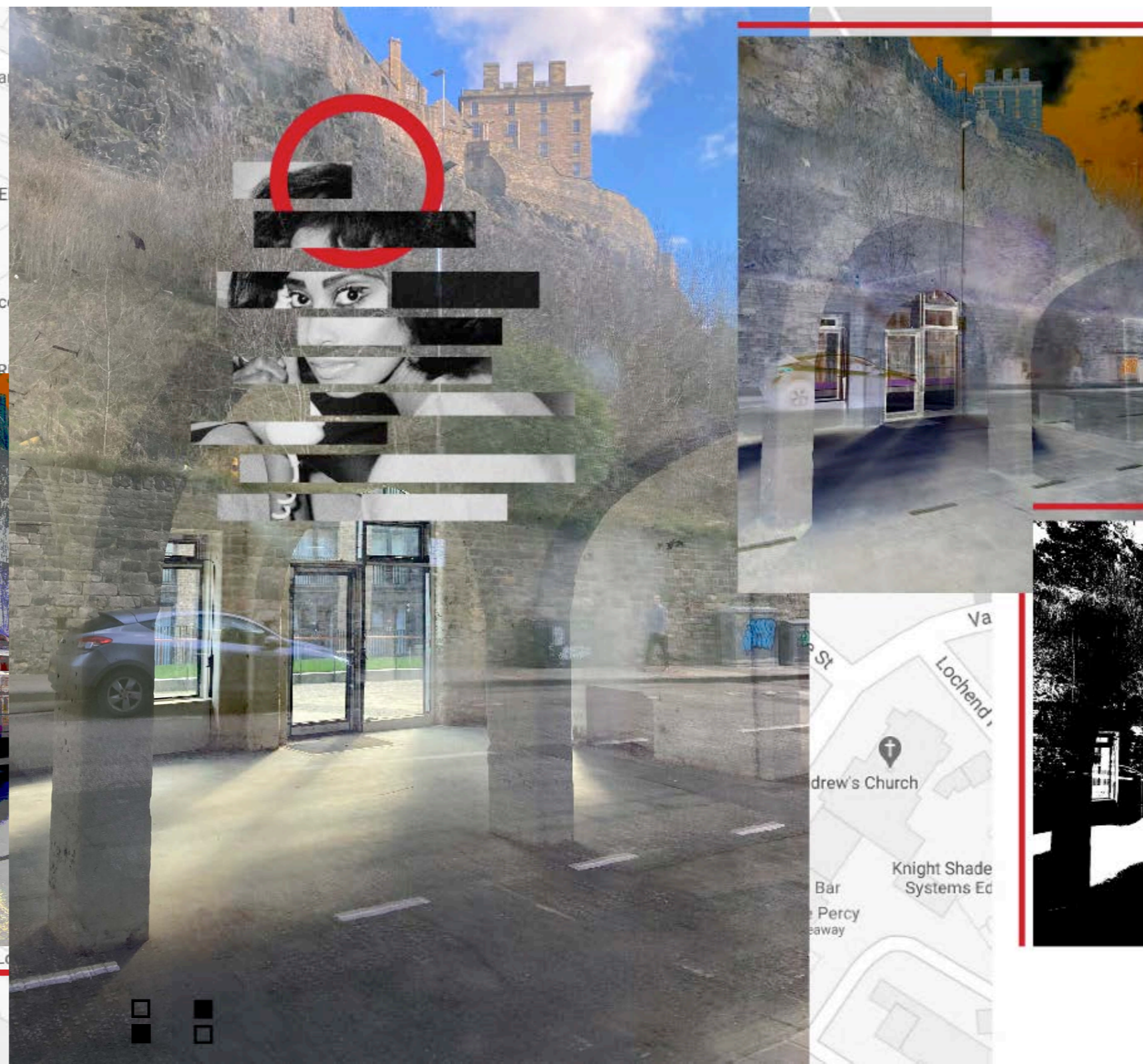


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how can we create a deeper and more meaningful connection to the places and spaces we inhabit and spend our lives in? how can a space invoke a feeling of nostalgia and security, without having biological ties to it? why do we feel closer to some places than to others? do we actually know the people who live next to us? why am I more connected to someone who lives half way across the globe than to my neighbours to whom I share the same daily steps with? how are we living in the age of communication and yet we have never felt more disconnected to each other and to ourselves? how do we reinstall this connection of sense of belonging within a community? when being "yourself" is the most important thing you can be within this new society, why is it also the hardest thing to do? whilst living in a self-centred world, how do we step back and see our place within everyone else? who am I? if our identity is constantly changing, how can we ever be sure of who we are? how can we trust that today's me is more true than yesterday's me?



do we define the space we live in or does the space we live in define us? can we define each other?

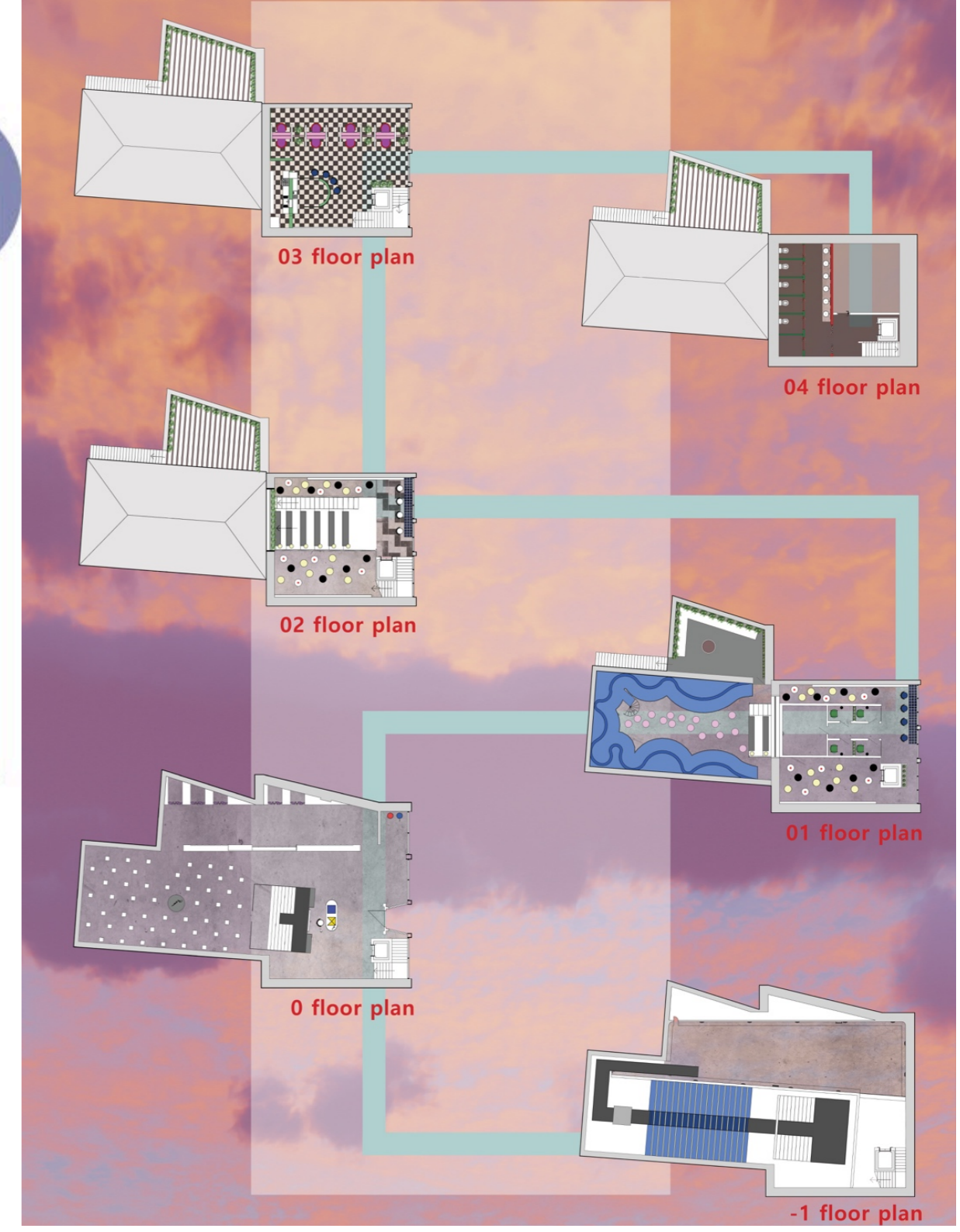
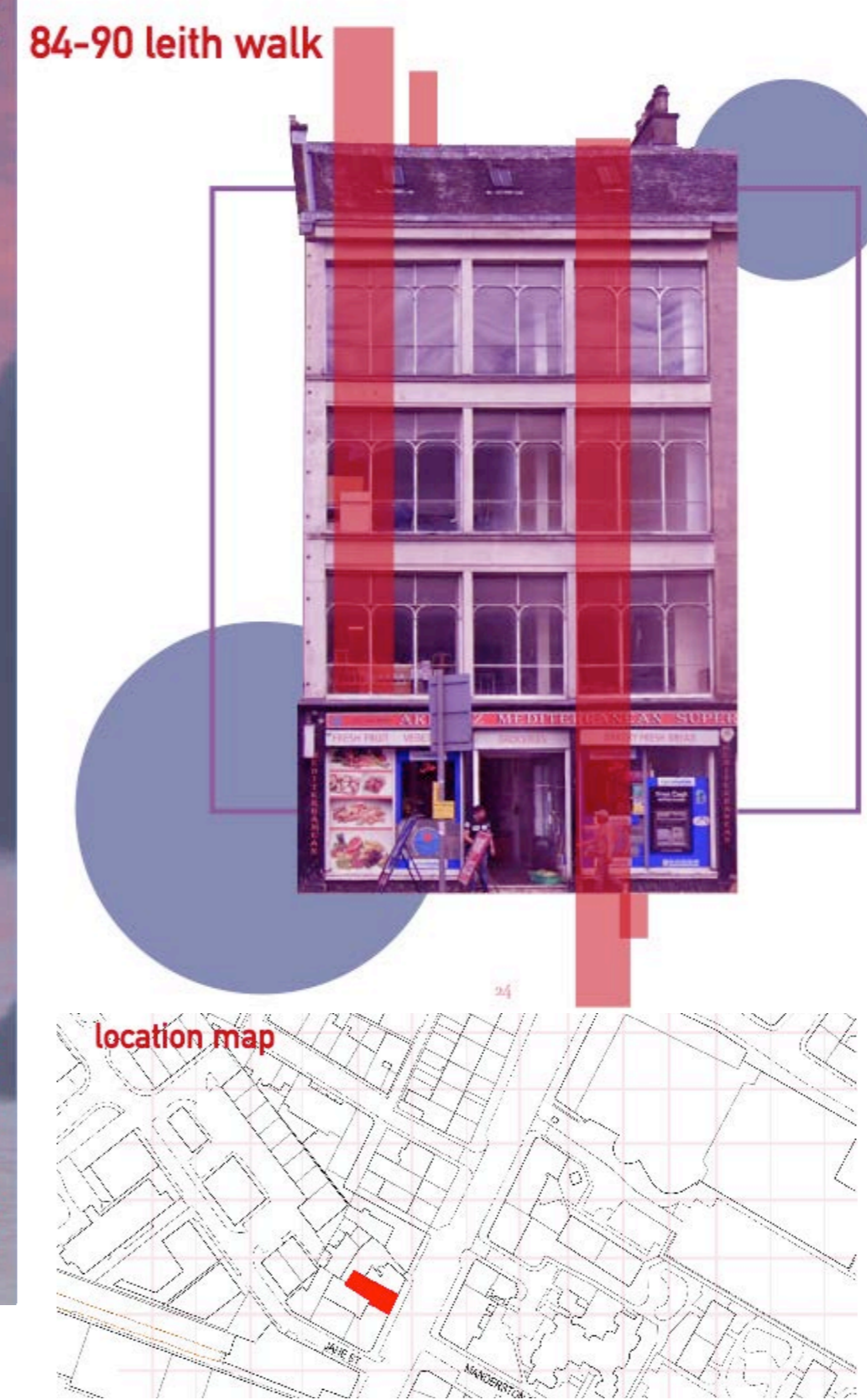
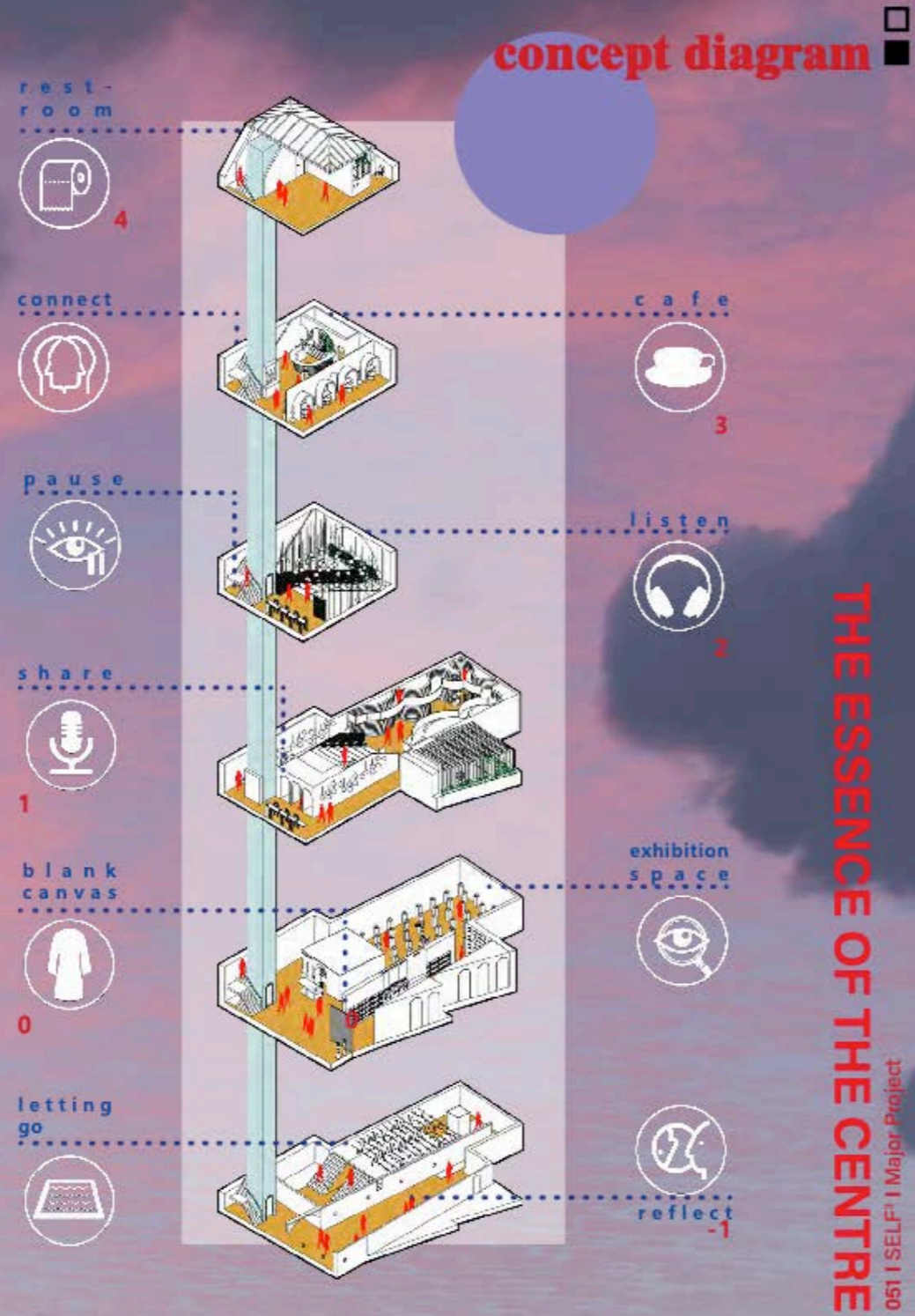
3 Has a stranger ever changed your life without them even knowing it? Connect with people you may never have had the chance to cross path with. Share wisdom, share laughs and tears of joy and sorrow. Let yourself be surprised and feel connected.

2 Do you actually know the people of your community? Do you know who your neighbour is? Do you know who you are? Here, the library encourages the connection to the community and one's own identity within in.

1 Sharing your story and the story of who you are at this point in time is a valuable step in the process of reconnecting with one's identity. Record your voice, record your story and let yourself be vulnerable.

0 Here the space encourages one to put aside any feelings of anxiety and distress, and allow ourselves to be part of the journey. The aim to allow ourselves to re-experience life as if it were the first time. Taking in all the details and falling back in love with it.

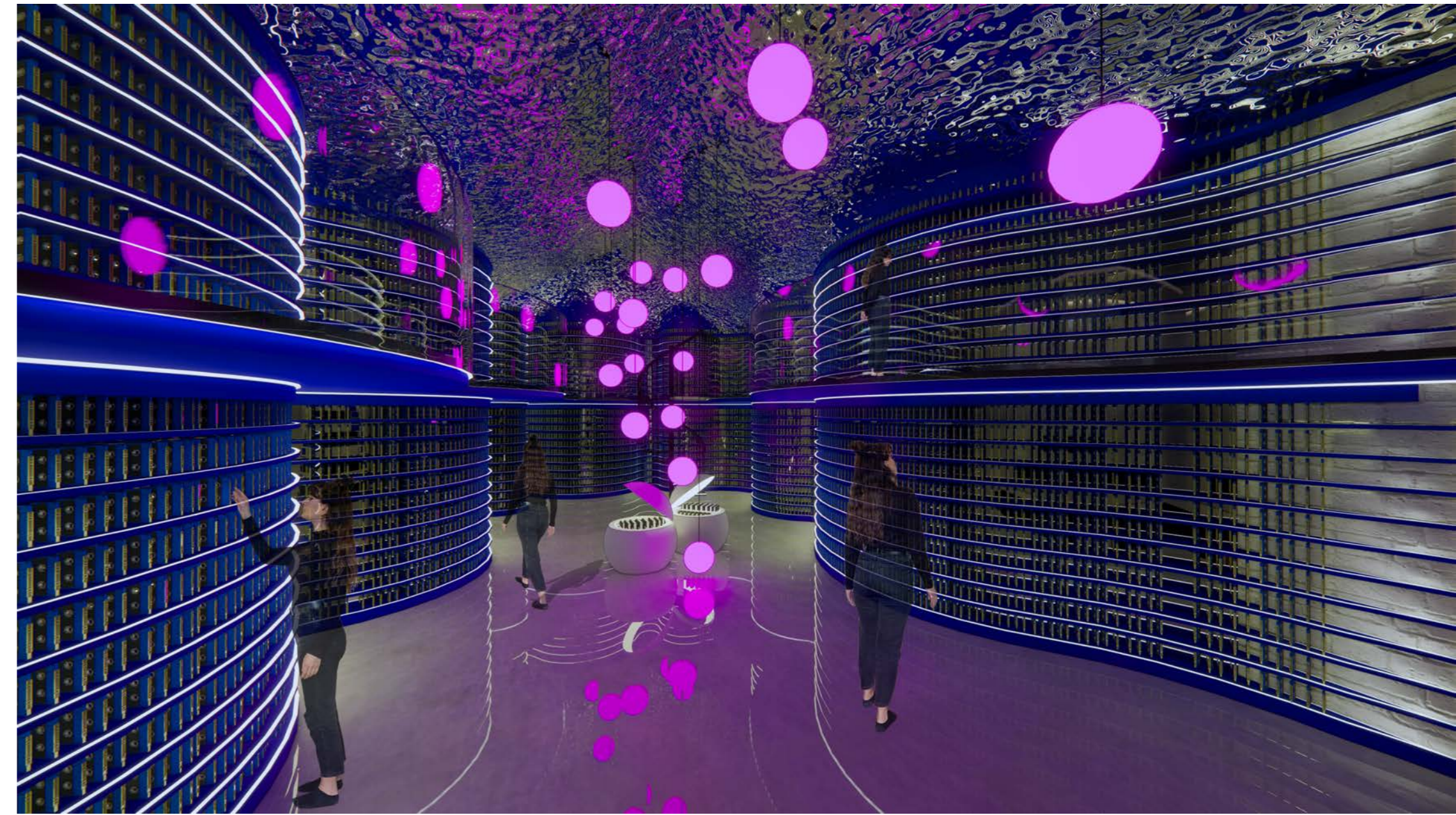
-1 This part of the centre is aimed to encourage us to let go of our expectations and fears and simply live in the now. The design guided experiences allow us to have faith in the process and allow us to proceed without fear of failure in mind.



long section 1:100

short section 1:100

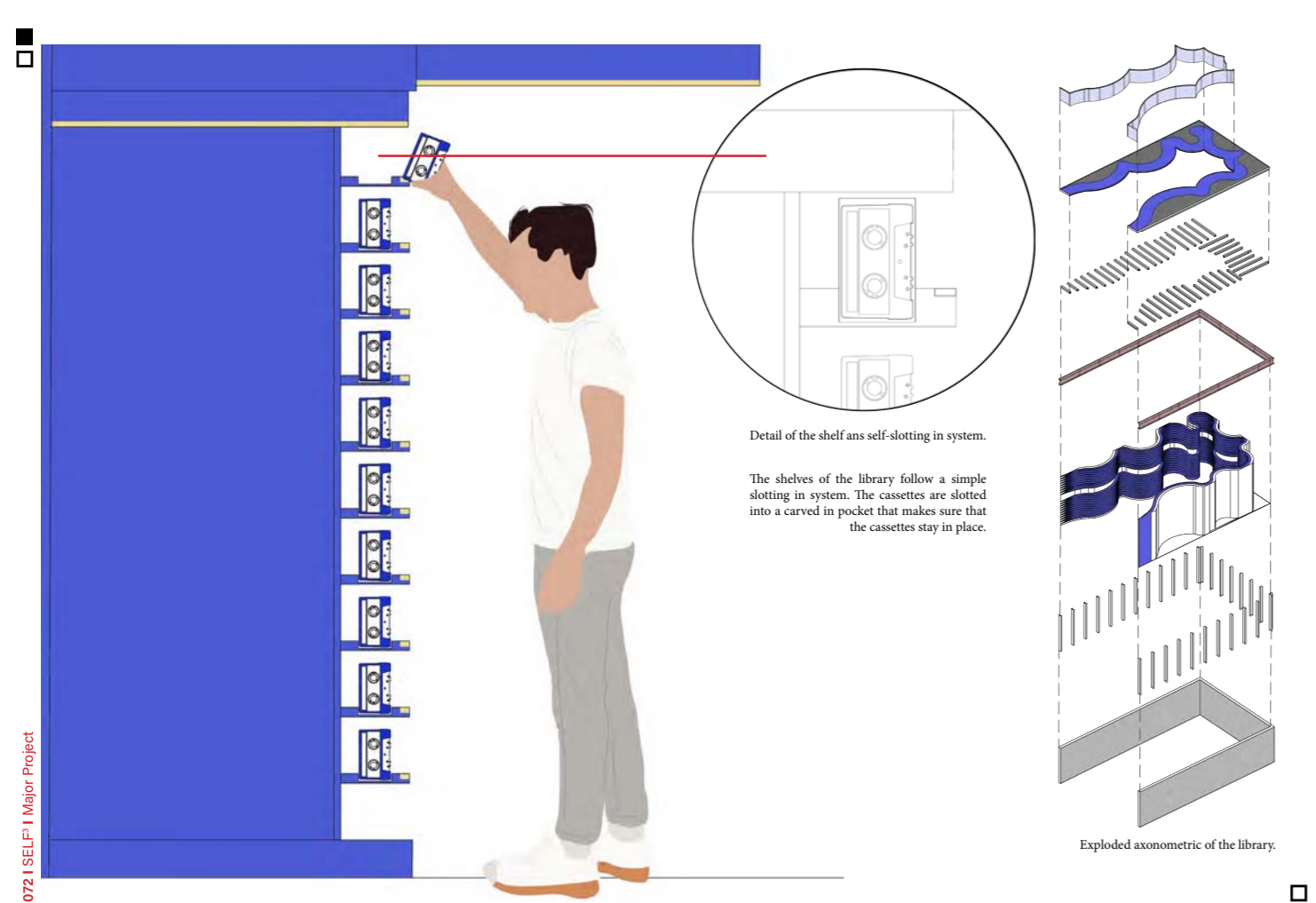




exhibition space
0th floor



Rendered visual of exhibition space

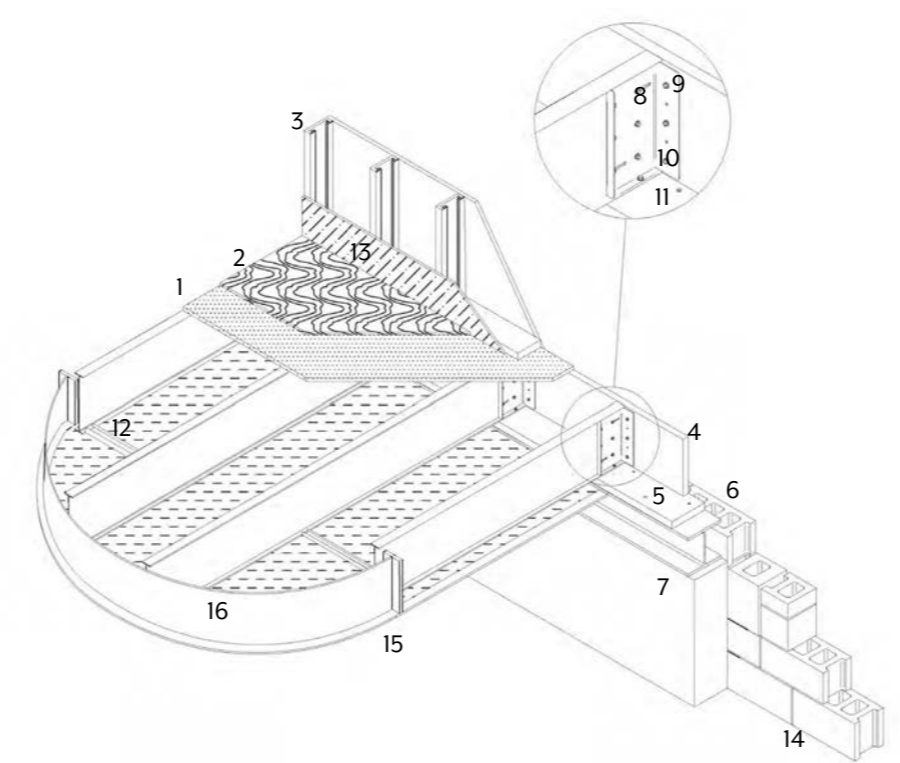


Detail of the shelves self-slotted in system.

The shelves of the library follow a simple slotting in system. The cassettes are slotted into a carved in pocket that makes sure that the cassettes stay in place.

Exploded axonometric of the library.

Floating floor system detail (nts)

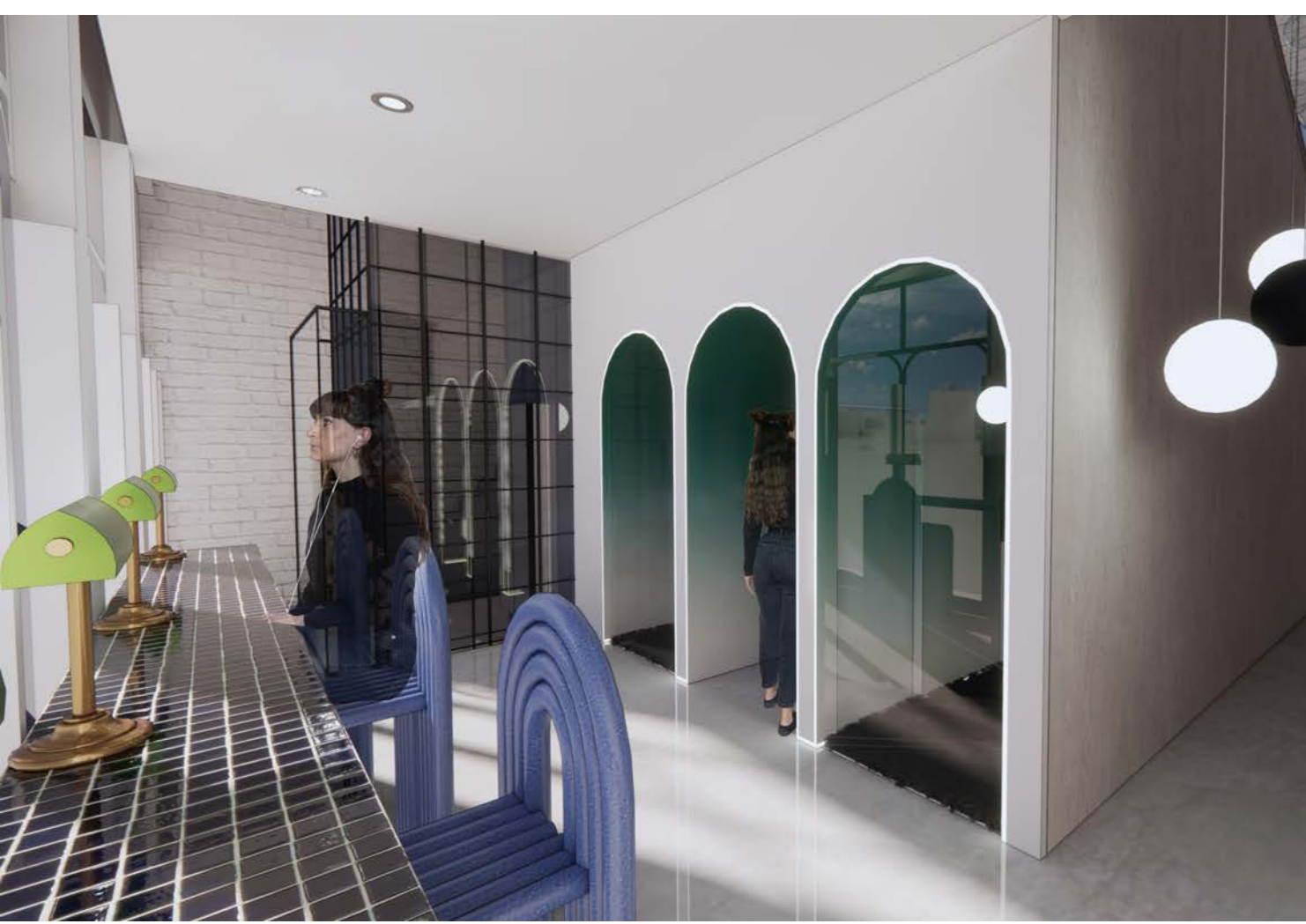


1. Rubber layer
2. Precious timber, 06-6 mm veneer with 6 layer bottom UV lacquered coating and 2 layer facing coating.
3. Structural steel beam
4. Rim joist
5. Nailor to sill beam
6. Sill Plate 50.8 mm
7. Structural steel beam
8. Joist Full Height Connector
9. Fasten connector to rim
10. Fasten connector to joist with screws
11. Toe-screw joist to sill plate with screws
12. Steel joist bridging -Herringbone strap
13. 12.5 mm Plasterboard board with decorative finish
14. CMU wall
15. 15 mm Acoustic Plasterboard with rubber layer
16. Curved steel beam



The water passage is a way for the visitors to let go of their expectations and sense of control and give into the moment. The two walls on the side have mirrored surfaces so to make the space appear larger in size and depth. The optical illusion is a way for the space to still obtain its desired affect, without the need of excessive space.

Rendered visual of the water passage.



recording pods

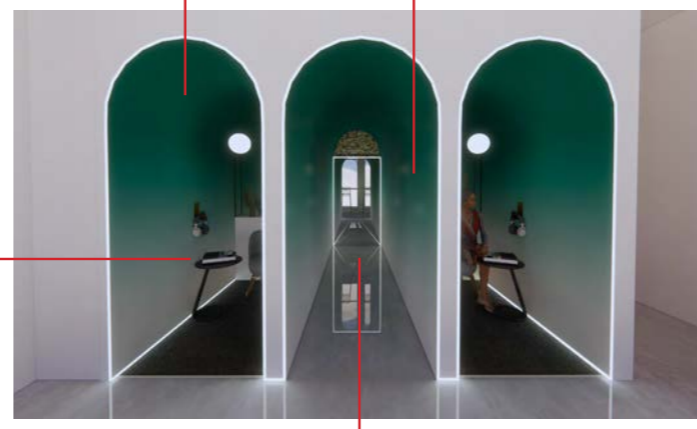
1st floor

The recording booths allow for privacy and a sense of comfort. They are sound proof and allow for those recording their stories to still have visual access to the centre. As a shut out pool would feel too enclosed and cold, a more open yet personal space was ideal.

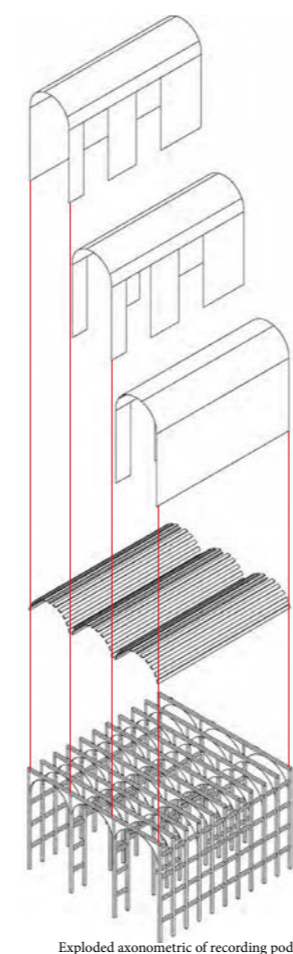
The recording of the tapes will happen through a typical cassette tape recorder. Some of the older generations visiting will feel nostalgic and warmth towards the vintage machinery, whilst the younger generations will have the opportunity to share their story through something other than their mobile phones.

At the end of the recording booths there is a storage room in which all of the items needs for the library are kept, such as spare cassette tapes and recorders.

The recording booths are accessible from 'hidden' doors, yet allow for the users to still have visual access to the outside of them.



Rendered visual of recording pods.



Exploded axonometric of recording pods.

water passage

-1st floor

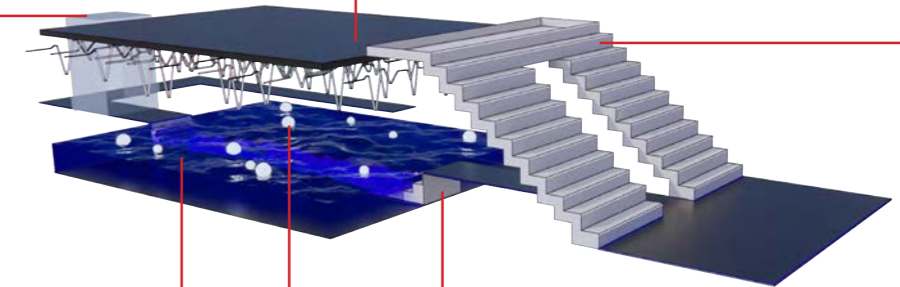
At the end of the water passage, a glass blow dry box allows for the visitors to get dry after their liberating experience.

The maximum depth of the water is maximum of 500mm. This is to allow for the visitors to not have to fear the water itself and only focus on the experience of letting go.

The floating light spheres in the water allow for an atmospheric feel to the space and give a sense of comfort.

The top lighting installation attempts to follow the wave of a heartbeat. It aims to empathize with the way our bodies react to when we decide to let go of our expectations and give into living in the now.

The steps from the exhibition space lead into the water passage experience and allow for the visitors to be surprised and intrigued by the water.



recording of cassette tapes

colour/age coded system



The cassette tapes are used as they are objects which most generations can identify with. With the older generations being able to relate to it with a layer of nostalgia, the younger ones will be able to have a physical object rather than a digital format to record their thoughts onto.

The cassette tapes will be colour coded so that the visitors can choose which age category they wish to listen to. They will also each have an engraved personal code, this code will be used both to identify the cassette tape later and to store the tapes in alphabetical order.



recording system

BREAKDOWN OF THE LIBRARY SYSTEM

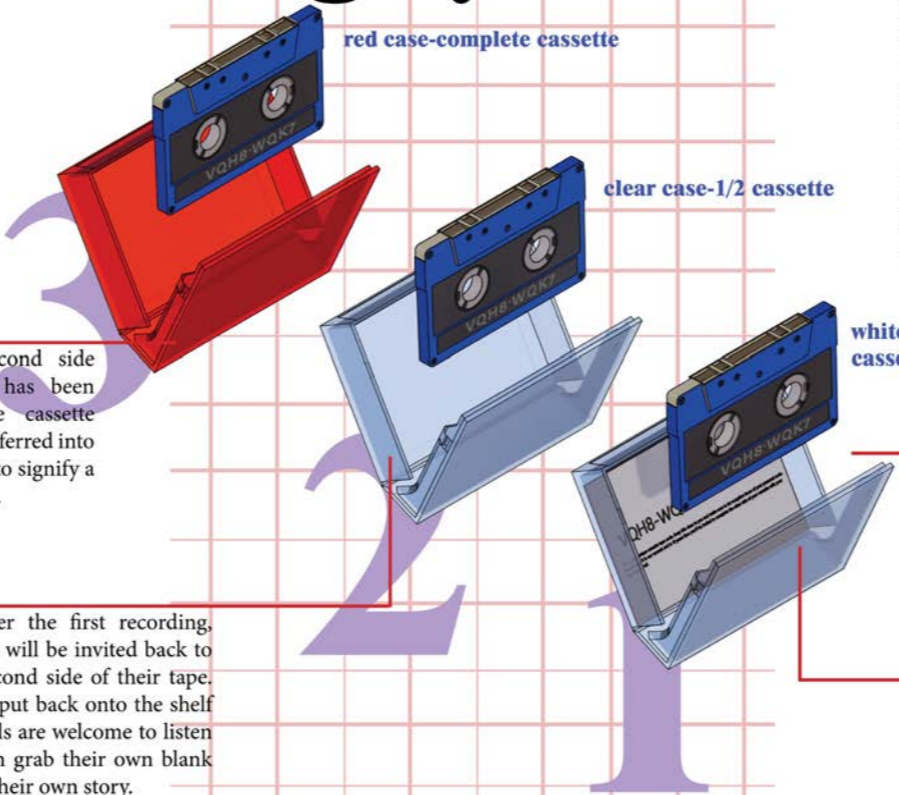
Once the second side of the tape has been recorded, the cassette tape gets transferred into a red case, so to signify a complete tape.

One year after the first recording, the individual will be invited back to record the second side of their tape. The tape gets put back onto the shelf and individuals are welcome to listen to it, and then grab their own blank tape to share their own story.

All the tapes will be available on the shelves of the library. When one decided to record their own story on one, they will then have to inform the receptionist and their way out of their unique code, so to make a note of it for the next recording session.

The cassette tape will have the unique code engraved onto it's front side, so to easily identify it.

Cassette case's inner paper lining with unique code and instructions.



Project video

- <https://www.napierdegreeshow.co.uk/interior-spatial-design/giulia-preponis>