

THE PERFORMING LANTERN

The Performing Lantern was designed to enhance the art culture of Chicago while creating a community center for the neighborhood where people could go for various activities. The old industrial site sat along the river near Goose Island and had the potential of becoming a beautiful landscape where people could interact with the natural environment that we proposed to reintroduce along the river. The central program of the performing arts center, and the flow of the river lead to the veiling screen gesture that formed the first layer of the enclosure. The veil lifted up in the strategic locations to frame specific views and also screen from the raising and setting sun. The shape of the project was determined by the three main access points onto the site through pedestrian and car access on the south, the train station on the west and the boat dock on the east.

As we set out to design this theater and community center, we first created a landscape that tucked the services underground and created a slightly elevated platform for the theater to sit on. This gave the project a strong presence despite having the bridge right adjacent to the site. We carved two plazas at the ground level that served as outdoor performing spaces and they also lead to the arts school and practice halls of the lower level. At grade, we had three distinct theater spaces enclosed by lobby spaces and bars. The first theater box had small cabaret style theaters. The second one had one large blackbox theater that could also accommodate private events. The third, grand theater had terraced seating with balconies. Each one of the theaters had its distinct atmosphere to create a unique experience for its visitors.

The rest of the grade level was covered by the second level floor which had a central oculus to let light into the center. Given the weather of Chicago, we imagined this being a nice shaded outdoor space for people to hang out and play during the summers. And in the winters, we imagined it becoming an ice skating rink for people to enjoy some outdoor activities. We carved the landscape on the river side to bring the water closer and partially under the building into the plaza space to allow for the opportunity to enjoy the river on the site. The riverway boardwalk connected the site to other projects on the north and south side of our site. The second level of the project consisted of informal performing spaces, restaurants, offices, recording studios, and a community work zone for people to enjoy when the theaters are out of session.

We were given the program of a theater, but after analyzing the site and the neighborhood, we decided that the community needed something more. The open park site maximizes recreational outdoor space by having only the bases of the three theaters touch the ground. The community programs that the project houses assure the use of the space around the clock as opposed to just the popular theater hours. This lantern performs for the community that it serves.

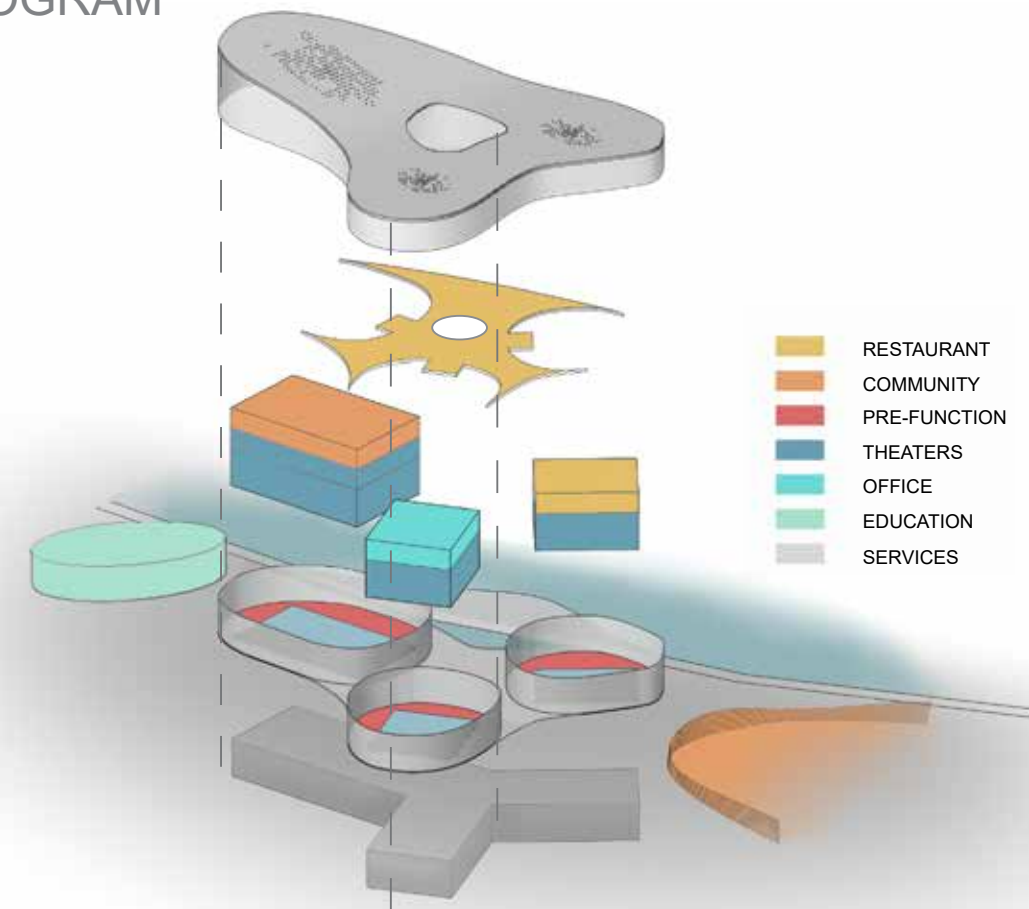
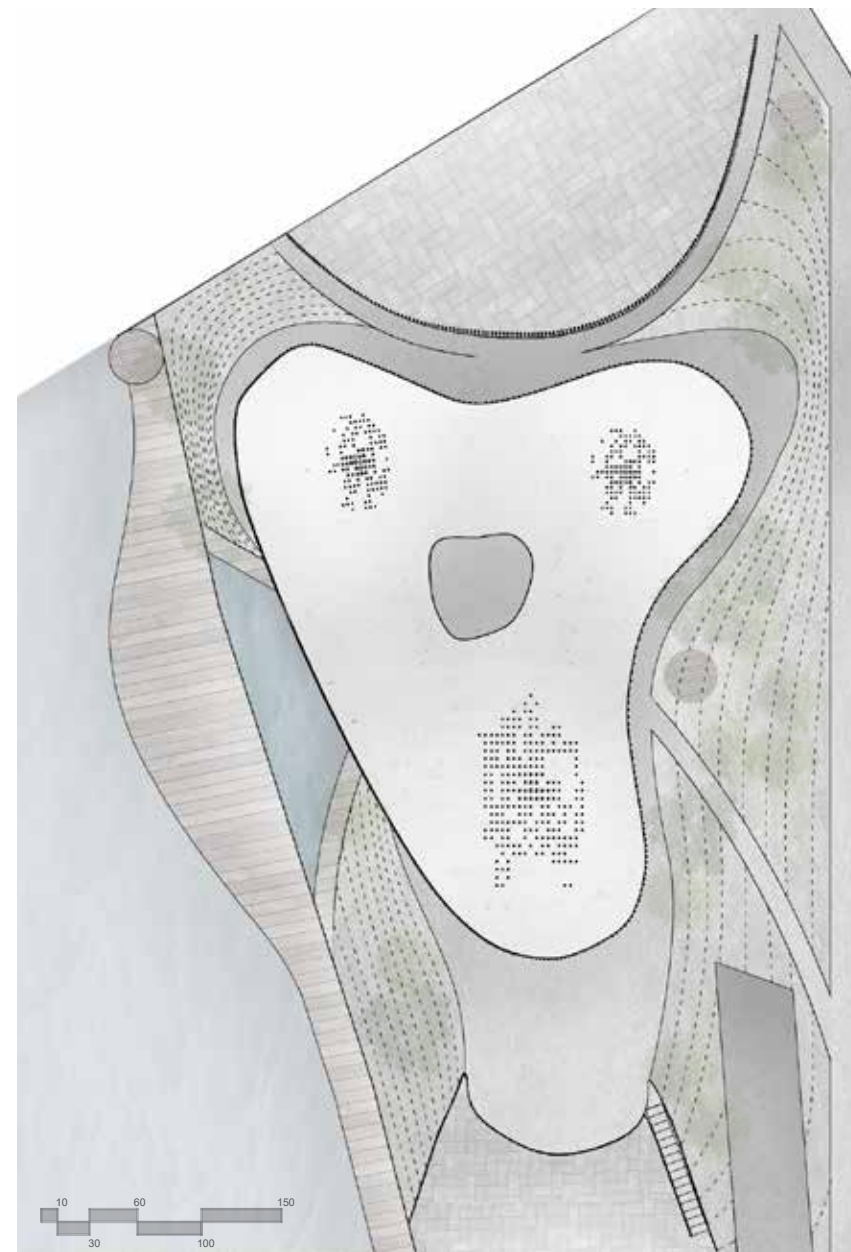


*This project was completed in a team of 3. I was primarily responsible for the work shown in this submission. I created the base digital model onto which my team applied materials. They created the base renders which I enhanced through photoshop and they produced the linework for the 2D drawings which I then rendered. The diagrams and the detail section shown are purely my work.

SITE

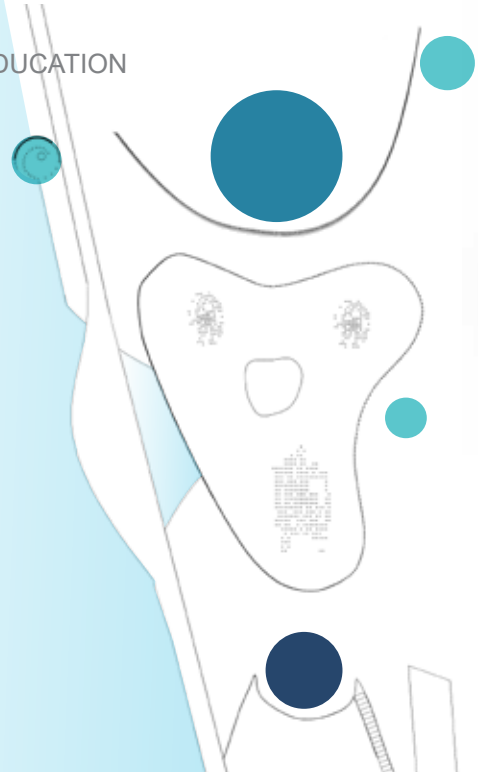


PROGRAM



SITE FEATURES

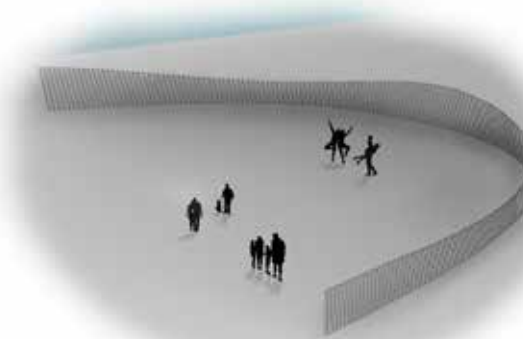
COMMUNITY OUTREACH + EDUCATION



ENTRANCE + INFO

MARK MAJOR ENTRY POINTS & VERY OPEN TO THE SITE

LANDSCAPE FEATURES THAT HELP GUIDE PEOPLE THROUGH THE PLAZA



PERFORMANCE + GATHERING

COVERED BUT OPEN TO ENVIRONMENT

INFORMAL GATHERINGS, REHEARSALS & REHEARSALS

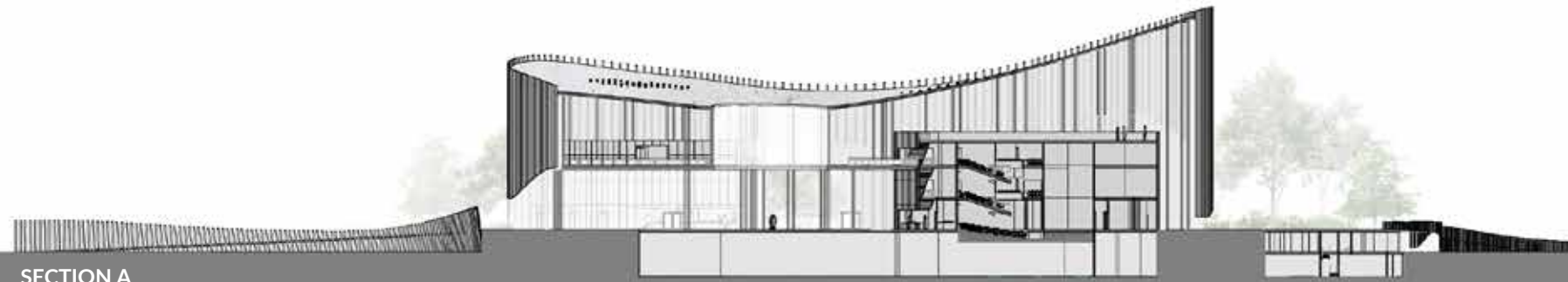


EDUCATION

FULLY ENCLOSED & TUCKED INTO THE LANDSCAPE

ROOFS SERVE AS THE EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC PLAZA, COURTYARDS IN FRONT FOR OUTDOOR REHEARSALS AND EVENTS. CLASSROOMS OF VARIOUS SIZES FOR THEATRICAL REHEARSALS, DANCE, FITNESS, AND WRITING

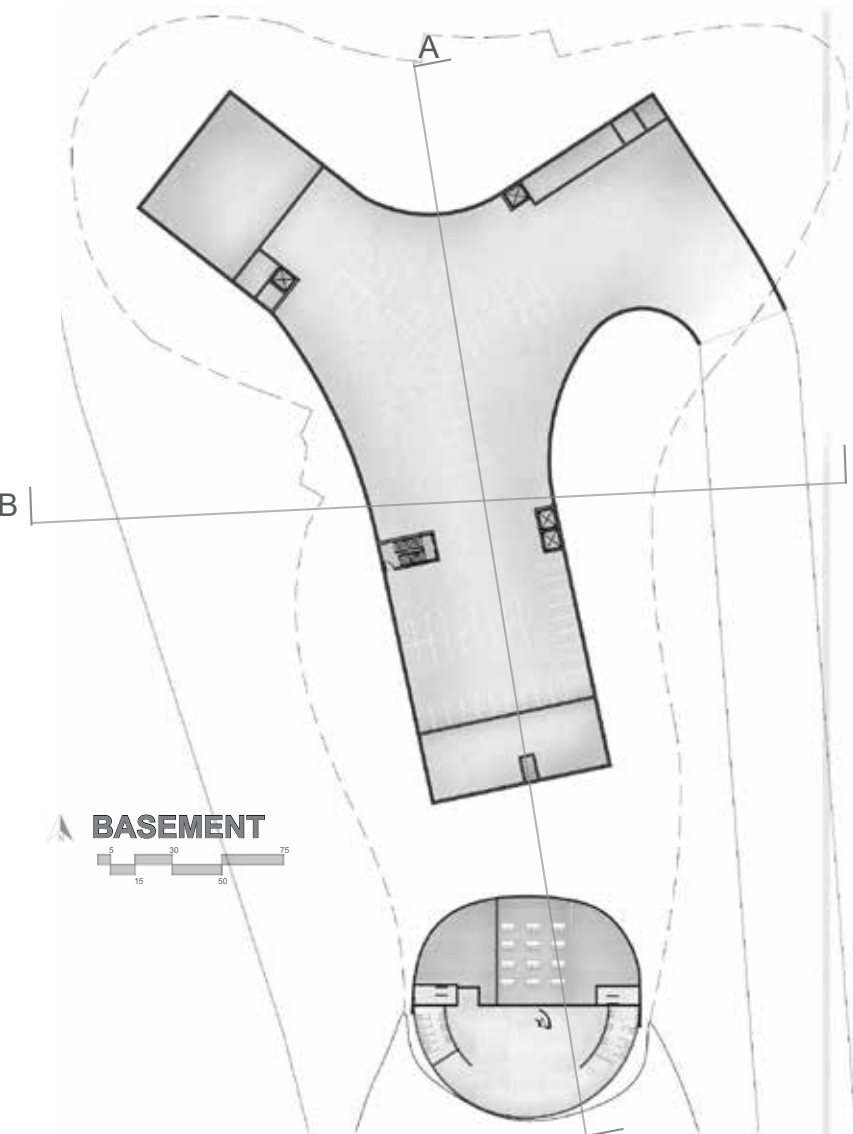
PLANS & SECTIONS



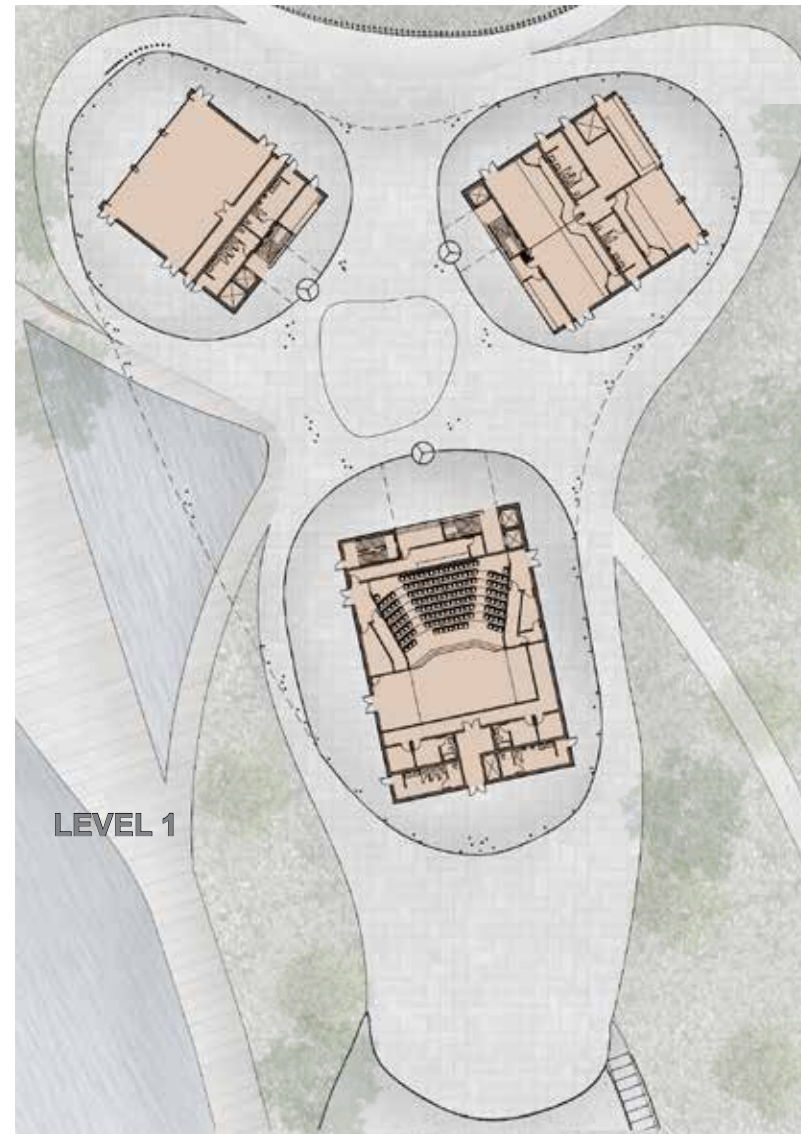
SECTION A



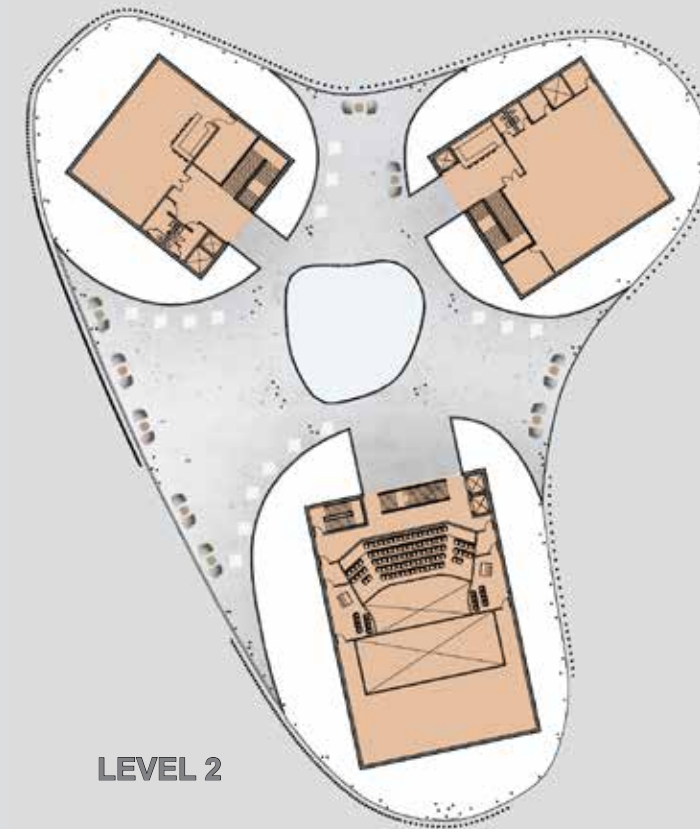
SECTION B



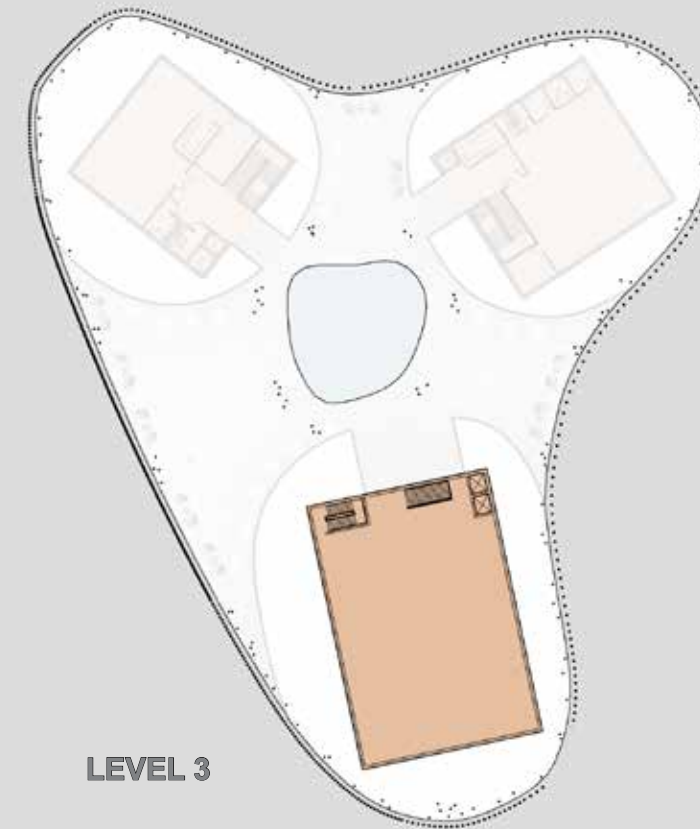
BASEMENT



LEVEL 1



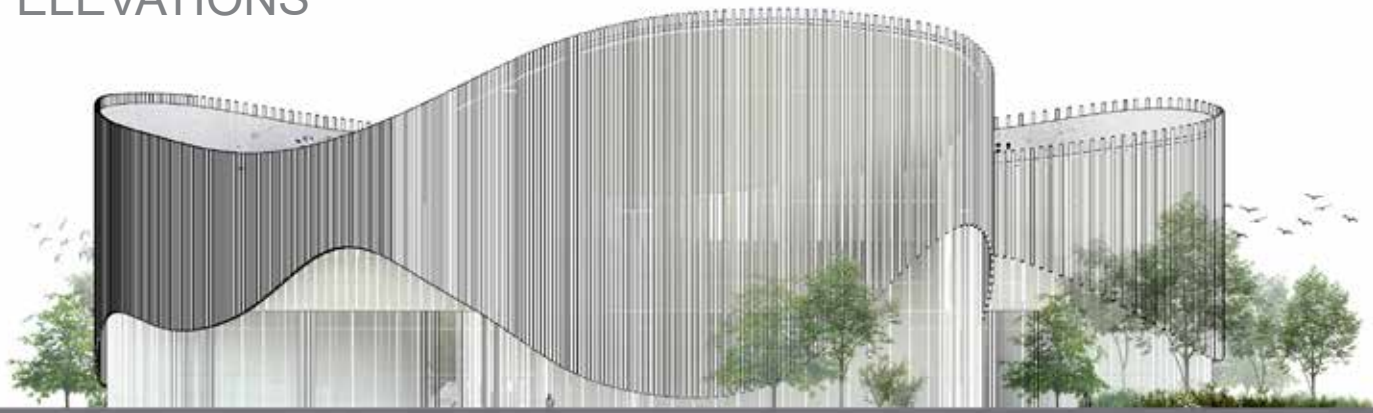
LEVEL 2



LEVEL 3

- THEATERS
(SEE ENLARGED PLANS FOR DETAILS)
- CENTRAL COMMUNITY SPACE
- OCULUS
(OPEN TO THE SKY)
- DOUBLE HEIGHT SPACES

ELEVATIONS



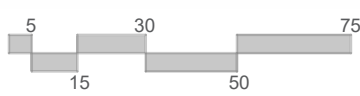
SOUTH ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION



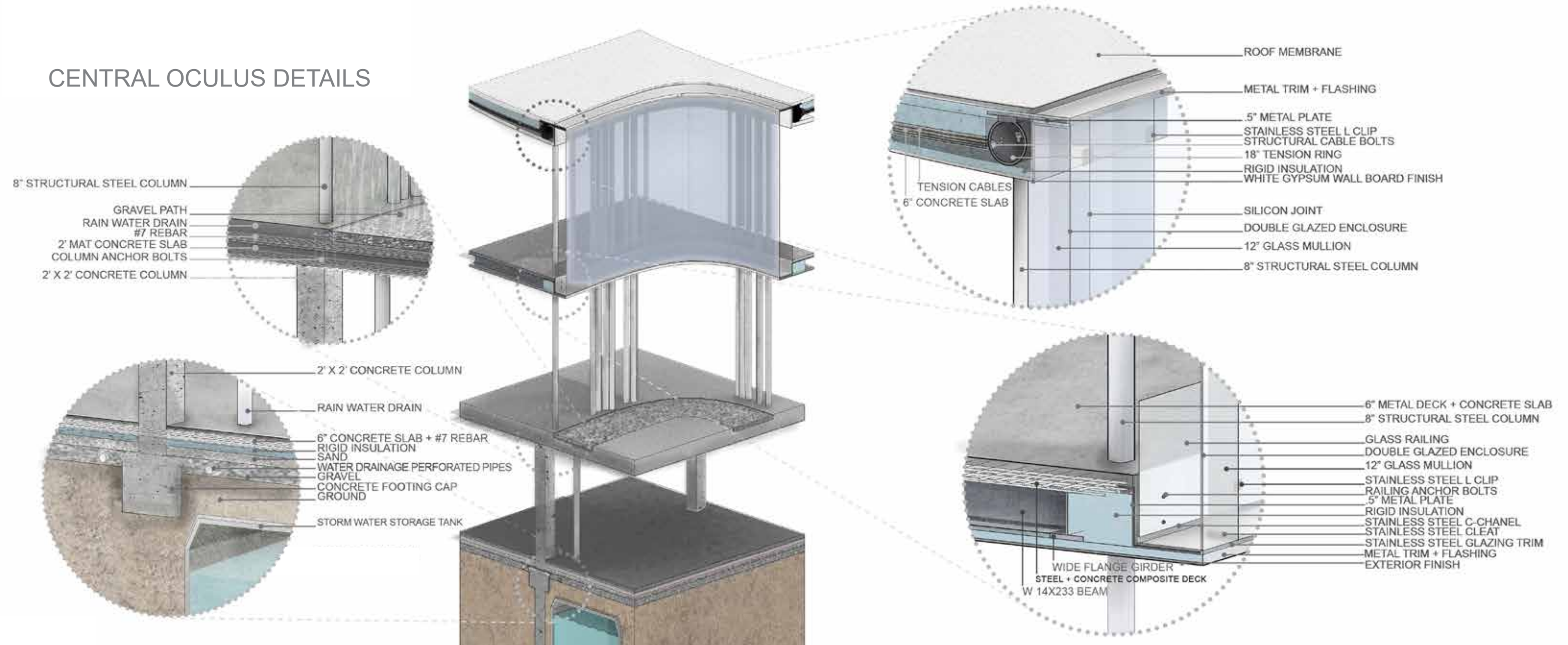
EAST ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION



CENTRAL OCULUS DETAILS



RENDERS



CENTRAL COURTYARD EXTERIOR



GRAND THEATER LOBBY + ENTRANCE



RIVER WALKWAY LOOKING NORTH