

Pedro Bandeira

Ivo Martins

Rita Furtado

Andres Camacho

Clara Abussamra

Cynthia Douaihy

Fernanda Antillón

Iranztu Berciano

João Costa

João Marujo

Jordan Craddock

Lilian Matsuda

Mariano Rodea

Marc El Samrani

Marcella Brunner

Maria Francesca Lui

Marie Eham

Marília Passos

Matthias Klapper

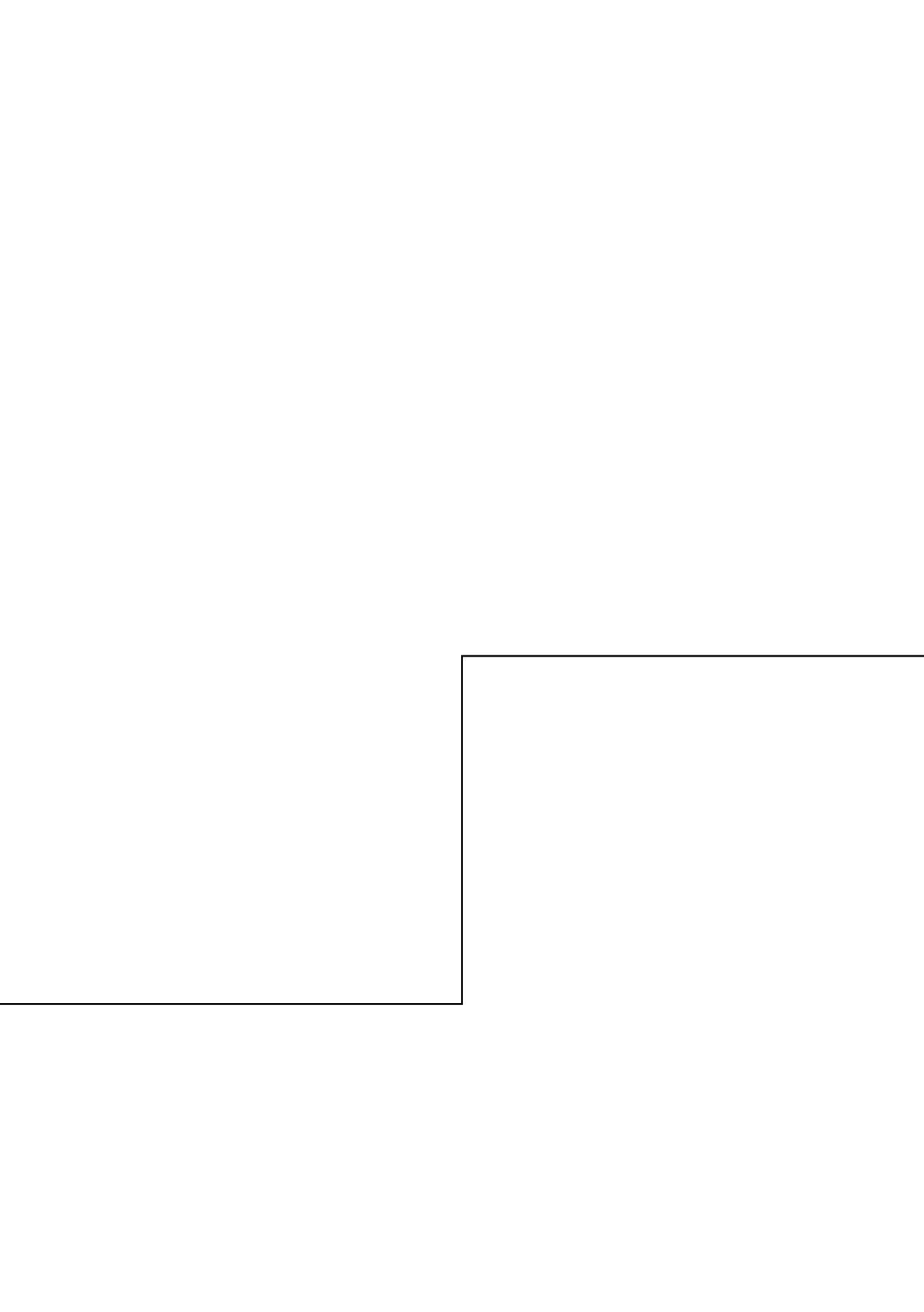
Nour Nasser

Pascal Vasquez

Sarah Hummel

Sérgio Costa

Vicky Berl



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Mariano Rodea
Marie Eham
Marília Passos |

The Campinas social housing complex, in the borough of Ramalde in Porto, was built in 1965 following the image of the modern city: 31 blocks, 900 housing units, close to 2000 dwellers. Located close to the industrial district, it is generous in green spaces, but it lacks in urban furniture and other structures to support collective activities. In the absence of consensus, very strict rules have been created, limiting the individual claim of public areas, forbidding, for instance, planting flowers or kitchen gardens next to the housing blocks. Free access playgrounds were terminated following acts of vandalism and in its place, cars park wildly which erode the hierarchy of the walking paths.

People who live in Campinas have an ambivalent relationship with their neighbourhood: the stigma of living in social housing still prevails (some argue it limits their access to employment, so they often omit this fact when applying for a job), but others might argue there are reasons to believe in a brighter future for this community.

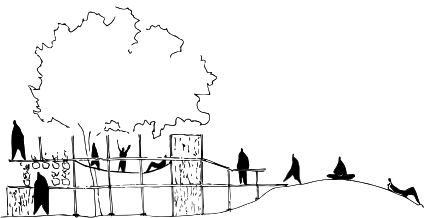


CAN ARCHITECTURE CONTRIBUTE TO INCREASE SELF-ESTEEM IN CAMPINAS?

After hearing the local community and visiting the neighbourhood, four groups of students coming from different countries (Austria, Australia, Brazil, Colombia, Italy, Lebanon, Portugal, Mexico, Syria, Sweden, Spain and The United States) worked on very pragmatic solutions in order to, in the immediate two weeks following Porto Academy, be able to build a collective space. This pragmatic vision, however never lost the ambitious vision we find in the history of urban utopias.

Studio extension – Self-assembly Lab 28Jul – 11Aug
Produced by Casa da Arquitectura, Porto Academy and Domus Social
Curated by Roberto Cremascoli
With Ivo Poças Martins, Nicoló Galeazzi and Pedro Bandeira

CUBE ∞



Our proposition within the Campinas neighborhood is the result of a utopian expansion of a multi-use structure conceived as an answer to the area's undefined common space.

Despite its generous public areas with considerable afforestation quality, the absence of urban furniture and gathering spaces contributes to a more walk through aspect instead of permanence.

In order to change that, the adopted strategy is based on a modular wooden structure with different functions – urban garden, playground, relaxing area and markets – which could be easily reproduced by the residents according to their preferences and needs, possibly expanding it through the whole neighborhood.

By doing so, the superstructure would at the same time enhance and activate public spaces, but also connect the different centralities of that community.

- Phase 01

The Xperiment
Creating a small scale implantation of the structure in a strategic point in the site.
- Phase 02

The Growth
Develop the basic structure in the chosen site in order to be more responsive to the needs of its inhabitants.
- Phase 03

The Infection
Implement this basic structure in diferent points in the city by adapting the function and form of each projet to the community involved.
- Phase 04

The Rebirth
Creating a unnified structure that connects all of the city inhabitants





COMMON SPACE



URBAN GARDEN

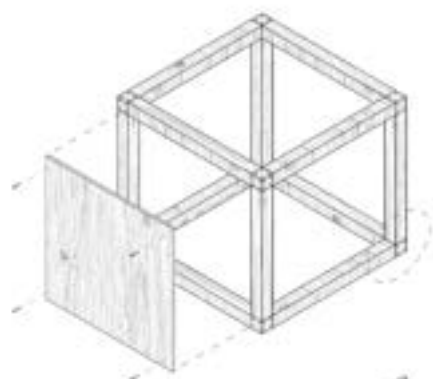


URBAN STRATEGY



URBAN STRATEGY

CUBE MODULE



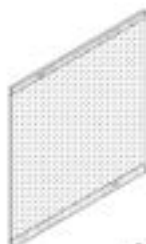
JOINT DETAIL



ROPE WALL



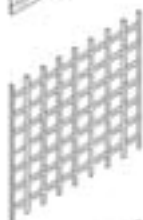
GRAFFITI WALL



LONG PLANTER



VINE WALL



BENCH



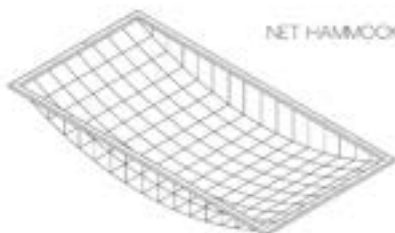
POT PLANT WALL



SWING



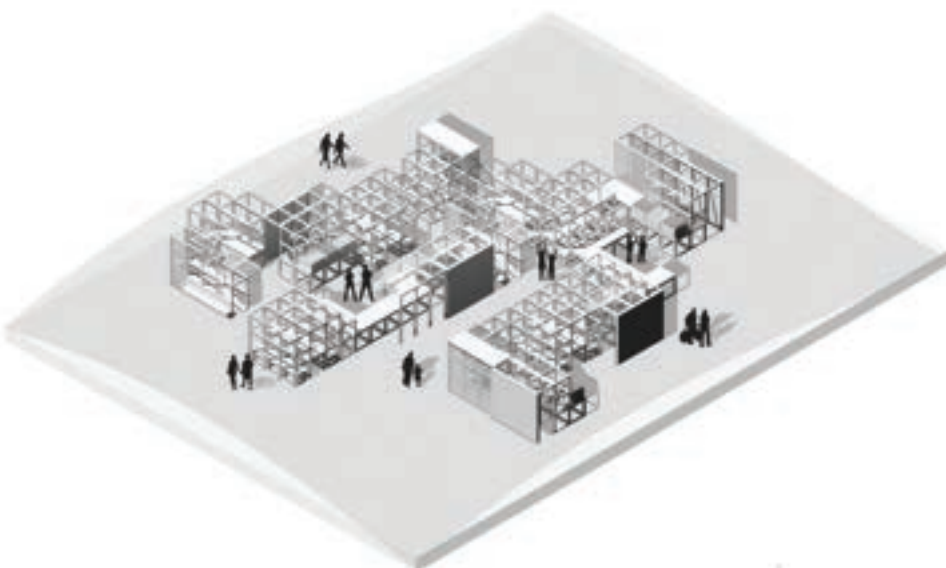
NET HAMMOCK



LARGE RAMP



GENERAL ASPECT



SITE INTERVENTION

URBAN EXPANSION



PUBLIC APARTMENT

To give residents of Bairro das Campinas a place to share in their empty courtyard, the idea is to create a public apartment where they all get together.

A concrete platform with a painted floorplan will generate an emotional ownership. This element is a representation of a private apartment.

People may occupy it and gain intimacy in public. The private apartment will continue in public and become a public apartment.

Public gets private - Private gets public.



BAIRRO DAS CAMPINAS, PORTO

31 BLOCKS 900 APARTMENTS 2000 RESIDENTS



THOUGHTS

Who will care about the interventions after the workshop weeks are over?

What will happen after the images are produced and everybody goes home and leaves the community alone with a feeling of a job well done?

Does the community feel like the owner of this project or do they feel as a charity case?

Is this event a lost opportunity of bringing a real change in the neighbourhood?

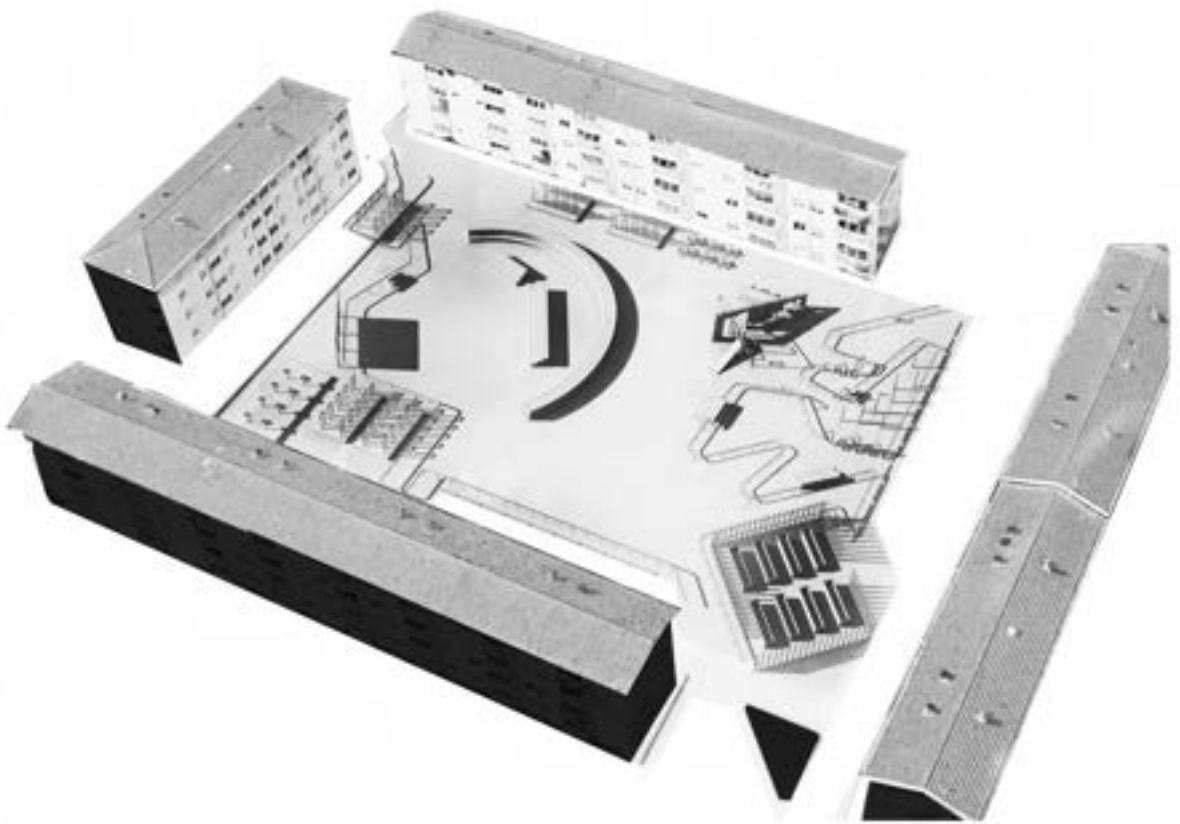
Maybe they will burn it all down, who knows?



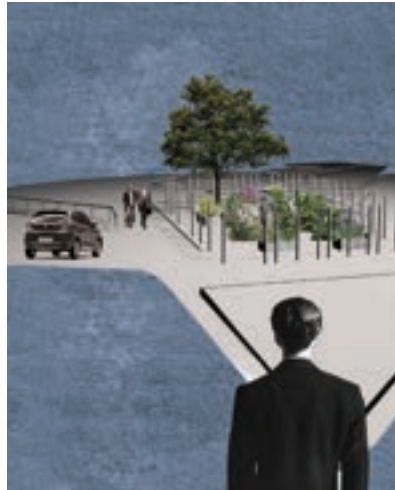


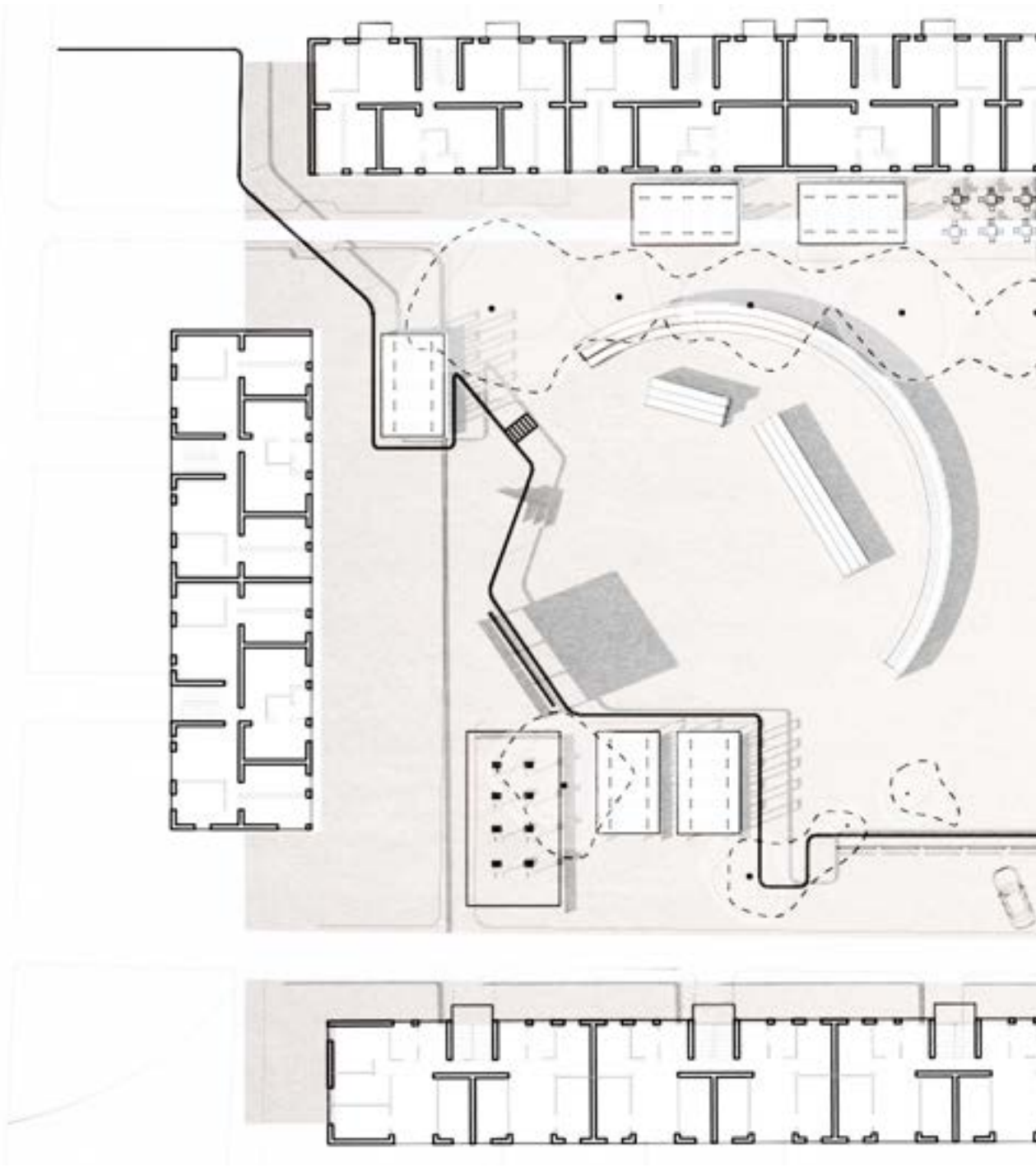
CONTINUOUS PLAY

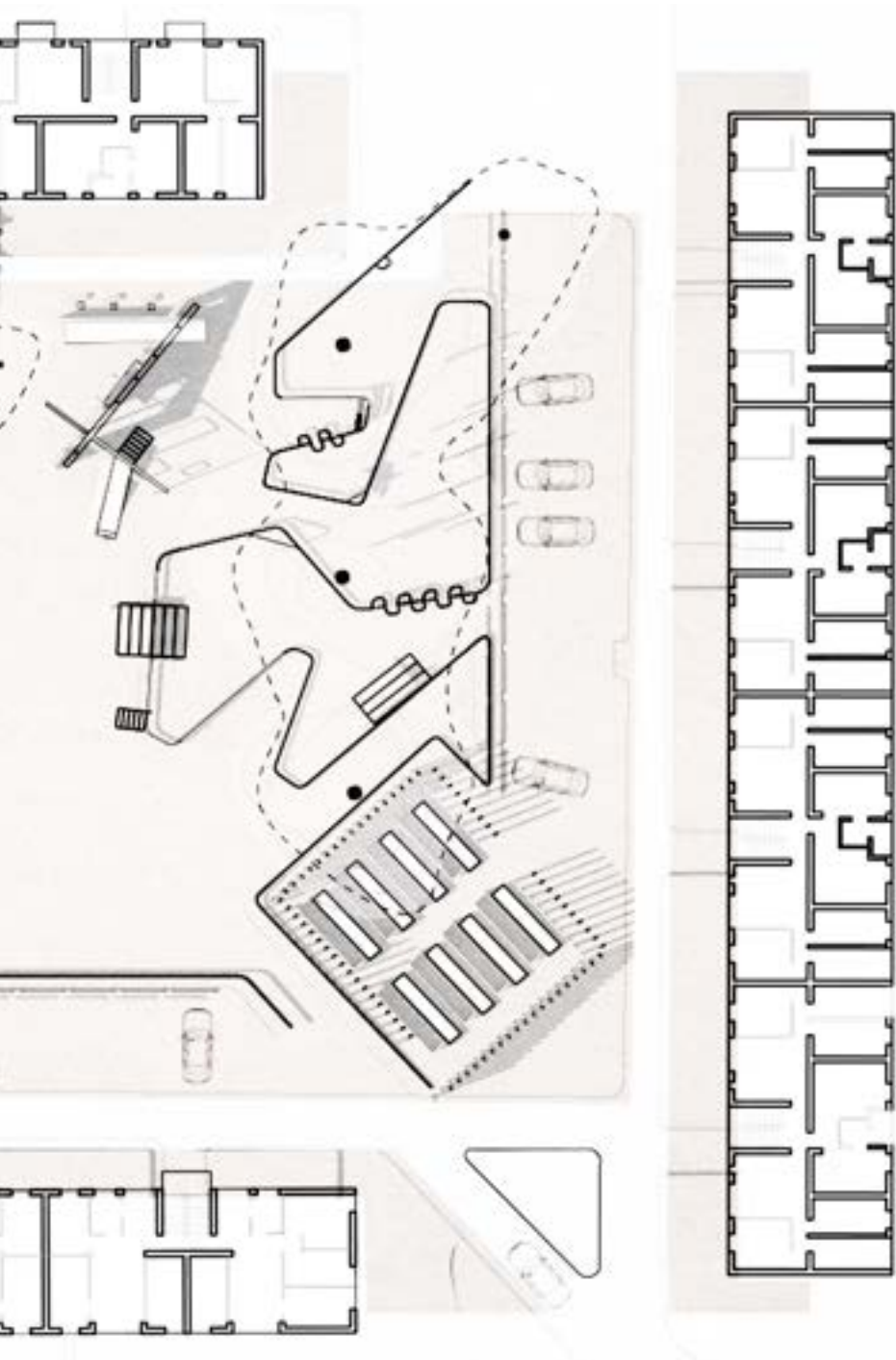
Interior becomes exterior. A rail connects neighbors, mothers, seniors and children while also framing and organizing spaces to walk, to play, to sit, to view, to meet. This enables the creation of a newly activated space for cultural integration and daily participation in community life.

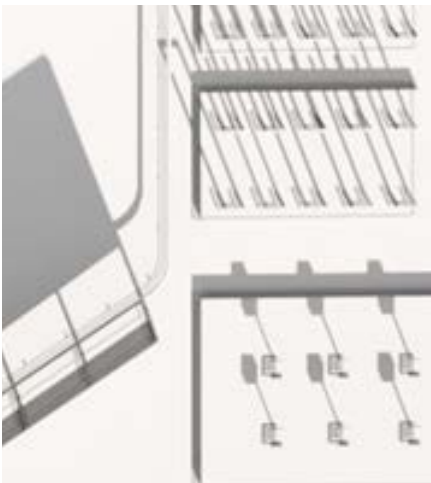
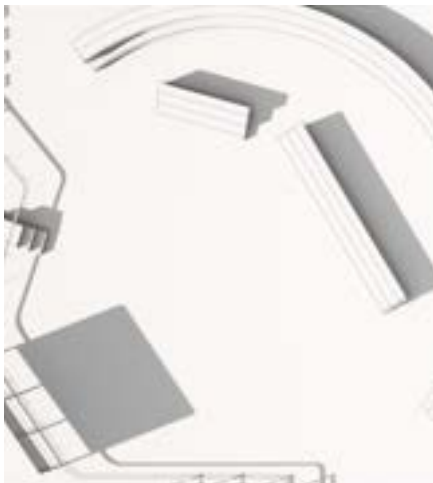
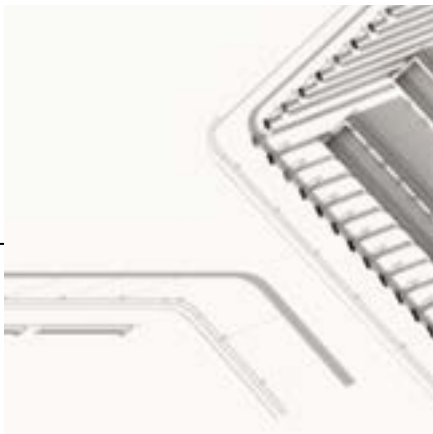
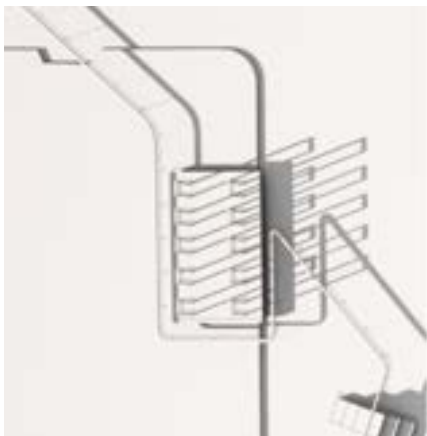


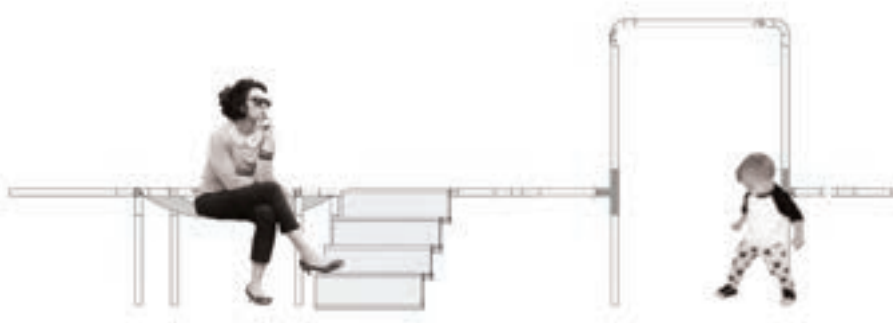










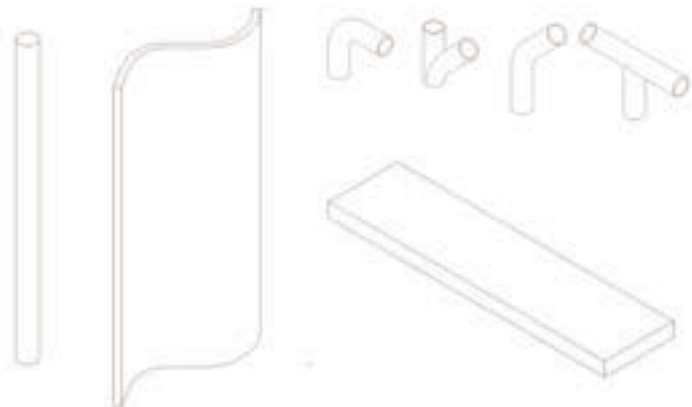


WOOD CYLINDERS

WOOLFELT

COPPER JOINS

90 DEGREE 45 DEGREE 135 DEGREE TEE



WOODSTRIPS

CAMPINAS GOT TALENT



Whilst visiting the site at Campinas there were noticeable imprints of the São João party and it became the first source of inspiration for the group. São João is a popular celebration that happens every year on June 23rd and it is based on the idea of sharing and embracing the community spirit in a festival atmosphere.

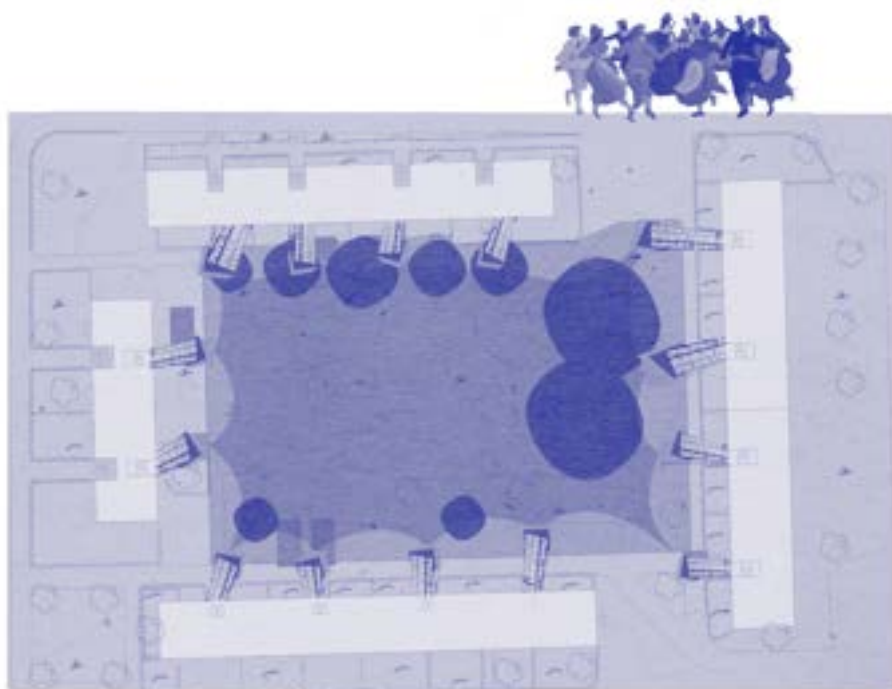
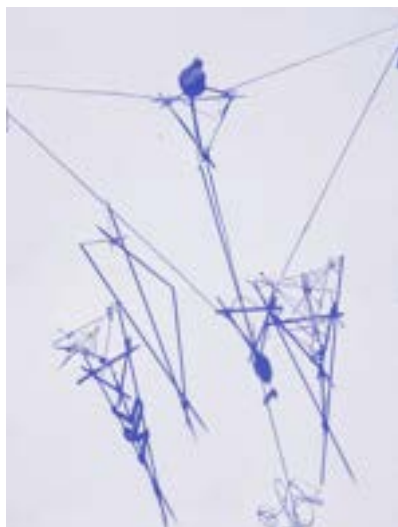
This developed into the desire to create something that alluded the communication, integration, and the feeling of celebration that happen in popular festivities and “festas” in general. The Circus came up as a way to represent these concepts, mainly the idea of reunion, which were materialised in the workshop as proposal of a public place for expression.

The proposal consists of two main elements: The stage and the tent. The stage is a platform that allows people from the community to speak up, share their talents and come together in a sense. The tent is a structure that plays with the idea of light and shadow transforming the space beneath it into a shared environment.

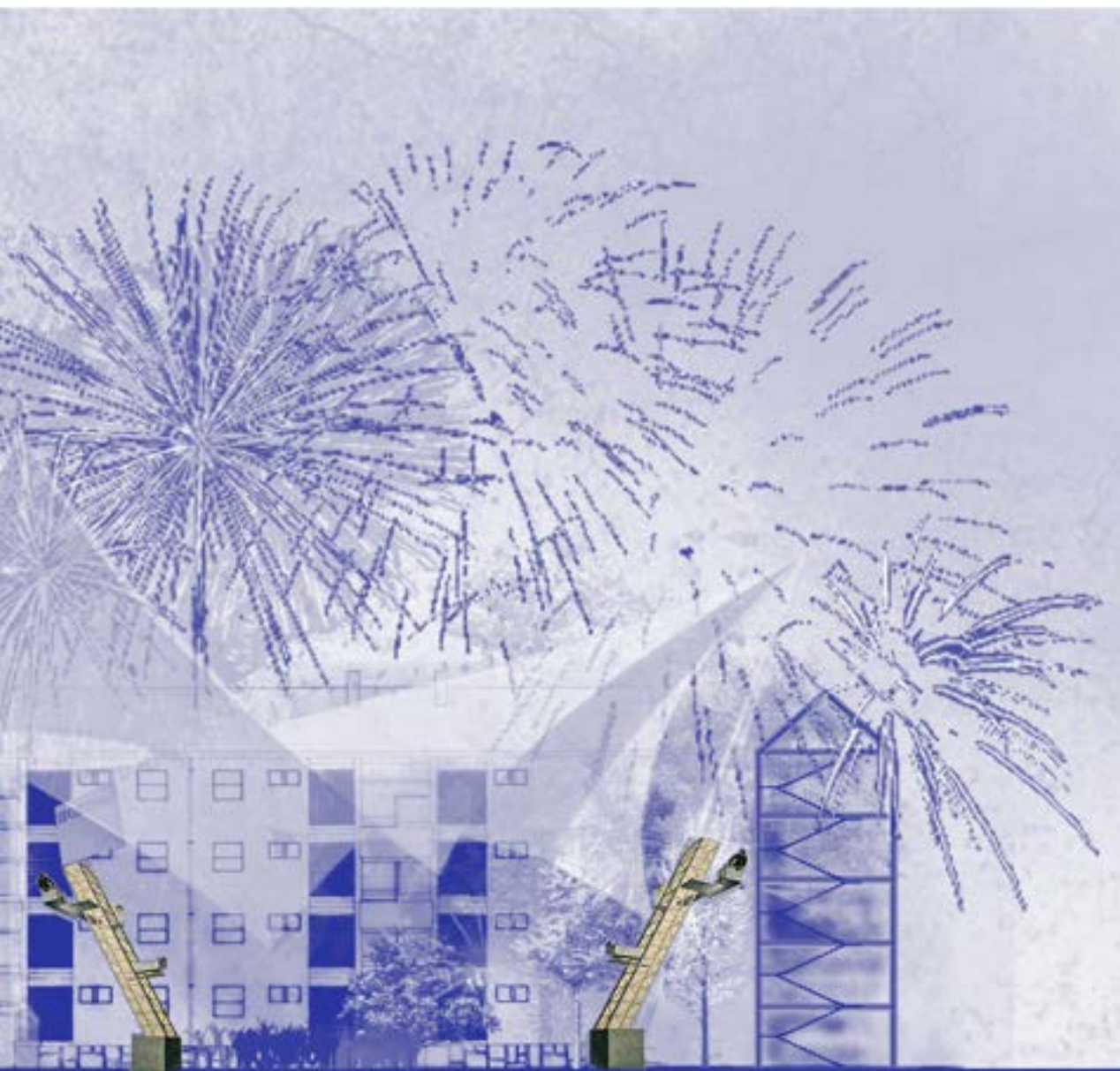
At the utopian proposal the stages are represented by elevated balconies. The elevated balconies have a concrete base and are connected to every stairwell, which are the public spaces within each building. This responds to complaints from the residents about the lack of balconies and the recent enclosure of the stairwells and also allows for the elderly and people with disabilities to be a part of the stage. As for the tent, it is shaped and supported by the structures of the elevated balconies and it embraces the whole public space turning it into one large platform of expression and festivities.

The pragmatic approach for the utopian proposal is the basic idea of a coreto positioned on a square. It is materialised as a concrete platform that works as a stage and is covered by a tent. Those elements are simple shapes that can transform the public space providing a place where they can dance, play some music, make presentations, have parties and celebrate the community spirit.









This booklet was designed and produced at the editorial design workshop at Porto Academy.

COORDINATION
Non-Verbal Club

PARTICIPANTS
Ana Resende
Diogo Matos
Francisca Mendes
Gabriella Sena
Guilherme Peres
João Novais
Luísa Tormenta
Paulo Mariz

ORGANIZATION & PRODUCTION



CO-ORGANIZATION



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