



OPPORTUNISTIC EXPLORATIONS

PREMISES

Architecture can no longer limit itself to design isolated elements. The challenges shaping our world — climate instability, resource scarcity, demographic transitions, ecological transformations, technological acceleration and social inequality — operate at scales that exceed the building. They unfold across territories, infrastructures, networks and systems. To engage with these realities, architects must learn to read beyond the site. This studio approaches context as a field of information: a dynamic constellation of environmental, social, economic, cultural and political forces. A living system continuously producing data, relationships, conflicts and opportunities.



Underground reservoir for flood control, Tokyo



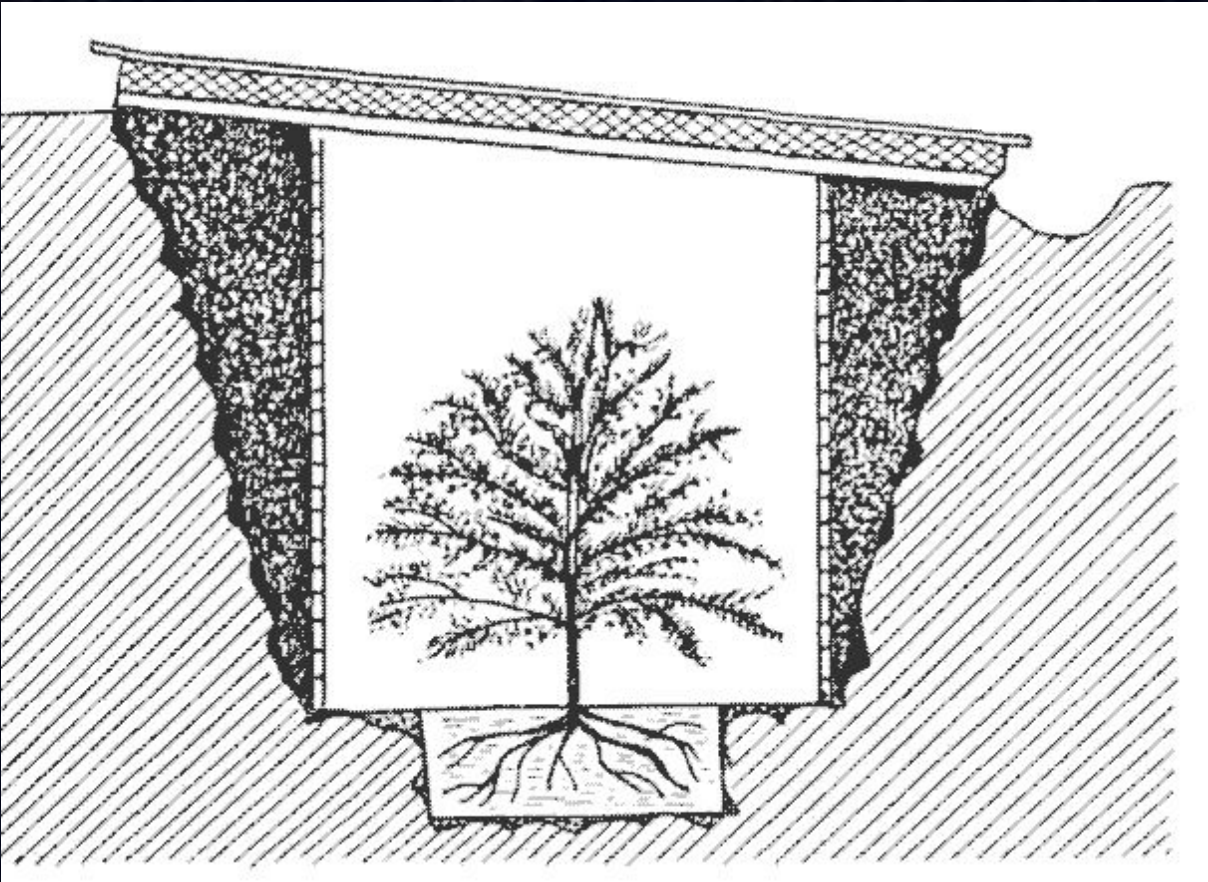
Unqanat, an ancient Persian underground water supply and irrigation system, Iran

Data is not neutral.
It is not simply collected or displayed.
Data is interpreted.

Fruit Trenches: Cultivating Subtropical Plants in Freezing Temperatures, 1950



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Traditional lemon and orange grove in Sorrento, Italy, from September 1955



Peach walls, 17th century in Montreuil, Seine-Saint-Denis, Paris.
At their peak in 1870, the Montreuil peach orchards were 600 km long and produced 17 million peaches.



Data becomes a design material.

But a material is not an outcome.

Mapping does not end in a diagram; it ends in a building, a landscape, a threshold, a space. The purpose of reading complexity is not to represent it more accurately, it is to design with it. To let a flow of capital suggest a form. To let a migration pattern generate a typology. To let an ecological cycle become a spatial sequence, an atmosphere, a material behaviour, a section that breathes.



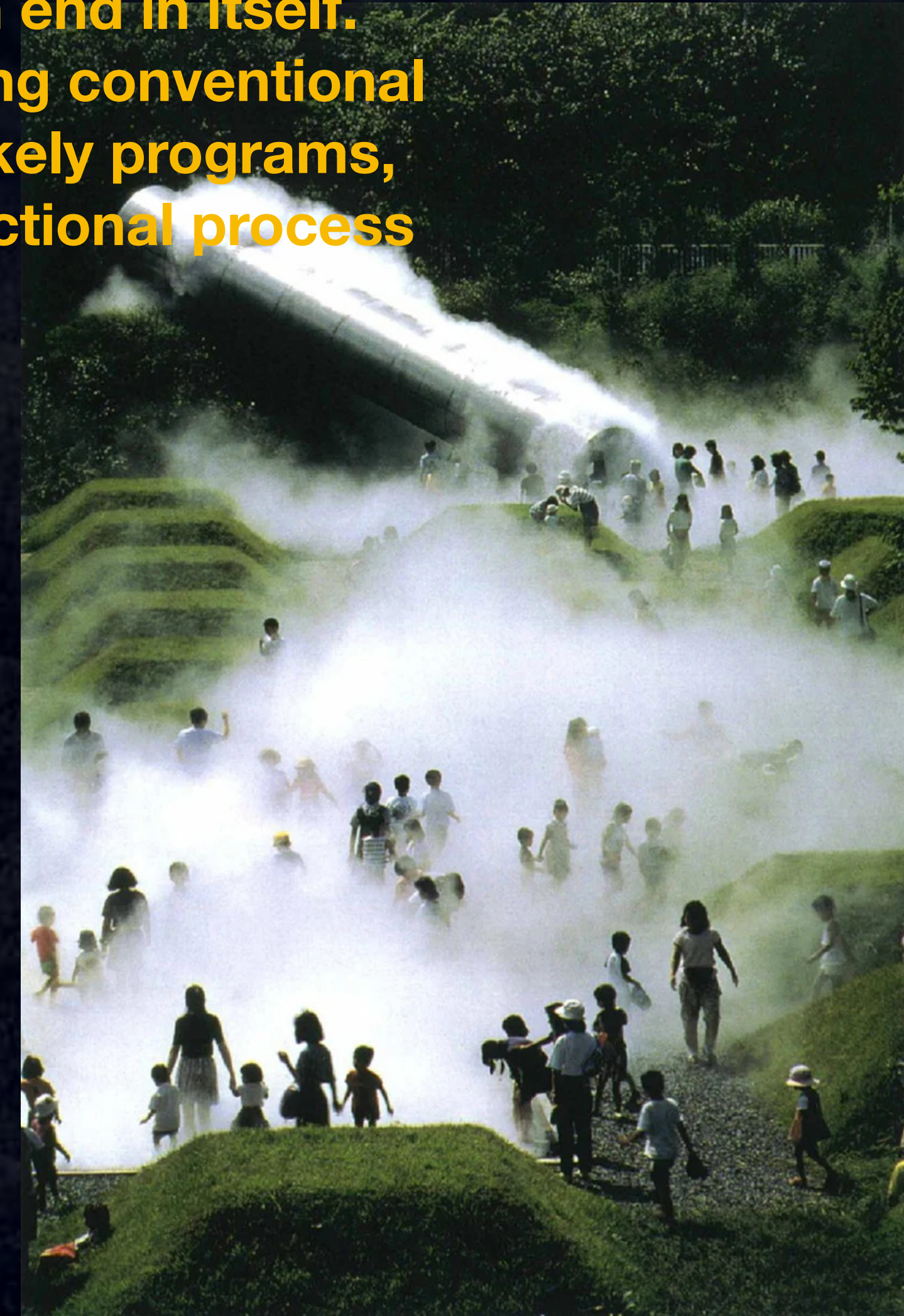
Alipasa Bazar in Edirne, Turkey , 1569



Fiat Lingotto factory in Turin, Italy, 1923

**We are not interested in data as illustration, nor in analysis as an end in itself.
We are interested in data as provocation, as a way of destabilising conventional
form, of opening architecture to unexpected constellations, unlikely programs,
subversive spatial possibilities that a purely formal or purely functional process
would never produce.**

The rigor is in the reading. The risk is in the design.



Fujiko Nakaya , Foggy Forest, 1992

We believe that mapping is not documentation but investigation. Not a description of reality but a way of uncovering hidden conditions, latent potentials and emerging futures. Through observation, analysis and representation, we seek to transform complexity into knowledge and knowledge into action.

We are interested in territories as active systems rather than passive backgrounds.



Modular wildlife tower designed to support local biodiversity



Birs River, Regional landscape and floodplain renaturation

Island Garden, Gijs Van Vaerenbergh and Arne Deruyter, 2022



Architecture should act within these systems.

As catalyst.

As mediator.

As a supportive element.

As environmental device.

As social platform.

As strategic intervention.

As opportunistic infrastructure.

Architecture is understood not as an autonomous object but as an agent capable of influencing larger territorial dynamics.



Văcărești Nature Park, Bucharest, România
Nature reclaimed the empty concrete basin over two decades, turning it into a rich habitat for birds, amphibians, and small mammals.

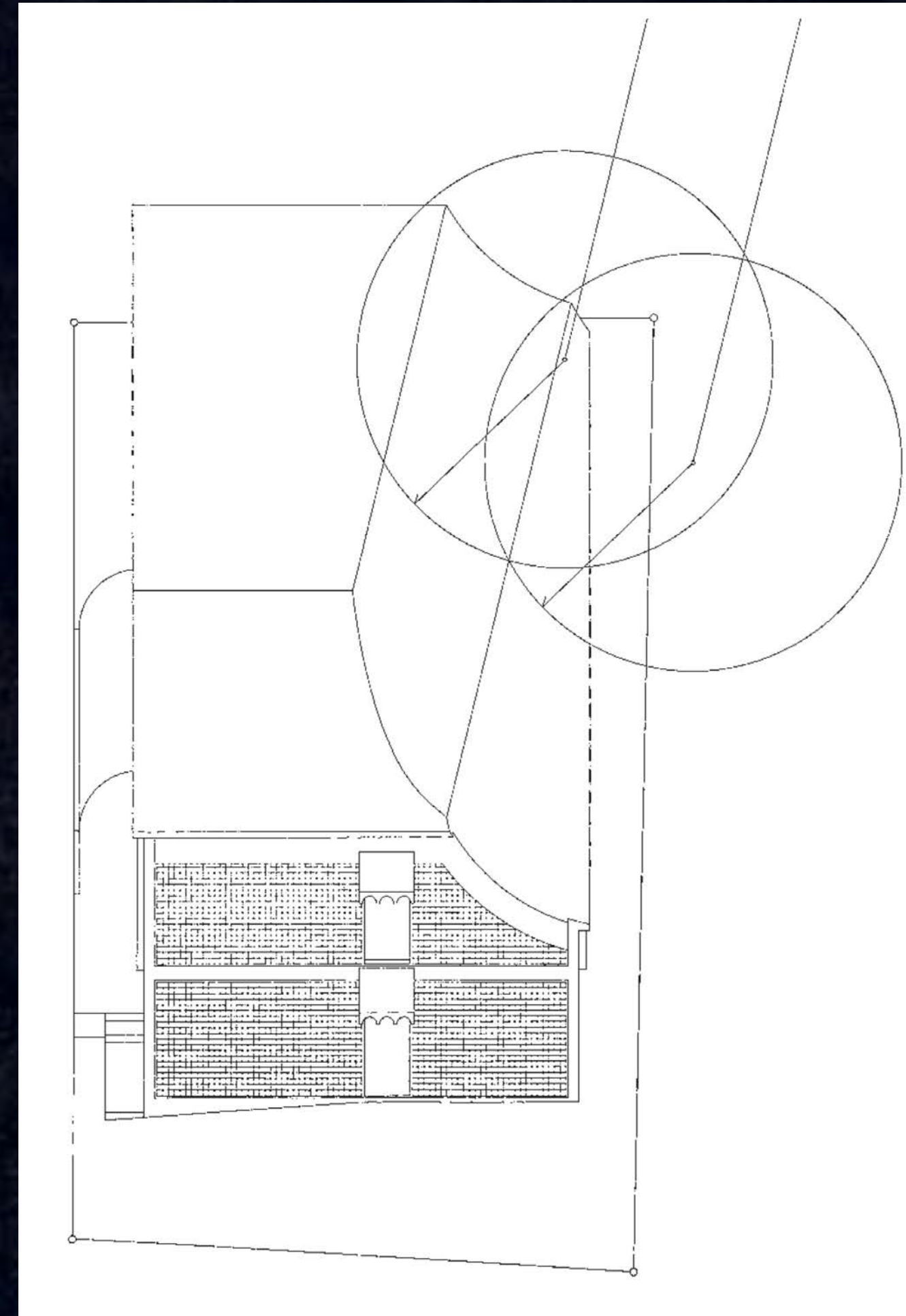


This studio values curiosity over certainty.
Experimentation over repetition.
Questions over assumptions.

The historic **Pont roulant de Saint-Malo** (the Saint-Malo rolling bridge), an unusual tide-dependent vehicle that connected Saint-Malo and Saint-Servan in France, 1873-1923



**The architect's role is no longer simply to shape form.
It is to reveal relationships.
To identify opportunities.
To anticipate change.
To imagine alternatives.
To transform information into meaningful action.**



House Under High Voltage Lines,
Kazuo Shinohara
Location: Tokyo, Japan
Year Completed: 1981

Our ambition is to cultivate a generation of architects capable of reading complexity without being paralysed by it, and capable of transforming knowledge into spatial intelligence.

Because the future of architecture lies not only in what we build, but in how we understand the world before we build it.

The Palace Of Lemons, URSS 1936



Greenhouse built against a serpentine fruit wall.



Hybrid greenhouse and garden wall design

CONTENT / OBJECTIVES

YOU ARE FREE TO CHOOSE YOUR SITE

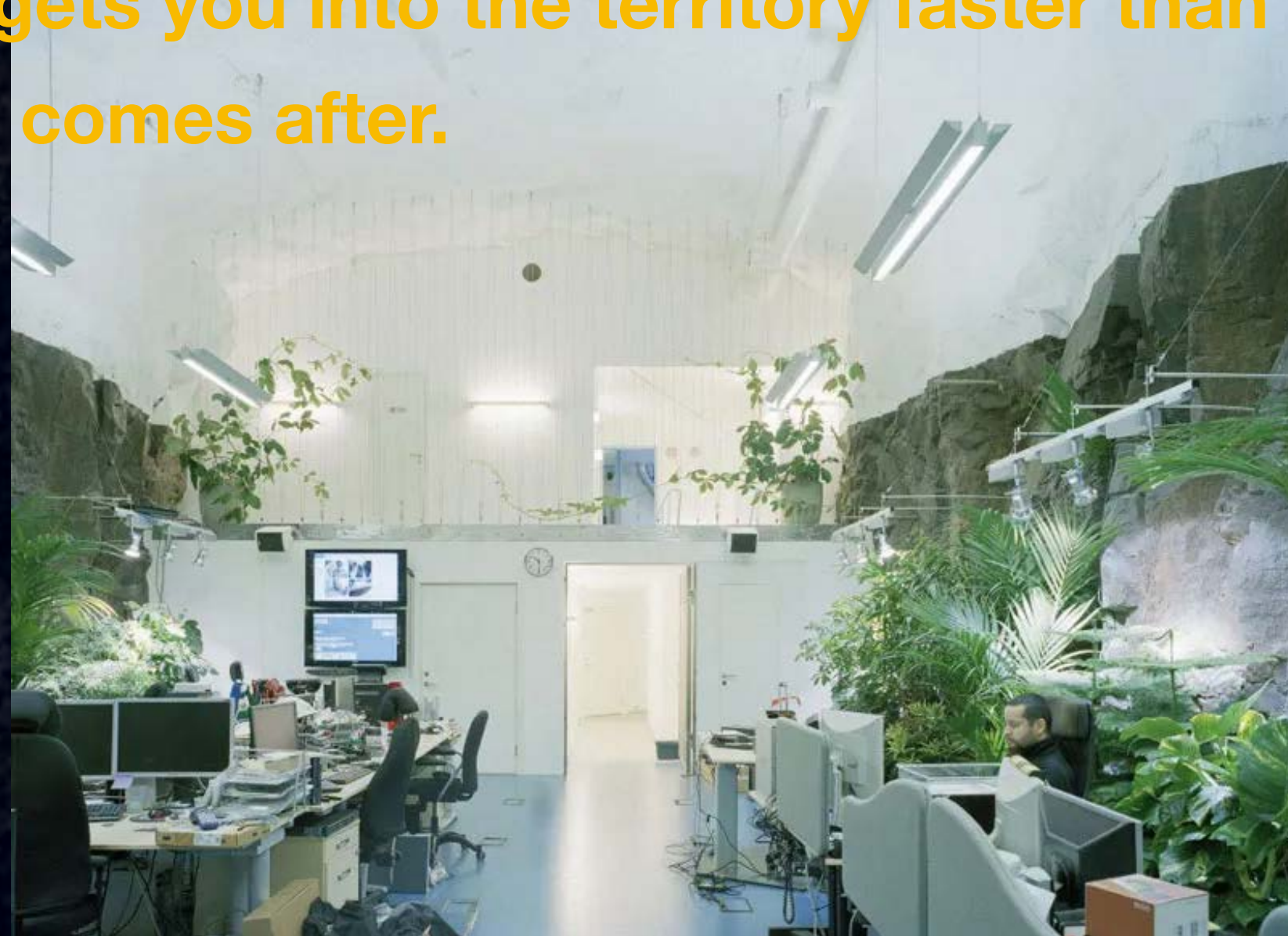
Choose one objective, a point of interest, a curiosity or a story,
not because it is interesting,
(everything is interesting; this is the first illusion to abandon),
but because you must start somewhere, and starting is
arbitrary.

Trust this arbitrariness. Intuition is not the opposite of method;
it's method before it has been asked to justify itself.

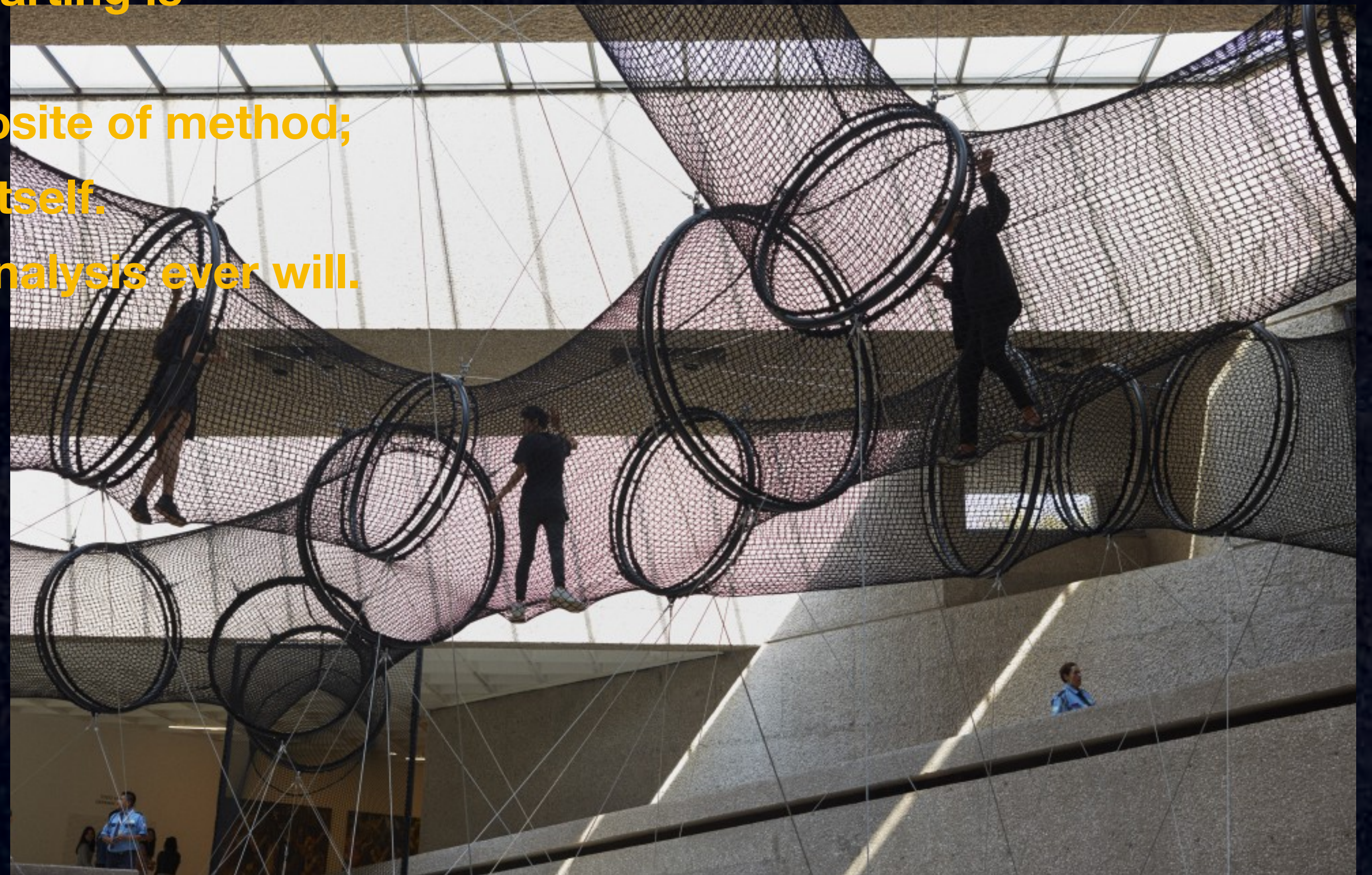
Instinct gets you into the territory faster than analysis ever will.

Analysis comes after.

Let it !

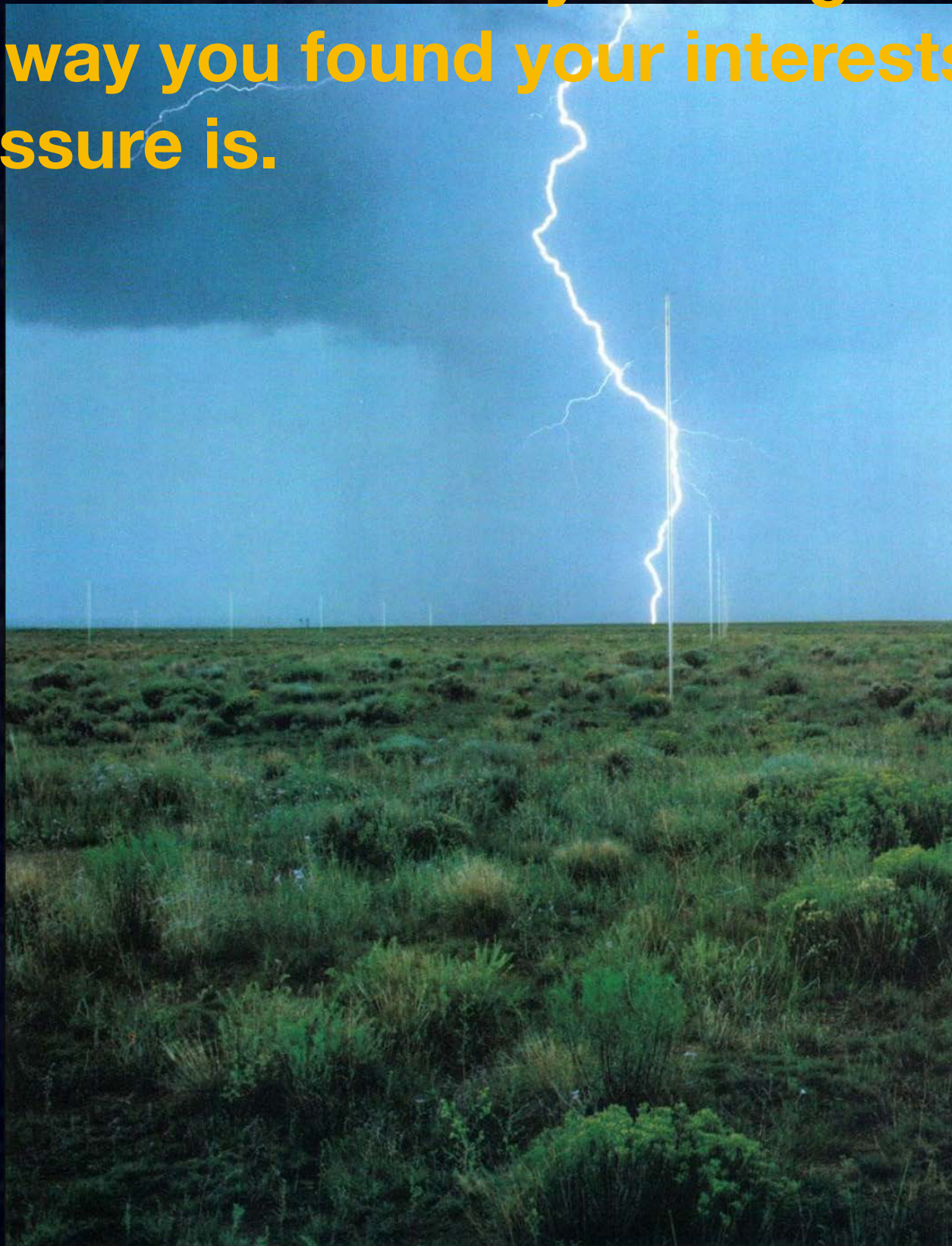


Pionen White Mountain Office, Albert France-Lanord Architects, Stockholm, Sweden



Decision Tubes by artist Carsten Höller, part of his Sunday exhibition at the Museo Tamayo in Mexico

FIND THE AGENT. Every territory has one: a force pretending to be background. Traffic, Water, Bureaucracy, Boredom. You will not find it by looking for it directly; you will find it the way you found your interests: by sensing where the pressure is.



The Lightning Field, a famous land art installation created by sculptor Walter De Maria in 1977.

Wind tunnel smoke test displaying laminar and turbulent airflow (streamlines) passing a sphere



Scan it!

Not survey: SCAN

Surveying implies you already know what you are looking for. Scanning admits you don't, yet. Move across the territory the way a machine reads a surface: quickly, indiscriminately, before judgment sets in.

Interrogate it. Extract it. Dissect it. Expose it.

This is not documentation. Documentation is what you do when you have already given up.



Traditional fortified granary (agadir) built by the Amazigh (Berber) people.
Near the village of Itoghayn in the Anti-Atlas mountains of Morocco.

Here is the paradox the studio insists on: data is objective, and yet the moment you touch it, it becomes opinion. There is no way around this. The landscape will be manipulated. Not "enhanced," not "activated" —manipulated until it becomes an ecosystem that did not exist before you arrived and will not survive after certain decisions are made. This is not failure. This is architecture's oldest act, disguised for a century as neutrality.



Running Fence, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Sonoma and Marin counties in California, USA, 1976



CloudFisher fog-harvesting installation

Use the digital tool because it is the only instrument honest enough to admit it is reshaping reality rather than representing it.



Jörg Griebel and Frei Otto, aviary of the Munich Zoo Tierpark Hellabrunn, 1979–1980

Camping Urbain, Samuel La Roze, 1999



Lapin Kulta Solar Kitchen Restaurant, designer Martí Guixé and Antto Melasniemi, Helsinki in 2011



Your intervention:

A BUILDING. AN INFRASTRUCTURE

Inserted, not composed, not integrated—inserted into a context you have just finished inventing. The architecture is not a response to the site. The site, by now, is your response.



Armitage & Kenneth (2008) from the Empty Lots series by photographer Chad Gerth.



Krebs und Herde, Koch-Park, Zürich



Sound Deflection Installation, Buitenschot Land Art Park L,
Paul de Kort and H+N+S Landscape Architects, | Amsterdam Schiphol Airport,

Find the opportunity in the mess you created. Exploit it.
OPPORTUNISTIC is the only honest description of what
architecture has always done.

Blur the boundary between context and building until
neither can claim priority over the other. Let them need
each other. Let neither survive alone.

This is not harmony in the decorative sense.
It is codependency by design.

STUDY TRIP



TORINO



TEAM

Romina Grillo

Liviu VasIU

Valentin Hostettler

LANGUAGE

English

KICK-OFF

07.Sept

FINAL REVIEWS

15.12.2026

STUDY TRIP

26 -29.Sept

Thank you