

REFLECTION PAPER

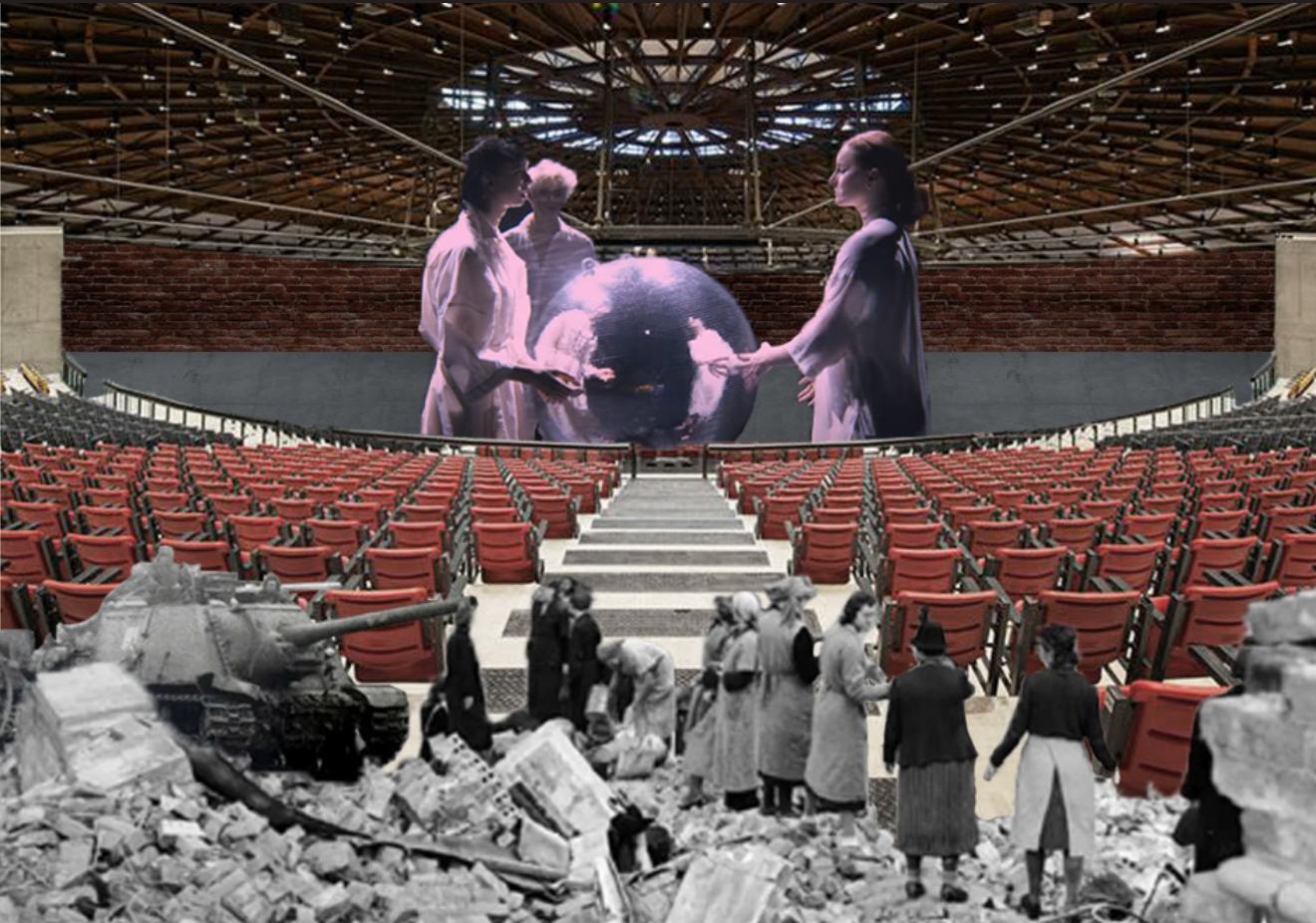


complex projects

COMPLEX PROJECTS

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Studio Topic : Body, Building, Berlin
Thesis Topic : Adaptive reuse of a historical bunker



Aspect 1

The relationship between research and design

In the field of architecture, research of the site, client, and project can not be separated from the design itself. From this point of view, spending one semester researching and planning for those aspects of the project was a meaningful learning experience, even if I thought of working in practice in the future. Especially for the program part, investigating floor area peruse, spatial configuration, and characteristics of the reference projects helped a lot in drawing out the required area of the project and its design strategy.

Aspect 2

The relationship between your graduation topic and studio topic

For the Complex Project graduation studio of 2023/2024, the site should be located in Berlin, and each project should be given one typology, which is a performing arts center in this project. They also need to be related to the themes of building and body. These themes are also meant to adopt the flow of information and interpret it in a building considering its actual users(bodies). At that

point, each group is also given a subject called "lense" to do group research and adopt this subject to individual projects. This multifaceted approach is practical in designing buildings in the 21st century, where it is easy to get lost or deceived by wrong information.

Based on the general research described above, a field trip to Berlin, and historical research through literature and articles, I linked the historical background of Berlin to the Topic of the studio since Berlin has a unique history of division and war. Berlin, which used to be the capital of Nazi Germany, The city was destroyed due to a massive amount of aircraft bombing attacks in 1941 and 1945 when British bombers dropped 45,517 tons, and American aircraft dropped 22,090,3 tons of bombs. Over 300,000 Berliners and 80,000 Red Army soldiers were sacrificed until 2 May 1945, when Hitler had fallen in battle. After the war, the Berlin Wall, which was built to divide East and West Germany, psychologically affected the local people around it.

Along with these historical facts, one strategy was to reuse an existing historical building to create a space where users could experience the pace of history, which would not only be preserved like a museum but also reinterpreted in a creative way. Regarding the studio and my own project topic, I proposed the research question, "How can a bunker turn into a performing

arts venue to heal Berlin's historical wounds by reusing historic remnants of the city?"

Aspect 3

Research method and approach

chosen by the student in relation to the graduation studio

This paper explores how to adopt an adaptive reuse of a historic bunker into a performing arts center and what kind of design strategy should be defined. With that goal, it was crucial to form a theoretical framework to figure out which type of theaters and their potential combination are the most effective in achieving the goal of healing and commemorating the historical wound of Berlin. The theoretical framework starts by defining the relationship between performing arts and trauma. Therefore, theoretical research, empirical investigation, case studies, and comparative analysis were conducted for the research methods. For example, the theme of theoretical research varied from site, program, client performing arts and trauma, theater form and acoustic, and extension design scheme to public commemorative space.

These theoretical forms the basis of an

empirical investigation into the validity and effectiveness of utilizing historical remnants in the spatial design of the Berlin Performing Arts Center and aims to provide valuable insights into the intersection of cultural heritage, architectural design, and performing arts by integrating concepts of cultural memory, spatial aesthetics, and historical context.

Aspect 4

relationship between the graduation project and the wider social, professional and scientific

The graduation project "Music Bunker, Commemorative Space" proposes a direction in which complex performing arts centers proceed in the 21st century, where they are being enlarged and complexed. This project suggests the adaptive reuse of historical remnants to design a contemporary performing art center as a socio-culturally and environmentally sustainable solution for designing a new cultural landmark in Berlin. It explores the spatial sequence of the performing arts center with a link to embracing and healing the historical trauma of World War II in Berlin with performing arts. Additionally, the design proposal focuses on the logistics of designing an urban living room as an

extended foyer to create a commemorative public space and harmony of different flexible and intimate performance spaces, which can make people participate better in live music performances in their daily lives.

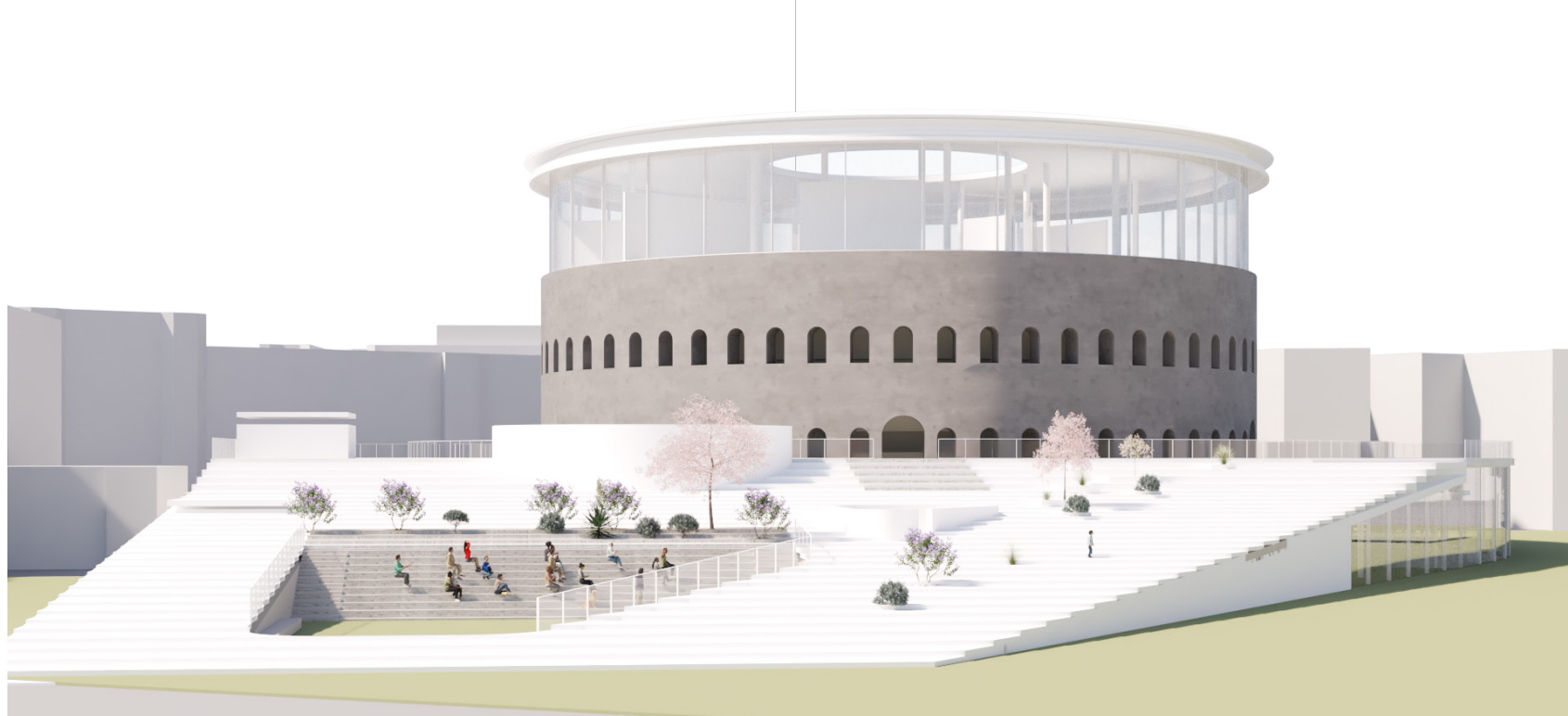
Aspect 5

Ethical issues and dilemmas you may have encountered during graduation

This aspect has a lot to do with this project. History is described from the perspective of a winner, as is the case in the present era, and various perspectives, interpretations, and disagreements about a historical fact are inevitable. Nevertheless, we must physically and constructively perform the act of remembering history and its footsteps in a city because each city has its own place, and the memories it contains exist ideologically with the people who live in it or those who remember the place. These things make the city unique and the urban environment of each city special. Creative reuse of these cities' unique places and buildings is a way to protect the uniqueness of each city, preserve the environment, and extend some of the life of buildings in the 21st century when even cities are becoming standardized.

Of course, opinions on which buildings should be preserved or reused, what should

be developed, and what method should be developed vary. However, as I experience this ethical dilemma, I believe that architecture should find the correspondence of the method and constantly remind people of those memories in history.



Main view from the access of the plaza extension



Interior view of the extension