SEGMENTAL INTERACTION

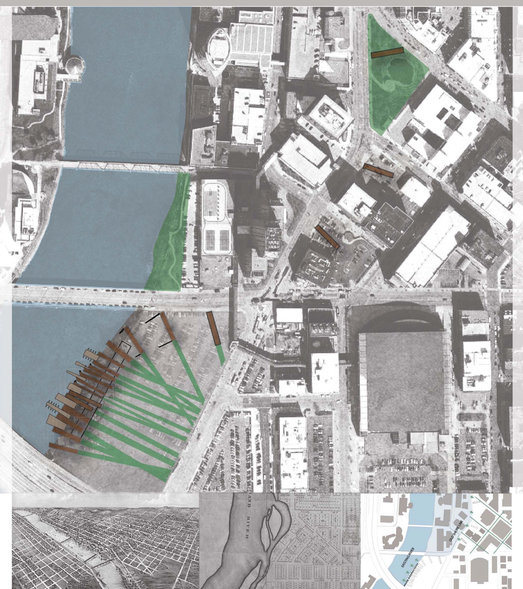
Zoning: Building/Civic Space

Sun Shading

Views

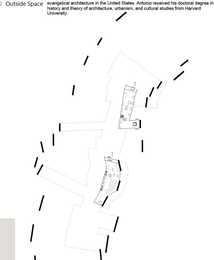
Natural Ventilation

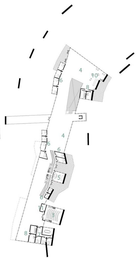
In close proximity to the site, there is a prominent shift in the urban grid which refers to where the river once met the land. Over time, the boundaries of the river have changed and development in front of this old center of activity has caused river interaction in this area to decline. By referring to the previous river edges and creating a physical connection to this historic area, interaction with the river is once again brought to the city by large structural and sculptural segments of laminated wood, housing a Center for Entrepreneurial Design and a civic plaza. The wooden segments themselves refer to a piece of furniture designed by Shigeru Ban, which features several segments that piece together to form one structural element. As one moves along the site, however, one will notice that each segment piece changes, while still being influenced by the previous segment, leaving behind a memory of the past, just as the intent with this design. While experiencing a strong connection to a historic part of town and a still very prominent area of fine arts and design, visitors can enjoy river activities and arts festivals that are held by the river, immersing them in the vibrant cultural experience that Grand Rapids has to offer.

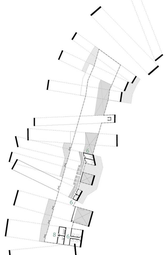


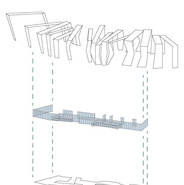
1 Vestibule
2 Lobby
3 Lecture Hall
6 Exhibition Space
5 Workshop
6 Studios
7 Administration
8 Restrooms
9 Consumer Shop
10 Café
11 Mechanical
12 Outside Space

Antonio Petrov is currently Assistant Professor at the University of Texas San Antonio, and Caudill Visiting Critic at the Rice University. He also serves as co-program director of the *Expander* at Archeworks in Chicago, collounder of the Harvard *GSD* publication *New Geographies*, founder and editor-in-chief of *DOMA*, and the director of *WAS*, a design studio in Chicago. His research and teaching focus on architecture, regionalism, urbanism, and architecture in which he explores theoretical, conceptual and methodological dimensions of architecture in which architecture contains territory within, and is contained by, the city and the landscape. Petrov's research and teaching frame architecture as active agent producing and shaping new environmental conditions and recovering alternative ways of designing and investigating geographic concepts as an instrument to address the contemporary condition and its environmental challenges. Major research find include processes of urban and regional restructuring, and questions of architectural articulation and how architecture as an expanded and geographically inspired idea structures, shapes and produces complex territories. He recently published, New Geographies Volume 5 "The Mediterranean: Worlds, Regions, Cities" and his forthcoming book titled "Architecture, Urbanism, Regionalism, Autonomy and Total Immersion" in which he traces new forms of the secular in evangelical architecture in the United States. Antonio received his doctoral degree in the History and theory of architecture, urbanism, and cultural studies from Harvard University.



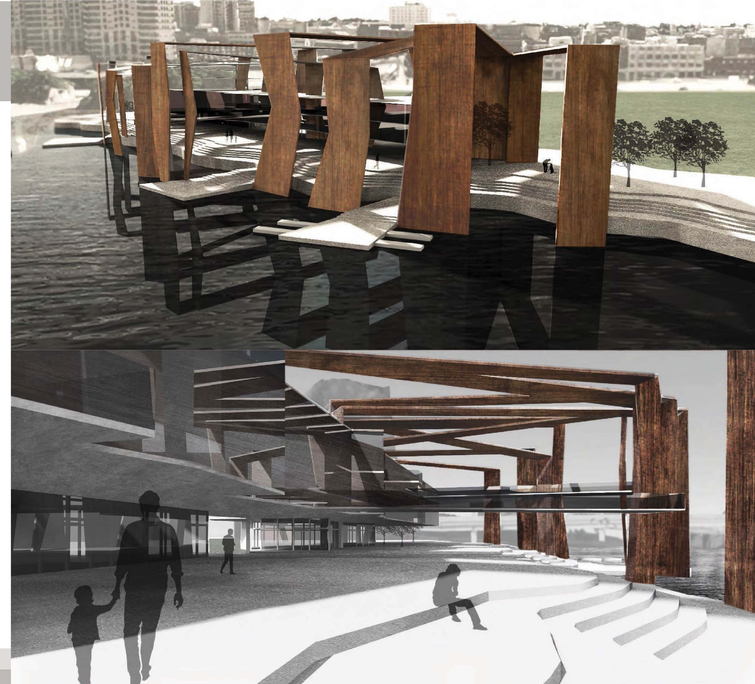






Site Zoning: Outside Space/Building

Main Circulation

Structure

Negative/Positive Space