Installation proposal for BAUA pavilion architectural idea competition

Concept

Window panels, reflective surfaces, see-through structures. A central city landscape, familiar to most capitals in the world. In this installation we are focusing on the ambient visual experience of modern urbanized cities. A maze of overlapping glass surfaces. It is a setting for constant change. From a pedestrian's perspective, every movement can uncover fractured view corridors. Instantly unveiling and covering up through transparent architecture. A social platform for unforeseen chance encounters and abrupt departures. A hide and seek game.

We will present a three-dimensional sculptural image for open discussion. The Passage is an alternative way of overlooking how architecture can change how we experience places. This movement and change can be a great tool for understanding how to consciously understand the current city environment and how to work together with these mechanics on future urban planning.

In this installation, we are using acrylic glass structures with two sides of every structure covered with a layer of linearly polarized foil. The polarized sides are transparent unless they overlap with a layer polarized with a different angle of polarization. This will turn the overlapping parts black and non-transparent. A third layer, diagonally polarized, will make all three layers transparent again. Moving around the towers in the installation booth, will constantly change what you see. It is a three-dimensional image of a specific ambient experience.



Passage

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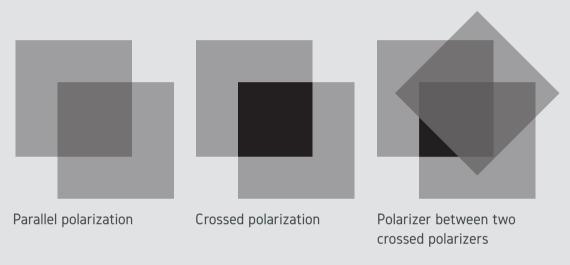




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Polarizing foil on glass

To establish such a changing and unfolding environment we chose to use a polarizer foil as a surface coating for all the towers. The foil is an optical filter that lets light waves of a specific polarization pass and blocks light waves of other polarizations. Aside from removing some of the reflections from surrounding materials, a single layer of polarized foil coating simply appears as darkened transparent glass. We will use a linear polarizer foil that will block light beyond the axis of it's polarization on different angles according to the position of the towers in relation to the spectator. A vertically polarized surface behind a horizontally polarized one will appear as black and non-transparent. However, if you add a third, diagonal polarization on top of the previous two, all will appear as transparent again.

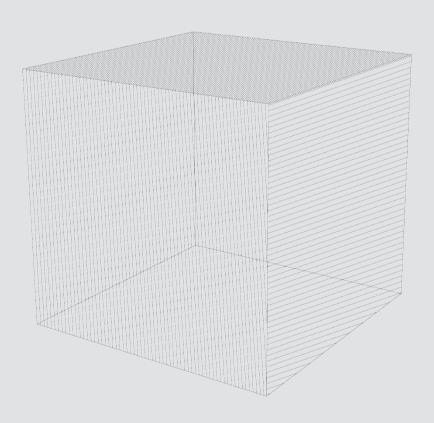


When using different angles of polarization on different towers, the background towers will partially cover up and unfold again when moving through the installation space. Continuously becoming transparent and non-transparent. Every tower has two faces covered with polarized foil and two without.

Materials in use in the installation: acrylic glass on all 6 faces of the rectangular prisms, polarizer foil on two sides of the towers, angle iron mounts, mounting bolts.

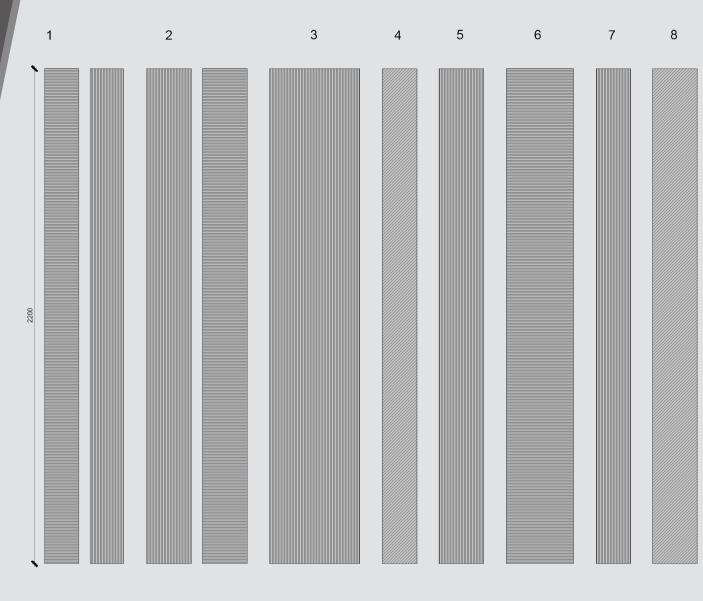
Memorabilia

We propose a solid acrylic cube with three sides covered with the distinct polarizer foil used in this installation. The polarizer is also a popular filter in photography. Such a cube could not only be an eye capturing element on it's own, it can also be used to change surface reflections in photography - especially when using small optical elements like in smartphones and tablets. The length of the edge of the cube is 3,5cm



Passage

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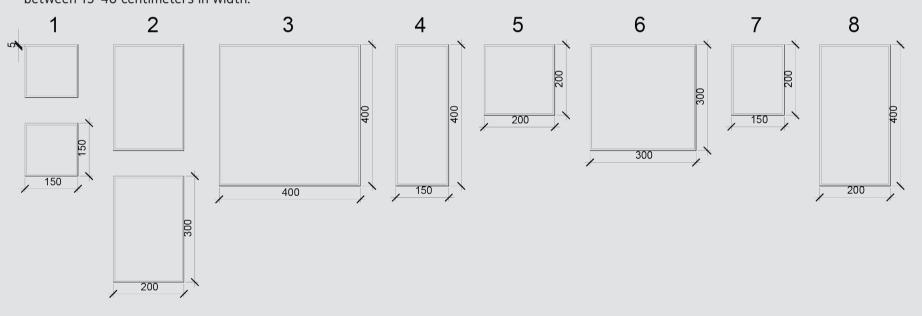


The towers don't only vary by the angle of their facing position. They also vary in size to enhance the viewers experience from a distance and when walking in-between the installation.

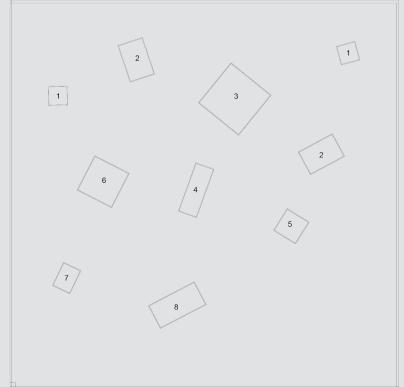
The towers should be produced beforehand and readymade prisms should be transported in bubblewrap packing to location in a cargo container.

Once there, the prisms should be placed into location according to visual instructions and mounted to the ground using the angle iron mounts and bolts

The rectangular prisms stand 2,2 meters high and the faces vary between 15-40 centimeters in width.



Positioning of the towers in the exhibiting box



Standing thin and tall, these towers should be mounted properly. We propose using angle iron mounts.