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Bachelor of Architecture
Arch Studio 281
Professor Nancy Cheng
3 studios completed
Fall 2005
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Thresholds

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Thresholds

The objective for this project is to create a physical chipboard model and a collage of an idea of a threshold.

My threshold is about collaboration and designing a bedouin tent with many minds. At the first, the situation is always of confusion, too many minds and not space. But as the communication takes place, things seem to somehow come together. Ideas are adapted and shaped. And our design slowly emerges from the chaos and a threshold is breached. As the pieces are fitted, the tent takes shape and comes alive.

My model tries to represent the threshold of collaboration with a gradual contrast. At the start of the journey, the path is disorienting and chaotic. As one progresses, the columns become larger and stand more erect. At the finale, the ideas have been merge and given shape represented by the solid wall with the door.

The design of the model developed through a series of sketch models. It became a challenge to create a stimulating visual as well as represent my threshold. I believe this model could have been improved with a stronger contrast between the start and end. This would have allowed for a more sudden threshold.
ART AND DETAILS

Alberta Streetscape Plan

The creation of the visual streetscape was a collaboration of the city of Portland and the individual residents and business owners of the Alberta Street Community. The Alberta Streetscape Plan is a long term plan to create a commercial revitalization on Alberta Street. After much input from the community, the priorities called for creating a better walking environment, slowing traffic, and incorporating art into the streetscape.

Baobab Tree
By Ruth Frances Greenberg and David Joseph Laubenthal
Located at NE 18th Avenue and Alberta Street
Artistic Delights

Art and sculpture play a vital role in the streetscape of NE Alberta Street. All along the street, public art is highly visible. Colorful murals can be found painted on many buildings. On the sidewalks and next to bus stops, wood and metal sculptures stand proudly. Artistic architectural details are displayed on many facades. These arts and sculptures help create the autobiography of this community.

A colorful pause at 14th and Alberta
Community Music Center
Daylight Model

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The objective of this project is to demonstrate the effects of daylighting into our space.

My model represents a colorful music center where many cultures meet. I feel that a bright jumpy color would represent the excitement of collaboration between cultures, creating a funky afrobeats sound. On the floor and walls, light is reflected, showing sparkles of interest and movement.

The daylight model is made of foam board with cardboard on the outside. In the interior, two mylar reflectors are angled in 45 degrees. The first, reflects the red color strip at the bottom onto the walls. The second, reflects dots of light onto the walls and floor. As the light moves, the dots also travel across the space.

This project could be improved or explored further by reflecting different colors. Blue was tried at first but didn’t quite capture the right mood. Red is an improvement, maybe oranges to yellows could be tried.

Overall, I feel this project captures a feeling that can be incorporated into my studio project. I could possibly use this either in the lobby or circulation space.

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Alberta Community
Music Center
Midterm

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Alberta Community  
Music Center  
Midterm

The main concept for my structure is the open view of the circulation, representing the exchange of different aspects of diverse cultural music coming together to create an afro beat music center for the NE Alberta Street neighborhood.

In my project, the circulation is placed in the front of the structure. I imagine this to be covered by a transparent material. The stage, the heart, is located snugly in the corner. The maintenance offices are scattered.

After review, I realized many possible changes. The main issue is to move services out of circulation space. This is probably best achieved by additional floor. This would allow for the services like the elevator, the stairs, and the restrooms to be placed in the corner. This would allow for a bigger lobby, enhancing the threshold of the entrance.
NE Alberta
Community Music Hall
Pinup Two

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NE Alberta
Community Music Hall
Pinup Two
The main concept of this program is to create a colorful music center where the community is inspired to learn, to grow and to come together to share music. My music hall is mainly divided into sections. The end blocks combined with the main walkway allows for a clear circulation. The theatre, the gardens, and the classrooms help form the heart where most of the activity happens. The tallest proportion is the lobby space which hopefully helps orientation. I image this to be constructed from brick and concrete. These materials give my building a solid expression. I believe my project was fairly successful. The cafe placement still needs ironing out and facade could use improvements. This term I learned that computers are not that easy.
Concept Idea:
Merging of different cultures forming a colorful dancing afro-beat music center

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NE Alberta Street
Community Music Performance Center
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NE Alberta Street
Community Music
Performance Center
NE Alberta Street Community Music Performance Center

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