







# PERFORMATIVE NATURE

Barcelona International Landscape Architecture Biennial

September 2018 **Barcelona**

SCHOOL PRIZE

X International Landscape Architecture Biennial

Máster d'Arquitectura del Paisatge -DUOT - UPC

ETSAB- Escola Tècnica Superior

d'Arquitectura de Barcelona

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## TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Title of the project	Contested Boundaries and the Appropriation of Space
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Title of the course	MA Landscape Architecture
Academic year	2017-2018
Teaching Staff	Ed Wall
Department/Section/Program of belonging	Department of Architecture & Landscape
University/School	University of Greenwich

Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

"Commodification and privatisation of land; conversion of various forms of property rights into exclusive private property; suppression of rights to the commons; colonial, neo-colonial and imperial process of appropriation of assets, including natural resources; exchange and taxation of land; capital accumulation". The Isle of Dogs has gone through a series of intense capitalist processes that changed and continue to change its identity.

Global movements acted by political powers affect the space we live in and change its dynamics. Power overcomes space without well developed and well considered rationale of the planning process. Politics playing with space for the good of capitalism brought a huge number of developments into the Isle of Dogs, filling all possible voids with towers and tall residences, naturally changing the character of the public space.

Analysing all the development sites on the Isle of Dogs has raised a question: what of the boundaries?. This project aims at dealing with reconfiguring them, blurring public and private to allow a "moment of negotiation" facilitating the appropriation of the spaces where as David Harvey states "ambiguities of proprietorship, of aesthetics, of social relations and the political economy of everyday life collide".

For further information

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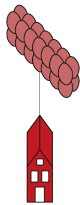
Consult the web page <http://landscape.coac.net/>



COLLECTIVE SPACE IS  
THE NEW PUBLIC SPACE



Existing site gatehouse are appropriated and turned into public facilities for collective activities. From gatehouse to greenhouse, these enclosures will also extend to the skies, revealing new monumentalities in the form of balloons-like cloud statements.



A series of interventions will be installed near the sites of interest with the purpose of interrupting contested areas: streets, footpaths, etc. Temporary and indeterminate spaces will be occupied by residents and visitors of the Isl



Existing boundary edges are examined and reconfigured blurring public and private to allow a moment of negotiation. The changes to boundaries will be catalyst for creating new collective spaces.



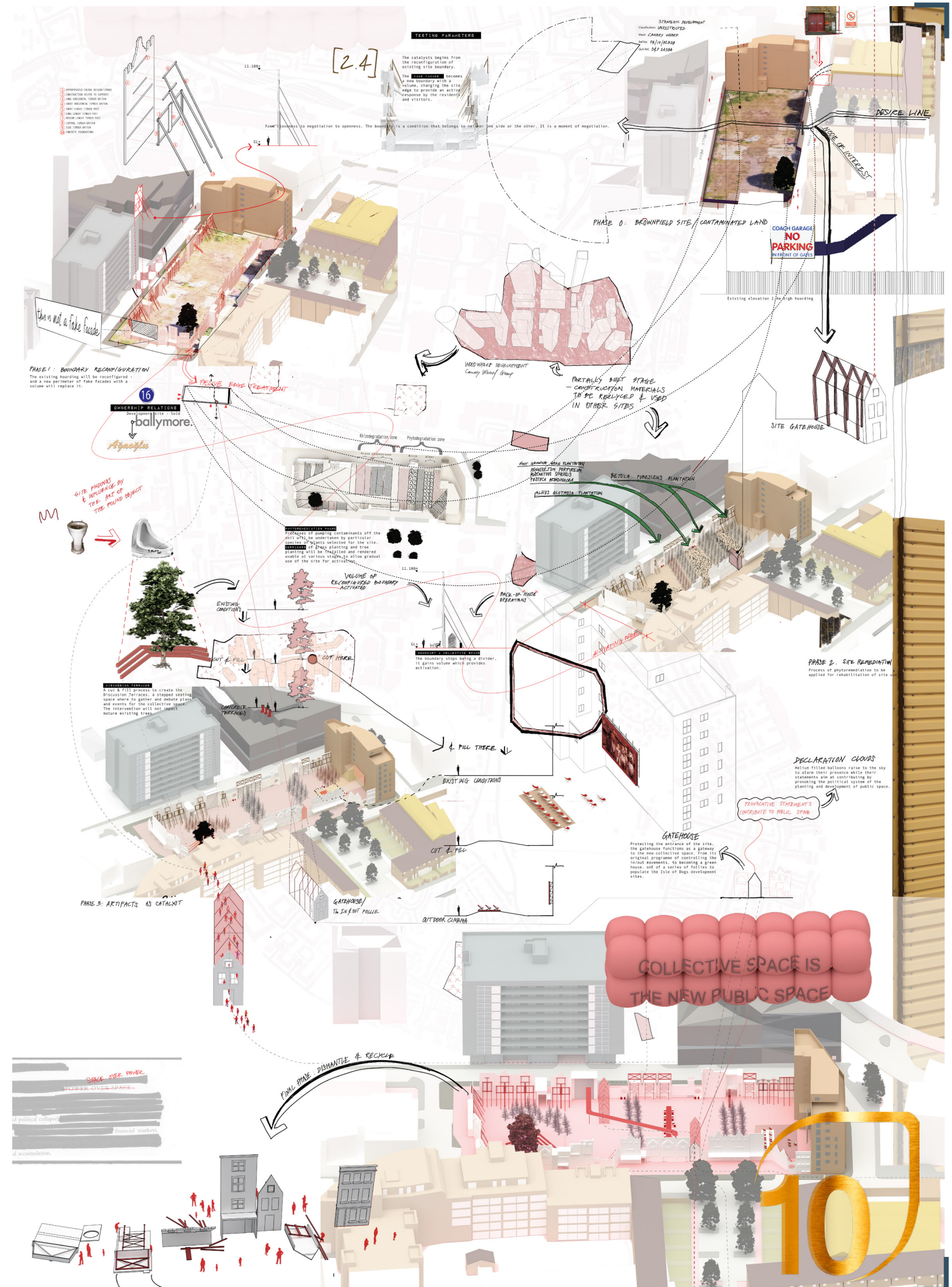
Present on the Isle of Dogs are several development sites of different stages. All sites are taken into analysis with the intent to provide a range of solutions to respond to current proposals.



The project explores the current planning and construction formation and evolution of the Isle of Dogs currently dominated by economic and property thinking populated with a high number of private development sites. A strategic masterplan for the peninsula reimagines the developments as a collage of spaces which individuals are curious of, stimulant of exploration and celebration towards learning and interactive outcomes.

Under a sky of **organised clouds** cleverly placed interventions will function as interrupters of privately contended space in order to create **new collective**, indeterminate, differential spaces, all of which are revealed in the streets, footpaths, facades, backyards, waterbodies and skies. **Urban catalysts** deal with physically reconfiguring boundaries, **blurring public and private** to allow a moment of negotiation.

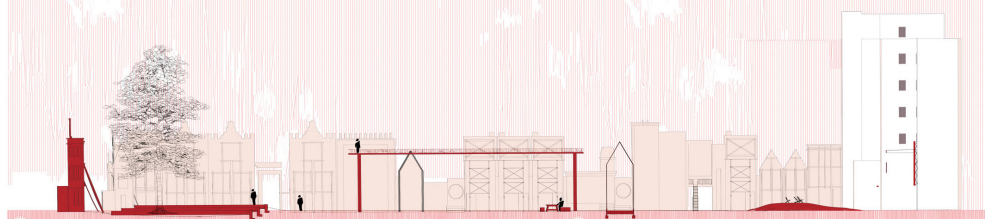
Privately owned lands and construction sites are made accessible for exploration, discovery and engagement while the interrupters block the streets, free of traffic highway lands become plazas of gatherings and socialising areas. Flexible architecture facilitates the appropriation of the spaces where “ambiguities of proprietorship, of aesthetics, of social relations and the political economy of everyday life collide” (Harvey, 2005).



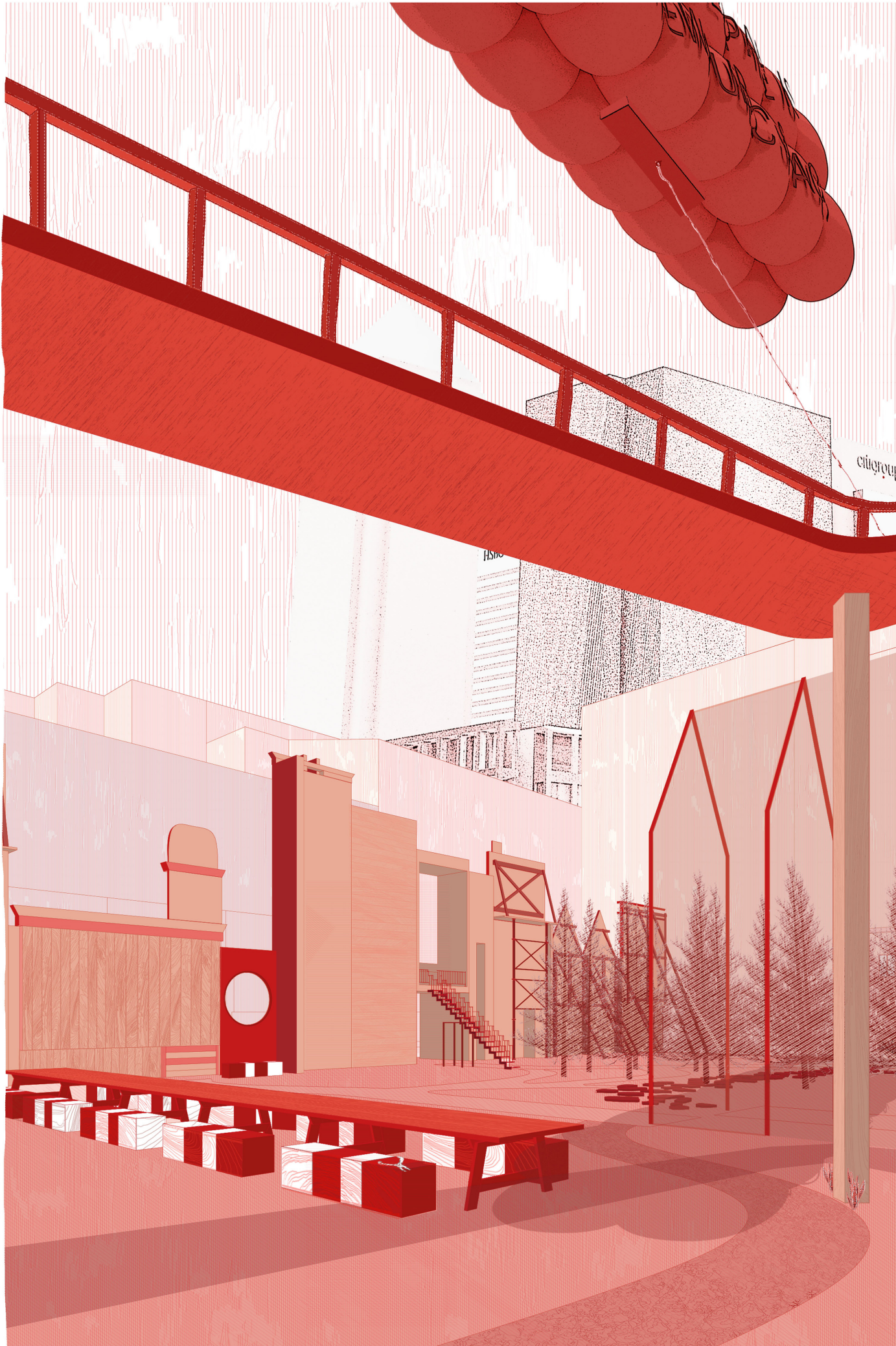




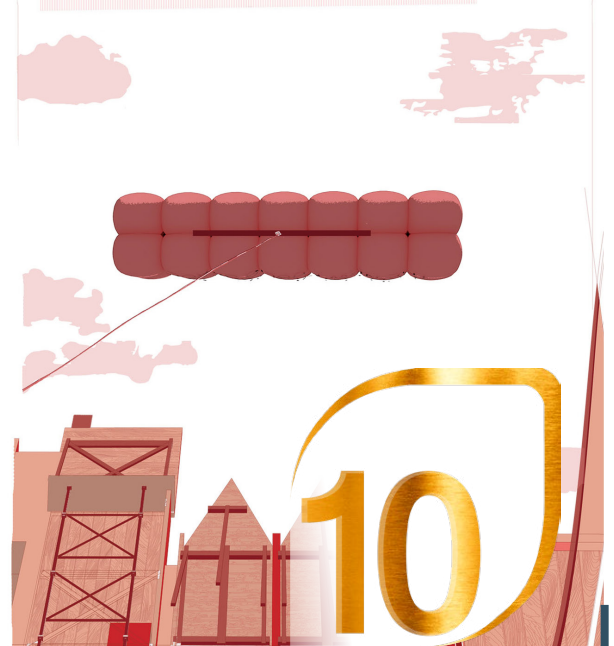
EXISTING GATEHOUSES ON SITE WILL BE MADE PUBLIC & ALLOWED TO BE REPROGRAMMED TO PROVIDE A CATALYST FOR APPROPRIATION. THE GATEHOUSE CAN BECOME A COLLECTIVE WORKSHOP SPACE, A GREENHOUSE OR SIMPLY A CONNECTOR TO ACCESS THE SITE, A MAIN ENTRANCE.



THE PROPOSAL PROVIDES THE SITE WITH A BUNCH OF STEPPED TERRACES CONSTRUCTED NEAR THE SITE'S EXISTING MATURE TREE. THESE "DISCUSSION TERRACES" WILL ALLOW THE COMMUNITY TO GATHER & DISCUSS THE PROGRAMME FOR THE FUTURE WHILE DEBATING WHAT NEW DEVELOPMENTS ARE PLANNED FOR THE AREA.



PROVIDED WITH A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES, THE NEW COLLECTIVE SPACE CREATED WILL BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER. & THANKS TO THE NEW MONUMENTAL CLOUDS, THEIR STATEMENTS WILL BE SHARED IN THE ISLE OF DOGS AS WELL AS ACROSS LONDON.



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