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University / School Delft University of Technology
Academic year 2018 - 2019
Title of the project Reclaiming the Memory: A memorial scape along Neretva River, Mostar
Authors Elissavet Markozani



TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Title of the project	Reclaiming the Memory: A memorial scape along Neretva River, Mostar
Authors	Elissavet Markozani
Title of the course	Graduation Studio Landscape Architecture: Flowsacpes
Academic year	2018 - 2019
Teaching Staff	Denise Piccinini, Armina Pilav
Department/Section/Program of belonging	Department of Urbanism / Section of Landscape Architecture / Master of Landscape Architecture
University/School	Delft University of Technology / Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment

Civil war divides cities mentally and physically, threading a group's identity and destroying its symbols. This kind of war dominated the late twentieth century, leaving many cities vulnerable, including Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Because of the political, religious and cultural division created by the war, cities like Mostar function spatially and socially in an abnormal way. In the case of Mostar, the Neretva River has been used as a frame for a politics of division, providing mental and physical spaces of shame. As a consequence, the core of Mostar's identity, the Neretva River, has become an abandoned area. In order for the city to start functioning socially again, it's necessary to create a common space for history, which will produce common memories for the future generations.

This thesis attempts to give a new insight on how to deal with a landscape where ordinary pleasant memories are replaced with memories of terror (Neretva), responding to the city's need for a new memorial. This new memorial for Mostar does not address sadness but is rather a way to look into the future, making of the river a symbol of hope and redefining the relationships between the divided communities. It is designed as part of the history, acting as a powerful reminder of a free society, and how citizens of Mostar should stand together in the face of the tragedy of war. The memorial-scape tries to become a part of Mostar's culture, based on the powerful connection between humans and nature and humans and water. The idea is not only to create a space that stands as a symbol of memory but also to allow people the opportunity to relax and enjoy a new green space, ancient rocks and their stories, the seasons clearly defined by the water-stands of the river.

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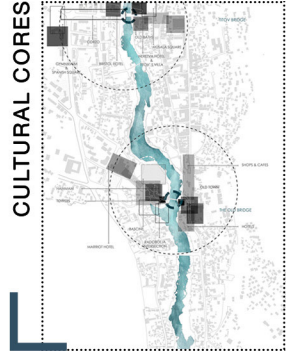
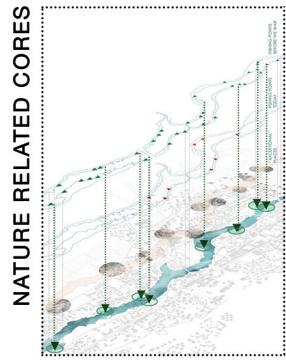
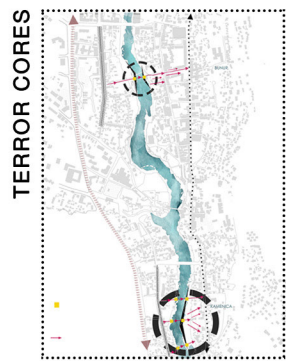
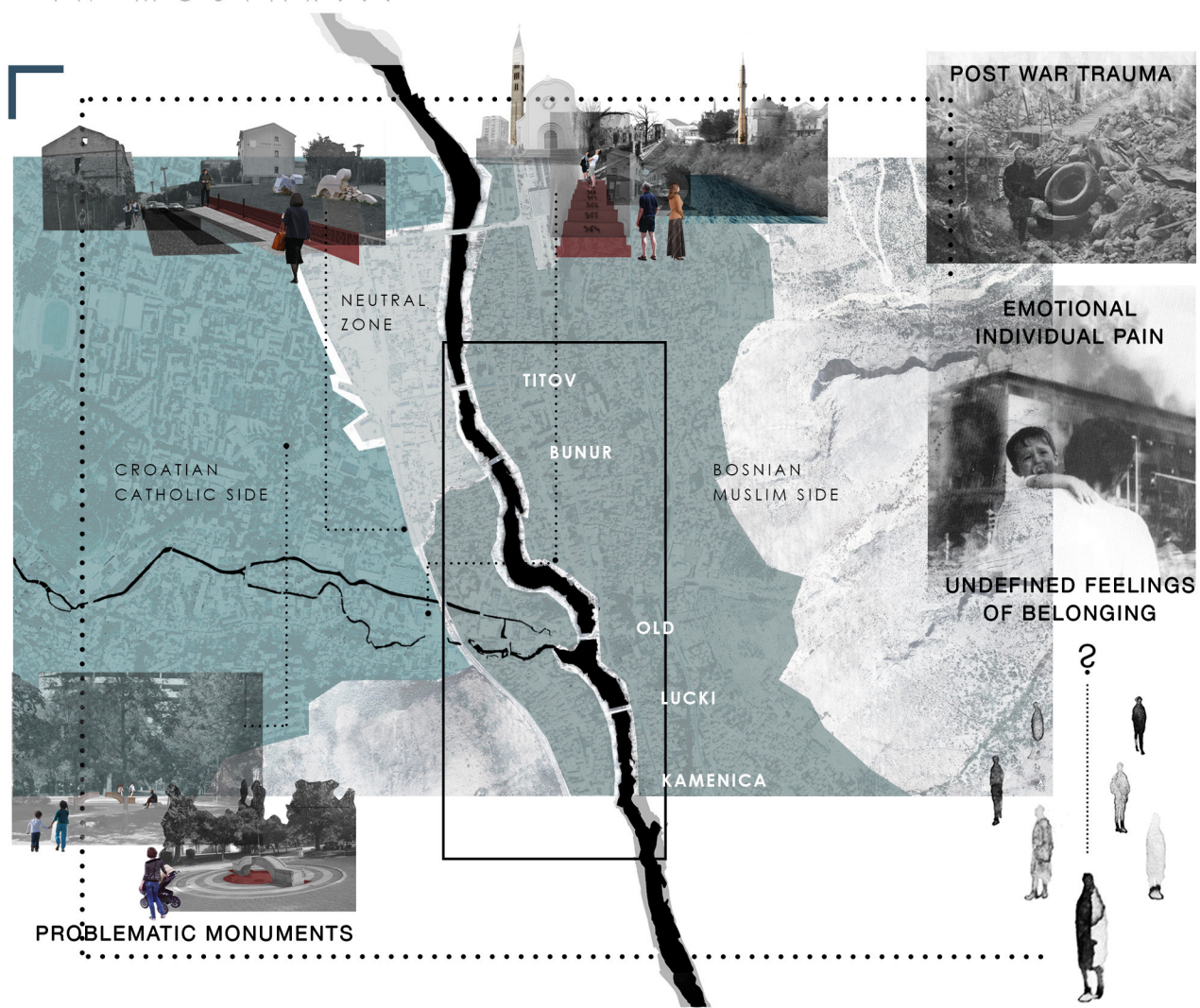
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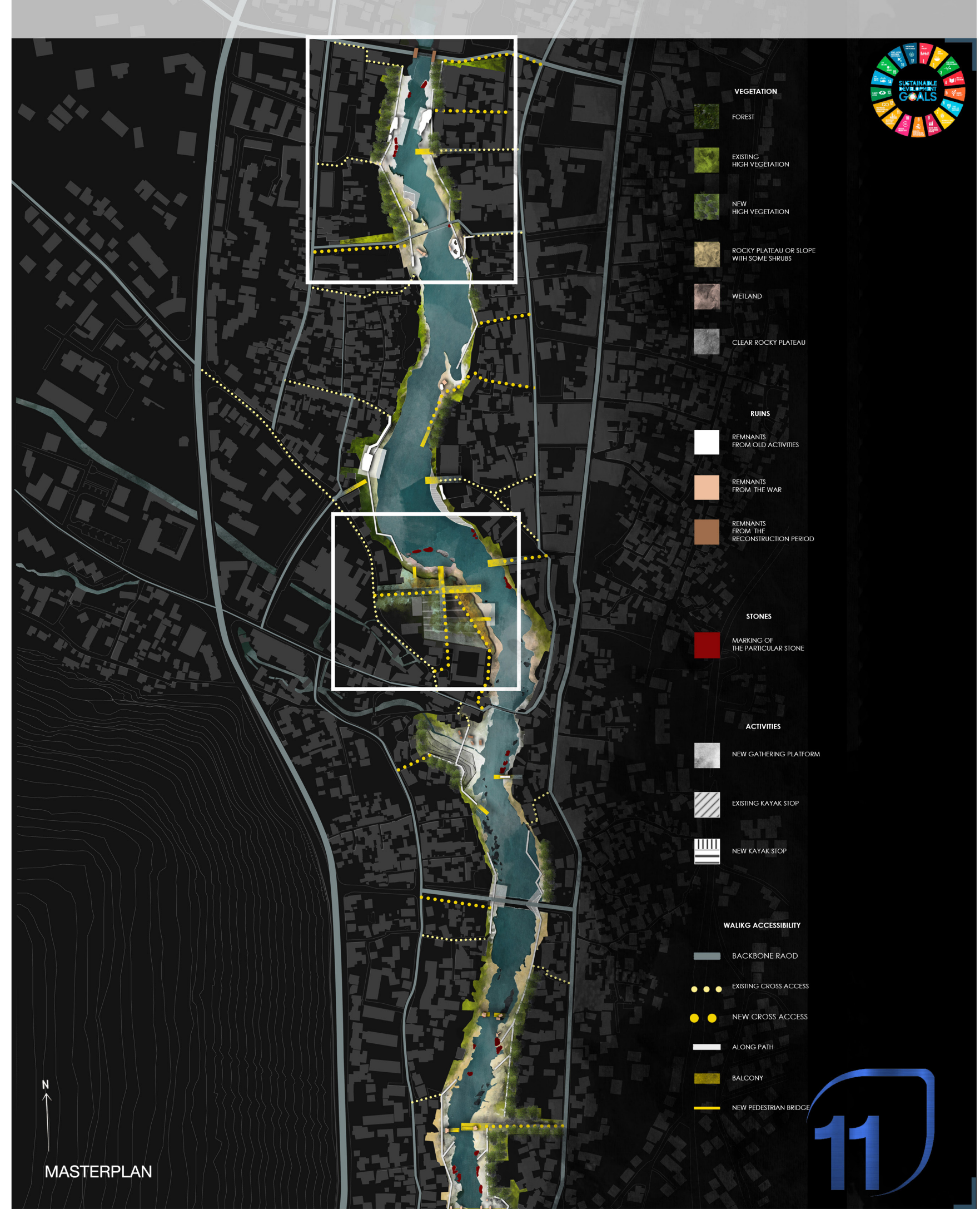
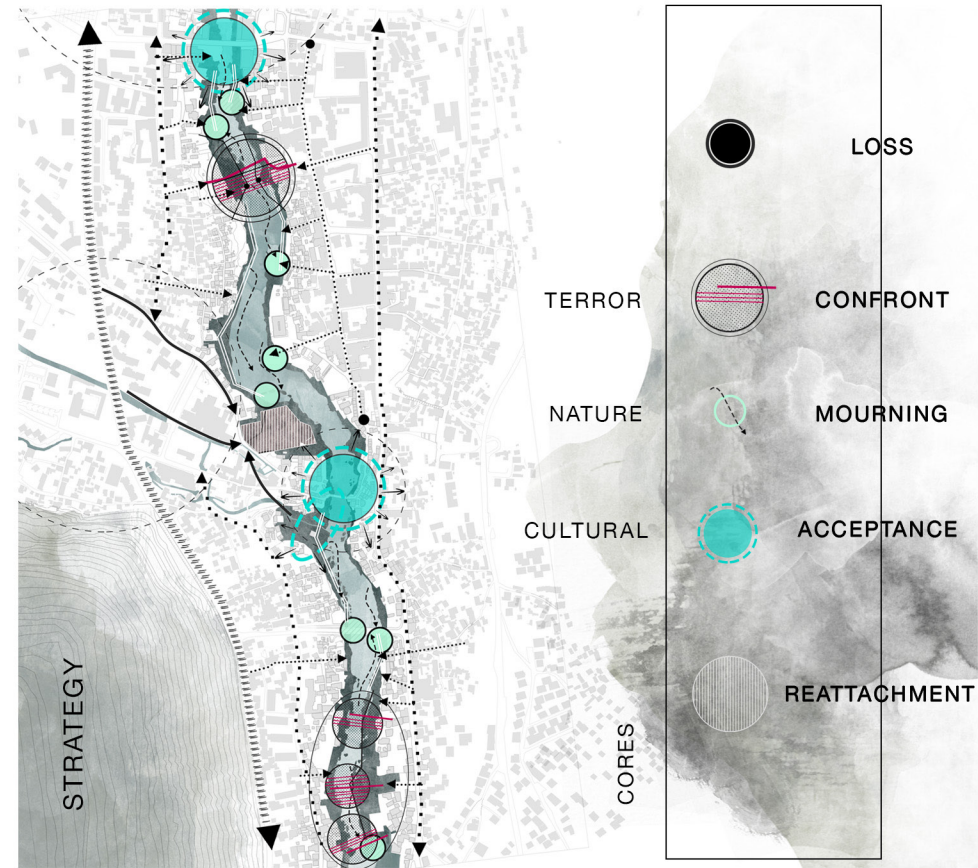
CLIMATE CHANGE AGAIN

11th International Biennial Landscape Barcelona

Barcelona September 2020
SCHOOL PRIZE



In order to allow Neretva to be transformed into a landscape which will contribute to the mitigation of the post-war trauma, it is necessary to carry the analysis along two main axes; the axis of memory and the axis of nature. The number of stories and remnants of the past spread along the river, in combination with this particular landscape of the Neretva river lead to a creation of four cores categories which are related with the stages of a healing process; confrontation, mourning, acceptance, and reattachment.



WALK OF MEMORIES

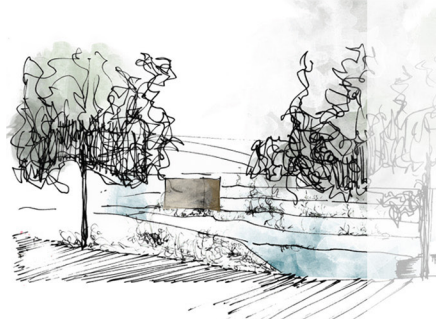
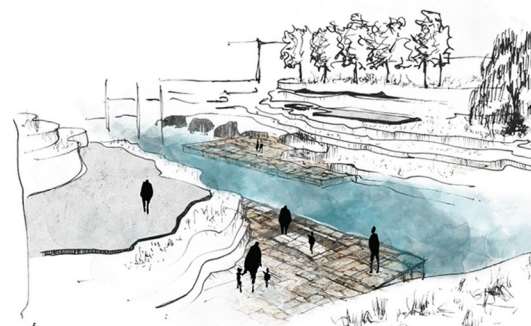
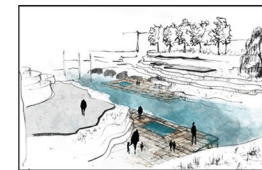
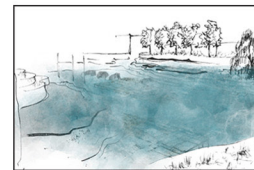


GATHERING PLATFORMS

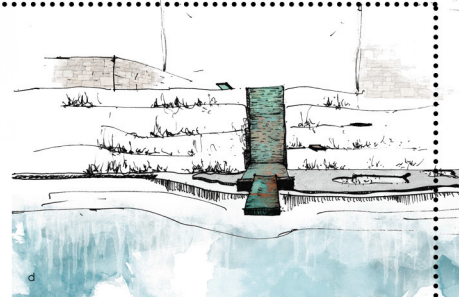
THE MEMORIAL

PLAN

The project proposes a walk of memories from one bridge to the other accomplishing the three out of four stages of healing. The walk of memories is designed to connect the two bridges using the shores of river, going through cultural and natural cores.

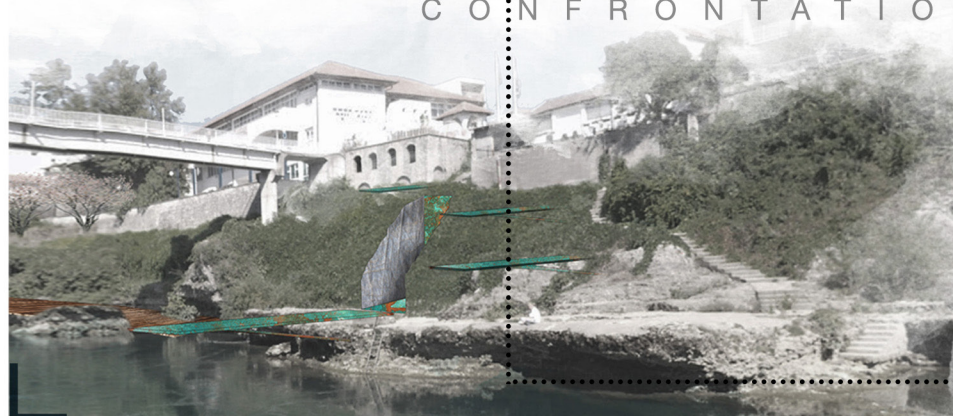


A C C E P T A N C E



M O U R N I N G

C O N F R O N T A T I O N



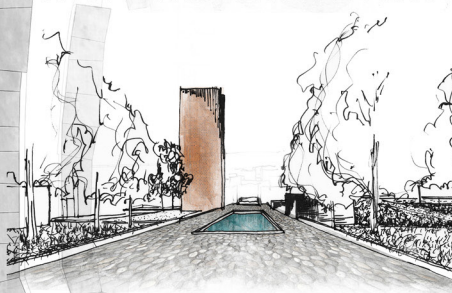
GARDEN OF PEACE, TRANQUILITY & CONTEMPLATION



PLAN

REATTACHMENT

The fourth stage, reattachment, is used as a concept for the old Bascine garden. The old Bascine garden is a leftover next to the Neretva river, designed to be a site of significance for the city of Mostar, a garden of peace, tranquility and contemplation for everyone. The garden is not designed as a place for grieving or division but as a space where everyone who wants to relax, to reflect and enjoy nature, independently of the religion or nation is welcome and becomes part of the everyday experience of all citizens in Mostar.

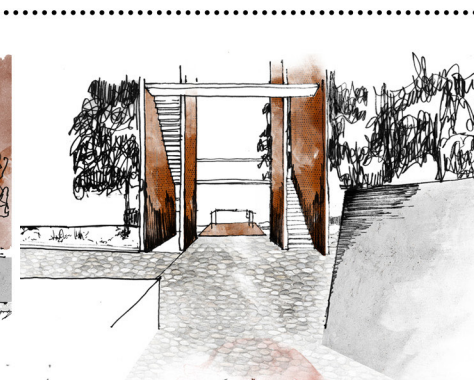
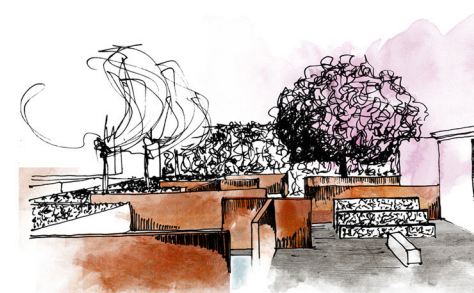


You will easily find the entrance...

...the water indicates you the path...touch it and you will feel a catharsis of your soul.

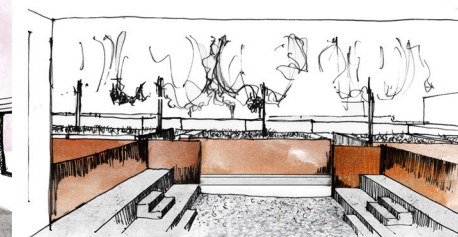
The rooms are like a labyrinth... They challenge you to go and find the edge of the thread...the truth of yourself...

It's spring and the Prunus will be blossomed, as every year to reminds you the circle of the life.



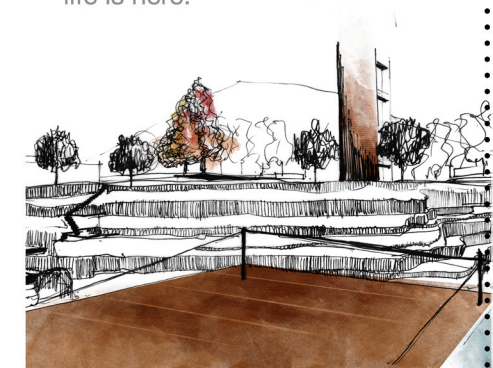
Follow the water...
...and you will discover an openness to the river,

an openness to the other side....
...an openness to everyone.



Ascend the tower and see clearly the enclosed area that you struggled to find an entrance...

See the Liquidambar...grow together in a so restricting area. So peaceful among wild bushes...the nature is here, the life is here.



Look also the city...

here there is the answer that you were looking for...

Look around...maybe there is also someone who is gazing from the other side of the river.

