

Those fantastic forms, fang-sharp, bone-bare ... where dragons dwelt and demons roamed

- W.H. Auden, City without Walls (1962)

TN AND OUT OF BOUNDZ

This studio explored themes of boundary and threshold, not as obstacles to overcome, but more as opportunities to inhabit, interpret and creatively traverse.

Together with physical borders, we considered sociopolitical, psychological, perceptual and imaginative limit conditions. Though ostensibly immaterial, such conditions bear tangibly upon architecture and urban experience.

Following a variety of exploratory urban, material and filmic studies, intended to nudge individuals out of their normal bounds of comfort, students developed building proposals sited in the margins of Winnipeg's newly designated Sports, Hospitality & Entertainment District (SHED). Their designs acted as provocations to this newly imposed programmatic and socioeconomic boundary. Each project cultivated vital yet basic activities—such as dwelling, dancing, learning, sleeping and daydreaming—that radically transcended any narrow (frivolously titillating and profit-driven) conception of hospitality.

The studio theme intersected with the Crossing Urban Boundaries theme of the Urbanism/Architecture Bi-City Biennale, which opened in Hong Kong and Shenzhen. China in December 2013. The studio group travelled to Shenzhen to attend the opening of this international Biennale. The professor's student-informed work on border conditions was also exhibited. All students entered the poster and video competition on Urban Borders; four students earned exhibition spots.

Thirty years ago Shenzhen was a cluster of fishing villages. Today it is home to over 15 million people and numerous works by world-renown architects. After some days in Shenzhen, our trip continued up the Pearl River Delta to Guangzhou and Kaiping, to visit the region's oldest marketplaces, Buddhist temples, villages, and Diaolou (watchtowers). The trip culminated in Macau and Kong Kong, where (in spite of rain) we explored the steep slopes, busy waterways, and densely saturated urban fabric. The fieldtrip immersed us in diverse border conditions, broadening and deepening our understanding of civic and cultural thresholds in and beyond Winnipeg.







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Winners of the UABB International Student Poster and Video Competition







Hilary Cohen, This study materialized several millenia of changing eco-geological border conditions of Manitoba by mapping the gradual retreat of glaciers and related formation of Lake Agassiz, then Lake Winnipeg, and other bodies of water. The material process—involving wood, wax, pouring, scraping, and seeping—emulated the ecological actions that formed the region's present day prairie-urban conditions and boundaries.





WINNIPEG IN AND OUT OF BOUNDS. Overhead time-lapse photography captured the gradual collaborative student work of mapping Winnipeg's border conditions. This panel (and the two at right) comprised the Winnipeg submission to the City Case Studies: Past, Present and Future exhibition at the Biennale, by Lisa Landrum & Ted Landrum. Winnipeg Future: a work in progress, formed by the next generation of designers and citizens.

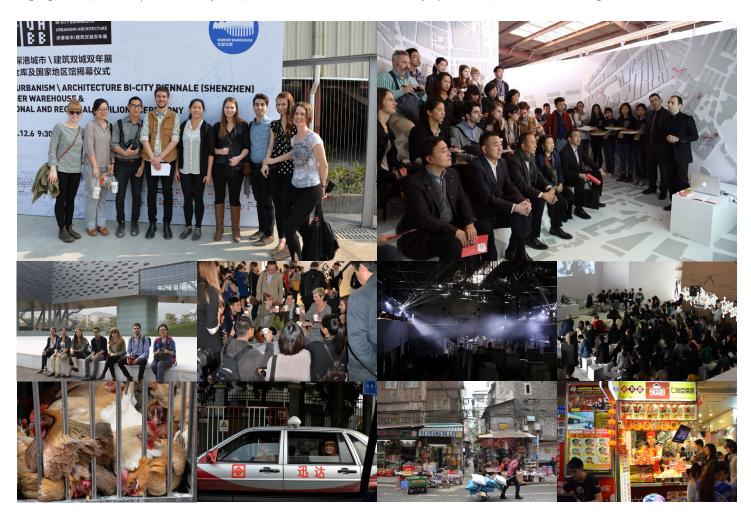


Winnipeg Past: a place formed by geological-glacial agencies, and historic treatises with Indigenous Peoples (the animal figures depicted are signatures of chiefs who signed the 1817 Selkirk treaty designating land around the "Forks" of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers for trade. Winnipeg Present: a place shaped by language, loss and desire - a CITY POEM internixing words by archi-poet Ted Landrum and Cree/Métis poet, and storyteller Duncan Mercredi, with portions translated into Mandarin by Ting Wu.



https://news.umanitoba.ca/a-city-poem-for-the-heart-of-the-continent/ More on UMToday.

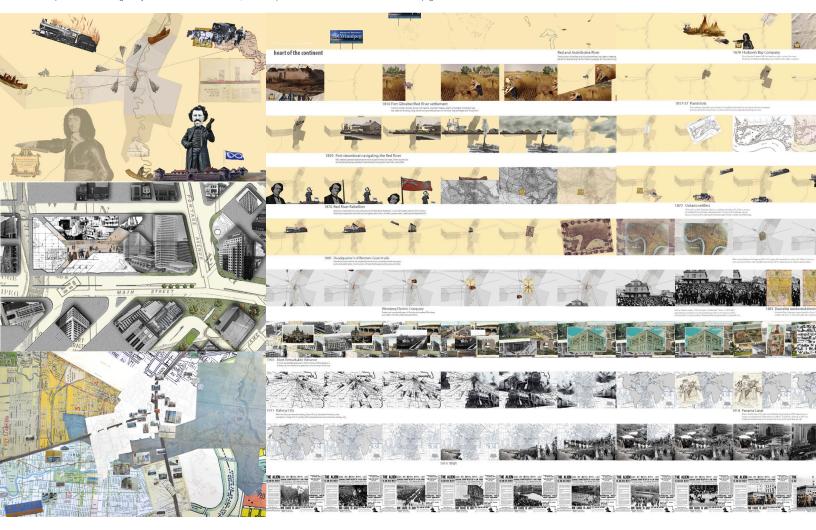


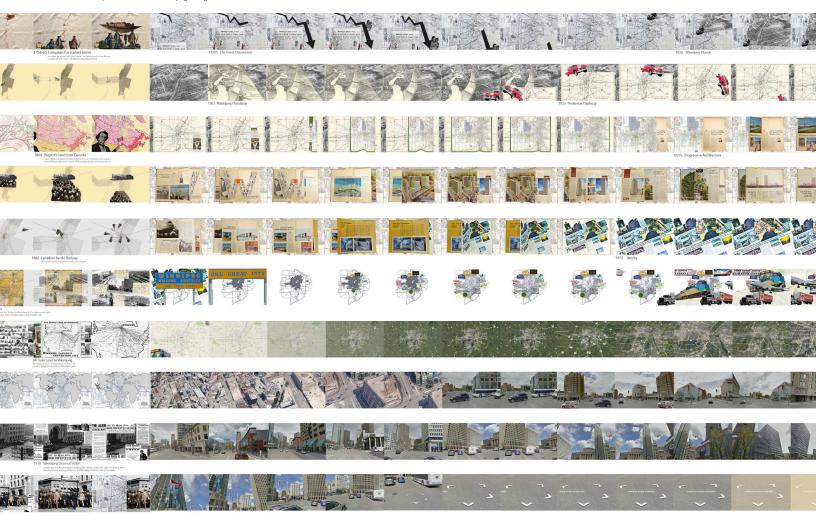


Kaiping Diaolou (watchtowers); Pagoda Temple in the Songyue Monastery, Henan; Hualin Temple in Guangzhou; view of Shenzhen from the top of the KK100 (the tallest building in the world in 2013); view over Hong Kong; Shenzhen airport designed by Massimiliano Fuksas.



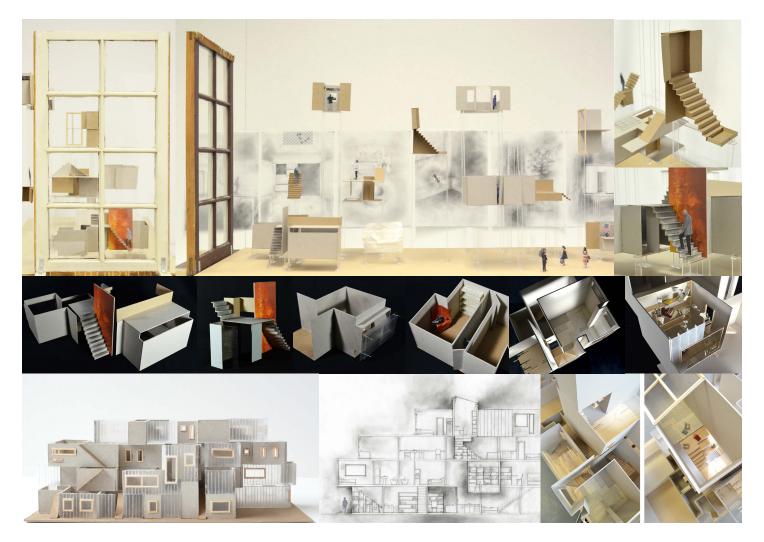
Liane Lanzar, Stills from a clip animation film exploring the history of Winnipeg, its transformative social events and ever-changing urban fabric. Once known as 'The Heart of the Continent,' Winnipeg played an important role as the gateway to Western Canada. However, new transportation methods intended to connect Winnipeg to the continent have also created divisive boundaries.



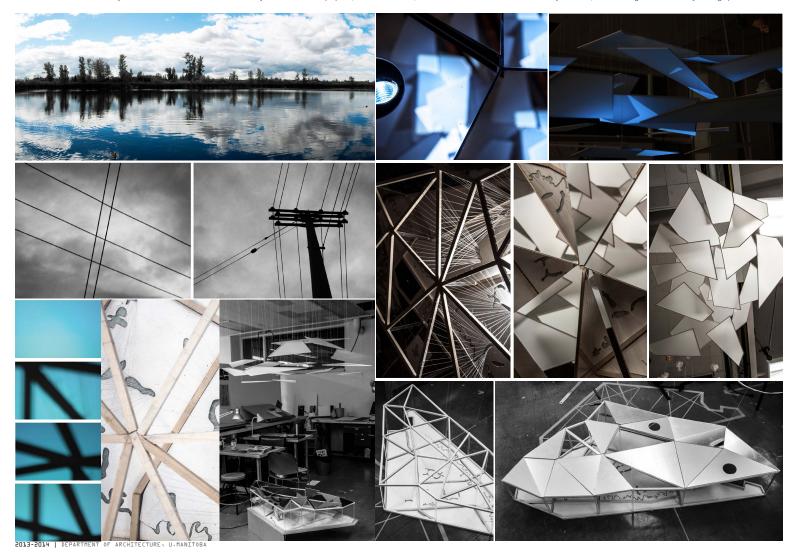


Sarah Stasiuk. WINDOW WORLDS. Through interpretive reading of Gaston Bachelard's *Poetics of Space*, and imaginative drawings that probe the poetics of prosaic domestic thresholds, this project developed a multi-family housing proposal for a tight site in downtown Winnipeg through a gradual assembly of windows, doors, stairs, interconnected rooms, adaptable gestures, fragmentary moments and synthetic configurations.





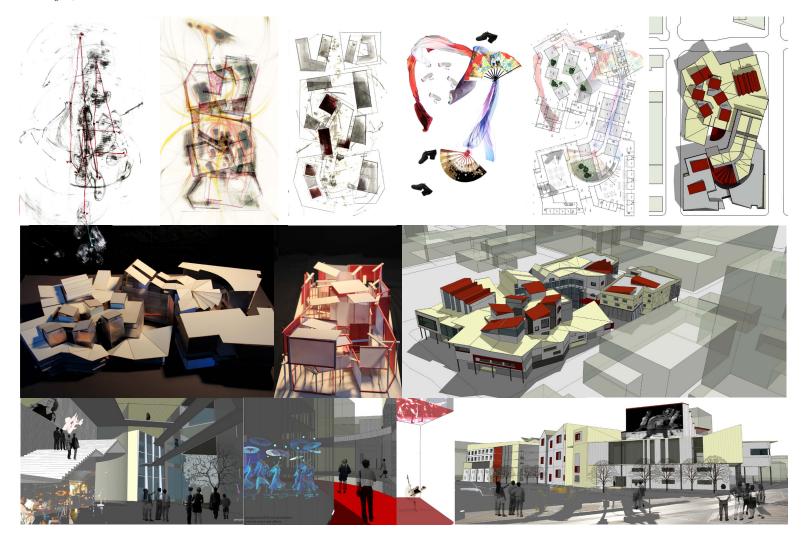
Steven Hung, THE SKY'S THE LIMIT. Looking to the sky, which seems boundless, this project studied the ways in which our upward view of the sky is frequently framed and mediated by urban infrastructure. Various constructions studied ways to create intimate conditions of immensity. The architectural proposal, sited at the Forks, included a museum of instruments to study the stars, as well as light towers and sky viewing spaces.



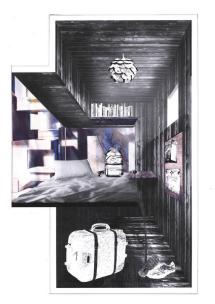


Ting Wu, DANCE AND ARCHITECTURE. Beginning with various corporeal investigations of traditional Chinese dances, this thesis explored relationships of actors and audiences, performers and pedestrians, and performantive modes of architectural representation, to design a dance school and public spaces that celebrate the overlaps between daily life and performance life.

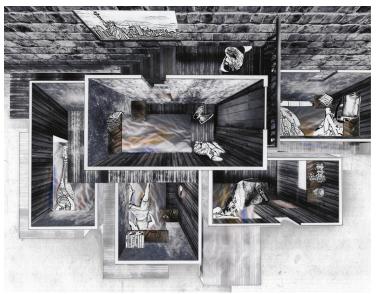




Yi Dazhong, SOCIETY OF DREAMERS. This thesis began with a study of sleeping and the private-public act of sleeping on the streets and sleeping in architecture school. Explorations in drawing examined various spatial-psychosomatic configurations of privacy and publicity and a 'sleeping pod' / 'dream-machine' was constructed to accommodate slumber and spur questions about the reciprocity of wakeful perception and oneiric awareness.

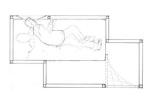




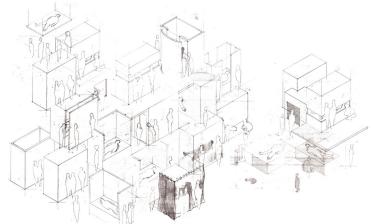


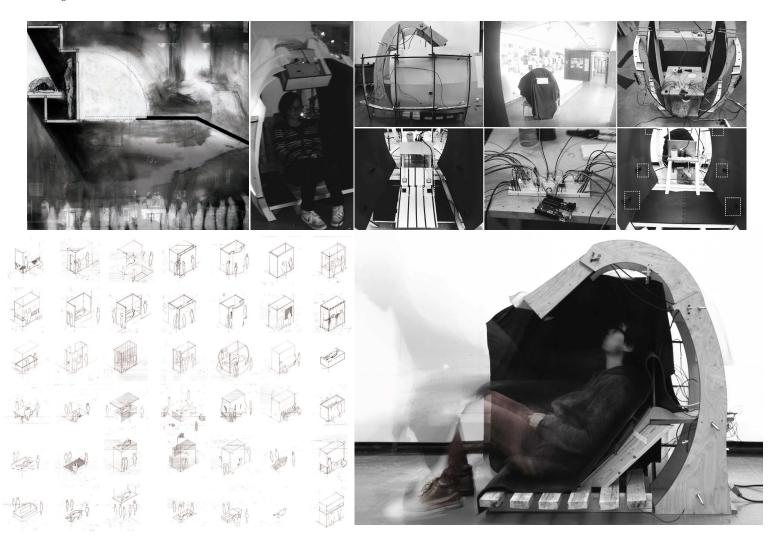












Yi Dazhong, SOCIETY OF DREAMERS. As we sleep, our dreams merge and diffuse across the city. This thesis ultimately proposed an urban hostel - a society of dreamers, sleeping together in a New York City. The design accommodated each sleeper in privacy, while fostering public relationships between private dreams and the city. The design also responded to the Bowery site, with its history of micro-sleeping spaces for the homeless.

