2021 MERIT

Gabriel Velasco

THE SAVANNAH COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN

FACULTY ADVISOR - DR. HSU-JEN HUANG

LYCEUM
A traveling fellowship in Architecture
The Garden of Lights
Garden of Lights

- Abstractionism is a vague experience, allowing people to have self-reflection and unique interpretations from a specific subject. The process of interpreting a subject, an element or an emotion, starts by changing the perspective of its natural form, then moving to a state where each individual have to understand it in a unique way.

- The refined landscape of the rolling hills give a new sensation for the other elements to embrace each other: the trees, the water bodies, and the architecture. The act of celebrating the landscape is to provide users for self-reflecting about their own reason to shine.

- The exploration of carving into the slope and the use of translucent materials provides an intangible excitement to enter this magical pavilion. The mix of outdoor and indoor spaces, provided by the transmission of diffused light, gives a true emotion of being in the celebration of the new rolling hills landscape.

- This lighting of pavilion prevails a translucent experience of space, the landscape design celebrates an abstract interpretation of the rolling hills. Inspired by the natural vegetation and by the curves of the terrain, The Garden of Lights is the paradise for fireflies, sparrows, and the residents of North Easton.
The project celebrates the landscape of the park, approaching the idea that the rolling hills shine by itself by providing unique and personal experiences on the site complex.

The design interprets the aspect that the landscape shine by itself, having the pavilion as a translucent element and the site design as an abstract understanding of the landscape.
The use of the Carriage House as a connection with the vernacular architecture and the Cube as a visual interaction, the site design divides the experience into celebrating, learning and thinking, making users understand the value of shining.

Program of Spaces
1 – Event Pavilion
2 – Offices & Restrooms
3 – Interactive Wall (History & Maps)
4 – Multimedia Wall
5 – Exterior Sitting
6 – Kitchen & Café
7 – Storage & Restrooms
8 – Garden of Lights
* Design to Celebrate
Digging into the main slope, the pavilion provides a translucent space that doesn’t steal the main attraction from the landscape. Celebrating the fact that the rolling hills shine by itself, the project provides a site design that shines for the same reason but in a different way, with the abstraction of light.

* Design to Learn
The interaction between people and nature is vague, is unique and personal, but it is possible to interpret the reason for every interaction. The approach to understand how users were going to exchange emotions with the site followed the idea of using light as a mechanism to make the experience to shine.

* Design to Think
The abstract form of reasoning plays with the idea of seeing aspects in a distinct way. Understanding the importance of giving people the freedom to explore their own mental experience, the design of a translucent garden gives users an opportunity to visualize the site’s special features in unique ways.
**Structure Assembly**
1. Concrete Retaining Wall
2. Footing & Drainage System
3. Concrete Slab & Footing
4. Wood Pivot Doors
5. Steel Columns & Glass Panels
6. Steel Beams
7. Open-Web Steel Trusses
8. Roof Layers
9. Polycarbonate Panels

**Structure Detail**
1. Steel Beam
2. Steel Attachment
3. Bolt connection
4. Polycarbonate Panels

Structure Section
The pavilion explores the use of polycarbonate panels as a strategy to apply the concept of translucency in the design. The idea of celebrating the landscape and the design of a space that shines by itself influenced on the material choice on the facades.
The garden was inspired by the abstract interpretation of the landscape, and the reason that it shines. The design consists of translucent glass tubes with multiple lights, symbolizing the curves of the rolling hills.

The use of transparent glass tubes emphasizes the act of shining, allowing moments of intimacy with the landscape. The mental journey through the garden triggers the reflection about the fact that each person has a reason to shine.