

Cecilia Thompson

Design Portfolio





cecilia thompson

interior design



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Residential

FAMILY HOME AT KEW

Future Proof Home



THE BRIEF

In this brief I was tasked to create a home that was adaptable for a changing population. Future gazing is key to making sure the home is able to adapt to changes in lifestyle for latter years living or changes in circumstance, to avoid home-owners needing to move when the time comes. This residential project was an ambitious new build for a successful middle-aged couple, who wanted to make sure it could be enjoyed as their primary residence for many years to come. The clients, a novelist and a nuclear researcher, are a cosmopolitan married couple who are a few years away from retirement. Bohemian and with a great eye for detail, they are not afraid of colour, pattern and texture.

THE CONCEPT

Cabinets of Curiosities

Cabinets of curiosities were collections of diverse and unusual objects that gained popularity in Europe during the Renaissance and Baroque periods. These cabinets were precursors to modern museums and were typically assembled by wealthy collectors, scholars, or nobility. The collections were seen as microcosms of the known world, reflecting the collector's curiosity about the diversity of nature, human culture, and the mysteries of the universe. They served as symbols of the collector's intellectual breadth. Cabinets were often located in private residences, serving as personal museums for the collector and their guests. They were intended to inspire awe, wonder, and contemplation.





Commercial

Re-Imagining Playscapes



THE BRIEF

The focus of this project is to develop skills and knowledge of professional practice through group work. The task was to re-imagine the outdoor space of St John's School and transform it into a play area, allowing for diverse activities to take place. The capacity of the school, spatial restrictions, safeguarding, children behaviour and weather conditions have all been considered. The design proposal demonstrates understanding of the user, showcases the approach to user experience, responds to students with special learning needs and engages with the local community.

PLAYGROUND



THE CONCEPT

Urban Forest

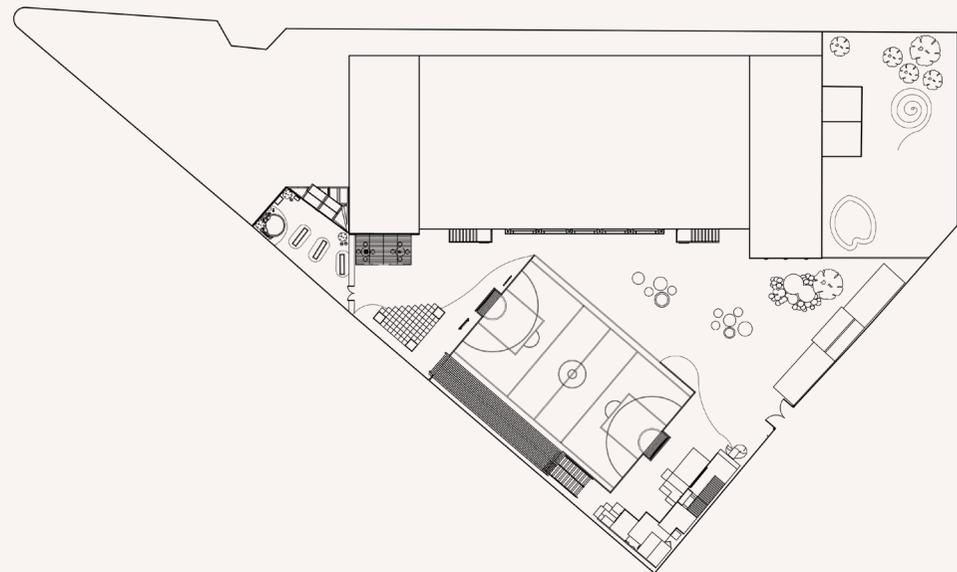
The Urban Forest merges the space's surroundings with the much needed element of nature. The space is educational, challenging and playful. Our purpose is to promote togetherness, connection and collaboration between the children, as well as emotional, physical and creative development in each individual child.

THE DESIGN

The playscape is organised into 6 Zones, plus the Nursery. Each zone will be identified with a different pastel colour to evoke specific emotions and Christian values in the children. I worked on the Educational & Quiet Zone, an Educational which includes an Amphitheatre, a Sensory area and a Quiet area. The Amphitheatre acts as a space for the community to gather and to hold outdoor lessons. The colour blue was chosen as it helps children relax and keeps them calm and content. It also aids in lowering blood pressure. This will make sure children are able to keep focus. The amphitheatre also incorporates planters for trees which adds the much needed natural element.



MATERIALS







Detailing

Commercial Detailing



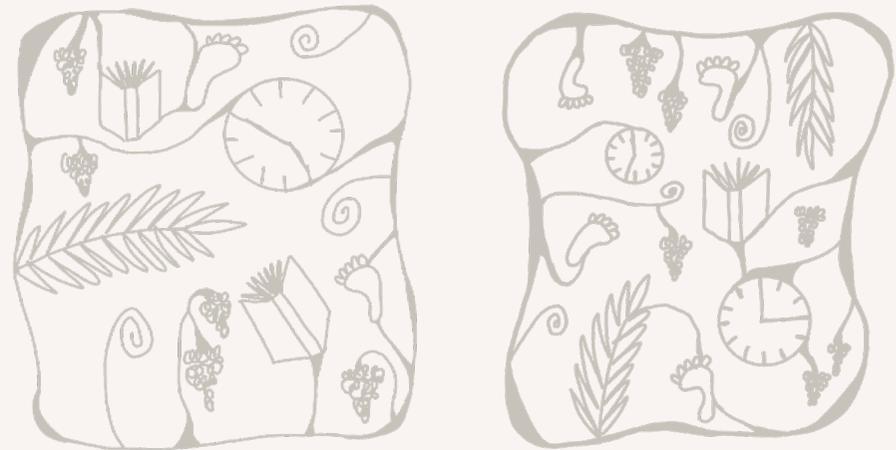
RECEPTION DESK



THE BRIEF

A commission by West Dean College to design a new reception desk. The final design must reflect the values of West Dean and combine innovation with functionality. Key areas that inform the design are the connection between the desk and the existing space, and the materials of the product.

A moodboard has been provided by the client to serve as a visual reference for the final design. It includes works from Surrealists Salvador Dalí and Henri Magritte, who were patronesses of Edward James. Edward James' garden in Mexico, Las Pozas, is also featured. The Surrealists were the starting point of research towards the final design of the desk.



MATERIALS



Oak was chosen for its sustainable, haptic, and aesthetic properties. A traditional material, it complements the existing space well.



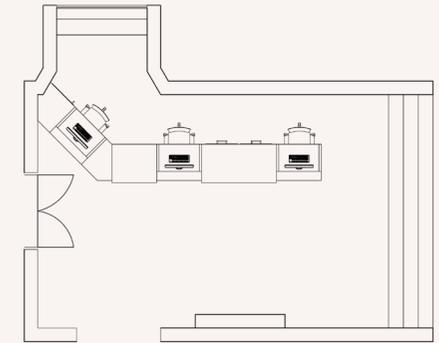
Aluminium was chosen primarily for its sustainability. The bright, light material creates an interesting contrast against the heavy oak.



THE DESIGN

I intended to design a reception desk that follows the design considerations the brief requests. There is a hollow section that allows for a wheelchair user to come right up to the desk and receptionists. There are two points of entry to get behind the desk so that the receptionists do not have to only walk to the other end of the desk to get to their seats. There is space for three computers - two permanent spaces and one 'hot desk', each with privacy panels. Drawers and a cupboard are also included so equipment can be stored away from view. There is counter space available so items such as brochure stands and lamps can be placed without taking up necessary workspace.

The material properties of Oak and Aluminium were key as to why they were selected as the chosen materials for this desk. I wanted the structure of the desk to match aesthetically with its surroundings - to feel older and more traditional. As there is Oak panelling underneath the window behind the space for the desk, Oak was chosen principally for its aesthetic qualities. Aluminium was chosen as a shiny, bright, light contrast to the tough Oak structure it would be attached to. It was also chosen for its malleable quality - it will be easier to create the specific designs I have proposed.







Commercial

Exhibiting a Brand



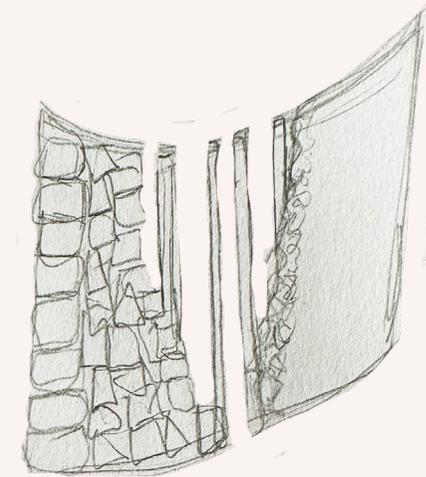
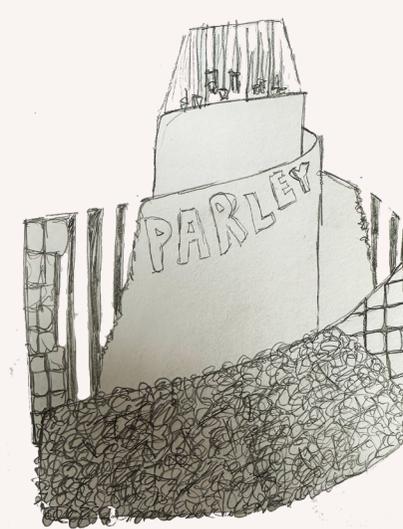
THE BRIEF

Design a 10m x 10m exhibition stand for global brand Parley For the Oceans with a maximum height of 6m. The stand must be eye catching, represent the brand's identity, promote brand recognition and generate media and public interest in the brand.

The stand must be compliant with UK Part M regulations. It must be accessible and sustainably built. Construction and deconstruction must be considered as the stand is to be displayed at various exhibitions around the world.

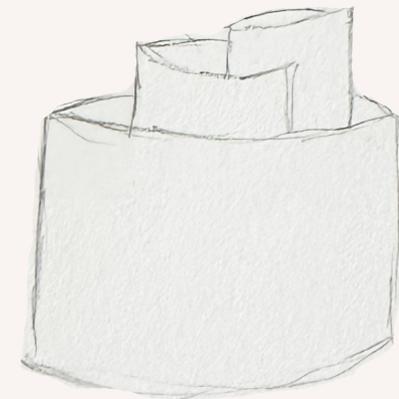
Concept: Message in a Bottle

EXHIBITION STAND



THE CONCEPT

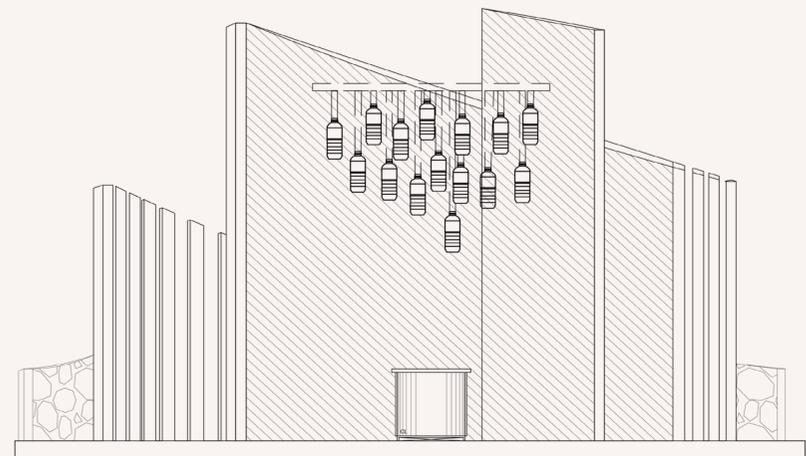
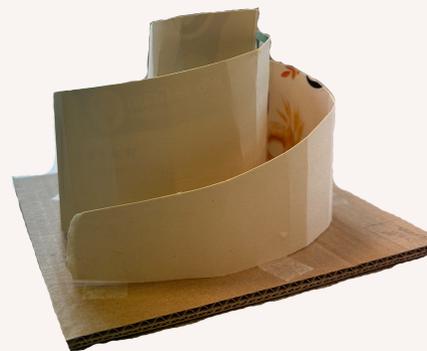
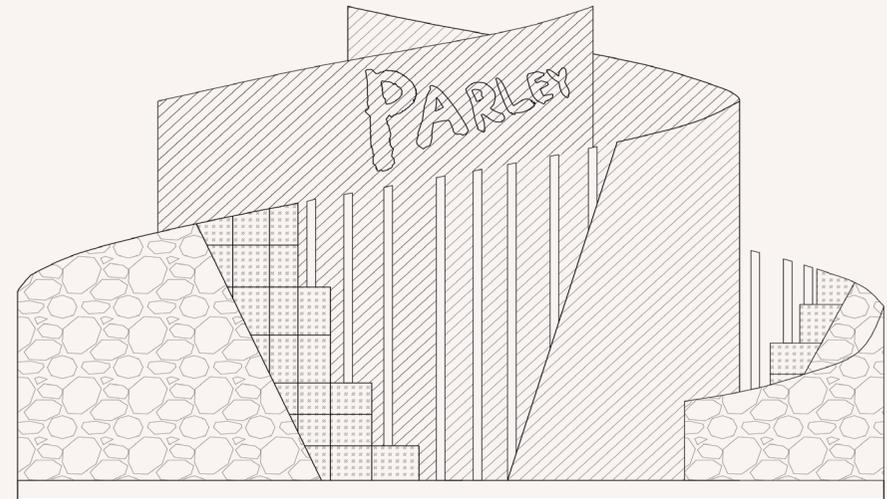
Parley's brand identity is its message. Messages in bottles have been used to send distress messages and to carry letters from those believing themselves to be doomed. The stand has been envisioned to relay a message to visitors that combines romance with doom; a negative message with a positive one.



THE DESIGN

To make the stand eye catching, it is making use of the full 6 metre height allowance, so it can be seen from further away, and above other exhibiting brands. The first material used on the stand will be collected plastic waste, keeping in line with Parley's brand values. The plastic can be taken from the entrance to the stand and into the centre where there will be an activity available to visitors. They will be able to crush their plastic, which will be sent to ByFusion to be melted down and turned into ByBlocks. These blocks are then used to build structures. Visitors play a role in this new life cycle of plastic.

As the walkways get smaller, the experience becomes more personal, and each individual can take part in the recycling. A personal experience will allow visitors to reflect on the journey they've taken, and inspire them to take action to help the oceans and use less single-use plastic. The entrances/exits and the centre of the stand are wider to allow people both in and out of the stand, to accommodate wheelchair users and for the recycling activity. As space in the stand is limited, a line may be formed outside the stand for people waiting to go in, generating interest from other visitors.



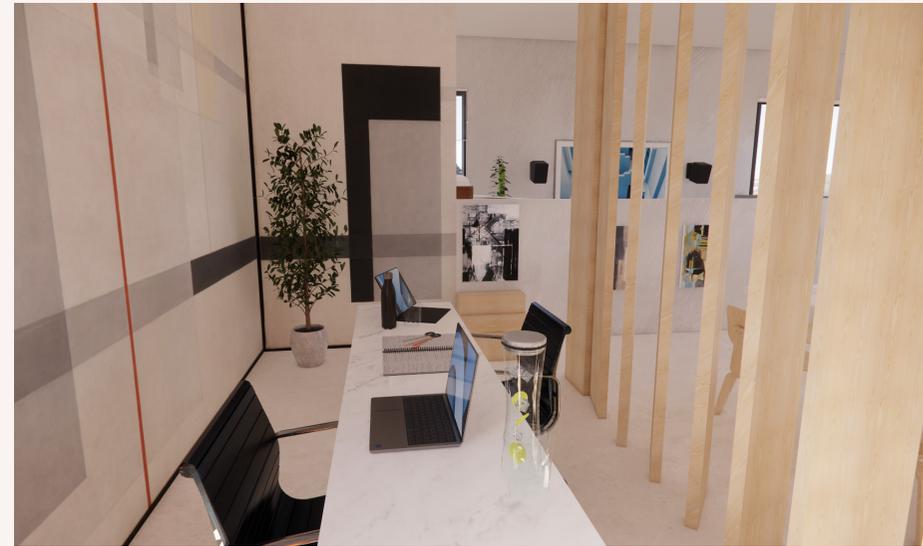




Residential

BATTERSEA APARTMENT

Not just another Show Flat



THE BRIEF

To design an apartment within a new development in Battersea, London. The client is an architect, who prefers muted colours and simple decoration. The client's priorities are a social kitchen space where they could entertain guests while also preparing meals, and a home office and bedroom that can be shut away when necessary.

The apartment is 104m² with a ceiling height of 3.5m, and windows that wrap around the South-West corner of the property. Privacy must be considered as the building is overlooked by adjacent properties.

THE CONCEPT

Transition/Transformation

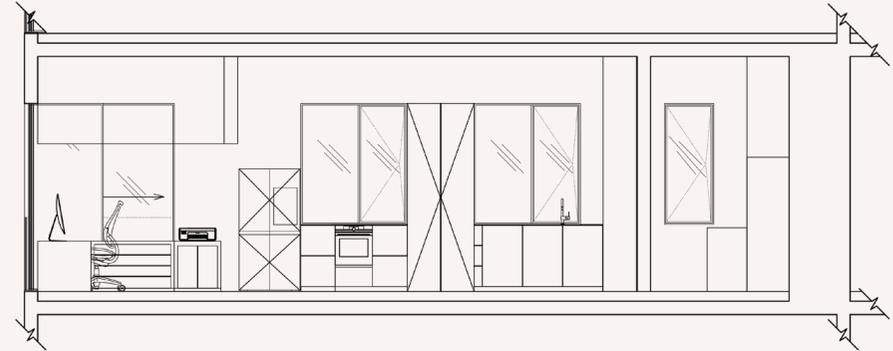
To create a space for the client to live in that can transition and transform according to need and use.

The client needs a multipurpose space for working, living, and entertaining. Fixed walls would be limiting, so moveable separation of "rooms" is preferred.

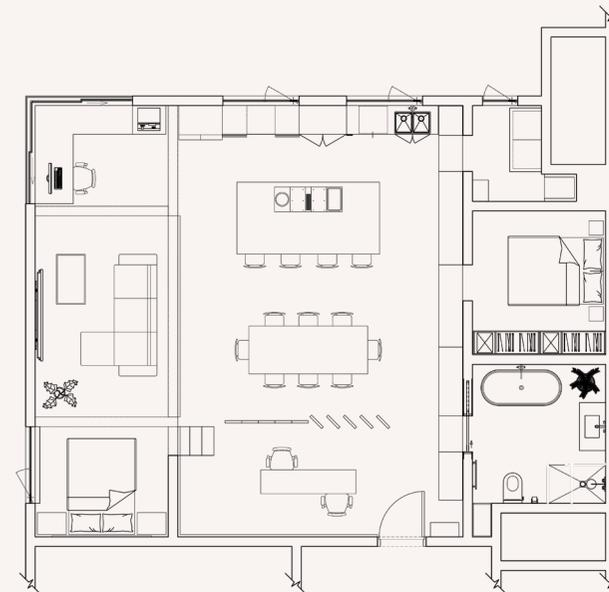
Parts of the space need to be completely closed off, completely open, or both, at any time, depending on the client's needs.

THE DESIGN

I thought about the transition between public and private space and threshold transition. I applied my concept in the use of vertically moving walls, that separate the master bedroom, living room, and office, from the kitchen/dining area. The master bedroom still has one fixed wall to maintain the idea that this room is still somewhat private. The bedroom is raised to provide a physical threshold transition from public to private. When these vertical walls are raised, one big public living/working area is created. When the walls are lowered, the left side of the apartment is private. A transformation can be seen between the three sections of the apartment when walls are moved, through materials and colour palettes. The middle is bright, with neutral tones and hard materials. The right is dark, with hard tile and dark appliances, with softness added in the guest bedroom in the carpet.



MATERIALS











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