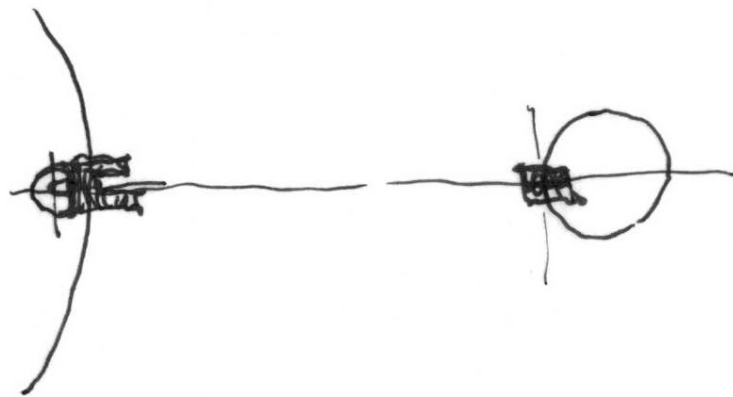


# Eternal Imprint

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Jaifer Sultan  
Thesis XL



The Journey

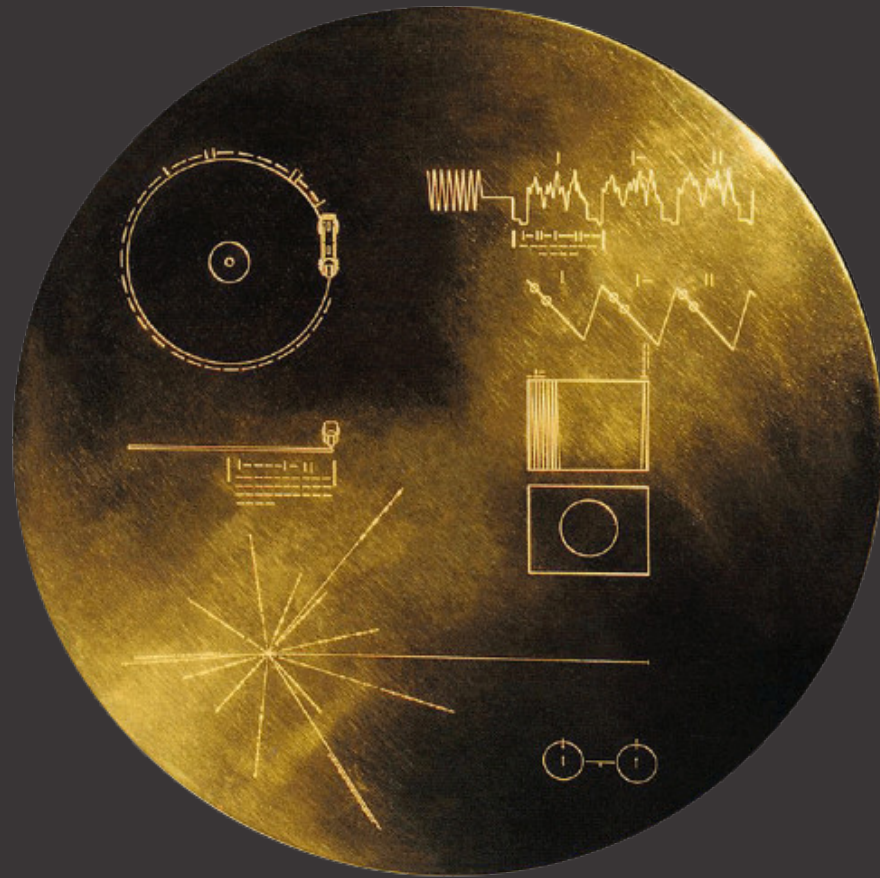


# Table of Contents

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I. Thesis Synopsis	4-7
II. Intrests and Intentions	8-11
III. Program Bibliography	12-15
IV. Site Bibliography	16-19
V. Precedent Bibliography	20-23
VI. Speculative Design Work	24-27





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Golden Record, NASA

# I. Thesis Synopsis

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Eternal Imprint  
Thesis XL

# Thesis Manifesto

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The production of architecture can be attributed to humanities efforts in the preservation of culture, meaning, and ritual. Where these defining characteristics of the human condition have been accomplished solely on the scale of our planet, rather than at the scale of the universe. This limited scale of archiving one's presence becomes an issue when considering the fragility of human civilization and the planet on a cosmological time frame (millions-billions of years), where this idea of immortality and eternal presence has been propagated within humanity through various forms of distractions. Climate change, natural disasters, cosmological disasters, and our own kind all pose threats to the machine of society, where complacency with our perceived eternal legacy keeps us from an immediate attempt at preserving our kind. The thesis is a proposition in the inevitable and necessary expansion of the human imprint past the atmospheric and gravitational boundaries of the earth, thereby constructing a link between the earth and the heavens.

The thesis is an attempt to question and address the fragility of the human condition, in creating an architecture that preserves our history, where a defining characteristic of living organisms, such as, "life and death or the pursuit of knowledge would translate into two libraries on both the moon and earth. The symbiotic relationship between the earth and moon becomes ideal for both its poetic expression and its establishment of man's pursuit of understanding itself in the context of the universe. The development of two libraries serves as a force in-itself that permeates the human intellect across the fabric of space and time. With that, it becomes self-evident that the library serves as the architectural typology of choice in an attempt to preserve and further our legacy beyond our home planet.

The project's relevance goes beyond the present, rather it seeks to outlive humanity and serve as a point of reflection for future or extraterrestrial life, where the architecture itself will speak on our current civilization, the achievements, and mistakes we carry with us. The Golden Record aboard the lone Voyager Spacecraft serves as an inspiration to this thesis, where the contents of our existence have been curated on a single record, sent out into the abyss of space. This thesis will attempt to build from this idea, as our curated creation and depiction of society and life itself serves as the imprint left behind.

"Forever".



# Thesis Categories

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## **1-Project Title**

Eternal Imprint

## **2-Thesis Statement**

An exploration of the astronomical symbiosis between the earth and moon through the conceptualization of two libraries in an eternal and formal dance.

## **3-The program**

Two libraries locked in dialogue across space and time. A library on the earth about the astronomical, and a Library on the moon about the terrestrial.

## **4-Sites**

Earth Site: Station Nord, Greenland. An isolated site at the edge of the world

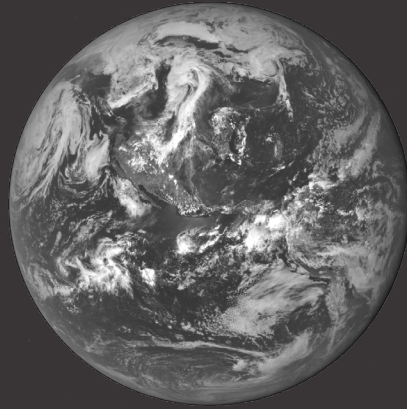
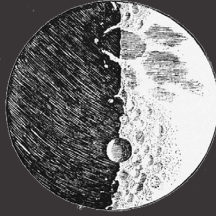
Moon Site: 59th Parcel on the earth-facing side of the moon (In accordance with the Clementine Lunar Atlas. A site in constant axis with the earth, meaning, and our history.

## **5-Analysis**

The projects research is grounded in the architectural lineage of the library and the architecture of meaning and poetry

## **6-Speculative Studies**

The studies taken on by the thesis include the collaging of formal relationships between the earth-moon, the creation of a narrative/ journey that one would embark on from earth to moon, analysis of 4 architectural categories of the library (structure, program, circulation, and book-stack), and the understanding and deployment of Zaha Hadid's paintings to inform and conceptualize the relationship between earth-moon, library-library, positive-negative.



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Earth - Moon Collage



## II. Interests and Intentions

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Eternal Imprint  
Thesis XL

# Reflection

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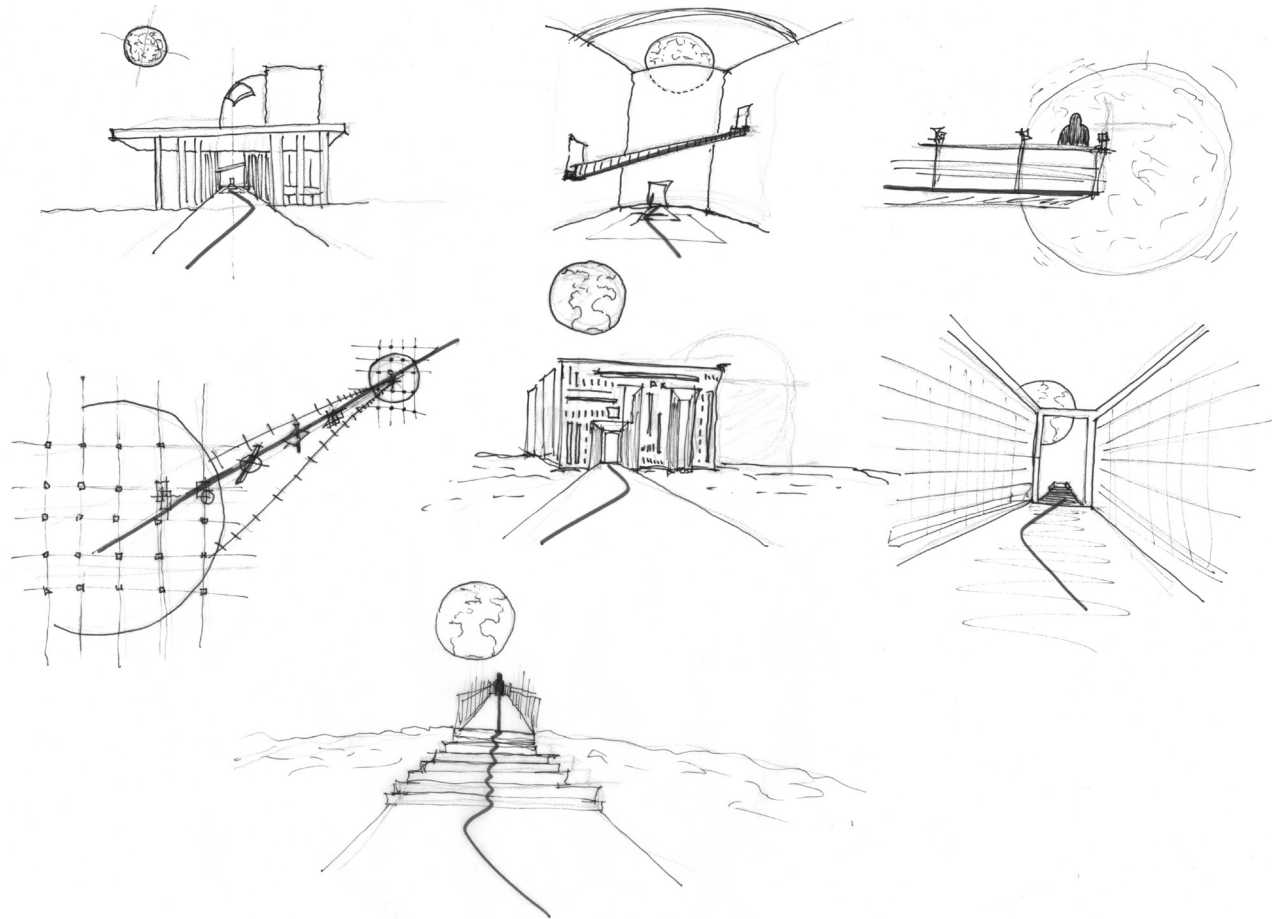


The thesis is an exploration of the symbiotic relationship between the earth and moon through the conceptualization of two libraries, connected through the fabric of space and time. The two libraries, one on earth and one on the moon, are to be formally expressed through a mitosis-like interdependency, where both libraries are in constant architectural dialogue with one another despite their separation that occurred some time ago... The earth-library will serve as a device to understand and position ones self in the context of the universe and everything un-earthly, whereas the lunar library will serve as a device to understand and position ones self in the context of our home planet, the city, and society. This juxtaposition of ones physical place in the universe versus their experiential place in the universe will be explored deeply throughout the course of the thesis.

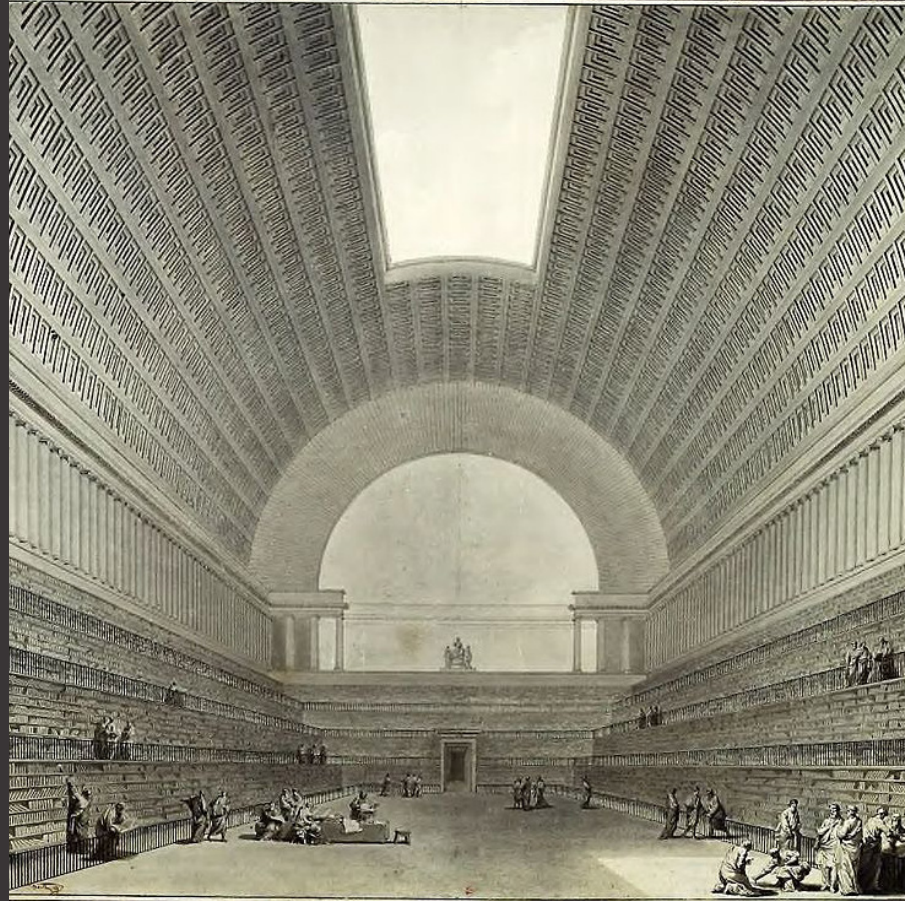


# Experience

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The experience of the user traveling from library to library will be precisely curated to follow the narrative at hand. The journey serves to expose the cosmological interdependency that exists between the earth and moon, and the fragility of this system as a whole. As one experiences one library, the suggestion of a missing link will be at play, as to foreshadow an incompleteness in the narrative.



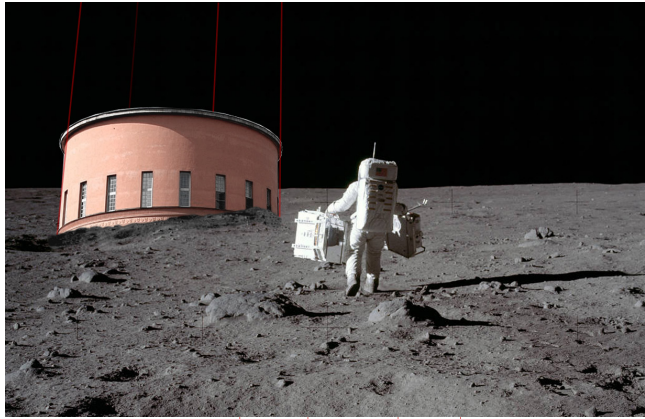
Bibliothèque Nationale, Boullée

# III. Program Bibliography

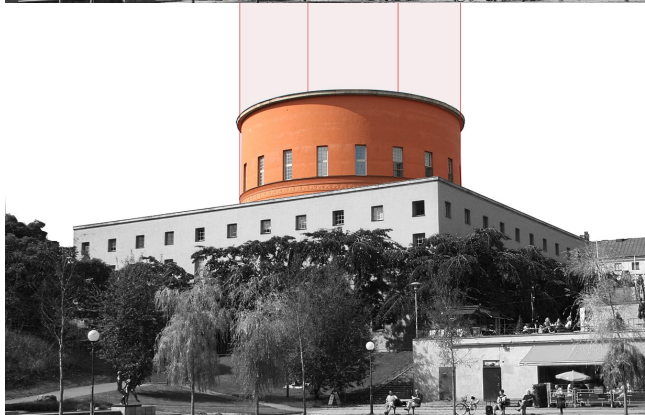
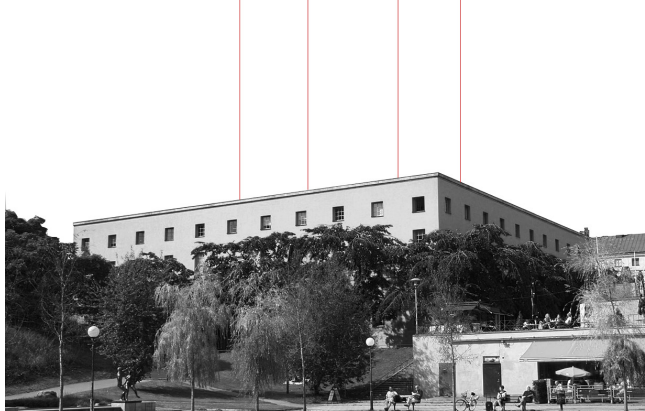
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Eternal Imprint  
Thesis XL


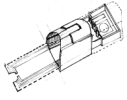
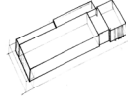
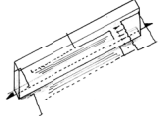
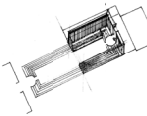

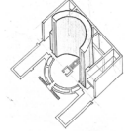
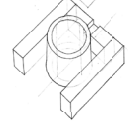

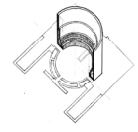

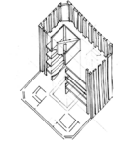
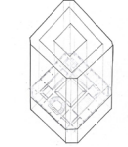
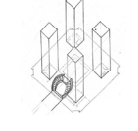
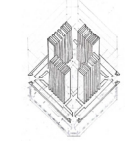

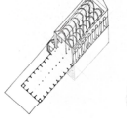
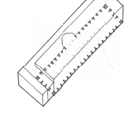
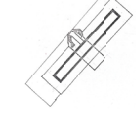
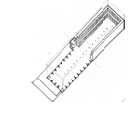

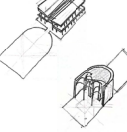

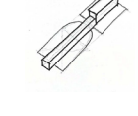
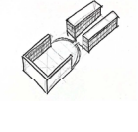

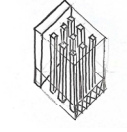

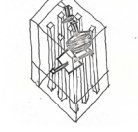
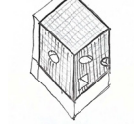

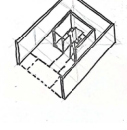
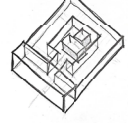

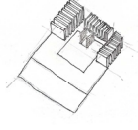
# Programmatic Symbiosis



With my curiosity towards our universe at the heart of this project, I had to be more “practical” about how to apply and further this curiosity and project within a certain attainable reach. With that I looked towards the interdependent relationship between earth and moon. Although I initially conceived of a project on the moon solely, I came around to the idea of two libraries, one on the earth, and one on the moon.



# Program Catalogue

LIBRARY CATALOGUE	STRUCTURAL SYSTEM	PROGRAMMING	CIRCULATION	BOOK STACKS
<b>BOULEE'S BIBLIOTHEQUE</b> BOULLEE 				
<b>STOCKHOLM LIBRARY</b> ASPLUND 				
<b>PHILIP EXETER LIBRARY</b> KAHN 				
<b>BIBLIOTHEQUE S. GENEVIEVE</b> LABROUSTE 				
<b>BIBLIOTHEQUE NATIONALE</b> LABROUSTE 				
<b>TRES GRANDE BIBLIOTHEQUE</b> OMA 				
<b>WIDENER LIBRARY</b> ABLESTRUMBAUER 				

The thesis is positioned within the discourse of the architectural library, and begins its development through the analysis and understanding of key libraries both built and unbuilt throughout the history of the discipline. This resulted in my selection of the few libraries listed here, where I looked to categorize and understand them in terms of their symbolic nature and the architecture used to create this symbolism. I conceived of two overarching symbolic approaches: A library of remembrance and a library of the experience. I wanted to analyze these libraries at a more precise level architecturally, and decipher how these programs inherently created a sense of symbol, thus I dissected each of these libraries into what I considered to be the four main categories of focus: Structure, Program, circulation, and book-stacks. This allowed me to find distinctions and similarities between each library typology, and create a matrix of characteristics. Examples of commonalities can be found in circulation, where in projects like “Stockholm Public Library, Philip Exeter Library, and Widener Library”, the use of circulation was done to express an ascension into places of importance. But differences occur in these examples. Widener Library brings the user up to and in alignment with the main axis, yet the staircase continues to wrap up and around the building, yet the suggestion towards a certain space still exists.



Station Nord,



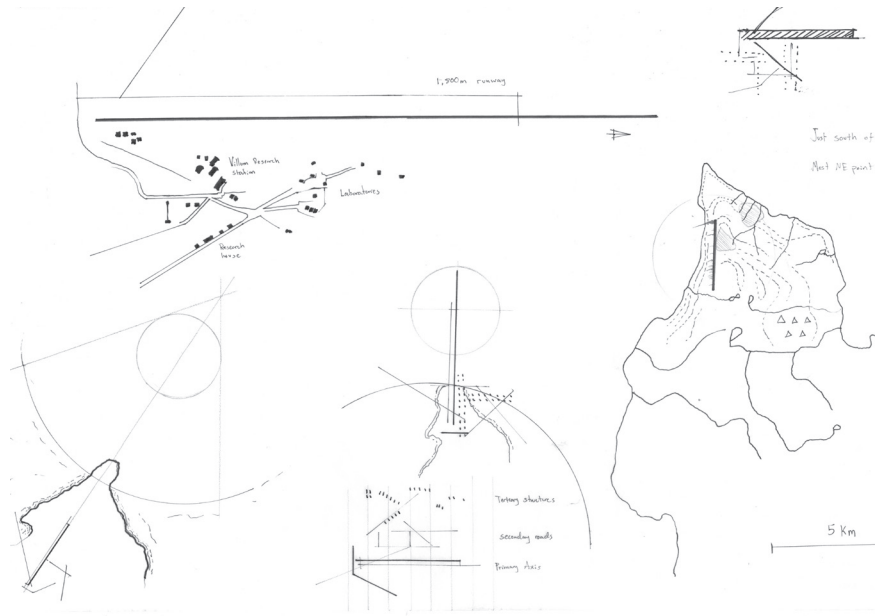
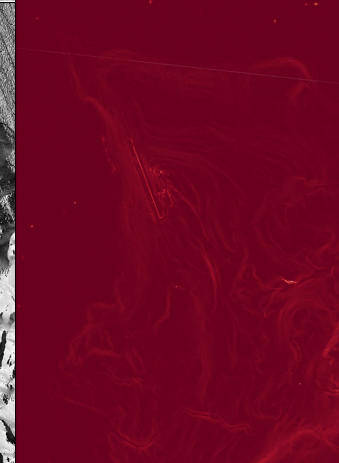
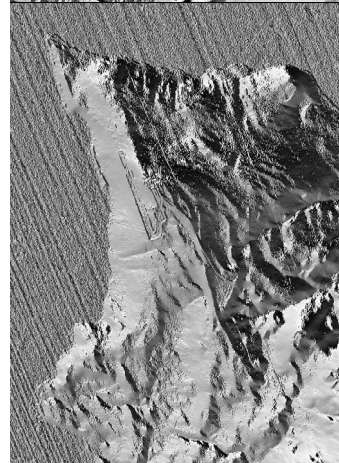
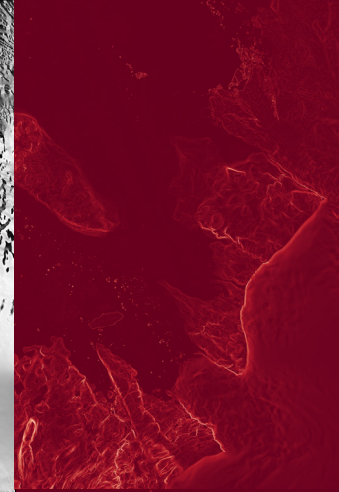
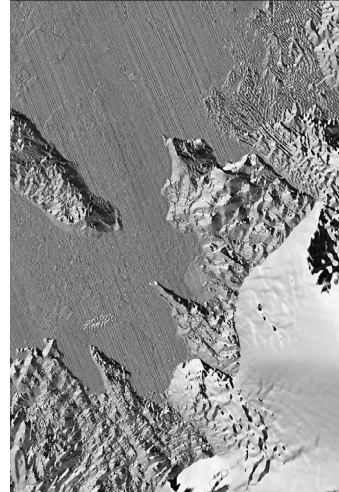
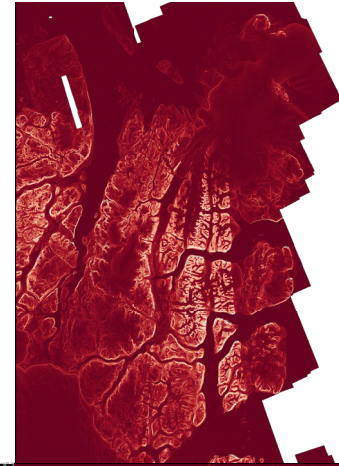
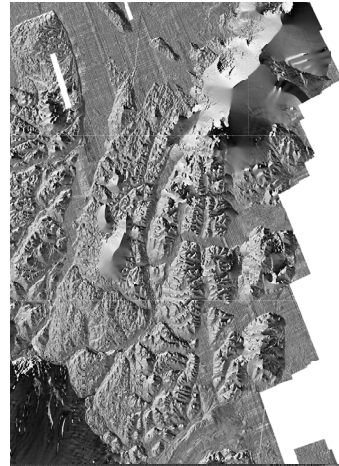
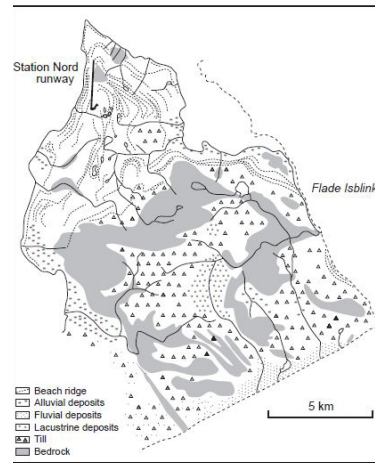
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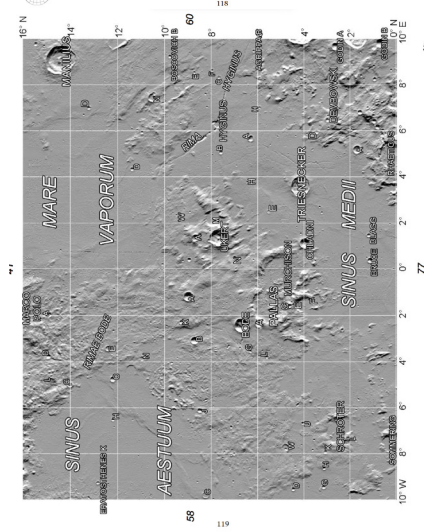
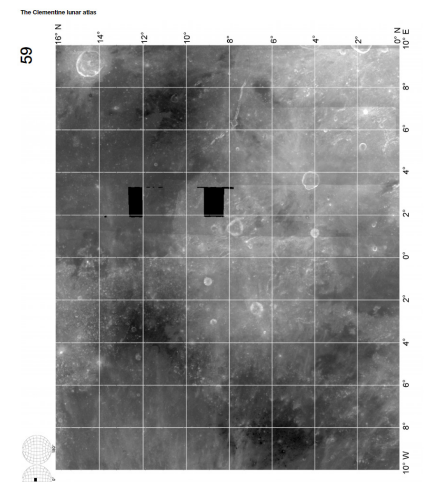
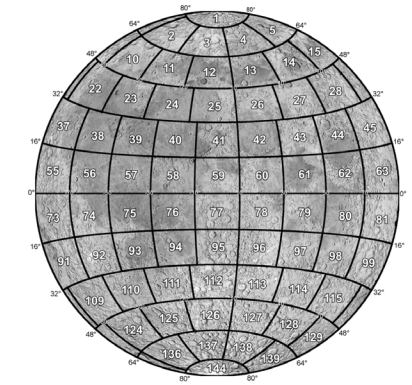
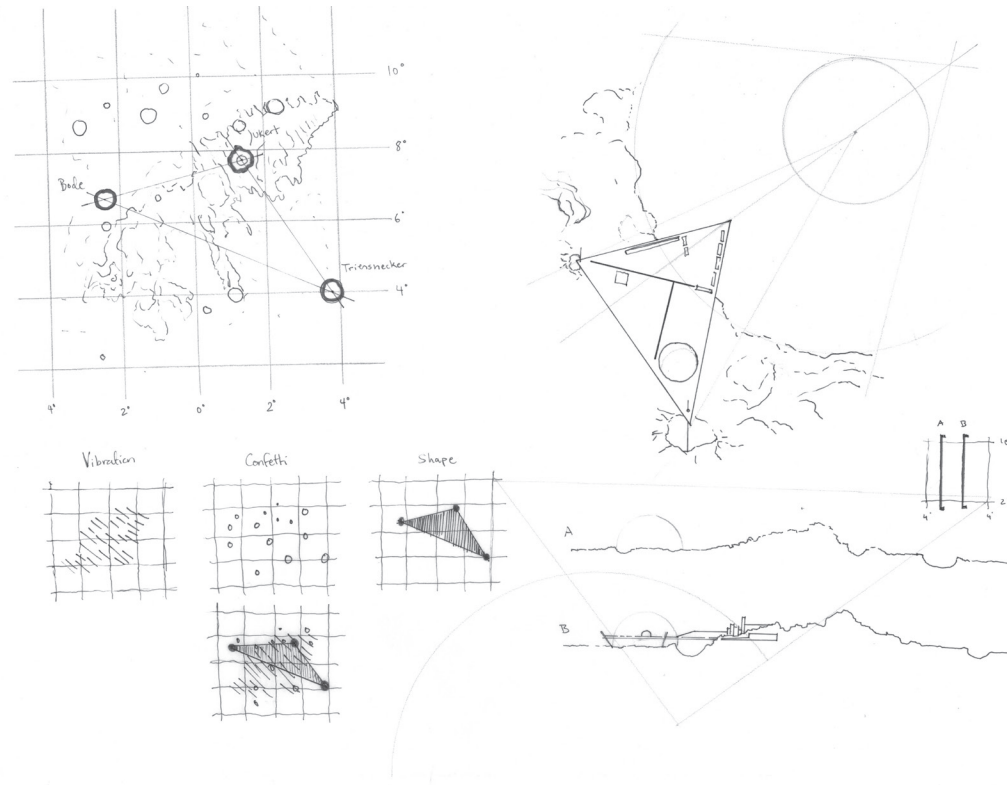
Eternal Imprint  
Thesis XL

# Earth Site - Station Nord, Greenland

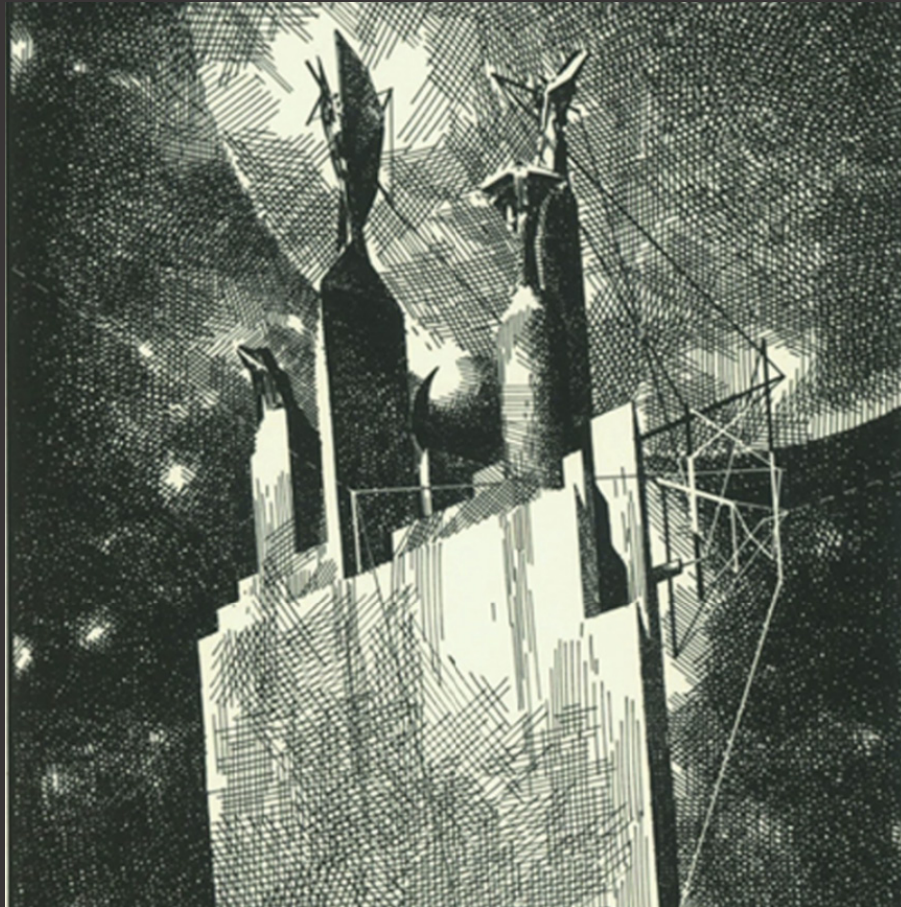
The site on the earth was more specifically chosen to be Station Nord, Greenland. A research facility that is under the control of the Greenland military, as it is a national park, the largest in the world. The site is on a cliff in the north pole, isolated from most of civilization, and symbolically the edge of the world. The library at Station Nord will deal with exploring ideas of the universe, divinity, and isolation.



# Moon Site



The site on the moon at the moment is relatively vague, as in I have selected a 400kmx400km region of the earth-facing side of the moon. This site was chosen primarily for its frontal relationship with the earth, it being in constant dialogue with our planet. On the moon will be a library that deals with exploring ideas of the city, society, and life. The goal of choosing these two sites is to begin conceptualizing the linkage between the earth and the moon that goes beyond that of the gravitational, but rather into that of the architectural.



Einsteins Tomb, Lebbeus Woods

# V. Precedent Bibliography

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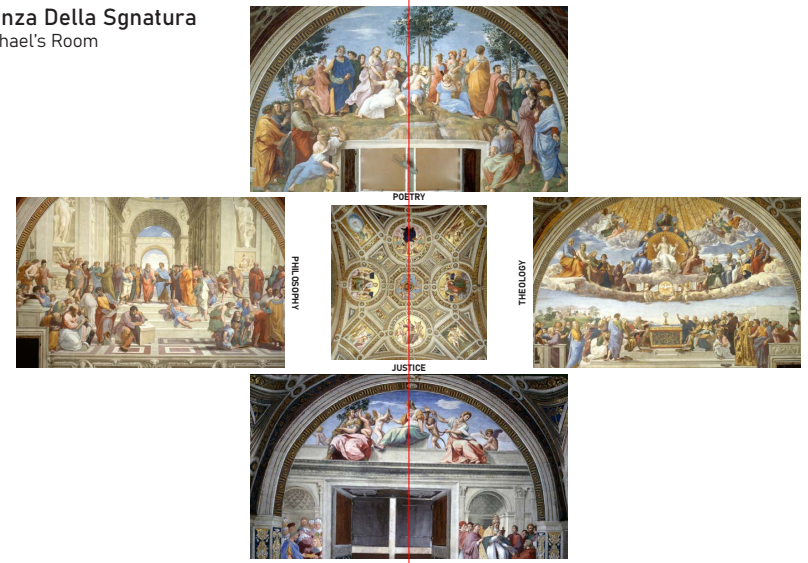


# Architecture & Meaning

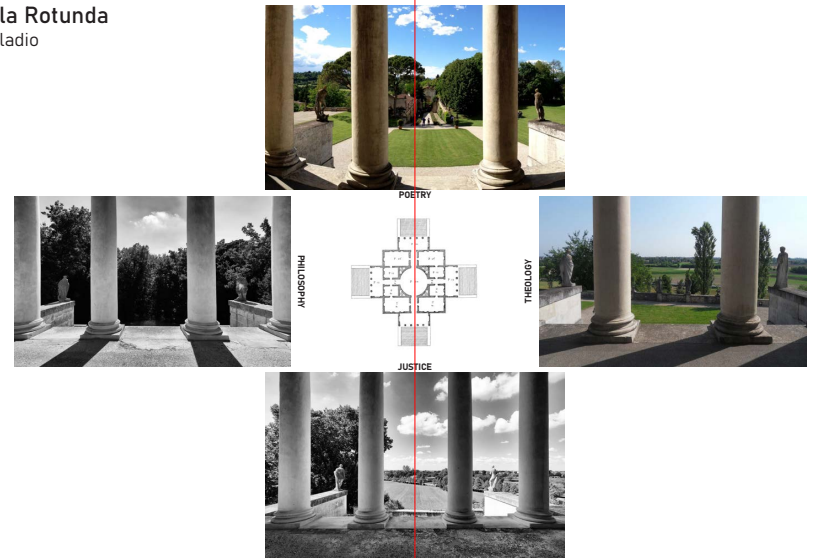


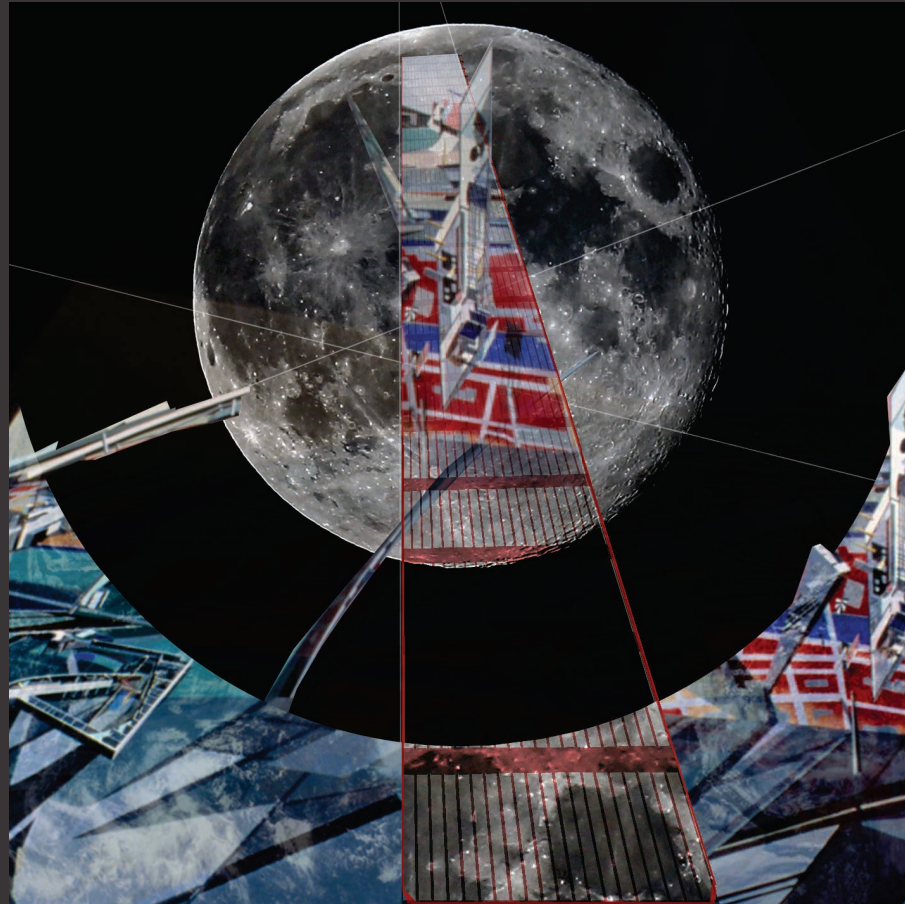
Alongside the research into the library typology, I developed an interest in symbolism within the general practice of architecture. I studied Raphael's room and the 4 distinct Frescos, with their 4 distinct representations of the human condition: Theology, Philosophy, Poetry, Justice. Additionally I examined Palladio's Villa Rotunda, specifically on the depiction of 4 distinct gardens with 4 distinct views. Agricultural, water, theater, and sacred garden. From this I created a diagram that begins to overlay these ideas of symbolism and further them through the introduction of the heart of this project, my fascination with the universe and laws of nature.

Stanza Della Sgnatura  
Raphael's Room



Villa Rotunda  
Palladio





Design Speculation Collage



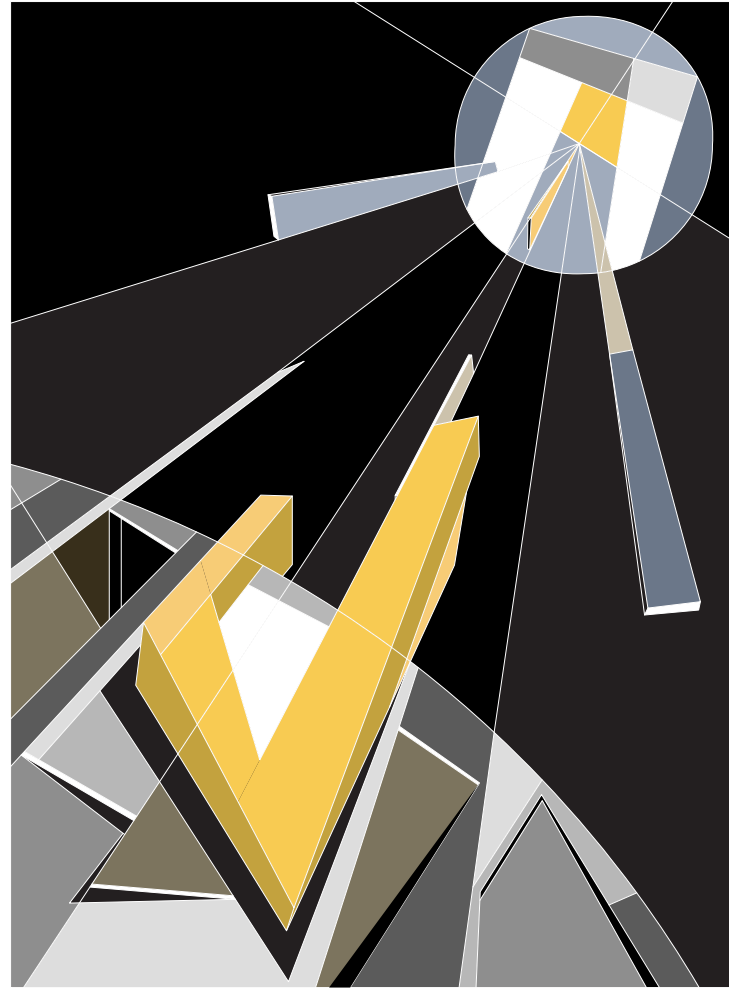
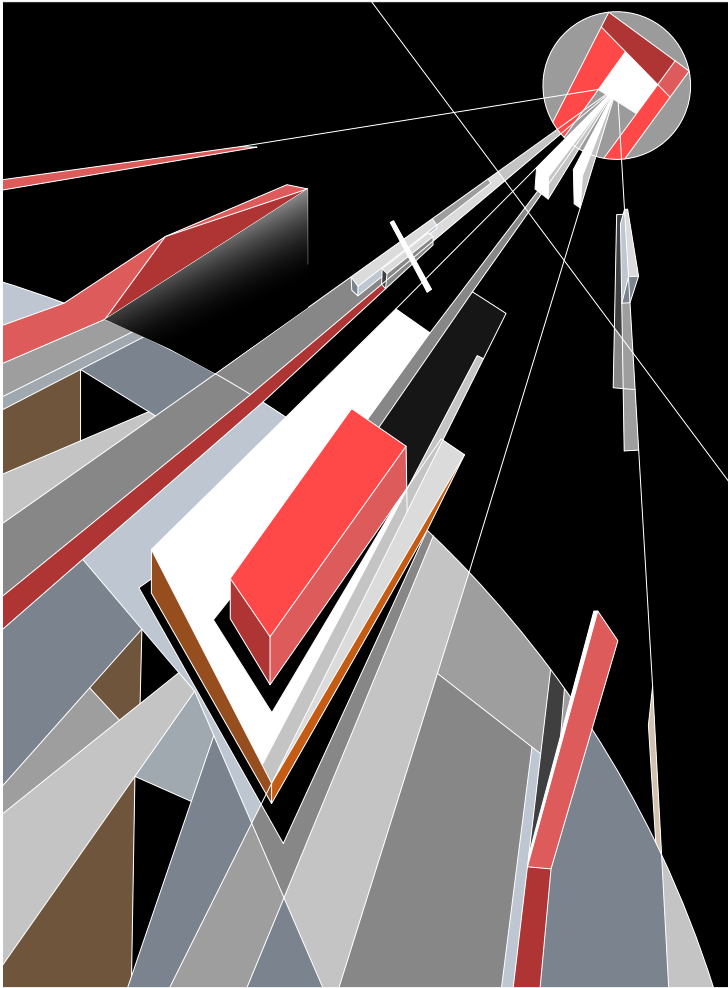
# VI. Speculative Design Work

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Eternal Imprint  
Thesis XL

# Design Speculation

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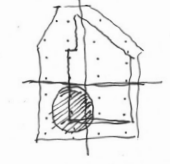
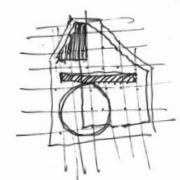
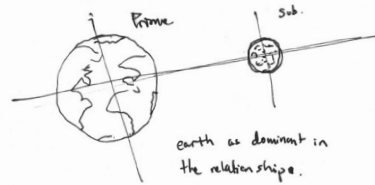


In furthering my development of the relationship between the two libraries, the two sites, and the two planetary bodies, I began a journey of painting that took inspiration from Zaha Hadid's painting style. In her painting of the Vitra Fire station, I took interest in her deployment of force within architecture, and across landscapes, and I began attempting to think about the forces at play that could begin serving as a tool for how I design.

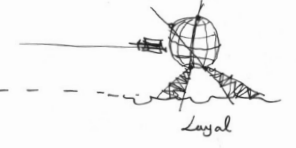
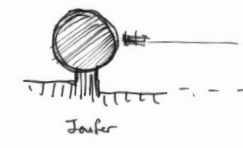
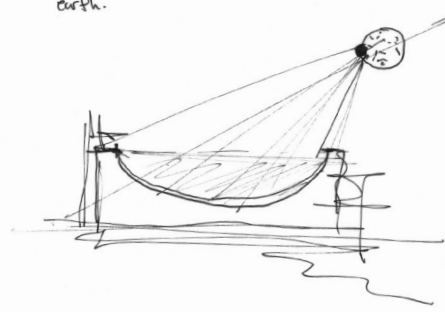


# Design Speculation

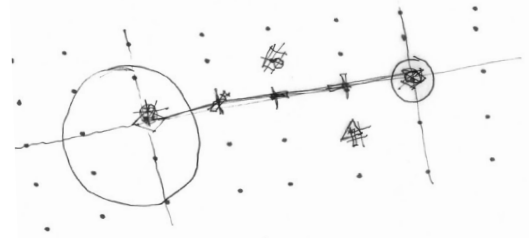
## Earth & Moon



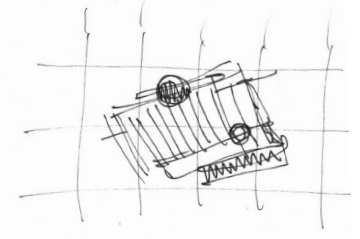
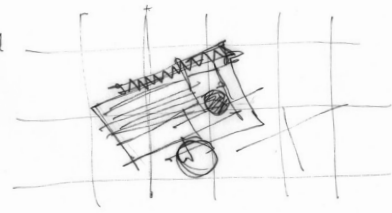
Reciprocal  
Twins.

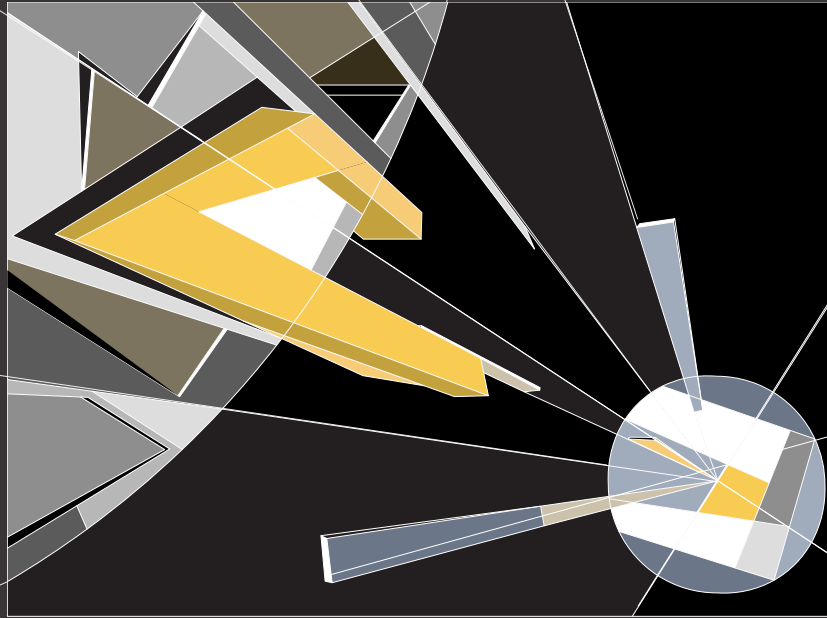


How one experiences the terrestrial-lunar symbiosis  
 Two libraries? A library & A tomb? Library + Museum?  
 A journey one takes from the earth to moon.  
 Experience the moon on earth, experience the earth on moon.  
 Formal, physical, poetic relationships of earth - moon.



Constructing a spatial  
 narrative & sequence  
 through space & time.





# Eternal Imprint

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Jaifer Sultan  
Thesis XL