

#S2E3 SCENOGRAPHIA

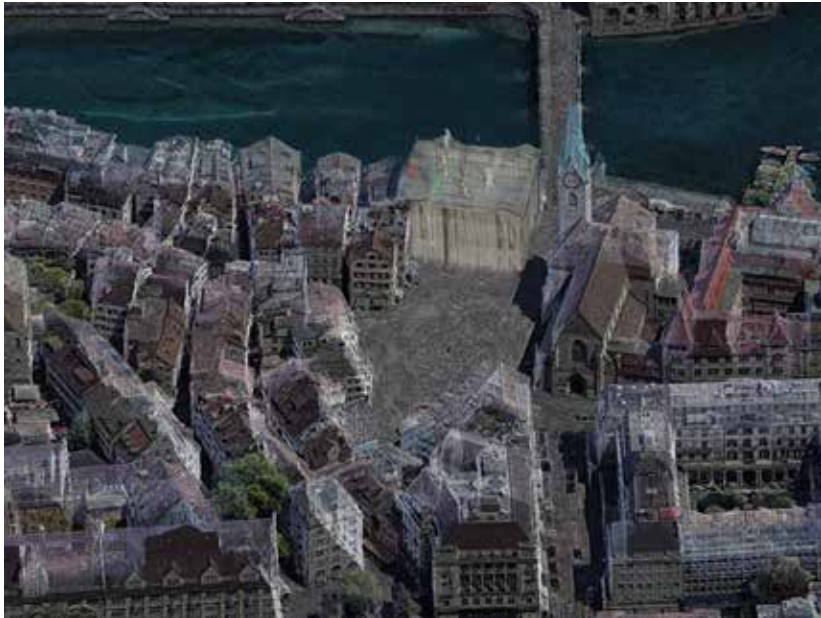
konrad kramer,

studio meteora#2,

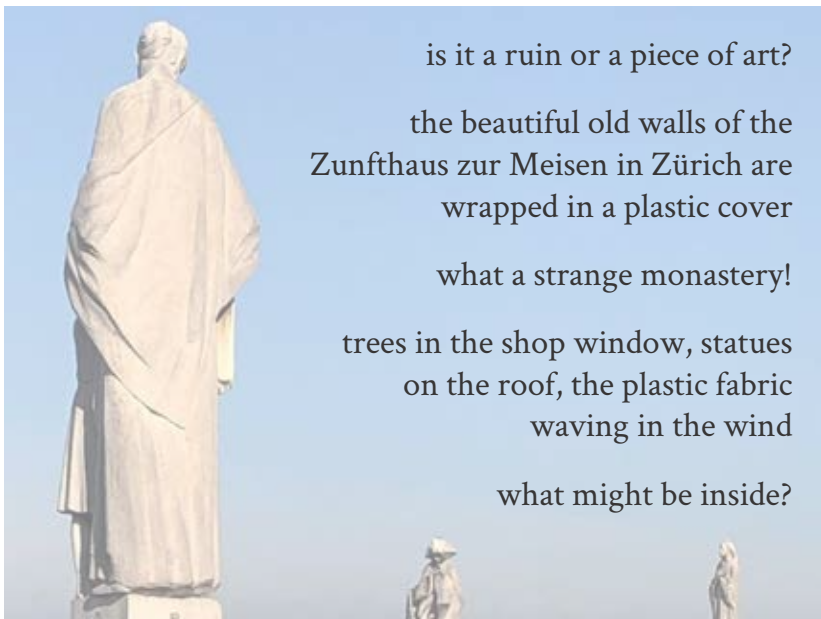
digital architectonics
eth zurich, 2020.

MONASTERY OF FOOLS

| | |
|--|----|
| #freihaus FACE | 4 |
| #CONSTITUTION of the monastery of fools | 6 |
| #the four scenes | |
| \ MAZE OF TIME | 12 |
| \ CAFÉ OF LONELINESS | 22 |
| \ CHURCH OF DISBELIEF | 32 |
| \ CAROUSEL OF BLINDNESS | 44 |



\ 4



is it a ruin or a piece of art?
the beautiful old walls of the
Zunfthaus zur Meisen in Zürich are
wrapped in a plastic cover
what a strange monastery!
trees in the shop window, statues
on the roof, the plastic fabric
waving in the wind
what might be inside?



#FACE



The world is contradictory.

The monastery of fools is a place for contradictions.
 For every argument there is a counterargument.
 For every truth, the contrary is just as true.

Some people ,suffer' from loss of the ,objective' reality.
 They don't conform moral, ,objective' agreements.
 Those fools are denied any credibility by the society.
 Their perspectives/truths are taboo outside the monastery.

How does truth differ from a world?

Rejecting the existence of one ,objective' truth, the
 monastery of fools is an institution beyond moral.
 Instead deep honesty and curiosity are its currencies.

The fools founded a place like no other in Zurich.
 Inside is a place of a contradictory plurality of truths.
 Only fool visitors affirming their own contradictions
 are welcome to this Freihaus.

\ 8

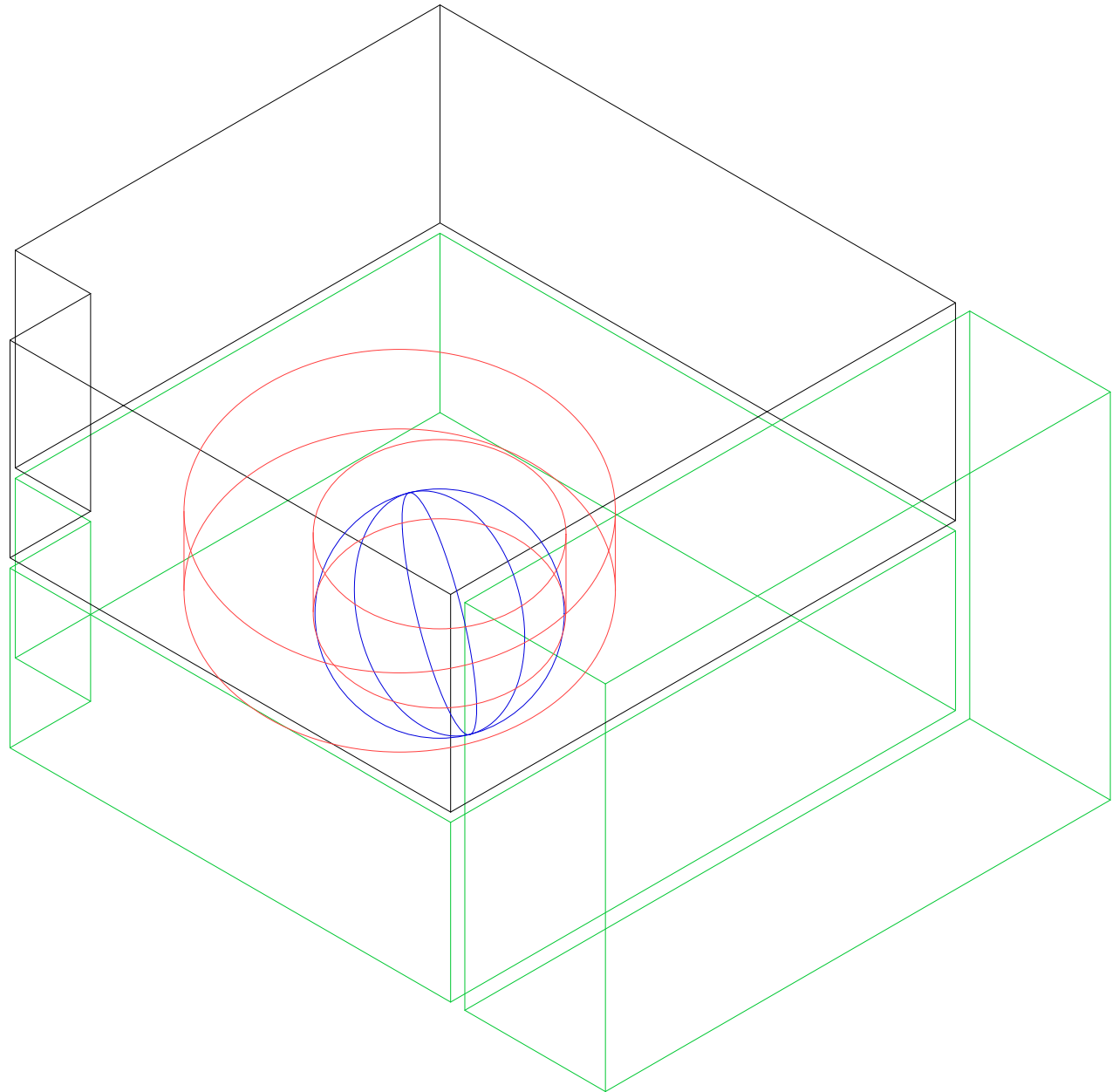
\ The Chambers and its contradictory Characters

01 \ MAZE OF TIME
old man with dementia \ memory

02 \ CAFÉ OF LONELINESS
lonely widow \ companion
polygamist \ singularity

03 \ CHURCH OF DISBELIEF
anarchist \ lawyer
racist \ humanism
conspiracy theorist \ teaching
and all the other fools

04 \ CAROUSEL OF BLINDNESS
blind girl \ visual plenty
old man with dementia \ memory

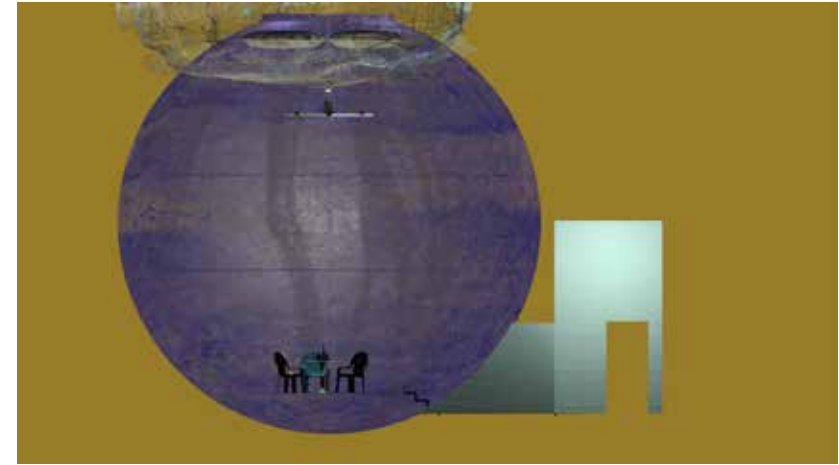


#CONSTITUTION



the *maze of time* is the circulation system of the monastery.

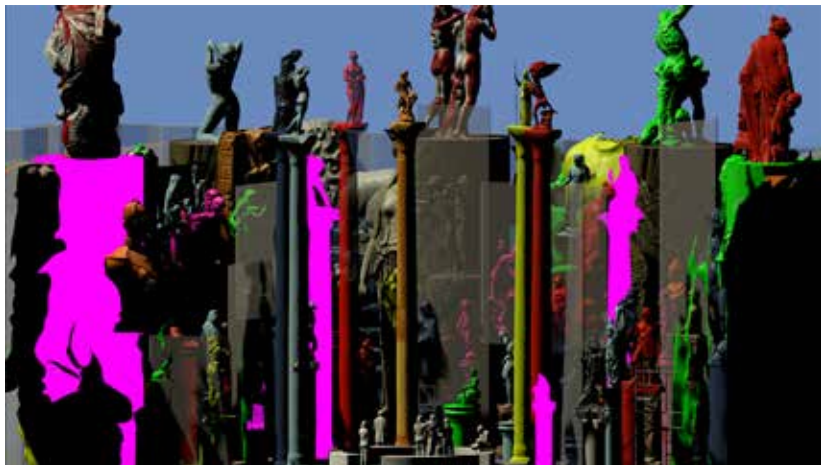
\ blood



the *café of loneliness* is a silent gap between the confusions of the maze, the emotional center.

\ heart

\10



the *church of disbelief* is the place to argue about current and yet timeless issues.

\ intellect



the *carousel of blindness* is the ritual of leaving and forgetting the monastery

\ stomach

\12

\ MAZE OF TIME

forgetting the outside world

dreaming about the past

artificial - natural



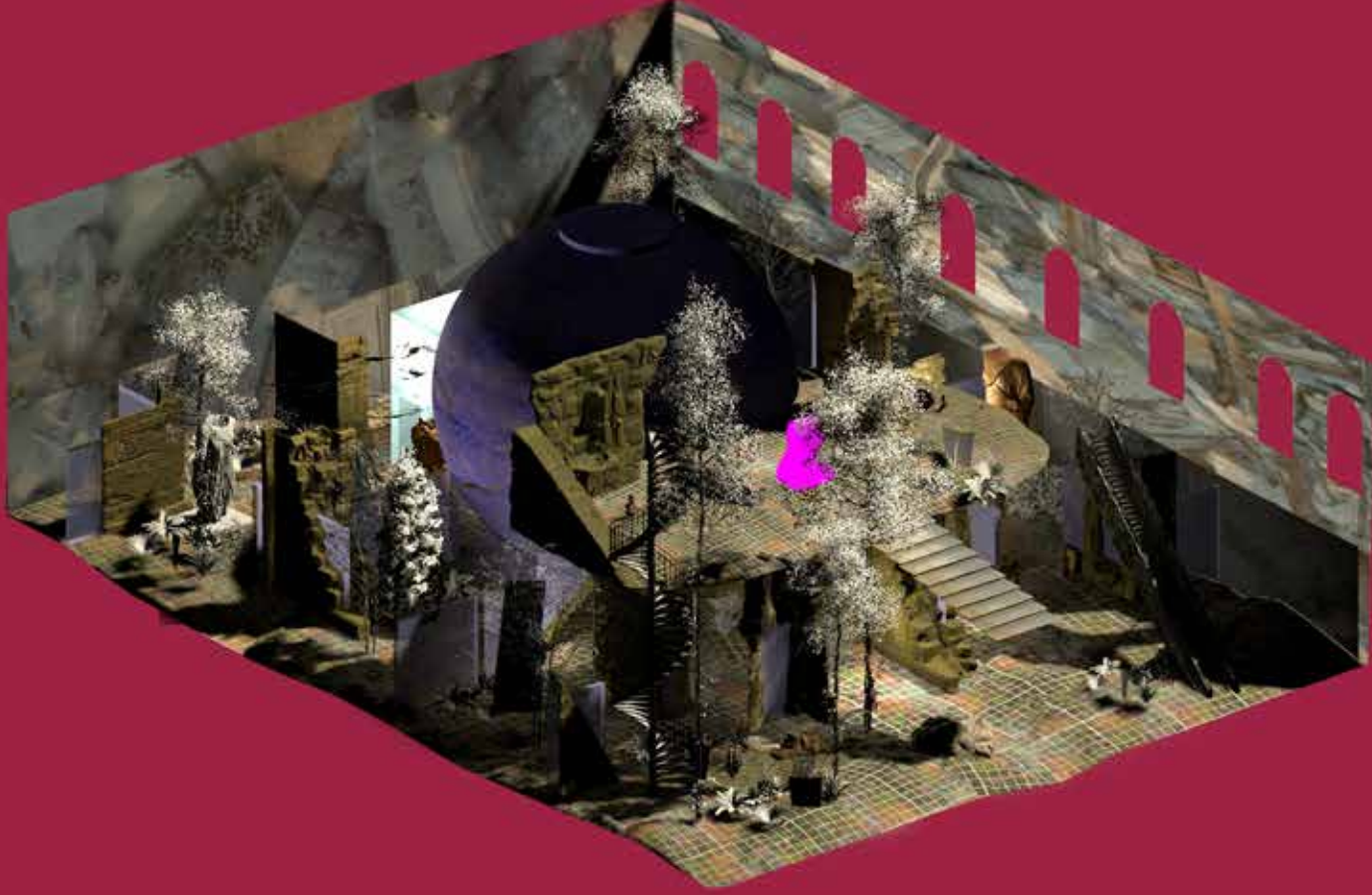
\ MYTH OF THE MAZE OF TIME

old man with dementia \ memory

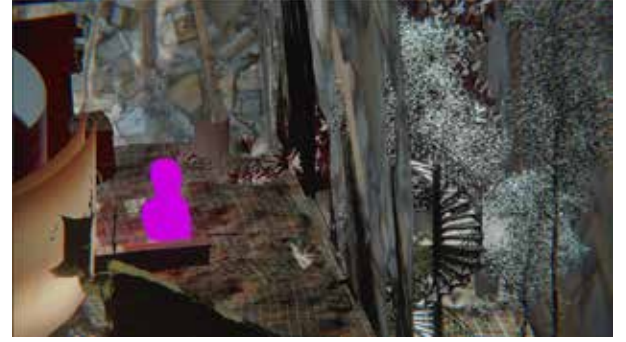
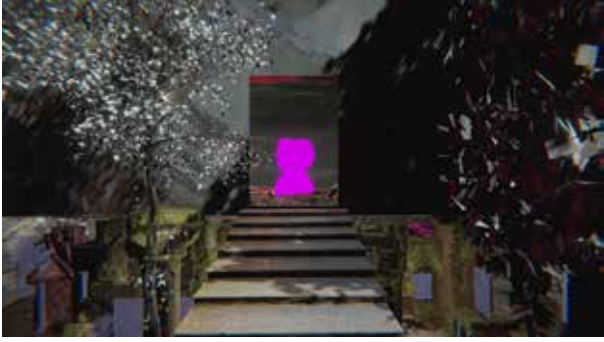
passing the gate to the monastery of fools, the old man with dementia finds himself in a poorly cultivated garden. *plants quiver in the rising sun, almost like an animal which drinks in the breaths of cosmic love, [...] sprinkled on the damp earth, on the defaced statues, [...] flowers like stars, dew like pearls, beauty, life, joy, perfumes.* [Hugo LM] after crossing the entrance bridge a bifrons janus statue welcomes any visiting fool demanding him to take off his shoes. barefoot, the old man with dementia begins the journey through the maze of time.

the maze of time talks of creation and erosion. what is still natural? what already artificial? the old man with dementia walks on a map of maps, but he is not able

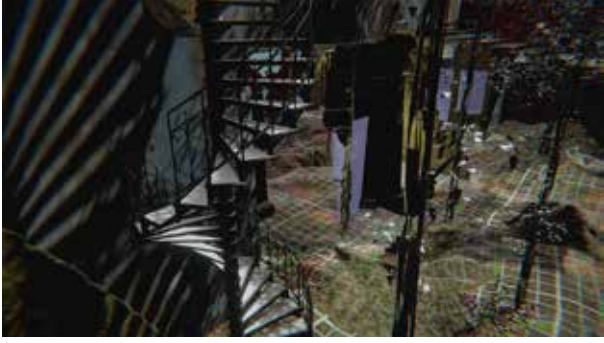
to memorize neither a starting point nor a destination. curiosity and premonitions are his only compass. *who raises the question of sense, is mad.* [Freud] passing around a corner, a statue of a young girl that is *only the flash of a dream, and is not yet a statue* makes the old man halt. [Hugo LM] touching the statue, the old man has *a flash of memory, a flashing trip into the past* seeing himself when he was still very young. [Artemova] the sound of a piano, the scent of a rose or the beauty of a mossy defaced statue. the journey through the maze of time is a journey through one's past.







\22



#MAZE OF TIME

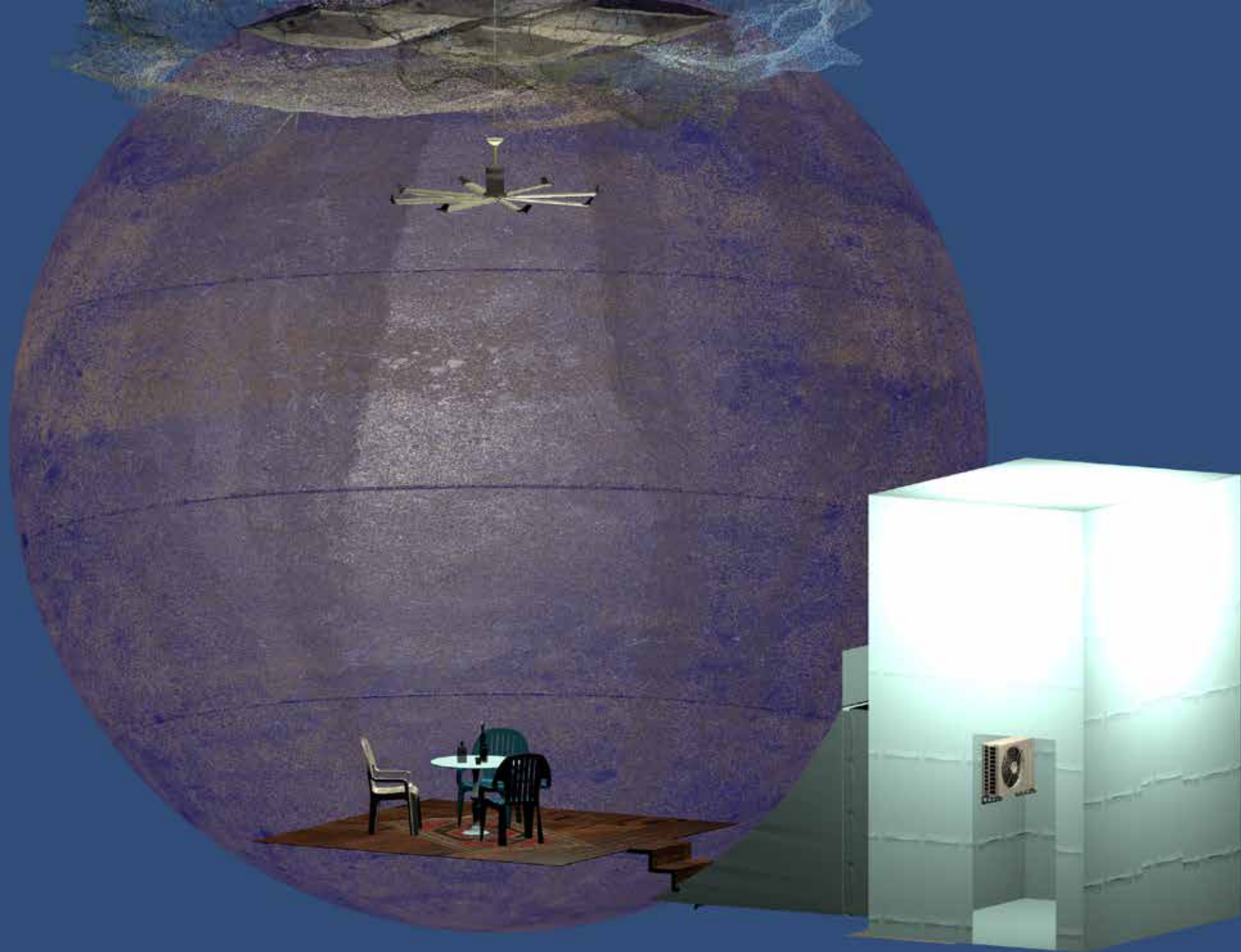
\24

\ CAFE OF LONELINESS

feeling the beauty of loneliness

drinking vodka hoping for company

cold - warm



\ MYTH OF THE CAFE OF LONELINESS

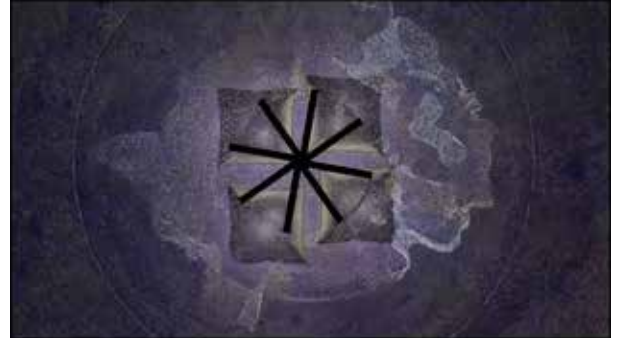
lonely widow \ companionship
polygamist \ singularity

the café of loneliness is a silent gap between the confusions of the maze - *a vacuum in the order of the cosmos*. [Brodsky] through a hidden hole, the widow enters the vestibule of the café. the widow takes an ice cold beverage out of the fridge and turns around the corner. entering the sphere full of nothing the widow feels the beauty and violence of loneliness at the same time. there is no corner to hide. the widow is thrown back on her voidness - feeling *like a punctuality to which all the world appears*. [Zizek LTN] the café is unattended, no service, few visitors.

the widow passes hours on her plastic chair hoping for some other fool to come around. *solitude is the place of purification*, but a good conversation might fill her voidness and let her forget her exile for a while. [Buber] at least the carpet and the wine give comfort in this sterile place. although the widow has met the polygamist a few times in here, today, the widow has no luck. the widow finds consolation in the memories of past laughters, talks and disputes.







\36

\ CHURCH OF DISBELIEF

cultivating contradiction and doubts

disputing the plurality of truths/worlds

argument - belief



\ MYTH OF THE CHURCH OF DISBELIEF

*all fools (anarchist \ law, old man weary of living \ luck,
racist \ humanism, ... among others)*

\40

the anarchist lawyer descends the narrow stairs of his column. he meets with the other fools for their regular afternoon debate session. the anarchist wonders what the others think about the latest tweets of Donald Trump. the racist might again share his ideas.

the church of disbelief is a sacral and ceremonial place like a church. the nuns and monks of the monastery of fools celebrate their shared disbelief that there is not one truth. instead of praying to one god, the fools believe in and at the same time doubt the plurality of gods. the church of disbelief is where all these gods meet. on the central island of stability, any taboo, any truth, any sin, any world is discussed. the statues are watching

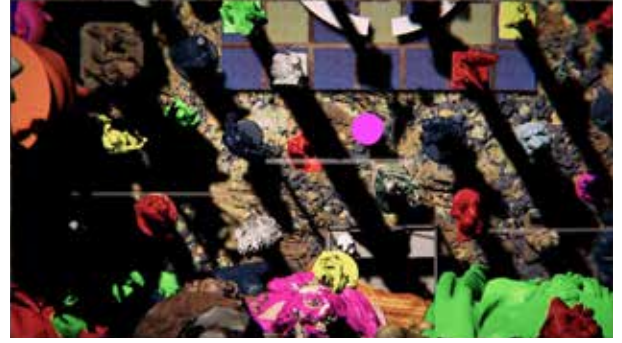
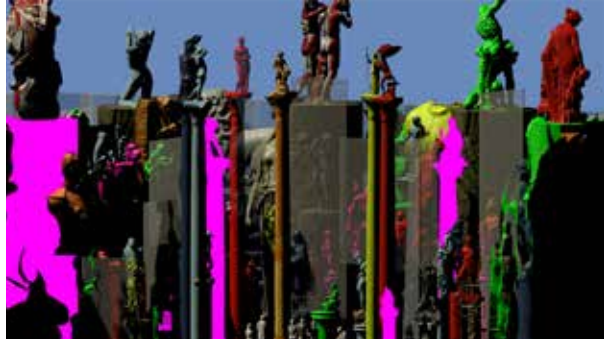
them and looking at them can add new questions to the discussion. who is watching whom?

when the anarchist passes by the columns of Maternal Affection, Narcissus and Cain killing Abel, he encounters the humanist racist sculpting his column of Charity. they have a quick chat about how Charity should look like and then join the other fools for another debate. as the fools affirm their contradictory nature, one fool might have many opinions to the same topic and do not care about it. in the end, a good conversation will not lead to a result, but might just add a new perspective, a new argument, a new world to a fool's very own truth.









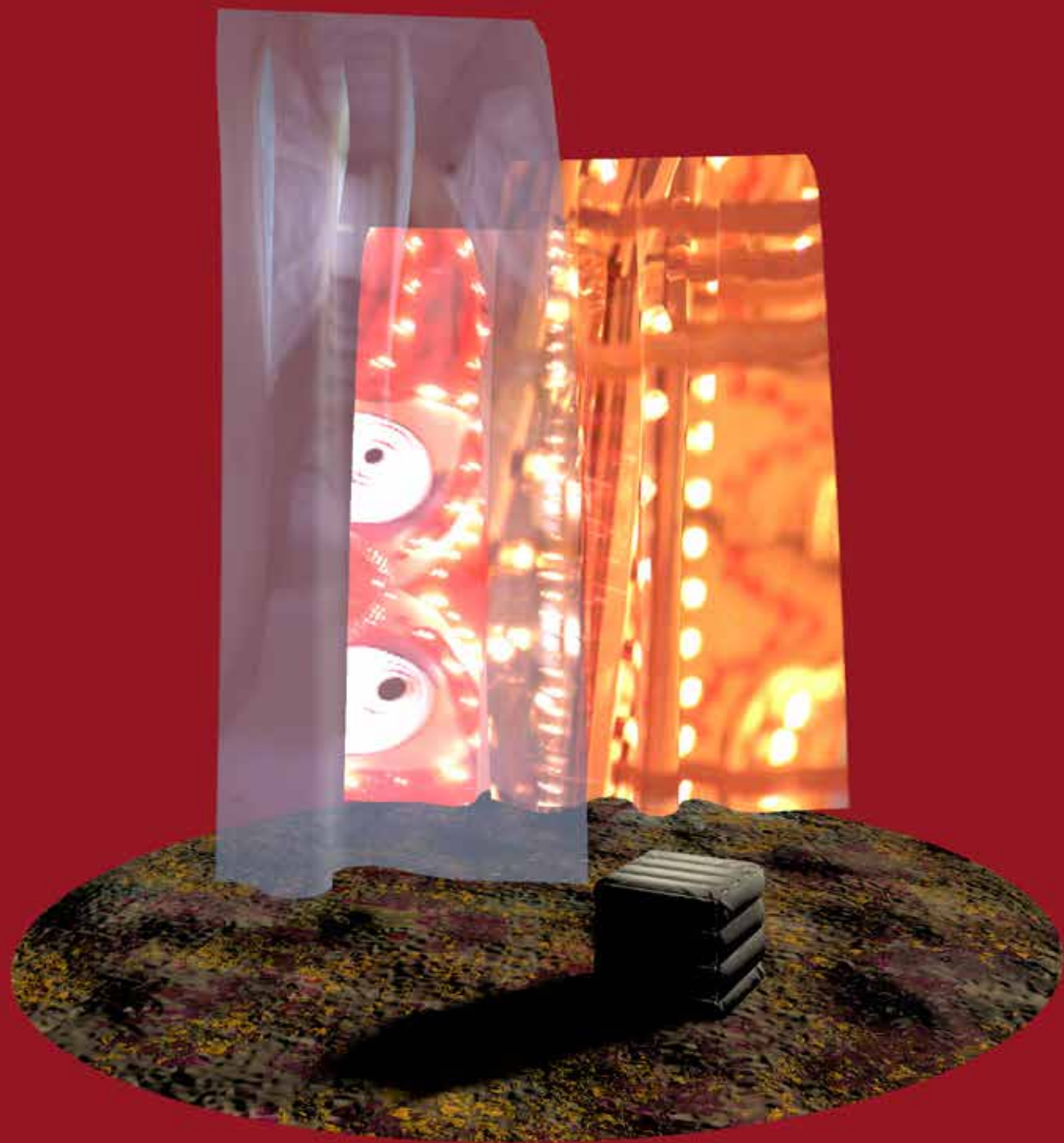
\50

\ CAROUSEL OF BLINDNESS

forgetting and leaving the monastery

getting washed from sins

visual richness - white noise



\ MYTH OF THE CAROUSEL OF BLINDNESS

old man with dementia \ memory
blind girl \ visual plenty

\54 after having opened all kinds of doors to different chambers, the old man with dementia still wanders around with no direction. behind one door turns out to be the corridor to the last chamber - the carousel of blindness. the old man with dementia spots his shoes he has left in the beginning. a play of colours at the end of the corridor make him approach the little entrance hole.

in the ritual of the carousel, time accelerates. when the old man enters the carousel the ground starts trembling, the world starts turning. but everything is still where it was. bathing in the innumerable pixels, dreaming on the carousel of blindness, *man abandons the realm of senses, his soul falls prey to a kind of dementia.* [Foucault HM]

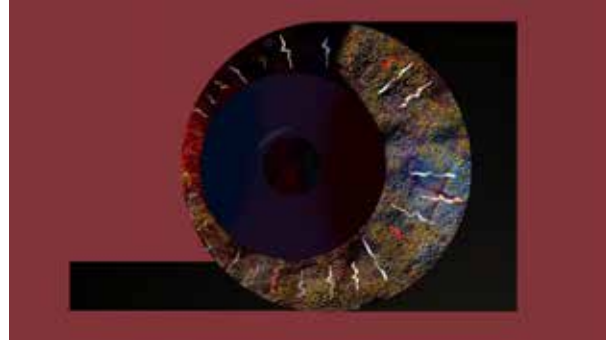
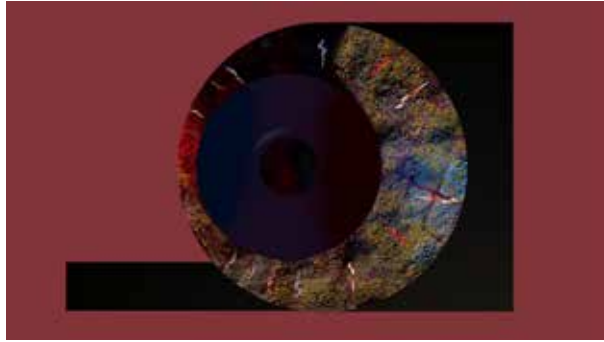
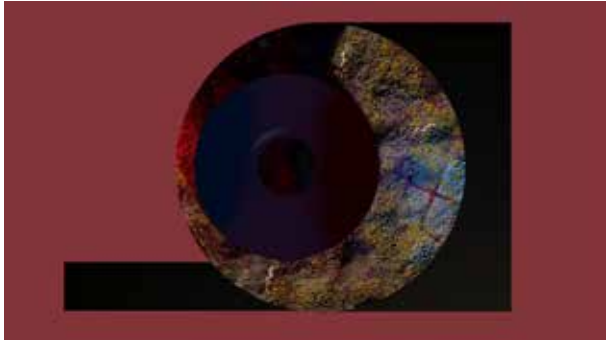
the old man is washed from the sins he committed in the monastery. in the white noise the blind girl takes his hand guiding him towards a black light. she explains about all the paintings of things she has never seen and the old man understands them intuitively.

arriving in the dark, the old man loses her hand and stands in the dark, neither hearing anything, nor seeing anything. the old man with dementia regains consciousness, when a door opens up and light floods the room. the fool steps out the back door and finds himself in the streets of Zurich again. did he learn the very essence of the monastery of fools? will he have a desire to visit it once more? nobody knows...

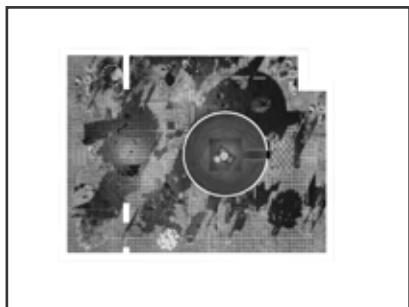
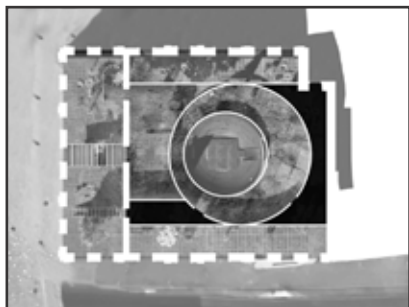
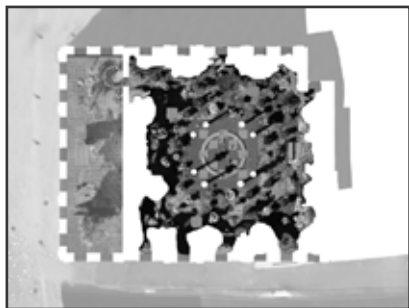




\60



#CAROUSEL OF BLINDNESS



\62

whole semester project
and clips on
kramerko.tumblr.com

MONSTER OF FOOLS

studio meteora #S2E3