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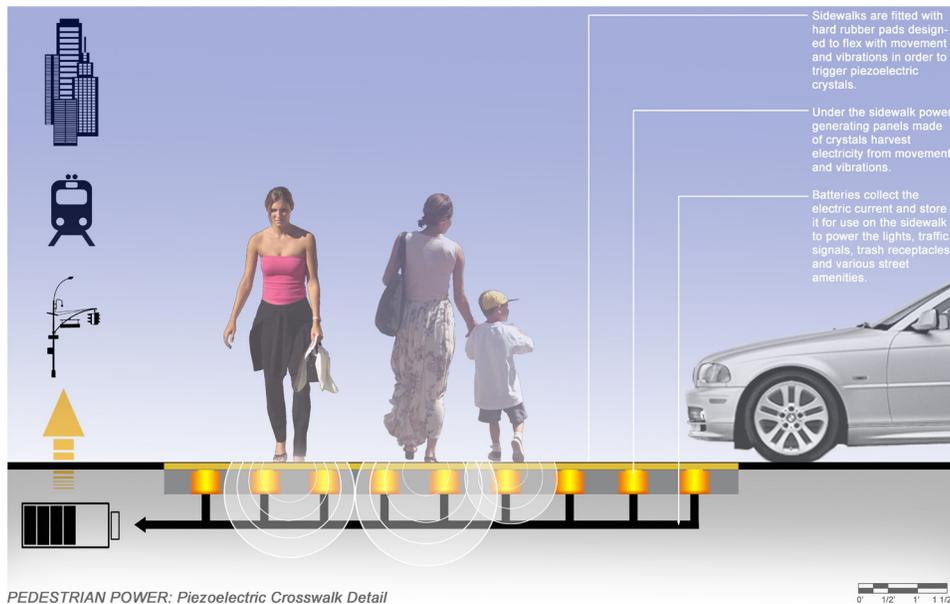
**Maria Bellalta
Blas Betancourt**

SITE

64th/Lincoln Center

Pedestrian Power

In order to bring sustainability back to New York City, I am proposing tapping into its greatest resource, people. By using piezoelectric activated surfaces, energy can be harvested from people walking, driving, and moving throughout the city. Vibrations, impacts, and footfall can be transformed into clean energy to be used to power the City. I am proposing that the sidewalks at Lincoln Center and Broadway be fitted with energy activated technology. The energy harvested from this installation will be used to power streetlights, traffic lights, neighboring buildings, site amenities, and energy-efficient piezoelectric spatial design solutions. At Lincoln Center, there will be interactive surfaces where people will be able to experience the energy exchange first hand. People will be able to learn, play, dance, perform, and experience their own power.



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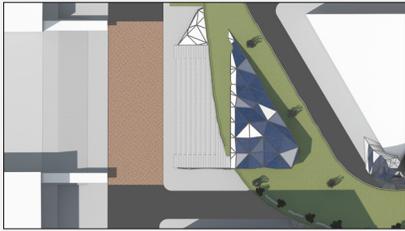
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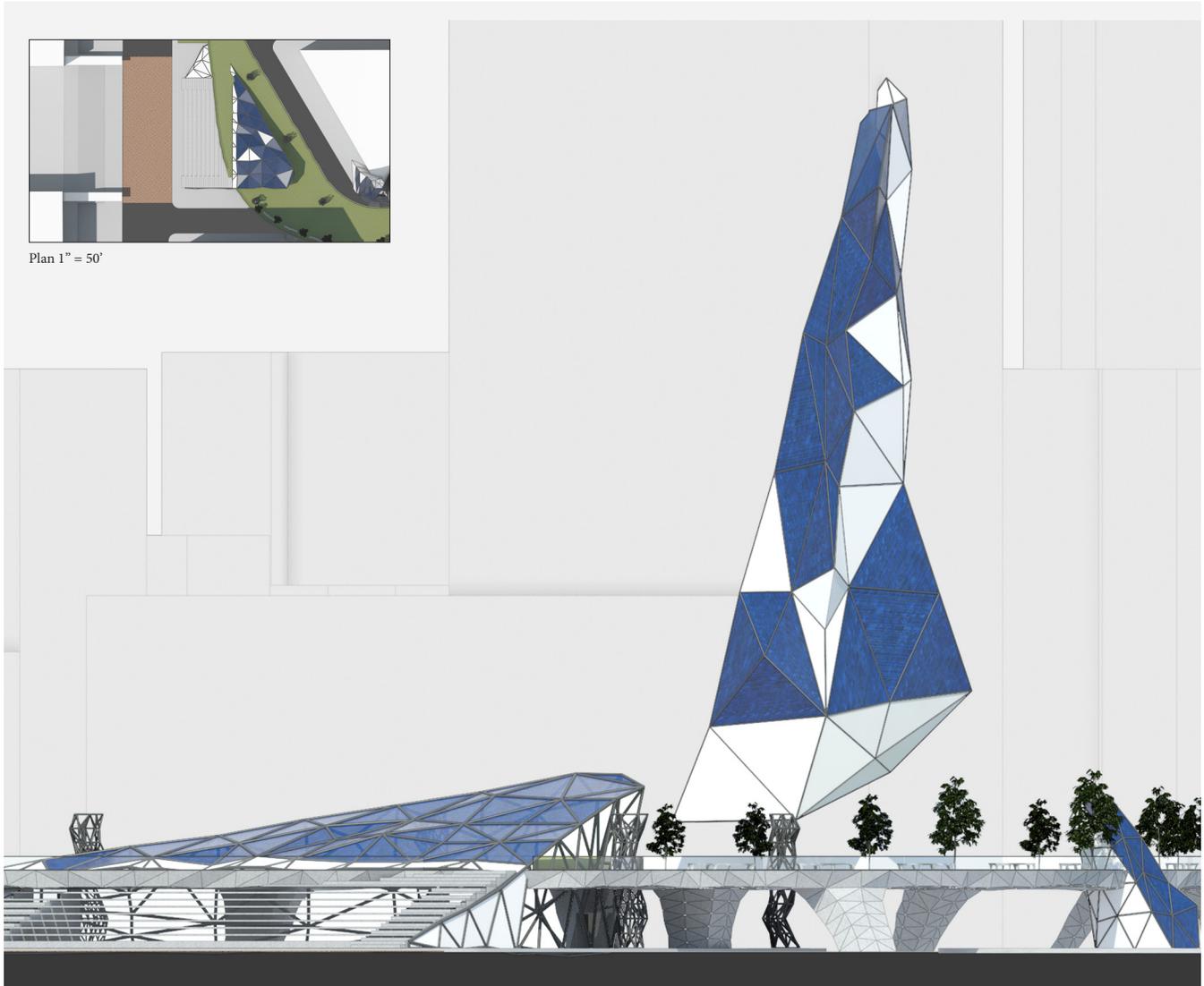
64th/Lincoln Center

Crystalline Park | Lincoln Square

In the spirit of awareness breeding action, my proposal sheds light on the emissions from utilities – the end result of the energy a city uses. Buildings utilize tremendous amounts of heat; their heating systems generate harmful waste gases. Vehicles pollute the air that New Yorkers breathe with harmful exhaust. Using a crystalline formal language to describe the physical quantity of each type of by-product, my proposal seeks to both represent the emissions at their source, as well as utilize this bodily form to attempt to reduce usage. The form attached to the building captures the power of the sun to generate electricity for its interior; the trash bin at the corner becomes a solar compactor and potential compost container; and a tower-like form creates both a media wall for public interaction and houses a series of air filters atop a subway vent. Orchestrated around a High Line style park that stretches from Lincoln Square to Central Park, these crystalline forms create fragmented parts implying a unified whole symbolizing the notion that these emissions compound to become a very dangerous sum total. Accompanying the park is a visitor center and ticket booth, an outdoor amphitheater, as well as an outdoor garden.



Plan 1" = 50'



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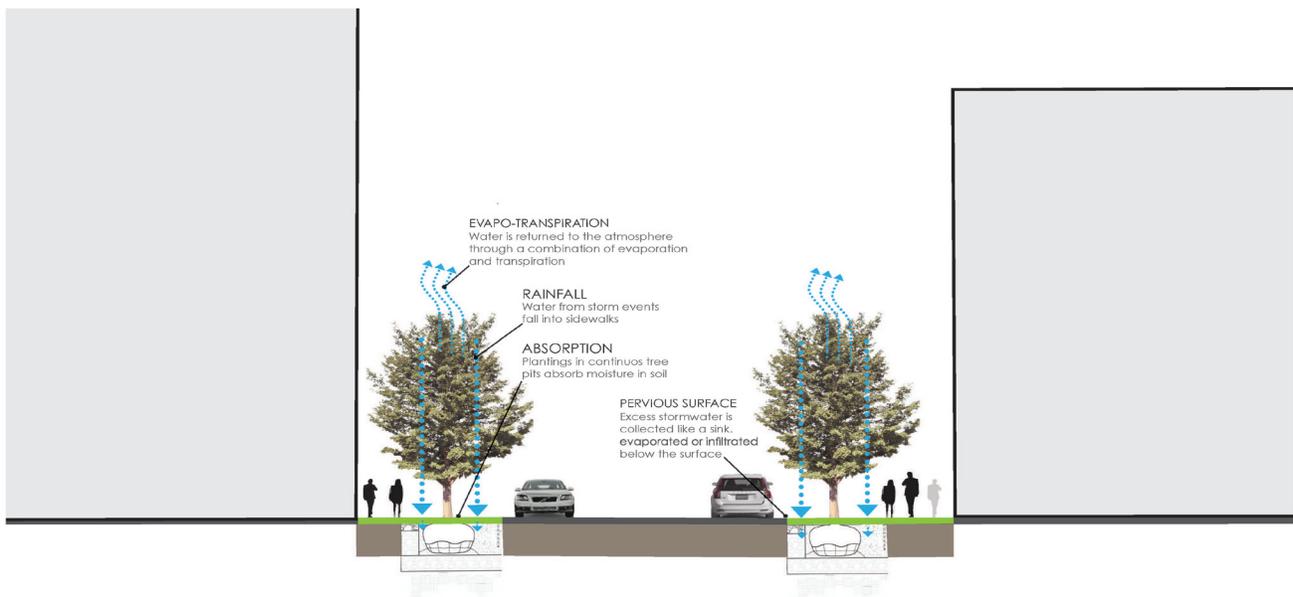
64th/Lincoln Center

The SINK/SYNC

The SINK/SYNC is immersed in the urban landscape, to help you experience urban ecology. SYNC into the local habitat with your smart device along the Habitat corridor on 63rd Street. Get alerts of migratory birds visiting the corridor as you walk to work.

This streetscape will simultaneously act like a SINK by actively holding and filtering stormwater. Trees will absorb stormwater on the urban streets, and features such as permeable sidewalks and continuous tree pits will allow for water detention and infiltration. This will help reduce runoff and pollution of local waterways. The improved soil health will provide for a more extensive root system of trees, allowing for increased canopy coverage and habitat.

This new streetscape provides an enhanced corridor for humans and wildlife spanning between Central Park and Riverside Park.



Typical Absorbant Street Section

Scale 1/16" = 1'- 0"



Sketch of Absorbant Trees Through Lincoln Center Creating the New Habitat Corridor

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Natural Corridor for Broadway

This design intervention is focused on decreasing vehicular pollution by adding a bike lane and integrating existing green spaces as a central path for pedestrians along Broadway. The pedestrian vegetated footpath would travel the existing vegetated islands along Broadway, and a bike lane is included on either side of the islands. I also propose the addition of a "hubway" public bicycle rental to promote clean transportation, entice visitors to Lincoln Center into using the bicycles, and facilitate North/South travel on the island of Manhattan.

An important component of this project lies in the sectional nature of this design. Because of its modular nature, if this central path design is successful, it could be continued as far up or down Broadway as needed.



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64th/Lincoln Center

Awareness as Art

Through observation and research of Lincoln Center and the surrounding neighborhood, I was compelled to propose a design that would showcase the beautiful existing buildings as if they themselves were works of art in a gallery. I accomplished this by creating a gridded structure, composed of steel beams and cables, over the entire block that houses the Lincoln Center. This structure would be completely open to the outside elements and contain various features within the frame, with the primary goal of drawing people into the plaza.

The frame could support any number of installations, but namely it would include terraced gardens that overlook the band shell in Damrosch Park, trellises to grow produce to sell at the local farmer's markets, tensioned fabric structures used for advertisement, elevated walkways that extend to outlying areas, and an elevated performance space above the fountain.

The idea for an outdoor performance space came about after a meeting with the director of Lincoln Center. He spoke of the institution's desire to present more non-traditional types of performance art. This space would accommodate those needs and allow attendees, and more importantly, passers-by to view the performance from all angles. In addition, while not being used as a performance space, the gridded infrastructure would provide a blank canvas to install various works in order to promote awareness of sustainable living in Lincoln Square.



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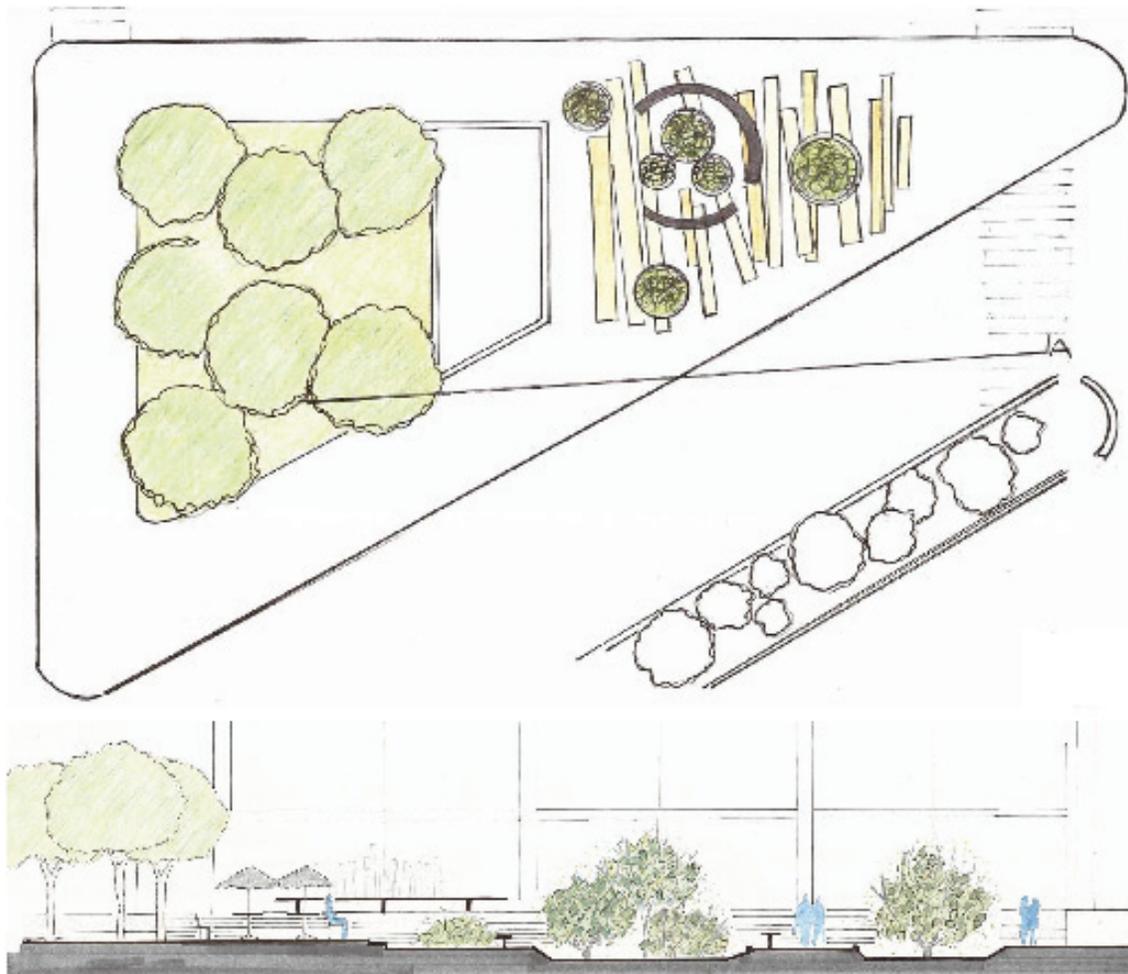
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The Silent Performance of Urban Trees

Through an investigation and analysis of the Lincoln Center site, I have become interested in the relationship of the urban heat island effect and air pollution with public health issues and the quality of urban life. When contemplating the function of trees in the urban landscape, it is apparent that an opportunity exists to illustrate the importance of street trees, both as beautification elements in neighborhoods and also as essential components for maintaining viable and healthy cities. Too often, the work of urban street trees goes unnoticed. The design concept focuses on the demonstration of the work urban trees perform so that their functionality becomes visual and tactile.

Drawing inspiration from initial reactions to Lincoln Center Plaza, I am intrigued by the visual perception that organic elements appear inert and conversely, structural components seem alive. Is there a way to create sculptural trees that could take on various forms to illustrate this conceptual idea? Siting of the pieces will be based on the findings uncovered during the analysis process. A sculpture could be placed along Broadway to exhibit the role of trees in decreasing airborne particulate matter. In the hottest spots and with the use of thermal indicating maps, a misting sculpture could be installed to demonstrate the cooling effects of urban trees.



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Architectural Garden: Connecting the Urban Resident with Agriculture

Food, shelter, and water are the most basic elements required to sustain our existence in every environment. Architecture has focused on creating shelter efficiently in dense urban environments, while agriculture has been outsourced beyond the city boundary, creating disconnect between urban residents and the food that nourishes and sustains them. This architectural solution explores the urban garden as a built environment and places it in the presently underutilized Dante Park, located at a central apex and circulation hub for Lincoln Center. The building engages the hurried New York resident as they quickly move across the site and attempts to direct their focus and attention to food growth, something perhaps more mystical and artful to the city resident than the performances at Lincoln center. This demonstration garden invites the urban dweller to take the part of the urban farmer in this food production by: planting a seed, sewing through soil, and even harvesting and eating the reward directly from the vines.

