



# **Art and Culture Centre, Jaipur**

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the  
requirement for the degree of

## **Bachelor of Architecture**

BY :

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Thesis Guide :

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**SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING**  
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**LUCKNOW**

**SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING  
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**CERTIFICATE**

I hereby recommend that the thesis entitled “**ART AND CULTURE CENTRE**”  
under the supervision, is a bonafide work of students and can be accepted as  
partial fulfillment of the degree of Bachelor’s degree in Architecture,  
School of Architecture and Planning, BBDU, Lucknow.

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Recommendation

Accepted

Not accepted

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I want to dedicate this **THESIS** to my **PARENTS!**



# ABSTRACT

In an era of rapid urbanisation and cultural homogenisation, cities are increasingly losing touch with their unique identities and traditional artistic practices. The need for dedicated spaces that preserve, nurture, and evolve cultural expressions has become more urgent than ever. This thesis proposes the design of an Art and Cultural Centre—a vibrant public institution that serves as a platform for artistic exchange, cultural education, and community engagement. The project envisions a space where heritage and contemporary creativity coexist, where local artisans, performers, and thinkers can connect with the wider public through immersive and inclusive experiences.

Situated in the culturally rich context of Jaipur, a city renowned for its crafts, festivals, and architectural heritage, the proposed centre aims to respond to give city a new identity and a built space for international relevancy. The architecture aspires to go beyond functionality, becoming a living, evolving organism—a space that not only houses art but also becomes art in itself. Through the integration of parametric design, and kinetic architecture, This project seeks to explore how architecture can become a medium for cultural continuity, dialogue, and transformation.

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# INTRODUCTION

# Why Jaipur ?

## Cultural Capital of Rajasthan

Jaipur, as a UNESCO World Heritage City, is already a vibrant hub of traditional arts, crafts, music, and architecture. A cultural centre would consolidate and elevate this identity on both national and global stages.

## Tourism Synergy

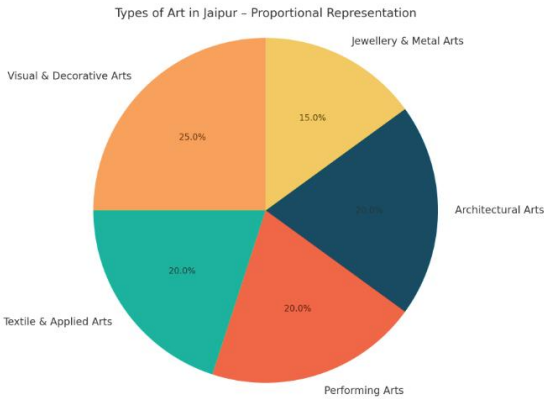
The city attracts millions of tourists annually. A well-designed cultural centre would enrich the tourist experience, encouraging longer stays, repeat visits, and cultural tourism revenue.

## Platform for Emerging Artists

Rajasthan has a deep talent pool, but limited platforms. The centre can function as an incubator for local and regional artists, providing exposure, residencies, and collaborative opportunities.

# Types of Art Forms in Jaipur.

Jaipur, often referred to as the cultural capital of Rajasthan, presents a diverse and deeply rooted artistic heritage that encompasses traditional crafts, visual arts, performing arts, and architectural ornamentation. The art forms of Jaipur are not only expressions of aesthetic sensibility but also serve as vehicles of historical continuity, cultural identity, and social narrative.



1. Visual Art
2. Textile Art
3. Performing Art
4. Architecture



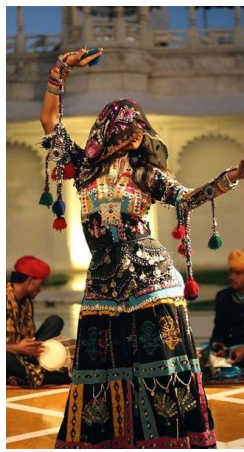
## Visual Arts

Jaipur is renowned for its intricate visual arts which include miniature painting, frescoes, and wall murals. These art forms often depict religious, courtly, or mythological themes and are characterised by fine detailing, natural pigments, and narrative composition. The city is also celebrated for its decorative crafts such as blue pottery, lacquer work, and marble inlay, reflecting a synthesis of Mughal, Rajput, and Persian influences.



## Textile Arts

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## Performing Art

The performing arts of Jaipur include both folk and classical traditions. Kathputli (puppetry), Ghoomar and Kalbelia dances, and folk music forms like Maand are integral to the region's intangible heritage. These art forms are deeply performative and ritualistic, often transmitted orally through generations and used to convey moral, social, and religious narratives.



## Architecture

The architectural language of Jaipur incorporates ornamental arts such as jharokha (overhanging balconies), jaali (perforated stone screens), chhatris (elevated pavilions), and fresco decoration. These elements serve both aesthetic and climatic functions and are key identifiers of the region's Indo-Islamic and Rajput architectural identity.

## Why Art and Culture Center ?

The selection of an Art and Cultural Centre as an architectural project topic is rooted in its multidimensional relevance within contemporary socio-cultural and urban discourse. Such a centre functions not merely as a building, but as a spatial institution that embodies cultural memory, promotes creative expression, and fosters civic engagement. From a theoretical standpoint, art and culture are essential components of a society's identity and continuity. A cultural centre acts as a platform for the preservation, reinterpretation, and dissemination of both tangible and intangible heritage. It provides opportunities for dialogue between tradition and modernity, local and global narratives, and individual and collective expression. Furthermore, in the context of urbanism, cultural infrastructure plays a transformative role. It activates public space, encourages inclusive participation, and serves as a tool for urban regeneration and placemaking. It contributes to the cultural economy while enhancing social capital and community resilience.

Architecturally, designing an art and cultural centre invites exploration into spatial storytelling, symbolism, programmatic hybridity, and the integration of sensory and experiential qualities. It challenges the designer to think critically about how space communicates, includes, educates, and inspires. Thus, choosing this topic aligns with a broader architectural agenda that aspires not only to build but to engage, uplift, and transform society through cultural agency.





## AIM

The aim of designing an Art and Cultural Centre is to create a multifaceted space that actively fosters the preservation, promotion, and evolution of both traditional and contemporary cultural practices. The project aspires to establish a dynamic public realm where artistic expression, cultural education, and community interaction converge. By integrating diverse functions such as galleries, performance spaces, workshops, and informal gathering zones

## OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the Art and Cultural Centre is to create an inclusive architectural environment that facilitates the display, performance, preservation, and transmission of cultural knowledge. The project aims to provide flexible and adaptive spaces for exhibitions, performances, workshops, and community gatherings, encouraging interdisciplinary engagement and public participation. It seeks to bridge the gap between heritage and contemporary practice.

## SCOPE

The scope of the Art and Cultural Centre encompasses the design, development, and integration of multifunctional spaces that support a wide range of cultural, artistic, educational, and social activities. It includes the planning of galleries, auditoriums, studios, classrooms, libraries, open-air performance zones, and community interaction areas. The project will explore the interplay between built and open spaces, creating an environment that encourages both formal and informal cultural engagement.

## LIMITATION

The limitations of the Art and Cultural Centre project stem primarily from contextual, logistical, and socio-economic constraints. One of the key challenges lies in balancing the diverse needs of users—from traditional artisans to contemporary artists—within a unified spatial framework.

## SWOT analysis

S

**Cultural Preservation** - Acts as a hub for conserving and showcasing local heritage and traditional arts.  
**Community Engagement** - Encourages inclusive social interaction, learning, and creative expression.  
**Tourism Potential** - Attracts domestic and international visitors, boosting local economy.  
**Architectural Identity** - Opportunity to create an iconic, context-sensitive landmark.  
**Interdisciplinary Platform** - Supports collaboration between artists, educators, and the public.

W

**High Operational Costs** : Maintenance and staffing require continuous funding and resources.  
**Limited Accessibility** : Risk of exclusion of marginalised communities if not carefully planned.  
**Cultural Misrepresentation** : Potential for selective or superficial portrayal of traditions.  
**Dependency on Public Interest** : Visitor engagement may fluctuate over time.  
**Space Constraints** : Difficulties in accommodating all art forms or large-scale performances.

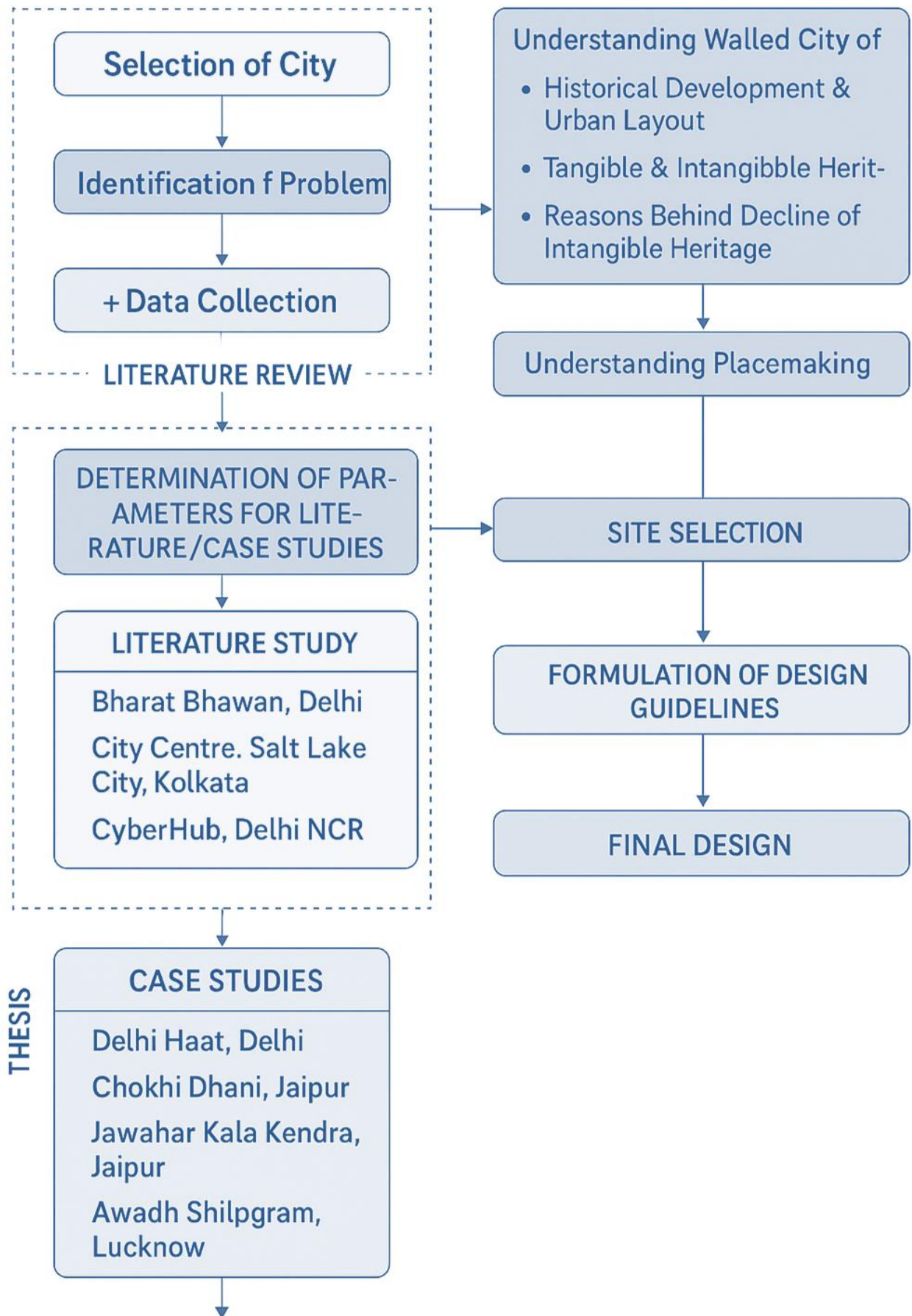
O

**Urban Regeneration** : Can revitalise underutilised or historic areas.  
**Cultural Exchange** : Platform for international collaborations, artist residencies, and festivals.  
**Educational Outreach** : Scope for integration with schools, universities, and workshops.  
**Sustainable Design Integration** : Potential to implement green architecture and adaptive reuse.  
**Digital Expansion** : Use of virtual galleries, AR/VR for broader audience reach.

T

**Funding Instability** : Reliance on government or private sponsorship can be uncertain.  
**Cultural Homogenisation** : Risk of diluting local culture due to global influences.  
**Political Interference** : Cultural representation may be influenced by policy or ideological bias.  
**Natural and Environmental Risks** : Vulnerability to climate conditions or disasters if not designed carefully.  
**Technological Obsolescence** : Rapid tech evolution may render media installations outdated.

## METHODOLOGY





## INTERVIEW ON SITE



**Interviewee:** Mrs. Eleanor Jameson, 78, Retired Art Historian from New York  
**Location:** Jaipur, Rajasthan

"Oh, I think it's a *marvellous idea*. Jaipur has such a *rich cultural heritage*—from miniature paintings to block prints and puppetry. I've seen so many of these traditions slowly fading away or being commercialised. A cultural centre could be a place where *authentic practices are preserved*, taught, and celebrated—not just for tourists like me, but for *young locals to reconnect with their roots*.



**Interviewee:** Anaya Sharma, 12 years old, Student at a local school in Jaipur  
**Location:** Near Albert Hall Museum, Jaipur

"That sounds really nice! I love drawing and making little clay things at home. But we don't have a place where kids like me can *learn art properly* or see cool performances. If there's a centre like that, maybe we can *go after school and learn painting, dance, or music*.



**Interviewee:** Bai Saheb, 68 years old, traditional sarangi player from the old city, Jaipur  
**Location:** Outside Hawa Mahal, Jaipur

"*Bohot accha soch hai, beta.* (It's a very good thought, child.) We play music in the streets, in weddings, in temples—but slowly, people forget. The *young ones don't learn*, and those who do, don't get a place to play. If there is a centre, maybe the *old music can breathe again*. Maybe the sarangi won't die with us.



**Interviewee:** Rajendra Meena, 45 years old, school teacher from Jaipur  
**Location:** Near Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur

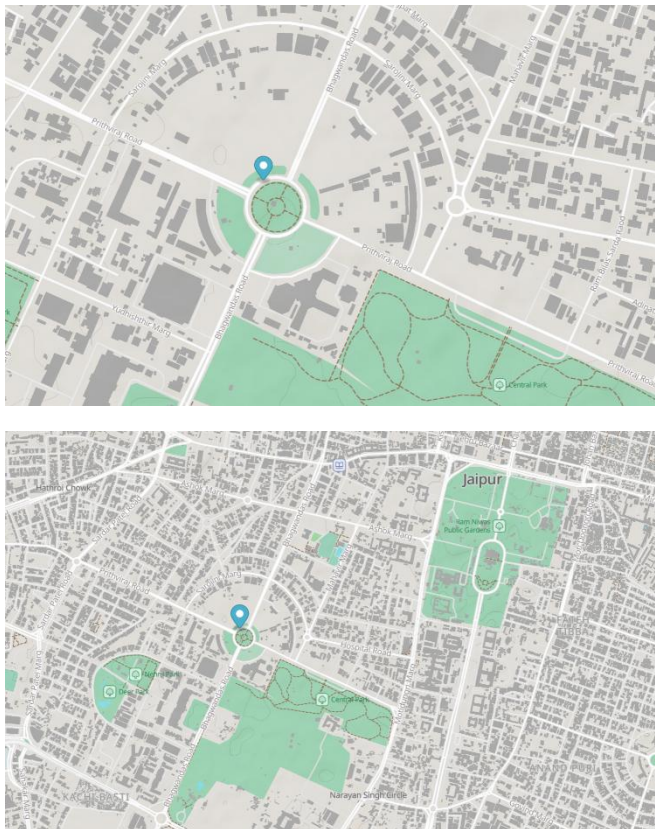
"I think it's a much-needed step. Jaipur is full of talent—folk artists, painters, musicians, writers—but many of them don't get the right platform. A proper cultural centre would give our **local artists visibility**, and more importantly, it would give **students and young people exposure** to their own heritage. As a teacher, I see children slowly drifting away from our traditions. A centre like this can bring **education and culture together**, through workshops, performances, and exhibitions.

# **SITE ANALYSIS**

## LOCATION

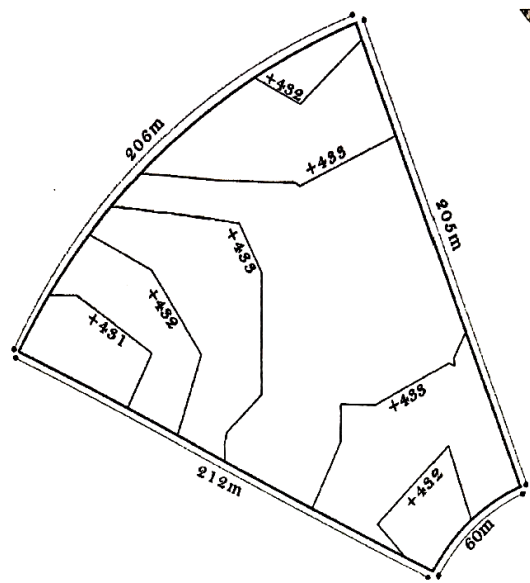


The site is present at C-Scheme, Jaipur, Rajasthan. C-Scheme is one of the prominent and well-known sub-locality of Ashok Nagar located in the north-eastern part of Jaipur. C-Scheme is popular for the white marble Birla Temple, historical monuments, elegant forts, luxury hotels and it mainly comprises high end apartments. Virasat Devkrishnam, Shivgyan Luxora, Platinum Upasana Mayfair, Alokik Residency Royale and Pearl Avantika are some of the well-crafted residential projects nestled in C-Scheme



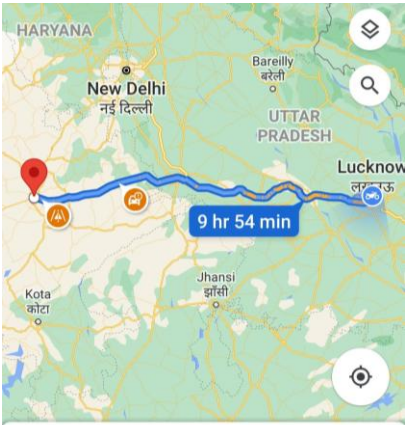
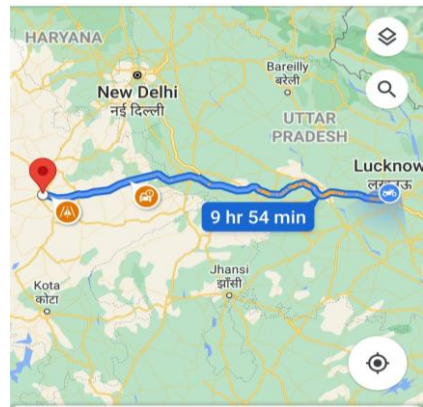
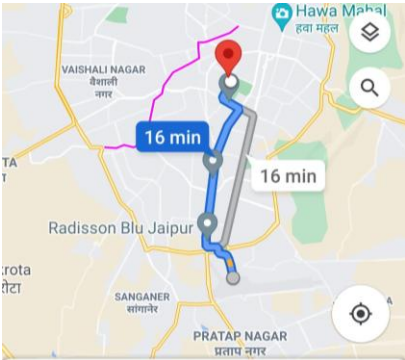
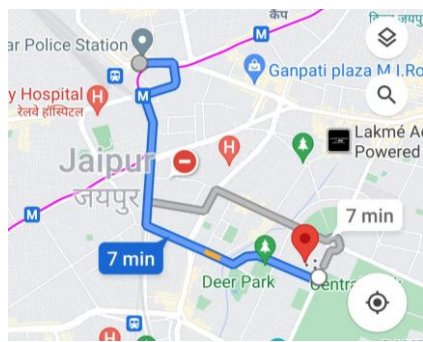
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# Site Dimentions



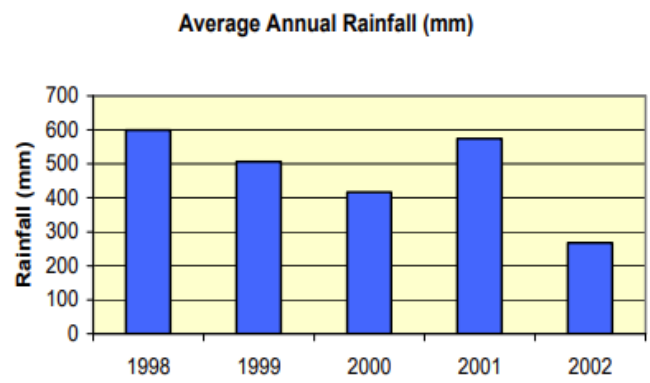
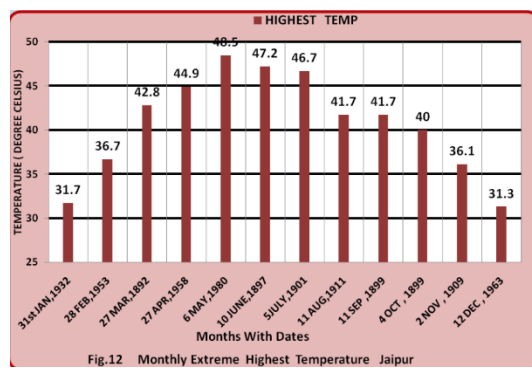
## Connectivity

- Area : C scheme
- Nearest Airport : Jaipur International Airport (10 km)
- Nearest Railway Station : Jaipur Junction Railway Station (3.3km)
- Nearest Highway : National Highway(NH)
- Surrounding Details : Statue Circle
- Round Connectivity : Statue Circle

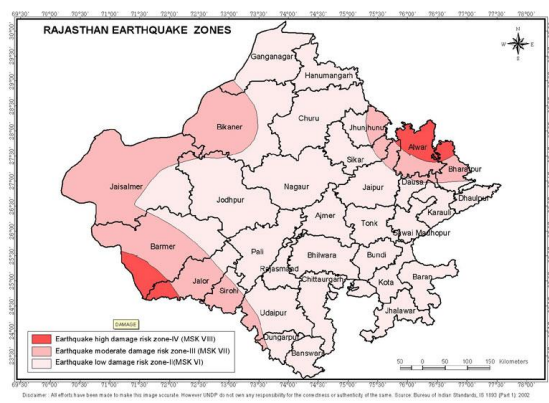




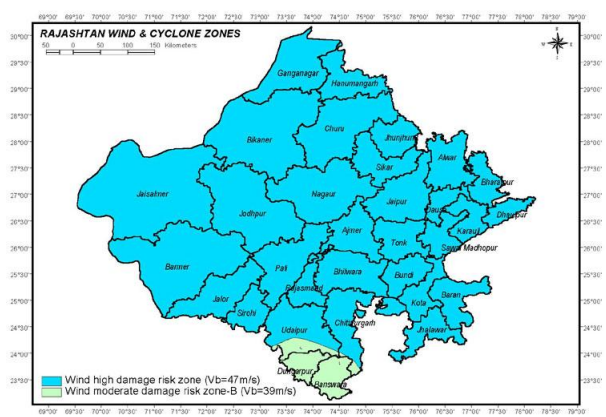
# Climate



The average normal rainfall of India is about 888 mm , whereas the average normal rainfall of Rajasthan is 581 m mm . Jaipur receives relatively less rainfall compared to the average amount f rainfall received by entire Rajasthan . Normal annual rainfall by Jaipur is 568.88 mm

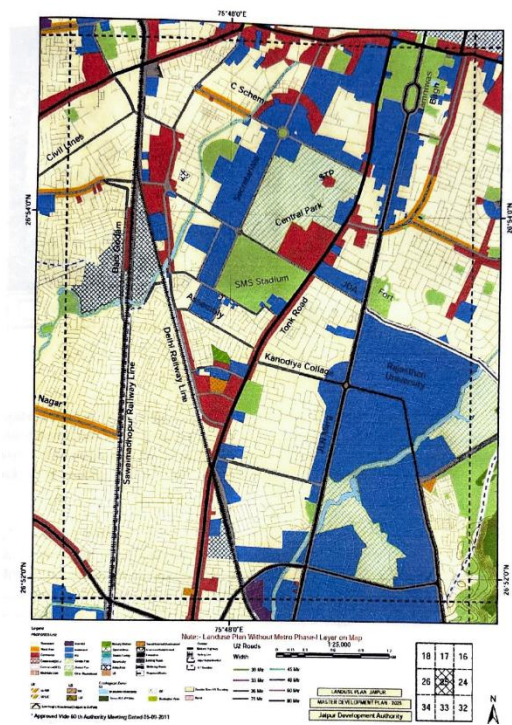


Jaipur city lies in low damage risk zone with MSK VI but is a little more than 100 kms away from high damage risk zone in the North. The city is less prone to earthquake as it is located on relatively stable geological unit of Aravalli.



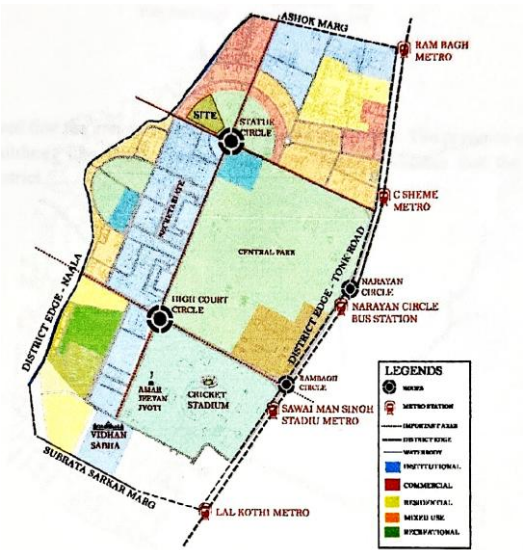
Jaipur lies in the high damage risk zone with respect to the wind speed which is categorized as wind having velocity more than 47 m/s. The city is also prone to onslaught from the desert sand . Desert sand drifts in from the Sambhar gap in Aravalli range

# LAND USE : Mapping



The site lies in the planning zone – 01 under Jaipur development authority. According the proposed zonal development plan of planning zone-01, the site, i.e., udyog maidan sites under public use category, which goes by the program requirement.

## RELATIVE BUILDING



There are many prominent landmarks and nodes near the site . The area near the site also forms the central business district

## Ground Figure

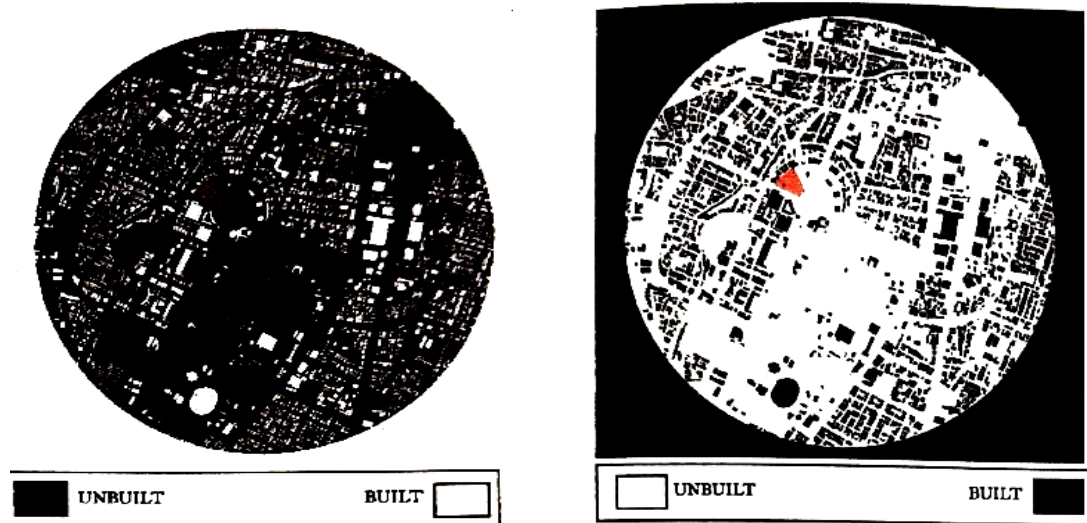


Figure ground shows that the area has generally coarse grain and uneven texture.

Low density built to the south of the site and high density towards the western side of the site. In spite of having wide road network and quite a few open spaces in the southern part, the area lacks open areas in the dense areas towards the other directions of the site.

## Building Height

The height of the neighbourhood buildings ranges from 15 to 30m.

Most of the buildings are midrise as some are institutional office buildings and the even the residential buildings in the area are midrise apartments. And maximum permissible height in the area is 30m.

## Urban Environment

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Soil

A major part of the Jaipur region is covered of soil, wind-blown sand and alluvium. The soil is Loam Soil and has a bearing capacity of 215 to 270 km/msq.

TERM	LOAM SOIL
FAQ Soil code	Be76-2b-3677
Hydrological soil group	D
AREA	
SOIL K (Layer 1 and 2)	212.25 km/sq
CLAY (Layer 1 and 2)	4.63 mm/hr , 4.23 mm/hr
Slit (layer 1 and 2)	36 % , 36 %
Sand (Layer 1 and 2)	39 % , 35 %

Natural environment baseline

Jaipur region falls under the semi arid region of climatic zones and experiences a continental type of climate owing to its proximity to the desert and it being in land. It is characterized by hot summers and cold winters.

Months	Temp (°C)		Mean Wind Speed (Kmph)	Rainfall (mm)	Relative Humidity (%)	
	Maximum	Minimum			8:30A.M	5:30 P.M
Jan	22.5	7.8	5.6	7.9	63	35
Feb	25.7	10.7	5.5	11.7	54	28
Mar	31.5	15.8	7.9	6.1	42	19
Apr	37	21.4	9.7	4.1	30	16
May	40.3	25.4	12.6	16.2	32	17
Jun	39.3	27.2	12.5	66	52	32
Jul	33.9	25.5	9.5	216.3	75	61
Aug	32	24.3	8.4	231.2	82	70
Sep	33.2	22.9	7.6	80.3	72	55
Oct	33.4	18.6	6	22.6	51	32
Nov	29	13.1	3.9	3.2	50	33
Dec	24.4	9.1	3.9	3.3	61	38



## SWOT ANALYSIS

### STRENGTHS

- The site lies in the heart of the new city.
- The area is good blend of open network and public transport linkages
- The introduction of metro by the end of the year would make it easier to commute
- Important activities like - Administration, recreation, hospitality, mall, cinemas, sports facility and a golf course.
- Absence of any facility to hold such strengths.

### WEAKNESS

- The site lies in the area some major important buildings like Vidhan Sabha, SMS Stadium, Amar Javaan Jyoti which might affect the accessibility during some events.
- Lack of community space in the precinct.
- There are some existing malls and some other recreational facilities in the vicinity. Hence, it would have to compete with them since, it will also be a public space.

### OPPORTUNITY

- The site has an opportunity to experiment with the vernacular architecture of Jaipur.
- The vicinity with no mercantile provide opportunity for commercial pocket in the site.
- **Presence of bus station and metro station would bring high foot fall into the site. CASE**
- **As the govt. has planned to propose new cultural centres in the city in the coming future the project has good future prospects.**

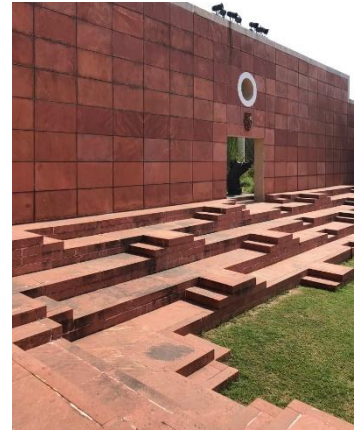
### WEAKNESS

- Nala present very close to the site which might smell foul.
- Possibility of major traffic on Janpath during session and match days.
- Illegal settlements on the site

# CASE STUDY

# Jawahar Kala Kendra

This cultural center of Jaipur is dedicated to the memory of the great Indian leader Jawaharlal Nehru. The idea for the building, located in an open field near the university in a new part of the city, took shape in Correa's mind, but it was not until 1966 that the concept of the building was completed.



## TEMPRETURE

Jaipur experiences an extreme climate, with hot summers, mild winters, and short monsoons. The temperature varies significantly throughout the year.

### Summer (March-June):

- The hottest months are May and June, with temperatures rising up to 40-45°C
- The minimum temperature during this period ranges between 25-30°C
- Hot and dry winds are common, making the climate harsh

### Monsoon (July-September)

- Temperatures drop slightly, with highs around 30-35°C.
- The minimum temperature remains around 24- 27°C
- Humidity levels rise due to the monsoon rains.

### Winter (October-February):

- The coldest months are December and January, with minimum temperatures dropping to 6-8°C.
- Daytime temperatures remain pleasant, around 22-27°C.
- Occasional foggy mornings occur in January.

## VEGETATION

The natural vegetation in and around Jaipur consists mainly of thorny and drought-resistant species such as Babook, Kher and Neem along with some deciduous trees like Peepal and Banyan. Urban areas have introduced more ornamental and shade- providing trees like Gulmohar and Ashoka.

## WIND

Winds in Jaipur predominantly blow from the southwest during the monsoon and the northwest in winter. The city experiences strong dust-laden winds in summer, which contribute to the arid environment and occasional dust storms

## HUMIDITY

The city generally has low to moderate humidity, ranging from 20% in summer to 80% during monsoon. The dry climate dominates most of the year, with a brief period of increased humidity during the monsoon.

# HISTORY

Jawahar Kala Kendra is an arts and crafts center in the city of Jaipur. The center is important not because of the nomenclature but because of its close connection with the city of Jaipur itself. The center was built in 1986 and the construction was completed in 1991. The center was started by the state government to give space to the cultural and spiritual values of India and to showcase the rich craft heritage.

The center is dedicated to the late Prime Minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru. Jawahar Kala Kendra was built to resemble a red fort, with no windows on its facade. The Jawahar Kala Kendra adapts and applies concepts from ancient architectural principles called the Vastu Vidya. The center is an analogue of the original city plan of Jaipur drawn up by the Maharaja, a scholar, mathematician and astronomer, Jai Singh the Second, in the mid-17th century, who built the fabled pink city of Jaipur, was moved by two seemingly contradictory sets of mythic ideas and images. On one side was the ancient Navgraha (mandala of the nine planets) and on the other the latest myths of science and progress. Thus, the city of Jaipur, doubly coded as Jai Singh himself, is truly amazing in its synthesis of

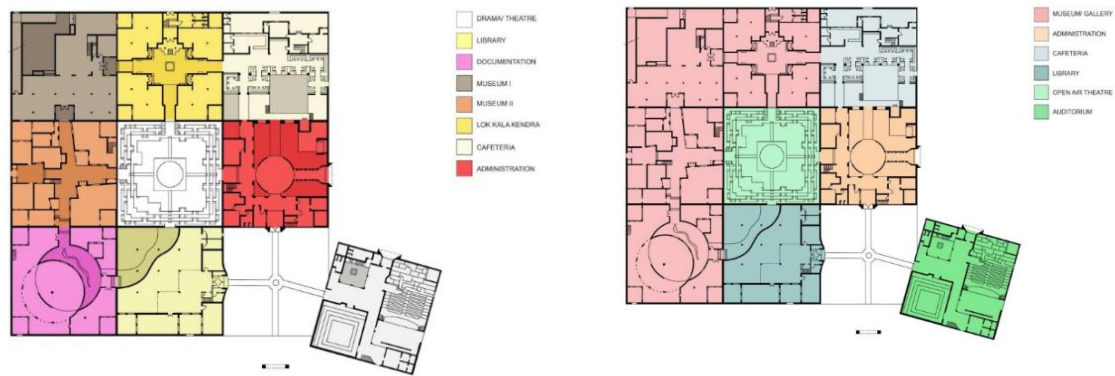
past and future, material and metaphysical worlds

In this, Jai Singh is indeed analogous to another man, born more than two centuries later, India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

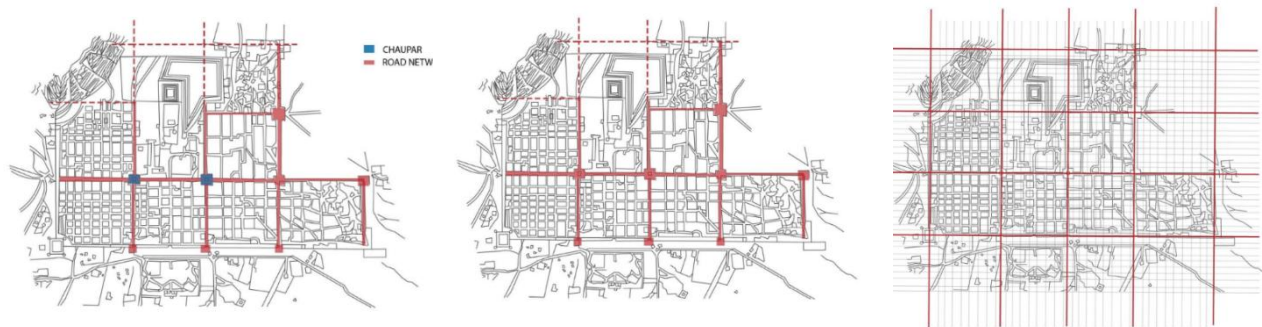
Thus, The art center dedicated to Nehru is actually a metaphor for both men, and for Jaipur itself. It has a double code the present building based on an archaic idea of the Cosmos, the exact same Navgraha mandala, with one of the squares moved aside to recall the gesture that created the original plan for Jaipur.



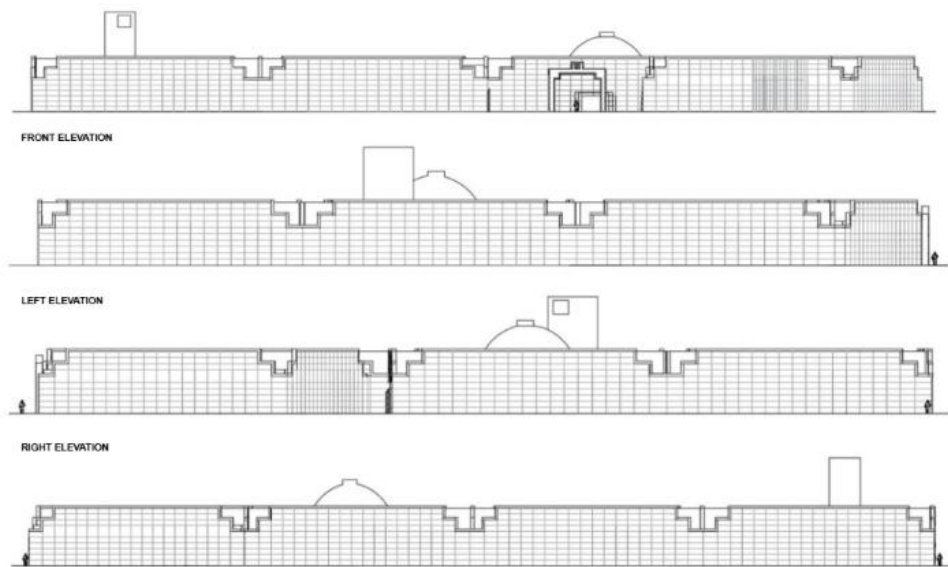
PLANS



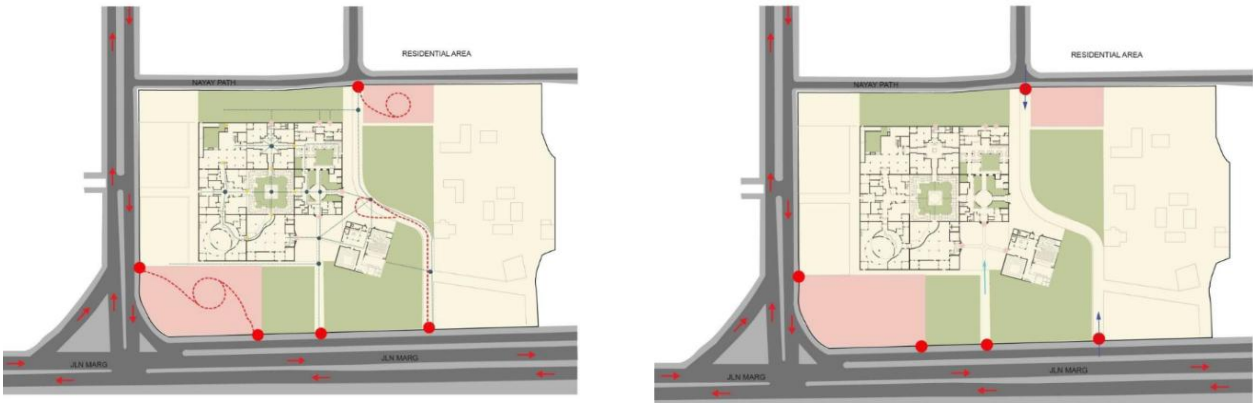
ZONING



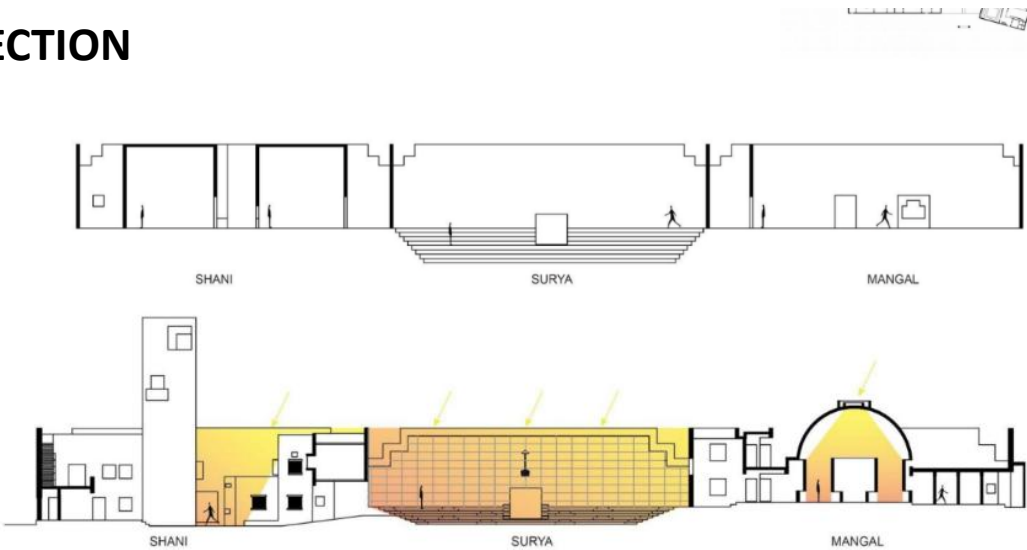
ELEVATION



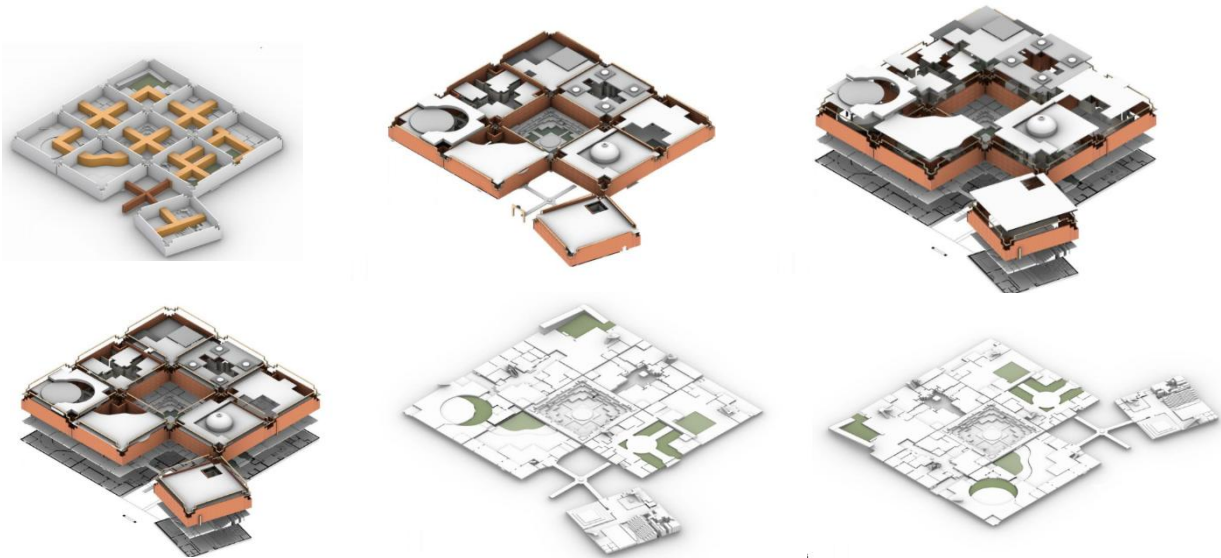
# SITE PLAN



# SECTION



# ISOMETRIC





# BHARAT BHAWAN



Bharat Bhawan, located on the serene banks of the Upper Lake in Bhopal, is a multi-arts complex and one of India's most iconic cultural institutions. Inaugurated in 1982 and designed by renowned architect Charles Correa, the complex serves as a dynamic hub for visual arts, theatre, music, and literature. Seamlessly blending modernist architecture with the natural landscape, Bharat Bhawan symbolises a democratic space for artistic expression and cultural dialogue, deeply rooted in Indian traditions yet open to global influences.

## LOCATION

Coordinates-23.2470°N  
77.3923°E

Location J. Swaminathan Marg Shamla Hills  
Landmark-Near Upper Lake Pin Code-462003  
City-Bhopal  
State-Madhya Pradesh Country-India



## ACCESSIBILITY

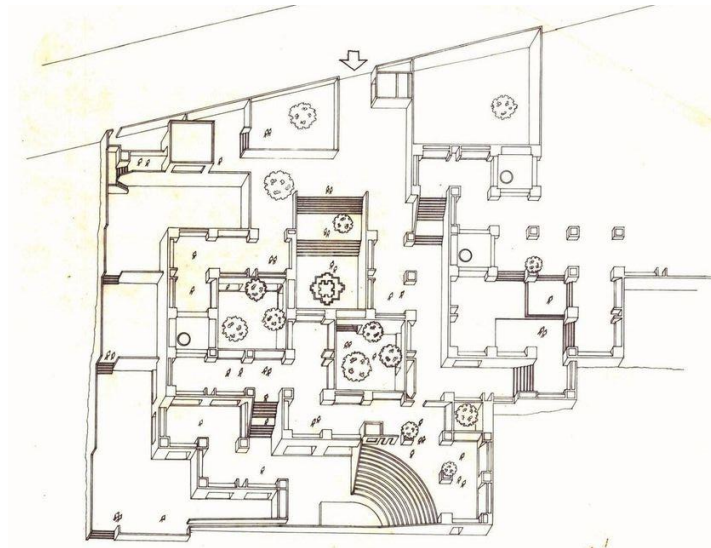
Raja Bhoj International Airport-12  
km (20 mins.)  
Habibganj railway station- 18 km (30 min.)  
Nadra Bus Stand-3.3 km. (10 mins)



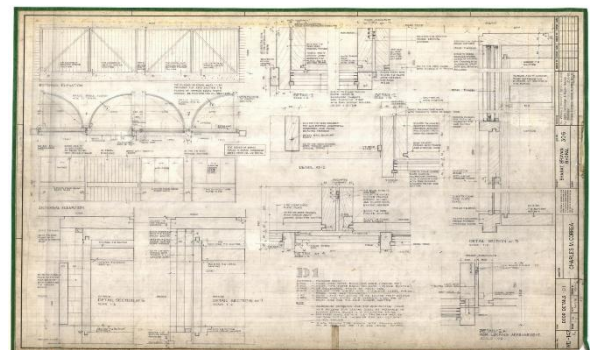
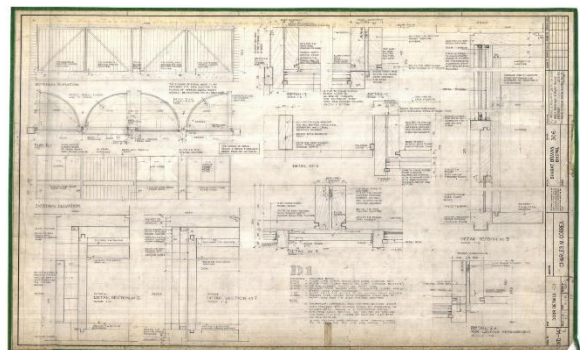
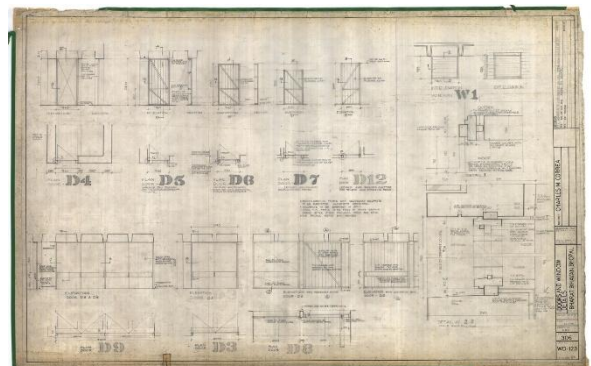
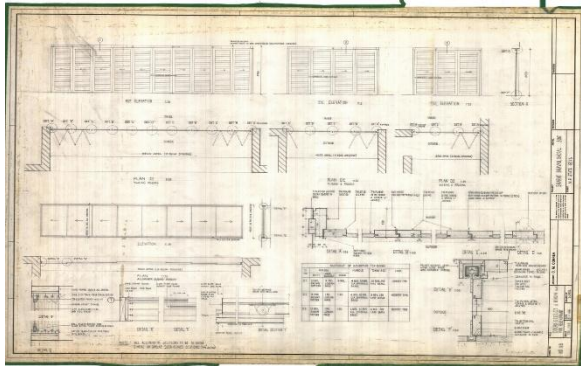
## Form of the Building

Bharat Bhawan's form is deeply integrated with the natural landscape. Designed by architect Charles Correa, the structure follows a terraced, sunken layout that steps down towards the Upper Lake. Rather than rising above the land, it gently merges with the terrain, using exposed brick, concrete, and stone to create a sculptural form that feels rooted and timeless. The built form is fragmented and fluid, encouraging exploration and blending indoor and outdoor spaces seamlessly.

# PLANNING



## SHEETS





# **LITRATURE STUDY**

# M2 Art Centre / SpActrum Zaha Hadid Architects

## THEATERS & PERFORMANCE

•HANG ZHOU, CHINA

Architects: SpActrum

Area: 712 m<sup>2</sup>

Year: 2023

Photographs: SFAP

Lead Architect: Yan Pan

Category: Theaters & Performance

Design Team: Hao Chen, Zhen Li, Yimeng Tang, Yijie Zhang,  
Xiao Wan, Jinyu Wan, Yiran Pan

Lighting Design: Xiaohao Guan

Special Curved Surface Construction: eGRow

Contractor: Beijing Jinghui Decoration Engineering Co., Ltd.

Customized Space Music: Beijing Beibai Music Culture Co., Ltd.

Client: MREGINA

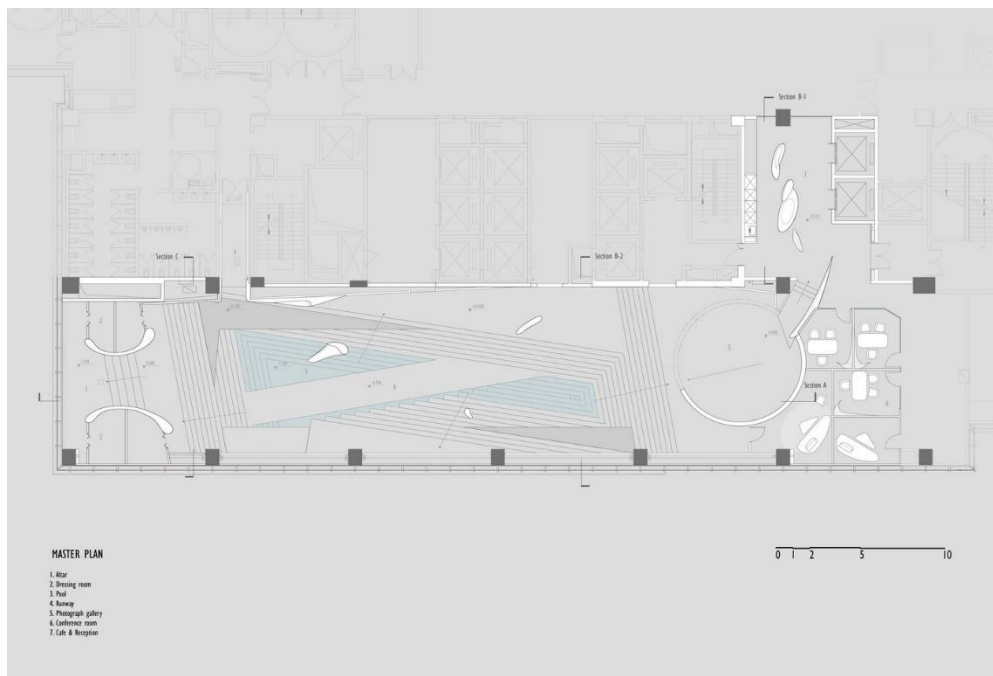
City: Hang Zhou

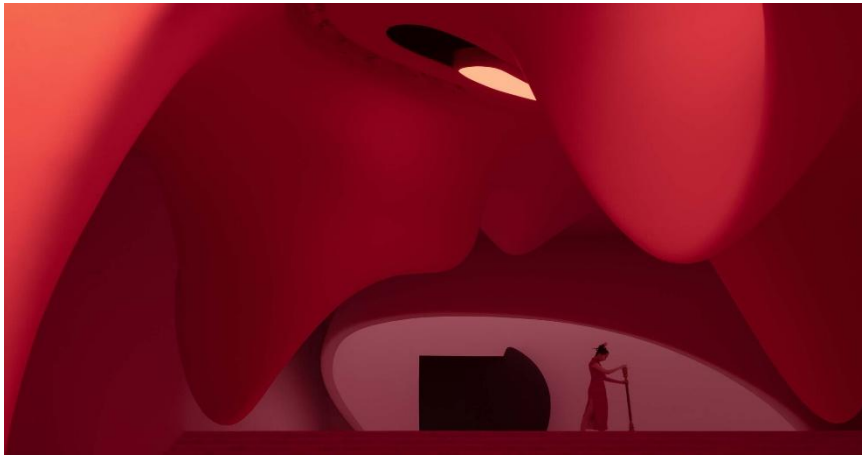
Country: China



## INTRODUCTION

*Initial Site Visiting* - The site of M2 is located on the plinth of a high-rise office building, and the original space was a gym space with a swimming pool. The spatial sequence of the site begins at the square elevator hall on one side of the main space, followed by the more than 40-meter-long strip-shaped main space, with the floor partially sinking about 1.5 meters and the end being a 10-meter-high space. When Yan Pan, the chief designer of SpActrum, initially explored the site, the basic storyline of the M2 Art Center had already been outlined based on the preliminary on-site conditions: stepping into the sunken swimming pool, the sense of height in the main space was further stretched, and standing at the end of the pool, looking up at the 10-meter-high end space, Pan instantly felt a strong sense of sacred calling.

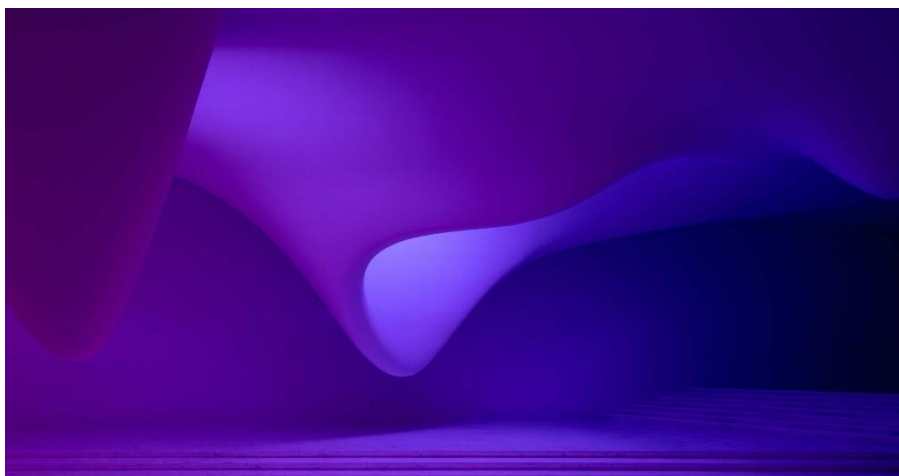




## STORYLINE

*A Life Path* - Leaving the hat-shaped space from the highest point of the stairs, one enters the fantastic main space as if entering a movie space that reviews one's life. The ignorant and bewildered youth arrive in this world, and the hanging peaks resemble lips and earlobes as if they are calling out, whispering, inspiring, tempting, desiring, and making noise, trying to influence the innocent new life everywhere. They may be lost or moved, but ultimately, when facing the holy light that connects heaven and earth, they look back and understand themselves. This is the main storyline of the space.

*The Inverted Valley and the Materialized Senses* - By leveraging high space, the concept of an inverted valley is established, which makes the space ground clean and inclusive and suspends the themed objects in the air. The mirror-inverted reflection of conventional landscape objects creates aesthetic tension. At the same time, these hillsides are geometricized, more slender, ethereal, round, and sharp than natural hills, because they are separated from the gravitational constraints of natural hills. In this world, there is a unique experience of anti-gravity.



# Changsha Meixihu International Culture and Art Centre Zaha Hadid Architects

## CULTURAL CENTRE

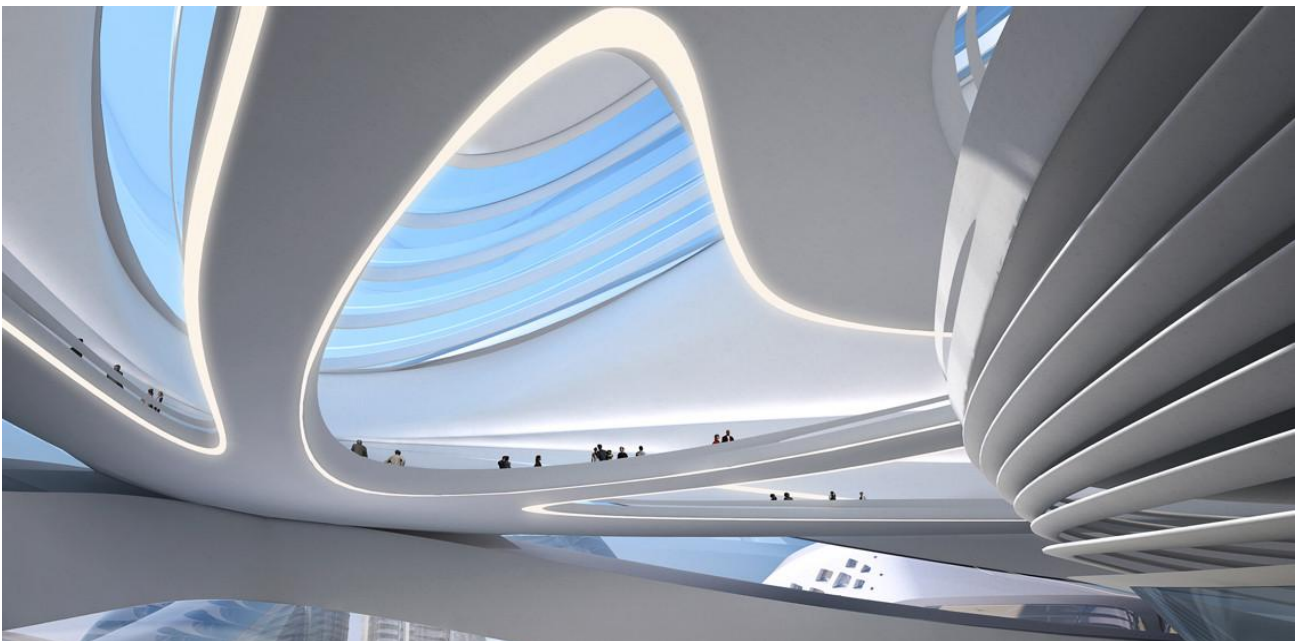
- CHANGSHA SHI, CHINA
- Architects: ZAHA HADID ARCHITECTS
- Area: 115000MSQ
- Year: 2019
- Photographs: Seven Panda
- Lead Architects: Zaha Hadid, Patrik Schumacher
- Specialist Acoustics Consultants to the Architect: Marshall Day Acoustics, Hong Kong & Melbourne
- Project Management: Shanghai Gao Shen Consultants Ltd
- Transport Consultants: Sinclair Knight Merz, China
- Category: Cultural Center
- Zha Project Director: Woody Yao, Simon Yu
- Zha Project Leader: Simon Yu
- Zha Project Team: Zhenjiang Guo, Charles Kwan, Jinqi Huang, Neil Sansom, Pravin Ghosh, Thomas Jensen, Justin Kelly, Wandy Mulia, Uli Schifferdecker, Adrian Aguirre Herrera, Aurora Santana, Koren Sin, Johanna Huang, Yifan Zhang, Collin Spelts, Fei Liang, Adam Fingrut, Yitzhak Samun
- Zha Schematic Design: Zhenjiang Guo, Charles Kwan, Jinqi Huang
- Zha Museum Design: Tariq Khayyat, Kutbuddin Nadiadi, Diego Rossel, Gerry Cruz, Matteo Melioli, Xiaosheng Li, Yuxi Fu, Thomas Jensen, Matthew Johnson, Justin Kelly, Drew Merkle
- Local Design Institute: Guangzhou Pearl River Foreign Investment Architectural Designing Institute
- Theatre Management Consultants: Poly Theatre Engineering Consultancy (Beijing) Co. Ltd.
- Theatre Equipment Consultants: Kunkel Theatre Engineering & Consulting Co.Ltd.
- Museum Management Consultants: Global Cultural Asset Management
- Structural Engineers: Guangzhou Pearl River Foreign Investment Architectural Designing Institute (Guangzhou, China)
- Building Services: Guangzhou Pearl River Foreign Investment Architectural Designing Institute (Guangzhou, China)
- Project Acoustics Consultants: Zhang Kuisheng Acoustical Design Research Studio (Shanghai, China)
- Zha Competition Team: ZHA, Victor Orive, Fabiano Continanza. Zhenjiang Guo, Danilo Arsic, Ines Fontoura, Rafael González, Alejandro Díaz, Jimena Araiza, ZHA Concept Development: Hannes Schafelner, Philipp Ostermaier, Jakub Klaska, Maren Klasing, Saman Saffarian, Martin Krcha, Maria Tsironi, Spyridon Kaprinis, Tiago Correia
- Competition Consultants: Theatre Projects, Buro Happold, Marshall Day Acoustics
- City: Changsha Shi
- Country: China





## INTRODUCTION

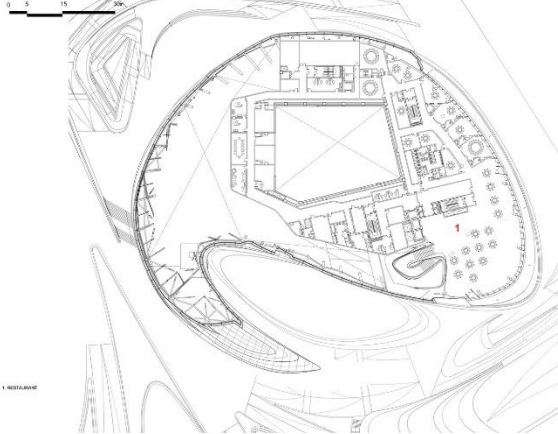
**Zaha Hadid Architects (ZHA)** have unveiled an ambitious cultural mega center, which began to take shape in October after the project broke ground in the heart of [Changsha](#), China. In true Hadid-fashion, the Changsha Meixi Lake International Culture & Arts Center defines itself by extreme sinuous curves that radiate from each of the three independent structures and links them by a pedestrianized landscape that offers a “strong urban experience”, forming what they hope to be a global destination for performance art.



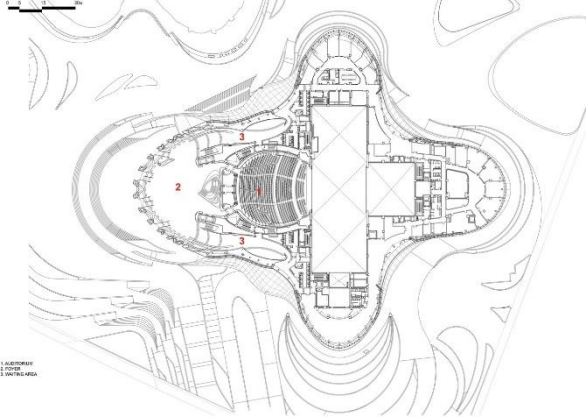


PLANS

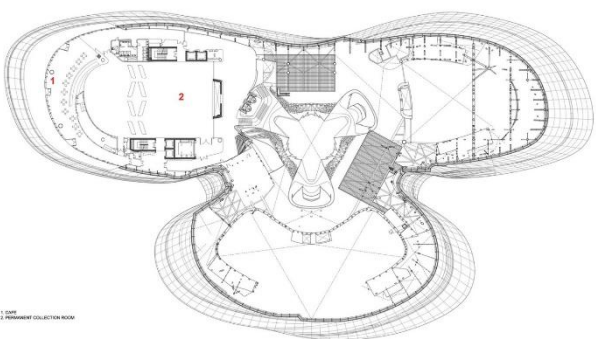
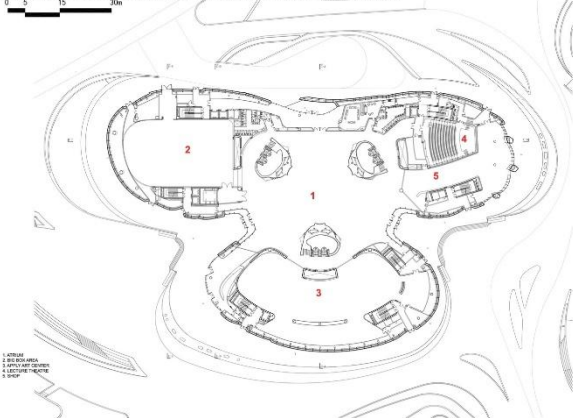
CHANGSHA MEIXIHU INTERNATIONAL CULTURE & ART CENTER - SMALL THEATRE 2F PLAN



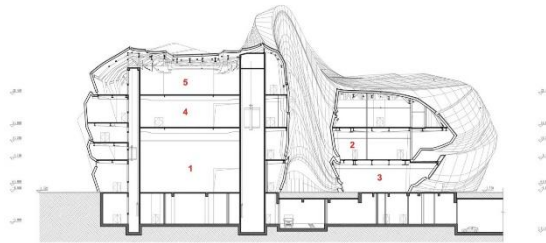
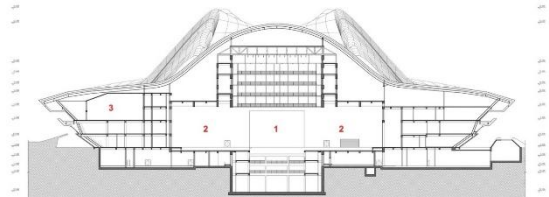
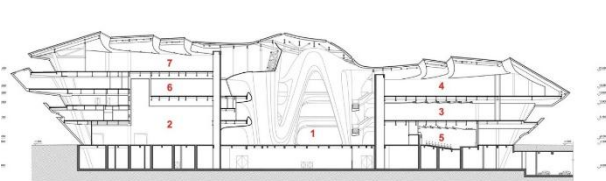
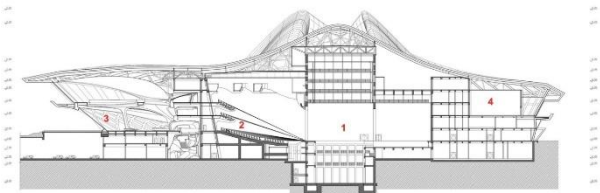
CHANGSHA MEIXIHU INTERNATIONAL CULTURE & ART CENTER - GRAND THEATRE 2F PLAN



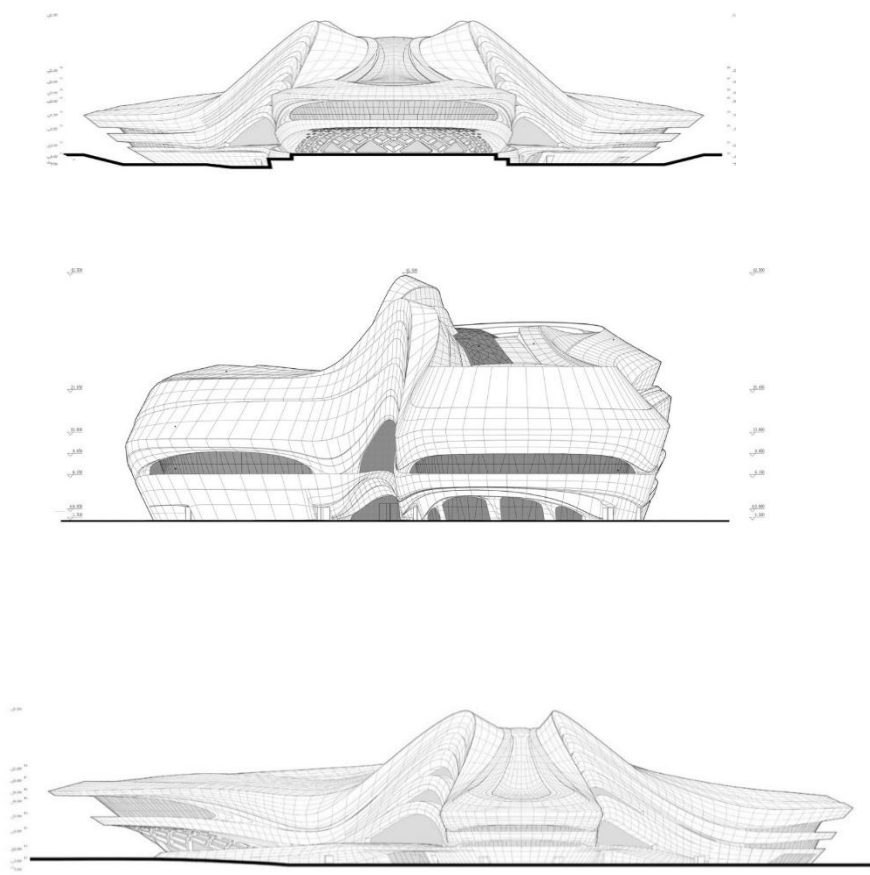
CHANGSHA MEIXIHU INTERNATIONAL CULTURE & ART CENTER - ART MUSEUM 6F PLAN



SECTIONS

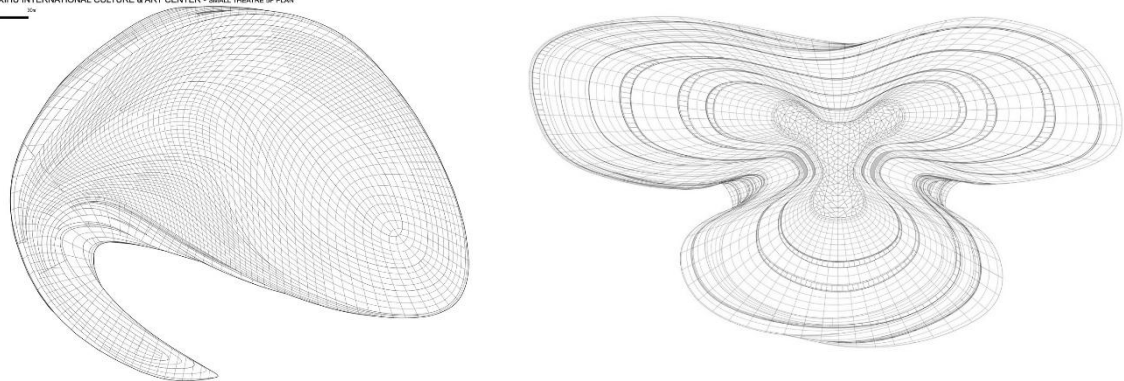


ELEVATIONS



ROOF PLAN

CHANGSHA MEIXIHU INTERNATIONAL CULTURE & ART CENTER - SMALL THEATRE ROOF PLAN



# **COMPARITVE ANALYSIS**



## JAWAHAR KALA KENDRA

## BHARAT BHAWAN, BHOPAL

### Category

1992

### Year of Completion

Approx. 9.5 acres ( $\approx 38,000 \text{ m}^2$ )

### Site Area

Approx. 22,000  $\text{m}^2$

### Built-up Area

### Architect

Charles Correa

### Criteria of Selection for study

- Iconic example of post-independence Indian architecture
- Integration of cosmology, culture, and contemporary spatial design

### Project Components

- 8 blocks inspired by Navagraha Mandala (cosmic plan)
- Art galleries, auditoriums (Rangayan & Krishnayan), museum, library, café, hostel, amphitheatre, studios, administrative block

### Climatic Conditions

- Hot and dry semi-arid climate (Jaipur)
- High summer temperatures ( $40^\circ\text{C}+$ ), low humidity, cold winters

### Sustainable Systems

- Thick masonry walls for thermal mass
- Internal courtyards and water bodies for passive cooling
- Orientation based on solar movement

### Structural System

- Load-bearing brick and concrete construction
- RCC slabs with traditional stone finishes

### Façade and Fenestration

- Deep-set windows, chajjas, jaalis
- Red sandstone used for local identity and climate responsiveness

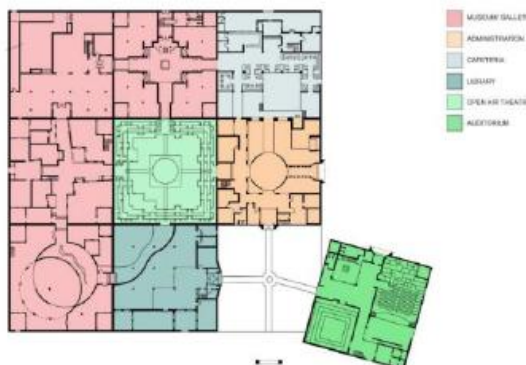
### Architectural Style

- Critical Regionalism
- Combines traditional Indian planning (Vastu, Navagraha) with modern forms

### Key Learning

- Architectural interpretation of cosmic and cultural symbolism
- Masterful use of climate-responsive design
- Contextual modernism that remains relevant even decades later

### Site plan



### Details

1982

Approx. 12.5 acres ( $\approx 50,600 \text{ m}^2$ )

Charles Correa

- Masterpiece of context-sensitive architecture
- Seamless blend of landscape, art, and built environment
- Pioneer of cultural public space

- Museum of Tribal and Contemporary Art
- Amphitheatre overlooking the lake
- Galleries (Roopankar)
- Libraries, workshops, rehearsal rooms, studio theatres (Rangmandal)

- Composite climate (Bhopal): Hot summers, moderate monsoon cold winters
- Need for thermal comfort and natural ventilation

- Sunken courtyards to reduce heat gain
- Open-to-sky passages and use of local materials
- Passive cooling via orientation and ventilation

- Reinforced cement concrete (RCC) construction with stepped levels
- Load-bearing and framed structures mixed

- Minimalist treatment with exposed concrete and whitewashed masonry
- Small punctured windows and verandas for shading and airflow

- Critical Regionalism
- Organic integration with the natural topography of the site, overlooking the Upper Lake

- Importance of cultural context in architectural expression
- Landform-sensitive design as an aesthetic and environmental response
- Use of architecture to promote inclusive art access





## Changsha Meixihu International Culture and Art Centre

### Details

2019

Approx. 115,000 m<sup>2</sup> (built-up area); site located along Meixi Lake in Changsha

115,000 m<sup>2</sup>

Zaha Hadid Architects

- Landmark example of parametric cultural architecture
- Dynamic fluid form-making
- Integration of large-scale cultural facilities into urban fabric
- Grand Theatre (1,800 seats)
- Small Theatre / Multipurpose Hall (500 seats)
- MICA – Contemporary Art Museum (10,000 m<sup>2</sup> gallery space)
- Public courtyards, cafes, lecture theatres, educational areas
- Subtropical humid climate: Hot summers, mild winters
- Annual precipitation: high
- Emphasis on shading, ventilation, and stormwater management
- Natural ventilation strategies in public areas
- Passive solar orientation of major openings
- Daylighting in galleries via clerestory elements
- Steel frame with reinforced concrete core
- Large-span cantilevers and curvilinear shells supported by complex 3D truss systems
- Seamless white fiber-reinforced concrete cladding
- Curved glazed walls for foyer and museum
- Shading fins integrated in curved envelope
- Neo-futuristic / Parametricism
- Signature Zaha Hadid fluid, organic geometry
- Inspired by movement of water and cultural convergence
- Integration of form and function at a monumental scale
- Cultural buildings as urban attractors and social condensers
- Complex geometry enabled through advanced BIM and engineering tools



## M2 Art Centre / SpActrum

### Details

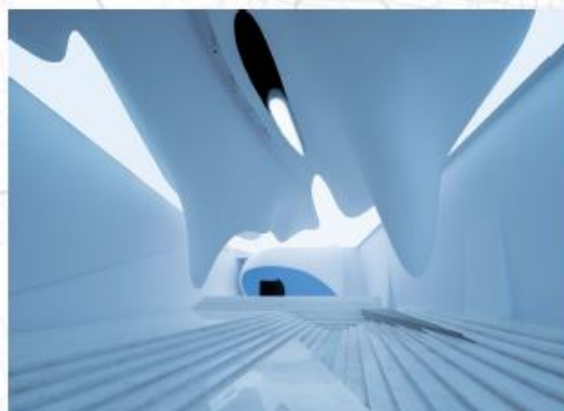
2022

Approx. 2,000 m<sup>2</sup>

Approx. 1,500 m<sup>2</sup> (adaptive reuse of an industrial warehouse)

SpActrum (Hangzhou-based architectural firm)

- Adaptive reuse of industrial space into contemporary art center
- Emphasis on flexibility, neutrality, and interaction with space
- Main Exhibition Hall
- Black Box Theatre for multimedia installations
- Reading Zone, café, workshop/studio spaces
- Modular partitions
- Subtropical humid climate (Hangzhou): humid summers, mild winters
- Requires good natural lighting, ventilation, and thermal insulation
- Adaptive reuse reduces embodied carbon
- Natural ventilation through high ceilings and operable openings
- Use of salvaged materials where possible
- Original steel frame + concrete structure retained
- New inserts made with light steel and movable partitions
- Minimalist industrial look retained
- Whitewashed walls, large pivoting doors/windows for openness
- Glazing and skylights to bring in daylight
- Industrial minimalism meets contemporary flexibility
- Focus on raw finishes, modularity, and light
- Demonstrates the value of adaptive reuse in cultural architecture
- Emphasizes flexibility over monumentality
- Cost-effective and sustainable transformation of space



# **AREA ANALYSIS**

## JAWAHAR KALA KENDRA , JAIPUR

S. No.	Zone / Block Name	Micro-Functions / Spaces	Symbolic Association / Navagraha	User Group	Architectural Features / Design Language	Approx. Area (sq.m.)
1	Entrance Foyer & Orientation	Reception desk, security check, visitor information, directional signage, ticketing booth, transitional lobby	Center (Axis of approach)	General Public	Transitional space with subtle ramp, open facade to public court	150
2	Exhibition Gallery 1 (South)	Display walls, sculpture stands, spot lighting, temporary partitions, HVAC, digital panels	Surya (Sun) - Illumination, Core Knowledge	Art Enthusiasts, Tourists	Double-height volume, controlled lighting, neutral walls	300
3	Exhibition Gallery 2 (East)	Framed artworks, multimedia pods, visitor seating, thematic panels	Chandra (Moon) - Reflection, Aesthetic Memory	Students, Tourists	Flexible wall system, east-facing skylights	300
4	Exhibition Gallery 3 (North)	Installations, local crafts, rotating displays, walkthrough experience	Mangal (Mars) - Action, Movement	Cultural Curators	Deep plinths, ceiling-mounted hangers for vertical pieces	300
5	Museum Block	Permanent collection of Rajasthani art, dioramas, traditional crafts archive, timeline panels, climate control	Center (Kendra Mandala) - Timeless Core	Academics, Visitors	Climate-sensitive design, heavy masonry walls	300
6	Library & Reading Room	Book stacks, archival material, digital terminals, quiet zones, periodicals corner, librarian desk	Budh (Mercury) - Intellect, Record	Students, Researchers	Vaulted roof, inward-facing windows, subdued lighting	250
7	Rangayan Auditorium	Main hall (300+ seats), stage, proscenium arch, green rooms, AV room, control booth, pre-function foyer	Guru (Jupiter) - Culture, Expansion	General Public, Performers	Acoustically treated, high ceilings, circular volume	600
8	Madhyavarti Open-Air Theatre	Amphitheater-style seating, circular stage, lighting mounts, backstage area, outdoor access paths	Central Courtyard - Energy, Expression	All Users	Open-sky performance court, sandstone steps, water body nearby	1000
9	Workshops Block	Pottery studio, painting lab, handcrafts area, drying racks, tool storage, instructor space, utility sink	Shukra (Venus) - Art, Sensuality	Art Students, Visiting Artists	Natural daylighting, washable surfaces, high ventilation	200
10	Artist Studios	1-2 private studio cabins, pin-up boards, storage units, seating, self-sustained working units	Shani (Saturn) - Discipline, Process	Resident Artists	Modular, semi-private, direct courtyard access	200
11	Cafeteria / Food Court	Indoor dining, shaded outdoor tables, kitchen/pantry, vendor kiosk, refuse area	Linked to Public Spine	General Public, Staff	North-facing shaded court, stone flooring, spill-out seating	150
12	Administrative Block	Director's cabin, clerical desks, meeting room, accounts office, records storage	Rahu - Strategy, Control	Staff, Admin Personnel	Quiet zone, segregated entry, simple orthogonal layout	200
13	Restrooms & Utility Services	Male/female/accessible toilets, janitor room, electrical control room, HVAC duct zone	Dispersed for Accessibility	All	Compact, ventilated, stone flooring, tiled interiors	150
14	Circulation Corridors	Main spine walkways, vestibules, connecting ramps, arched doorways, entry thresholds	Based on Mandala grid lines	All	Covered yet open-sided walkways, shaded with jaalis	400
15	Light Courts & Void Spaces	Passive cooling zones, landscaped light wells, reflective pools, social breakout spots, air corridors	Mandala interstitials - Breath, Pause	All	Natural stone paving, sculptural elements, vegetation	600



## BHARAT BHAWAN, BHOPAL

S. No.	Zone / Block Name	Micro-Functions / Spaces	Symbolic / Conceptual Role	User Group	Architectural Features / Spatial Strategy	Approx. Area (sq.m.)
1	Entrance Forecourt	Entry plaza, orientation panels, ramps and steps, public gathering area	Invitation to landscape and descent	General Public	Gradual descent into site, integrates lake view	200
2	Reception & Admin Zone	Visitor reception, ticketing, information center, admin offices, director's room	Interface between public and institutional	Visitors, Staff	Modest office spaces tucked into built landscape	250
3	Roopankar (Museum of Art)	Tribal, folk, and contemporary art displays, sculpture court, rotating exhibits	Celebration of Indian visual arts	Tourists, Art Enthusiasts	Natural light filters, indoor-outdoor transitions	500
4	Rangmandal (Theatre Repertory)	Rehearsal rooms, performance studio, actor's lounge, costume storage	Core to performative expression	Performers, Artists	Double-height rehearsal spaces, minimal décor	300
5	Antarang Auditorium	Indoor theatre (approx. 300 seats), green rooms, control booth, stage lighting	Formal performance and public engagement	Public, Artists	Intimate performance setting with controlled acoustics	600
6	Bahirang (Open-Air Theatre)	Amphitheater seating, large performance stage, backdrop wall, sound rig	Informal performances, seasonal fests	Large Public Gatherings	Sunken seating, landscape-blended stage	1000
7	Anhad (Music Space)	Music performance hall, sound-proof rehearsal rooms, instrumental storage	Space for sonic exploration	Musicians, Public	Acoustically fine-tuned, open to lakefront views	250
8	Chhavi (Cinematheque)	Small theatre (film screenings), projection booth, seating (approx. 100), archive, media library	Visual culture, documentary archive	Cinephiles, Researchers	Stepped interior seating, black-box feel	300
9	Library & Archives	Books, art publications, reading spaces, journals, documentation of tribal traditions	Intellectual anchor of the complex	Researchers, Students	Quiet retreat zone, embedded in lower terrace	200
10	Workshops & Studio Courts	Residencies, hands-on art spaces (clay, print, wood), material storage	Making and experimentation	Artists, Students	Shaded, semi-open courts with studio cells	300
11	Museum Courtyards & Sculpture Lawns	Outdoor art displays, relaxation spaces, informal discussions	Dialogue between nature, sculpture, and viewer	All	Stepped terraces, visual frames, vegetation integration	500
12	Cafeteria & Public Plaza	Indoor/outdoor seating, lake-facing terrace, food counters	Community engagement	Visitors, Staff	Semi-open with pergolas, informal interaction zones	150
13	Toilets & Service Areas	Washrooms, janitor spaces, mechanical systems	Functional core	Internal Users	Low-profile, easy access throughout site	150
14	Circulation & Terraced Connectors	Ramps, stepped paths, platforms, transitional corridors	Journey through levels of culture	All	No corridors—movement is through landscape and light	500



CHANGSA MEIXIHU INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL & ART CENTRE , CHINA

Zone / Facility	Sub-Functions	Approx. Area (m²)	Remarks
Total Built-up Area	-	115,000	Entire complex including all facilities and circulation
AREA SPECIFICATIONS			
1. Grand Theatre	Main Auditorium (1,800 seats), Stage, Backstage, Admin Offices, VIP Lounges	Not individually specified	Designed for national/international performances
	Front-of-House (foyer, bar, reception)		
	Rehearsal studios, Dressing rooms, Costume storage		
	Loading and Technical Areas		
2. Small Theatre (Multipurpose Hall)	500-seat Auditorium, Retractable Seating, Banquet/Fashion Show Setup	Not individually specified	Highly flexible space for smaller performances and cultural events
	Stage, Support Rooms, Storage		
3. Contemporary Art Museum (MICA)	8 Exhibition Galleries	10,000	Organized around central atrium
	Museum Shop, Café, Lecture Theatre, Community Workshop Spaces	Included in total	Public-oriented spaces
	Admin Offices, Curatorial Support, Art Storage		
4. Outdoor Courtyards	Public Plazas, Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition Spaces	Not specified	Facilitates community interaction and seasonal events
5. Circulation & Services	Lobbies, Corridors, Service Zones, Vertical Transport	Included in total	Integrated throughout the facility

M2 Art Centre / SpActrum , CHINA

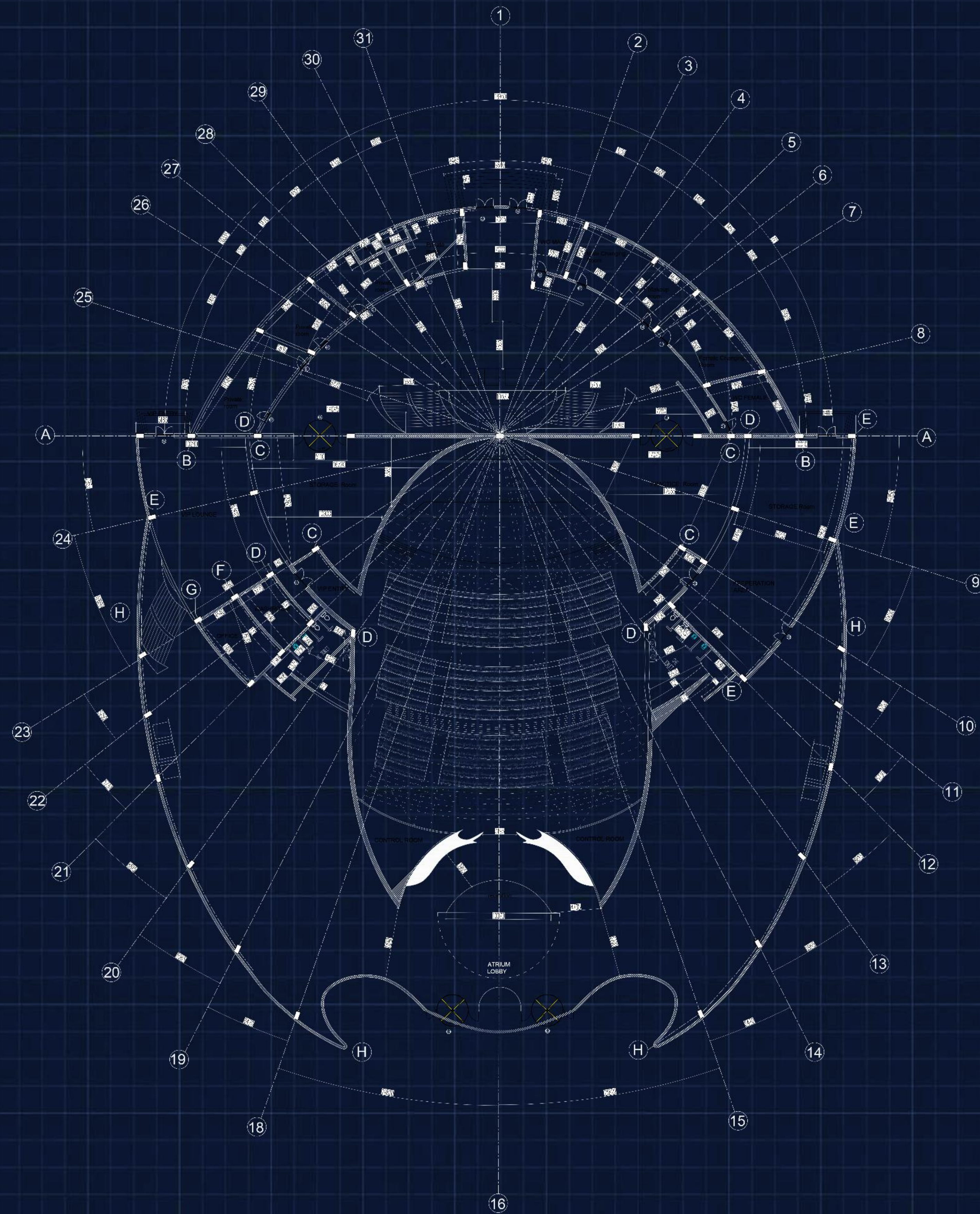
Zone / Space	Description	Approx. Area (m²)	Remarks
Total Area	Entire interior space of the M2 Art Centre	712	Overall area encompassing all zones
1. Entrance Foyer	Initial space featuring floating black stones descending from the ceiling, creating a mysterious ambience	Not specified	Serves as the transition from the exterior to the main areas
2. Cocoon Space	Dome-shaped area with a gently sloping floor leading to an arched opening; symbolizes introspection and new beginnings	Not specified	Represents the cradle of human inception and contemplation
3. Main Hall	Primary multifunctional area designed as an 'Inverted Valley' with hanging geometric forms resembling natural landscapes; used for exhibitions and events	Not specified	Central space for art exhibitions, performances, and gatherings
4. Altar Space	Elevated platform accessed via steps, situated beneath a dome; intended for contemplation and reflection	Not specified	Positioned at the culmination of the visitor's journey through the space
5. Circulation Areas	Pathways and corridors connecting the various spaces; designed to enhance the experiential journey through the centre	Not specified	Integral to guiding visitors through the thematic narrative of the centre

# **SHEETS**

# RENDERS



# AUDITORIUM BLOCK



**GROUND FLOOR PLAN**



**FIRST FLOOR PLAN**

TITLE:

**ART AND CULTURAL CENTER, AT JAIPUR RAJASTHAN**

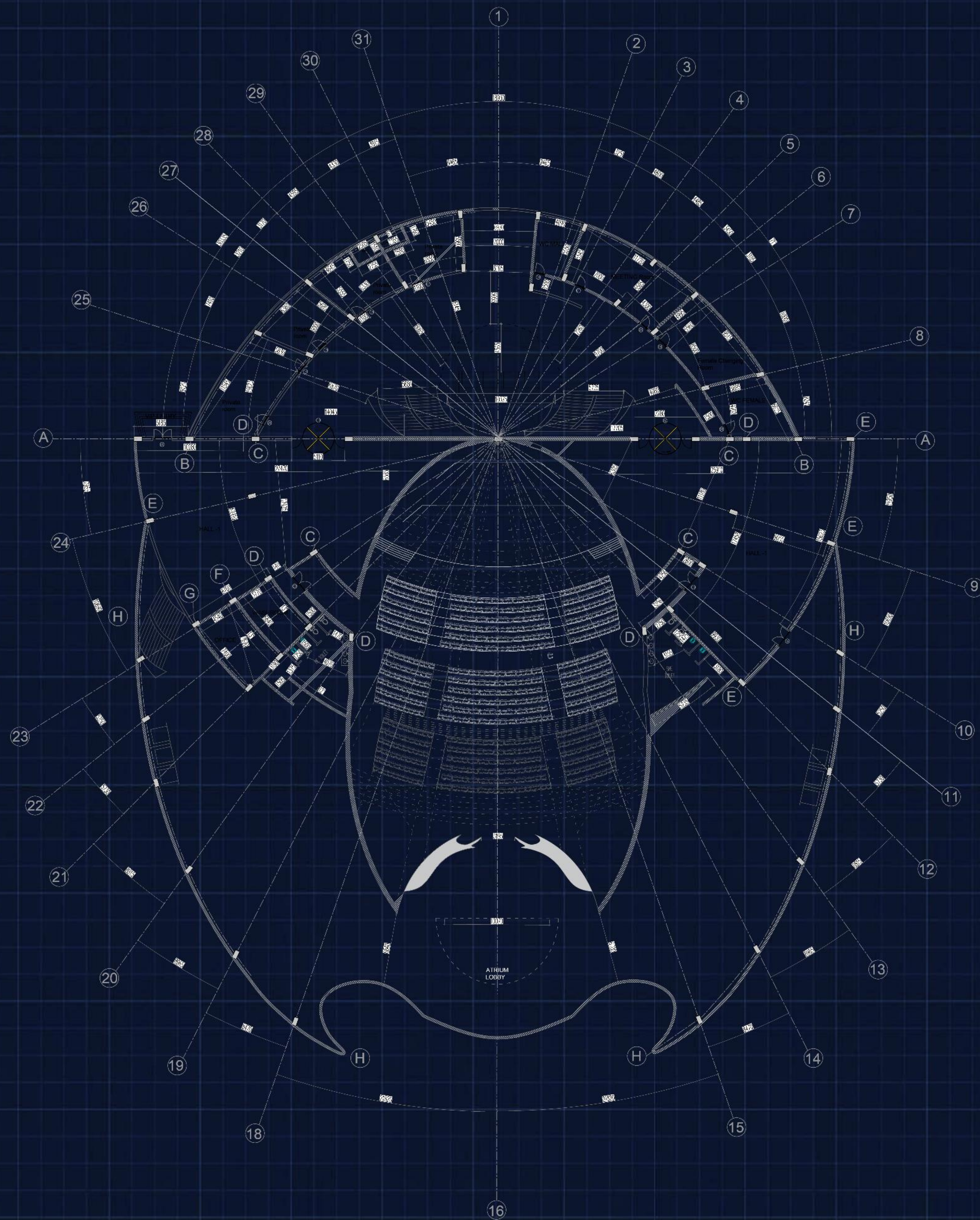
DESCRIPTION:

This visionary building blends future-forward design with cultural depth, giving the city a bold new identity—honouring tradition while positioning it for international architectural recognition and relevance.

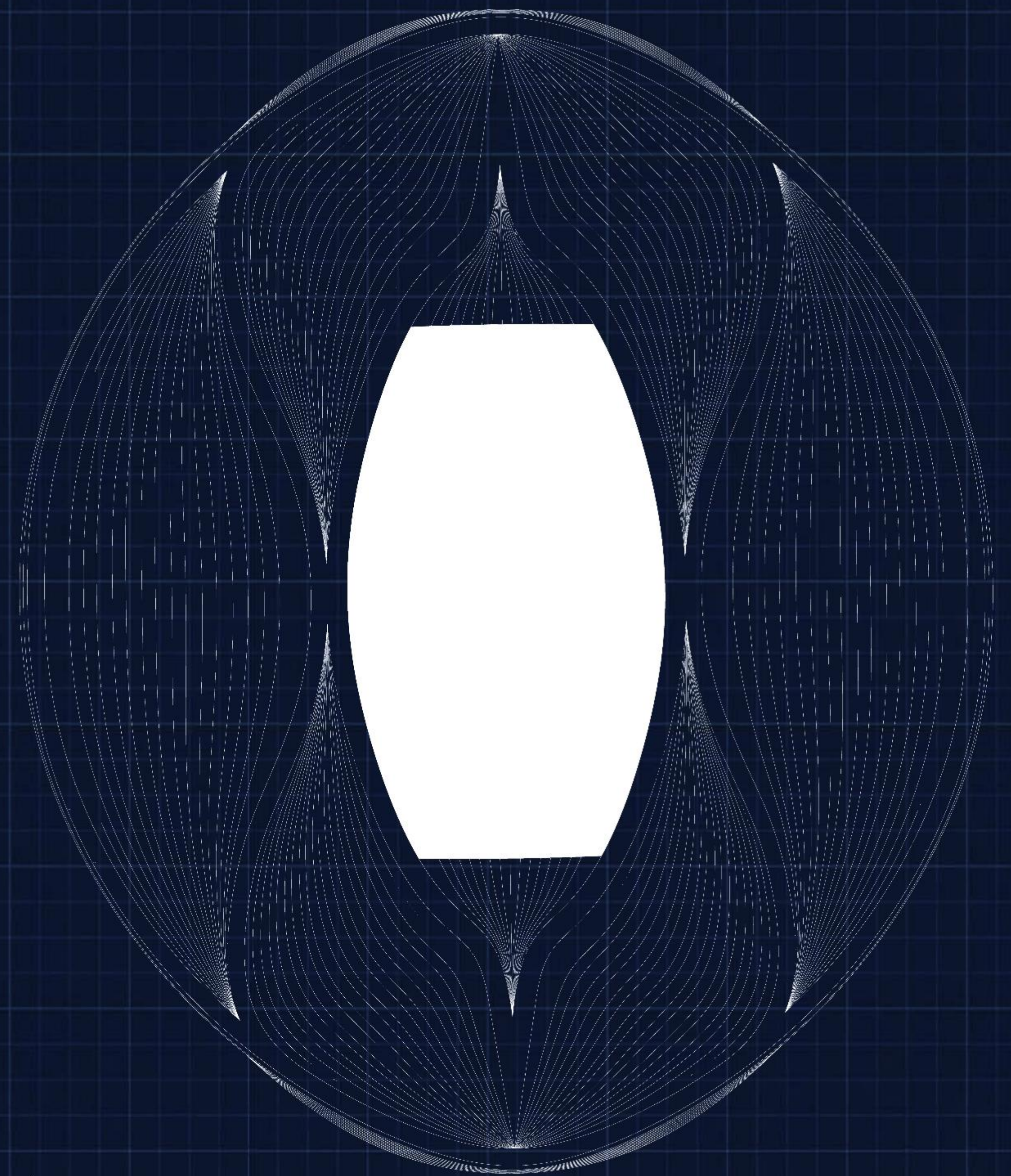
ABHISARG SRIVASTAVA  
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING, BBDU  
1200101002  
GUILDED BY PROF. SUMIT WADERA



# AUDITORIUM BLOCK



**SECOND FLOOR PLAN**



**ROOF PLAN**

TITLE:

**ART AND CULTURAL CENTER, AT JAIPUR RAJASTHAN**

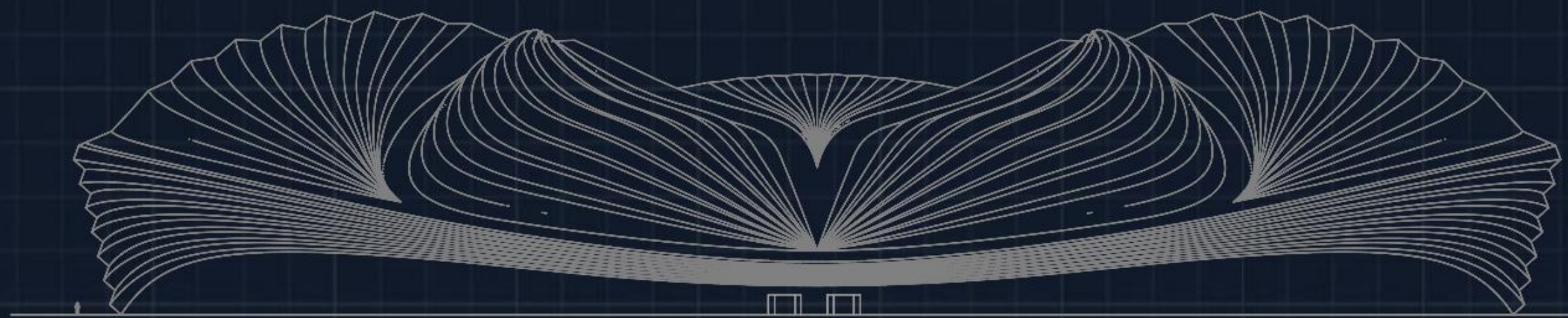
DESCRIPTION:

This visionary building blends future-forward design with cultural depth, giving the city a bold new identity—honouring tradition while positioning it for international architectural recognition and relevance.

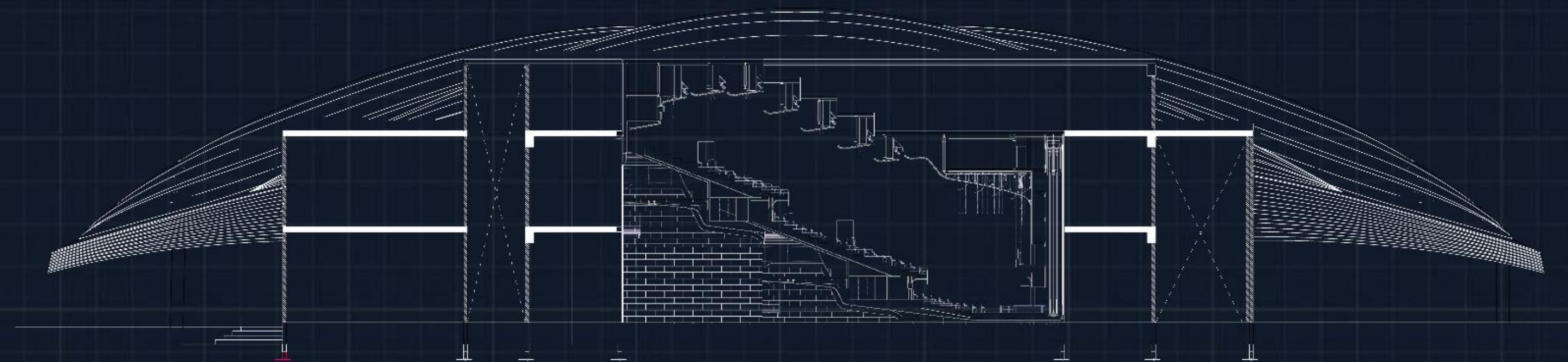
ABHISARG SRIVASTAVA  
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING, BBDU  
1200101002  
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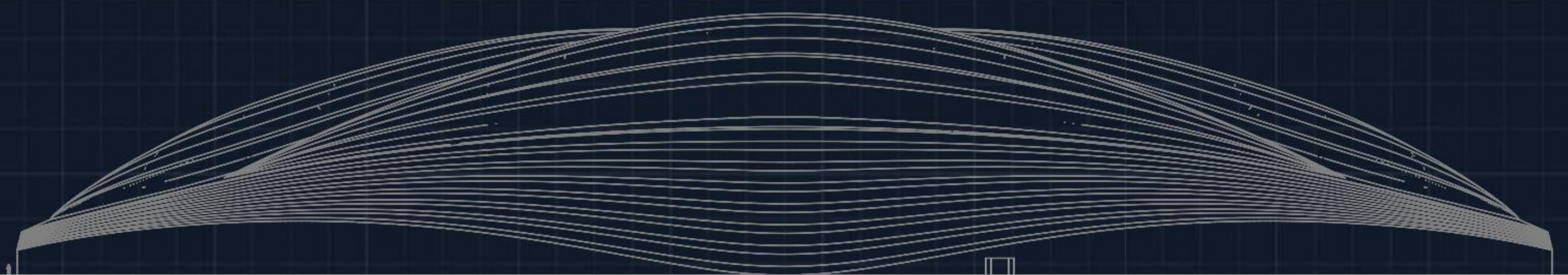
# AUDITORIUM BLOCK



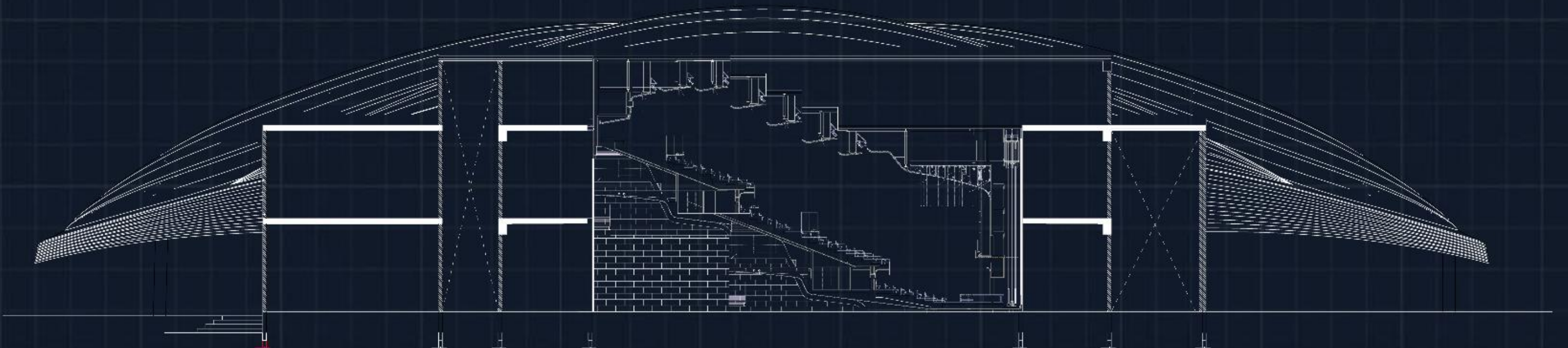
FRONT ELEVATION



SECTION AA'



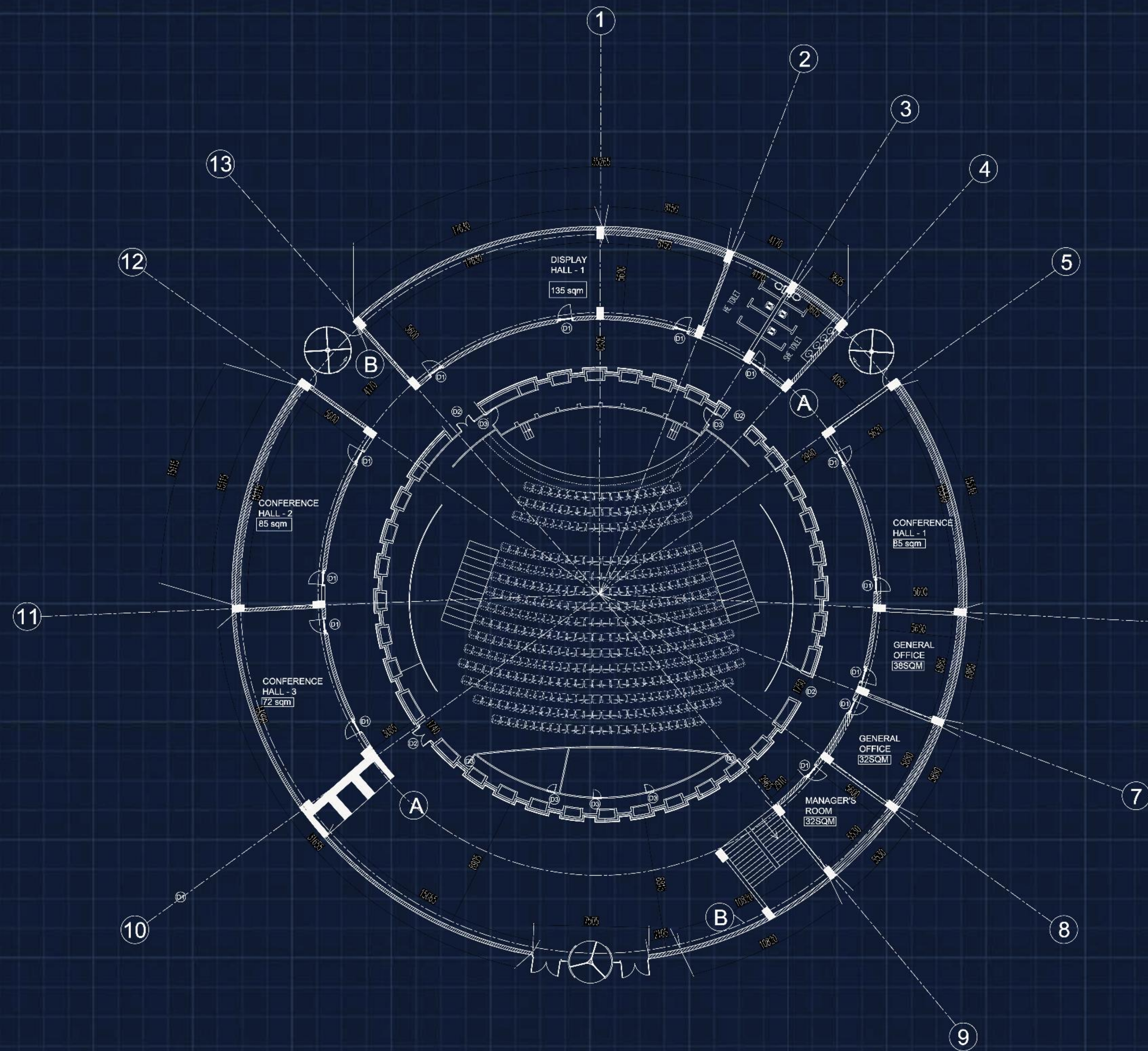
SIDE ELEVATION



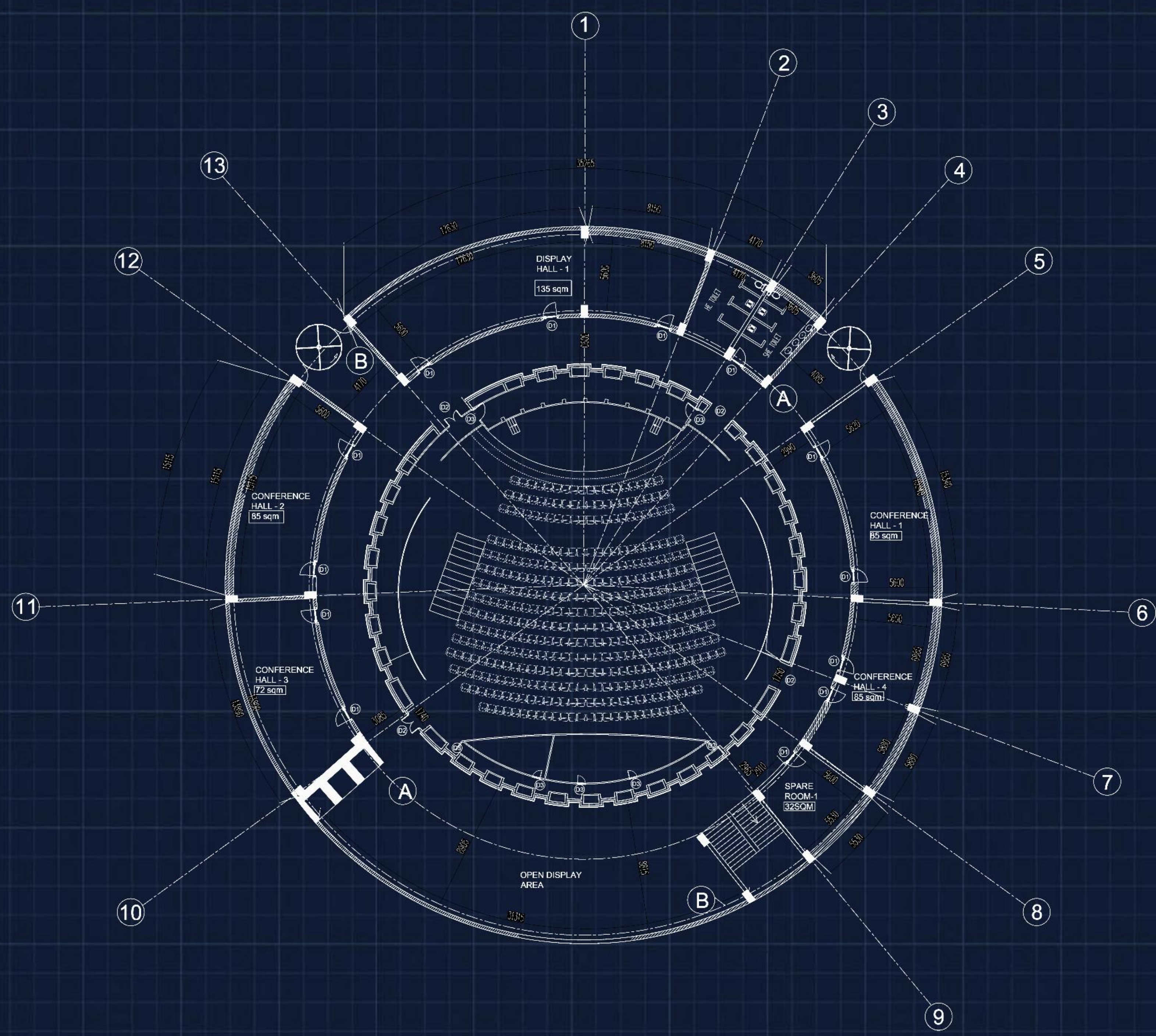
SECTION BB'



# CONFERENCE BLOCK



**GROUND FLOOR PLAN**



**FIRST FLOOR PLAN**

TITLE:

**ART AND CULTURAL CENTER, AT JAIPUR RAJASTHAN**

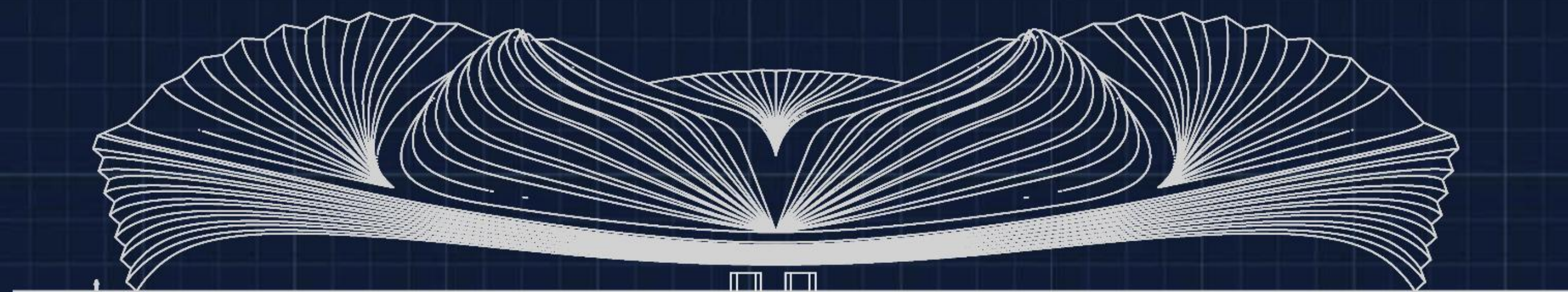
DESCRIPTION:

This visionary building blends future-forward design with cultural depth, giving the city a bold new identity—honouring tradition while positioning it for international architectural recognition and relevance.

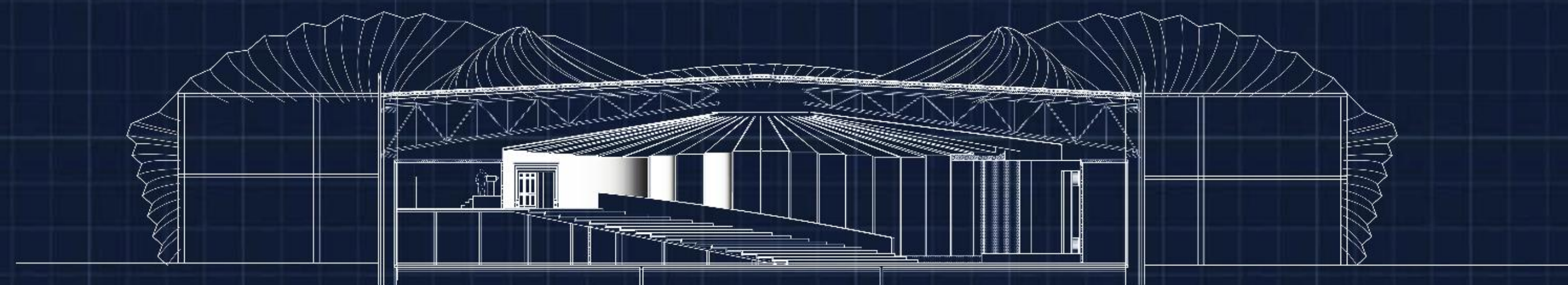
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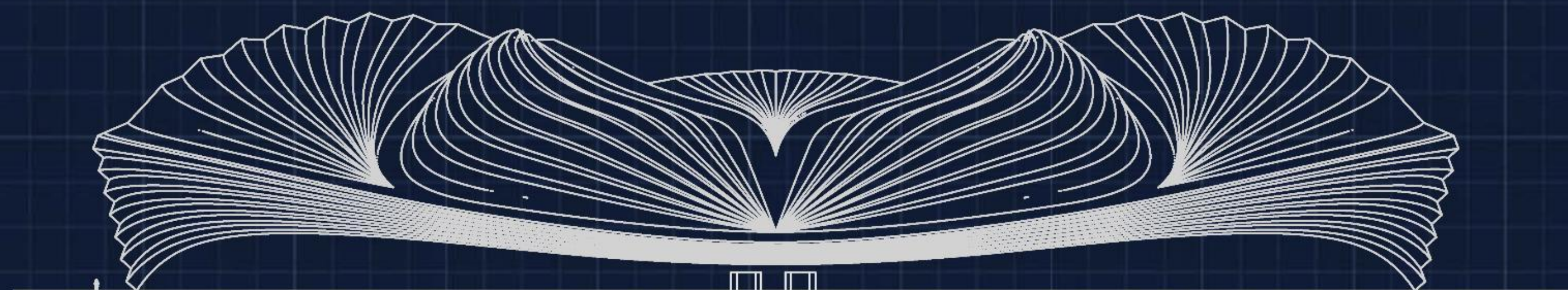
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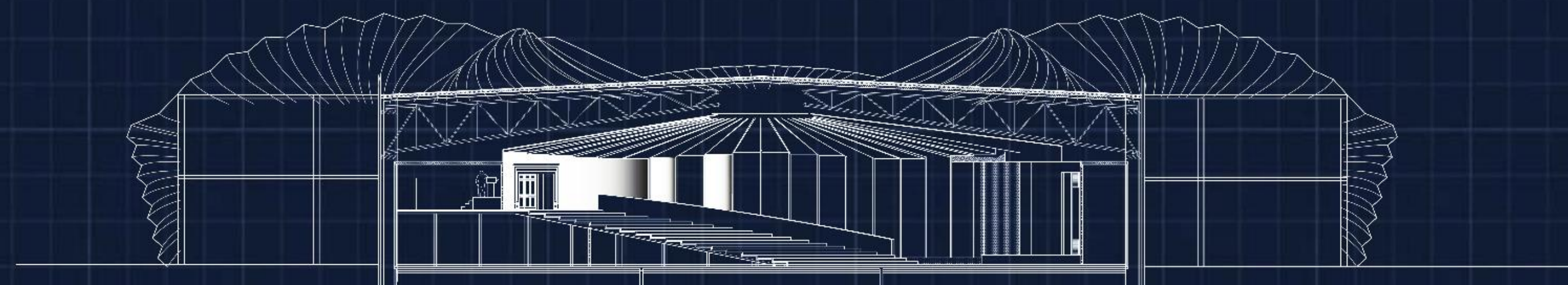
**FRONT ELEVATION**



**SECTION AA'**



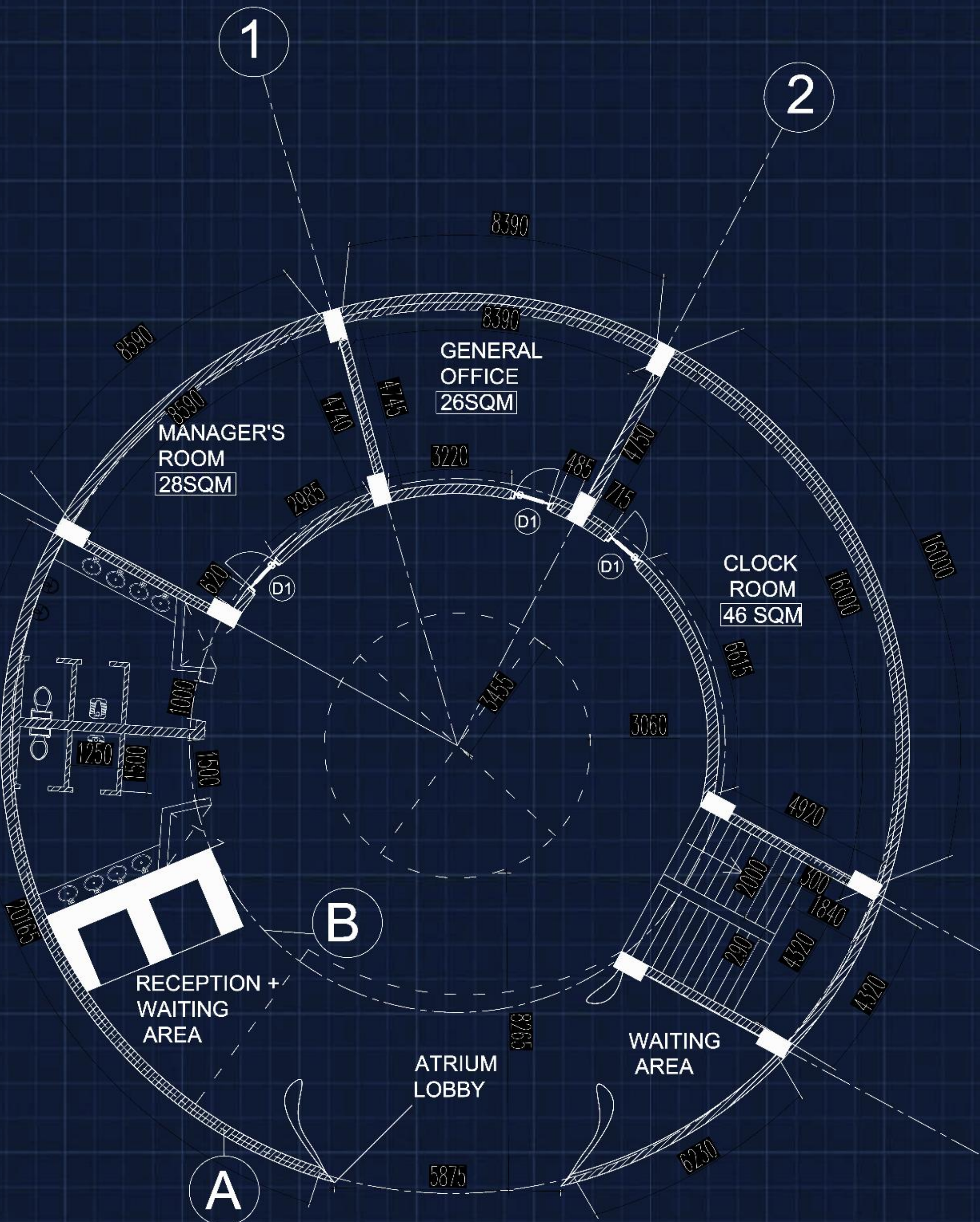
**SIDE ELEVATION**



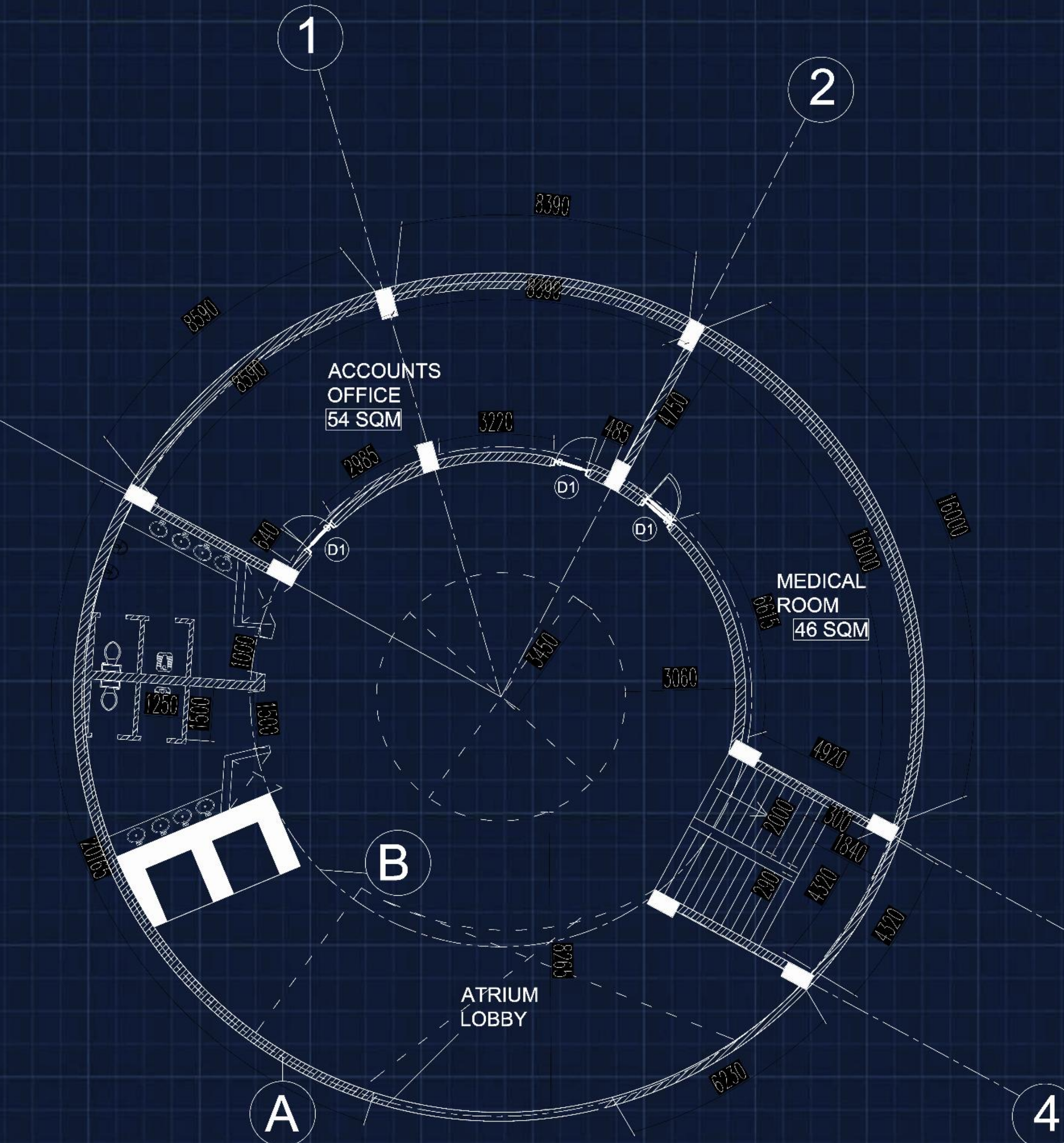
**SECTION BB'**



# ADMIN BLOCK



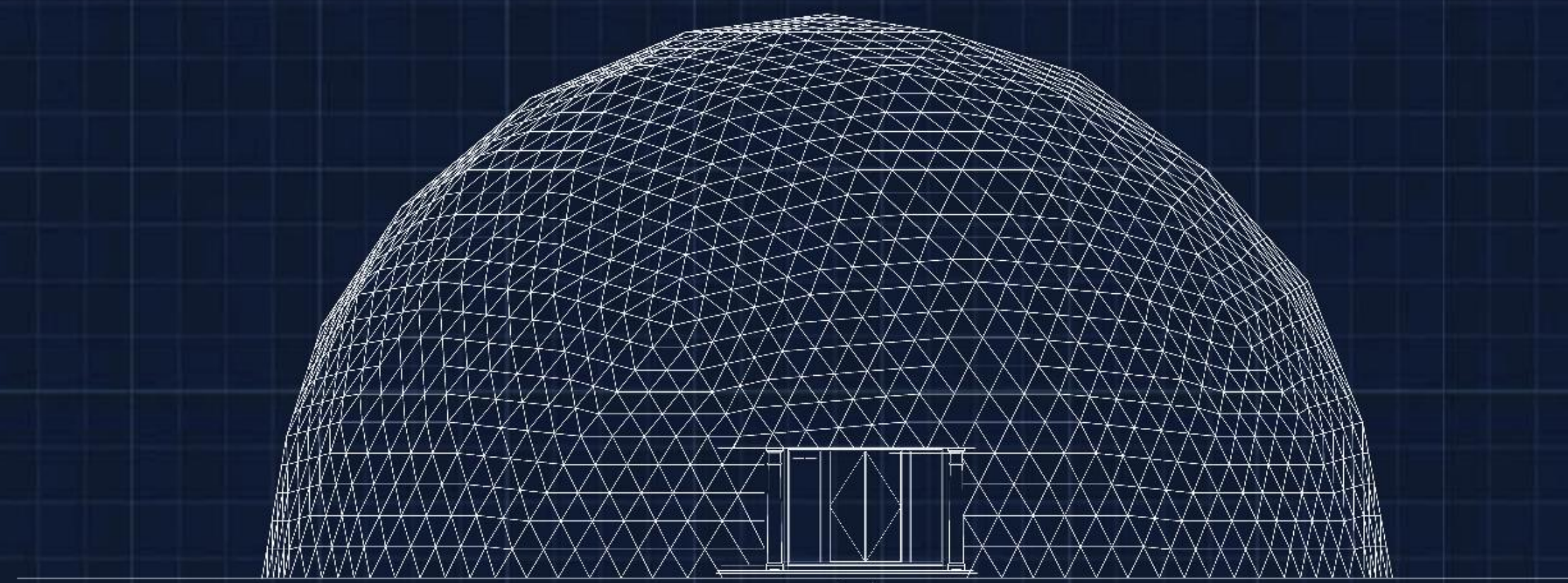
## GROUND FLOOR PLAN



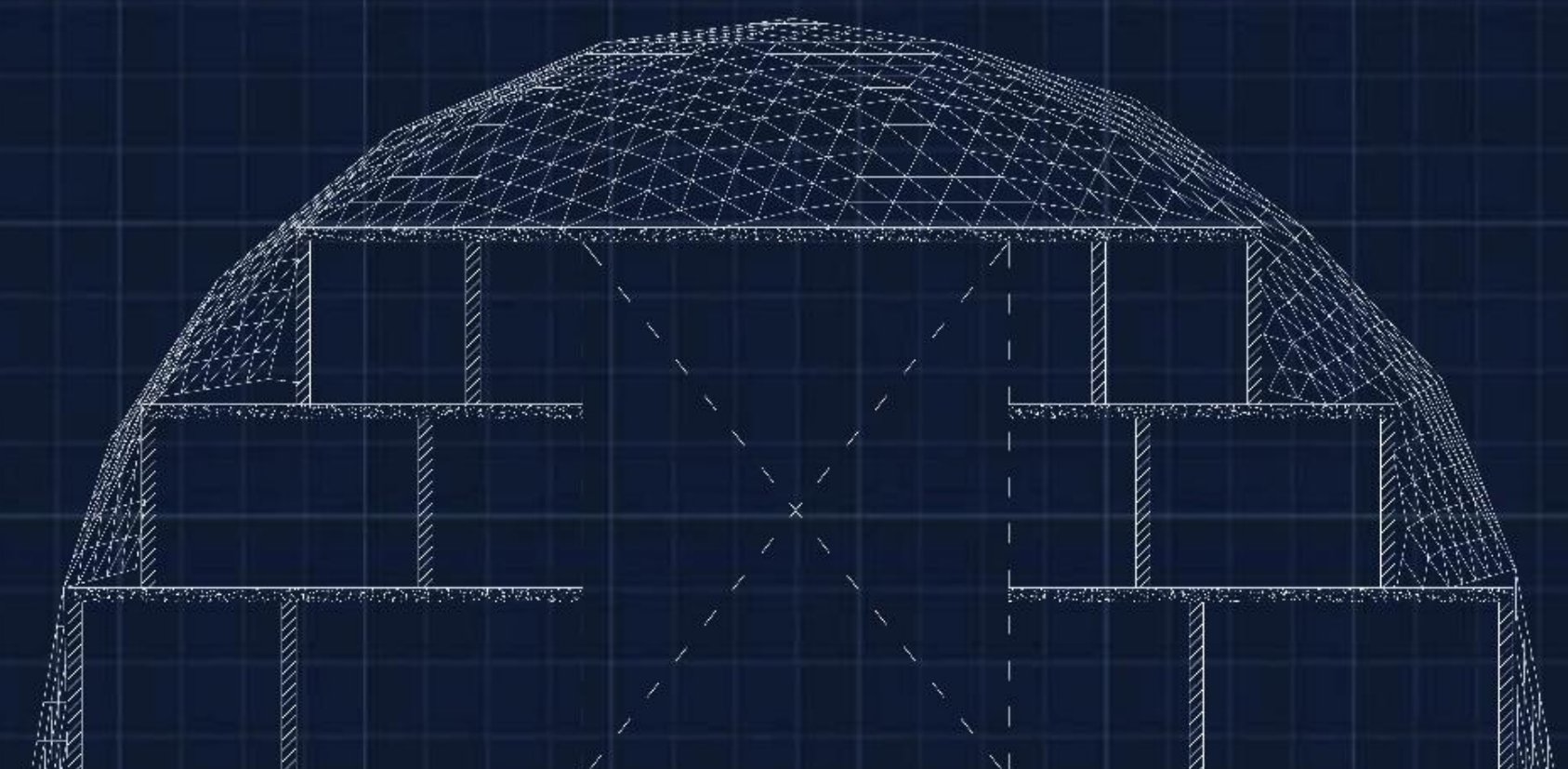
## FIRST FLOOR PLAN



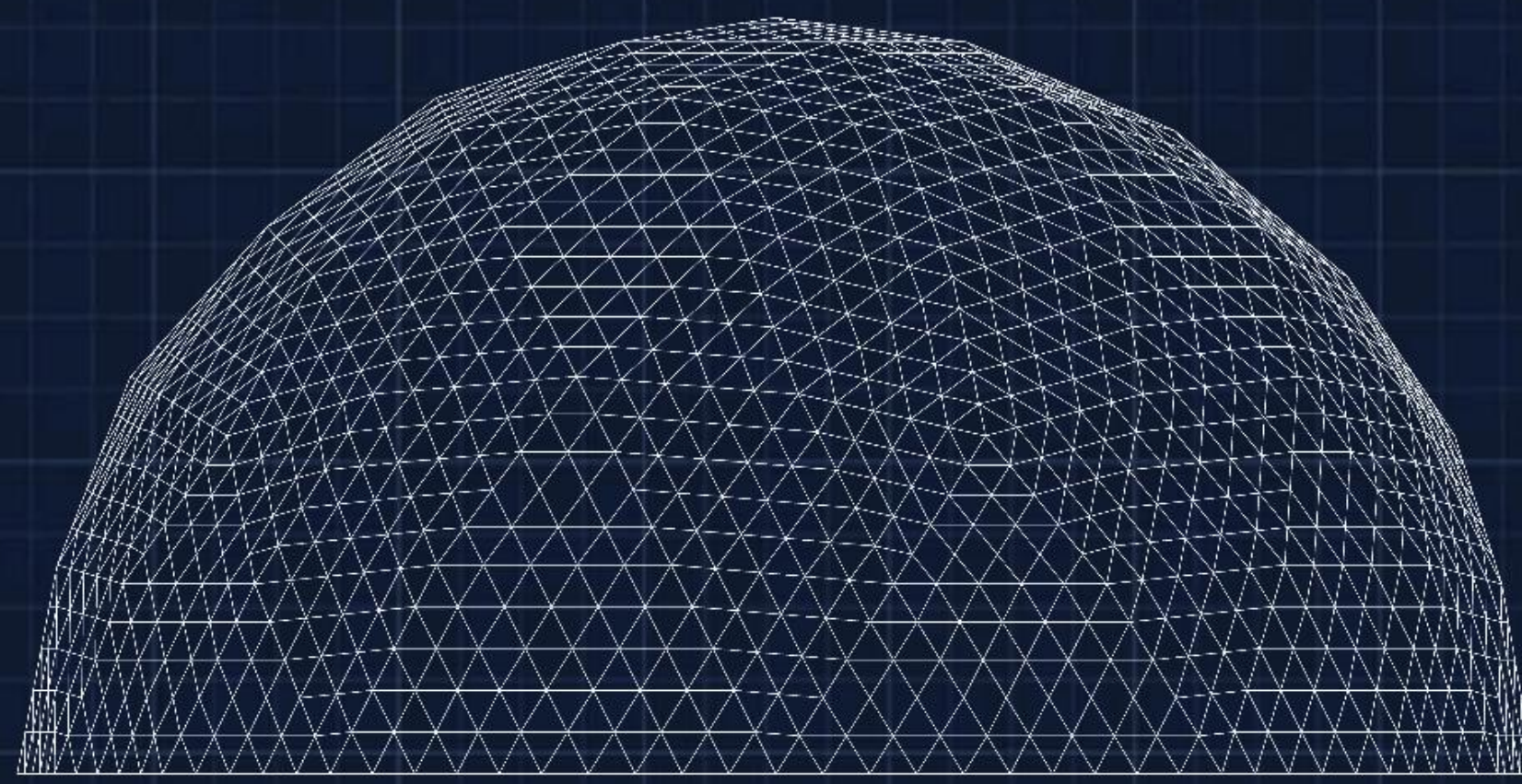
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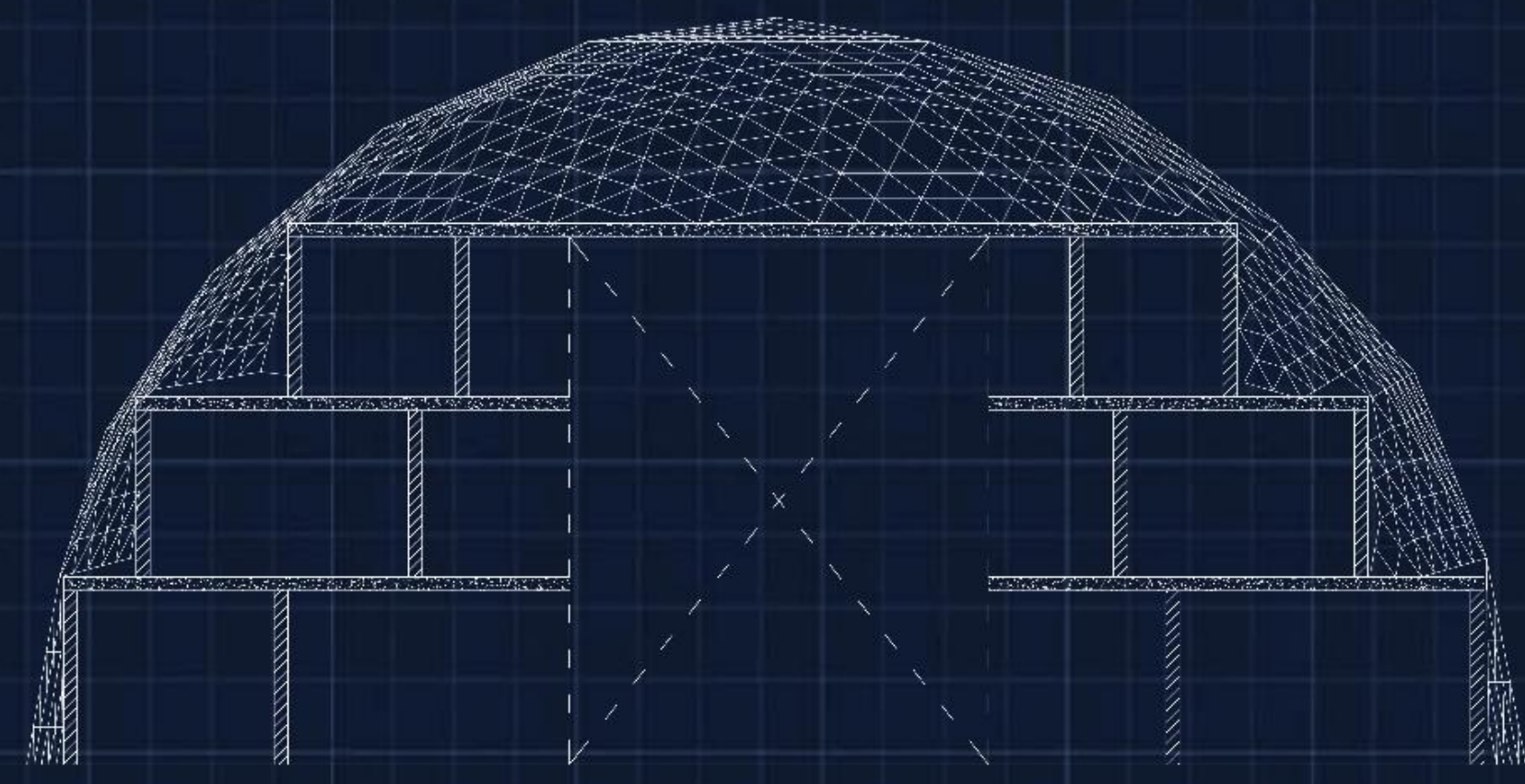
FRONT ELEVATION



SECTION AA'



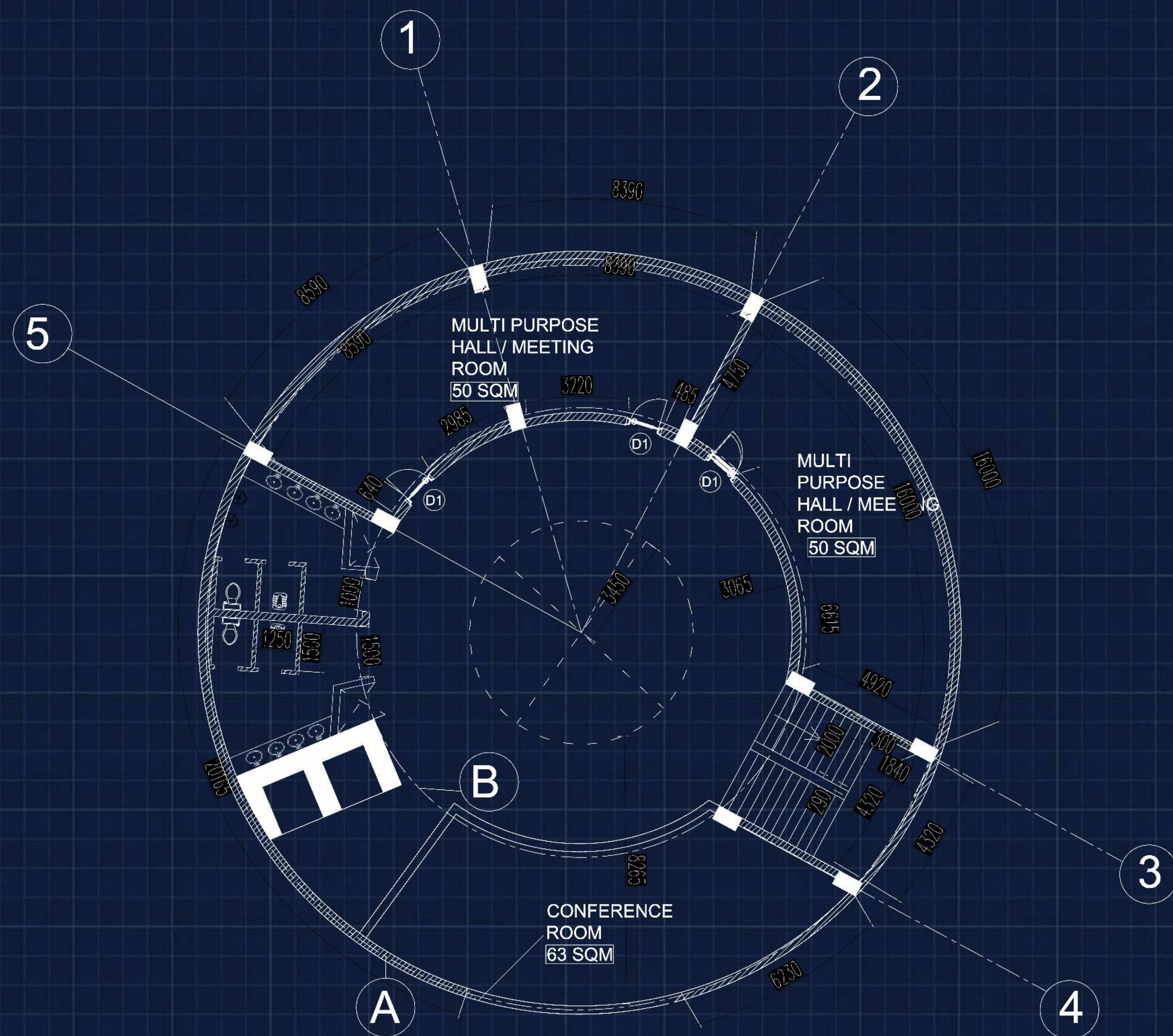
SIDE ELEVATION



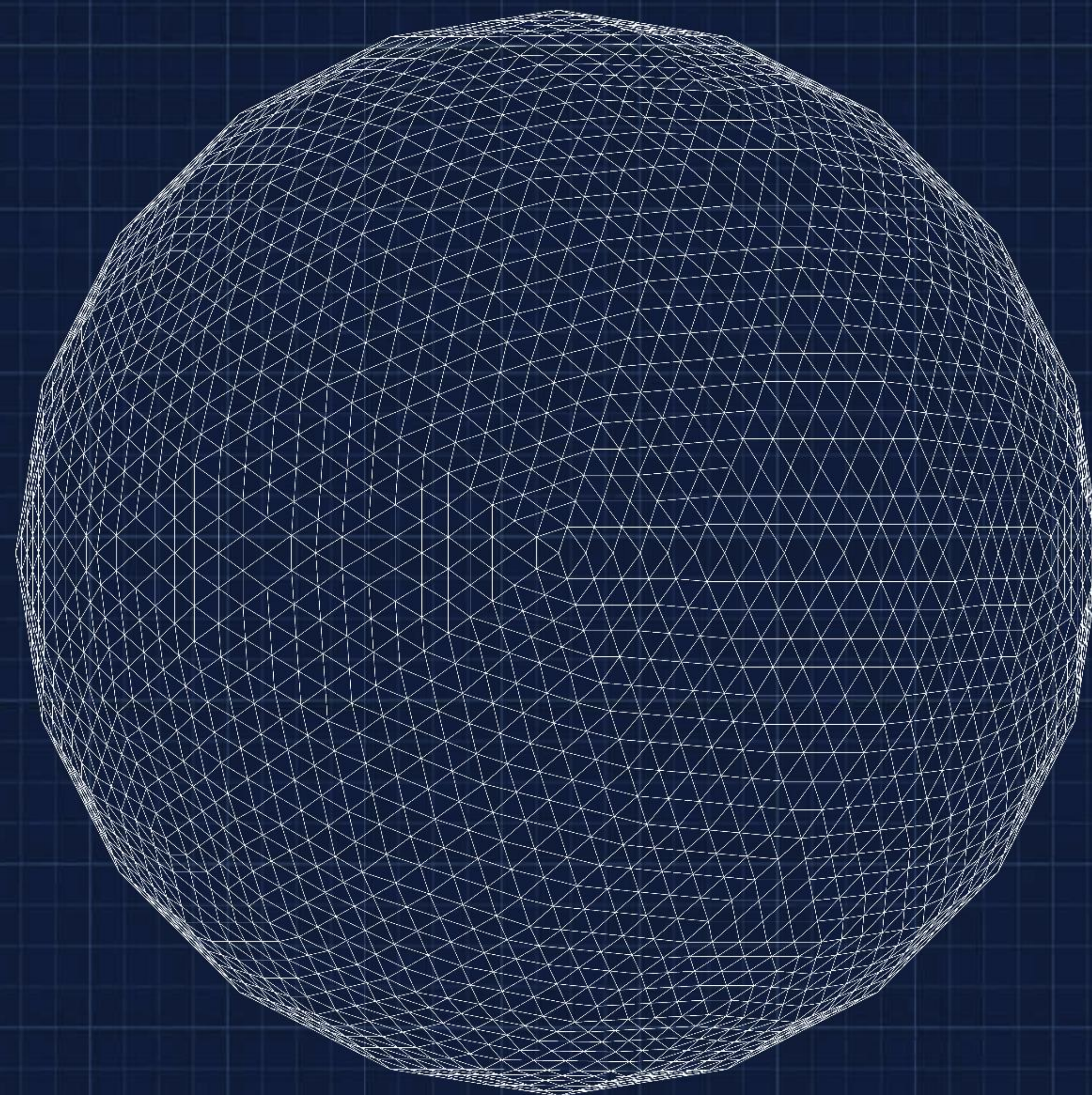
SECTION BB'



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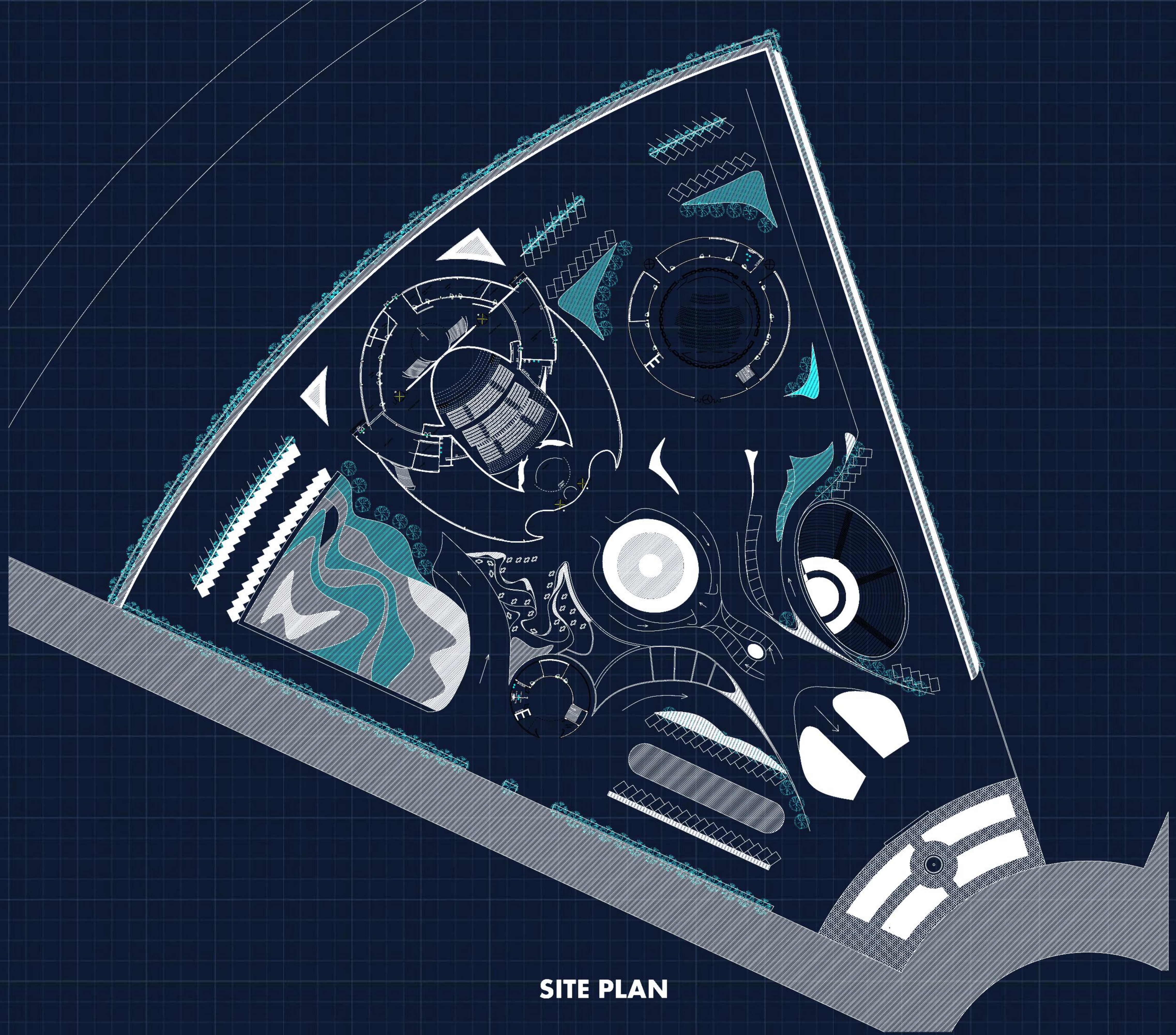


## SECOND FLOOR PLAN



## ROOF PLAN





**SITE PLAN**

TITLE:

**ART AND CULTURAL CENTER, AT JAIPUR RAJASTHAN**

DESCRIPTION:

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TITLE:

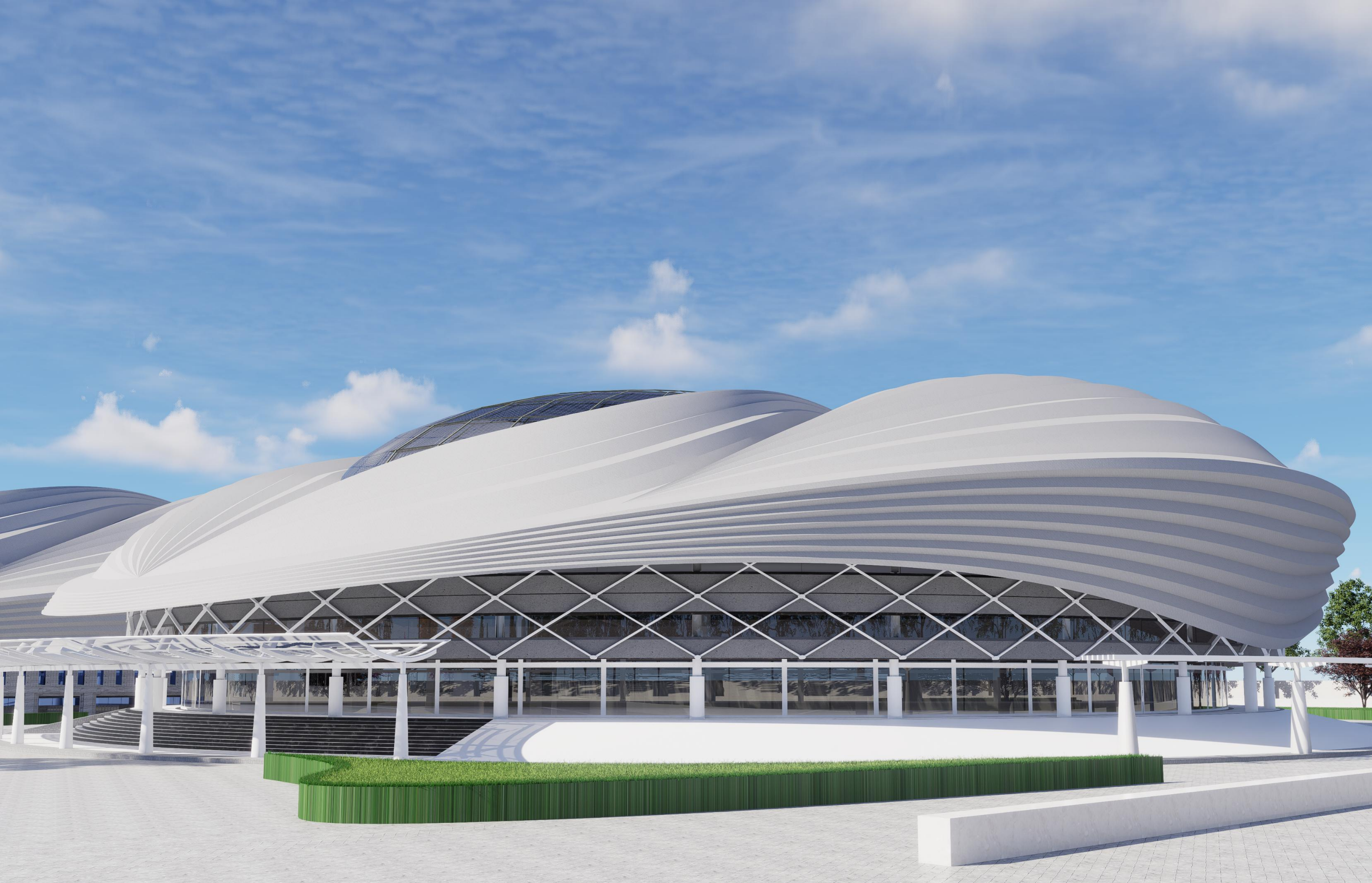
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TITLE:

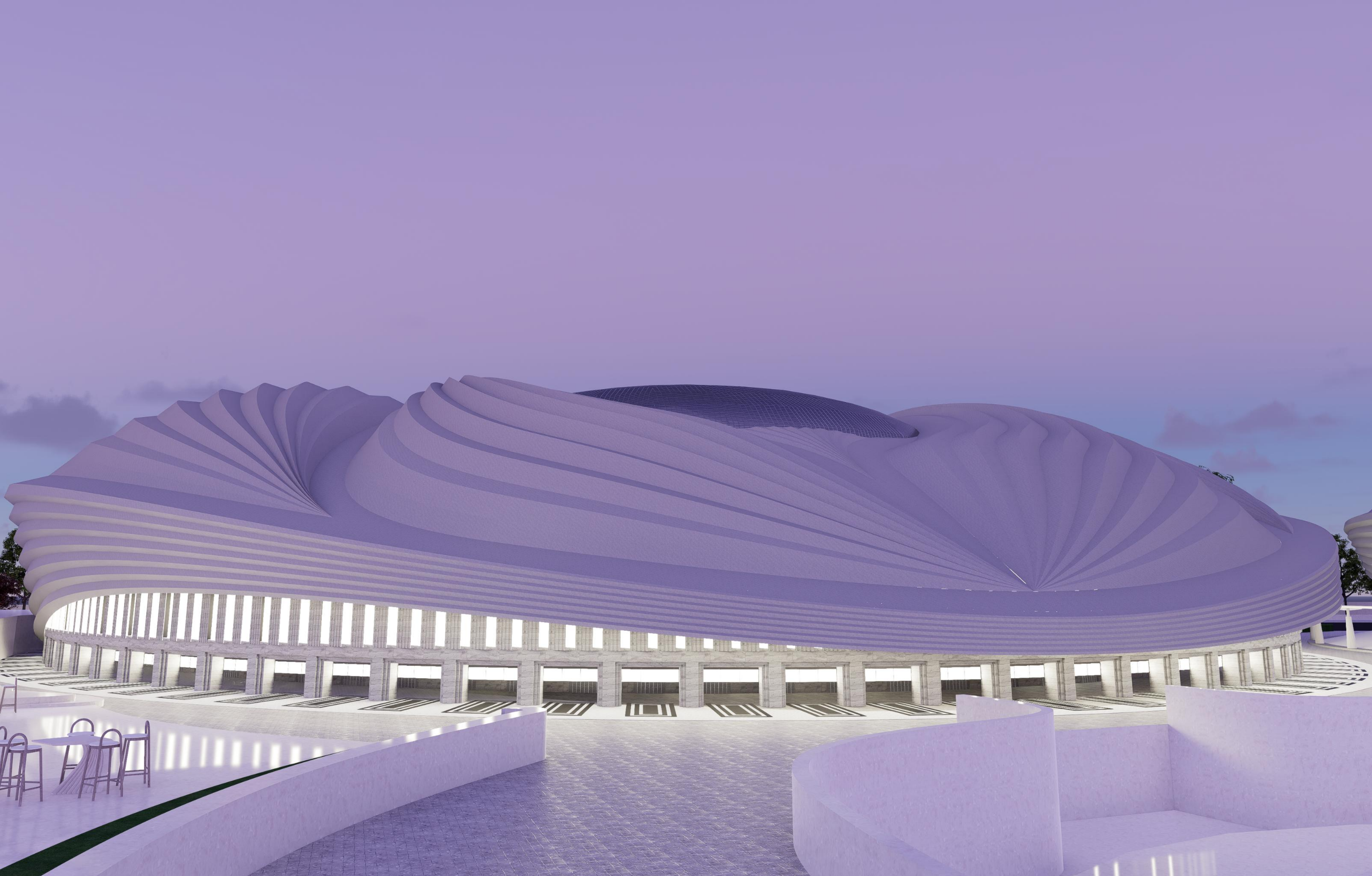
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TITLE:

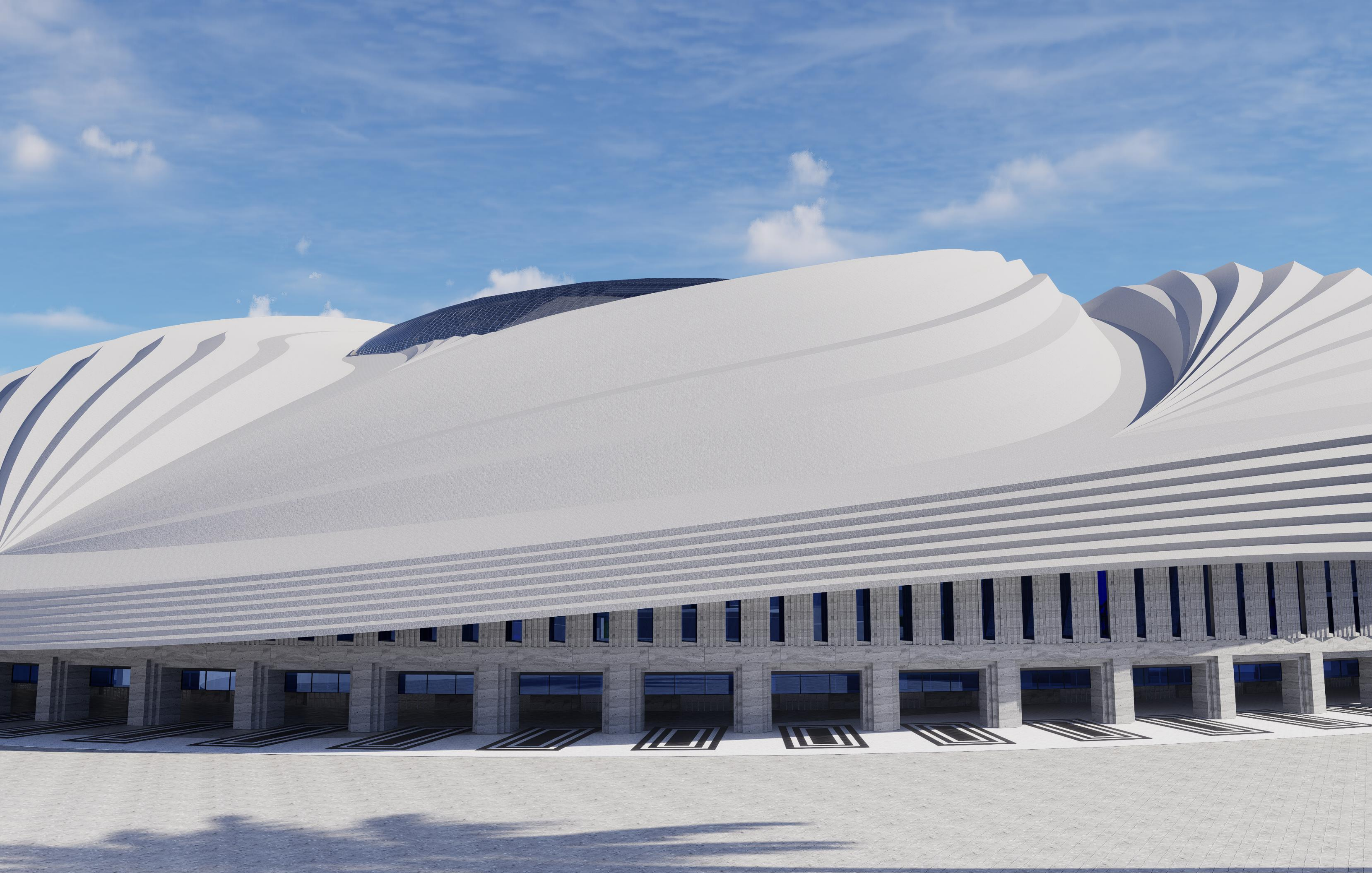
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TITLE:

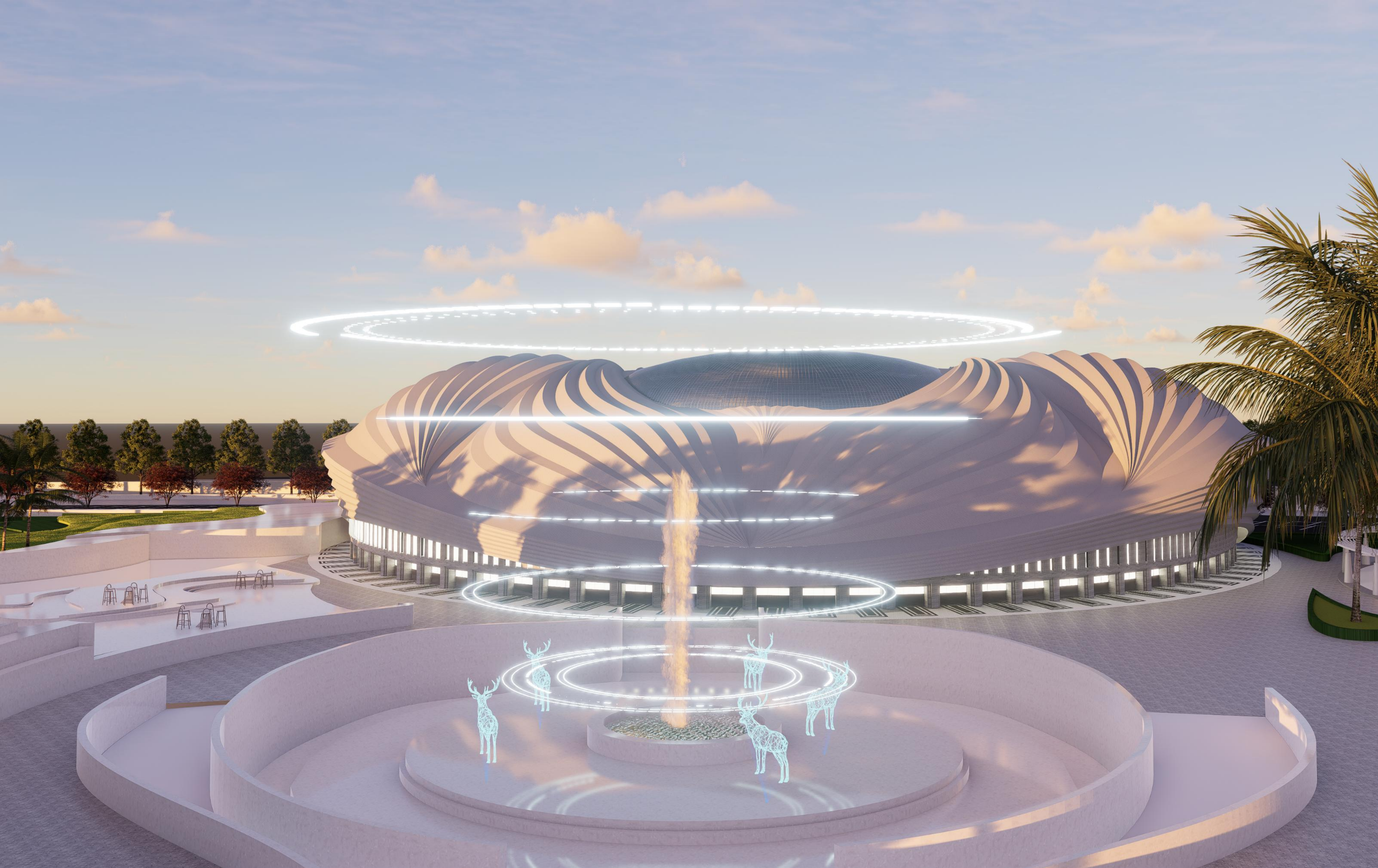
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TITLE:

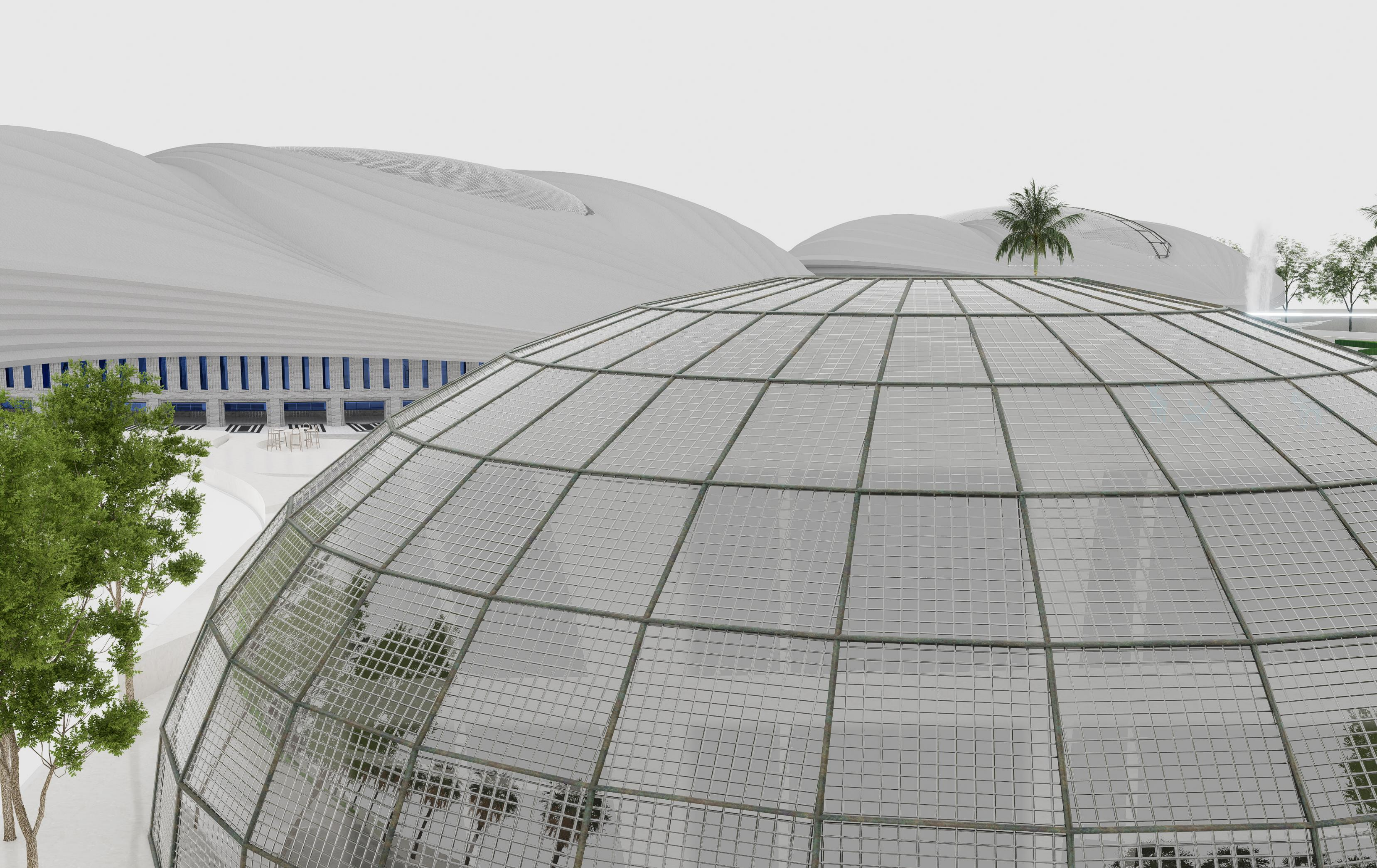
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TITLE:

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