





A L I C E

# alpine motel

EPFL / ENAC / IA / ALICE

atelier de la conception de l'espace

spring semester 2009

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katia ritz



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# alpine motel

The second semester of the academic year 2008/2009 was a continuation of our investigations on altitude.

We developed a project in a mountainous, alpine condition in several resolutions at different scales. First, a series of mountain passes were looked at and transformed into panoramic site models. Subsequently the program of Entrée Alpine has been introduced as a first step towards a project proposal: the design of an Alpine Motel.

After the Entrée Alpine phase 16 proposals have been evaluated in a jury with external experts in a public review. Several proposals served as the basis for a 'one to one' structure to be erected in Zermatt at an altitude of 2536m as a part of the Zermatt-Festival. At the same time the Entrée Alpine venture informed the projects of the Alpine Motel : A close relationship between the Entrée project and design projects for the motels were maintained throughout the semester.

One of the key ideas underlying the ALICE design approach is the constant discourse between the conceptual framework of an architectural idea and its translation into an actual project. This means on the one hand the conception of the architectural project, and on the other, the development of a coherent program according to this architectural idea (this of course also vice versa). For example: How can the specific panoramic condition at a given mountain pass transform or interpret the known typology of a motel into a unique spatial experience while at the same time offering the function of an alpine motel?

# mountain passes



1 Croix pass	1776 m	Diablerets to Bex	passable 05-11
2 Forclaz pass	1527 m	le Châtelard to Martigny	-
3 Grand-St-Bernard pass	2469 m	Martigny to Aosta	passable 05-10
4 Simplon pass	2005 m	Brig to Domodossola	passable 01-12
5 Grimsel pass	2165 m	Innertkirche to Oberwald	passable 05-10
6 Furka pass	2429 m	Andermatt to Oberwald	passable 05-10
7 Nufenen pass	2478 m	Ulrichen to Airolo	passable 06-10
8 San Gottardo pass	2106 m	Airolo to Wassen	passable 05,11

# sweep

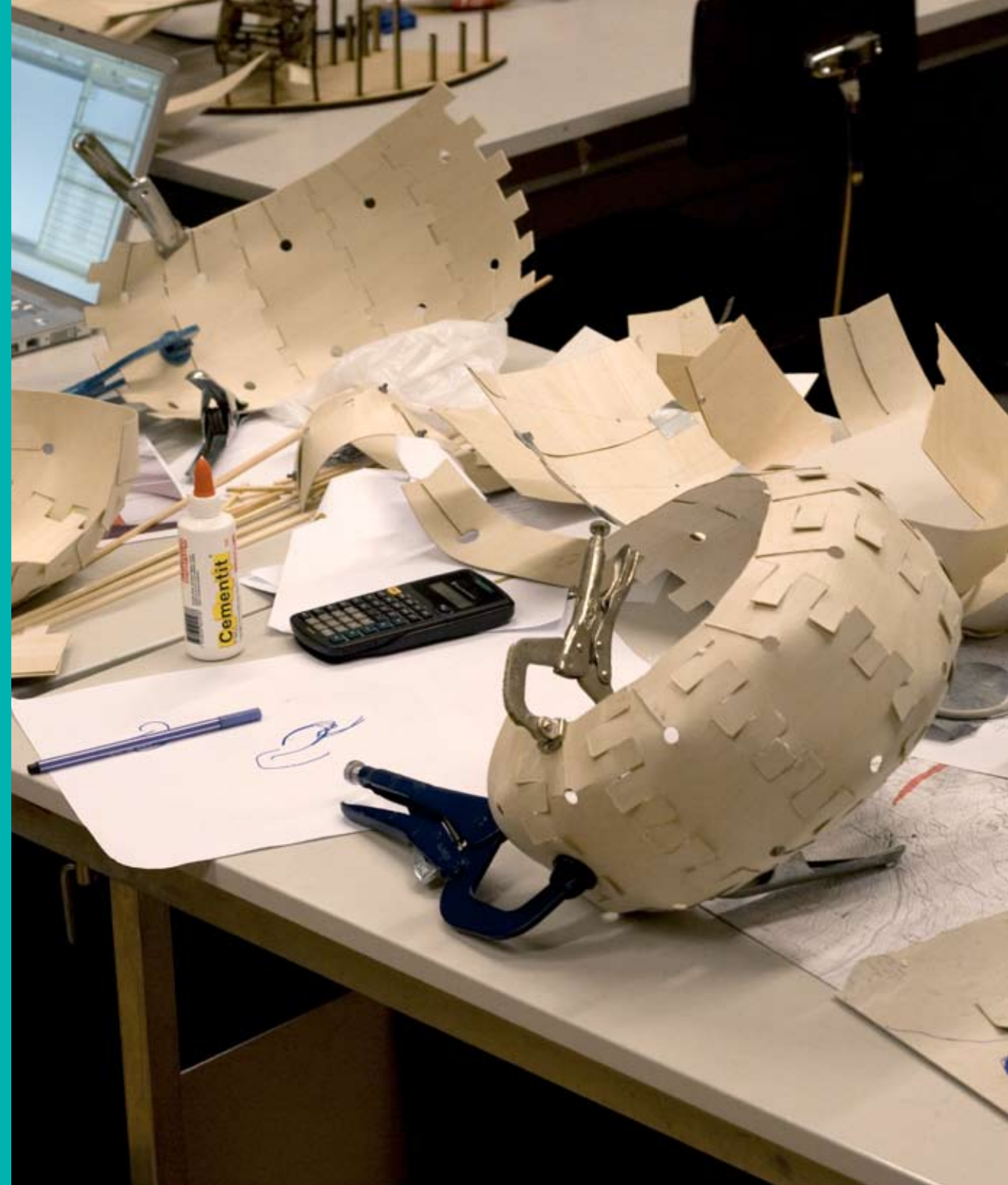
## PANORAMIC SITE CONSTRUCTION

In the first week, the studio prepared in groups of 2 students a panoramic site, i.e. a model which brings to evidence the specific location and condition found at a given mountain pass.

The model described the panoramic condition encountered, as well as addressed an idea of ground and/or topography. As the given mountain passes are not accessible in winter time, Google Earth in 3d mode was used to construct:

- A) a digital model addressing the panoramic condition
- B) a physical model translating panorama and an idea of ground and/or topography into physical form

The material for the physical model was 1mm aviation plywood.

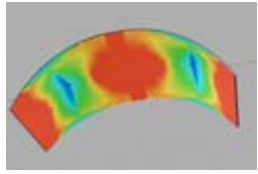






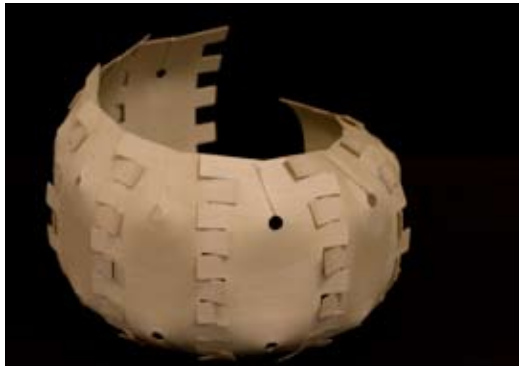
Panoramic Site:  
Furka Pass

Garbiela Schär,  
Korab Ramadani



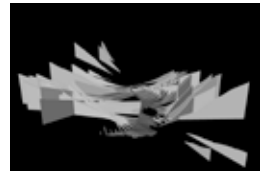
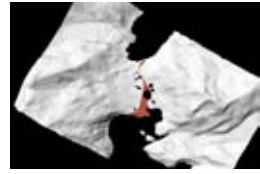
Panoramic Site  
Grand-St.Bernard Pass

Nicolas Feihl,  
François Nantermod



Panoramic Site  
San Gottardo Pass

Ahmed Belkhdja,  
Adrian Llewelyn Meredith



Panoramic Site  
Croix Pass

Julien Prudhomme,  
Carole Westhoff



Towards an *Entrée Alpine*

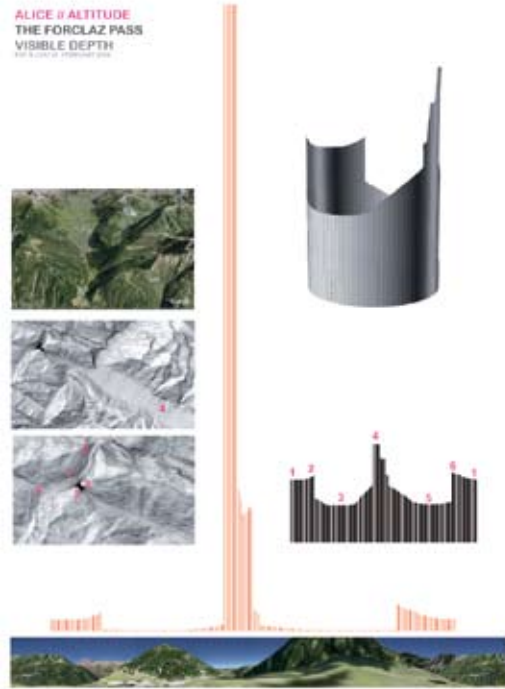
Fordlaz Pass

Eveline Job  
Lukas Manz

## ENTREE ALPINE

In weeks 2 to 5 we developed a project for an *Entrée Alpine*. It was located at a chosen site along the road of each mountain pass. In parallel the work on the panoramic site model continued. The two models formed complementary parts of the project and informed one another.

*Entrée Alpine* was invented as a place of introduction or initiation to a view of the natural environment. *Entrée* was considered a space of transition. For example: a) the transition of a state of driving towards a state of temporal residing, b) a transition from a moving position of the observer in the car to the movement of the body, c) the transition from the time of the journey towards the confrontation with geological time, or d) the transition from the containment of the concavity of the valley towards the convexity of the alpine panorama and the double curvature of the geoid, etc...



Entrée Alpine  
Croix Pass  
Martin Lepoutre  
Hadrien Tricaud

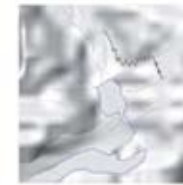


Plan 3 : 50 000  
Connection of water  
Entrance/Exit  
Convergence  
Roads  
Intersection road/river  
Sources  
Connection

Site Plan 1: 50 000

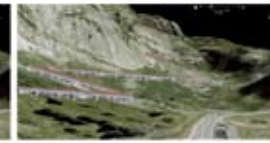
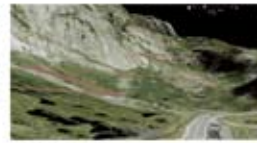
Lakes and rivers  
borders of vegetation  
low swamp

road  
marshy area



Plan 2 : 25 000  
Establishment of the "bisse"

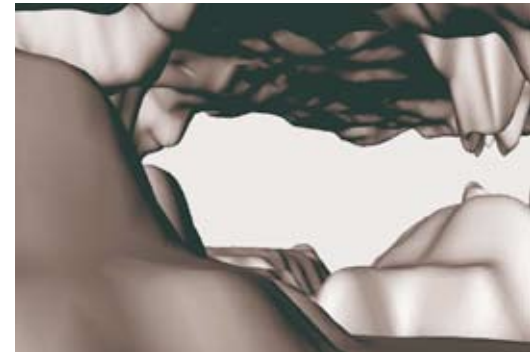
Cut through the "bisse" 1 : 20 000

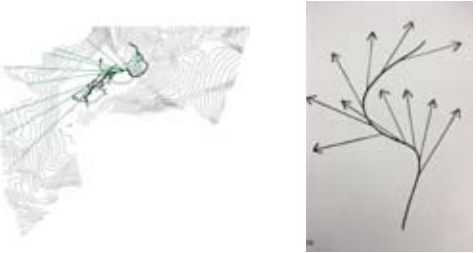


Site during summer

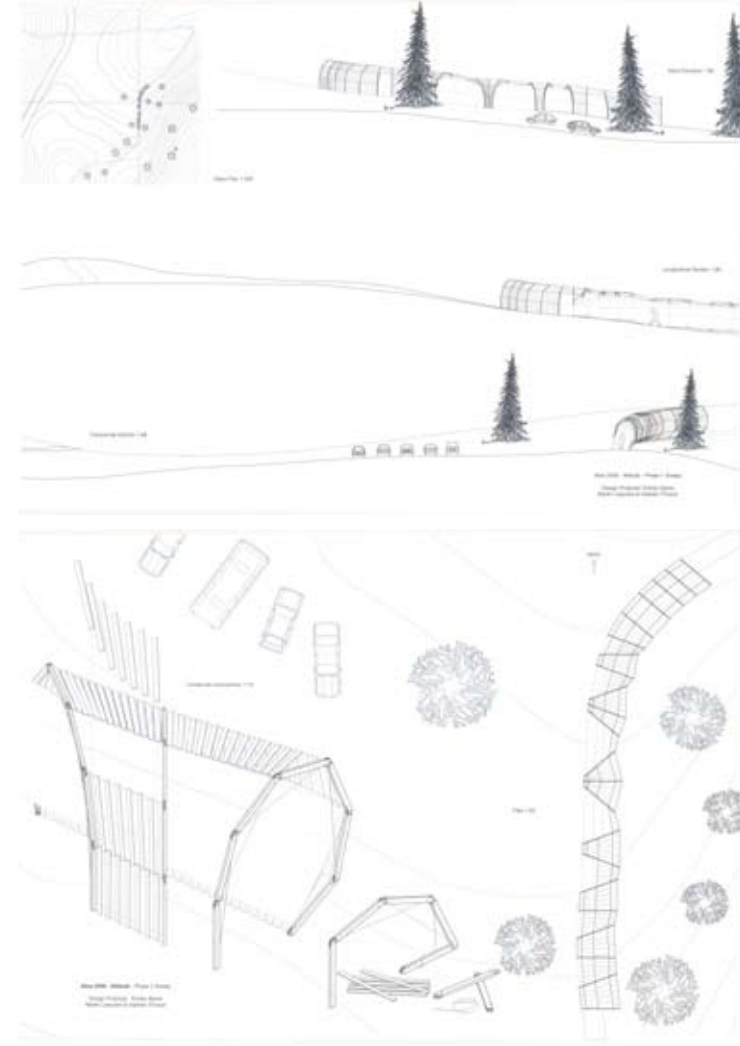
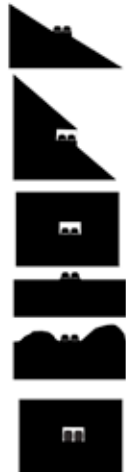
Site during winter

Julien PRUDHOMME - Carole WESTHOFF





Entrée Alpine  
Simplon Pass  
Alexandria Ming Aerni,  
Augustin Clement



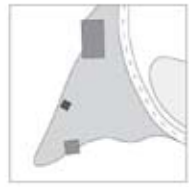
Entrée Alpine  
Croix Pass  
Martin Lepoutre,  
Hadrien Tricaud



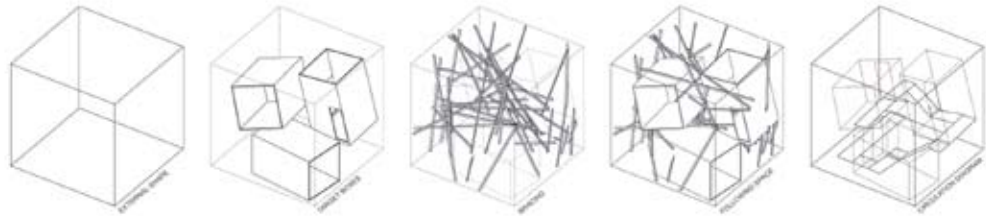
ALICE  
atelier de la conception de l'espace  
serep / week 04 / entrée alpine  
samuel maire / olivier di giambattista



SITE PLAN 1 : 10 000



SITUATION PLAN 1 : 1 000



AXONOMETRIC DRAWINGS 1 : 00



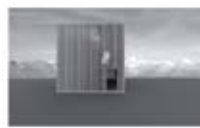
BOX 1 VIEW



BOX 2 VIEW

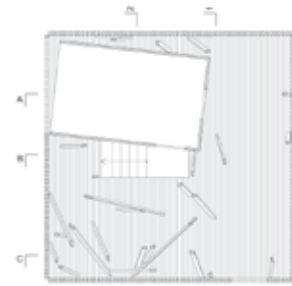


BOX 3 VIEW

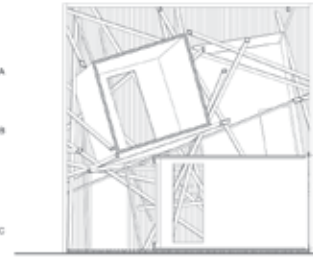


EXTERIOR SPACE

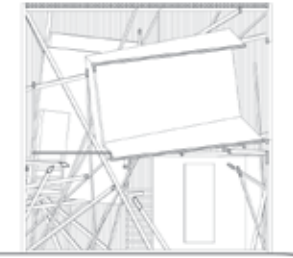
ALICE  
atelier de la conception de l'espace  
serep / week 04 / entrée alpine  
samuel maire / olivier di giambattista



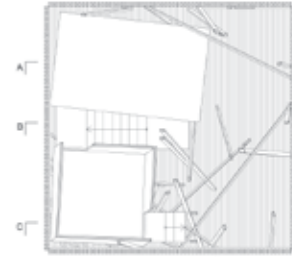
PLAN FIRST FLOOR SCALE 1 : 30



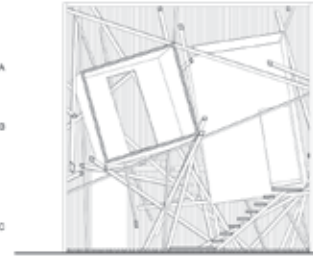
SECTION A - A



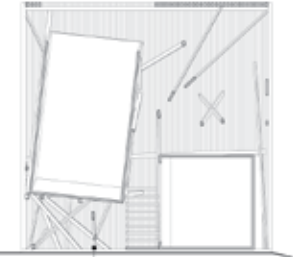
SECTION 1 - 1



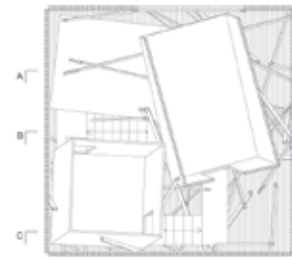
PLAN SECOND FLOOR



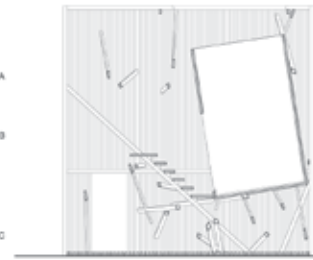
SECTION B - B



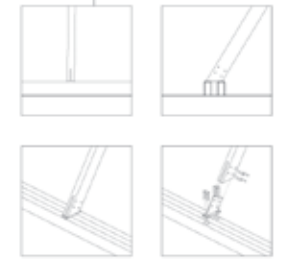
SECTION 2 - 2



PLAN THIRD FLOOR



SECTION C - C



CONSTRUCTION DETAILS SCALE 1 : 10

ENTREE ALPINE

Nufenen Pass

Olivier Di Giambattista,  
Samuel Maire

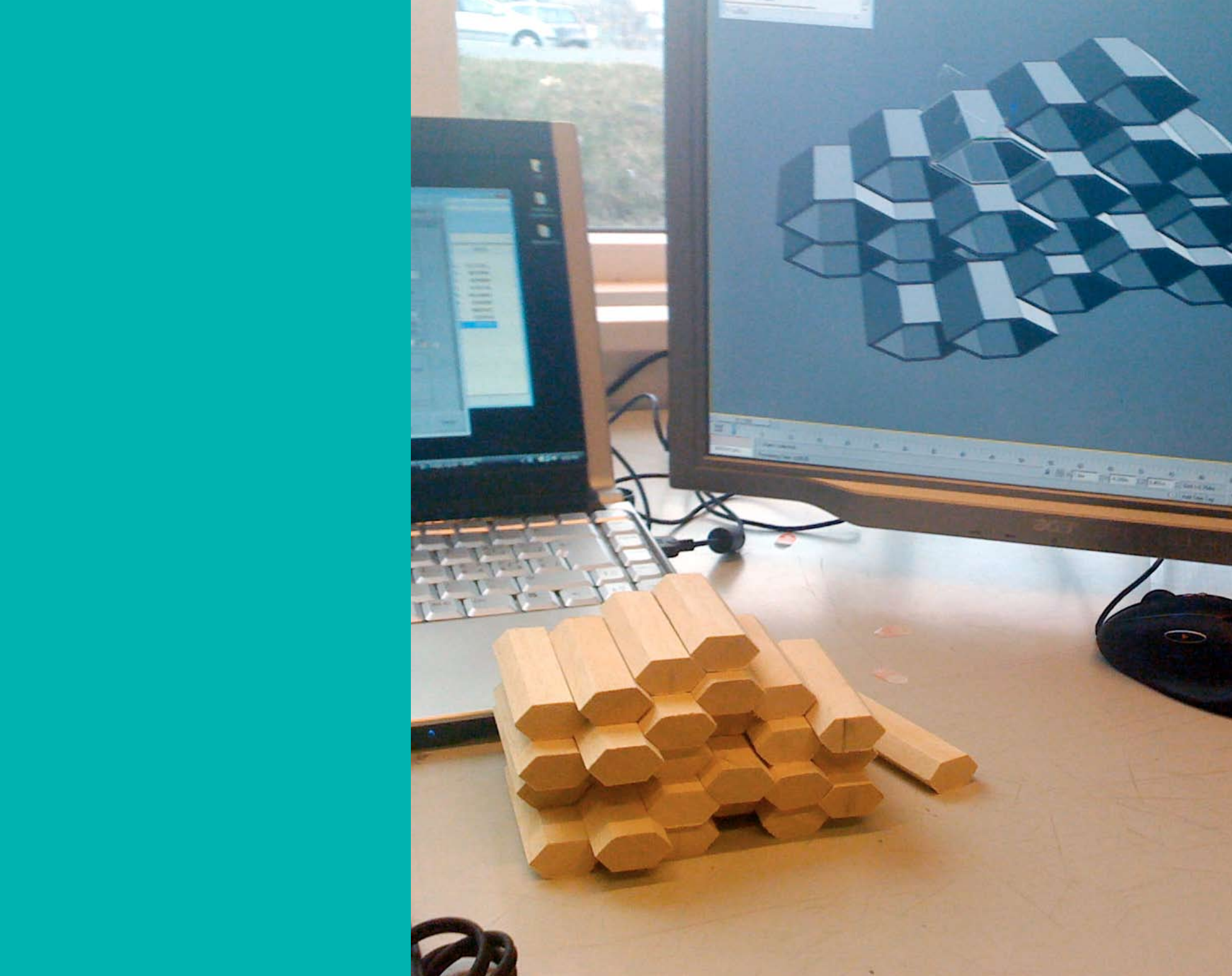


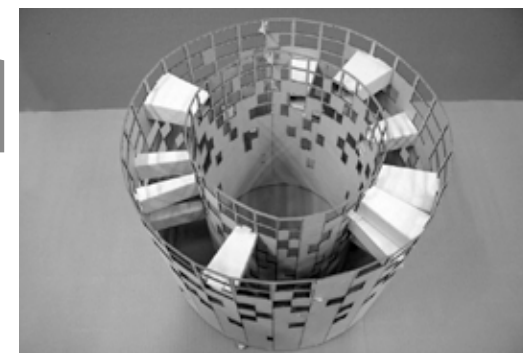
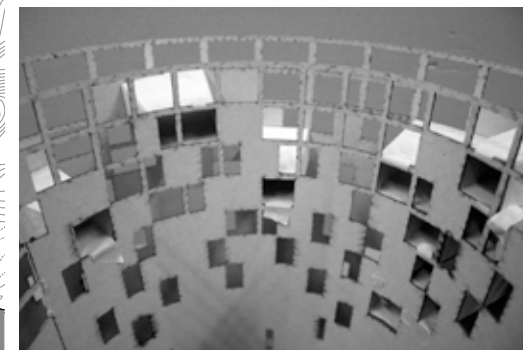
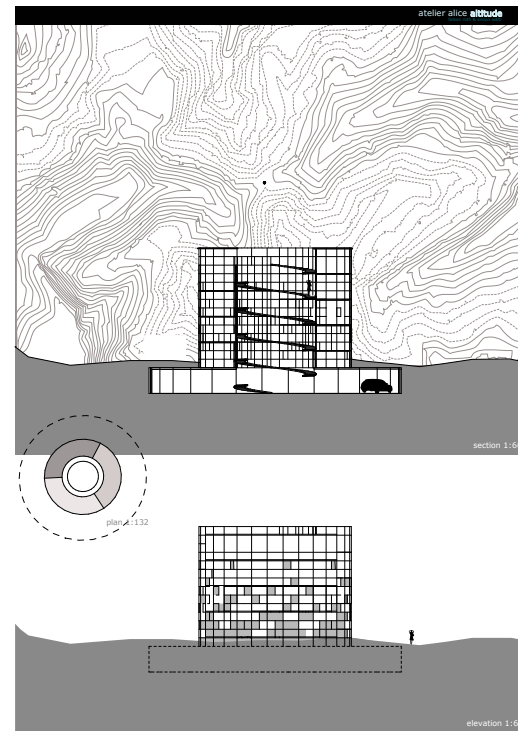
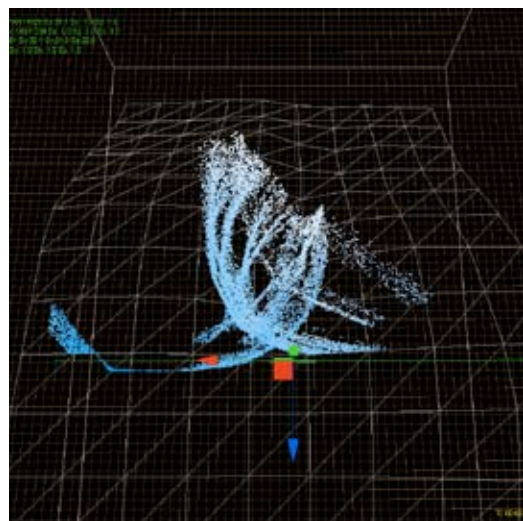
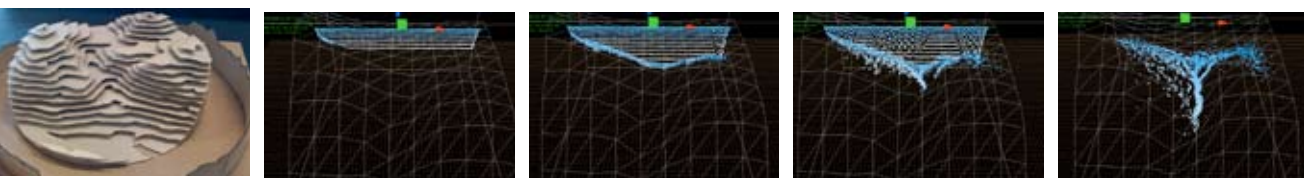
pan

## FROM DESIGN DEVELOPMENT TO FABRICATION

The projects were further developed in several resolutions. While one proposal for an Entrée Alpine was brought to fabrication at a 'one to one' scale, the other projects took the proposals as an initiation into the project for an Alpine Motel. In common critiques both projects were the subject of continuous discourse.

The panoramic condition further informed the projects for an Alpine Motel: How can this panoramic quality of a sweeping, unbroken view be confronted with an interiority of space and how will fragmentation address a framing de/fragmentation of the formerly unbroken condition of the presence of an all-encompassing landscape? How will the concepts found in Entrée Alpine further be developed to become both structure and programmed space?





Alpine Motel  
San Gottardo Pass Pass  
Stage 1  
Denny Te Kloese,  
Youcef Mezzour

Alpine Motel  
Furka Pass  
Stage 1  
Fabian Roth,  
Simon Wälti



# fabricate

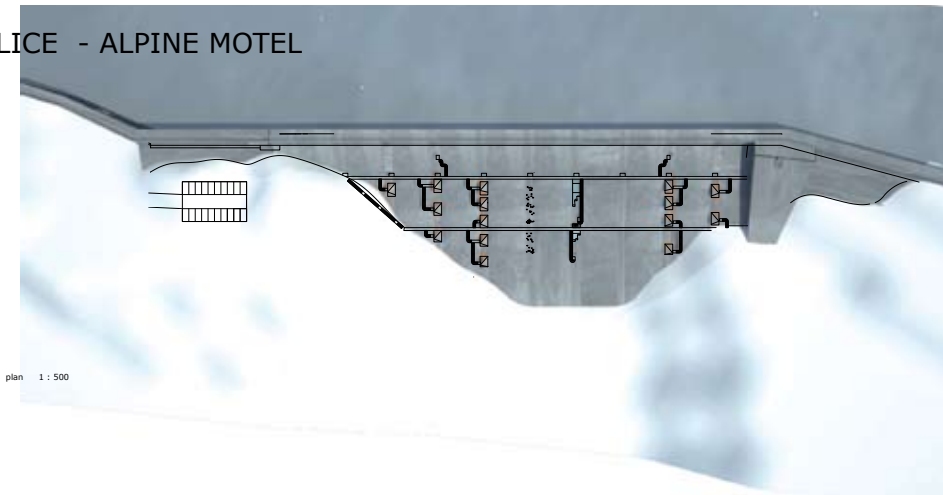
## FROM DESIGN DEVELOPMENT TO FABRICATION

The final phase was devoted to physical production: A 1:1 mock-up of the Entrée Alpine was constructed and a series of physical models for the Alpine Motels were fabricated.

The projects for the Alpine Motels entered a phase of intense model building at the scale of 1 / 33. For the final presentation the focus was lying on these models. Model building crafts, conceptual stringency, spatiality, as well as site specific translation of the particular project into a physical artifact formed the main criteria for the evaluation of the projects.



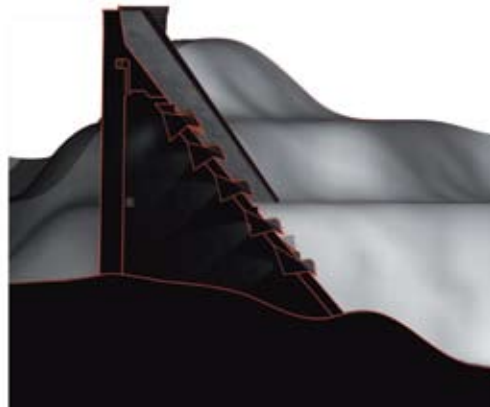
ALICE - ALPINE MOTEL



plan 1 : 500

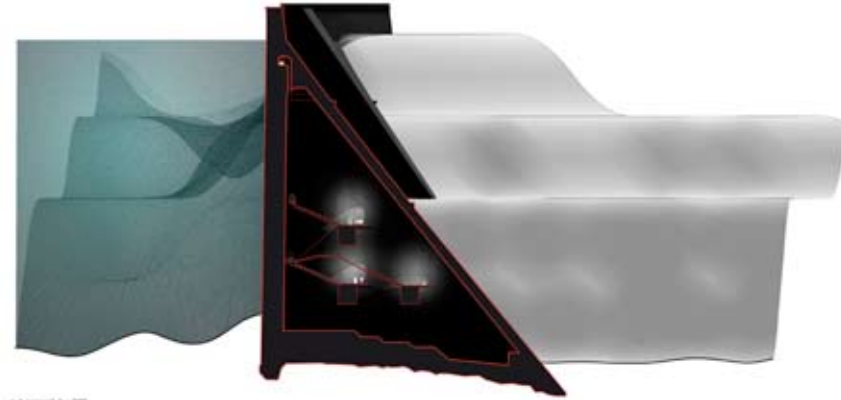


elevation 1 : 300

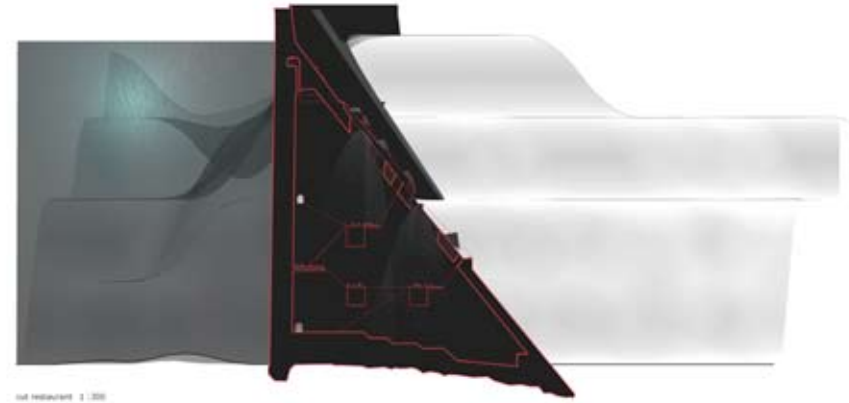


cut rooms 1 : 300

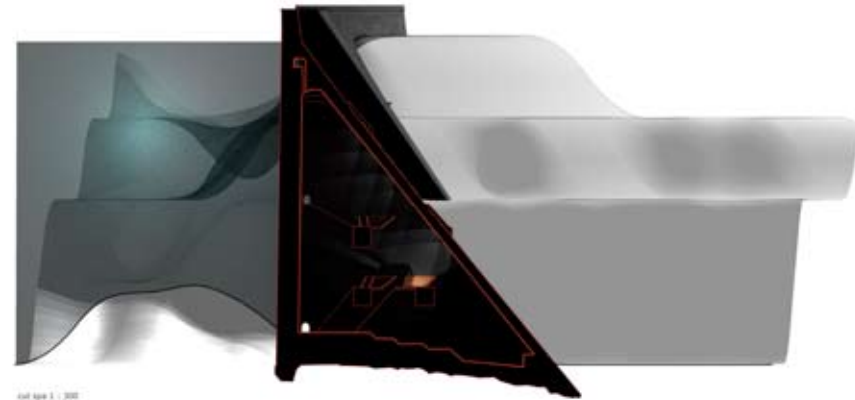
ALICE - ALPINE MOTEL



cut restaurant 1 : 300



cut restaurant 1 : 300



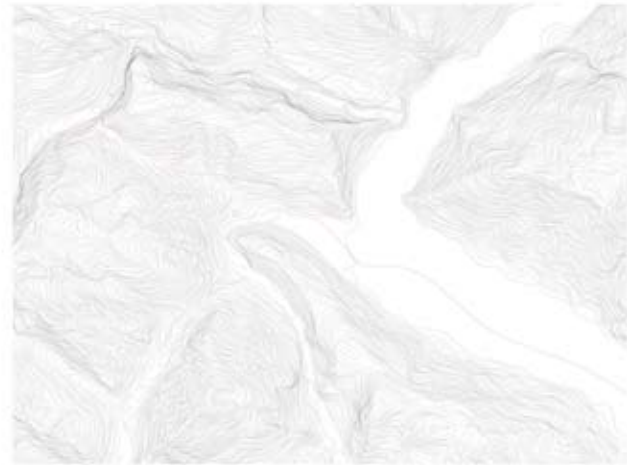
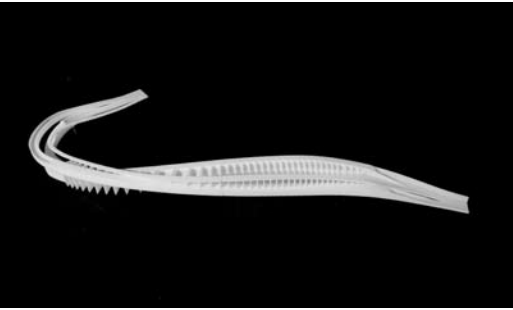
cut room 1 : 300

Alpine Motel  
Grimsel Dam  
Grimsel Pass

Julien Prudhomme,  
Carole Westhoff



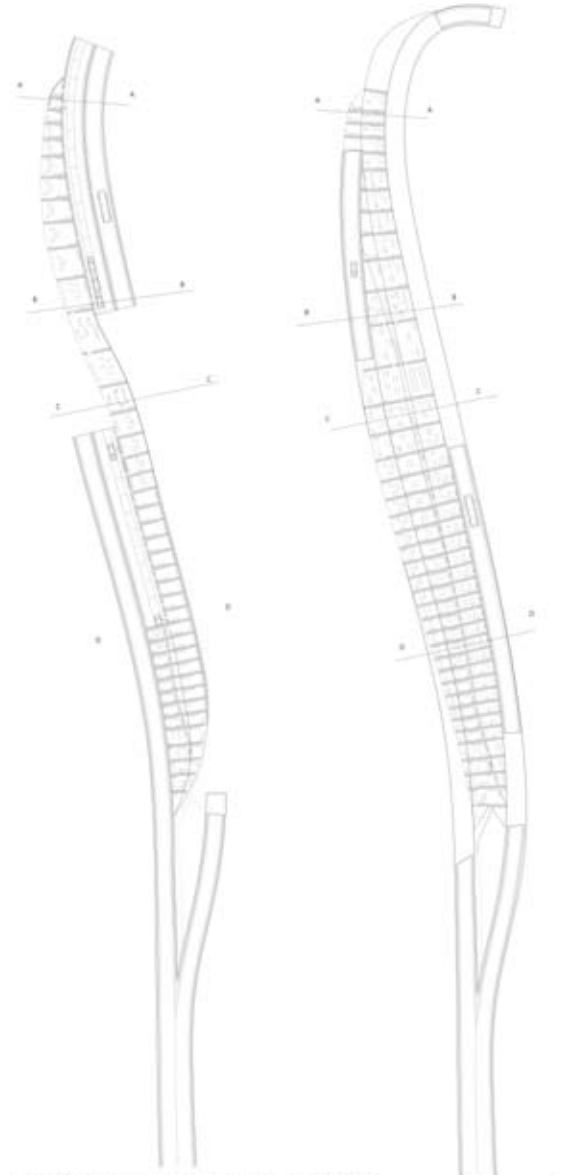
Alpine Motel  
Simplon Pass  
Alexandria Ming Aerni  
Lukas Manz



SITUATION PLAN 1:200 // 1:10000 // RENDERINGS

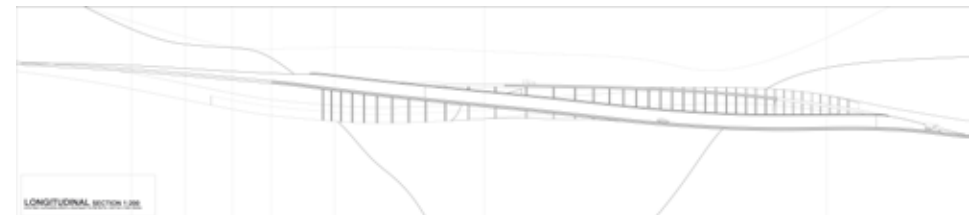


SECTIONS 1:200



LEVEL ONE PLAN 1:200 // HIGHWAY / PARKING / FIRST FLOOR

LEVEL TWO PLAN 1:200 // ROOMS / STAIRS / BREAKING FLOOR

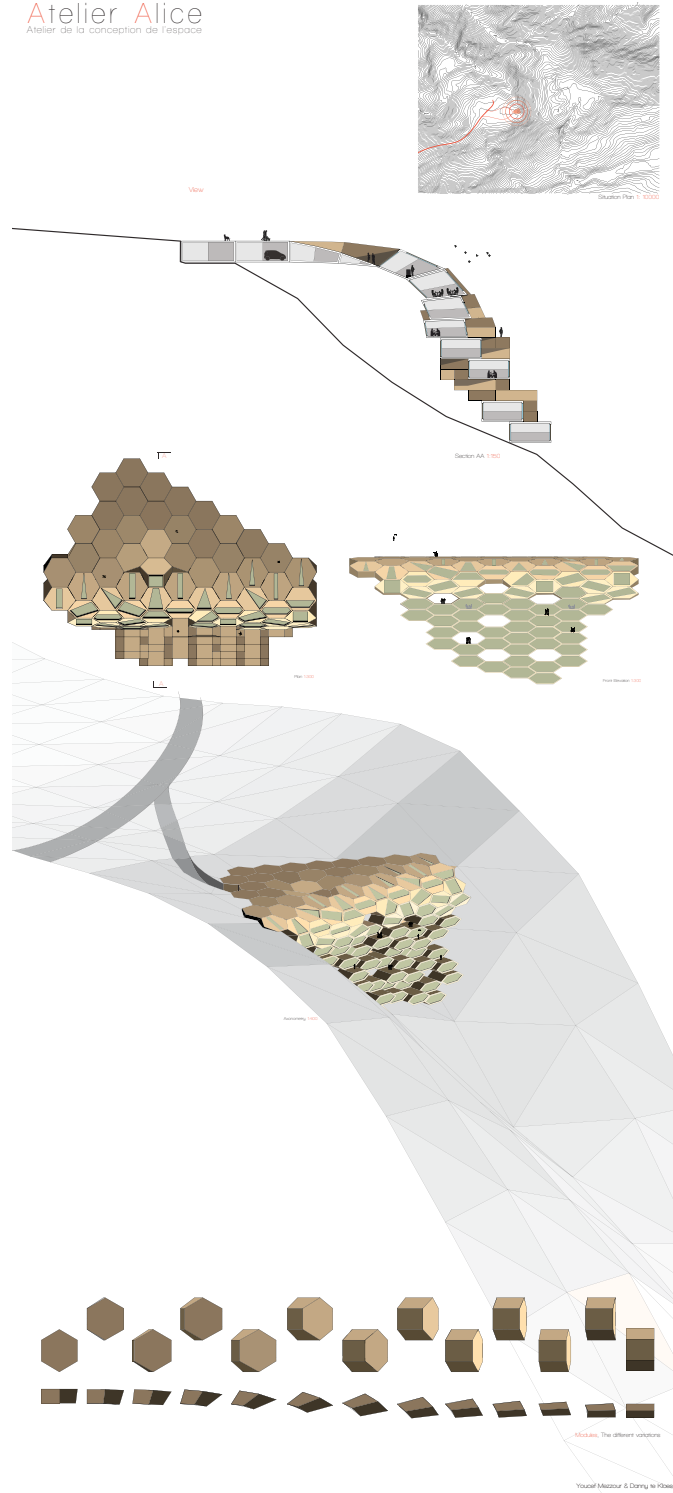


LONGITUDINAL SECTION LINE



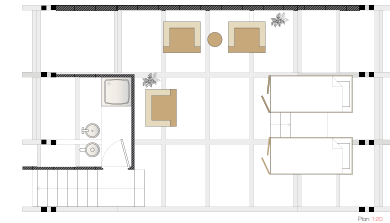
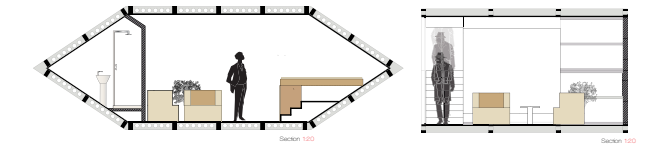
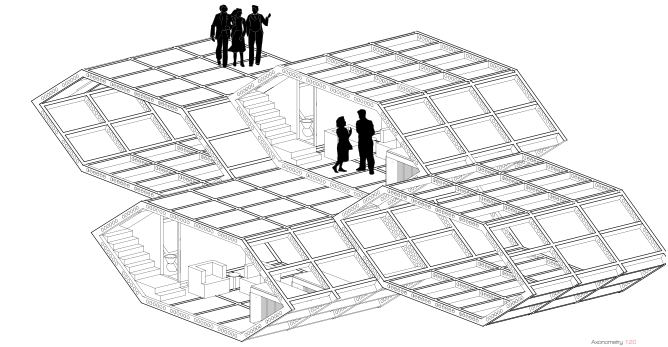
# Atelier Alice

Atelier de la conception de l'espace



# Atelier Alice

Atelier de la conception de l'espace



Alpine Motel  
San Gottardo Pass  
Danny Te Kloese,  
Yousef Mezzour

# team

## **alice students 2008 / 2009**

Alexandria Ming Aerni, Ahmed Belkhodja, Augustin Clement, Samuel Devanthéry, Lionel Epiney, Nicolas Feihl, Olivier Di Giambattista, David Jenny, Eveline Job, Elias Kesselring, Jonas Läubli, Martin Lepoutre, Samuel Maire, Lukas Manz, Benjamin Melly, Adrian Llewelyn Meredith, Youcef Mezzour, François Nantermod, Julien Prudhomme, Korab Ramadani, Fabian Roth, Gabriela Schär, Danny Te Kloese, Barbara Thüler, Hadrien Tricaud, Tom Doan Tuan, Vy Pham Thi Hoang, Simon Wälti, Anina Weber, Carole Westhoff

## **alice team**

Dieter Dietz, Aline Dubach, Eveline Galatis, Olivier Ottevaere, Daniel Pokora, Isabella Pasqualini, Katia Ritz

# acknowledgments

## **many thanks to:**

Jürg Altherr, Geneviève Bonnard, Hany Buri, Renate Buser, Francesco Della Casa, Stylianos Dritsas, Jean Pierre Dürrig, Urs Egg, Pierre Gurtner, Hiéronyme Lacroix, Guillaume Labelle, Julien Nembrini, Camilo Rebelo, Marc Schmidt, Peter Staub, David Vessaz, Yves Weinand, Christine Zufferey

**for inspiring critics and discussions.**

## **special thanks to:**

Marc Parlange, Doyen ENAC EPFL; Nicolas Henchoz, Director EPFL+ECAL lab; Ines Lumunière, Director SAR, EPFL; Bruno Marchand, Director IA, EPFL; Eveline Galatis, ALICE lab EPFL;

**for their wide spread support.**



<http://alice.epfl.ch/>





