

A L I C E

evolver

EPFL / ENAC / IA / ALICE
atelier de la conception de l'espace
spring semester 2009
dieter dietz, aline dubach, eveline galatis, olivier ottevaere, daniel pokora, isabella pasqualini,
katia ritz



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evolver

Evolver is an inhabitable sculpture erected for the Zermatt Festival, the renowned annual event for Chamber Music featuring the Berlin Philharmonics and many others. As an architectural artifact Evolver intervenes spatially on the panorama surrounding Zermatt and was designed and executed by a team of 2nd year architecture students from the ALICE studio at EPFL in Lausanne, Switzerland. In an effort to take full advantage of the site's extensive and astounding views, the project sits strategically next to the lake Stelli at an altitude of 2536m. Its structure mainly consists of a succession of 24 rotating frames supporting an enclosed space that visitors are encouraged to enter. As he or she progresses through the space, a concealed but uninterrupted 720° movement is unraveling along a transformed panorama. This transformation occurs while inside a person is moving along a selective string of openings only to be caught peeling off a sequence of unexpected views from the original landscape. Wobbling below and above a distant horizon, ground and sky have been re-orchestrated into an orbiting panorama by a journey that has already culminated to where it started: A loophole on the skyline.

design process

ENTREE ALPINE

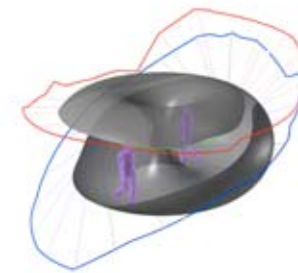
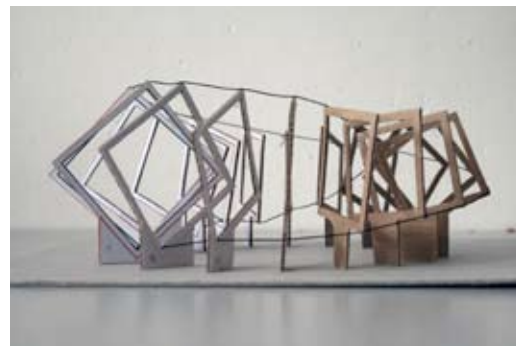
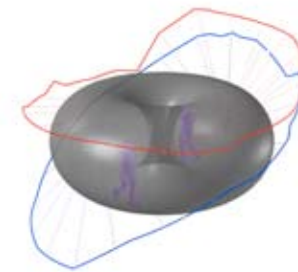
The second semester of the academic year 2008/2009 was a continuation of our investigations on altitude.

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.

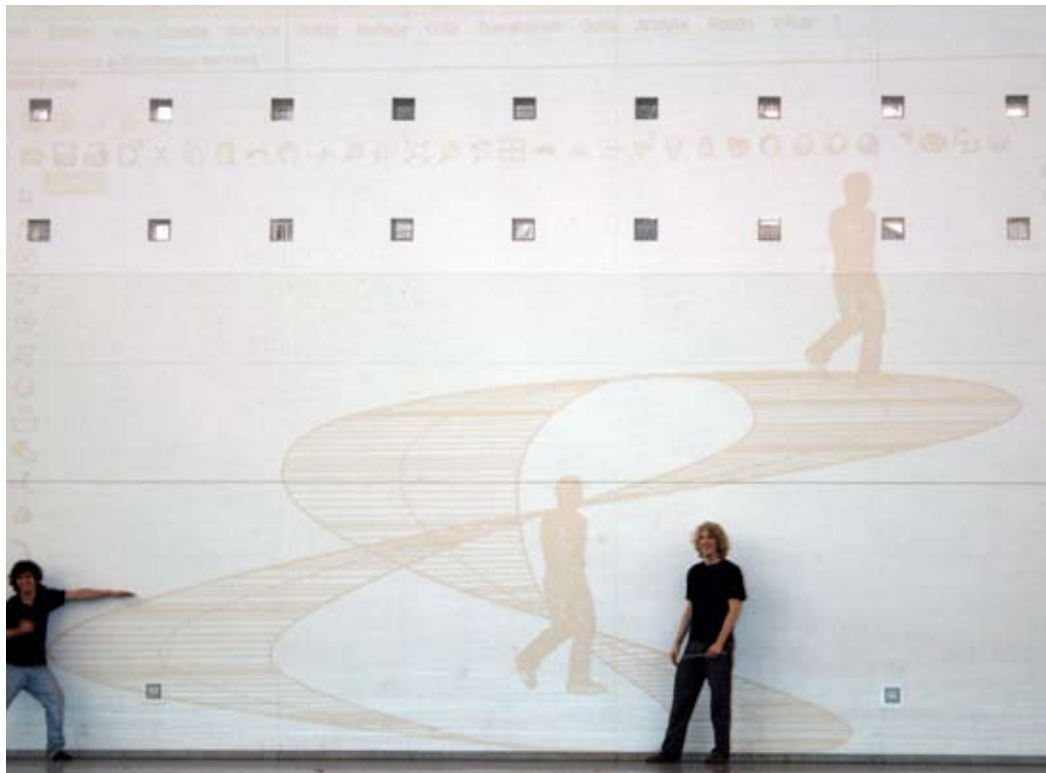
After the Entrée Alpine phase 16 proposals have been evaluated in a jury with external experts in a public review. Several proposals served as the basis for a 'one to one' structure to be erected in Zermatt at an altitude of 2536m as a part of the Zermatt-Festival.

This booklet shows the studies on geometry, scale, materiality and structural performance. The Entrée Alpine group of 10 students finally settled on a design based on the figure-8 Klein bottle equation. The project was erected in summer 2009.

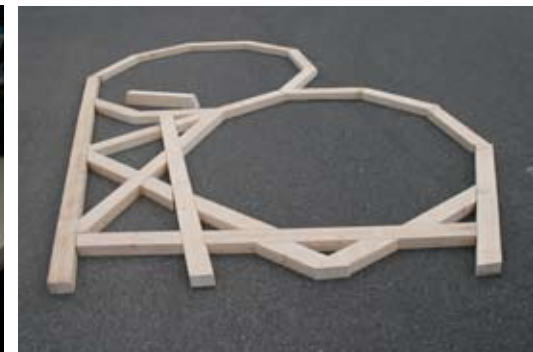


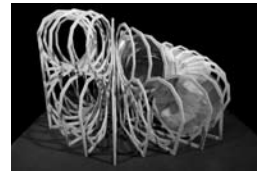
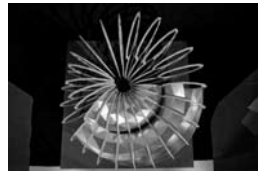


Studies on geometry and structural systems

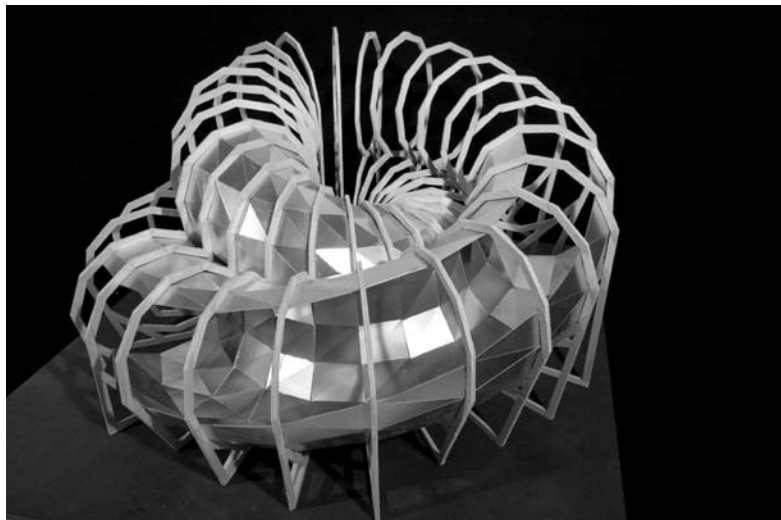


Studies on scale
Physical models
First mock-up





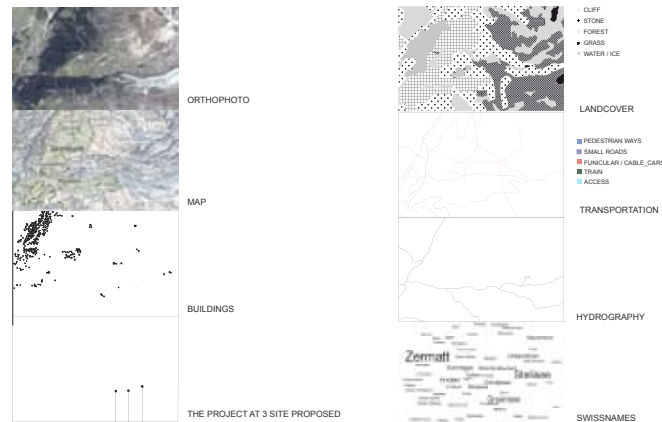
Mock-up at EPFL



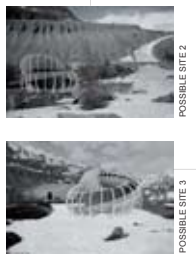
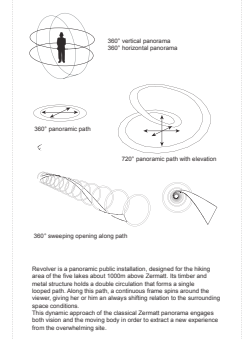
Conceptual model of opening
Physical model 1/10

ALICE

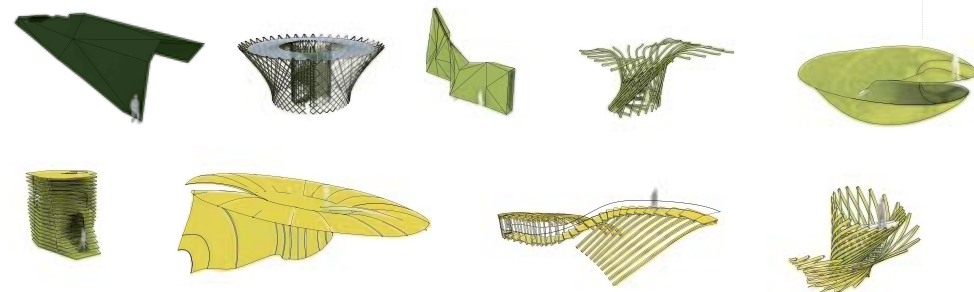
atelier de la conception de l'espace
 fabricate / week 15 / 1:1 entrée alpine : REVOLVER
 alice fabrication team :
 ahmed bekhouja, augustijn demart, oliver di giambattista, nicolas fahé, eveline job, martin lapoutte, samuel maine, benjamin mally, adrian-benedyjn meredith, francois narthemod



MANIFESTO



TRIAL & ERROR
 chronological proposals production



Presentation drawing documenting design process and site search

Across and following pages: final project in flat ground condition trusses and studies on skin materialisation

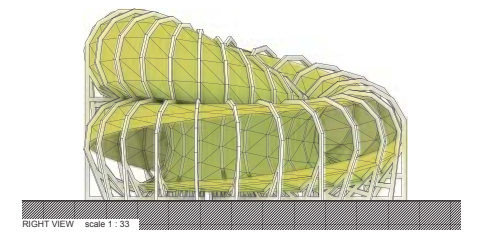
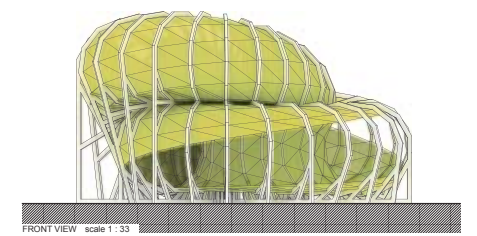
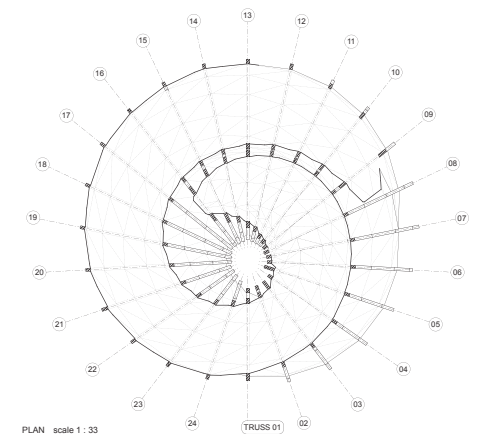
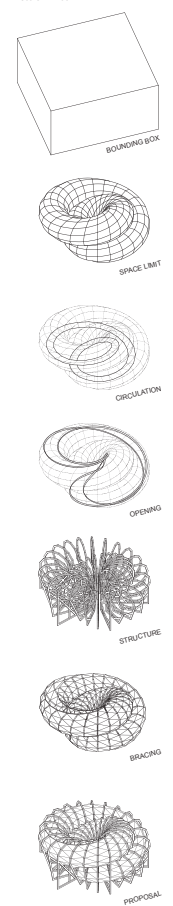
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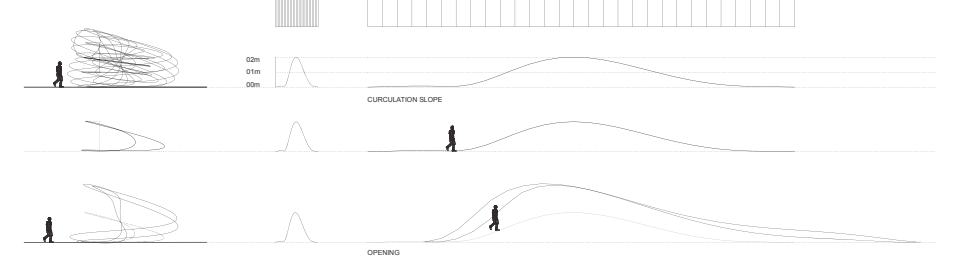
GEOMETRY CHRONOLOGY
 scale 1 : 100



SHAPING CONCEPTION
 scale 1 : 100



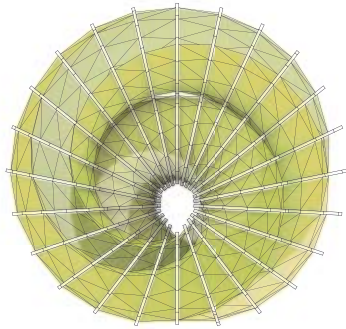
Z-SCALE ANALYSIS



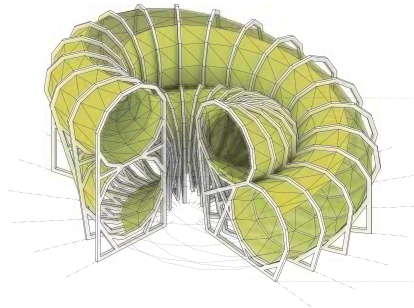
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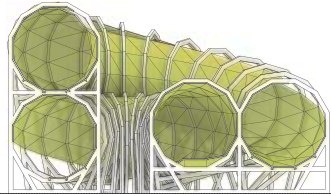
alice fabrication team :
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TOP VIEW scale 1 : 33



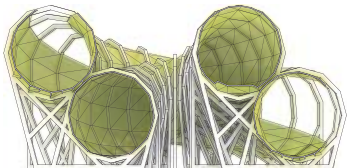
AXONOMETRIC VIEW scale 1 : 33



SECTION A - A scale 1 : 33



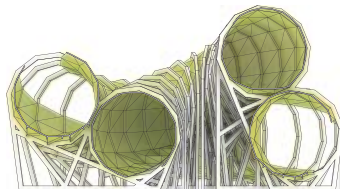
INTERIOR SPACE horizontal panorama



SECTION B - B scale 1 : 33



INTERIOR SPACE vertical panorama

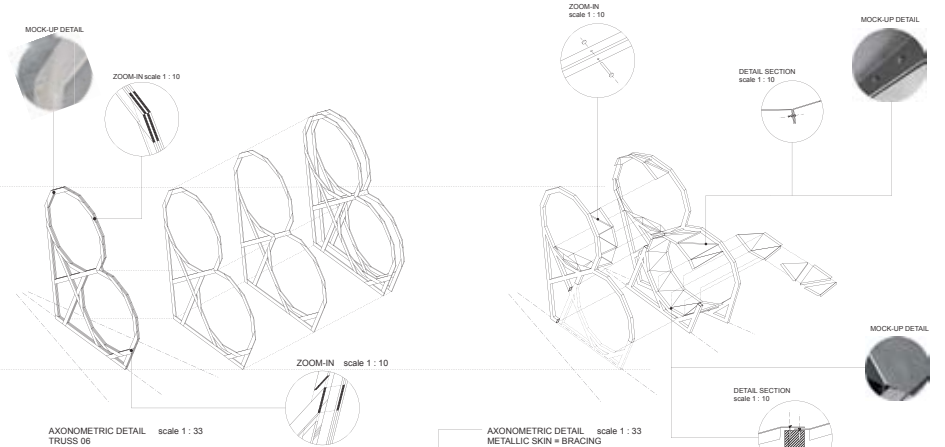


SECTION C - C scale 1 : 33

ALICE

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AXONOMETRIC DETAIL scale 1 : 33
TRUSS 06

AXONOMETRIC DETAIL scale 1 : 33
METALLIC SKIN + BRACING

MATERIALITY :
perforated metallic sheet



thin fabric filter



AXONOMETRIC DETAIL scale 1 : 33
TEXTIL SKIN + WOOD BRACING
back-up plan

VERTICAL RIBS STRUCTURE scale 1 : 100



assembly

FROM EPFL TO ZERMATT

Evolver was partially prefabricated in Lausanne at EPfl+ECAL lab and at EPFL. The trusses were then transported to Zermatt Stellisee to an altitude of 2536 meters above sea level. The Entrée Alpine group erected the structure in a joined effort in a three weeks period in August and September and was inaugurated at the Zermatt Festival 2009 .





Transport
 The first trusses erected
 Evolver evolving



Photos by Joël Tettamanti

evolver

zermatt stellisee

2009 / 2010



















team

acknowledgments

alice students 2008/ 2009

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alice team

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

teaching team Katia Ritz, Daniel Pokora, Olivier Ottevaere

design and fabrication group

Ahmed Belkhodja, Augustin Clement, Olivier Di Giambattista, Nicolas Feihl, Eveline Job, Martin Lepoutre, Samuel Maire, Benjamin Melly, Adrian Meredith, François Nantermod

photography Joël Tettamanti

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

