

MICHAELA JOHNSTON FORBES

portfolio

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PORTFOLIO



“ CREATIVITY IS A WILD MIND AND
A DISCIPLINED EYE ”

DOROTHY PARKER

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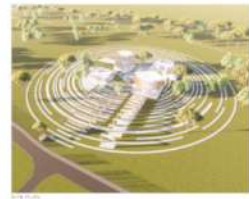
01 CAESARSTONE

CAESARSTONE STUDENT DESIGNER PROJECT 2023

Athlone Olympic Sports centre for the 2040 Olympic Games .

The Athlone Olympic Urban Sports Centre is a visionary project designed to uplift and empower the local community through sport, unity, and connection. The centerpiece of the design is a dynamic pathway shaped like a fingerprint, symbolizing individuality and identity while weaving together to represent the collective strength and connectivity of the community. Circular forms in the architecture echo themes of strength, togetherness, and inclusivity, creating a sense of unity that resonates throughout the space. This thoughtful design celebrates the Olympic spirit, bringing people together as one, fostering collaboration, and leaving a lasting legacy of positivity. The Athlone Olympic Urban Sports Centre stands as a beacon of hope, pride, and transformation, inspiring future generations while enhancing the lives of the community it serves.

National top 9 Finalist 



caesarstone



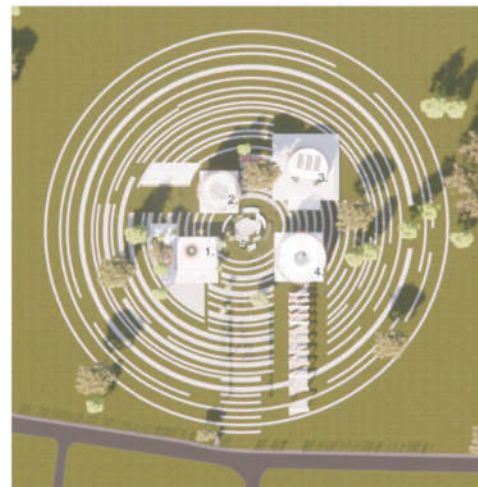
ATHLONE OLYMPIC URBAN SPORTS CENTRE



MAIN GATE ENTRANCE



SITE PLAN



PLAN NTS | 1. RESTAURANT 2. GYM & OFFICE. 3. COMMUNITY HALL
4. RECEPTION. 5. SKATE BOWL



SITE PLAN NTS

ATHLONE OLYMPIC URBAN SPORTS CENTRE KEY ELEMENTS:

AIM | ENHANCE AND UPLIFT THE COMMUNITY.

FINGERPRINT | PATHWAYS FORM A FINGERPRINT. THE FINGERPRINT CONNECTS ALL THE STRUCTURES AND REPRESENTS THE COMMUNITY.

CIRCLE | AN IMPORTANT FEATURE USED IN EACH BUILDING. THIS CAPTURES THE SENSE OF STRENGTH AND TOGETHERNESS IN THE COMMUNITY AND UNITES IT AS ONE.

UNITY | COMING TOGETHER AS ONE FOR THE OLYMPICS LEAVING A POSITIVE IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY.




02 CAESARSTONE

CAESARSTONE STUDENT DESIGNER PROJECT 2024

Design a museum for South African Languages.
The museum should be dedicated to South Africa's languages, becoming a vibrant celebration of linguistic diversity and showcasing the richness, history, and evolution of the numerous languages spoken in South Africa.

The Link Museum represents the power of connection through language, symbolized by a link that brings two wholes together to form a chain of unity. Just as links create bonds, the museum embodies the diversity of South Africa's many languages, celebrating how they connect communities and cultures. Its mission is to educate visitors about this linguistic richness, foster personal connections by relating to individual experiences, and provide immersive experiences that bring language to life. Ultimately, the Link Museum aspires to inspire visitors with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the unique and interconnected nature of South Africa's linguistic heritage.

Design Time top 5 finalist 



THE LINK

- + A LINK SYMBOLISES CONNECTION
- + A LINK REPRESENTS TWO WHOLE'S COMING TOGETHER TO CREATE A CONNECTION, THEN CONTINUING TO CREATE A CHAIN
- + THE LINK MUSEUM CONNECTS ALL OF OUR 35 SOUTH AFRICAN LANGUAGES
- + THE LINK MUSEUM AIMS TO:
 - CONNECT PEOPLE WITH THEIR OWN AND OTHER INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES
 - PRESERVE SPOKEN LANGUAGES & REVITALISE THE LESSER SPOKEN ONES
 - CREATE A DIVERSE LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR THE VIEWERS

DEVELOPMENT STAGES OF THE LINK



HAND MADE LINK



ORGANIC LINK



GEOMETRIC LINK



STRUCTURAL LINK



FINAL LINK



THE LINK AXO



ENTRANCE

40% CLEARSKIES
USED ON SKYLIGHT TREATMENT



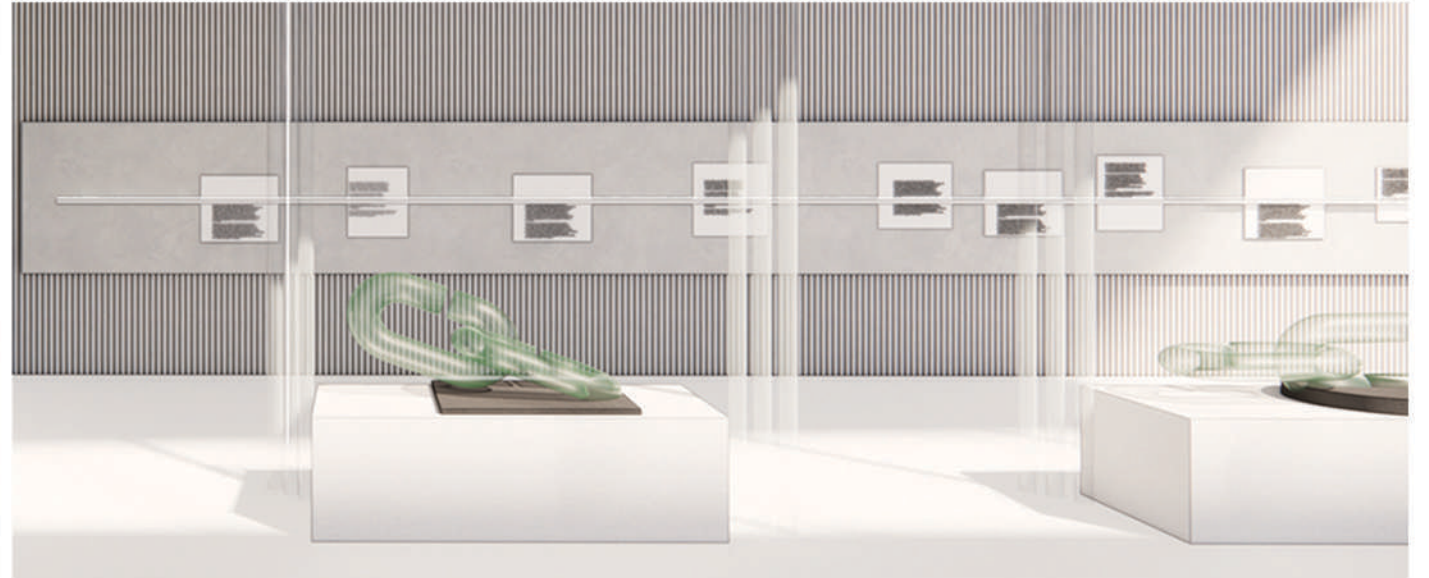
MARCO CIANFANELLI COMMISSIONED ART INSTALLATION



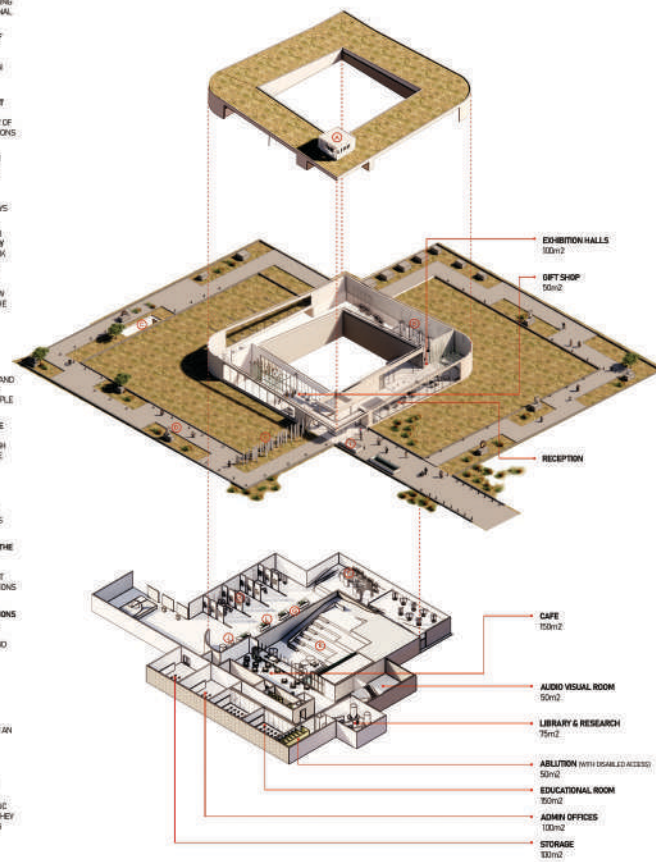
ENDANGERED LANGUAGE SCULPTURE GARDEN

40% MIDDAY
USED AS SCULPTURE MOUNTS

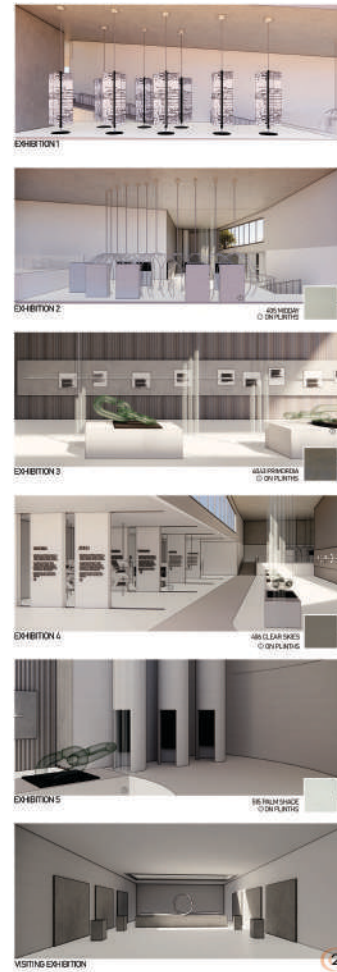




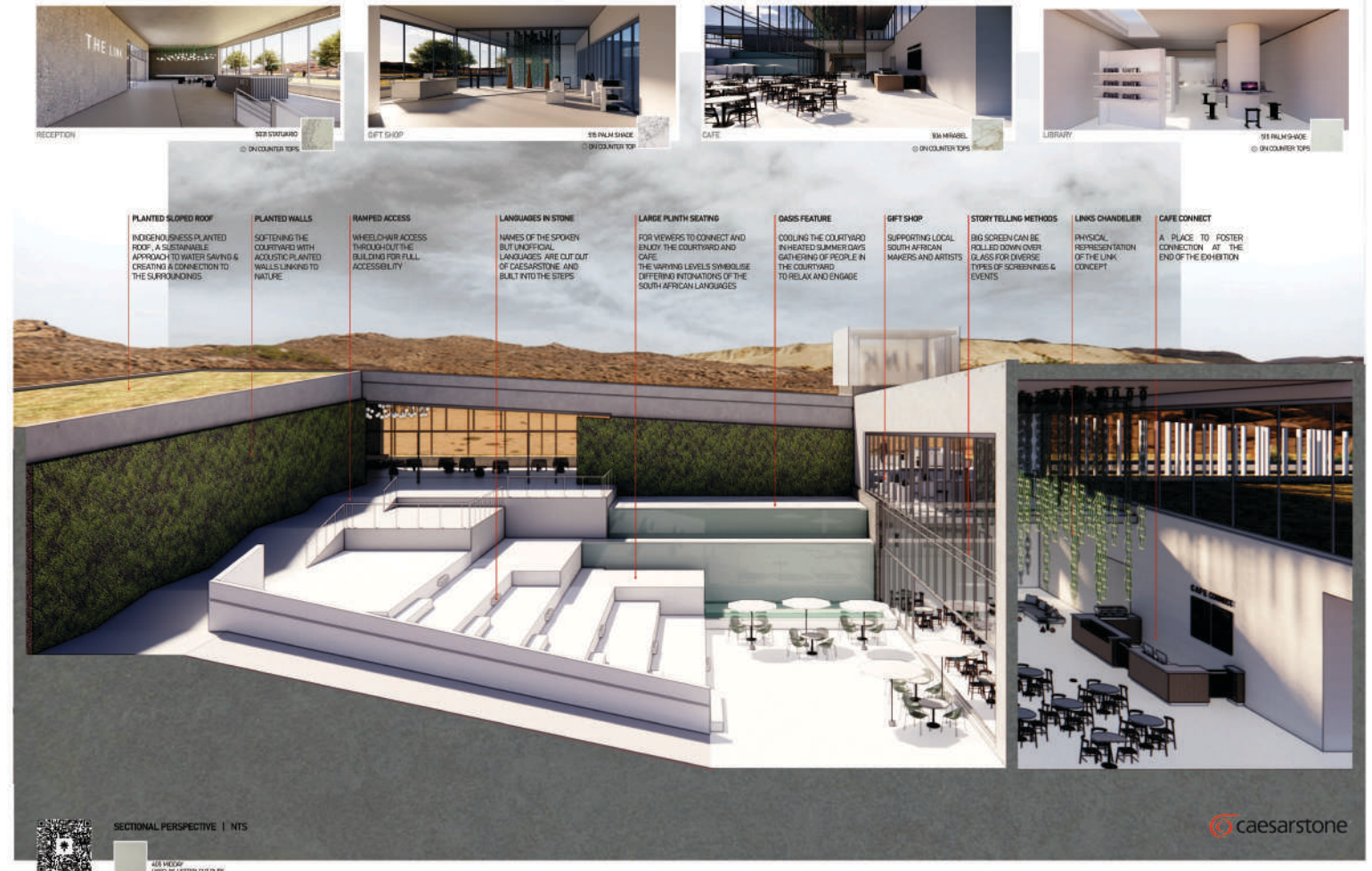
- ENTRANCE SKYLIGHT
THE TRANSPARENCY OF CONNECTION BETWEEN CULTURES MIRRORING THE CONSTITUTIONAL
- THE DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGES
A TURNING EXHIBITION DISPLAY
- EXHIBITION SKYLIGHT
THE TRANSPARENCY OF THE LINK IN EXHIBITIONS
- SCULPTURE GARDEN
A CELEBRATION OF ENGAGED LANGUAGES WITH INTERACTIVE DISPLAYS
- MARCO CANFANELLI INTERACTIVE DISPLAY
CONCESSIONED WORK, A CELEBRATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN LANGUAGES TO DRAW THE VISITOR ONTO THE LINK PATHWAY
- LANGUAGES AS CONNECTIONS
AN ARCH WALKWAY AND SCREENS SHOWING LANGUAGE AND PEOPLE
- LANGUAGE TIME LINE
A WALKWAY THROUGH LANGUAGE AND TIME
- THE 12 LANGUAGE TOWERS
REPOSITORY FOR A RANGE OF ARTIFACTS
- READING BETWEEN THE LINES
SHOWING DIFFERENT LANGUAGE INTERACTIONS
- LANGUAGE INTONATIONS
SOUND COUNCILS
AN IMMERSIVE SOUND INTERACTION EXPERIENCE
- CONNECTION COURTYARD
CELEBRATING STORYTELLING WITH AN OUTDOOR LIVE SCREENING AND ARTIST EXHIBITION
- LIBRARY SKYLIGHT
ENGAGING THE PUBLIC TO THE LIBRARY AS THEY ENTER THE BUILDING



- MARCO CANFANELLI INTERACTIVE DISPLAY
- SCULPTURE GARDEN
- THE DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGES
- LANGUAGES AS CONNECTIONS
- THE 12 LANGUAGE TOWERS AND DISPLAY
- LANGUAGE TIME LINE
- READING BETWEEN THE LINES
- LANGUAGE INTONATIONS SOUND COUNCILS



2



3

03 P G B I S O N

PG BISON STUDENT DESIGNER COMPETITION

Design a destination hotel, located in South africa, that leaves south africans with no choice but to love staycations.

Welcome to The Haven Hotel, a serene oasis on the enchanting Churchhaven Lagoon. Nestled within the unique fynbos biome, our hotel offers a tranquil escape into nature's splendor. Inspired by the cultural heritage of the local fishing communities who have lived in harmony with these waters for generations, our architecture draws from the circular reed fishing traps once used in the lagoon.

Here, land and sea unite in a harmonious blend: rugged off-shutter concrete and solid forms reflect the raw beauty of the earth, while soft edges and light materials capture the ocean's calming essence. Veils of shadow add depth and mystery, echoing the ethereal feeling of being cradled among the lagoon's reeds.

Step inside to discover interiors thoughtfully curated with South African craftsmanship, featuring one-of-a-kind designs by local artisans that celebrate the region's creativity and spirit. At The Haven Hotel, every element has been designed to connect you with the breathtaking beauty and heritage of Churchhaven Lagoon.

Design Time top 5 finalist

LAGOONA BAY

CONCEPT

Welcome to the new world, an oasis in the heart of the desert. Lagoon Bay, a new world of architecture, is a place where the desert meets the sea. The architecture is a blend of traditional and modern, with a focus on the use of natural materials and a sense of harmony with the environment. The architecture is a blend of traditional and modern, with a focus on the use of natural materials and a sense of harmony with the environment.



01 - 02 - 03 - 04

DESIGN

Land - Solid and strong form, built - Sea - Light and airy, floating and airy.







RECEPTION

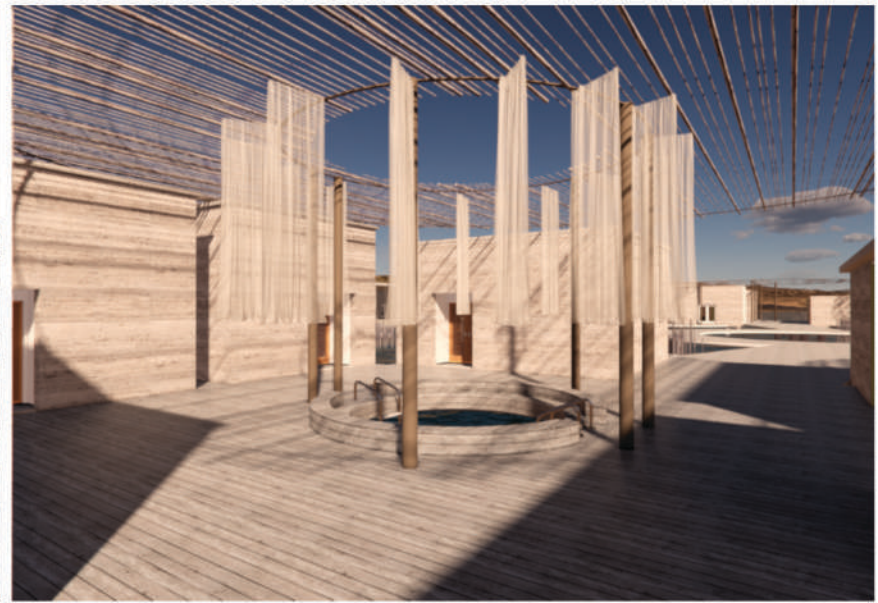
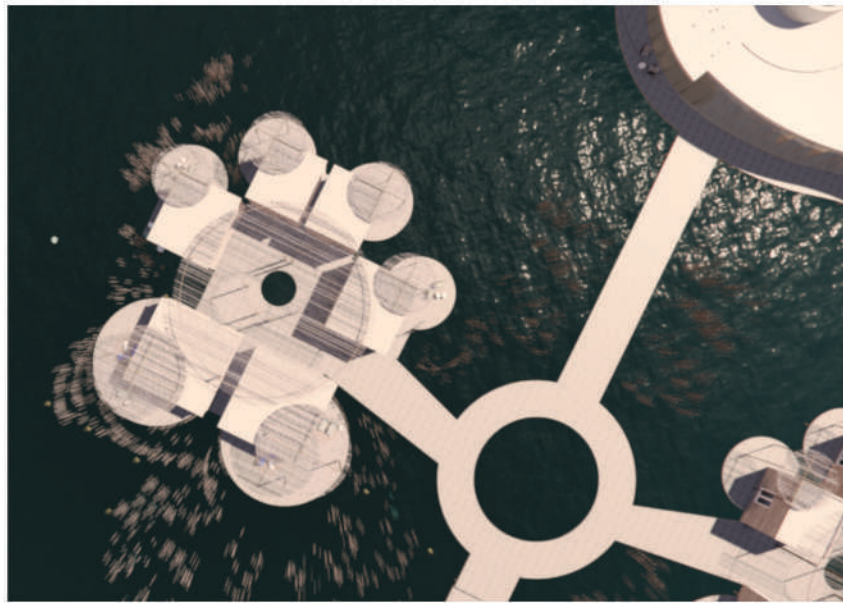


BAR



DINNING





04 HOUSE BENNETT

House Bennett blends classic farmhouse charm with modern touches, offering a timeless, cozy design. The smart layout ensures family privacy and guest comfort, while large windows and thoughtful spaces highlight stunning views. It balances tradition and modernity, creating a welcoming home that embraces its natural surroundings.



HOUSE BENNETT



05 STAY UNIQUE

Located in the Cederberg on a Wild Olive , Edenveld Farm, 5 pods are spread out to enjoy as much of the surrounding landscape as possible. Guests can seclude themselves in the natural majestic rock mountains and colourfull fynbos.









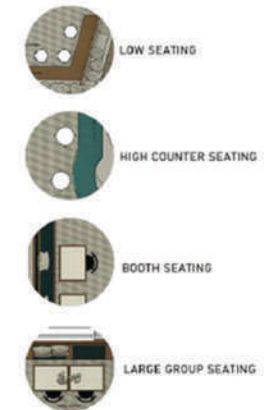
06 STROLLA

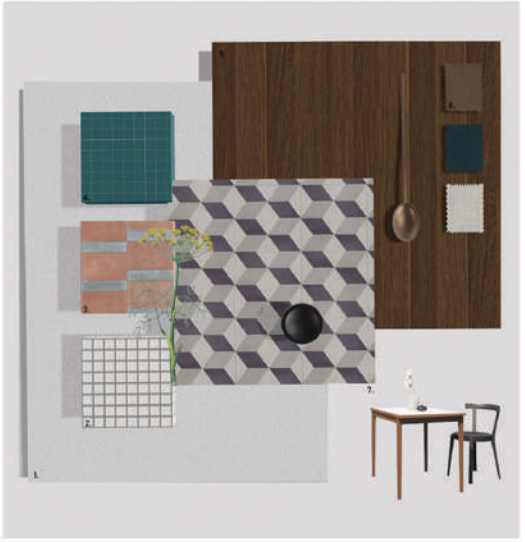
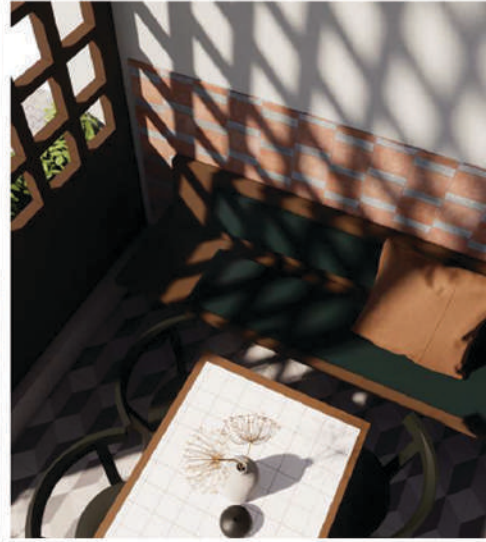
The design concept for Cafe Strolla draws inspiration from the serene ambiance of the hotels sage green and pink hues, seamlessly integrating them into the cafes aesthetic. Soft sage green accents create a calming backdrop, while touches of blush pink infuse warmth and elegance. The space is able to transition from a bustling breakfast spot for early cuclists and dog walkers to a sophisticated evening destination, for champagne and oysters.

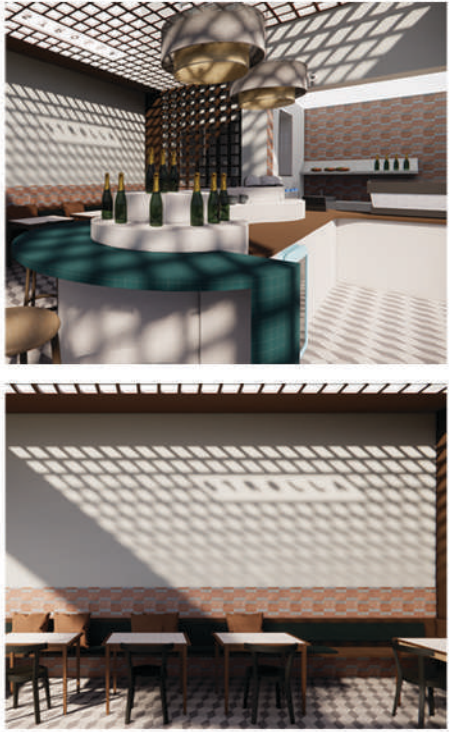




FLOOR PLAN 1:50



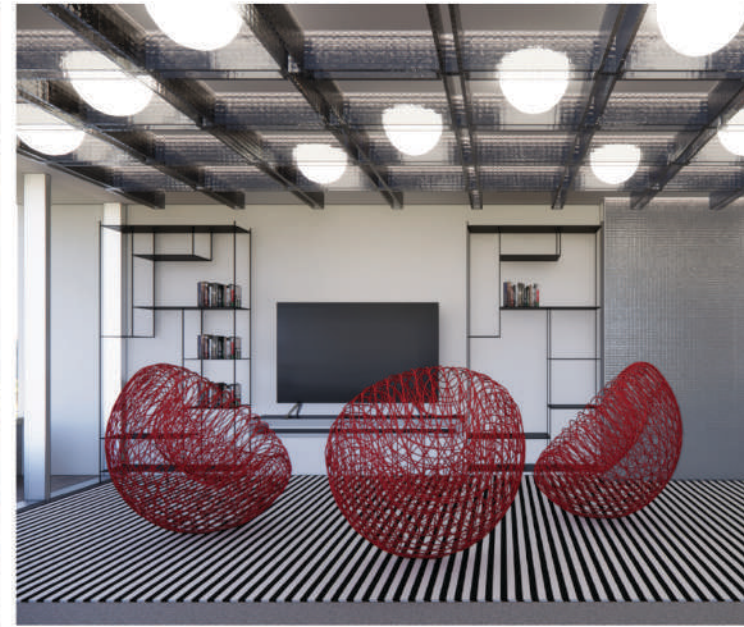


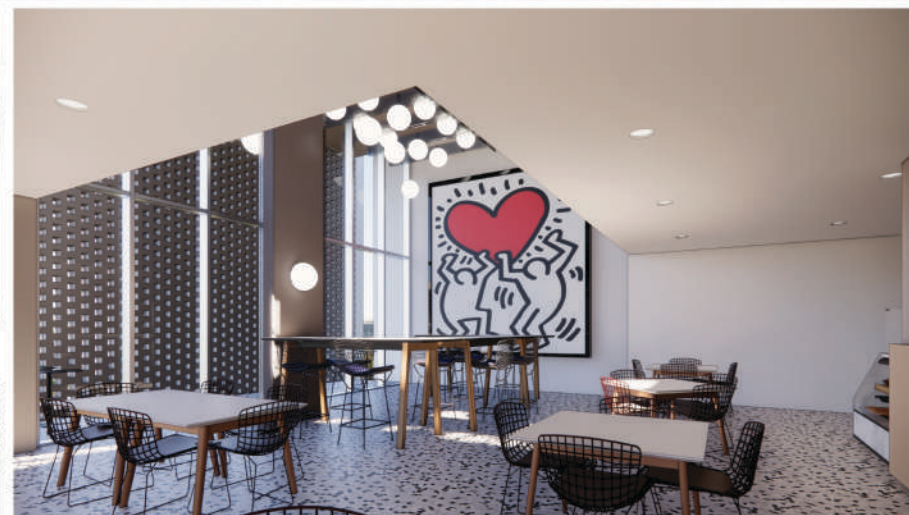


07 FIBONACCI

The Fibonacci Student Residence in Cape Town is a dynamic fusion of function and design, tailored for modern students. Embracing innovative finishes, the building features harmonious geometric patterns, natural textures, and sustainable materials. Thoughtfully planned communal spaces and private rooms ensure comfort, fostering creativity, collaboration, and focused learning.







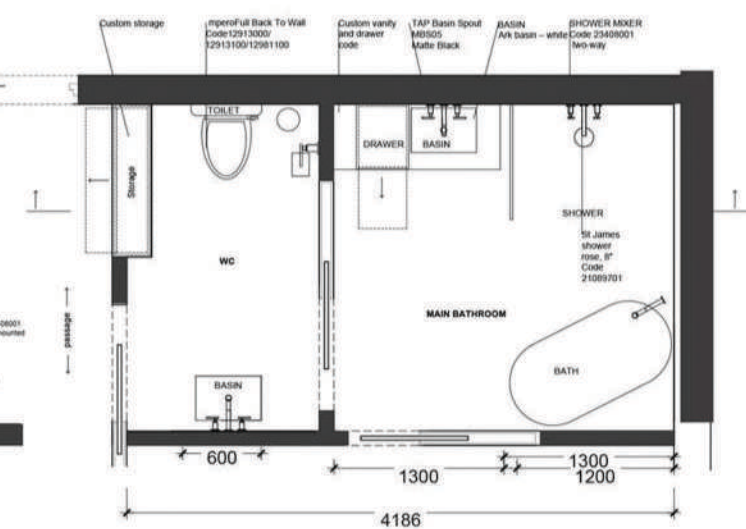
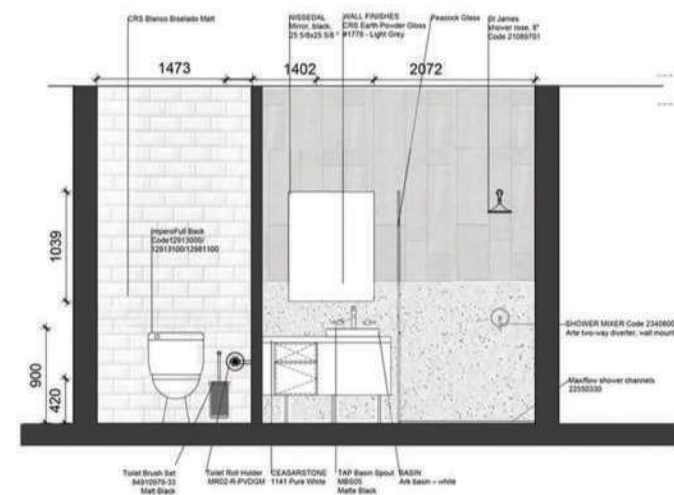
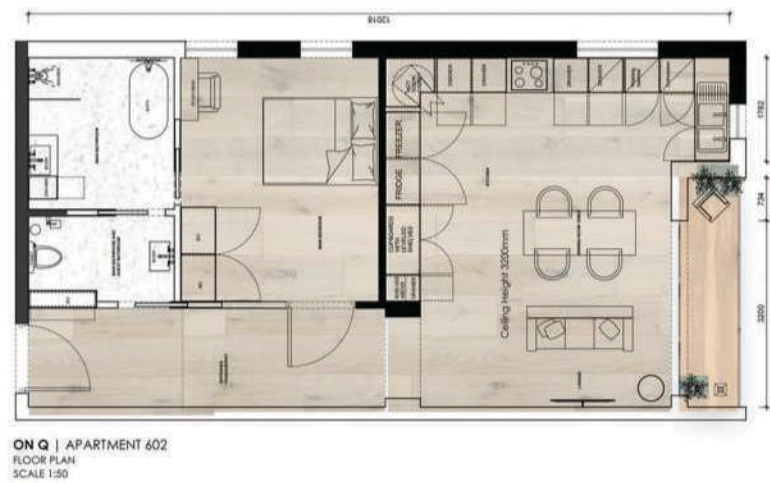
08 BARNET FAIR

The redesign of Barnett Fair Barbershop in Cape Town aims to reposition the brand by transforming the interior into a contemporary, edgy, and clean space. The new design will embrace the natural elements of the location, such as wood and stone, while evoking a sense of freshness and a "hidden gem" feel in the city center. The space will feel distinctive and original, encouraging conversation among clients. It will prioritize both practicality for barbers and comfort for clients, creating an inviting and dynamic environment.



09 O N Q A P A R T M E N T

1st year Cape Town apartment project on Sketchup.





ENTRANCE

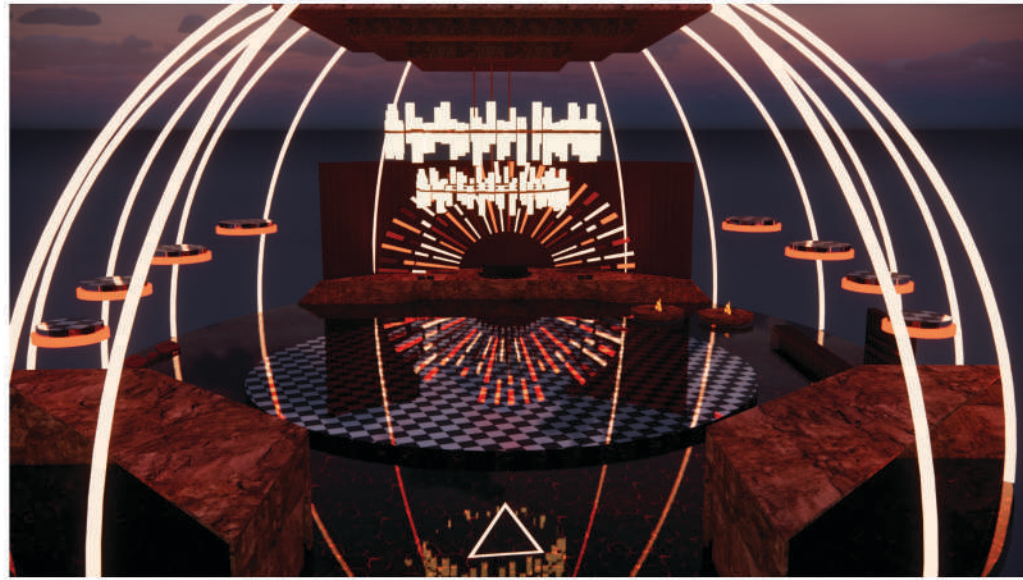


LOUNGE



10 METAVERSE

Our metaverse nightclub concept brings the elements of air, fire, and earth to life, creating an immersive and unforgettable experience. The design captures the dynamic energy of the natural elements, blending them seamlessly with cutting-edge virtual architecture. Air inspires ethereal, floating structures and expansive, open spaces, creating a sense of freedom and weightlessness. Fire ignites the interior with bold, dramatic lighting effects, pulsating with intensity and rhythm to amplify the club's vibrant energy. Earth grounds the design with luxurious, textured finishes, blending organic forms and opulent materials to evoke a sense of connection and sophistication. Together, these elements create a harmonious yet electrifying environment, where nature meets technology in the heart of the metaverse. This nightclub is not just a space but an experience—a sensory journey that redefines nightlife in the digital realm.



11 CALM IN THE CHAOS

A break from the New York city chaos. Calm in the Chaos is a zen space for family and friends.

Calm in the Chaos is inspired by New York and its vibrant city life but brought home and muted slightly to create a welcoming space that is well designed with glamorous finishes but still family friendly.

NEW YORK CITY SKYLINE

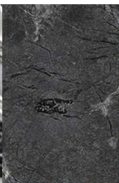
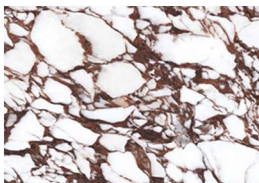
New York's skyline has inspired my use of geometric shapes and Asymmetrical balance. This is seen in my kitchen island, in my fireplace and throughout the space with the use of intricate timber partitions.

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

The copper statue has influenced my space seen in the application of brushed copper throughout the space. Two fixed poles are also laded in copper and are meant to corrode over time adding a hint of green like the Statue of liberty in the future. This extends the design process.

TIME SQUARE

New York and its bright Time Square lights have inspired the application of LED lights in my design .





12 P R O D U C T D E S I G N

RE - 5

Featured at Decorex 2023 and one of the 8 selected by Bielle Bellingam.

Candle holder project

Manufactured perspex candle holder

Feature at Decorex 2023 

RE-5



RE-5 ANGLED VIEW

A REVIVAL OF THE 5's

reduce, reuse, recycle, re-purpose, and refuse

Special mention : Featured design at DECOREX 2023

STORY

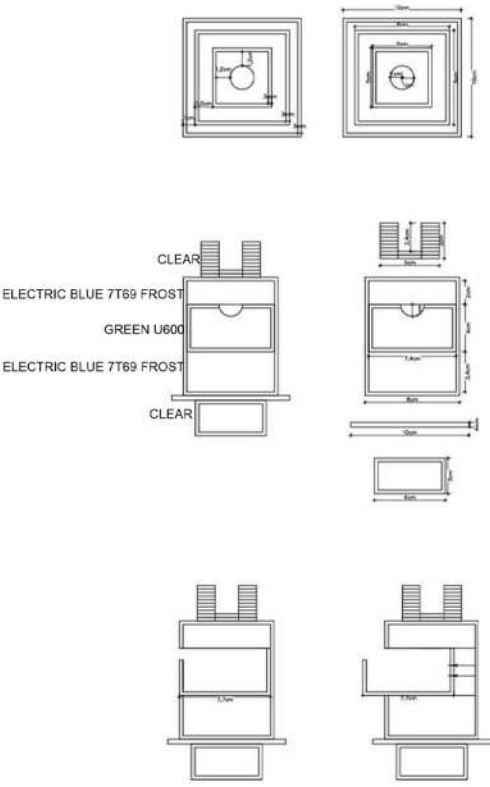
THE CLIMATE CRISIS OUR PLANET IS FACING HAS PUT US UNDER PRESSURE AND A NEED FOR SUSTAINABILITY HAS BECOME VITAL.

WITH MY DESIGN I WANT TO BRING AWARENESS TO ONE OF THE PROBLEMS CONTRIBUTING TO THIS CRISIS WHICH IS THE FASHION INDUSTRY.

THE FASHION INDUSTRY PRODUCES 10% OF THE WORLD'S CARBON EMISSIONS AND IS THE SECOND LARGEST CONSUMER OF THE PLANET'S WATER SUPPLY.

MY DESIGN USES WASTE TEXTILES AND





13 PHOTOGRAPHY

WINCHESTER HOTEL - INGE PRINS

INTERIOR
THE WINCHESTER HOTEL



EXTERIOR
THE WINCHESTER HOTEL

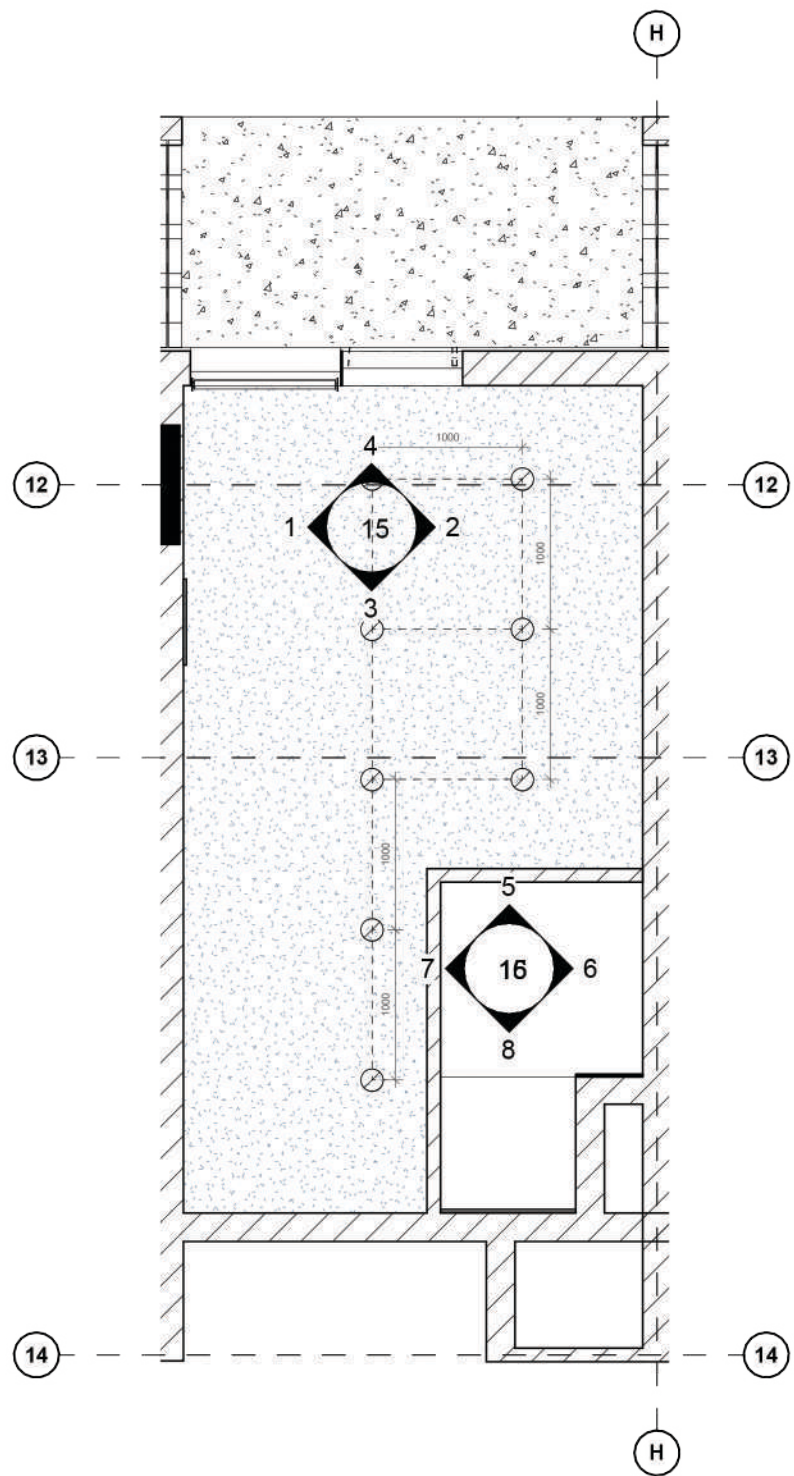


SELF PORTRAIT

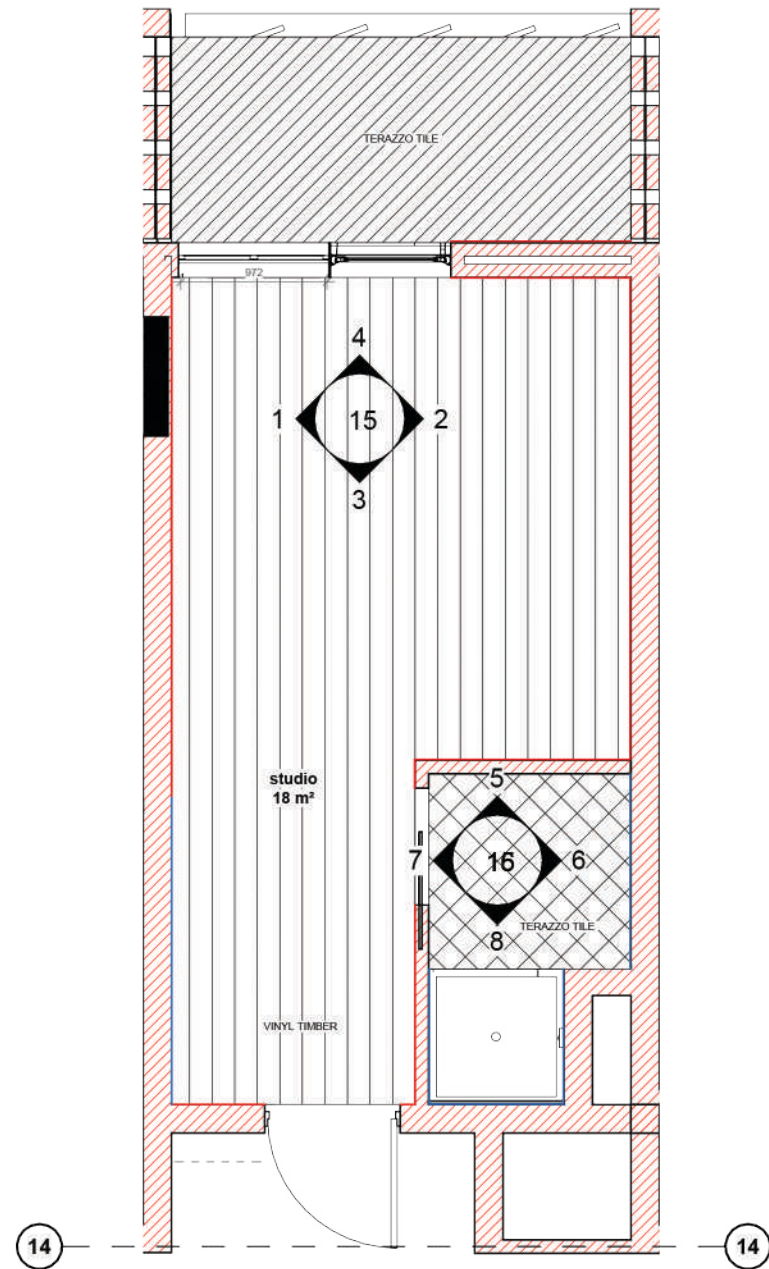


14 TECHNICAL DRAWINGS

Working Drawing package



1 7. REFLECTED CEILING PLAN
1 : 50



2 5. FINISHES PLAN
1 : 50

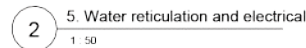
WALL AND FLOOR FINISH LEGEND	
	FAB TIMBER VINYL - BELGOTEX
	TERAZZO TILE - TILLETORIA
	CEMENTITE CRETE COTE DUSK
	PLASTERED WALL WITH PRIMER 2X COATS PLASCON CASHMERE PAINT (OR SIMILAR) COLOUR: WHITE
	SQUARE WHITE CERAMIC TILE 65 X 65 MM - STILES






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SHEET	CEILING, FINISHES , WALLS

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Drawn by	Author	Drawing Number	12	REV
Checked by	Checker			

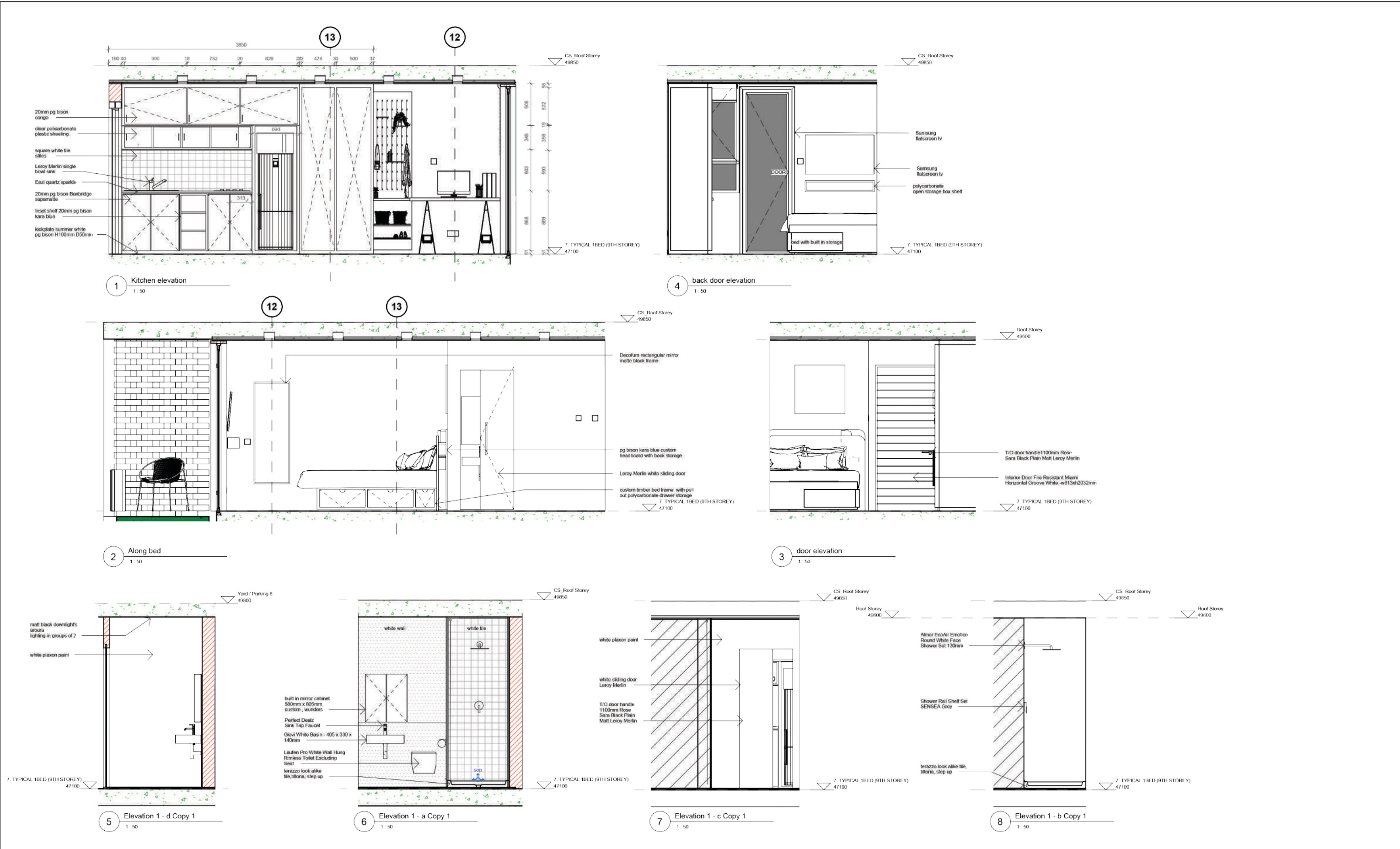


WATER AND ELECTRICAL LEGEND	
	LIGHT SWITCH
	DOUBLE POLE LIGHT SWITCH
	DOUBLE SOCKET
	HOT WATER
	COLD WATER

[illegible]

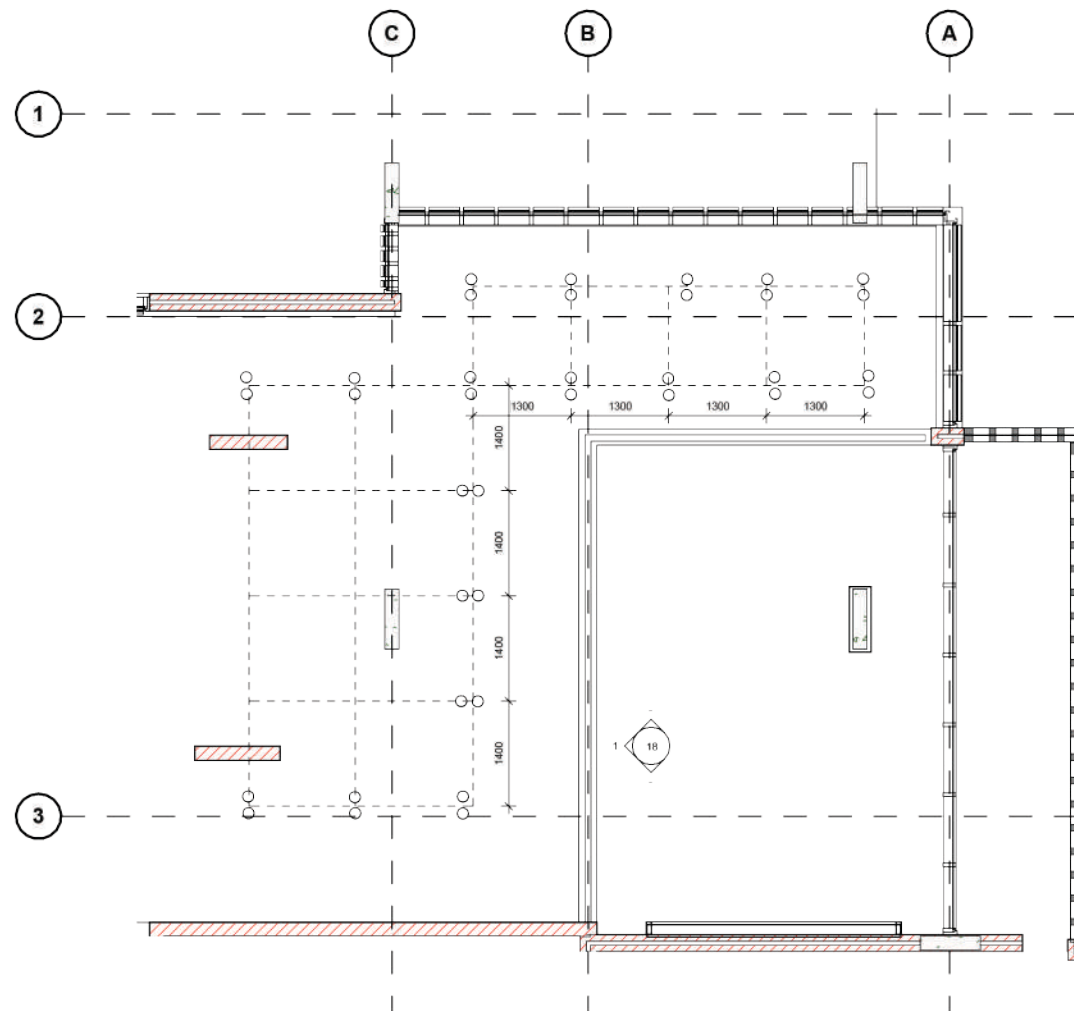
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100	OK	Good	Good

PROJECT	Fibonacci	CLIENT				Heriot REIT	
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		Checked by					
		Checker					

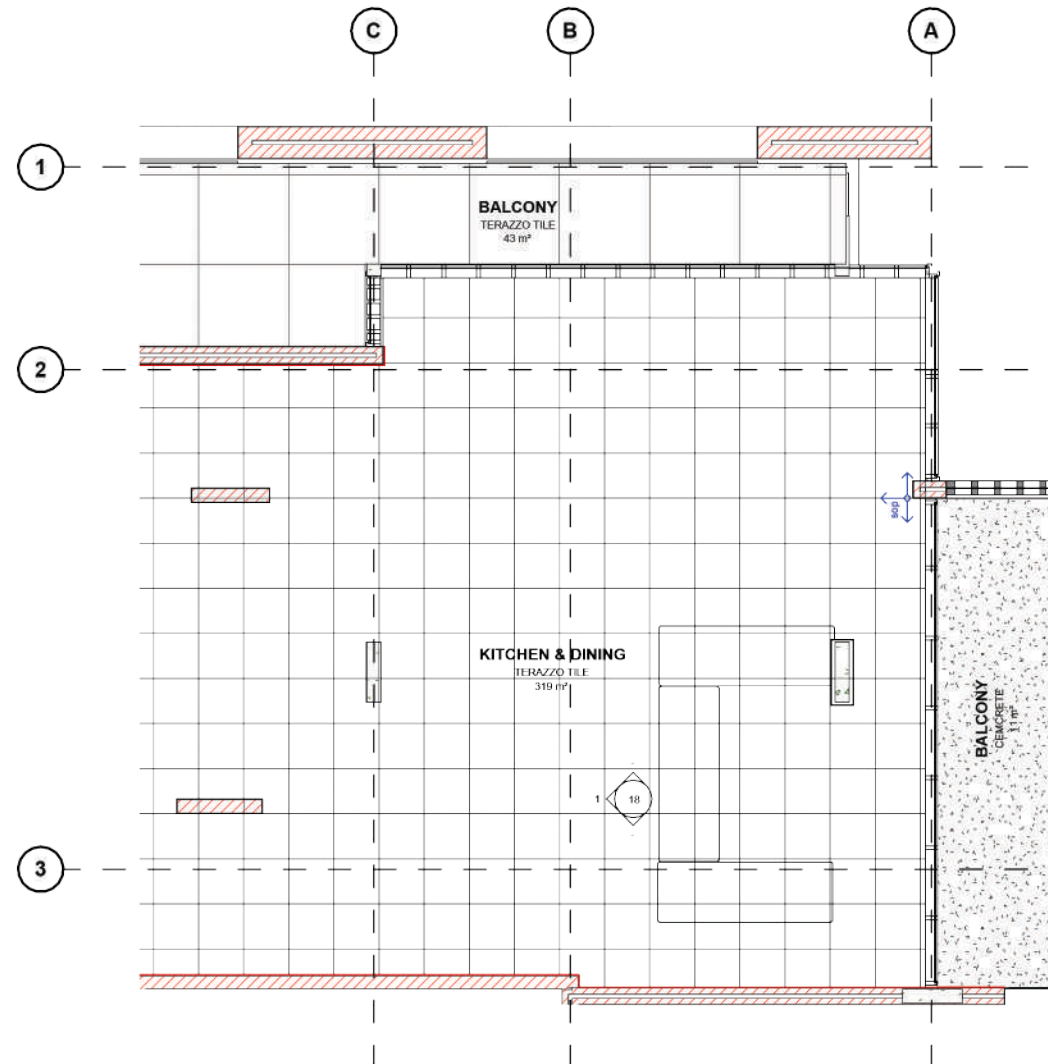


	No.	Description	Date

				PROJECT	CLIENT		
				Fibonacci	Heriot REIT		
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					Drawn by Author		
				Checked by Checker			



2 14. REFLECTED CEILING PLAN
1 : 100



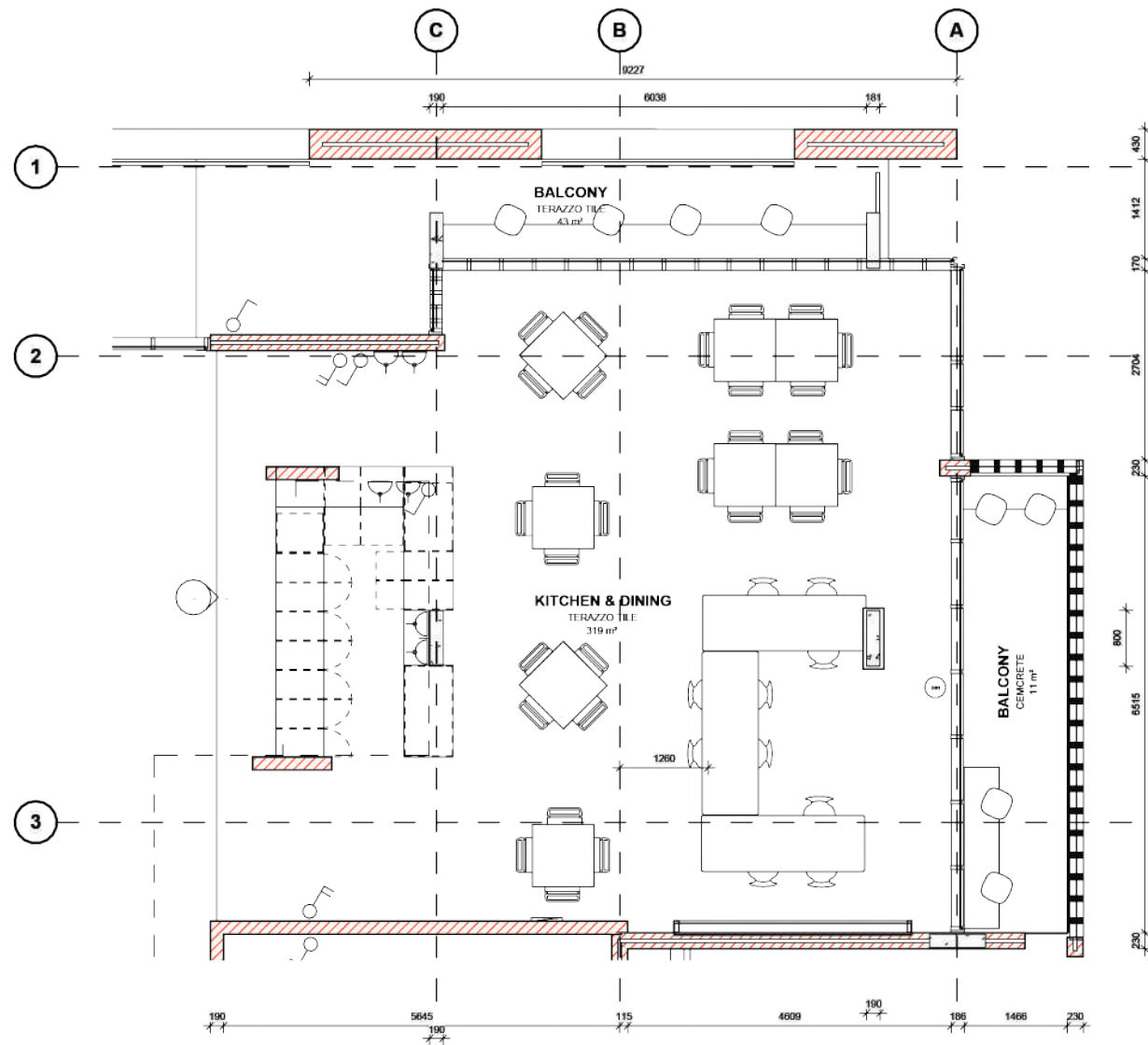
1 14. Finishes Plan
1 : 100

WALL AND FLOOR FINISH LEGEND	
	TERAZZO TILE - TILTORIA
	TERAZZO TILE - TILETORIA
	CEMCRETE CRETE COTE DUSK
	PLASTERED WALL WITH PRIMER
	2X COATS PLASCON CASHMERE PAINT (OR SIMILAR) COLOUR: WHITE

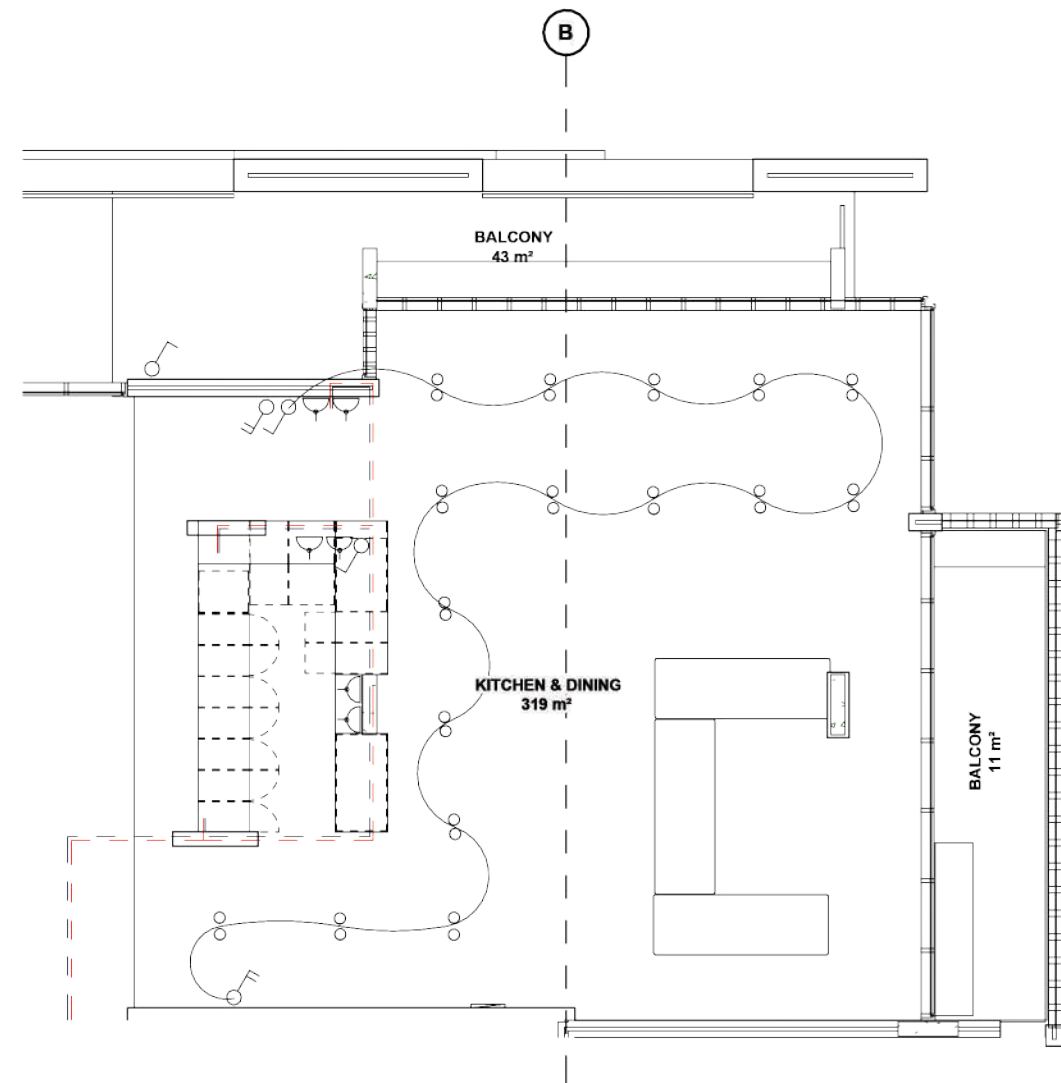
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FIBONACCI		MICHAELA JOHNSTON FORBES		
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FINISHES PLAN		2024/08/21	2023_3A	1 : 100
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		Checked by		
		EM		



3 14. CONSTRUCTION LAYOUT
1 : 100



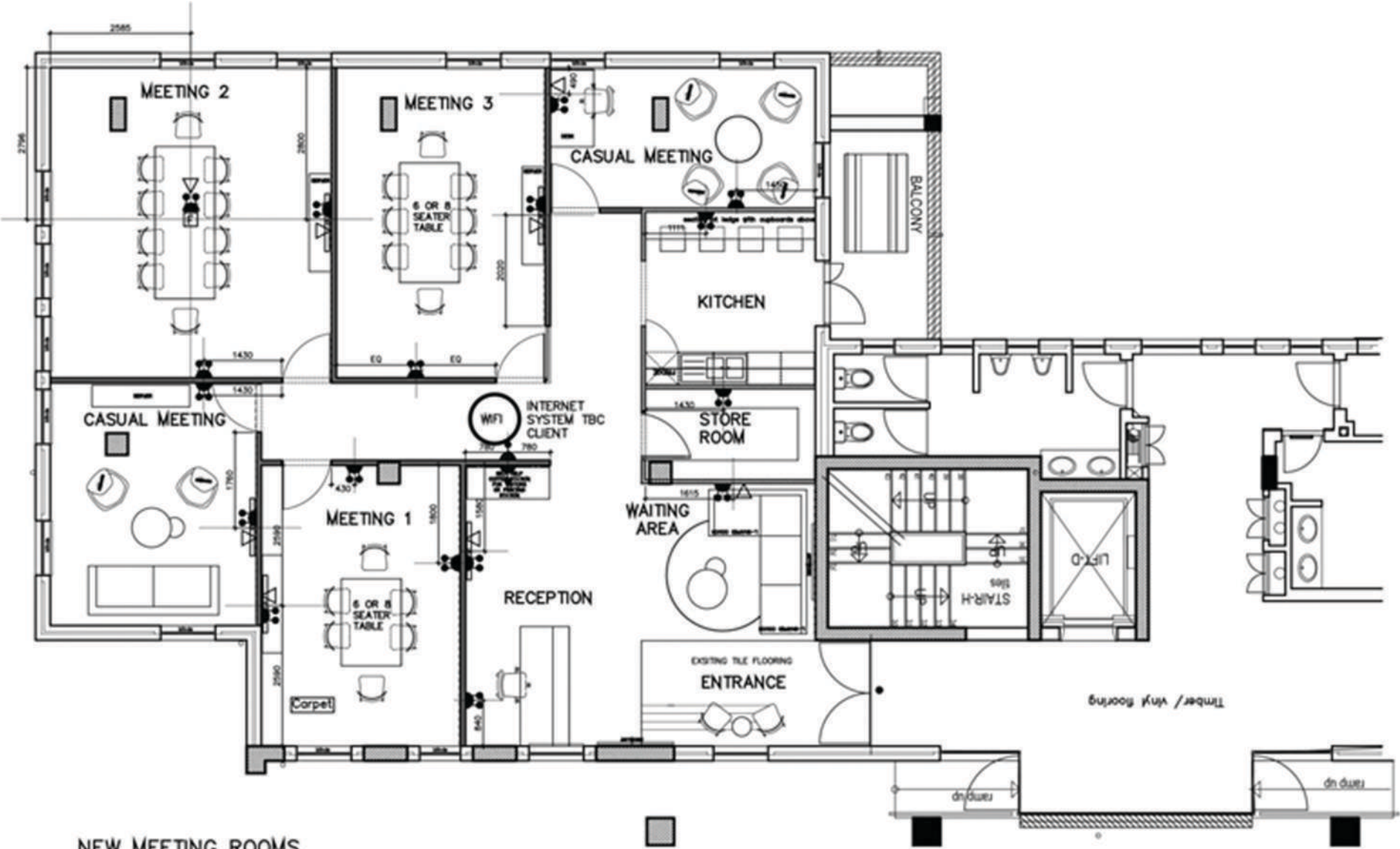
WATER AND ELECTRICAL LEGEND	
	LIGHT SWITCH
	DOUBLE POLE LIGHT SWITCH
	DOUBLE SOCKET
	HOT WATER
	COLD WATER

1 14. EAND W PLAN
1 : 100

No.	Description	Date

CODE	STATUS	SUITABILITY DESCRIPTION	PURPOSE OF ISSUE

PROJECT		CLIENT		
FIBONACCI		MICHAELA JOHNSTON FORBES		
SHEET		Date	Project number	Scale (@ A3)
CONSTRUCTION, WATER, ELECTRICAL		2024/08/21	2023_3A	1 : 100
		Drawn by	Drawing Number	REV
		MJF	1	
		Checked by		
		EM		



NEW MEETING ROOMS
OPTION 2
SCALE 1:50

ELECTRICAL OUTLET LEGEND:

	16A Double Switched Socket
	16A Single Switched Socket
	Bell at front entrance with motion sensor
	100mm x 100mm Floor box as per spec

	Data Point
	Telephone Point
	power skirting

NOTE: ALL PLUGS TO BE 300mm

SEE YOU SOON !

MICHAELA JOHNSTON FORBES

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 michaelaleejf@gmail.com