

CULTURAL PALACE



CULTURAL PALACE

It is now a contemporary paradox that the very success of Shenzhen's rapid economic development—urban expansion—has created a new existential threat to its center—isolation.

Through the erosion of nature and the proliferation of infrastructural barriers, the communal spaces of the Dongmen Commercial Circle have been ripped apart from the social spaces of the People's Park to the north and the residential neighborhood to the west. Only by liberating the Buji River from its concrete confinement, and by integrating nature in three dimensions, can the proposed Cultural Palace regenerate Luohu's center where the culture meets nature for all people. In contrast, our proposed Cultural Palace undoes this isolation by removing the infrastructural barriers along the Buji River. Conceived as a series of stepped and stacked garden terraces,

the formal massing of the Cultural Palace stitches together an intimate and porous urban fabric between the surrounding contexts. By stacking, dispersing and mixing the required functions of the Cultural Palace, a complex cultural landmark is created, integrating culture, art, sports, and public services. This unique and dynamic formal gesture will be legible from all directions in the Luohu District, promoting the transformation of Dongmen Commercial Circle and creating an iconic landmark for arts and culture along the greater Buji River basin. Located in the core area of Luohu District adjacent to Buji River, the proposed Cultural Palace reconceives the entire waterfront of the site by placing below ground the elevated Ren Min Gong Yuan Lu. This results in connecting the city to the river. The proposed Cultural Palace positions three new pedestrian and non-vehicular roads connecting the site to the Dongmen Commercial District.

PROJECT
Cultural exchange and exhibition, sports facilities, education, offices, parks, cafes, auditoriums, exhibitions

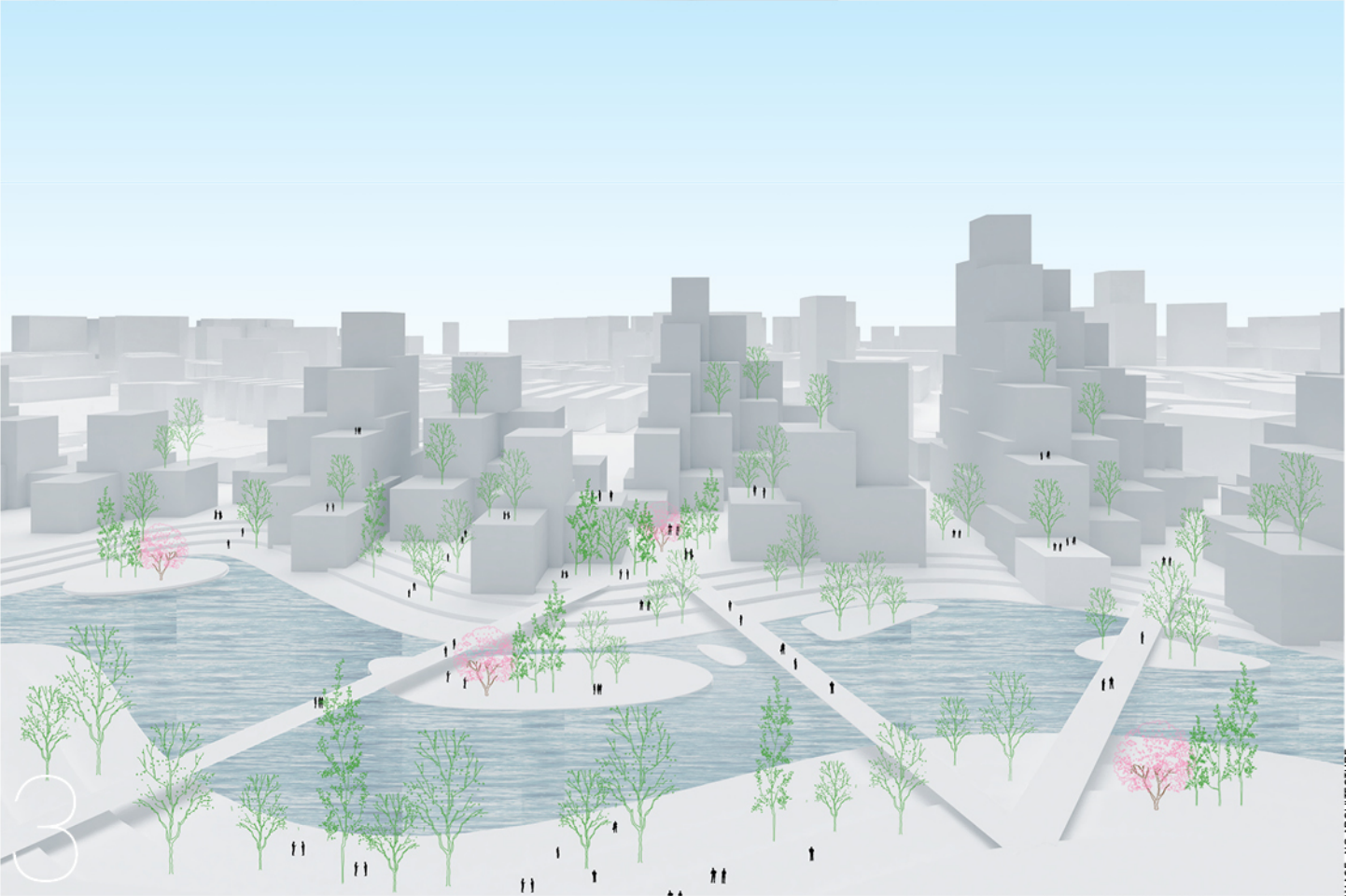
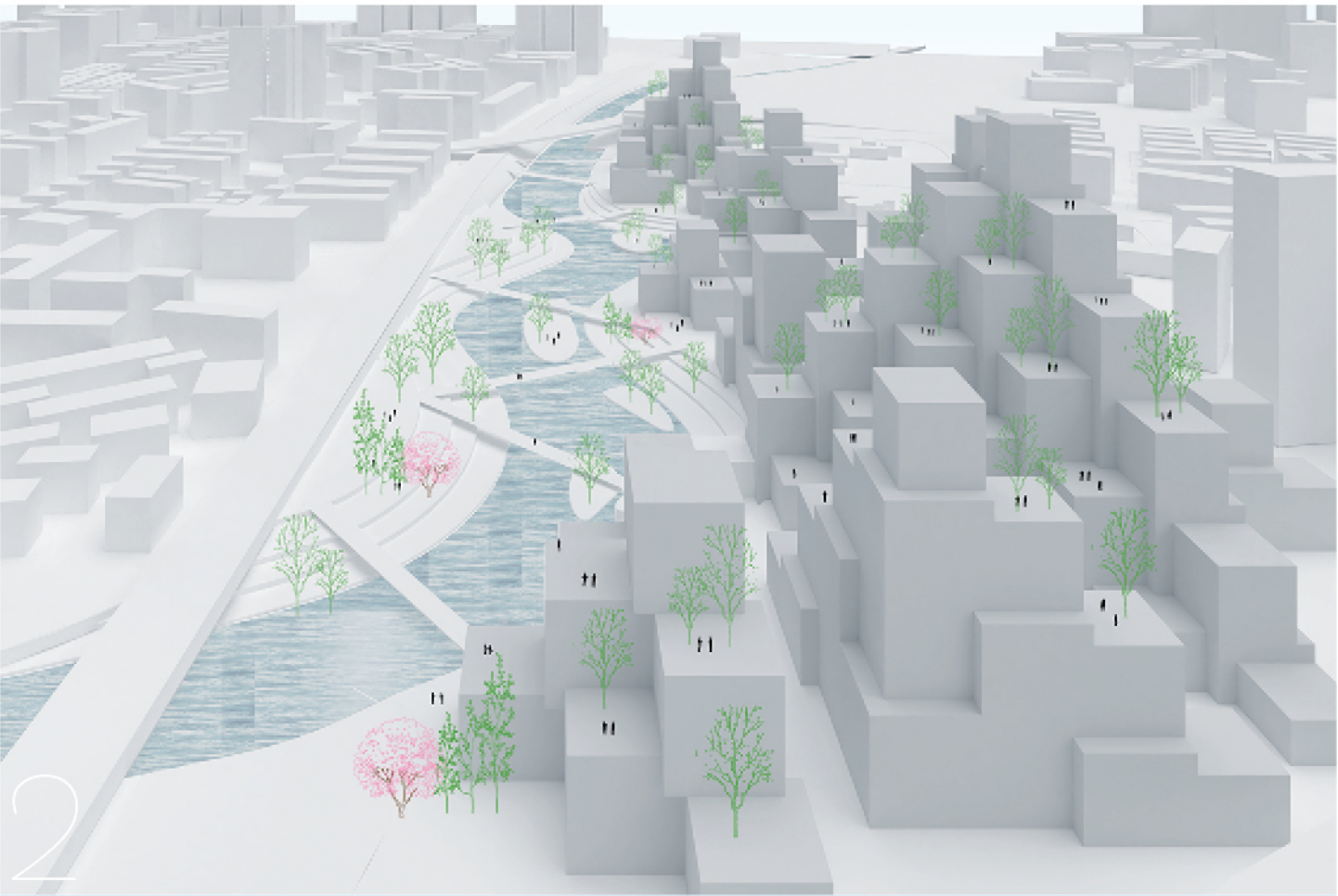
SIZE
100,900 m² (1,086,079 ft²)

CLIENT
Bureau of Public Works of Shenzhen Municipality

LOCATION
Shenzhen, China

STATUS
Competition, concept, unbuilt

KEY PERSON
Andrew Heid, Junwei Li, Christopher Purpura, Guangyu Wang



1. Aerial view. 2. View toward river. 3. Aerial view.

IMAGE: NO ARCHITECTURE