LEVITATE

BRIEF: Design a Yoga House that will allow guests to experience and connect with nature. It should have a flexible living space that can also be used for Yoga and the design should be green and environmentally friendly. The location is in a clearing of a Latvian Forest a few hundred meters from the Ocean.

CONCEPT: A Divided Half-Donut to have a clear separation between Private and Public [#while](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/while/) forcing users to be outside when traversing between these spaces. The circularity and “Perfect Geometry” of the home create a harmonic and balance sensation which is further enhanced by its levitating appearance above the pristine landscape.

By having it as a “Half-Donut”, a semi-protected space (prevailing winds and psychological) is created while still being open to the surrounding landscape. Greater amounts of sunlight can also penetrate the spaces and sliding doors can be opened to make the interior space exposed to external qualities like sound, wind, and smell. The material palette of a rough bark-like cladding for the exterior directly contrasts with the smooth lighter wooden interior, referencing back to the surrounding landscape and enhancing the qualities of both materials through their vast contrasts.

Heat is maximized through orientation and snow/rain can easily shed off the roof with its high slope. Spaces are divided into 3 main modules with sliding doors allowing for more control heating with concrete floors for thermal comfort. I also used subtractive forms to create inside-outside spaces protected from the external elements yet completely open similar to an Engawa.

The wooden circle in the center of the living room is a dedicated space to perform the yoga activity and differentiates it from the concrete flooring, giving it its material, texture, and color. Yoga can also be performed outside if not too cold.

The wooden slatted walkway gives protection from rain and snow but yet is open to external qualities. Similarly, the glass walkway provides a visual connection although blocking all external sensations of the outside.

Date Completed : 30/01/23

See project here: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CoBSh3WhjtHtwdFjywq6Z6BJMP9gbIDCDLYz6w0/?img_index=1>