



DODO ECK

DESIGN SELECTED WORKS



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DOROTHY ECK



Dorothy Eck is an interdisciplinary designer who leverages her understanding of human behavior and urban planning to create impactful, joyful, and socially responsible spaces that inspire and connect communities.

Dodo's work demonstrates a unique ability to translate conceptual ideas across various scales, always maintaining a focus on creating meaningful, identity-rich spaces.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Typography
Illustration
Color Theory
Adobe Creative Suite
SketchUp
CAD Tools
Experiential Design

VALUES

Community Engagement
Collaboration
Visual Storytelling
Opportunities for play
Placemaking
Human-Centered Design

EDUCATION

B.A. Cognitive Science
B.A. Urban Studies
UC Berkeley
2020- 2024

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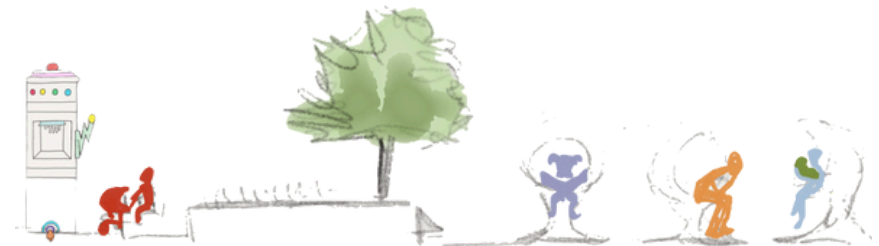
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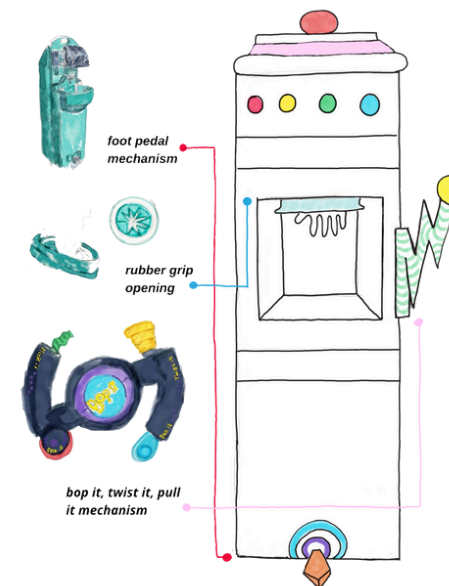




Playful Prevention: Reimagining COVID-19 Safety Stations

January 2021

This project reimagines the distribution of COVID-19 supplies into an engaging and joyful interaction. By designing a 'playful' safety station to reduce super-spreading at the Laney College Flea Market, I aimed to transform a routine necessity into a fun and interactive opportunity that promotes both safety and community well-being.



Elevated Play: Adaptive Reuse of Kaiser Convention Center Rooftop

February 2021

The Kaiser Convention Center in the Lake Merritt Cultural District is a historical site for the city of Oakland, but it sits vacant and unused. For this site-based project, I collaborated with peers to repurpose the Kaiser Convention Center to better serve the Lake Merritt community. By retrofitting the roof and adjacent parking lot, we aimed to imbue the public realm with opportunities for play, transforming the space into a vibrant hub for community engagement and recreation.



By repurposing the vacant Kaiser Convention Center into a rooftop playground, we aimed to reimagine opportunities for everyone to let their inner child run free. This revitalized space offers activities for both the young and young at heart, redefining what play looks like in the public sphere.

The project fosters community engagement and creative use of urban space, transforming the convention center into a vibrant hub of joy and connection.

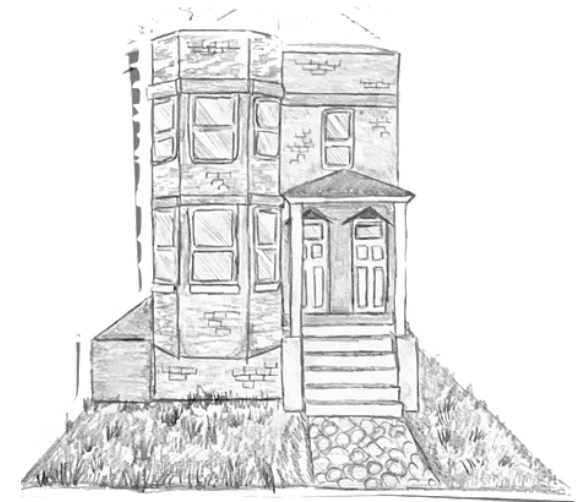


The rooftop play structure transforms a vacant building into a vibrant community hub, featuring a trampoline park, jungle gym, rock climbing wall, and cozy bungalows.

Designed to promote community building and support the well-being of its members, the play structure offers various recreational activities. Visitors can enjoy stunning sunsets over the Lake Merritt waterfront from the swing set or relax in a canopied bungalow recliner, fostering social connections and a sense of belonging.

Three Generations of Home

March 2021



For this project, I conducted an architectural site analysis of the homes my grandmother, father, and I grew up in, capturing the lifestyles, identities, and historical contexts of each house. Reflecting on these elements, I designed my 'future' dream home, combining the historical roots and suburban influences of my family's past with innovative, community-oriented design principles.

“The Patch,” Chicago 1920s

My great grandparents moved from Italy to the US in the early 20th century and settled in 'The Patch,' a predominantly Italian neighborhood in southside Chicago known for its backyard vegetable gardens.



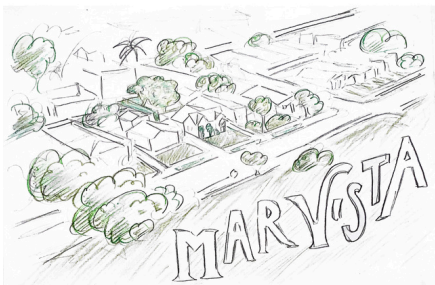
West Pullman, Chicago 1950s

My grandmother moved out of 'The Patch' and into West Pullman, a neighborhood built to house factory workers during WWII. Reflecting the mass move to suburbia and the rise of single-family homes, this area was designed to support the burgeoning middle class.



MarVista, Los Angeles 1990s

Moving from Chicago to Los Angeles, my dad purchased a Colonial home in Mar Vista, a neighborhood that was once a vast lima-bean field. Today, Mar Vista still bears fruit and edible gardens, reflecting its agricultural roots



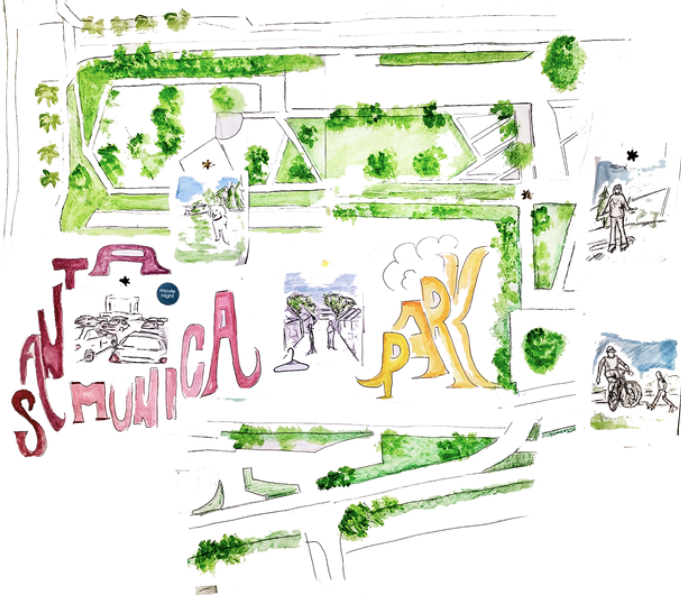
Future Home

The brownstone facade evokes the charm and elegance of classic architecture, while fruit-bearing street trees provide a sustainable and inviting environment for passersby. Inside, a reading room inspired by my grandmother's parlor.

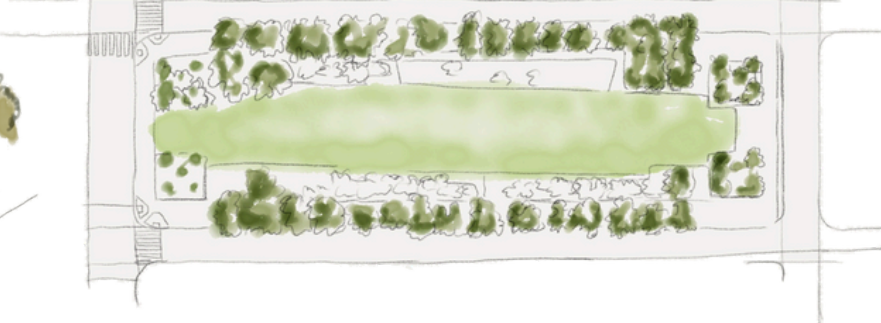
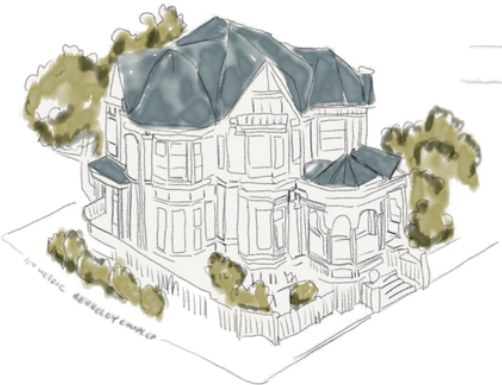


Comparative Urban Identities in Environmental Design

December 2023



Los Angeles, California



Duboce neighborhood in San Francisco, California



Afrofuturistic Placemaking: HiiiWAV Facility Transformation

January 2024–May 2024

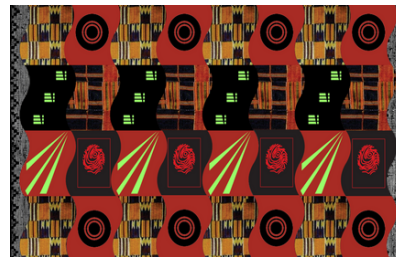
Collaborating with UC Berkeley peers and Oakland youth, we reimagined and retrofitted West Oakland's HiiiWAV facility—a 4,000 sq ft. community space that functions as an incubator, venue, and recording studio for Black artists, entrepreneurs, and musicians. Our project focused on integrating HiiiWAV's Ghanaian roots and Afrofuturistic values into the experience of their physical space. Meeting the client's needs while effectively serving the community, our redesign transformed the facility into a vibrant hub that fosters creativity, collaboration, and cultural expression.

Redesigned HiiiWAV Plans



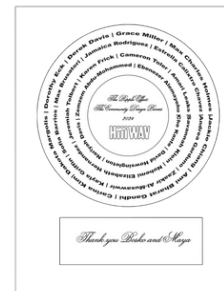
The final design included a state-of-the-art recording studio, a flexible co-working café, a dynamic live-music venue, and artist residency suites. These elements not only enhanced the functionality of the space but also created an immersive environment that celebrates and amplifies Black artistic voices in West Oakland

HiiiWAV Interior Design



HiiiWav Kente Cloth: represents different pillars and values of the establishment. Cloth can be decorative or serve as soundproofing in the recording studio. Kente weaving accompanied by song, exemplifies how technology and music are synonymous. The Kente cloth combines traditional patterns with specific symbologies and org-specific symbols to create an innovate design unique to HiiiWav's brand identity and mission.

Adinkra Symbols Wall Art: Crafted from recycled textiles, these custom Adinkra symbols for HiiiWAV embody resistance against waste colonialism, drawing inspiration from Ghana's Kantamanto market. This Afrofuturistic element physically manifests HiiiWAV's vision as a space fostering Black resilience, innovation, and resistance



Created plaque and keychain for the client to physically embody HiiiWAV's commitment to community involvement and celebrate the completion of our redesign.



Thank you!

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