Milan in the Mirror

~The 16th Virtual Design World Cup Team Project N~

As sea levels rise worldwide, many cities focus on protecting themselves from water. However, few inland cities have incorporated this challenge into urban design. We propose reimagining Milan as a model city for future water-based urbanism. Once connected to water through the Navali canals, Milan has gradually lost this relationship. Our proposal reinterprets this history by introducing waterways where flowing water itself becomes urban infrastructure. Rather than simply preventing floods, this vision embraces water, lives with it, and transforms it into urban value, presenting a prototype for a new water-based urban design.

New transportation plan

We envision floating rafts as a new mode of urban mobility in Milan, transforming its waterways into a network for movement and connection.





Heritage Meets Water Mobility

Reviving Milan's historic trams as waterborne mobility, we preserve the city's long-standing transportation culture while creating new connections with water and shaping the future of urban mobility.



Energy

This shows the change in energy caused by adding new buildings. The energy from water can also be converted into potential energy and put to use.



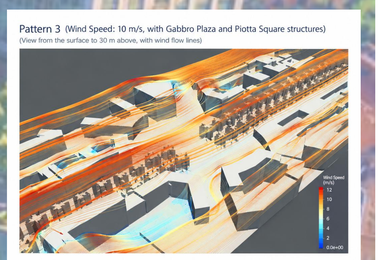
Sky Park

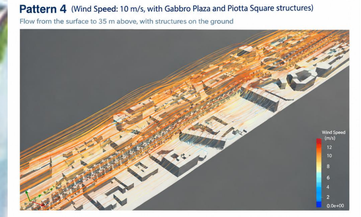
In the center, you can see sky park. A Floating Park Connecting the Memory of Water to the Future
A lush floating park rises above the future Milan, a city covered entirely in water.
At its center stands a giant water wheel, becoming a new symbol of the city.
In the past, Milan was surrounded by a network of canals called the Navigli, and water played an important role in supporting people's lives and industries.
The flow of these canals was also used to power water wheels, contributing to the development of Milan.
This park brings that historic relationship between water and people back into the future city through the giant water wheel.
It is a place where the memory of Milan's water past meets the future of a water-based city.
Here, Milan's history is carried into the future while creating a new urban landscape.

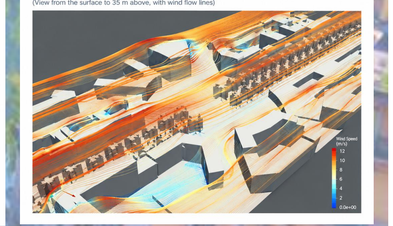
Shaping the Flow

To indirectly represent the flow of water, I analyzed the movement of the wind and used it to visualize the movement of water in the city.

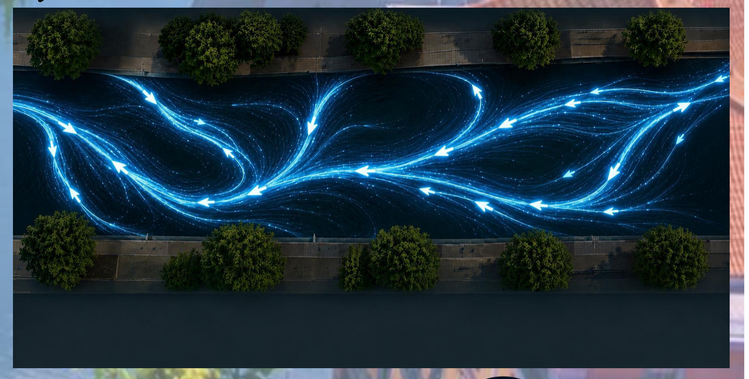








We view the flow of water as a new mobility network, allowing rafts to travel along the streamlines identified through fluid-flow analysis. By integrating human movement with the natural movement of water, we create a new form of urban mobility that extends beyond conventional roads.



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