

# O r b i t

Our idea for a Silicon Valley Icon flows from the innovation culture it embodies but also from the historical background of the region and the site specific elements.

We propose a cohesive vision combining the monumental to the spiritual and the experiential to transcend the site and make a local and global destination out of it.

## **The Monumental**

On the west side, a 200 feet high by 15 feet deep voided cylinder rotates continuously in the northern direction and establishes a strong presence from a distance, a compass and a window visually linking the eastern part of San Jose to the new western development of the city.

The outer skin of the cylinder is dark and earthy making it almost invisible at night. The inner skin is lined with copper, to recall its prominent use as a conductive material in major industries and technologies.

This inline embodies a topographical mold of the world map, rotating, casting shadow, reflecting light and becoming light; a star, a halo, the sun, a cosmic dimension with spectacular declinations of the universe rotary movements.

The cylinder rotates on a spring of water drawn from the Guadeloupe River using net zero energy principles inspired by traditional water wheels and paying tribute to this revolutionary industrial invention. The rotating movement of the cylinder shall also work as a hydroelectric turbine generating light and electricity for the park.

## **The Spiritual**

A 400 feet diameter circular bridge connects the eastern and western banks orbiting above confluence point and the continuously flowing river. This loop, while allowing for a holistic sightseeing of the rotating world cylinder, is a meditating platform for the revolving wanderers contemplating in the laws of gravity, cosmic energy, power of nature and unchained human mind.

## **The Experiential**

The whole park is activated through subtle landscape manipulation allowing for user's site appropriation as well as cultural and leisure embedment.

On the west side a recall of the agricultural history of San Jose is celebrated through agricultural edible and aromatic bushes lanes staging the entry to the park.

On the east side a linear raised landscape embeds a museum of innovation and a food and beverages terrace and allows visitors to take a peek at the rotating Icon through the open womb of the earth.