

VALLEY

Silicon Valley defines its name based on two conditions: the geographical Santa Clara Valley and the initial silicon-based technology developed in the region where most innovation, startups, technology and manufacturing companies are gathered. We simply take the term and geographic form to retroactively project the *Valley*: an angular wooden structure overhanging the entire Arena green without touching it except from its narrow base of circa 100 feet per side.

This scaled-down Valley creates two public realms: a comfortable shaded park under an unparalleled wood icon, an extra-large umbrella that shades yet does not compress the public and park. On the other hand, the largest wooden amphitheater on earth, where its sides are shaped distinctively. North and South allocate an almost temple-like stairway with balconies; restaurants, cafés and art galleries hide at its highest level. The most vertical west side also integrates balconies towards the stage and contains vertical circulations and a museum of the technological developments and innovation of the Valley. And the east side spanning over the river and creek integrate a large stairwell with seats for mass gatherings. Despite of its massive iconic character from outside, the Valley is only a programmed skin with a stimulating void to display any type of cultural and technology event that occurs in Silicon Valley.

In order to achieve its net-zero energy character the Valley landmark relies on two proposals: technology to produce energy out of people's footsteps across the innumerable stairs (Pavegen), and small wind turbine generators which could be allocated within the north and south walls of the project as there is space within and exposure to the wind from both sides, when perforating it adequately. Moreover, it will be built from recycled or renewable wood making it sustainable and light enough to support such a large cantilever.

The views towards and at the project are striking. Seen from a distance it portrays the dynamism and development of the region; when accessing it, it frames the sky in such manner that everyone on earth would love to have his/her selfie there; and at night balconies and seats indirectly lit the space with subtle warm lighting to create an endless parterre and booths for events' enjoyment, or for introspection and inspiration of new ideas forming at the new core of the Valley.