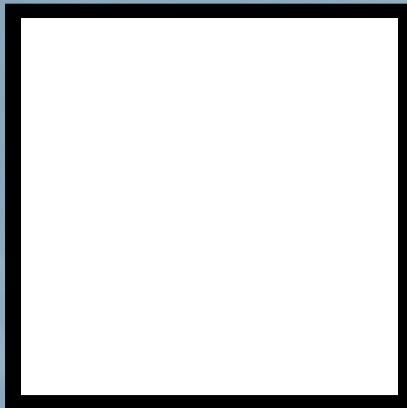


The Shell



The Shell is a unique public space that has all the ingredients to become an exciting new landmark for the city of San José that will build civic pride and welcome diverse communities from throughout the world.

The space consists of two components: a convertible roof structure that sits on top of a slope where the park smoothly drops down, creating a cultural gravity field and a place of expectations.

By doing this, we also minimize the loss of green area, an important environmental gesture for the delicate environment within the Los Gatos Creek/ Guadalupe River area. This will also apply to the usage of a sensitive lightning that is projected on the roof structure.

The roof is made of two pairs of rotating sections that can be overlapped, which means that the roof can be folded and positioned in many different ways.

The roof has integrated white solar panels on the outside and a matte chrome layer on the inside that will give a subtle reflection of the events that will take place on the slope.

The flexibility of the roof caters to a variety of configurations which gives the space under it a diversity of moods and context.

The Shell can be a highly immersive and contemplative space when the roof is a fully extended half-sphere, with only a crescent of light touching the grass. It can just as easily host an intimate outdoor concert when the roof becomes a backdrop, or act as a large parasol for a temporary playground with slides that cover parts of the slope.

The slope itself is a bit more stretched out than the roof, which means that even if the roof is fully down, there will still be plenty of room between the ground and the roof structure which will make for an impressive entrance.

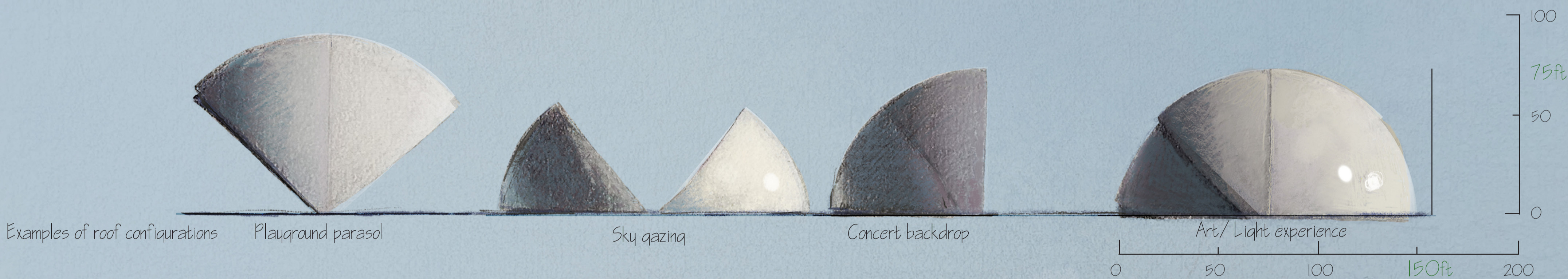
The space can be both grandiose and casual depending on the occasion, and will be the host for many different kinds of memories for both the local community as well as for tourists.

It will be a great place to have a picnic with your friends, but also a great location for having a sublime art experience.

The roof celebrates the smooth high-tech end of what the Silicon Valley area is pushing for, while the grass slope brings the notion of freedom and joy, which also is something that is highly associated with the area.



Siteplan



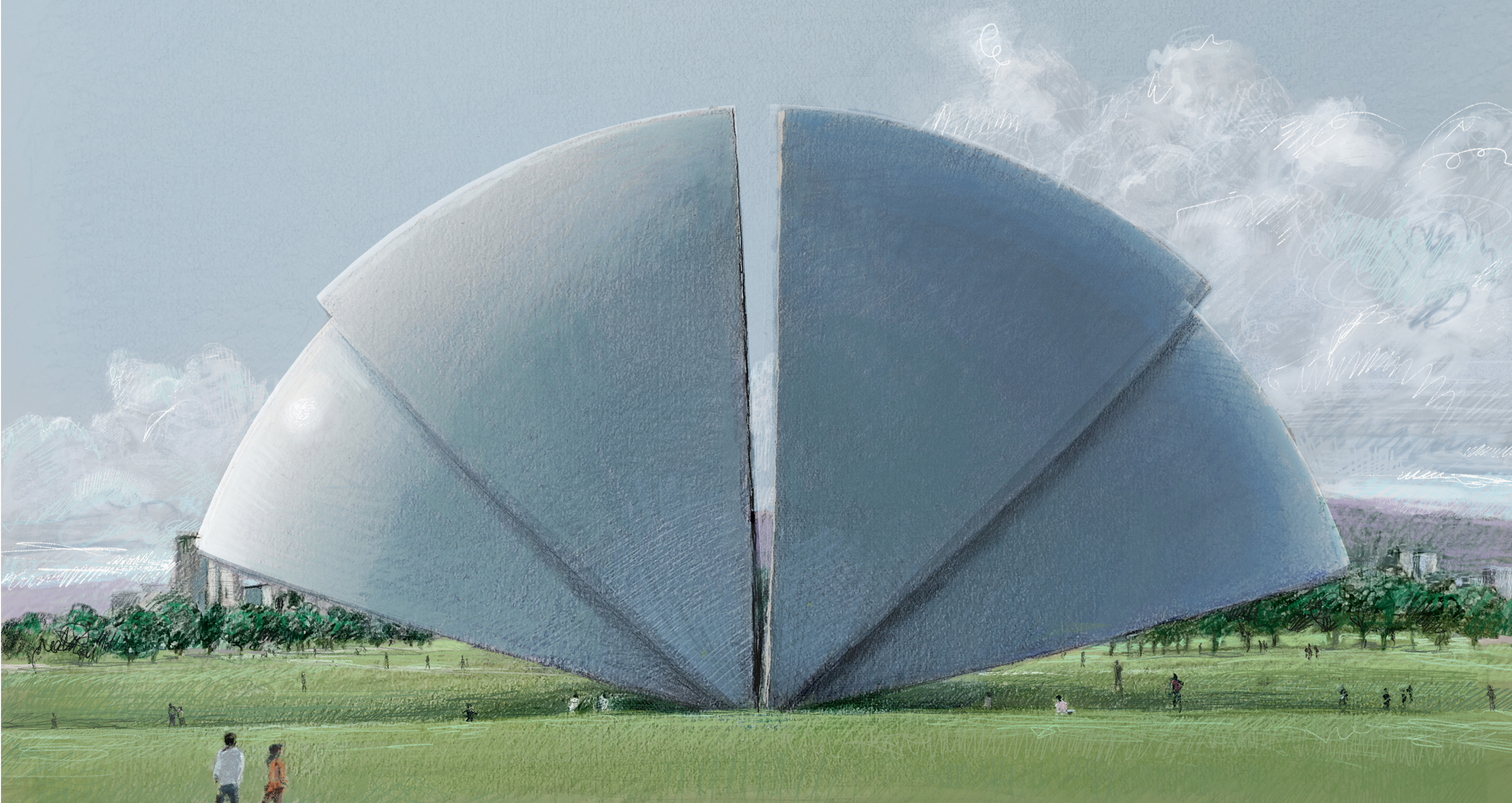
Examples of roof configurations

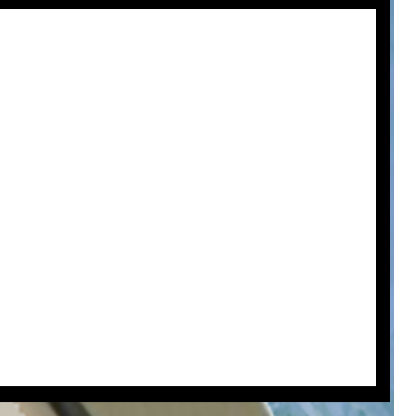
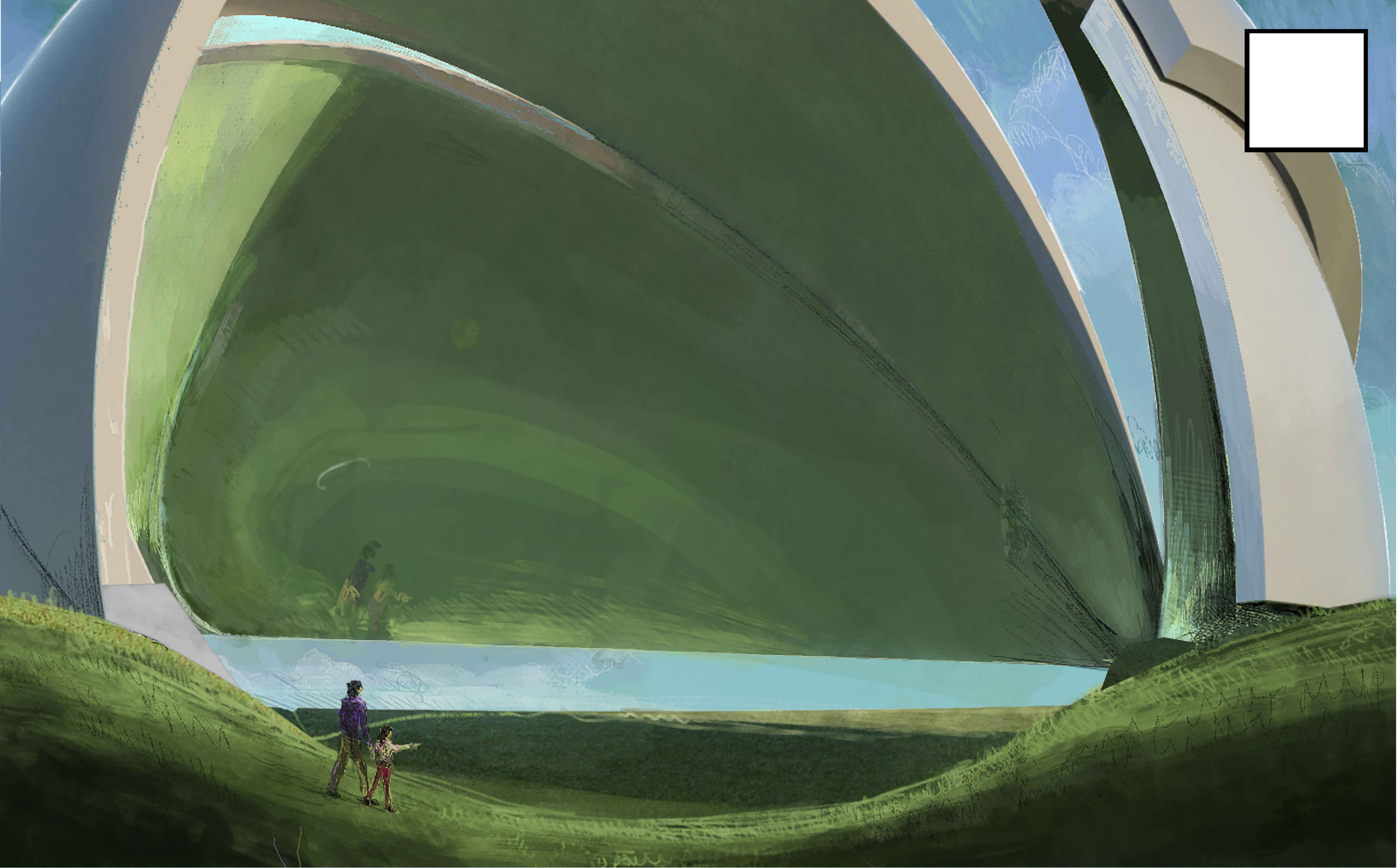
Playground parasol

Sky gazing

Concert backdrop

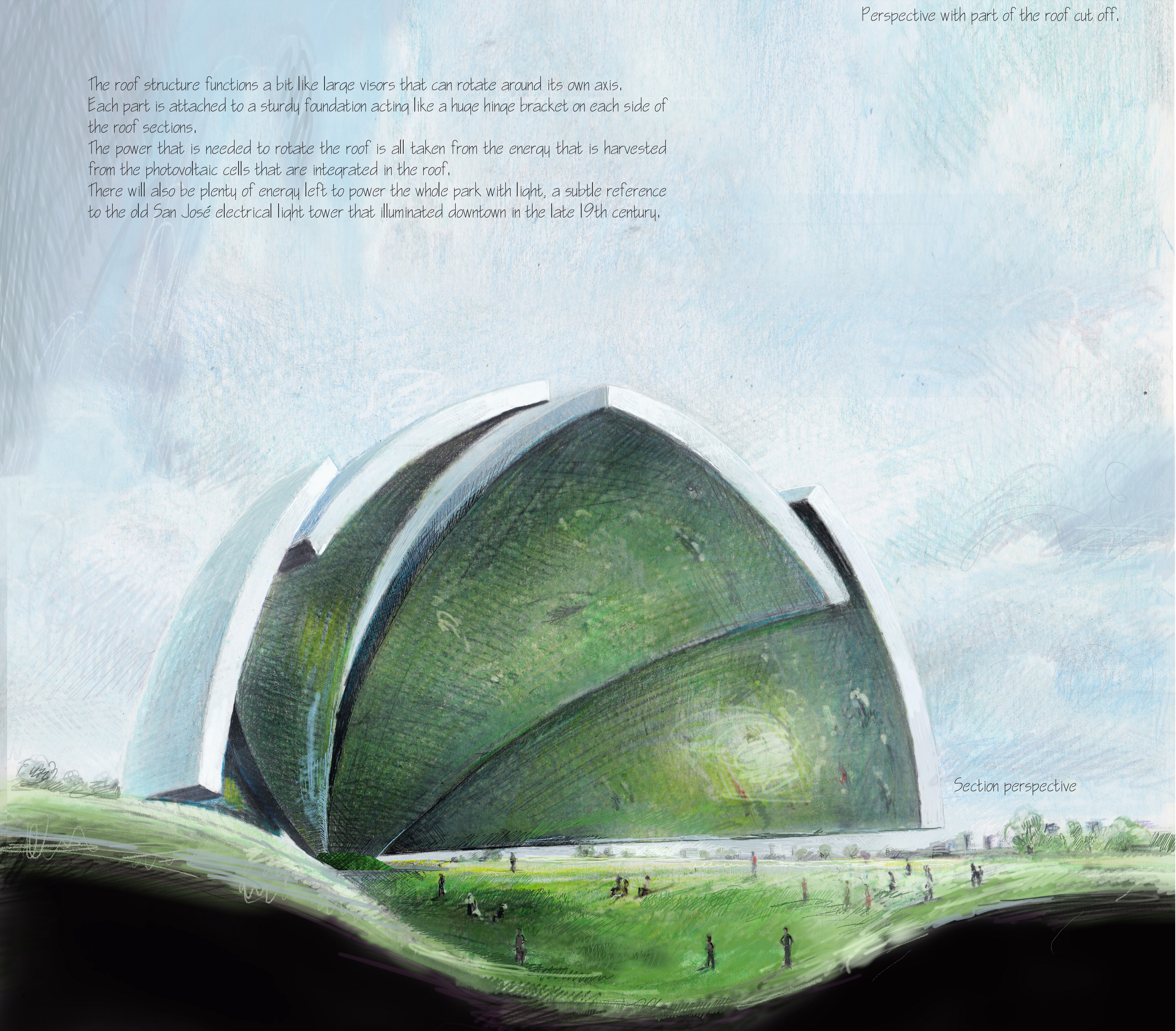
Art/ Light experience





Perspective with part of the roof cut off.

The roof structure functions a bit like large visors that can rotate around its own axis. Each part is attached to a sturdy foundation acting like a huge hinge bracket on each side of the roof sections. The power that is needed to rotate the roof is all taken from the energy that is harvested from the photovoltaic cells that are integrated in the roof. There will also be plenty of energy left to power the whole park with light, a subtle reference to the old San José electrical light tower that illuminated downtown in the late 19th century.



Section perspective