

# SILICON EARTH

## The inward Journey

With this striking landmark of true contemporary relevance, we propose an experiential installation that guides the audiences towards the earth. An inward journey that creates awareness and intensifies the relationship with our planet.

In this fertile place for ambition, where technology dominates and the future is determined, 'Silicon Earth' forms a metaphor for the direction humankind needs to take to establish a sustainable future.

Silicon Valley draws people from all over the world who share a common ground. We feel there is a true need for a physical common ground. Increasingly, life takes place in the virtual world, especially post-Covid. A real place where people can connect with each other, connect with the earth, but mostly connect with themselves, is essential. A place to breath and contemplate, a place to experience and share, a place to be present.

'Silicon Earth' will create an immersive experience in which the diverse communities of San Jose are drawn together in a celebration of their shared environment.

Landmarks often highlight how humanity is capable of mastering the forces of nature and fighting gravity. We propose a completely different approach:

Instead of shipping new material into the area, the materials will be won directly from the environment. The materials used will be nothing but the earth of Silicon Valley and all the diverse layers of this fertile soil. What is taken from the earth will rise above the horizon, in an inverted version. The deeper the excavation, the higher the landmark.

The shared experience of the work is to get deeper and reach higher. This should be understood in a both conceptual and spiritual way, as well as physical.

In this way, the piece actively promotes the principles of net-zero energy. Minimal energy required to illuminate the installation will be supplied using solar panels.

'Silicon Earth' will literally immerse the public in the surrounding environment, while on the surface of the land a reminder of the material that makes up our environment will create a counter landmark. People can descend and climb, choose their own direction, but the relation between the two will always be present.

'Silicon Earth' is a landmark, a statue, a staircase, a mountain, a hole, a destination, a direction, a picnic spot, a training course, an altered state of the land, a new habitat, a new nature, a way forward, without losing a clear view of the impact on the present.