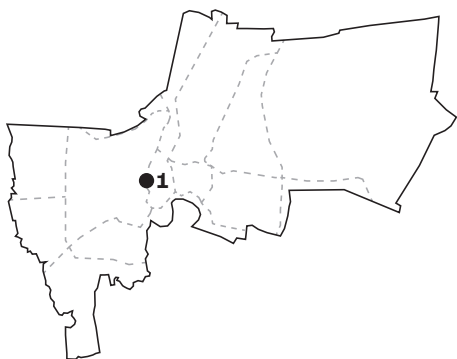
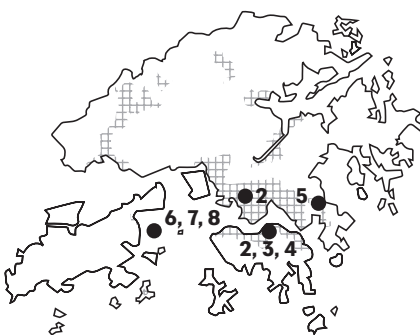


| PRINCIPLES | BANGKOK EXPRESSWAY 1 | HONG KONG BACK LANES 2 | STAG 3 | CONNECTING SPACES 4 | DUCKLING HILL 5 | PENG CHAU ISLAND 6 | WUT TUNG SAT 7 | LOT 313 8 | SEOUL MINI-MOUNTAINS 9 | INVERTED HONG KONG 10 |
|------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| I | p. 44 | p. 46 | p. 48 | p. 49 | p. 50 | p. 52 | p. 54 | p. 56 | p. 57 | p. 61 |
| II | p. 66 | p. 68 | p. 70 | p. 71 | p. 72 | p. 74 | p. 76 | p. 78 | p. 80 | p. 82 |
| III | p. 88 | p. 89 | p. 91 | p. 92 | p. 94 | p. 96 | p. 98 | p. 100 | p. 102 | p. 105 |
| IV | p. 110 | p. 111 | p. 113 | p. 115 | p. 117 | p. 119 | p. 120 | p. 122 | p. 123 | p. 124 |
| V | p. 130 | p. 132 | p. 135 | p. 136 | p. 138 | p. 140 | p. 141 | p. 143 | p. 144 | p. 145 |
| DRAWINGS | p. 148 | p. 160 | p. 170 | p. 174 | p. 178 | p. 188 | p. 196 | p. 200 | p. 204 | p. 212 |

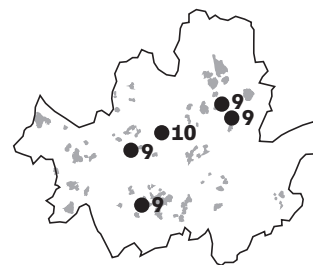
A BANGKOK



B HONG KONG



C SEOUL



A BANGKOK EXPRESSWAY 1

"Bangkok Expressway" was a research project driven by the wish to confront the urban reading tools acquired in a Swiss context with the logic of an Asian context. The field observation led to the discovery of several areas of wasteland beneath elevated expressway bridges, most of which had been left in an abandoned state. The analysis of these spaces led to the development of a design proposal for a suspended leisure infrastructure under the expressway bridges. The research and design projects were gathered as a master's thesis at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne, Switzerland.

B HONG KONG BACK LANES 2

"Hong Kong Back Lanes" was a research project that started from the wish to explore the dense and complex urban condition of Hong Kong and potentially define a territory of intervention. This field investigation led to the discovery of a network of interstitial back lanes that slice through the dense city fabric and provided an entry point for a new understanding of the city. The observation of the various ways in which the semi-private lanes are occupied by installations built by the city's inhabitants was cause for reflection on questions related to design practice and led to the first draft of a set of design principles. This research provided the framework for the STAG project and led to the publication of the book *Hong Kong In-Between*.

STAG 3

"STAG" was a design project carried out during the research on Hong Kong's back lanes. It was intended to push the observation of the lanes further by switching the position of the observer to that of an actor. This project included the design of a STAG: a stool combined with a backpack that could be used as a means to explore and temporarily occupy the back lanes. With the idea of

engaging others in this study, 120 stool bags were produced and used during a series of events (movie projection, Chinese tea ceremony, DJ party) organized in various lanes of the city. The stool bags were produced in collaboration with three tarpaulin craftsmen, who used the lanes as their shop and workshop, providing valuable insights into the way these interstitial spaces are used.

CONNECTING SPACES 4

"Connecting Spaces Hong Kong – Zurich" was a design project for a transdisciplinary and transcultural art space project initiated by the Zurich University of the Arts, which acted as the Hong Kong branch of the art school. Located in the dense area of North Point, the ground-floor unit of a former mirror factory was conceived as a multifunctional platform for hosting a series of events related to arts education, such as workshops, seminars, exhibitions, and performances. The design of this space was an opportunity to test and reflect on the insights gathered during the "Hong Kong Back Lanes" research.

DUCKLING HILL 5

"Duckling Hill" was a research project on the informal appropriation of a hill located in the liminal zone between the Tseung Kwan O New Town and the Sai Kung Country Park in Hong Kong. A group of elderly people living in the nearby Tseung Kwan O Aged Care Complex acted as guides to the area and shared stories about the making of the installation for the hill. This investigation was the subject of two courses taught at the Polytechnic University (PolyU) and included a series of workshops on the design of a pavilion requested by the elders as a tool to support their voice on the District Council. The research was presented in an exhibition at PolyU's School of Design and published in a newspaper called *The People of Duckling Hill*.

PENG CHAU ISLAND 6

"Peng Chau Island" was a research project that looked at the tiny outlying island in the Hong Kong archipelago. With the viewpoint shifted to a suburban site, the aim was to deepen an investigation into the question of limits and boundaries at both the architectural and the territorial scale. At the macro scale, the reading of the historical map and testimony from the inhabitants made it possible to reflect on the shifting status of this small island within the Pearl River Delta in the context of its history. At the micro scale, the observation of a constellation of domesticated thresholds within the village provided a direct connection between two different and miniaturized urban conditions within the island: density and sparsity.

WUT TUNG SAT 7

The "Wut Tung Sat" research project was intended as a testing unit for exploring the articulation of space within the main village on Peng Chau Island. Wut Tung Sat means "activity room" and was conceived as an open platform to host various types of activities that reflected the needs and the dreams of the island. Over a period of two years, the space was used by the inhabitants to organize clothes-swapping events, permaculture workshops, foreign artists residencies, movie projections, various types of exhibitions, community gatherings, and local food events. The dynamic of this ever-changing condition was used as an opportunity to carry out various spatial experiments. Being at the same time the architect of the various setups and also a user of the space, this dual role led to a reflection on the design principles.

LOT 313 8

"Lot 313" is a design project for a three-story apartment block on Peng Chau Island commissioned by a private client. Although the original plan envisaged one apartment per floor, the client requested enough flexibility to potentially

occupy the top two floors himself, with his mother invited to live on the ground floor. This project was an opportunity to test at an architectural scale the learning gathered during the previous observation of liminal sites. A typical long, narrow shophouse parcel in Peng Chau village, the site is separated from its neighbor by a tiny lane and faces a retaining wall at the back. This configuration guided the interior layout of a building designed as an articulated threshold rather than as an object detached from its context.

C SEOUL MINI-MOUNTAINS 9

"Seoul Mini-Mountains" is a research project focused on the analysis of a repetitive pattern of unexamined urban thresholds: two dozen urban mini-mountains homogeneously spread within the dense city fabric of Seoul. This research led to the teaching of two research courses at the University of Hong Kong's Department of Architecture. The first course was based on field research and presented at the *Global Studio Exhibition* during the Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism. The second research study focused on the analysis of historical maps combined with GIS map data and led to the compilation of an atlas.

INVERTED HONG KONG 10

"Inverted Hong Kong" was an installation on show at the *Cities Exhibition* during the Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism. Located within the recently renovated Donuimun Village, the installation played with the boundary lines of an interstitial lane. The audience was challenged with representing a city as a system of thresholds where the domestic and the collective overlap. This spatial setup was an opportunity to transpose the reflections and insights gained during the observation and testing of liminal sites in Hong Kong, mapping them to another interstitial site in Seoul.