

SUBMISSIONS | STUDENT PROJECTS

Project Title

Navigating Space By Listening

Site

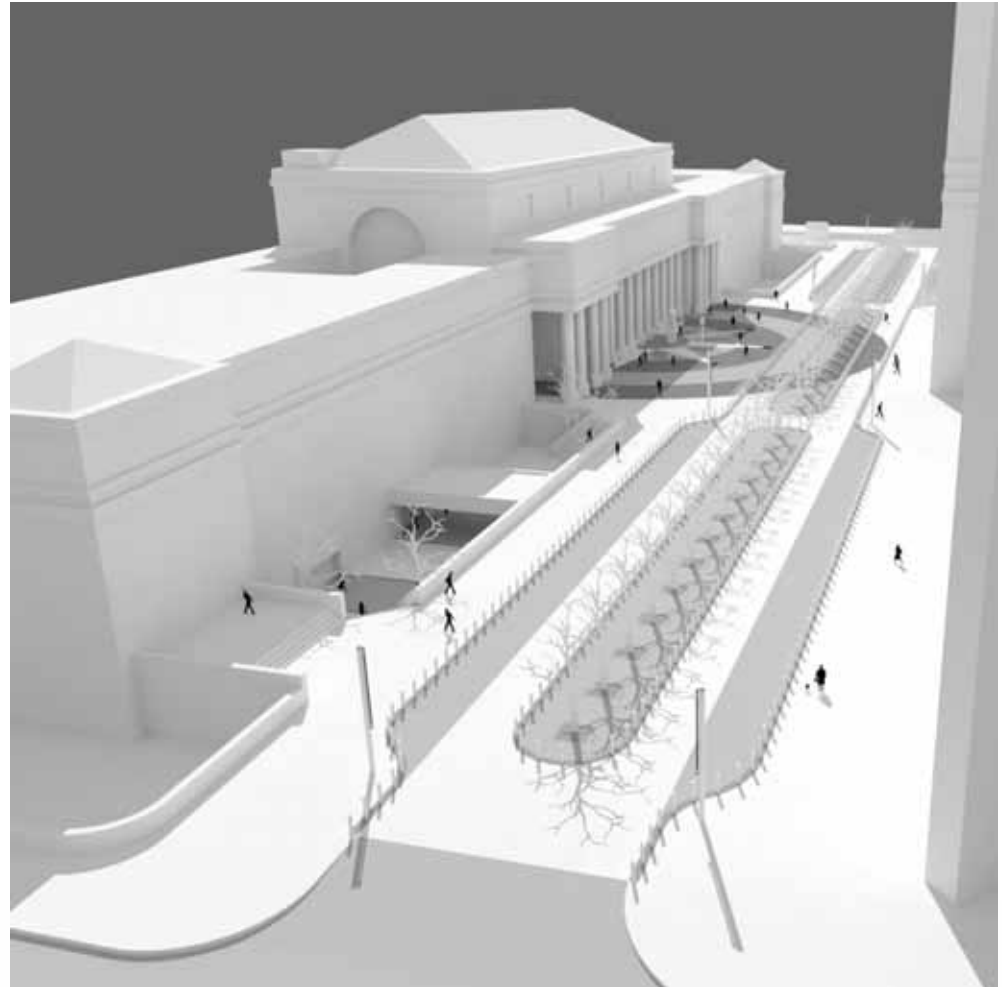
Union Station

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2009

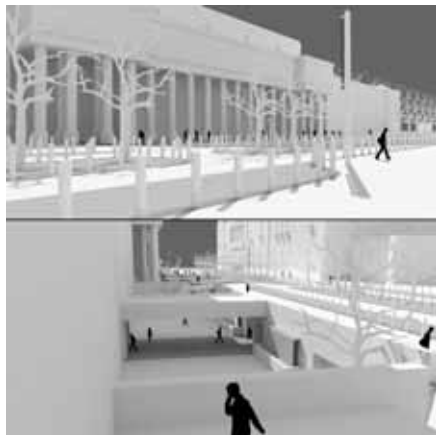
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Project Description

Since the European Renaissance and the dawn of the modern period, history has shown an increasing visual dominance in Western culture. In urban design, this ocularcentrism not only encourages a detachment between self and place but also ignores the growing percentage of visually impaired users. A design reform is necessary to encourage multi-sensory experiences in public spaces while assisting the visually impaired in spatial navigation. Toronto's Union Station sees 65 million passengers annually and thus presents a promising precedent opportunity. Located in the world's most multicultural city, this site also provides a diverse range of ethnic users and restricted perceptual capabilities that requires a creative combination of sensory cues in its design. This project emphasizes the need to consider and include sound in landscape design coupled with creative tactile navigation techniques. The success of this project will encourage the necessary inclusion of all perceptual senses in future urban design projects.

2009