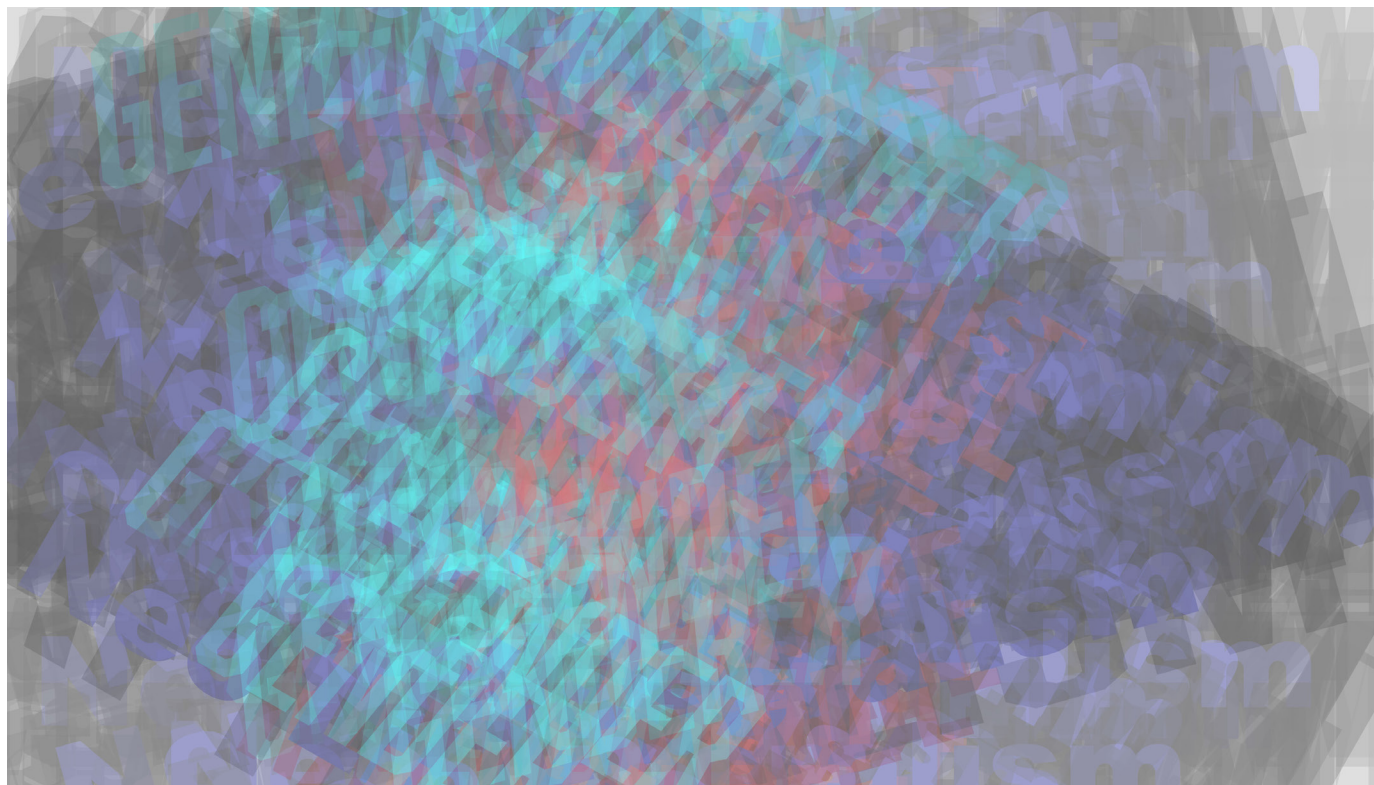


Critical Making

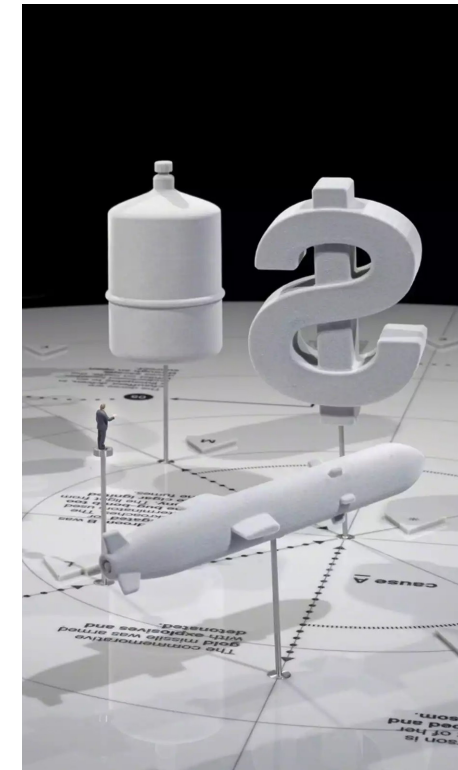
Rendering visible systems of control.

'Be not the slave of your own past. Plunge into the sublime seas, dive deep and swim far, so you shall come back with self-respect, with new power, with an advanced experience -that shall explain and overlook the old' *Ralph Waldo Emerson*



Background

This studio will allow students to dive deeper into structures of oppression. Unpacking capitalism, racism, and gender. Often the institutions of architecture position themselves as word makers, but over the past couple of years institutions have been put on notice as to their role as a tool for power. Called out as a discipline that holds up ideas of white supremacy, elitism, and misogyny that allows little space for "otherness." This studio is intended to allow space to go deeper into these systems of control to better understand for who they serve and why the built environment has failed so many. Using critical making as way to demonstrate how these systems operate.



Detail from *Everything End in Chaos*, 211.
Ilona Gaynor

The project attempts to design, then reverse engineer a single, spectacular Black Swan event. Gaynor's research topic spans economics, finance, global markets, risk management, insurance and mathematics.

"I aim to explore the paradoxical nature of policy by examining and speculating on the 'invisible' negotiations and momentary instances that affect, compromise and twist policy for means of financial and/or political gain as well as its implications.

World Making_

World making is a violent and dangerous undertaking, just ask the indigenous people of the Americas, Africa, or India. To build you must destroy. Pulling raw material from the earth, cutting down trees, or clearing the land. And we cannot forget cheap labor. So before we go and become world makers shouldn't we have an understanding of how systems that have built the constructs we must navigate?

Context

A global pandemic, racial justice movement, global warming, me too movement, transgender rights, immigration, and an attempted insurrection of the United States government has many of use questioning the constructs we are living in. The global pandemic has shown a deep mistrust in government and who our government services. We have seen billionaire become wealthier and the working class poorer. This studio aims to be a space of deep research that starts to unearth these systems and find its relationship with labor and power. This studio is not interested in finding solutions, but rather to gain knowledge and understanding of the constructs we live in. This studio is intended to help build critical thinking skills and offers students the space to begin the process of initial research for their thesis or overall interest.

