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# Public Space as Landscape Experience of Happiness: A Surprise Public Garden amidst Water and Large Blocks of Wooldland

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## **Public Space as Landscape Experience of Happiness: A Surprise Public Garden amidst Water and Large Blocks of Woodland**

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### **A Surprise Public Garden amidst Water and Large Blocks of Woodland as a Model for the Development of Urban Green Space**

The suggested ecological concept of urban green space is a series of gardens by the water edge connected through a network of footpaths with large blocks of woodland, creating therefore a natural framework at the city's waterfront perimeter. Nature reserves are also located around the edge of the city and linked via the woodlands to man-made ecosystems which penetrate into the urban fabric and encourage wildlife. It is a design scheme about how multi-sensory experiences can be merged with landscape architecture in order to integrate humans into spatial landscape elements creating meaningful places, and producing distinctive memorable designs which harbor extraordinary experiences that promote happiness. By artfully exploring and applying multi-sensory experiences as a key design tool to the field of landscape architecture, designers can integrate the mind, body, and soul into the senses to create optimal experiences. The designed peripatetic pathways and platforms are simple in architectural synthesis since it was limited in the use of simple geometric forms of small dimensions: square surfaces 4.00 x 4.00m and orthogonal surfaces 4.00x8.00m in a stark contrast with the complexity that characterizes the city fabric.

The proposed illusionary designed natural

place for relaxation is close to a contemporary dense city where human beings may dwell and explore its natural ecosystems of fauna and flora. It represents a series of gardens-platforms and large blocks of woodland close to the water edge which achieve similar dislocations of space and incitements to the imagination. It is a peripatetic garden that shares its place between the movement through the natural ecosystem and the archipelago. It is a fictional place of happiness made out of enclosures and openings, views towards the sea and the natural ecosystem, large blocks of woodland, a garden path between the visual and the tactile. Water adds a touch of magic to the scenery. It reflects the many moods and colors of the sky, and its surface is patterned and textured by the multiple landscape elements and forms.

The proposed large blocks of woodland bring immense value to the overall scheme, including from environmental benefits and physical health to the more subtle components of well being like stress levels and happiness. Urban woodlands may contribute to the kinds of vibrant spaces that people want to inhabit and the kinds of cities that residents can't help but feel connected to once landscape architects admit and celebrate their role in creating vibrant urban environments.

The series of gardens-platforms and large blocks of woodland become as a result of body/space, feeling and felt, viewed beyond the ordinary "ways of seeing" landscape and touched, addressing the walking experience, a poetic matrix of a living zone of vegetation, wood and stone, a utopian project that may be a lesson for the contemporary practitioner of landscape design. Colors and textures create a bubble of happiness, a tribute to science and wonder, an earthly paradise where visitors will be able to connect with nature and ultimately with their own human souls.

