

SANTA MONICA CATALINA COASTAL CATCHER

We should not want to protect the environment; we should want to create a world where the environment does not need protecting. The world is beginning to realize the dire circumstances where our resources are running out and damaging our environment. Renewable clean energy sources are becoming keystones to cities but efficiency and aesthetic often don't achieve symbiosis in the resulting product. More over the final product doesn't represent its location or character of the area making installations of renewable energy 'one purpose wonders.'

The concept behind the Catalina Costal Catcher is to memorialize its unique location, culture, and history. The figures beyond the pier are designed to remind visitors of the unique history of the Santa Monica Pier and specifically the time of the La Monica ballroom that was lost to a storm. The shape of each pillar takes the form of a dancer with skirts that catch sunrays creating a ghost like dancing mirage of the past. The resulting twelve dancers symbolize the twelve peaks the ballroom originally had to its structure.

The platform on which the dancers sit has a crested form designed specifically to represent the weather pattern that the installation harnesses for drinking water. The Catalina Eddy weather phenomenon pushes towards land with the same crested shape native to Southern California. This renewable resource art piece embeds into the Santa Monica environment and represents the region's unique weather.

This all weather, all environment design focuses on utilizing the specific weather partial to Santa Monica during any condition throughout the year. Culturally Santa Monica citizens are known for being less fond of the June Gloom and Grey May aspects to the weather through its late spring, summer, and early fall months. This weather due to the marine layer that rises off the coast from Catalina Eddy causes low hanging clouds and fog/mist to roll towards the land and into the city.

It can dissipate as the day goes on but clearly has been nicknamed for its disturbance in the beach area. Using technology that can harness this 'less favorable' time of year that benefits the city can help balance out the gloomy connotation and represent a valuable condition that Santa Monica can use to provide clean drinking water.

