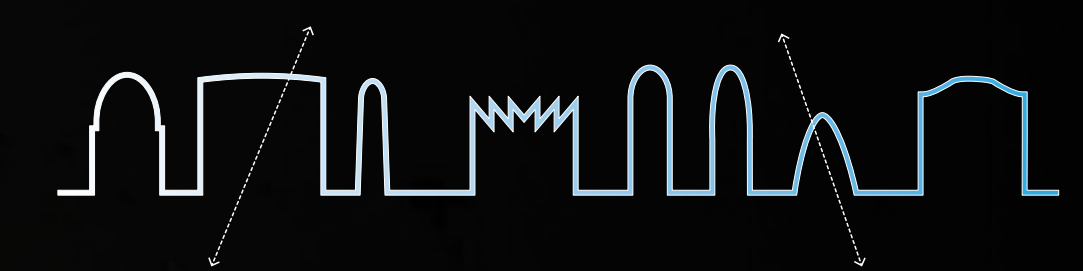




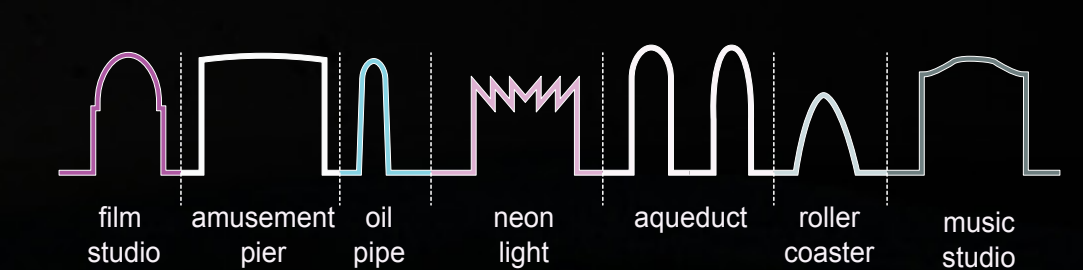
la gates



Passive desalination with solar power



Open and transparent structure, preserve open views to the ocean



The linear sculpture refers to a wide range of typical L.A. elements

A community in the desert. At the end of the frontier. A city without water.

Los Angeles has been a place for entertainment throughout history. Its beautiful beaches and perfect climate offered relief from the harsh and dry countryside where the first settlers lived and worked. Santa Monica flourished at the end of the Pacific Electric Railway which brought in people, and the amusement pier with all its attractions was conceived. Famous film and music studios followed, and LA became the epicenter of western culture.

From the first factories of entertainment until the ones that arise today, these factories all share a common feature that makes them part of the same family, and clearly sets them apart from any other place in the city: A gate. A powerful symbol that changes the mind set of anyone to cross it. You enter another world, and from that moment, you will be entertained.

But how do you sustain a city in the middle of the desert? Even today we see water and energy brought in from afar. The great aqueducts guide water over 400 miles in order to fill all the swimming pools and water all the lawns and gardens of the city's 18 million inhabitants. Power plants more than 600 miles away in surrounding states are generating energy to power the city's daily life. Remarkably, LA's lifelines look a lot like the gates of the city's bustling cultural hotspots. The lines of energy and water cross both the rural and urban landscape, generating iconic and monumental gates.

Even when the energy arrives at its destination it is expressed in the characteristic neon lines which define the color of entertainment, the color of LA. A city of lines, folding lines creating gates, transporting resources, giving meaning and coloring the night.

Although LA imports a lot of physical goods to survive, the city also gives a lot back. The culture defined on the beaches of LA is exported all over the world. It is here where our way of living is invented. In our present time virtual goods of culture are sent into the air. However, a physical expression of this process is not existing.

Our proposal LA GATES is an addition to the lines and gates already in place. A new line filled with water. A new gate on the horizon. It starts with pumping up water from the sea. By means of passive desalination it will generate fresh water. The energy of the sun is used to evaporate salt water and once it condensates it is collected and salt water becomes fresh water available close to the place where it is in need: LA.

LA GATES aims to reflect upon the culture of entertainment and its relationship with the resources the city needs to survive. As a continuity of the language of LA the project creates a surplus of fresh water to sustain this culture of abundance, this culture of waste, this culture of entertainment.