

Design Intent

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The WaterMark Jazz Club and Restaurant is intended to beautify the destruction that Hurricane Katrina caused in New Orleans, LA. The entirety of the design reflects the hurricane and the aftereffects of it.

One of the major marks of the hurricane that caught my attention was the seven-foot watermark that was created where the flooded water settled on the buildings and other various erect structures. This mark will always be present on these structures and a constant reminder of the beautiful disaster that struck.

My intent is to design a structure that includes the heart of New Orleans and is a reminder of the natural phenomenon that struck and brought together not only the people in the city but those outside as well.

The building itself takes on the shape of the hurricane. The stage is placed at the “eye of the storm ”where the skylight is also placed allowing a clear path to the outside of the hurricane. The main action is in the lower level around the stage where the bar is and the hurricane is swirling in commotion.

The second level is meant to take you through the experience of exiting the hurricane. The flooring is designed to mimic the water that rested throughout the town and left its mark, with various artifacts such as chairs and tables floating on the water.

The materials throughout the structure are meant to represent what the interior of many structures in New Orleans may have looked like while resting in the water of the hurricane.

The WaterMark Jazz Club is intended to beautify the natural destruction that occurred in New Orleans. While beautifying the hurricane the club incorporates a lot of the culture of New Orleans as well; including jazz music, local art, and some of the bright colors of the area. Mother Nature can be a beautiful yet terrible thing at the same time. Hurricane Katrina brought the city together and created some beautiful relationships and outcomes of sustainable living. The portrayal of this through the WaterMark will allow people to remember the beautiful things that came out of Hurricane Katrina.