

Sixth island of somewhere else:

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Floating Island 6.

The island of somewhere else! is hard to grasp. A immaterial step don't allow any feet, and an unseen shore won't feel anyone's breath. The closest you get is from far away. Constantly on the horizons edge where ever you watch its a mirage you never reach.



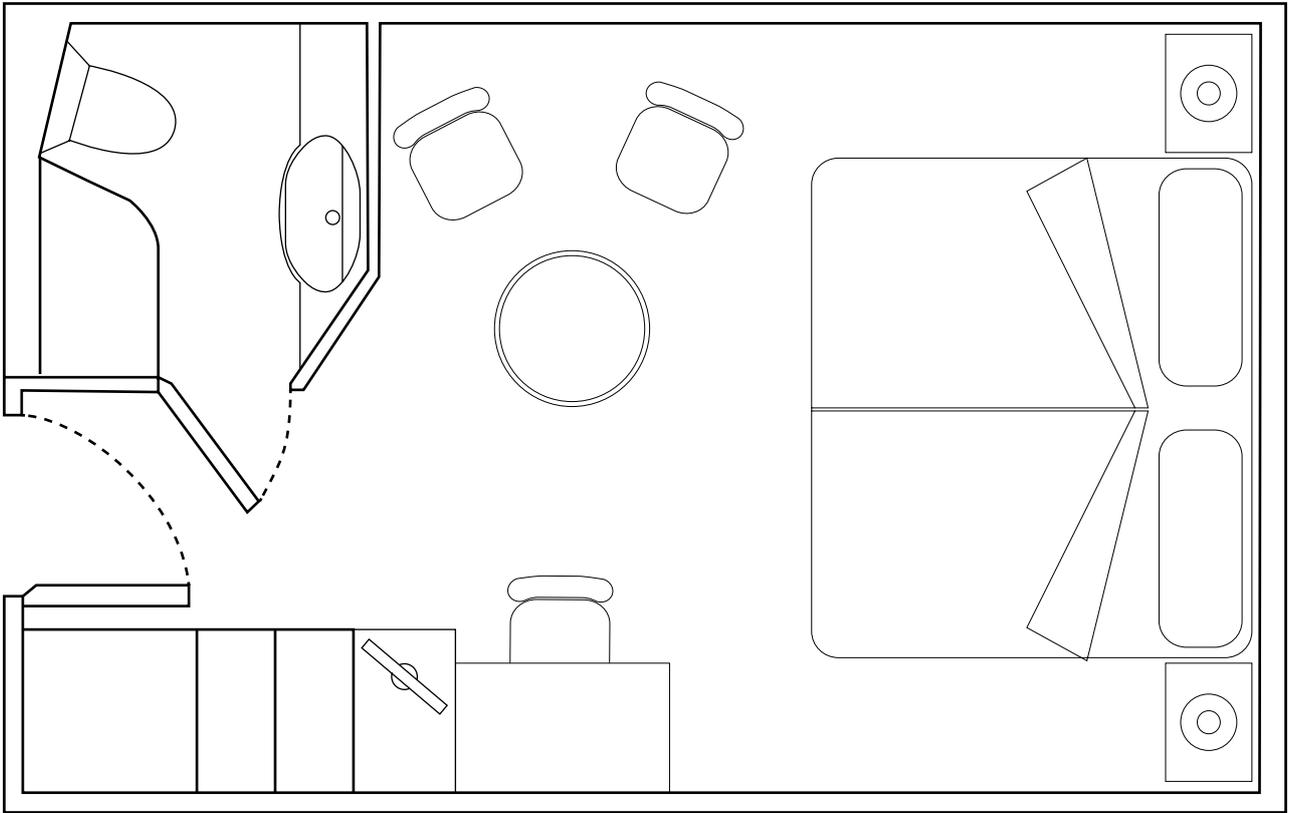
Ingredients Island 6:

The last visited island is the hardest to reach. I wanted to make visible a site that never could be stepped onto. The furthest away dream and destination, a mirage just moves away to the next horizon as you get closer.

I went to the most close space on board. The own cabin and its bed. Basically this room is just a bed with, a closet and small a chair with table. The bed interested me in relationship with the boats other parts and routines. During my journey I paid much attention to the relation between people on the ship. As a floating village it keeps all parts of a society with in. A governed state of its own, a sort of privatized city. Spinning in action to keep dreams alive and a kept hierarchy, the line between was both blurry and sharp. Usually the crew lives underneath the waterline, and with no own space to go to when off duty. The meeting between people working on the boat and there for holiday where static. And once on duty all staff where constantly monitored and timed. Lingering and talking to passengers where limited to a few words.

But the meeting in my own cabin became a interesting point, and by cabin I mean the bed. Where private meet a public side. Every evening a paper containing the next days agenda was delivered on to the bed. Information about the weather, what to wear and what to do. And next to it a beautiful towel-art pice was presented. The visible trace of some ones hands was left behind. The ships agenda penetrated all. And in the small corridors talking with the crew members working with the cabins where more easy. Since no one above in the hierarchy was overlooking.

I started to explore the bed as my last island. I built a frame in 1:1 of the bed on board. 140*200 cm. I wanted my last island to take its steps from the bed. Of course since the "bed" (where ever you sooner or later sleep) is always a starting point for every action to come. But also since the bed in interior space is a central part still today often kept away, hidden or covered.



I created a structure resembling the layers of a bedcover. A duvet cover for a bed contains layers of air to keep insulation. This space in between became interesting in my investigation. The structure was made of ten layers of organza. Sewed together with space between all of the layers. A hollow room was kept inside its shape and form.

I then took apart the layers again and started to paint each layer. I used black ink in different strengths to visualize a sort of landscape and world seen from above. In my research I looked upon different types of maps. Maps from adventures charting unknown territories and to people dreaming about exoticism and imagination of places never visited. These maps grow out of a mix from reality and imagination. In this way I tried first to represent the path traveled in my journey. Islands I did visit and wanted to see.

As I painted all of the layers I started to combine them like patterns. Rotating each layer contrasting from the other. I then went on again to paint all of the layers at once. Laying on top of each other the ink leaked down through all of the layers creating a offset/ moiré effect. I then again twisted the layers order around making visible all of the layers differences and resemblances. This moiré effect was something I wanted to make use of in the bed.

I now sewed the cover back together. And then I started to build up the bed around it. I worked with a pink toned polyester stretch velvet to create the sides of the bed. A fabric for me connected foremost to clothing and the body. This kind of fabric also carried a texture constantly changing as your hand moved across it. And once draped looking much like water as it move. This pink tone was also a common used color on board the ship. Tones of pink and light red amber color fabric and paint folded across the ships every corner.

I used curtain clips and ribbons to create a pleating around the beds sides. And then hung onto the fabric. The use of techniques for interior curtains also gave the bed a look taken both from the classical type hotel bed and at the same time a hotel interior. Creating a bed that stood by it self both as a furniture and a structure in it self.



