

MOJDEH BARATLOO ARCHITECTS

C<(P-G)xT for City Speculations
(Commissioned Project)
Queens Museum of Art
Queens, New York
1995

*Where C is the Total Built Volume of New York City,
P is the Area of Central Park,
G is the Area of the Manhattan Street Grid (overlaid on P),
and T is the Height of the World Trade Towers.*

C<(P-G)xT addresses urban representation in relation to the Queens Museum of Art's monumental model the Panorama of the City of New York. The project was commissioned by the Museum for an exhibition honoring the 30th anniversary and restorative updating of the Panorama.

Constructed at the same 1:1200 scale as the Panorama, C<(P-G)xT is conceived as a counter-model - simultaneously illuminating both objective and subjective qualities of the city. As a physical model C<(P-G)xT represents an equivalent of the total built volume of all buildings in the five boroughs of New York City compressed into an area the size of Central Park by the height of the World Trade Center towers, with blocks corresponding to the Manhattan street grid. Its form is also an abstract representation that conjures multiple experiential qualities of the New York City - the vitality, the density, the danger, the wonder.

An accompanying computer animation depicts a perpetual flight through the interior of this analogical urban construct.









