

A person wearing a white protective suit and gloves is crouching on a rocky shore, possibly collecting samples or working with the environment. The background shows dark, jagged rocks and a body of water.

# The Ecologies of Peace / Ecologías de la paz

(working title)

T <sup>~</sup> Thyssen  
B Bornemisza  
→ A Art Contemporary

Co-organized by C3A Centro de Creación Contemporánea de  
Andalucía, Córdoba and TBA21 Thyssen-Bornemisza Art  
Contemporary  
April 26, 2024 – March 30, 2025

# The Ecologies of Peace

Co-organized by C3A Centro de Creación Contemporánea de Andalucía and TBA21 Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary  
Opening: April 26, 2024 Curated by Daniela Zyman

The exhibition **“The Ecologies of Peace”** is rooted in an exploration of the concept of ‘just peace,’ introduced by sociologist John Paul Lederach. Justpeace offers an alternative framework through which to strive for peace, transcending the traditional notion of peace as the mere absence of war. Instead, it considers the profound interplay of peacebuilding with restorative, transformational, and ecological justice. It strives to strengthen the long-term cultivation of restorative micro-relationships against geopolitical and sociogenic forces that cement conflict, social, and economic competition, and promulgate militant linguistic codes and metaphors.

At the heart of “The Ecologies of Peace” is a commitment to reimagining peace through art and culture. The exhibition underscores the potential of art as a vehicle for resilience, reinvention, remediation, and solidarity and sees the possibilities art offers for connection, reweaving and recognizing pluralistic ideas that draw on diverse traditions. Presenting multiple perspectives, art can enrich the conceptual apparatuses that shape highly polarized realities. As anthropologist Arjun Appadurai has noted, peace—alongside freedom, rights, sovereignty, representation, and democracy—forms part of the contested “concatenation of ideas, concepts, and images.” These organizing grand narratives have gradually shed their internal coherence and the credibility that once bound them together. This doesn’t imply that peace has become irrelevant, but rather that it has assumed diverse interpretations across various communities and is now embodied by different institutions.

“The Ecologies of Peace” is structured around four pressing “unpeace” scenes of our time. It delves into the protracted military engagement in Ukraine, explores the enduring aftermath of colonialism and the work of dismantling anti-Blackness, navigates the complex histories of conflict in the Middle East, which form the backdrop to the virulent eruption of war in October 2023. Furthermore, it scrutinizes the intricate topography of future conflicts driven by resource extraction and the destruction of the biosphere.

Within these “unpeace” zones, the exhibition foregrounds a rich repertoire of investigative methodologies. From the applied methods of counter-forensics to the evocative power of storytelling, from profound philosophical speculation to meticulous archiving and counter-mappings, artists have assumed the role of gatherers, organizers, and presenters of information. They collect traces, evidence, histories, and memories from the scenes of trauma. In the face of a host of global, interwoven, and increasingly complex crises, “The Ecologies of Peace” thus raises profound questions about the ethical, ecological, and economic, conceptual and aesthetic, individual and collective norms and practices at play both in describing and reshaping human agency.

\*“The Ecologies of Peace” is the last chapter of TBA21’s exhibition-trilogy inaugurated in 2022 at C3A Centro de Creación Contemporánea de Andalucía, Córdoba.

## List of artists

John Akomfrah  
Allora & Calzadilla  
Lucas Arruda  
Mirna Bamieh  
Fiona Banner  
Neil Beloufa  
Monica Bonvicini  
Candice Breitz  
Janet Cardiff  
The Center for Spatial Technologies  
in collaboration with Forensic Architecture  
Manthia Diawara  
Ryan Gander  
Cristina Garrido  
Lawrence Abu Hamdan  
Ayrson Heráclito  
Jenny Holzer  
Marine Hugonnier  
Saodat Ismailova  
Sanja Iveković

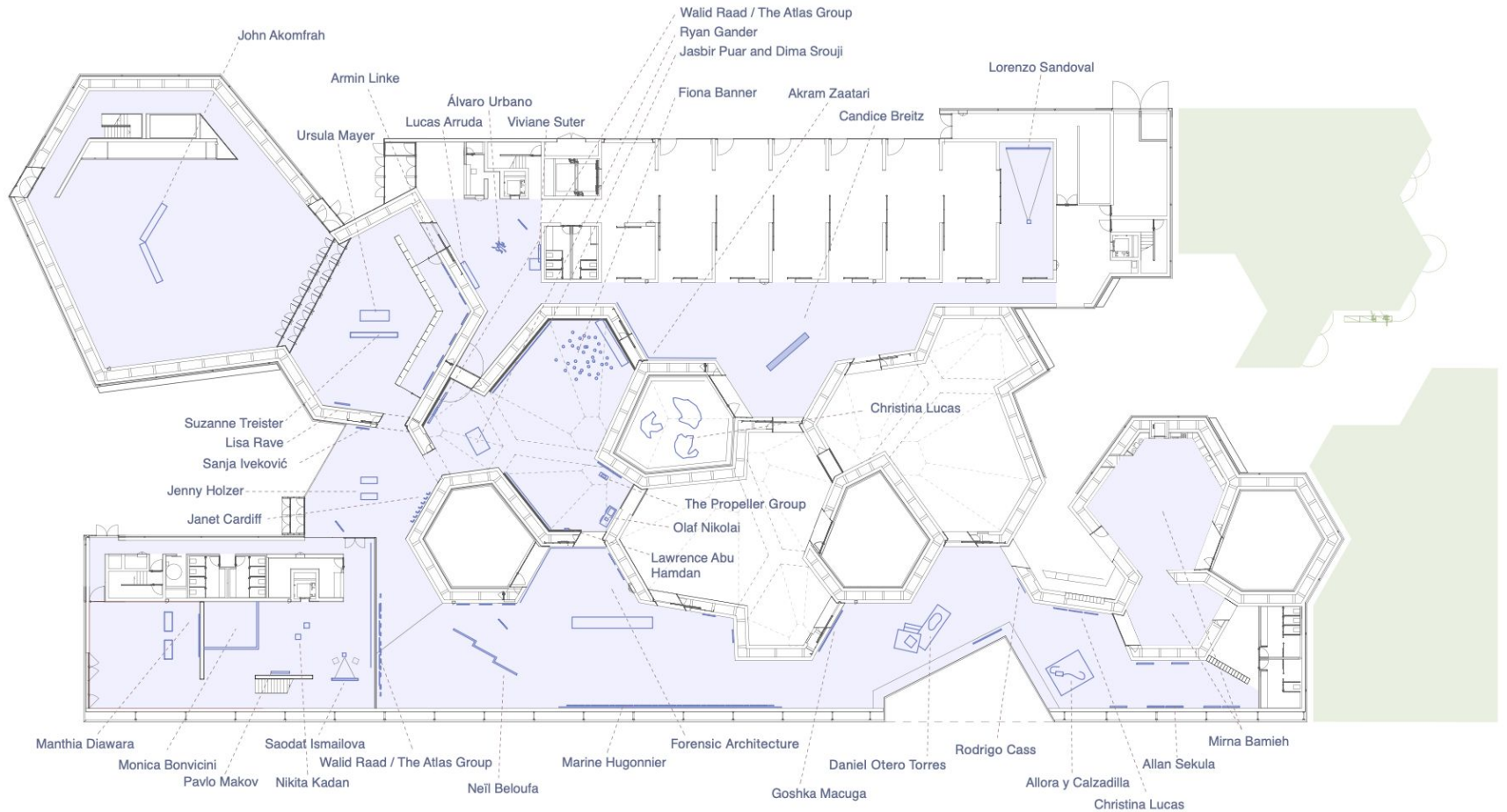
Nikita Kadan  
Samson Kambalu  
Amar Kanwar  
Armin Linke  
Cristina Lucas  
Goshka Macuga  
Pavlo Makov  
Ursula Mayer  
Olaf Nicolai  
Daniel Otero Torres  
Jasbir Puar and Dima Srouji  
Lisa Rave  
Lorenzo Sandoval  
Ritu Sarin & Tenzing Sonam  
Allan Sekula  
The Propeller Group  
Walid Raad/The Atlas Group  
Sissel Tolaas  
Suzanne Treister  
Álvaro Urbano  
Akram Zaatari

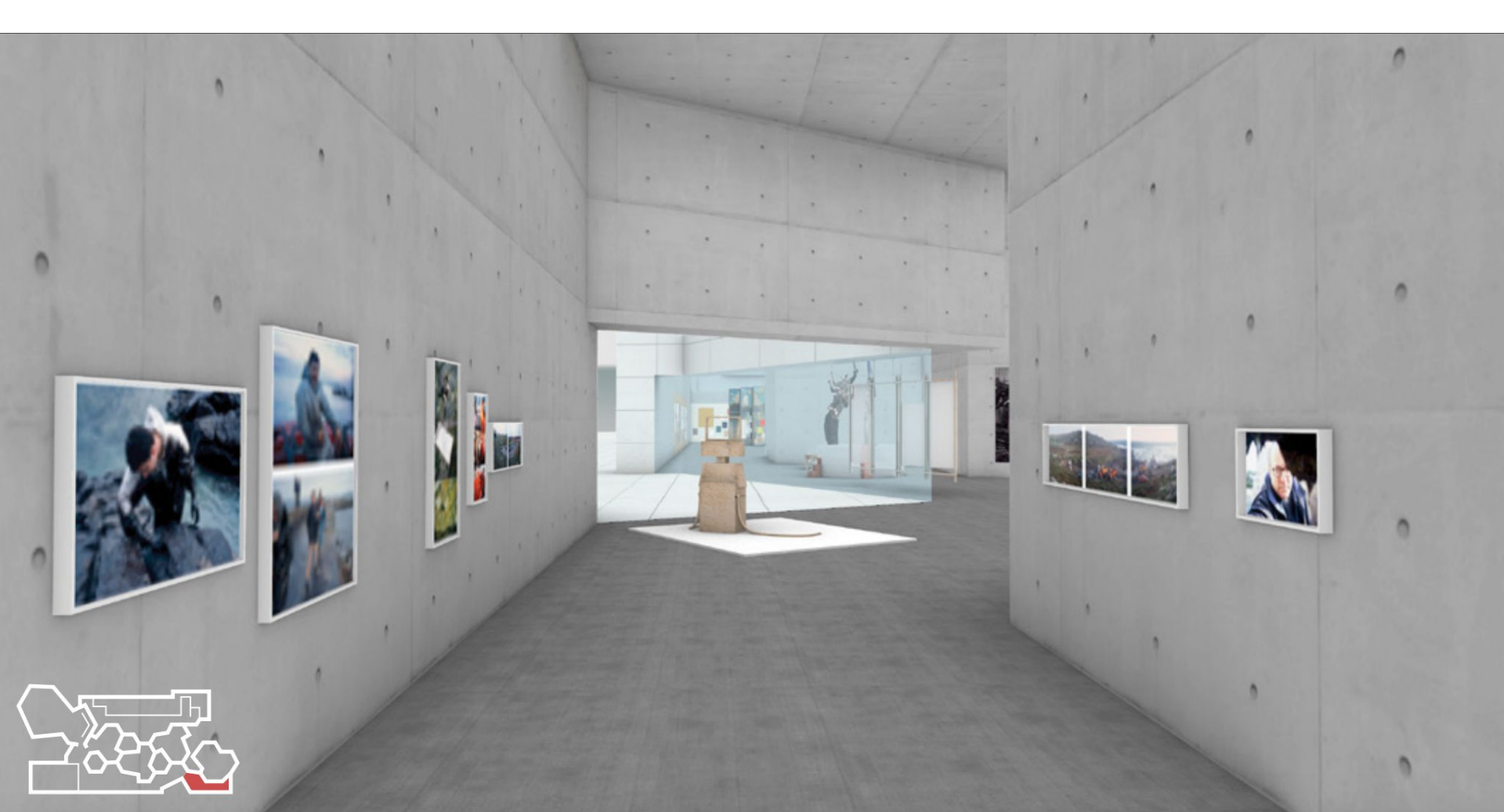


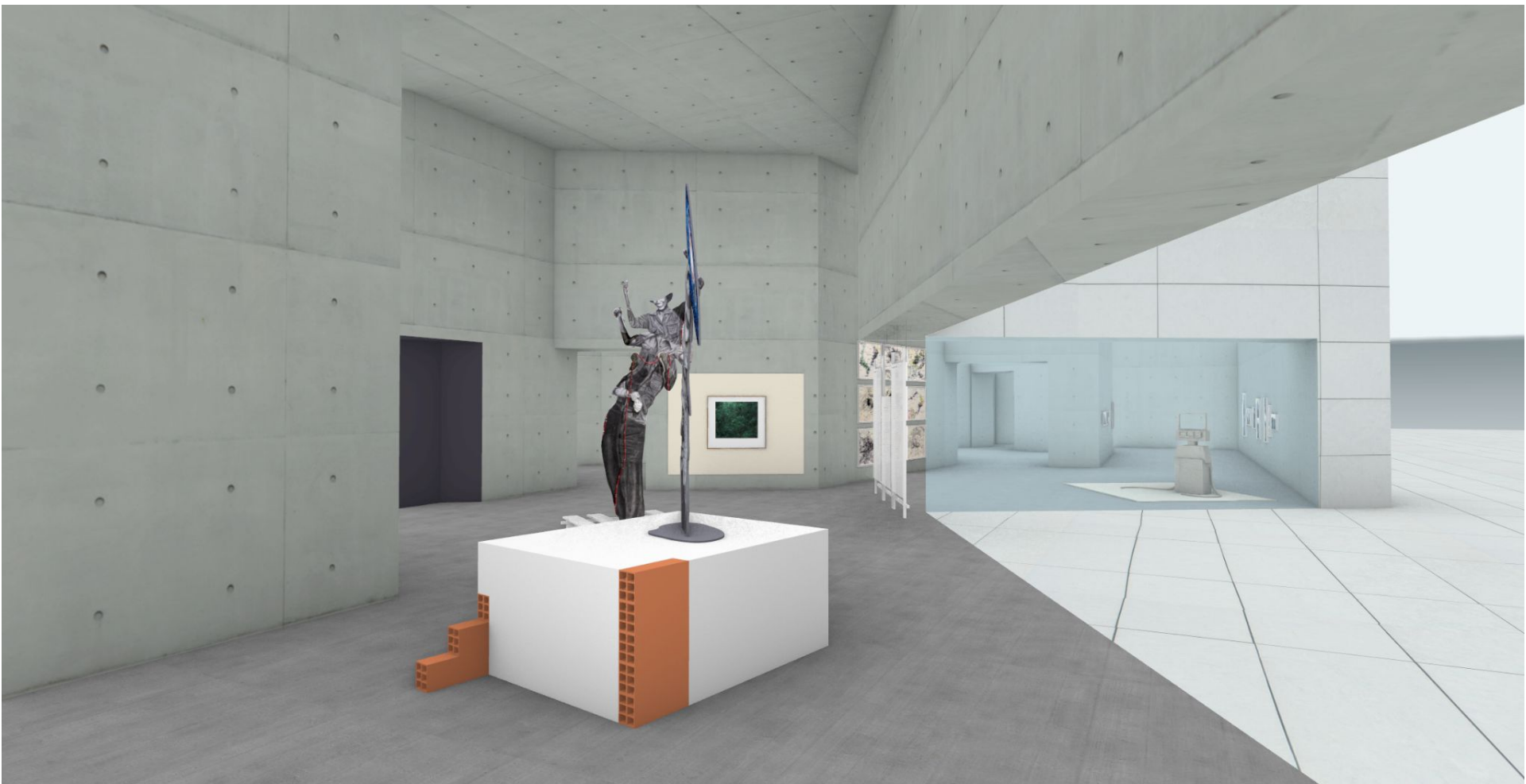


Part I- April







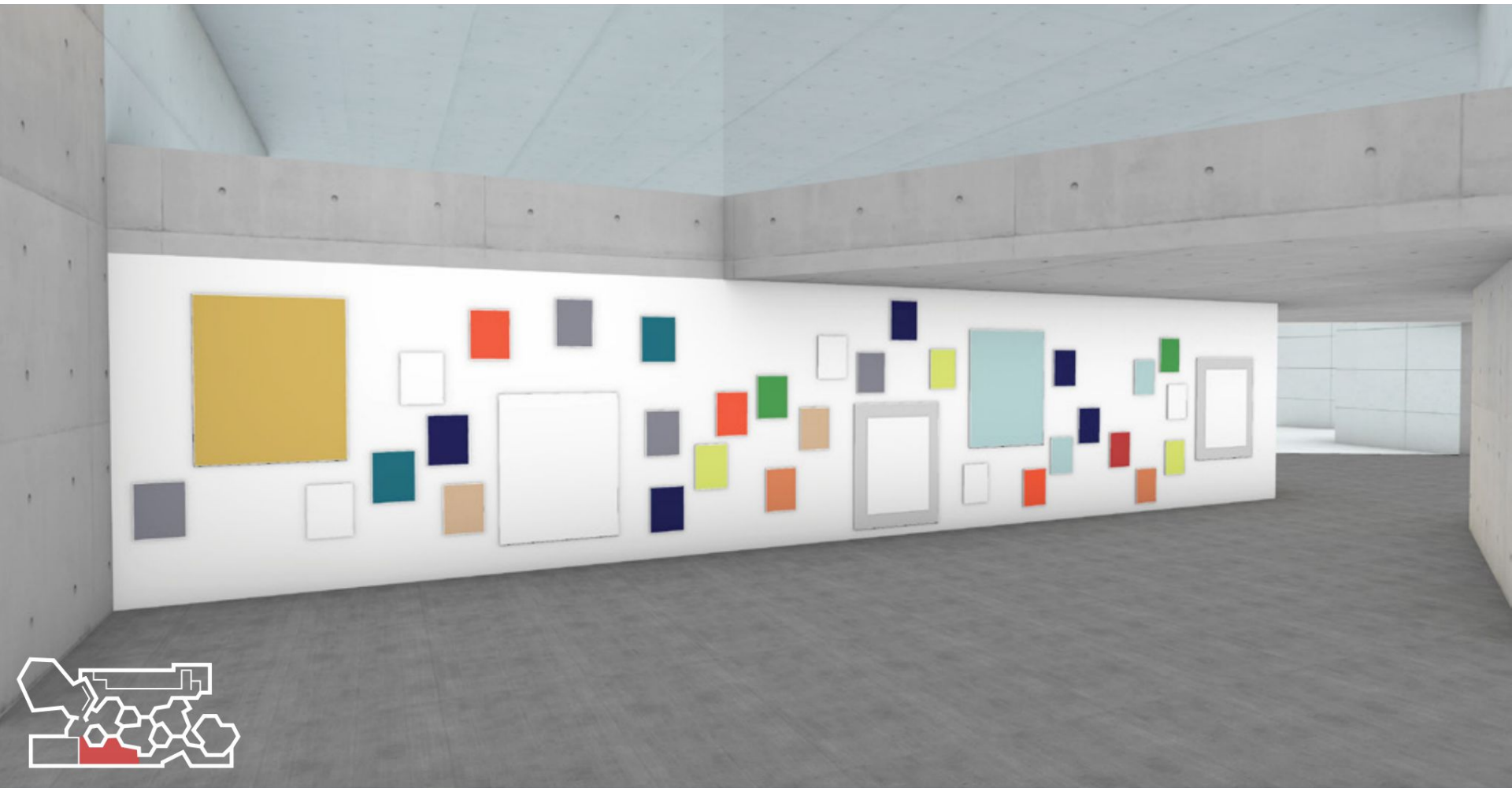




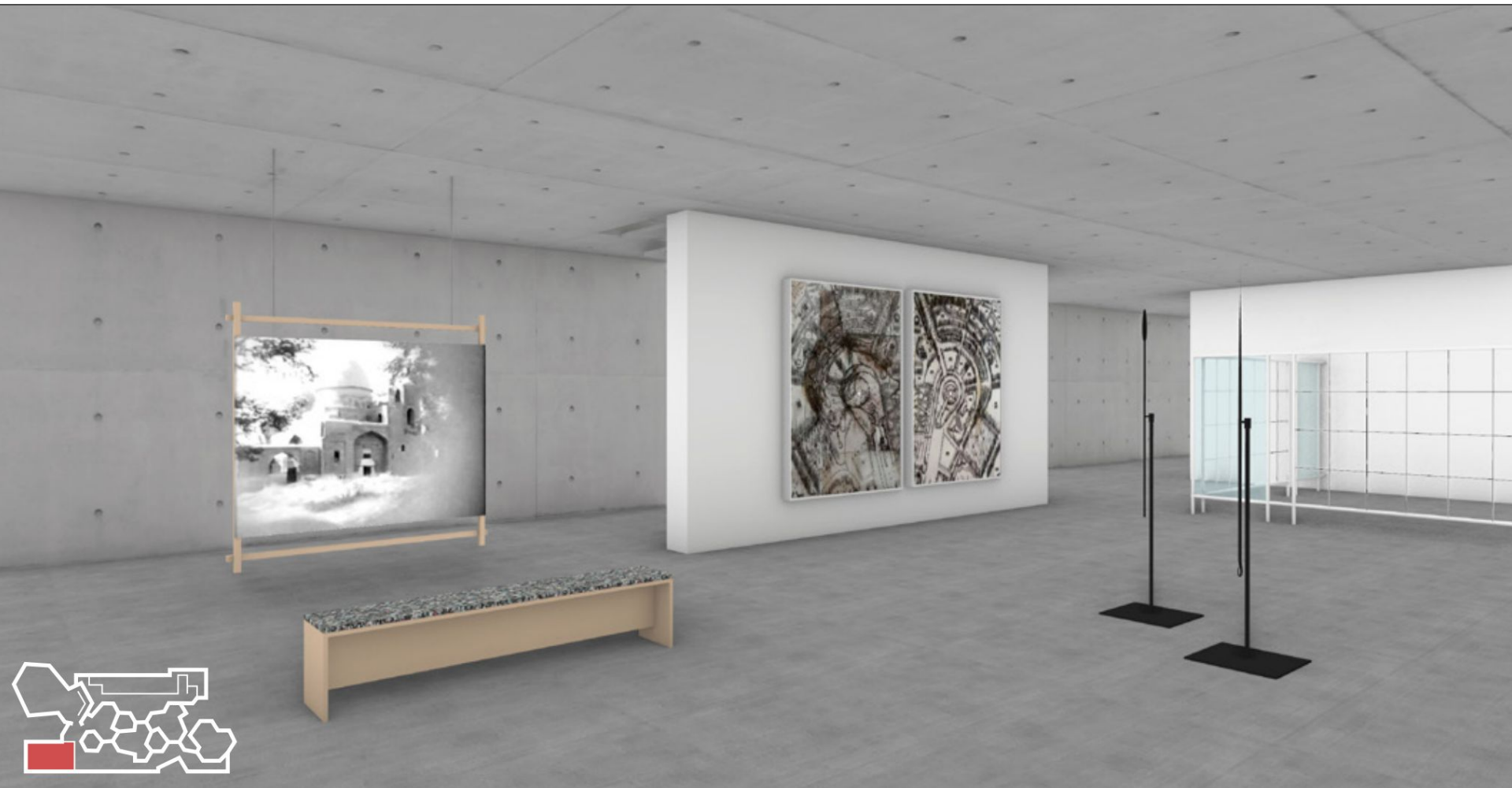






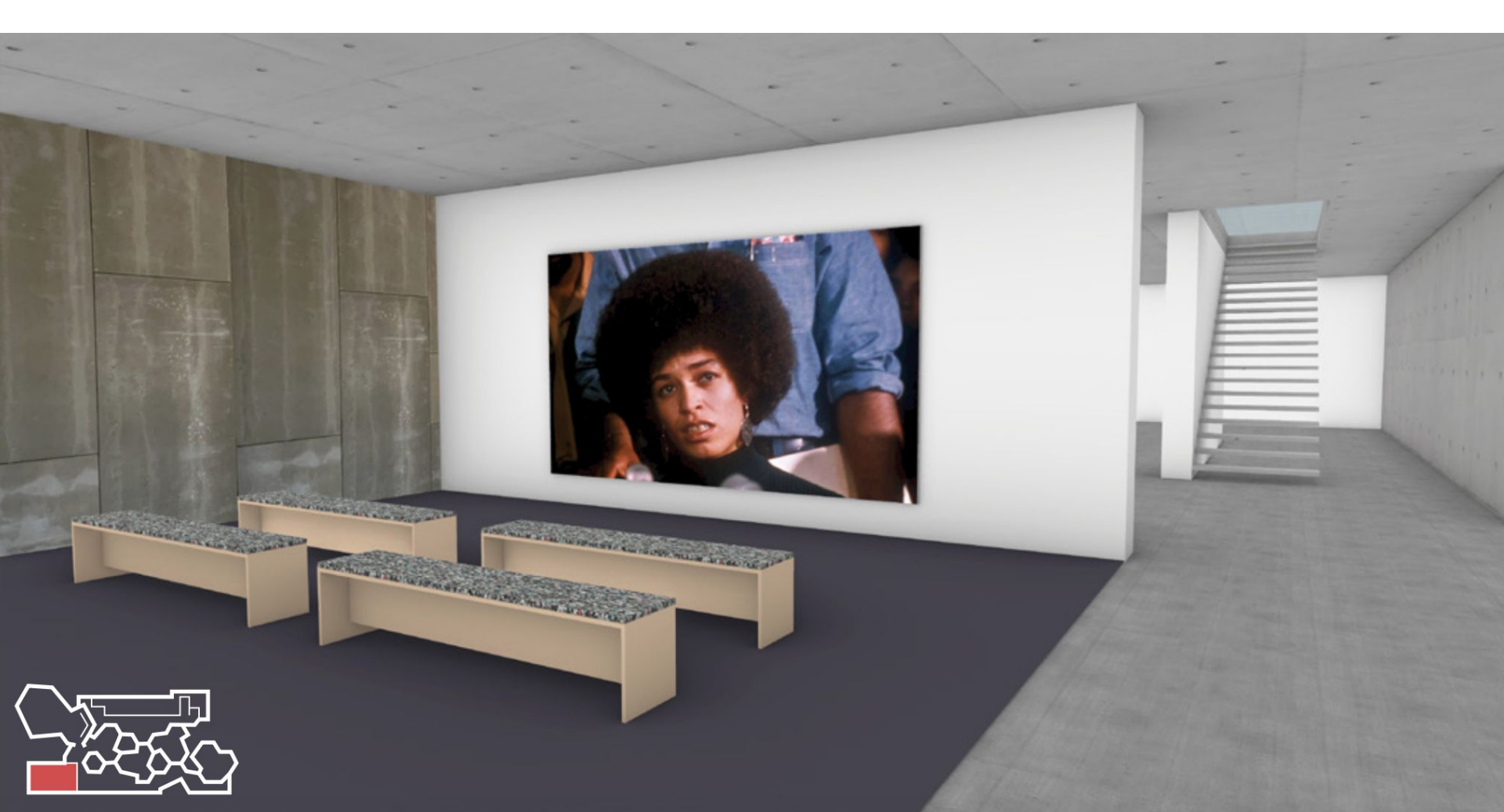










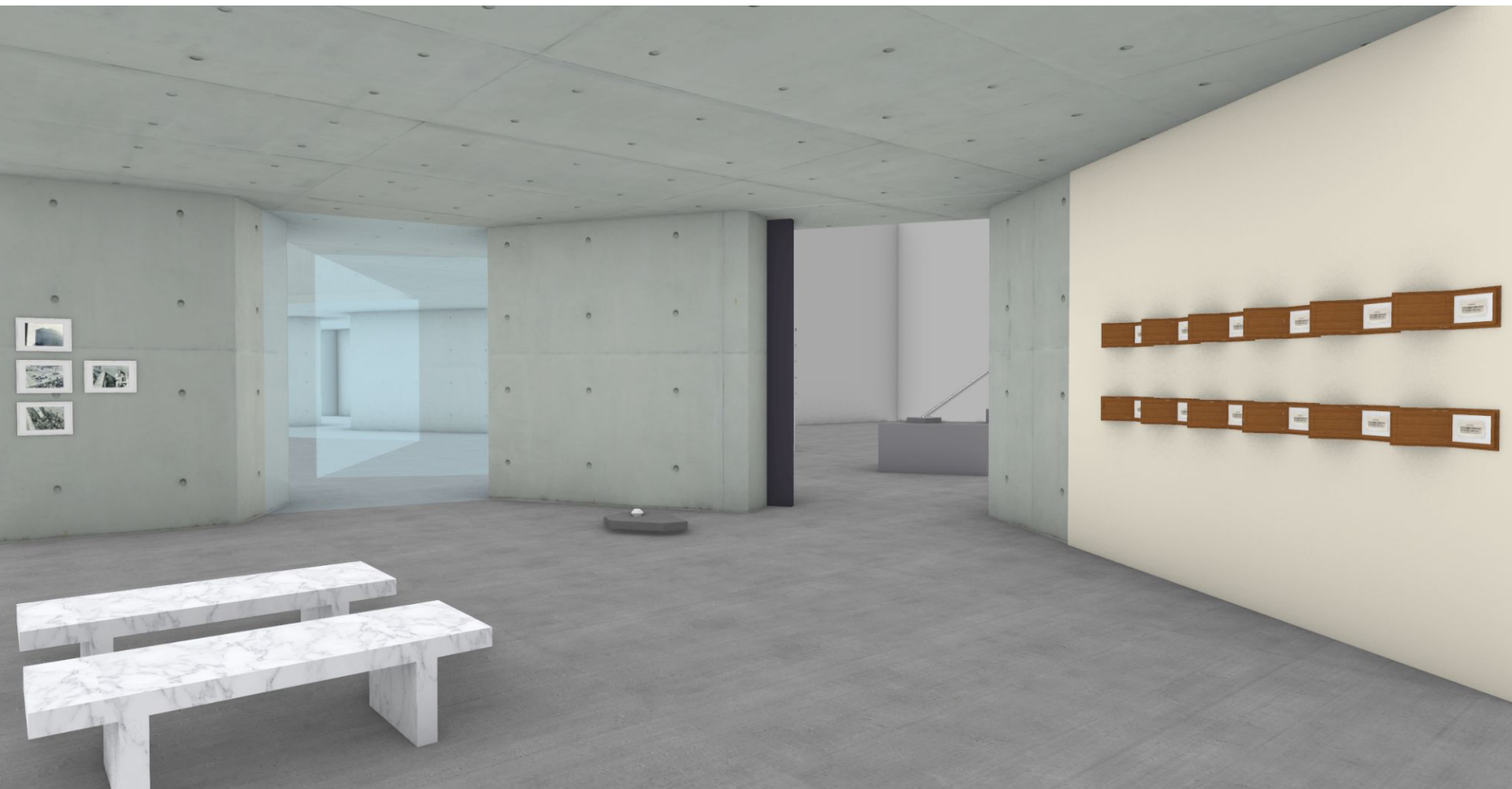
















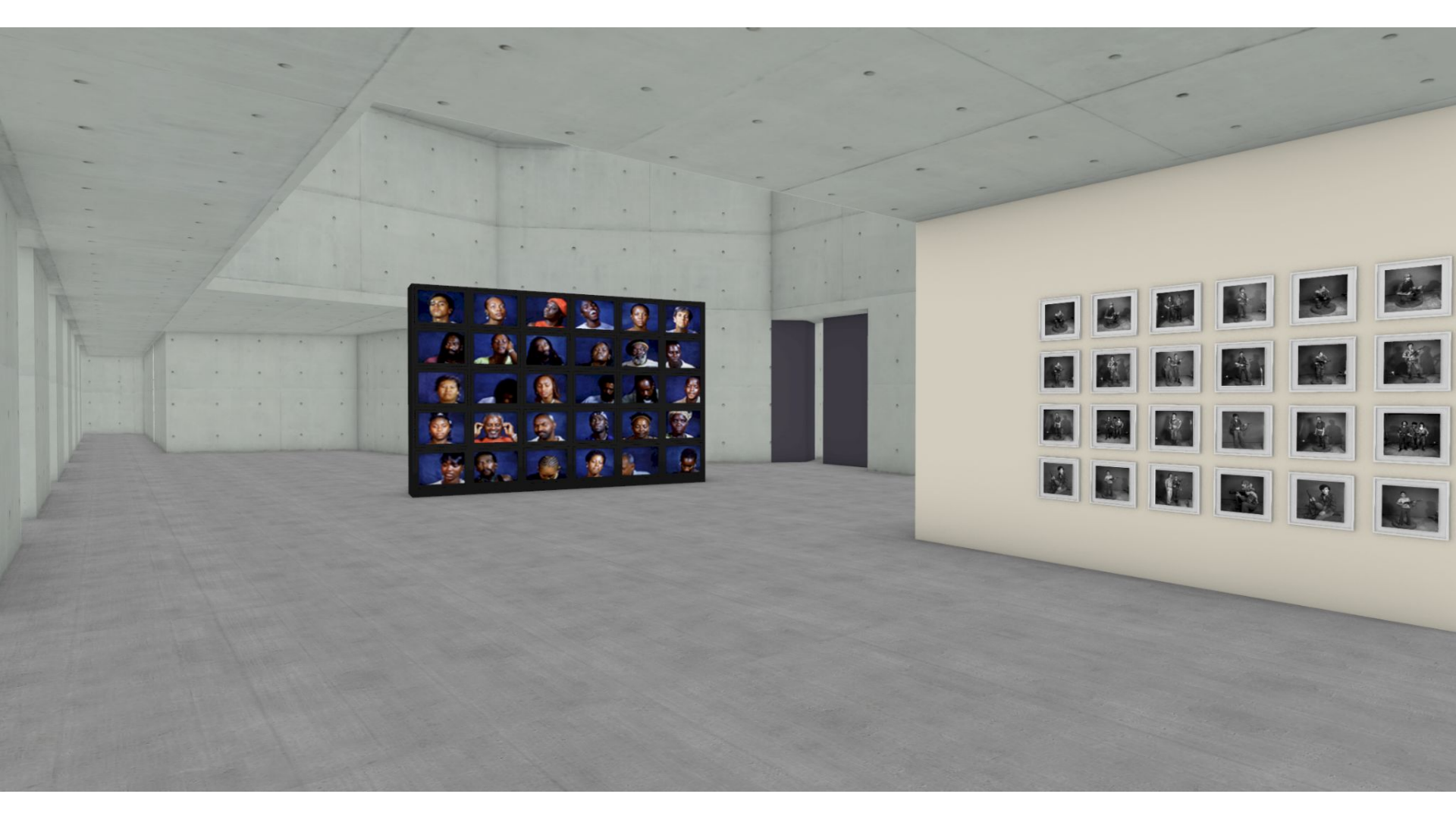








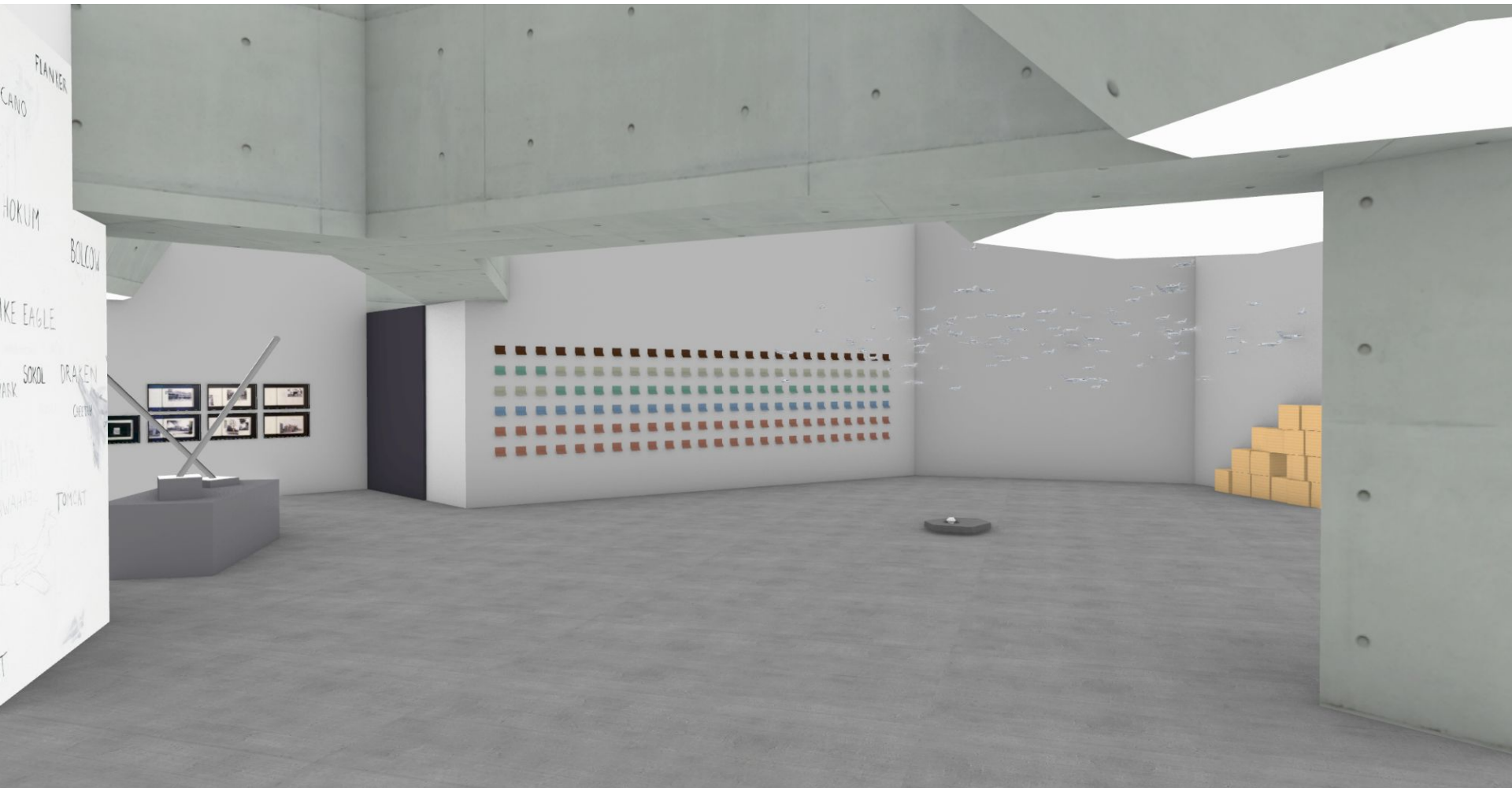




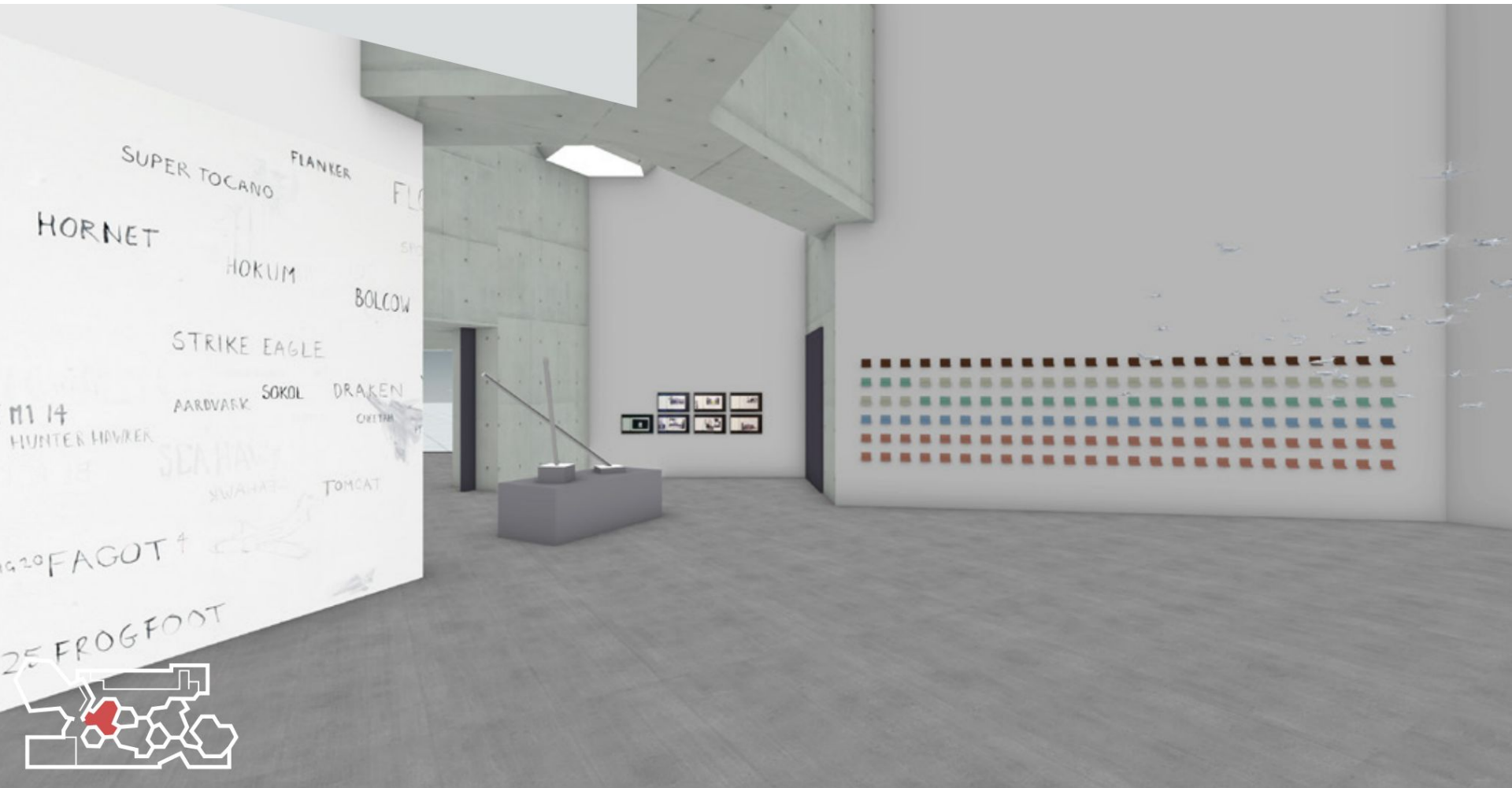




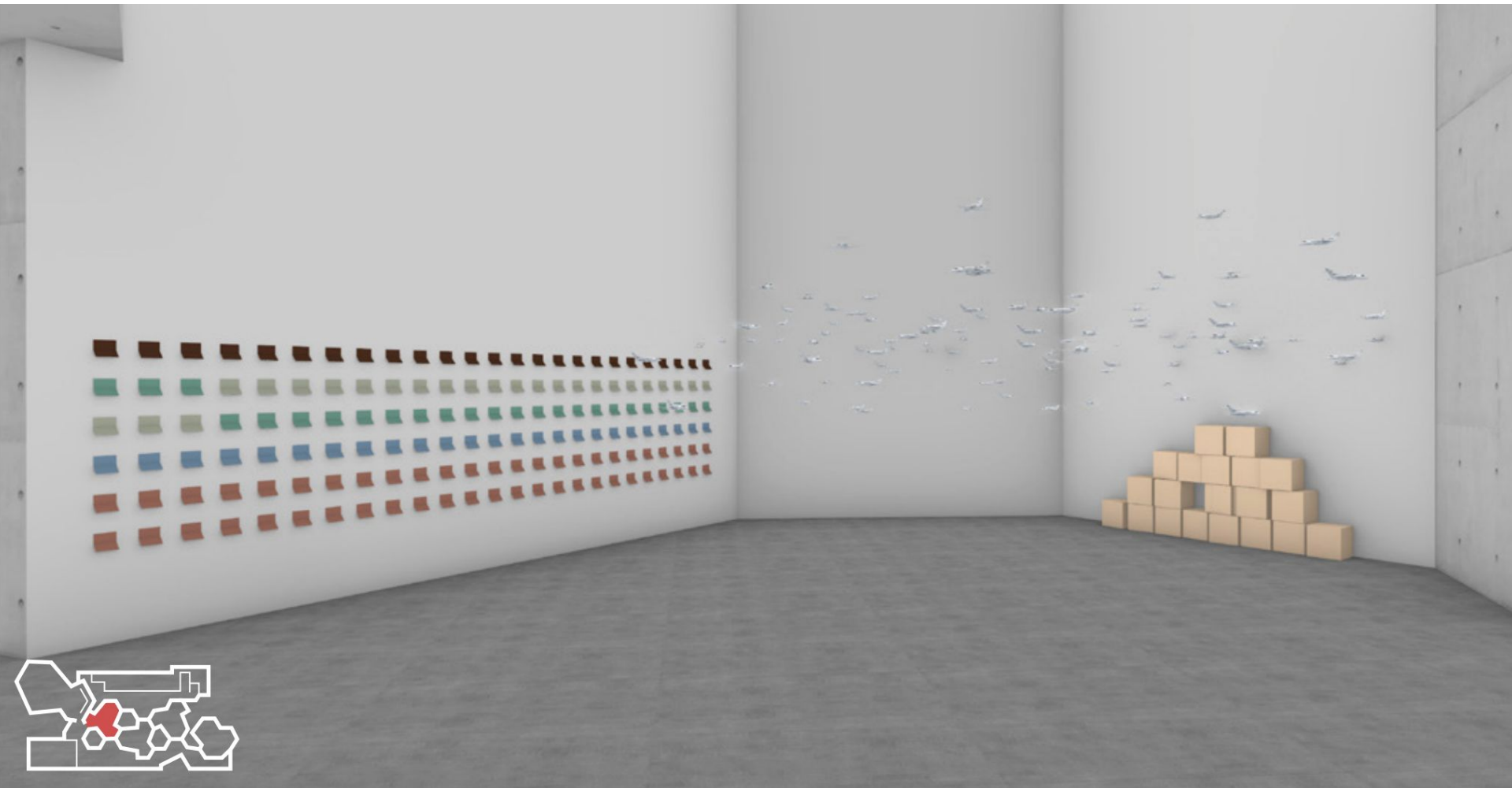


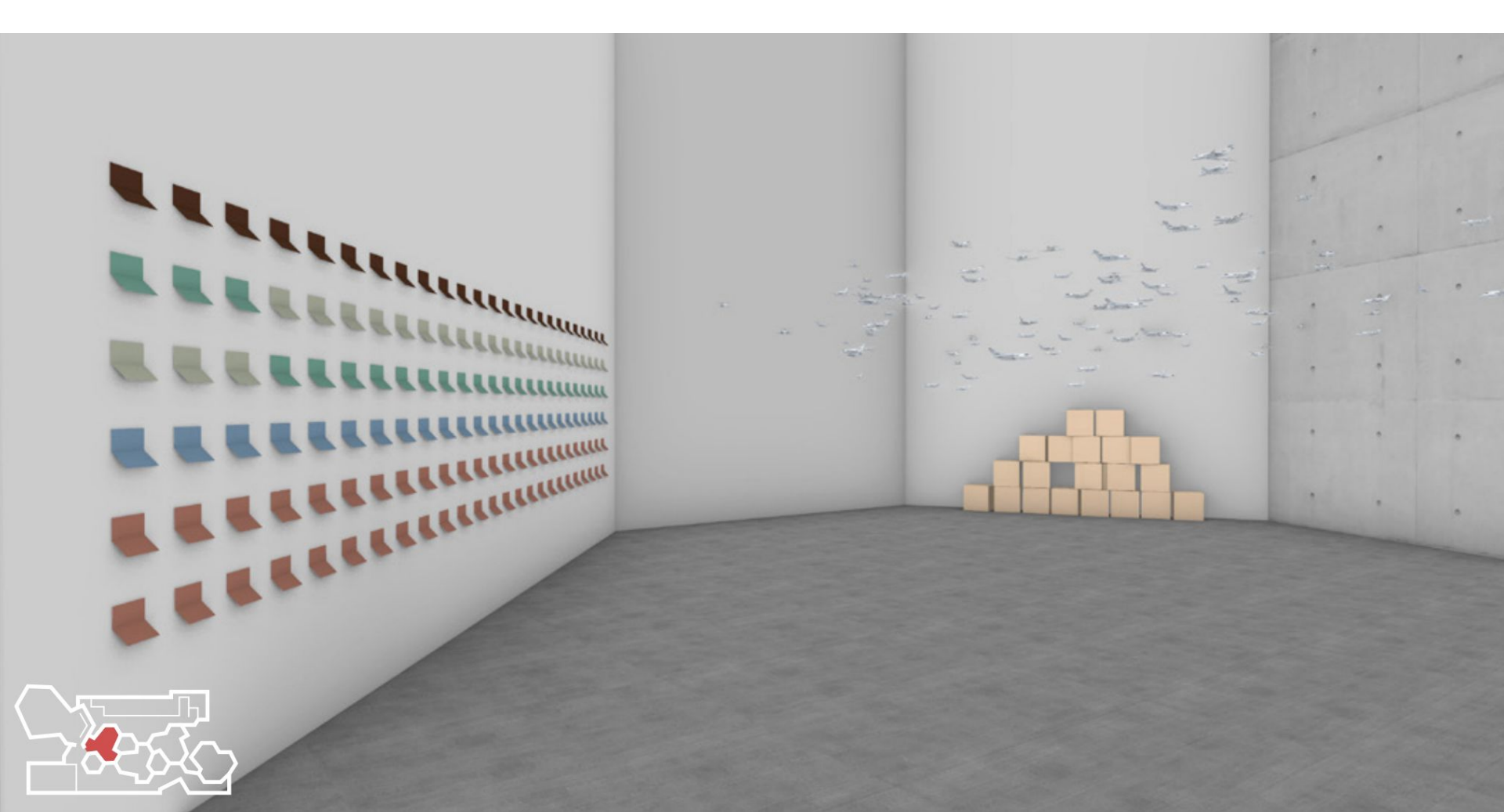
















## **About TBA21 Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary**

TBA21 Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary is a leading international art and advocacy foundation created in 2002 by the philanthropist and collector Francesca Thyssen-Bornemisza, representing the fourth generation of the Thyssen family's commitment to the arts and public service. TBA21—based in Madrid, with situated projects in Venice and Cordoba—stewards the TBA21 Collection and its outreach activities, which include exhibitions, educational offers, and public programming. TBA21–Academy is the foundation's research center, fostering a deeper relationship with the Ocean and other bodies of water by working as an incubator for collaborative inquiry, artistic production, and environmental advocacy. For more than a decade, the Academy has catalyzed new forms of knowledge emerging from the exchanges between art, science, policy, and conservation in long-term and collaborative engagement through fellowships and residency programs. All activity at TBA21 is fundamentally driven by artists and the belief in art and culture as a carrier of social and environmental transformation.

## **Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary Collection in Córdoba Centro de Creación Contemporánea de Andalucía, C3A, Córdoba**

The preselection of works from the Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary Collection earmarked for exhibition in Cordoba expresses the canon of TBA21: the artistic, ecological, and ethical pursuits of two decades of investigation, collaboration, and experimentation nurtured by the practice of commissioning. While tracing different ways of knowing, researching, and perceiving the world through art, they address critical issues in society and its future. These powerful works tease out affinities between each other and actively engage the communities they are interacting with. They have also sparked profound scholarship and archival practices over the years, including collaborations with architects, scientists, policy-makers, and other researchers. In Córdoba, TBA21 aims to work with C3A and its various artistic and scholarly affiliates to contribute to the city's unique artistic, intellectual, and spiritual legacy and present cultural engagements.

