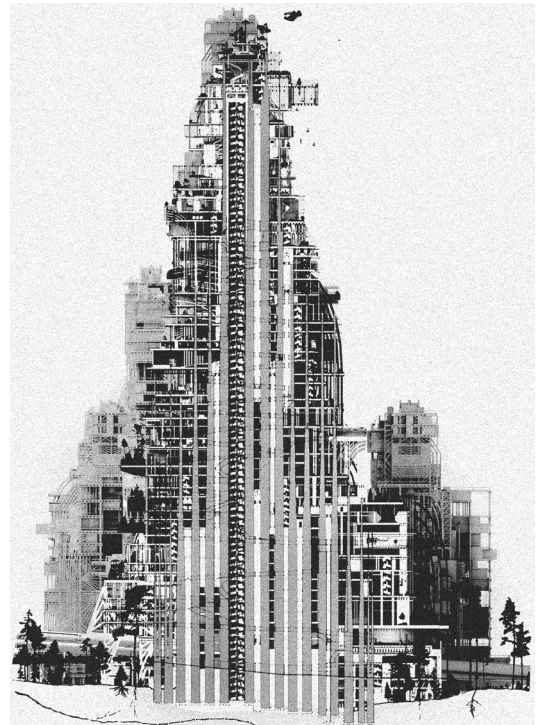


BEATA KARLSSON

INTO THE WOODS

- a wooden vertical village



MATTER SPACE STRUCTURE

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The modern manmade high-rise seems to be unrelated to the organic and self-creating essence of nature. Moreover, in contemporary structures engineered wood is often only used for its sustainable qualities, but can a wooden system be implemented in such a way to highlight that it affects our senses? The goal of the exploratory project is to redefine these notions. It investigates whether a modern high-rise can relate to nature. Next to that it investigates how a loadbearing structural system of engineered wood can be used to give such a structure more materiality and tactility.

To answer these questions the modern wooden high-rise was researched from a holistic perspective using micro and macro scales. The design transformation of the proposal went through a bottom-up process with an interplay of digital tools, drawings, material investigations, structural research and visualizations. Designing such a mega structure in a future setting is a complex undertaking; therefore the focus only lies on the development of the wooden structural system and in showing the possibilities of giving a high-rise a detailed level of materiality and tactility. Topics regarding urban planning, transport, sustainability

and other social or economic issues are observed but do not form part of the design proposal, considering the exploration is in the matter, structure and its relation to the surrounding nature.

The result shows that perhaps a modern high-rise can indeed relate to nature, by rethinking the ordinary concept of a skyscraper. Building vast does not necessarily mean the structure becomes unrelated to nature, or more specifically the woods. Additionally, adapting the framework and concept of the building to the surrounding landscape, like an ordinary village, could relate it to nature. The implementation of a wooden loadbearing structural system can be adopted to give a high-rise more materiality and tactility. Engineered wood in high-rises could be used in such a way to give it sensorial qualities. Lastly, the result also forms a celebration of wood, its character and spirit by being the main ingredient for a loadbearing and ornamental structural program for a high-rise.

Keywords : wooden structure, engineered wood, skyscraper, materiality, nature