



THE LIBRARY IS NOT ENOUGH

Libraries are essential democratic institutions. Much more than a place to store books, libraries emancipate by offering tools and spaces which can be freely used by everyone, from computers, study tables, bathrooms, meeting spaces, even something as simple as a safe space to rest. Libraries however only operate during the day. This deprives a considerable portion of the population of an institution which should aim to be as inclusive as possible. Our design seeks to connect night and day through the common search for knowledge and to synergize diurnal and nocturnal qualities through the library institution and design.

We propose to expand the library's program into the night, where it would be further enriched by the unique properties of the late hours. Our design works alongside the institution by pushing the limits of its program to spill out to the exterior public space. Two series of light folded structures are deployed in a park next to the Grande Bibliothèque de Montréal. The structures are installed on both sides, folded up during the day to allow regular usage of the park, and folded down at night to create two series of long tables, evoking the long tables of the grand study halls of the world. Desk lamps are affixed to the tables' surfaces, activating at sundown to light the surfaces. The tables are extremely versatile, allowing people to use them in various ways, encouraging both individual and collective activities. Recharging ports and free wi-fi would also be offered as enabling tools. The desks are designed to be usable by everyone and to provide surfaces difficult to find at night. From a phenomenological perspective, the users would be fully exposed to the unique conditions of nocturnal urban life, altering consciousness through the unique experience of working outside at night. The tables and the library would reinforce each other, resulting in newfound understandings of space and time in the nocturnal urban context.



APPROACHING THE GARDEN TO...

**STUDY THE STARS
DRINK THE SHADOWS
PLAY WITH DARKNESS
CONVERSE UNDER THE MOON
RESEARCH IN STILLNESS
MEET SHADOWY FIGURES
PREPARE FOR THE COMING MORNING**