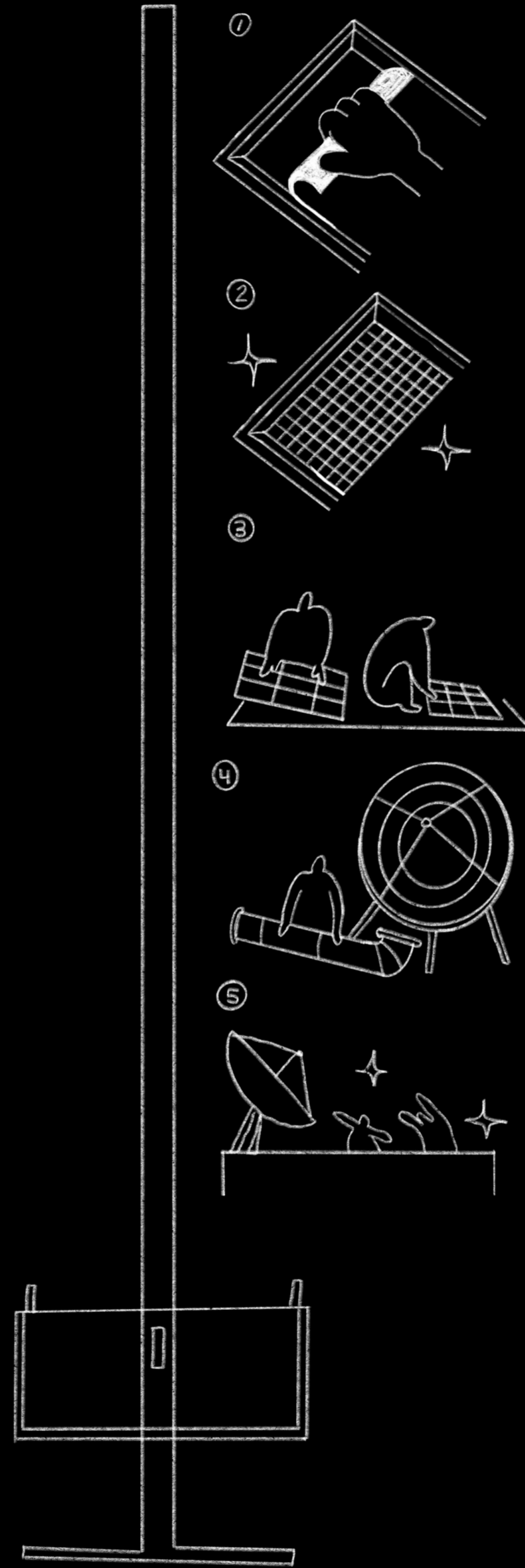


# ↑ DANCE ↑ DANCE → REVOLUTION

KEEP MTL LOUD. On the side of the building at 3956 Boulevard Saint-Laurent, bold black letters on a white canvas actively encourage the city to keep making noise. In the wake of the eviction based on noise complaints of a beloved concert, comedy and drag venue, *The Diving Bell Social Club*, the overwhelmingly queer community of showgoers has taken to the streets and social media to express their discontent. On the parcel of sidewalk attributed to this address, a crowd gathers from Monday to Sunday inclusively, and strangers of similar convictions—all desiring to partake in the culture-creating space that is the Diving Bell—assemble to party, dance and organize. More than a club, this place is a hub; somewhere to turn to in times of communion that should not have to disappear under the guise of disapproving neighbours.

So where does it go from here? Up.

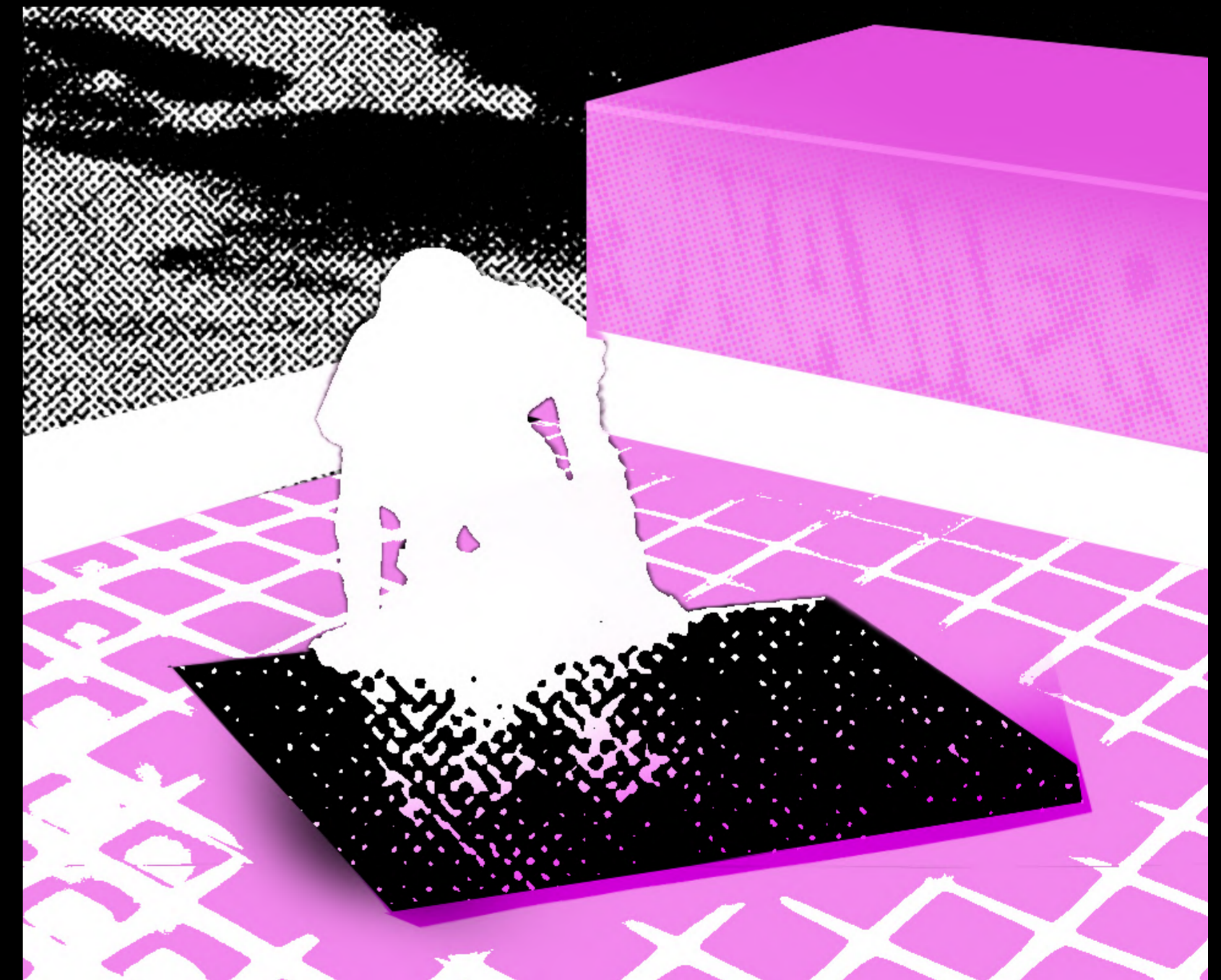
DANCE DANCE REVOLUTION imagines an otherworldly, luminous aboveground gathering space made possible by the power of grassroots, underground community organizing. This proposition seeks to exploit the roof as is, mechanical installations and satellite dishes included, rather than install new structures. In one part, the club's original journey of transforming a vacant storage locale into an event space informs the use of what is readily available for a greater purpose. The satellites are transformed into light devices that reflect the installation's colours and dynamize the dancefloor, and their cluttered disposition gives way to a forest of rest areas. In another part, a steel and glass block paver replaces the roof, allowing light to penetrate from above into the now abandoned space. Giving community members the power to use an existing architecture to their advantage in a heteronormative context that strives to make them disappear, this ephemeral dance floor is created by venue goers themselves, one tile at a time. A collective effort allows the assembly of this light quilt, each community member participating in the patchwork to counter *clubsterben*, or the German concept of club death by way of gentrification. DANCE DANCE REVOLUTION also proposes an easy-install, displaceable freight system to access the roof from the back alley, not only helping in the lifting of the materials to the top of the building but also resolving the accessibility issues of the Diving Bell's original location, its three flights of stairs forever keeping community members on the outskirts of happenings. The community is thus reunited and made visible through light, through colour, through its liveliness and joy before it disappears, and before long, it will be back to the roof to do it all over again. The dance revolution starts now. ↑



↑ project choreography



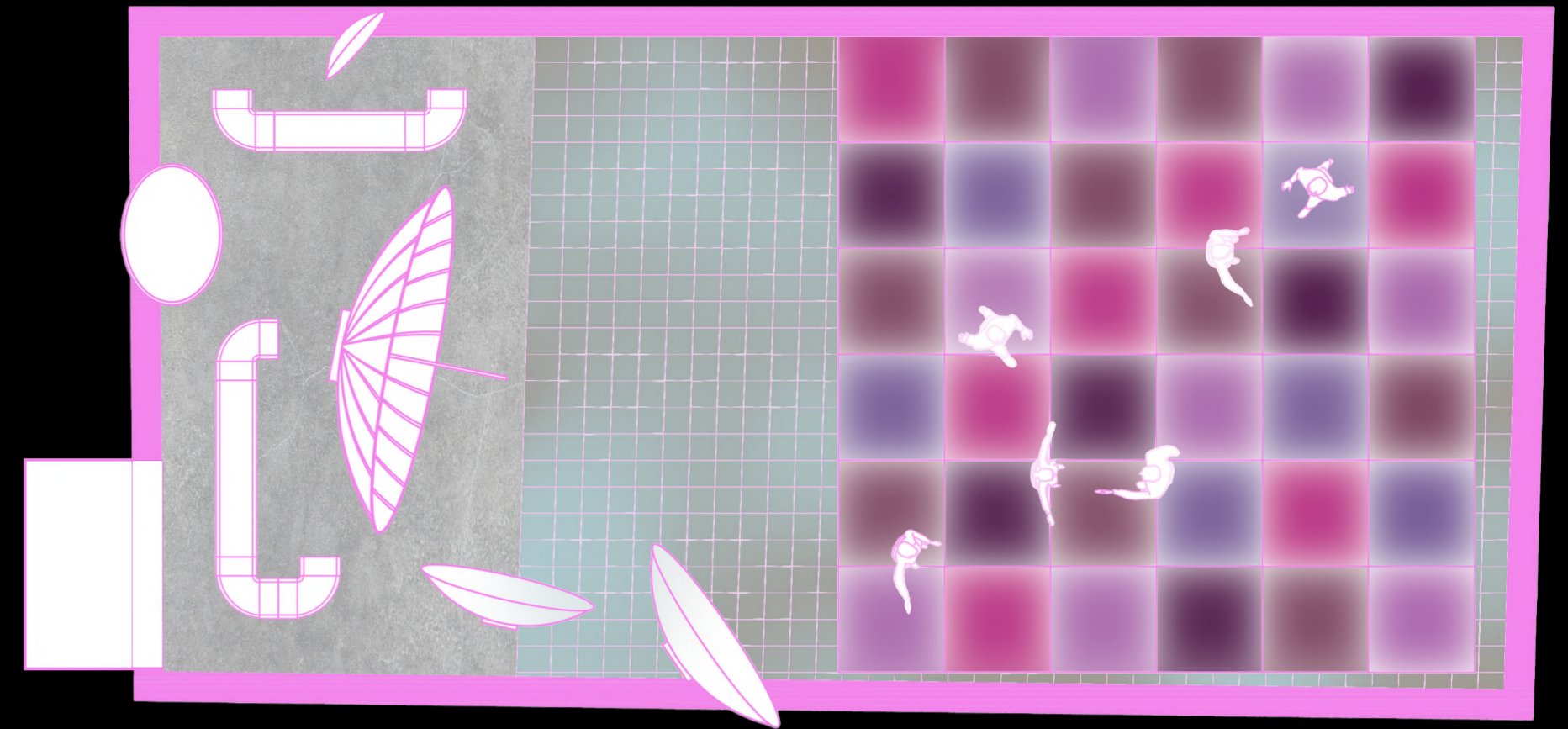
↑ selected roof



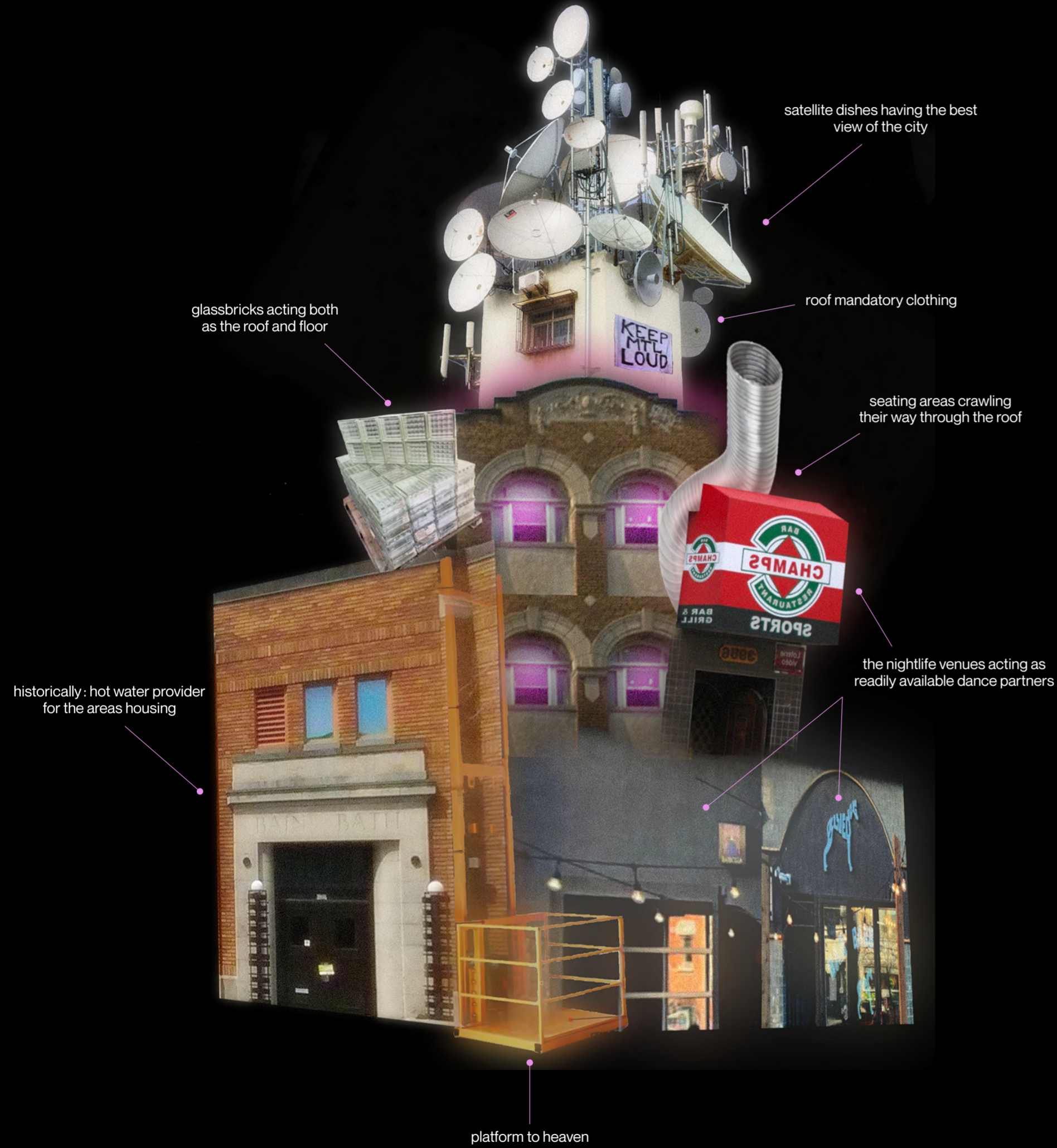
↑ project installation

WITHIN NOOKS OF VENTILATION PIPES AND SATEL-LIGHT DISHES → WE RIPPED THE BITUMINOUS COATING → EACH PLACING A PIECE FROM THE PATCHWORK OF TILES → THINKING HORIZONTALLY → FOR A NEW VERTICAL REFUGE → COMPETING WITH ST-LAURENT'S NEON SIGNS → TO GRIEVE THE DEATH OF OUR QUEER SPACE → FINDING SOLACE IN THE MOVEMENT OF OUR BODIES → TOGETHER

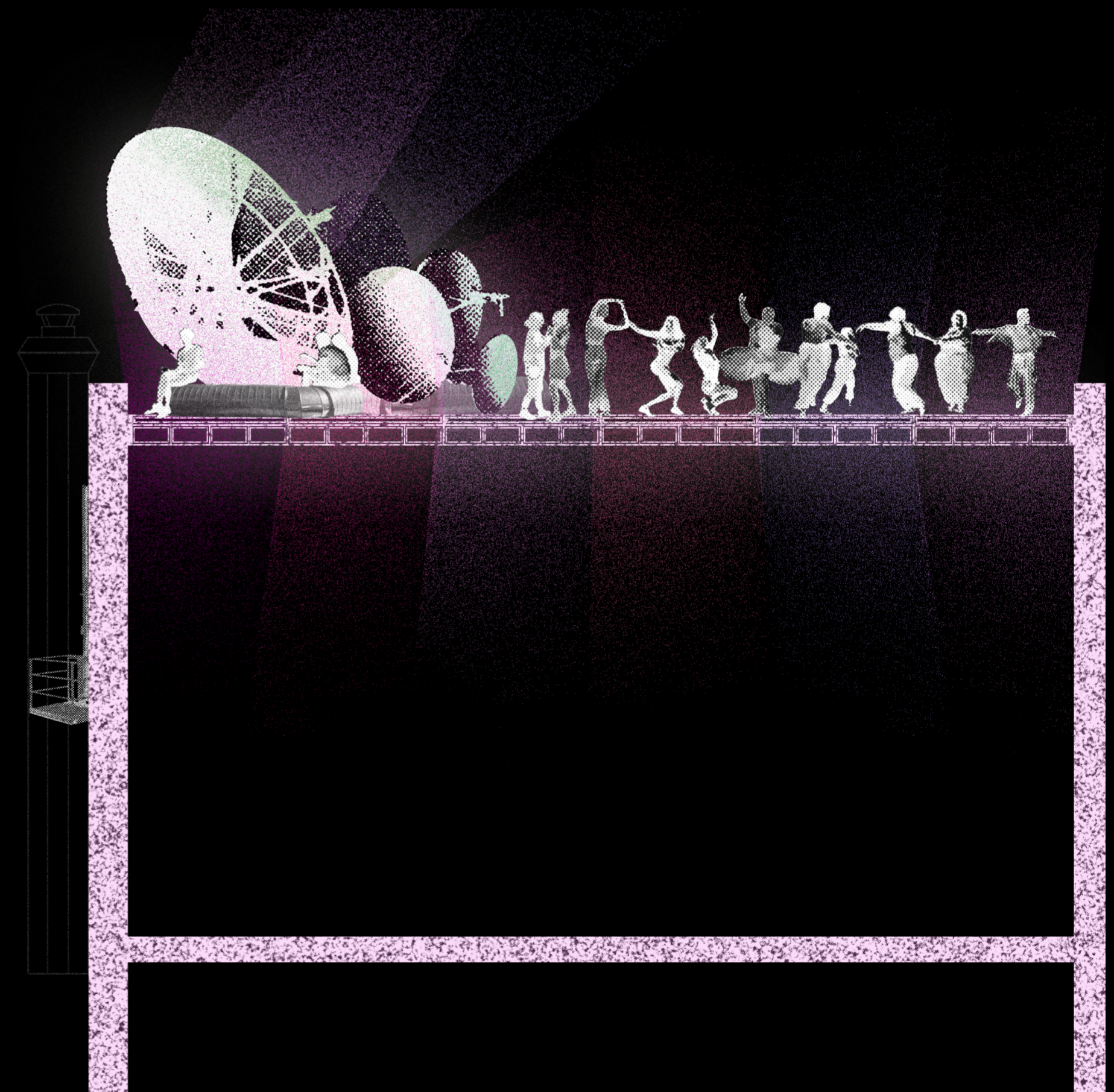
A DANCE DANCE REVOLUTION MANIFESTO



↑ roof plan



↑ proposition within urban context



↑ cropped building section