

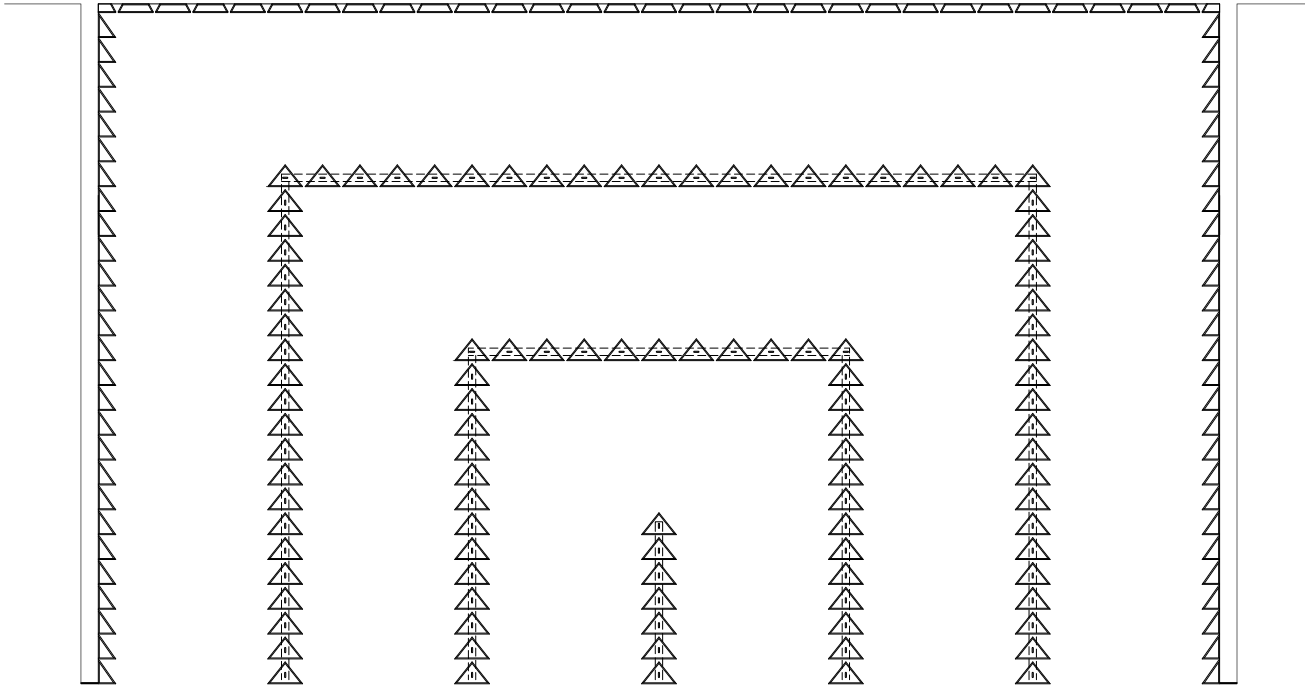
**Tricolonnade—Shenzhen Architecture Biennale
Shenzhen, China**

“Tri-colonnade,” SO–IL’s contribution to the special exhibition “THE STREET” at the Shenzhen Hong Kong Bi-City Biennale, in Shenzhen, China. Curator Terence Riley recreates Paolo Portoghesi’s “STRADA NOVISSIMA” from the 1980 Venice Biennale, in which he asked 20 architects (including Frank Gehry, Rem Koolhaas and Aldo Rossi) to design a “facade” along a central “Strada” of the exhibition hall, questioning the ideology of the facade that is at once individual and collective—both the building and the city.

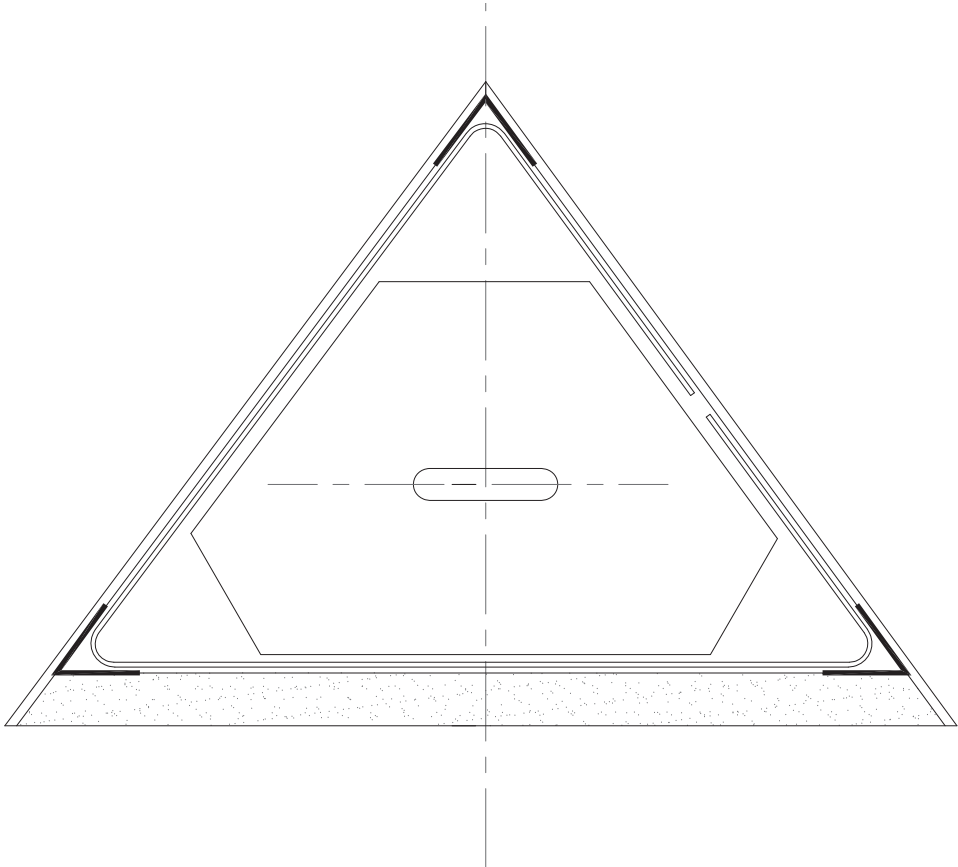
As the historic 1980 exhibition has come to represent a moment of architecture’s fixation on the symbolic facade, 2011 marks an anxiety that architecture itself has collapsed into nothing more than skin. SO–IL’s proposal, through a kind of reinvented colonnade, seeks to spatialize and instrumentalize what has become implicitly flat. The ‘facade’ unfolds, becomes itself the space of occupation and exhibition.

Its prismatic materiality—‘marble’ on each column’s front face, and mirror on its two back faces—creates an unstable space always changing in relation to its viewers. When approaching the facade, the marble surface seemingly expands into infinite depth. Crossing the threshold, the image of the marble is refracted and fills the space as visitors wander through. Multiplied and reflected, flatness is scrutinized and made spatial, and becomes charged with public engagement.

Client	Shenzhen Hong Kong Bi-City Biennale
Program	Installation
Area	270sf / 25m²
Status	Completed 2011
Team	Florian Idenburg, Jing Liu, Ilias Papageorgiou, Ted Baab, Iannis Kandyliaris
Photography	Iwan Baan



Plan



Typical column detail



Exterior view



Exterior view



Interior view