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GRANT SCHEME FOR COMMON CULTURAL HERITAGE: PRESERVATION AND DIALOGUE BETWEEN TURKEY AND THE EU–II (CCH-II)
MULTIDISCIPLINARY PLATFORMS FOR CULTURAL COLLABORATION (CO-LAB) PROJECT

PIA MATTHES

CALM AND CHAOS

ISTANBUL FOUNDATION FOR CULTURE AND ARTS

PROJE ORTAĞI
PROJECT PARTNER
Staatliche Hochschule für Gestaltung Karlsruhe

My project proposal

My view of the outside

15.5 million people live in Istanbul

14 million tourists visit Istanbul every year

A unique transit location between two continents and two maritime regions

Unites different people, social backgrounds, religions

A place of tension
A place of miracles

How can you come to rest?

My research

Visit calm places in different neighbourhoods

Analysis of the different spaces, target groups and uses

What do they have in common?

Creating a spatial installation or an object/souvenir, which presents the essence of my research.

The final project has the utopian goal of giving all people, regardless of their religious or social background, a ground for community and peace in chaos.

My guided tour

Traditional KAHVEHANE (Tea House)

Let’s drink tea together!

Tea is an important part of Turkish culture and hospitality

How is it made?

120,000 tons are consumed each year in Turkey

Let’s drink tea together!

Research

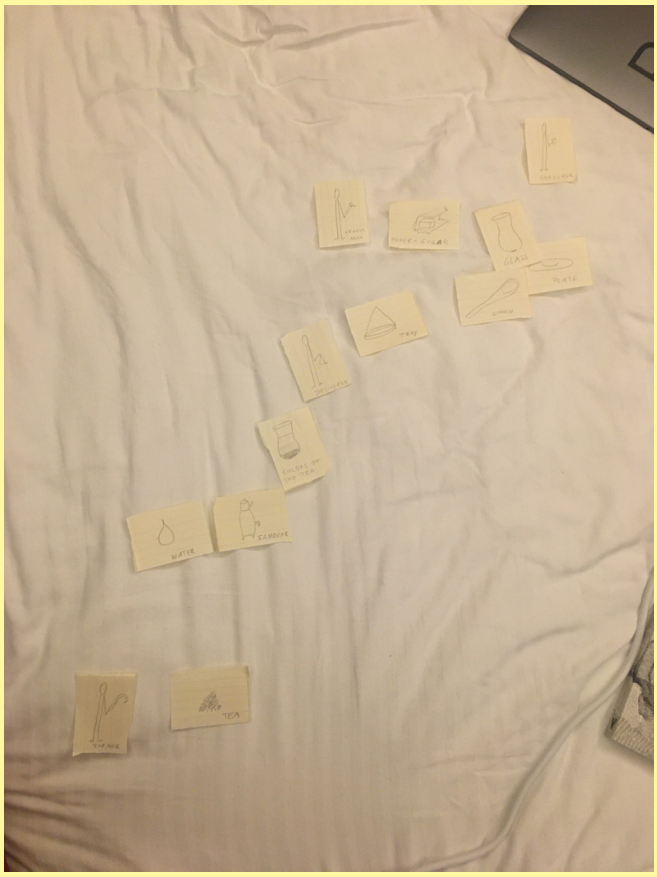
Places of rest

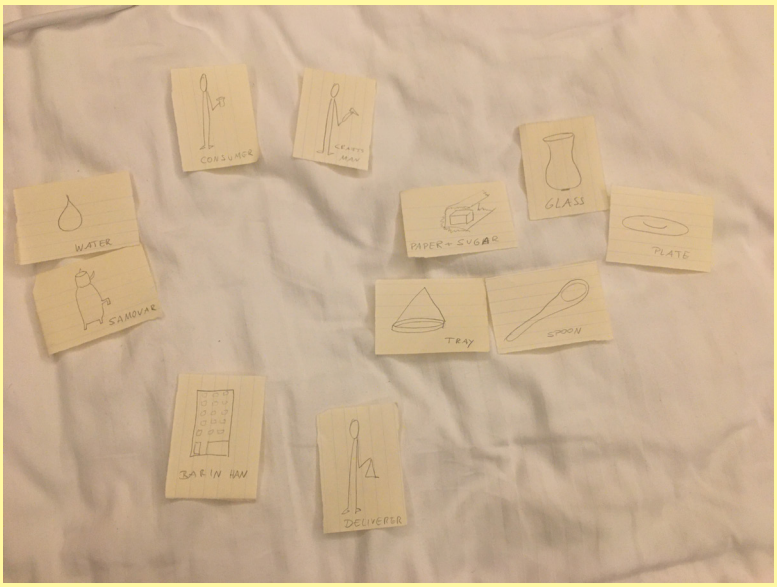
I have found out for myself that calmness only comes through a shift of perspective. If you are stressed by something, you can only turn away the inner tension by concentrating on or doing something else, i.e. by shifting your perspective.

You can find peace not just alone but also in a collective. An example of this is the invitation to a Çay, a collective drink, which is usually offered free of charge and enjoyed as a group. Drinking tea is deeply rooted in the culture. The objects and the production are defined, while the social structures, processes and reasons vary.

Drinking Tea - Places

Drinking Tea - Mind Map





Can calmness exist without tension?

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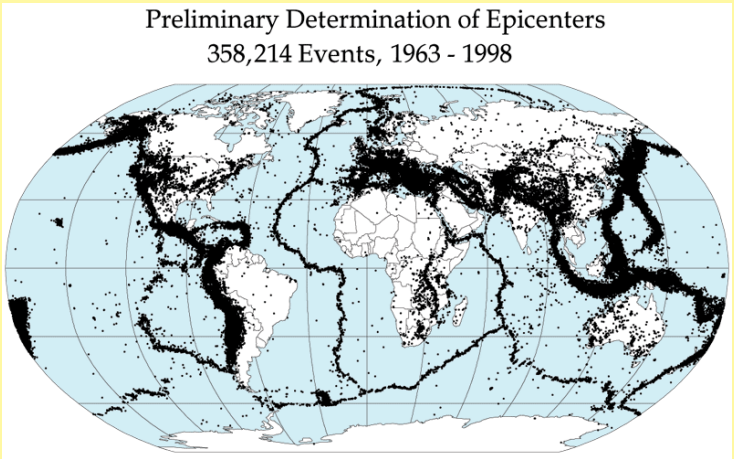
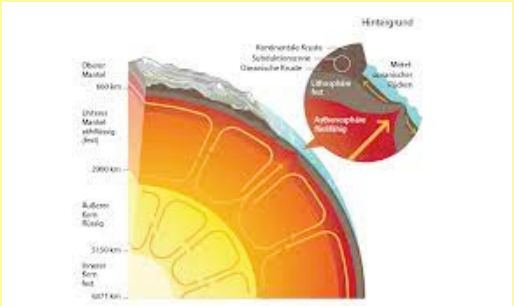
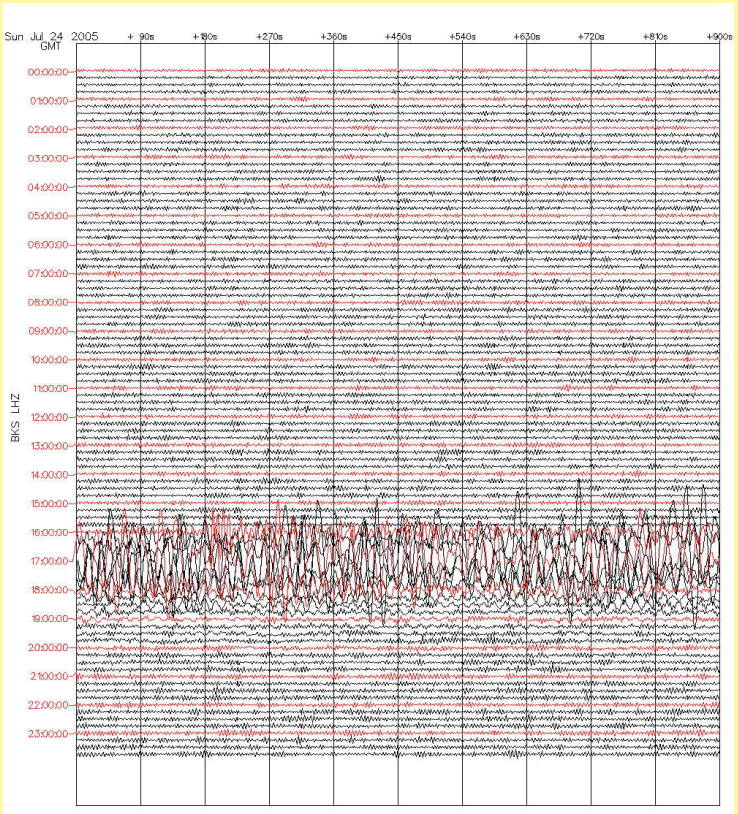
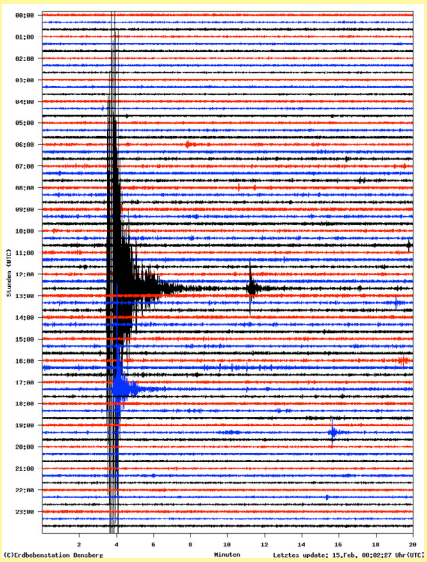
Earthquake - A city built on tension

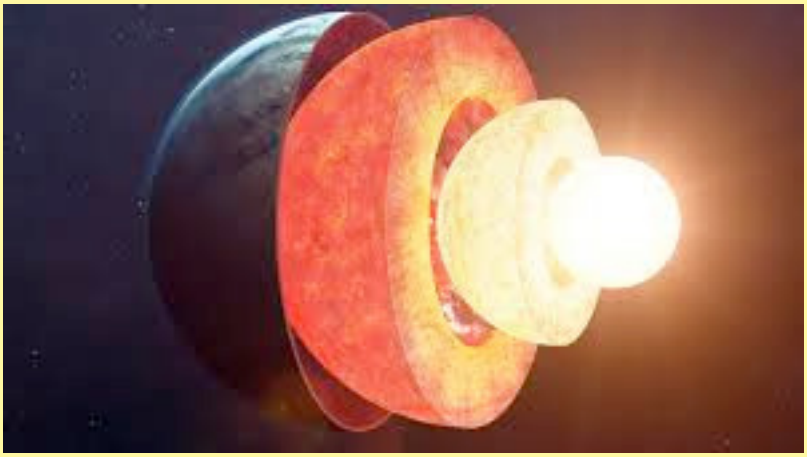


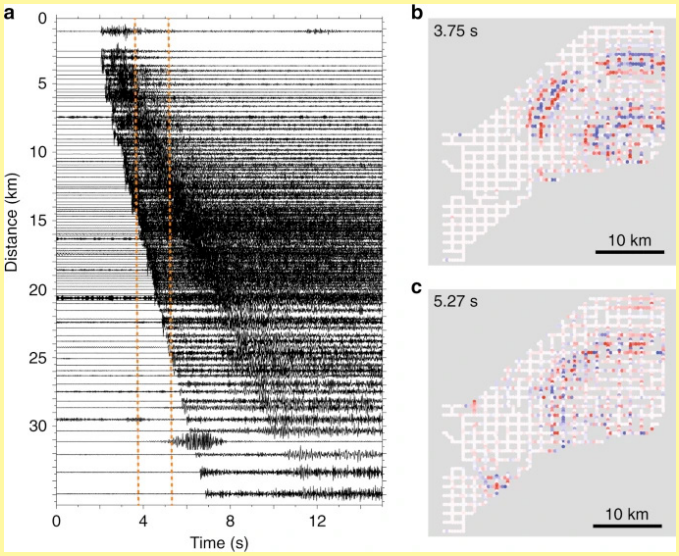


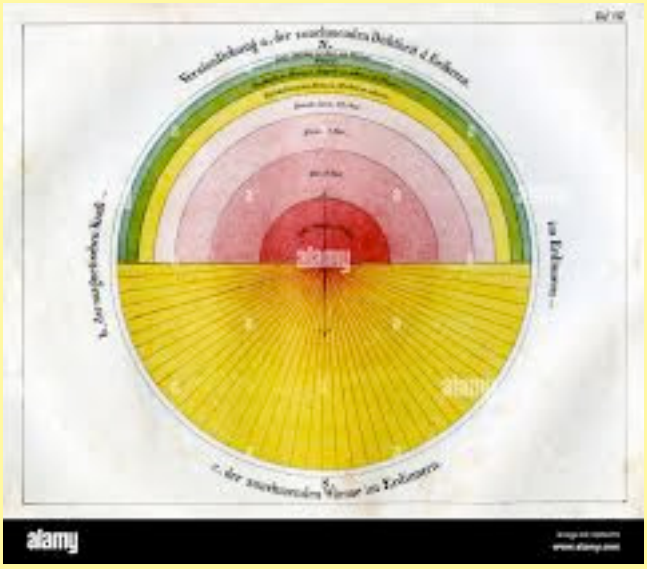


Earthquake - A city built on tension









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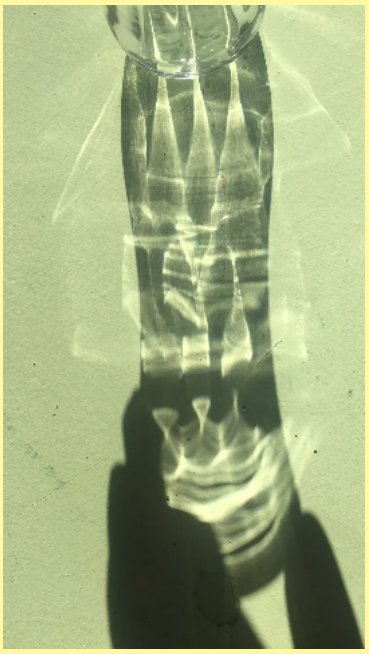
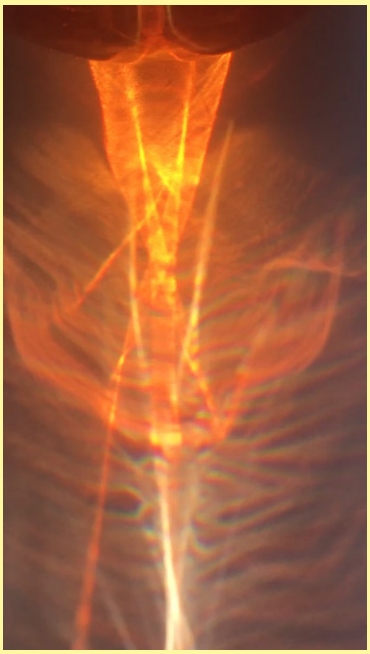
First tryouts

Experiments with Çay Glasses

MOVEMENTS





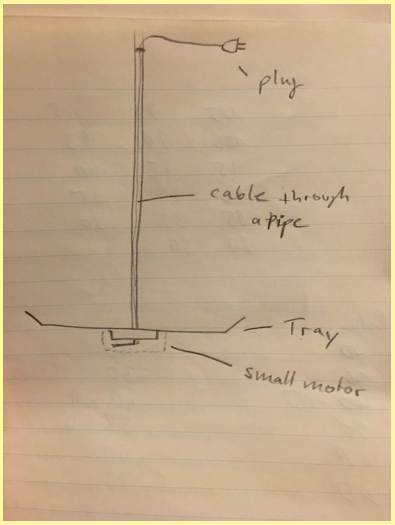
REFLECTIONS

SEE-THROUGH

TENSION

Planning of the final idea

7 TEA TRAYS HUNG IN THE ROOM



FIRST CONSTRUCTION IDEAS

GENERATION OF VIBRATION

TEA TRAY MODELS

Installation

CONSTRUCTION FOR SUSPENSION BY A METAL CRAFTSMAN

INSTALLATION OF THE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM FOR LIGHTS AND MOTORS

Result - *Rabbit Blood* [1]

1 TRANSLATION OF THE TURKISH EXPRESSION “TAVŞAN KANI”, WHICH REFERS TO THE COLOUR OF IDEALLY BREWED TEA

Over the last few days, I have been trying to find places of calmness in Istanbul, a city of 14 million people, with the result that this does not exist in Istanbul as I know it. Not only the city’s inhabitants, but also its geographical location, as Istanbul is literally built on two continental plates, make this city a place of tension.
You can’t find peace in Istanbul alone, only in a collective. An example of this is the invitation to a çay, a collective drink, which is usually offered free of charge and enjoyed as a group. So what can you do in a city of tensions, waiting for the next big quake? Drink tea and relax!
This is the theme of my installation, which will be exhibited at Barın Han. Seven tea trays, a symbol of the seven hills of the city, floating in space. The tea is served, but an earthquake makes the glasses tremble.