colab studio, Ilc Reach 11 – Unbuilt Art Project AUP 05.25.11

Reach 11 is a sports complex in North Phoenix comprised of 18 soccer fields and 4 baseball fields. A Call for Artists went out to provide large amounts of shade at four diverse locations within this large park. The visibly adjacent, raised earth-buttressed canal brings water 350 miles from the Colorado River to Phoenix as the city continues to grow. Expressing the audacity of our desert oasis, we sought a way to describe this precarious scale of human intervention on the landscape. Comparing such an endeavor with weightlessness moments found in sporting events, 6,000 pound local stones can be quarried and set on posts in various configurations around the huge soccer tournament park, surrounded on 2 sides by the canal. Shapes mimicking mountains and water's movement through canyons create a unique environment to dwell in deep shade.