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### Incu-Bus: A live-working internet incubator

Muci Yue

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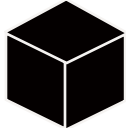
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# **INCU-BUS.**

*-A live-working internet incubator*

Muci Yue

Syracuse University  
School of Architecture

# .Acknowledgements

I would express my special thanks for gratitude to my thesis advisor Prof. Hannibal Newsom for his able guidance and support in completing my project.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to thesis advisor group- Prof. Joel Kerner, Prof. Bess Krietemeyer, Prof. Brian Lonsway, and Prof. Daekwon Park for provding me with comments in reviews.

Muci Yue

Advisor|Hannibal Newsom

2021 May  
Syracuse University  
School of Architecture

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# **01 INCU-BUS Holdings LTD.**

*Narrative: Funeral*

*Narrative: Jojo*

*Narrative: Peter*

*The structure of the company*

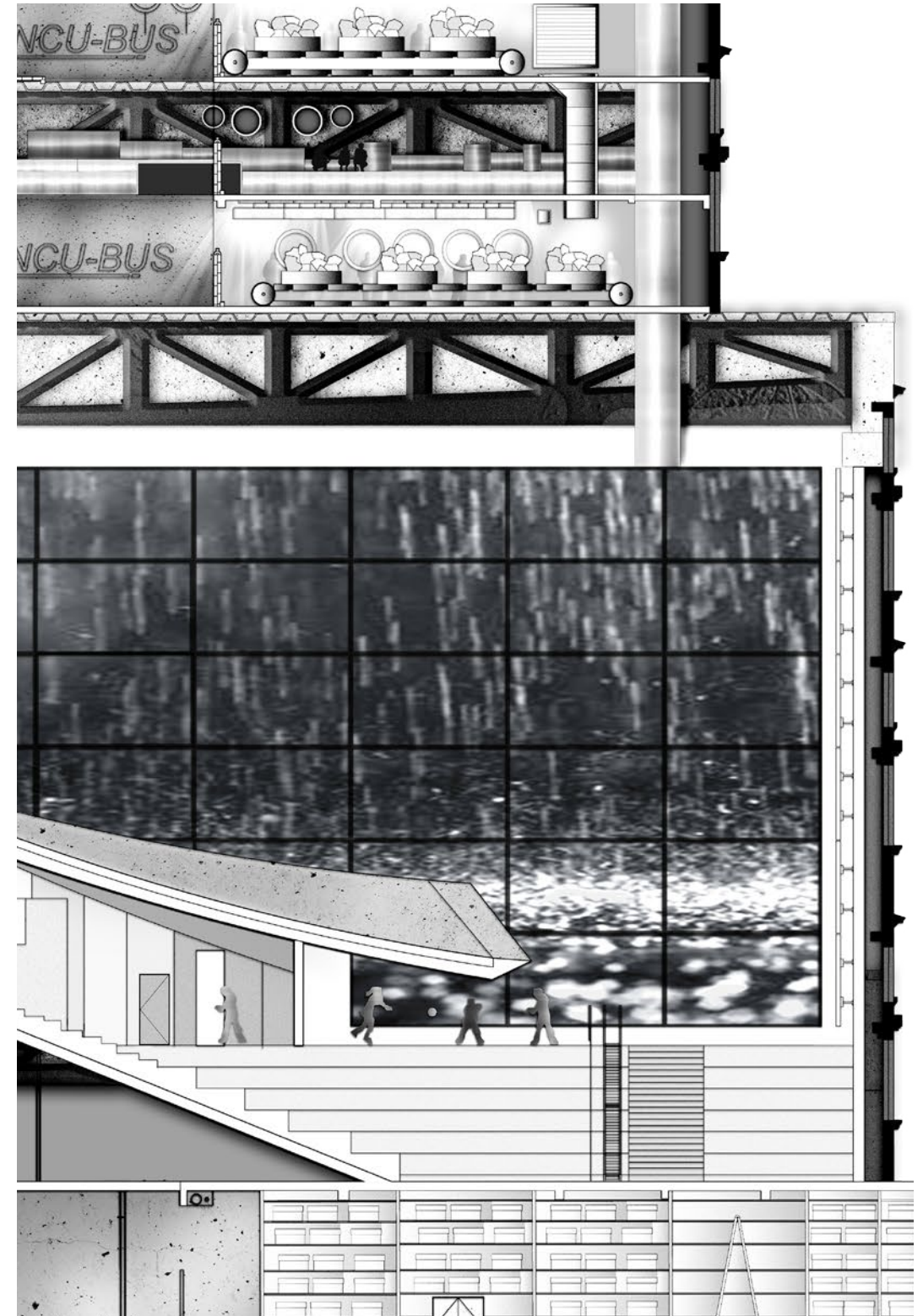
# .Narrative:Funeral

*It started to rain, at the moment the company representative finished his speech, the LED screen began to show raindrops falling. "...regard, thank you all for coming. I believe Zhang Cheng would be very happy to know that so many friends are here." Representative said.*

*Jojo attended Zhang Cheng's funeral, he is still not used to calling him so formally, no one uses real name here, everyone has a nickname. Some nicknames people make up by themselves, some of them have a nickname because of some obvious characteristics. Zhang Cheng's nickname is 007. Everyone thought he loved James Bond, but we do not know if he's ever read the novels or watched the movies. People call him 007 because he never seems to leave his desk every day, from 0 am to next day 0 am. He always can be seen at his desk, 7 days a week.*

*The rain was getting heavier and heavier. Jojo's mood was light and not even feeling the depression brought by the gloomy weather on the screen. He felt his chest swell violently, his heart beat fast, "prosthetic experiment" He did not understand what it was. Jojo made to stare hard at the rainy screen to empty his mind. Some ironic thoughts came out, "Doesn't it always rain at funerals? Then give them rain." Jojo guesses that a company executive he had never met must have said so. The sound of rain came from all directions. Fortunately, the company did not use the augmented reality technology to make the ceiling drop rain falls, Jojo thought.*

Figure1: A view of Zhang Cheng's funeral with imulated rainfall- Image by author



# .Narrative:Jojo

*I have no idea how long I have not seen the outside world. After all, who needs to leave—and who even could leave if they wanted to?*

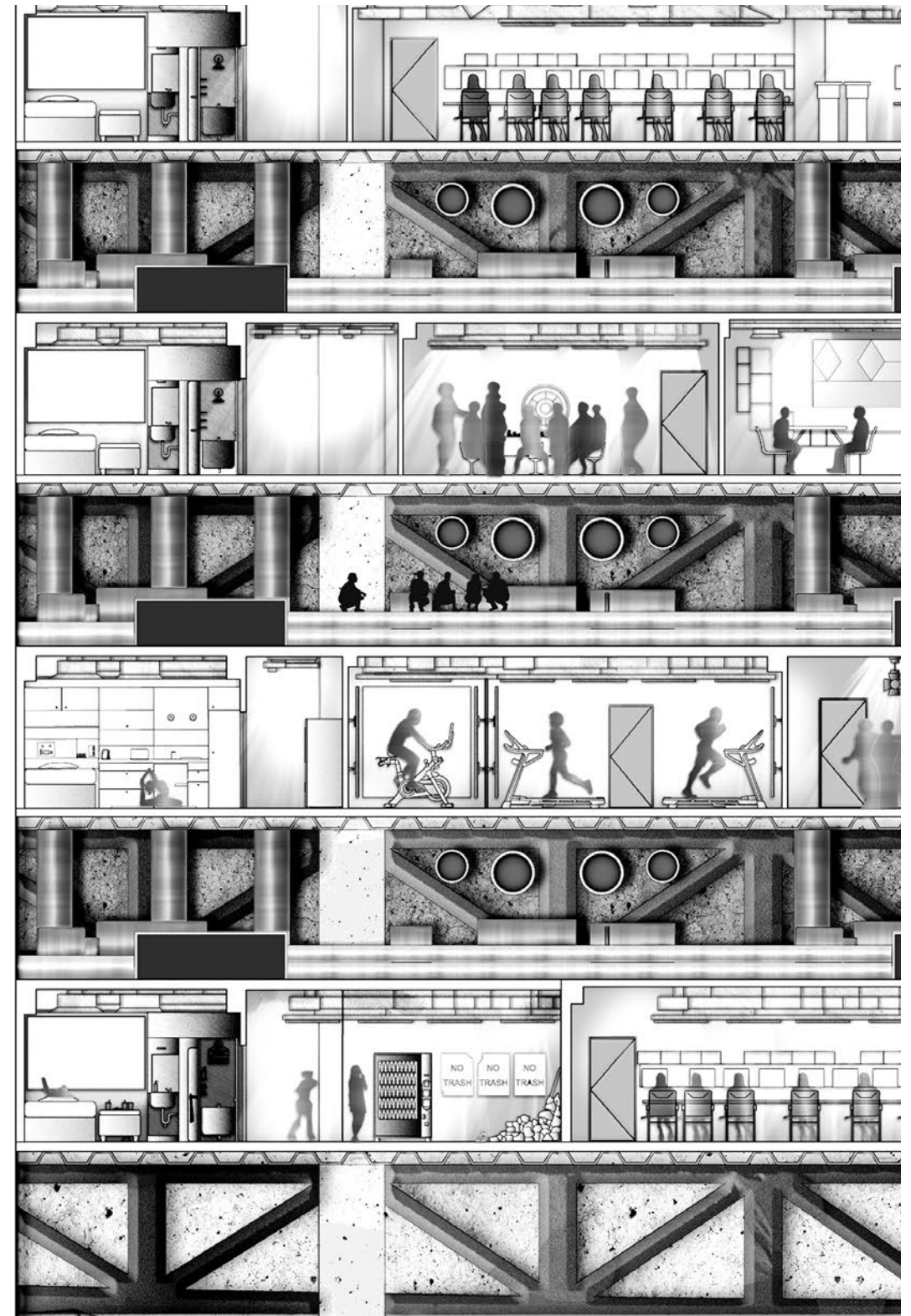
*These days, I only ever went as far as the hallway, dumped the trash, and threw finished food packages into the corner by the elevator. Someone will remove the trash, as the company's advertising promises: all details will be handled. I actually couldn't remember how long it had been since I had spoken to other people. I woke up every day, went to the vending machine outside my door, bought a little food, and immediately went back to bed, which I seemed to be a part of. However, such days are coming to an end, because my bonus credits are running out. I tried to save on expenses in the hope that the credits could use longer times.*

*It seems that someone's funeral was coming today, and I looked at the ceiling from the bed and gradually remembered that it was my neighbor, who was the last person he spoke with. In fact, this neighbor seemed to be very nice, very quiet, but surely this was because he was rarely at home. I thought so because I had tried to hack into the company's data monitoring system, of course, to delete my own browser history. However, I were surprised to find that the data in the next room had been 0 for several months. "So he also died of exhaustion," I guessed.*

*I remembered that my neighbor seemed to be working on an artificial prosthesis programming project, which was a big project. His funeral should have many of his partners there, so maybe there will be an opportunity to find a job. I turned off the huge screen in the room, and the sudden silence sent chills down my spine. So this is the first time I left this floor since I got here.*

*I am very nervous, although it is a bit hard to tell, but in fact, the last time I had a job was five years ago. I feel that I have forgotten how to be a qualified employee. These five years of hibernation life make it seem like my life was put on pause 5 years ago. The funeral hadn't started yet, and I saw the star venture capitalist walking towards me. Luck was probably coming.*

Figure2: A view of Jojo's room and Jojo's daily routine  
- Image by author



# .Narrative:Peter

*Of course, like everyone here, Peter is not Peter, he aspires to be as successful as Peter Thiel, so he lets everyone call him Peter. The sound of the TV commercial comes from the huge screen on the wall:*

*Are you a future inventor? Do you love sci-fi and want to live in sci-fi? Welcome to INCU-BUS! We believe that it is still possible that the young generation can be successful entrepreneurs. since the mobile internet brings more opportunities. We want to help you to conquer worlds. We take care everything for you. You'll have a place to live, a place to work on your ideas, and your payroll system will be in place. So, in 15 minutes, you will be in business working on the project. All the details will be handled.*

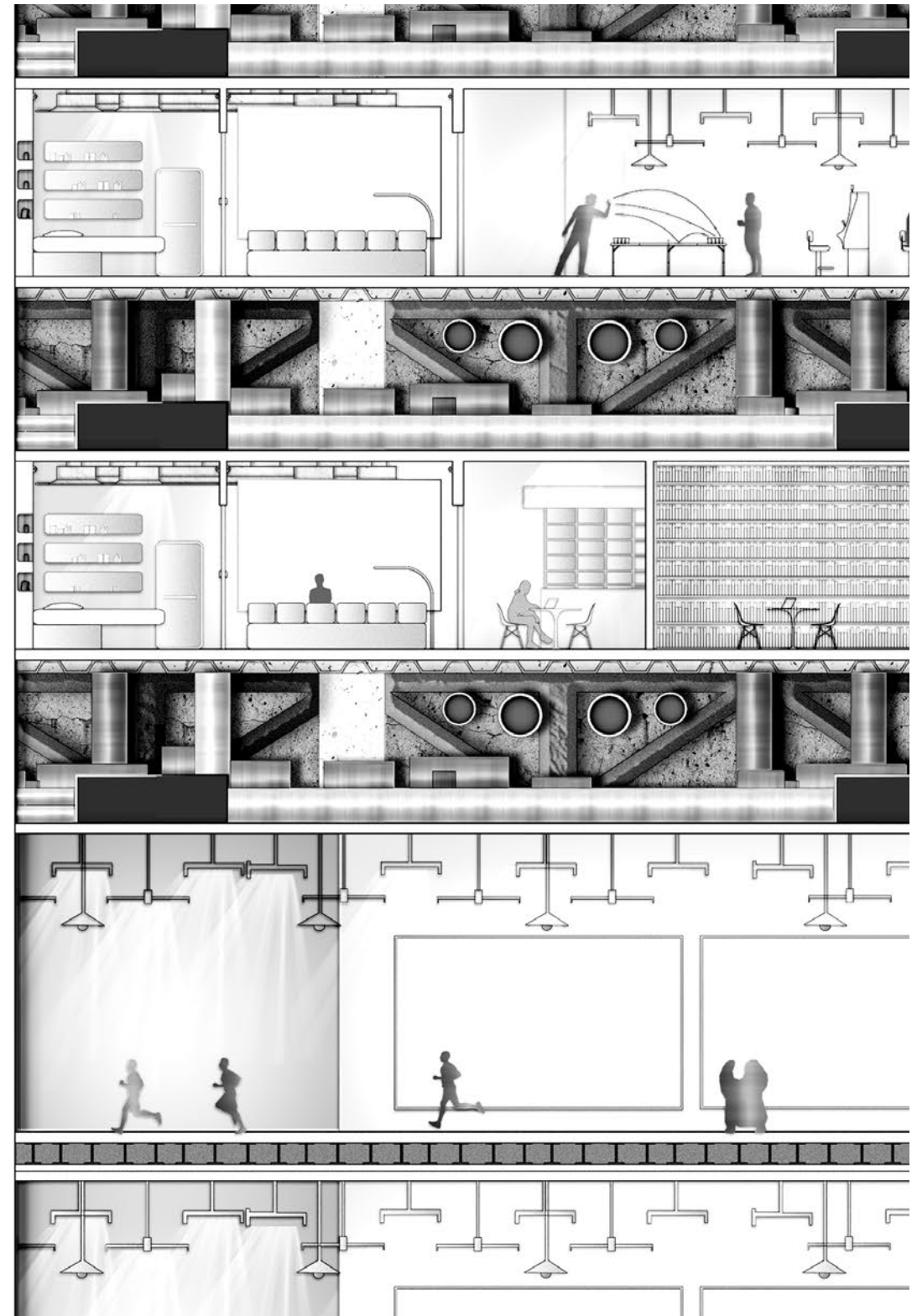
*Peter loves to go back to his room and listen to these commercials. The company has many such advertisements, each of which is so energetic, as if everyone is only one step away from success. Peter needs these moments to make him forget the day's exhaustion, so he can be motivated and actively participate in the next day's battle.*

*Such bad luck days: the core algorithm staff of Peter's investment project died of overwork 3 days ago. Peter had to start looking for someone who could take over the project, but fortunately the project had reached the final stage and was not as dependent on the algorithm engineer. Thinking of this, Peter was even a little grateful that he'd died at the right time, instead of three months ago.*

*Today, when he saw that hikikomori at the funeral, Peter felt that his chance had come again. This artificial prosthesis project needs human volunteers for final stage experiment, and these kinds of people will go out to the funeral for that reason, because there have not enough credits for them to continue to hibernate. He needs to make money, this feeling comes to Peter's mind.*

*Peter was in a good mood because he knew the contract signing would go well tomorrow and Jojo would not back out. What other skills did he have to participate in the project to earn credits? Peter said to himself, "This is a great place, just like the ad says, there are always opportunities and there are worlds to conquer."*

Figure3: A view of Peter's living area- Image by author



# Structure of the company

*The framework for this company includes three main components: development, human resource, and finance.*

*In the Finance aspect, it is an Internal circular economy; people Only can use credits for food or all the resources.*

*Development and human resource are taking part in evaluating employee's work, rand and deciding their credits. It is running in the winner take all system.*

*The company only provide living space resources or facility. The Worker: produce internet/mobile-related profitable ideas.*

*The Venture capitalist: provide funding to the company but also discover the potential project for early stage.*

Figure4: A flyer from INCU-BUS.- Image by author





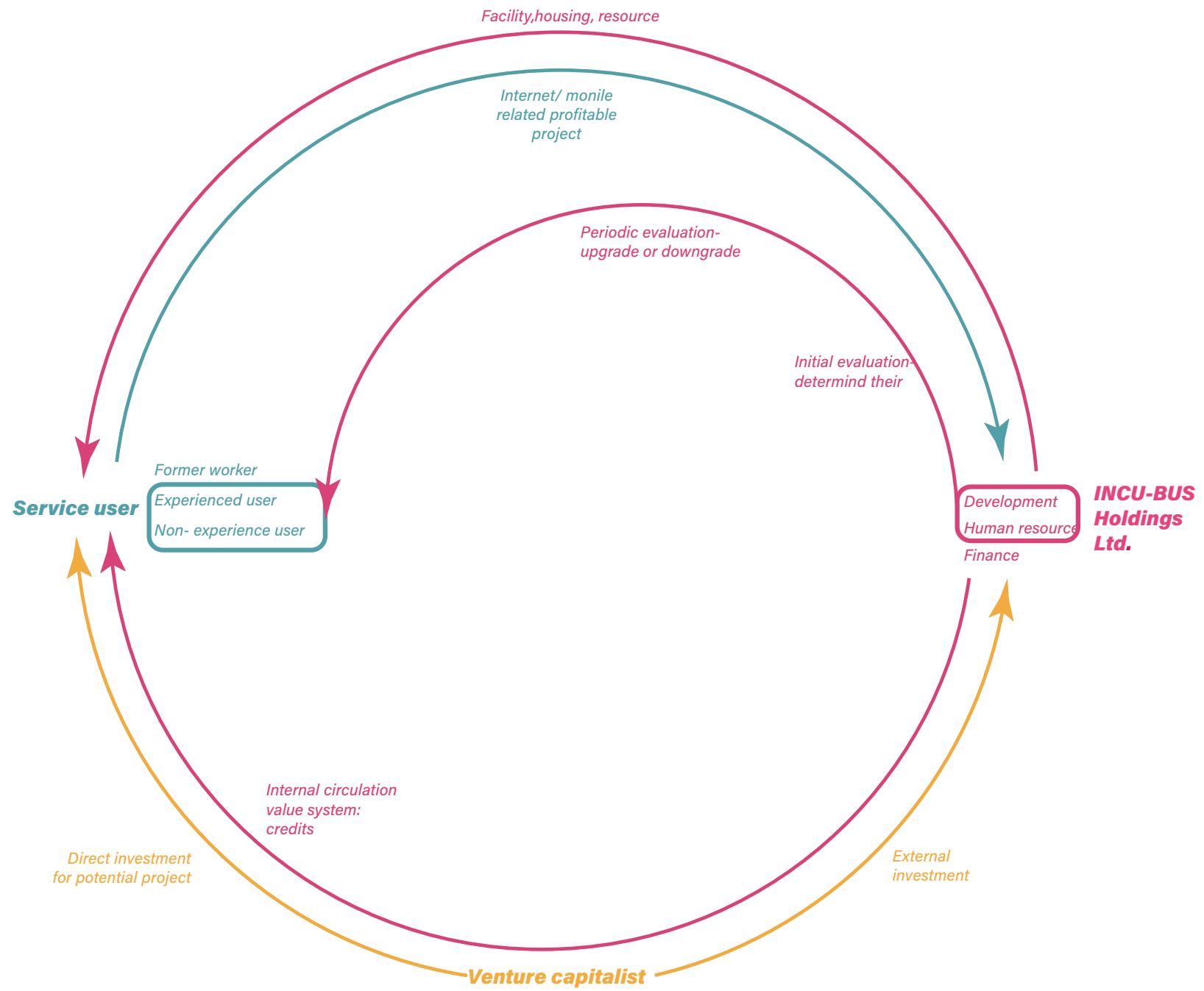


Figure5: Diagram of the structure of INCU-BUS-Image by author

## NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

This NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT (the "**Agreement**") is effective as of February 8<sup>st</sup> 2021 by and between INCU-BUS Holdings LTD. (hereinafter referred to as "**Discloser**") and Zhang Cheng (hereinafter referred to as "**Recipient**" or "**you**") (Discloser and Recipient together are the "**Parties**," each a "**Party**").

**1. Definitions.** For purposes of this Agreement, the following terms are defined as follows:

- a. "**Confidential Information**" means any and all information which is possessed or developed by or for Discloser and which relates to Discloser's existing or potential business or technology, which information is generally not known to the public and includes, without limitation, the following: intellectual property and proprietary rights, including technical developments, technical and engineering data, research or test data and results, existing or proposed research and development, and information concerning the development or protection of any related copyrights, patents, or trade secrets; business operations, including business plans, business strategies, business know-how and techniques, records, results of operations, pricing, employee compensation, communications between Discloser's employees and attorneys representing Discloser, business projections, and terms of Discloser's contracts; product or service information, including all related data, specifications, costs, pricing, plans, ideas, methods, and research; production information, including plans, techniques, formulas, processes, specifications, designs, molds, equipment, costs; sales and marketing information, including existing or proposed bids, sales or marketing plans or forecasts, leads, partners, sales or marketing techniques or strategies, negotiation strategies, information generated for customer engagements, and costs; human experimental information, including information related to the human body trade, human experiment, the digitization of human consciousness, human body treatment; computer code and technology, including all related information stored or developed directly or indirectly for use in or with computers, customized software, computer programs, designs, documentation, processes, know-how, research or test results and data, and training information and materials; any information related to the details within the INCU-BUS work site and information received by Discloser from others that Discloser has an obligation to treat as confidential. All such information will be treated as Confidential Information regardless of whether it is designated as "Confidential Information" at the time of its disclosure.

- b. "**Current Customers**" means any firm, partnership, corporation, or any other entity or person that has purchased or is purchasing from Discloser any of its products or services.
- c. "**Non-Party**" means any competitor, supplier, customer, or any other person, firm, corporation, or other entity besides the Parties and their employees, representatives, and authorized agents.
- d. "**Prospective Customers**" means any firm, partnership, corporation, or any other entity or person reasonably expected by Discloser or Recipient to purchase from Discloser any of its products or services.
- e. "**Trade Secrets**" means all information possessed by or developed for Discloser, including, without limitation, a compilation, program, device, method, system, technique, formula, pattern, human experimental, or process to which all of the following apply: (i) the information derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use, and (ii) the information is the subject of efforts to maintain its secrecy that are reasonable under the circumstances.
- f. "**Vendor**" means any individual or entity that provides goods or services to Discloser.
- g. "**Work-site**" means any virtual or real-life work environment related to the company's data.

**2. Non-Disclosure of Confidential Information and Trade Secrets.** In consideration for Recipient's receipt of Confidential Information and Trade Secrets, the potential or continuing business opportunities that may result between the Parties, other benefits conferred through the relationship of the Parties, and/or the covenants and promises herein contained, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, Recipient agrees as follows:

- a. To not disclose Confidential Information or Trade Secrets except as is permitted under this Agreement and to perform all covenants herein faithfully;
- b. Except as expressly authorized by Discloser's prior written permission, now or any time in the future, Recipient will not disclose, directly or indirectly, any Confidential Information or Trade Secrets to a Non-Party or use any Confidential Information or Trade Secrets for any purpose that does not benefit Discloser, even though recipient's physical body have been destroyed;

- c. To at all times exercise the utmost diligence and Recipient's best efforts to guard and protect against unauthorized disclosure or misappropriation of Confidential Information and Trade Secrets to or by a Non-Party, even though recipient's physical body have been destroyed;
  - d. To not seek or accept any Confidential Information or Trade Secrets from any former, present, or future employee of Discloser except in the ordinary course of Recipient's business with Discloser, even though recipient's physical body have been destroyed;
  - e. To not disclose to Discloser, use in Discloser's business, or cause Discloser to use any Confidential Information or Trade Secrets belonging to a Non-Party, even though recipient's physical body have been destroyed;
  - f. To not copy, modify, reproduce, or attempt to reproduce any Confidential Information or Trade Secrets without the express prior written permission of Discloser;
  - g. To promptly notify Discloser if Recipient becomes aware of any unauthorized use, disclosure, or misappropriation of Confidential Information or Trade Secrets;
  - h. This Agreement also prohibit disclosure of Confidential Information or Trade Secrets after they have become generally known in the industry in which Discloser conducts its business and it does prohibit Recipient's use of general skills and know-how acquired during and prior to working with Discloser, as long as such use does involve the disclosure of Confidential Information or Trade Secrets;
  - i. To not disclose Confidential Information or Trade Secrets to Recipient's employees, if any, unless absolutely required for an employee to perform their job duties; however, Recipient must require such employees to sign a non-disclosure agreement in substantially the same form as this Agreement prior to disclosing any Confidential Information or Trade Secrets and will provide a copy of all such agreements to Discloser immediately after they are executed.
3. **Exceptions.** This Agreement will not prohibit any disclosure that is required by law or court order, provided that Recipient has not intentionally taken actions to trigger such required disclosure and, so long as not prohibited by any applicable law or regulation, Discloser is given reasonable prior notice and an opportunity to contest or minimize such disclosure. The same provisions will not prevent Recipient's disclosure of Confidential Information or Trade Secrets in the event Discloser has given Recipient express prior written permission to do so.
  4. **Term.** Unless otherwise stated herein, the rights and obligations of the Parties under this Agreement will continue indefinitely from the effective date and will survive the expiration

or termination, for any reason, of any other contractual relationship between the Parties that may occur while this Agreement is in effect.

5. **Irreparable Harm.** Recipient acknowledges that Discloser engages in a competitive business and has or will expend significant sums of money and time to develop and use its Confidential Information and Trade Secrets. Recipient further acknowledges that Discloser would suffer irreparable harm, loss, and damage if its Confidential Information and Trade Secrets were disclosed to a Non-Party.
6. **Non-Circumvention.** Unless Recipient receives Discloser's prior written consent to do so, Recipient agrees not to attempt to conduct business with or solicit business from any Non-Parties that Recipient may come into contact with as a result of its relationship with Discloser if such attempt would in effect circumvent Discloser and cause it to suffer a loss of profits or other business opportunity or advantage. Should Recipient circumvent Discloser without such permission, Discloser will be entitled to receive a commission based on the fair value of the loss of profits, business opportunity, or advantage.
7. **Non-Solicitation of Current Customers, Prospective Customers, and Vendors.** Recipient agrees that, during the term of this Agreement, it will not—directly or indirectly, on its own behalf or on behalf of or in conjunction with any person or entity—solicit or attempt to solicit any business from any Current Customer, Prospective Customer, or Vendor for any reason or without reason, except with Discloser's express written consent.
8. **Intellectual Property Assignment.** Recipient agrees that all existing and future patent, copyright, or other intellectual property rights resulting from, or related to, the Confidential Information or Trade Secrets will at all times remain the sole property of Discloser. This Agreement gives no intellectual property rights to Recipient in Confidential Information or Trade Secrets. Any results and work product from Recipient's efforts performed in relation to this Agreement (the "**Work Product**") are intended to be "work made for hire" as defined in Section 101 of the Copyright Act of 1976. If the copyright or other intellectual property right to the Work Product is not the property of Discloser by operation of law, Recipient agrees to, without further consideration, assign to Discloser all rights, title, and interest in such Work Product.
9. **Reverse Engineering.** At no time now or in the future may Recipient directly or indirectly attempt to reverse engineer, reconstruct, or independently derive any Confidential Information or Trade Secrets.
10. **Other Agreements Binding Recipient.** Recipient agrees that Recipient will immediately provide Discloser with copies of all non-disclosure, confidentiality, and intellectual property assignment agreements that currently bind Recipient or that Recipient becomes bound to in the future.

11. **Return of Discloser Property.** Immediately upon Recipient receiving a written request by Discloser for return of property or upon termination of any contractual relationship between the Parties, Recipient will return to Discloser all Discloser's papers, documents, and other property, including, without limitation, keys, security cards, phones, computers, passes, credit cards, documents, and information stored for use in or with computers and software applicable to Discloser's business (and all copies thereof), which are in Recipient's possession or under Recipient's control, regardless whether such papers, documents, or other property do or do not contain Confidential Information or Trade Secrets.
12. **No Conflicts.** Recipient represents and warrants that Recipient has not previously assumed any obligations inconsistent with those of this Agreement and that Recipient's execution of this Agreement does not conflict with any prior obligations to third parties.
13. **No Undue Burden.** Recipient acknowledges that (i) this Agreement has been specifically bargained between the Parties and reviewed by Recipient, (ii) Recipient has had an opportunity to obtain legal counsel to review this Agreement, and (iii) the covenants made by and duties imposed upon Recipient hereby are fair, reasonable, and minimally necessary to protect the legitimate business interests of Discloser, and such covenants and duties will not place an undue burden upon Recipient in the event of strict enforcement of the covenants contained herein.
14. **Relationship of the Parties.** Nothing in this Agreement will create an employment, agency, joint venture, or partnership relationship between the Parties. In addition, nothing in this Agreement will require the Parties to purchase goods or services from each other or to provide one another with Confidential Information or Trade Secrets in their respective possession.
15. **No Guarantee of Continued Relationship.** Nothing in this Agreement will be construed as a guarantee of continuing or additional contractual relations between the Parties after the effective date.
16. **No Warranties.** Confidential Information and Trade Secrets are provided to Recipient on an "As-Is" basis. DISCLOSER HEREBY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AS TO THE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND TRADE SECRETS PROVIDED TO RECIPIENT. Discloser makes no warranties of any kind as to the following: whether or not its Confidential Information and Trade Secrets are free from errors and defects, accurate, and complete; whether or not use of its Confidential Information or Trade Secrets may infringe on the intellectual property rights of a Non-Party; or how Discloser plans to use its Confidential Information and Trade Secrets in the future. Neither Discloser nor its employees and representatives will have any liability as a result of the disclosure of Confidential Information or Trade Secrets to Recipient or its employees and representatives.

17. **Indemnification.** Each Party agrees to indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the other Party, along with the other Party's officers, directors, employees, and agents, against all claims, liabilities, losses, costs, and all other legal and non-legal expenses, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees and costs and insurance deductibles, whether or not involving a third-party claim, arising directly or indirectly from (i) the Party's breach or violation of any representation, warranty, or obligation under this Agreement, (ii) the negligent or grossly negligent intentional act or omission of the Party, or any of the Party's directors, officers, employees, or agents, that results from or arises out of this Agreement, or (iii) the Party's wrongful or unlawful acts.
18. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement represents the entire Agreement between Discloser and Recipient and may not be modified, changed, or altered by any promise or statement by Discloser other than in a signed writing by both Parties.
19. **Severability.** The Parties have attempted to limit the non-disclosure provisions so that they apply only to the extent necessary to protect legitimate business and property interests. If any provision of this Agreement will be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, then that provision will be considered removed from this Agreement; however, the remaining provisions will continue to be valid and enforceable according to the intentions of the Parties. If a court finds that any provision of this Agreement is invalid or unenforceable, but that by limiting such provision it would become valid and enforceable, then such provision shall be deemed to be written, construed, and enforced as so limited.
20. **Waiver.** The waiver by Discloser of a breach of any provision of this Agreement by Recipient will not be considered as a waiver of rights with respect to any subsequent breach by Recipient.
21. **Successors and Assigns.** This Agreement is not assignable by Recipient without the express prior written permission of Discloser. This Agreement binds and inures to the benefits the heirs, successors, and assignees of the Parties.
22. **Governing Law.** Recipient agrees and acknowledges that all provisions of this Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.
23. **Equitable Relief and Remedies.** Recipient acknowledges that any breach of this Agreement will cause substantial and irreparable harm to Discloser for which money damages would be an inadequate remedy. Accordingly, in the event of a breach or threatened breach of this Agreement, Discloser will be entitled to seek injunctive and other forms of equitable relief to prevent such breach and the prevailing Party will be entitled to recover from the other, the prevailing Party's losses, damages, and costs, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees and costs, incurred in connection with enforcing this Agreement, in addition to any other rights or remedies available at law, in equity, or by statute.

**24. Dispute Resolution.** The Parties acknowledge and agree that they will first attempt to resolve any dispute resulting from or arising out of this Agreement through friendly consultation between one another. If friendly consultation fails to resolve the dispute, the Parties agree to submit the dispute to mediation conducted in accordance with the mediation procedures of the American Arbitration Association (AAA). The parties agree to share equally in the costs of the mediation. If mediation again fails to resolve the dispute, the Parties agree to submit the dispute to binding arbitration in accordance with the terms set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, which the Parties agree to execute contemporaneously with this Agreement.

**25. Notice.** Any notice required or permitted under this Agreement must be in writing and delivered in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph. Such notice, if delivered by electronic mail, will be delivered to Discloser at Peterwang993@incubus.com or to Recipient at tingegy@hotmail.com. Such notice, if delivered by personal delivery or U.S. mail, will be delivered to the Parties at the addresses specified below:

**DISCLOSER ADDRESS**

No. 33, Terry Avenue,  
Mountain View,  
CA95014,U.S.

**RECIPIENT ADDRESS**

111 Lafayette Rd, Apt 350  
Syracuse, New York 13205

**26. Counterparts; Electronic Signature.** This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, including by fax, email, or other facsimile, each an original but all considered part of one Agreement. Electronic signatures placed upon counterparts of this Agreement by a Party or their approved agent will be considered valid representations of that Party's signature.

**Recipient acknowledges that Recipient has carefully read and understood the provisions of this Agreement and understands that Recipient has the right to seek independent advice at Recipient's expense or to propose modifications prior to signing the Agreement and has negotiated proposed modifications to the extent Recipient deems necessary. Nothing contained in this Agreement creates a contractual right to a continued contract for a definite term. Recipient represents and warrants that Recipient has entered into this Agreement voluntarily and after consulting an attorney or whomsoever Recipient wishes.**

**DISCLOSER**

Sign: Peterwang Date: Feb. 8. 2021

Print: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECIPIENT**

Sign: 张成 Date: 02.08.2021

Print: CHENG ZHANG

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

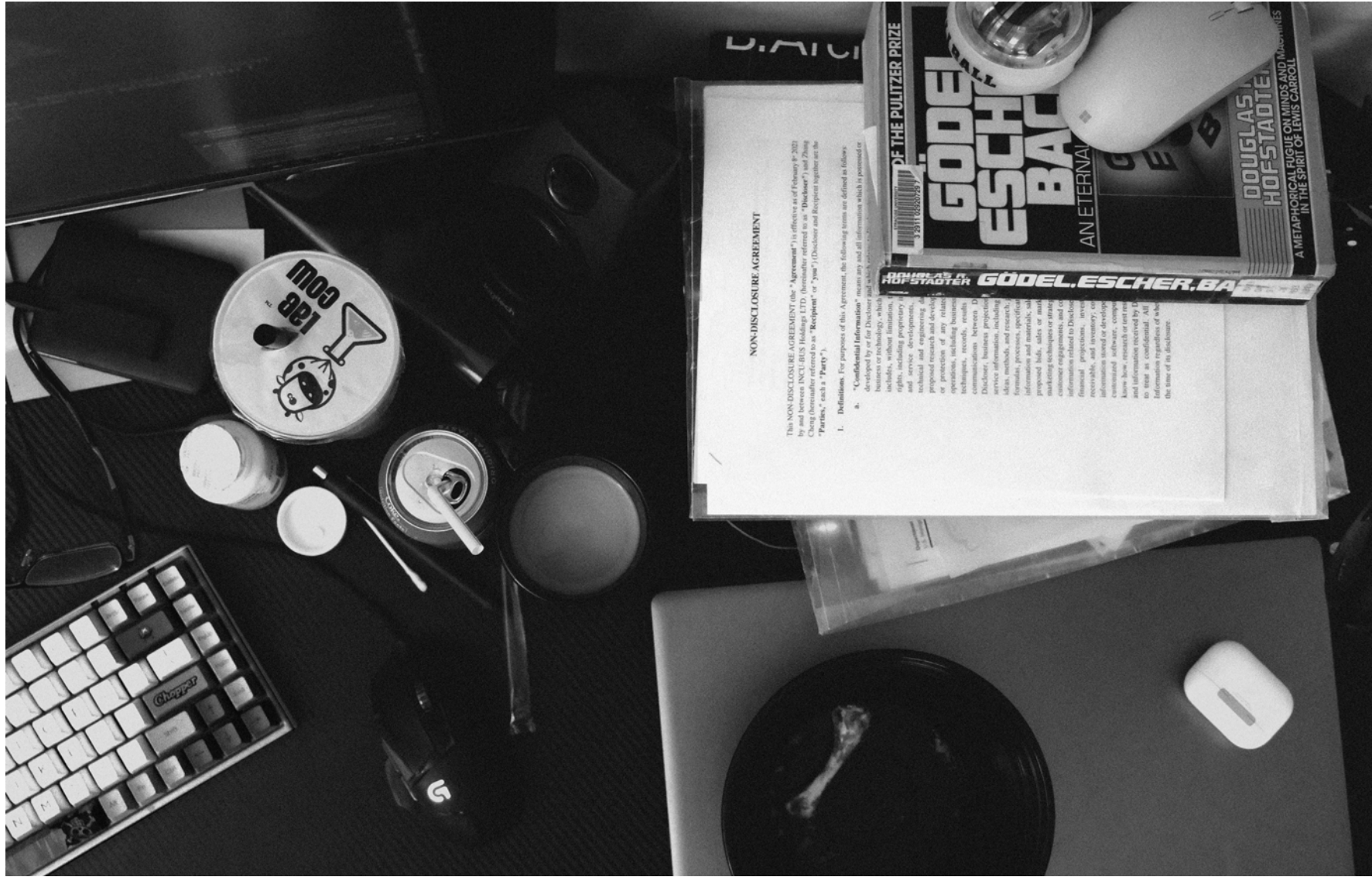


Figure6: Zhang Cheng's desk-Image by author

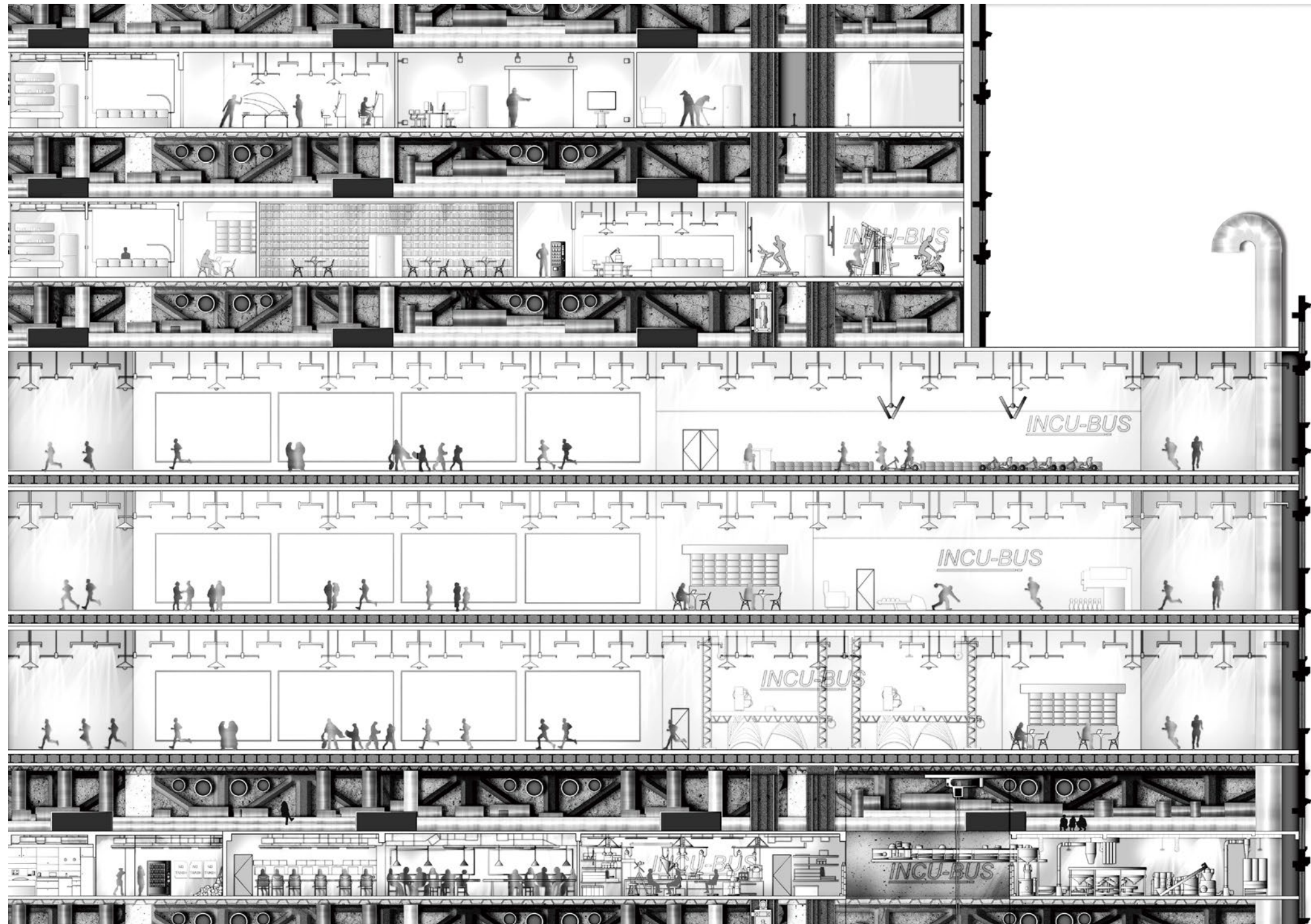


Figure7: Senior worker's daily space -Image by author



Figure8: Living and working space for junior worker -Image by author



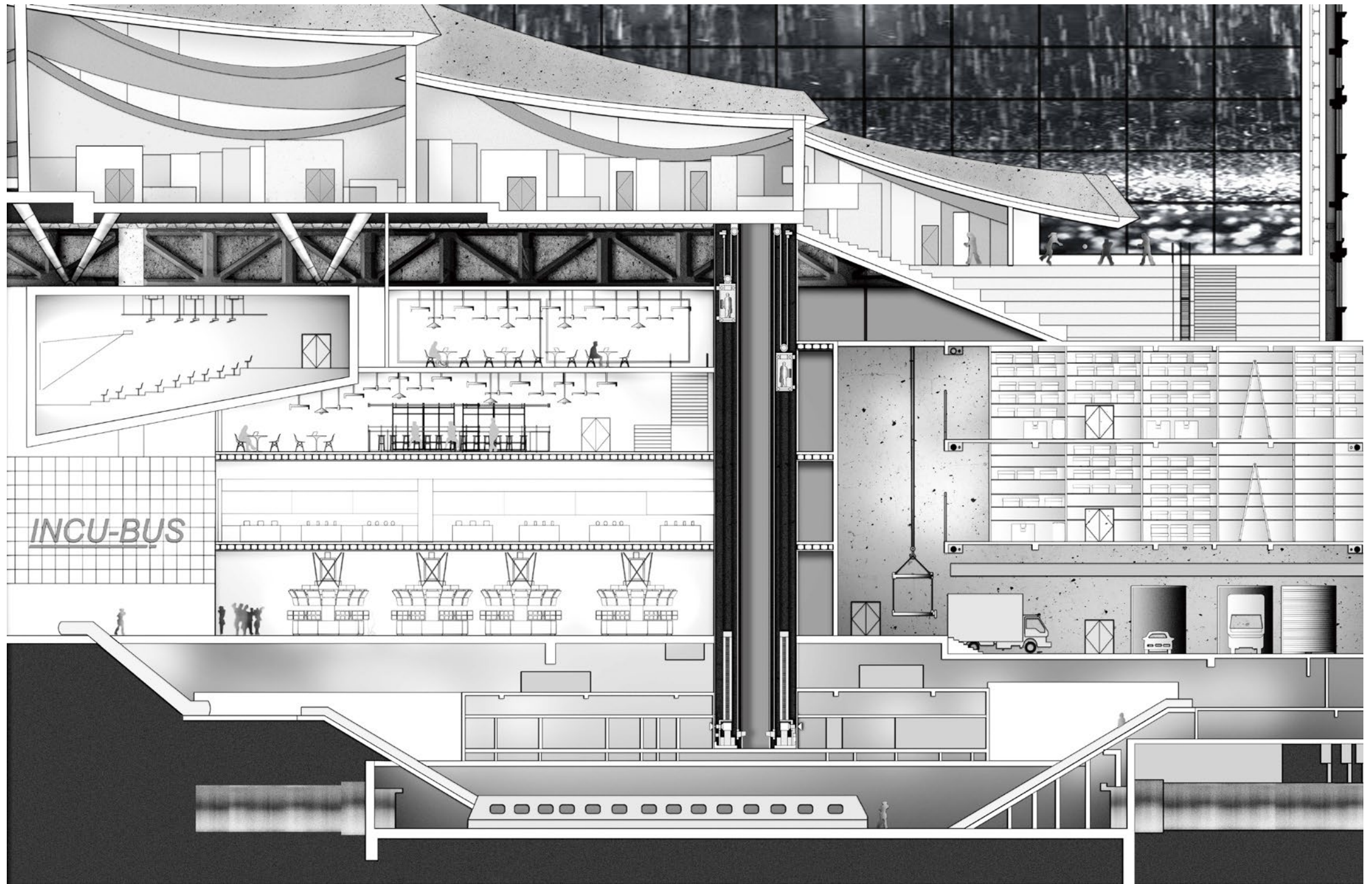


Figure9: Open space for propaganda and events -Image by author

## ***02 Essentials for INCU-BUS***

### ***Heterotopia***

A sort of simultaneously mythic and real contestation of the space in which we live.  
An illusion from the existing facts.

### ***"Hikikomori"***

The adult withdraw from society and seek extreme degrees of isolation.

### ***"Low desire society"***

### ***Tech-Incubator***

# .manifesto

On Dec 29th 2020, a 23-year-old woman had died from exhaustion in Pinduoduo- a platform competing with Alibaba, because of 24/7 work hours and whole year no break. To make this narrative critique on the exploitation exists in the internet companies. I investigated several Social phenomenon, *hikikomori* the adult withdraw from society and seek extreme degrees of isolation. *996 work pattern* in China's internet companies- work from 9am to 9pm 7days a week, and the influence from it. Also the accompanied *low desire society* by neoliberalism. *Hikikomori* is defined as reclusive adolescents or adults who withdraw from society and seek extreme degrees of isolation and confinement, although they may stay with their parents. High housing prices and low employment rates contribute to this phenomenon, and neoliberalism considers the accompanying society to be a low-desire society. The 996 working hour system was first launched by Alibaba, and several Chinese Internet companies have adopted this system as their official work schedule. Furthermore, Pinduoduo developed it to 007 working hour system- 24/7 on-call, whole year no break. Although this system is a flagrant violation of Chinese law, the government has remained silent given the huge amount of taxes paid by these Internet companies.

In this context, Internet companies are caught in the competition to increase productivity, reduce costs and find new profitable projects. Therefore, this project imagines a new employment relationship in Internet companies; this new employment relationship allows for more efficient and intensive exploitation of the young generation. We all are hikikomori in the middle of a pandemic. Even before the pandemic, we all are possible to be hikikomori since it is the easiest choice to have a break from intensive work.

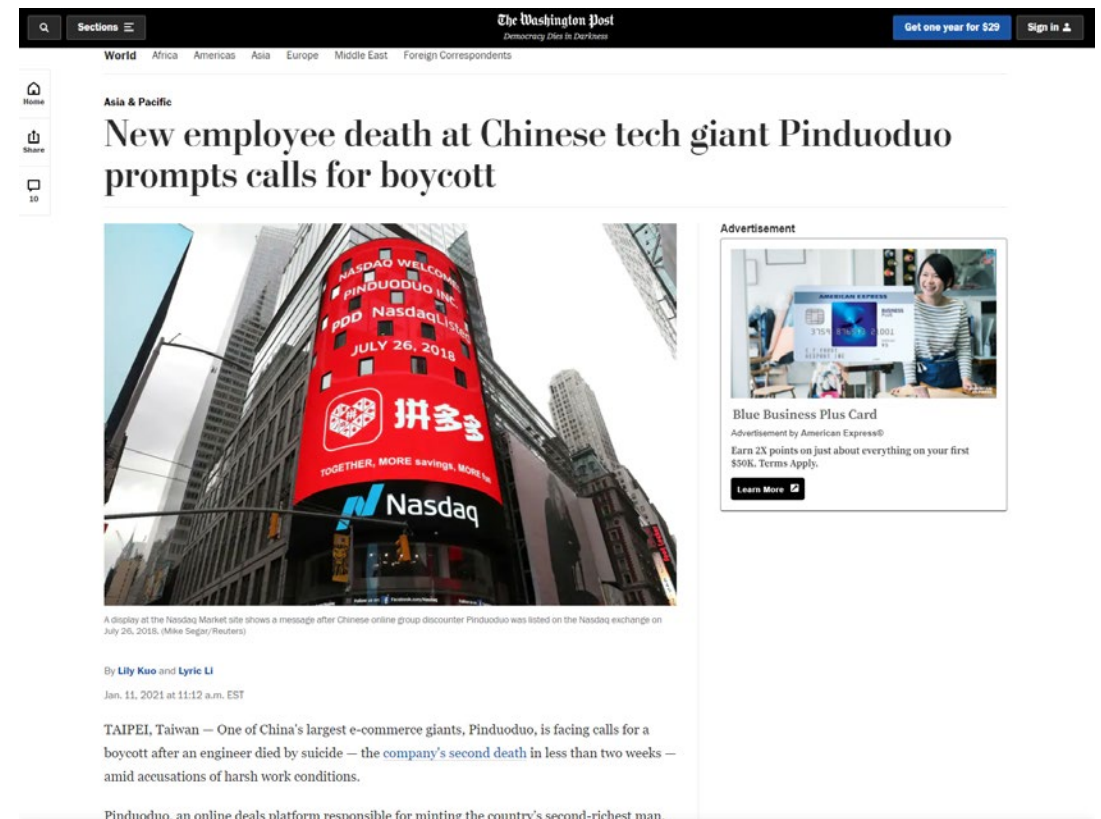


Figure10: A news of the death of Pinduoduo employee on washingtonpost.

# .blackbox

*INCU-BUS*, a portmanteau of incubator and succubus, it is no coincidence that the term incubus also refers to the male counterpart to a succubus. The term is a metaphor of how this space attracts young people with its tempting appearance, while underneath is more unbridled exploitation. The company provides housing, food, facilities, and resources for workers since housing accounts for more than 50 percent of 20-30 years old young people's income. As a piece of the company's advertisement, We would fund the ideas with a key, and the key would fit a lock in a building. In the building would be many desks and chairs, and down the hall would be many screens. They'd have a place to live, a place to work on their ideas, their payroll system would be in place. So, in 15 minutes, they would be in business working on the project. All the details would be handled. The only thing that the workers need to consider is how to produce a new internet mobile-related project that can make money for both company and themselves. There will be a system to quantify their work to win the credits; the credits will be used to get food or other consumer items. The workers will also rank as their productions to have access to better facilities and resources; they can collaborate with the other workers ranked at the same level, which means they will have a larger opportunity to win big.



Figure11: A building as black box that from INCU-BUS Holdings LTD.-Image by author

# Heterotopia

In Foucault's *Of Other Spaces: Utopias and Heterotopias*, heterotopia is defined as As a sort of simultaneously mythic and real contestation of the space in which we live; this description could be called heterotopology. He also used six principles to describe what heterotopia is.

We do not live in a homogeneous and empty space, but on the contrary, in a space thoroughly imbued with quantities and perhaps thoroughly fantasmatic as well. In what we generally think of as normal, everyday, regular spaces, there are actually many small spaces that we have consciously or unconsciously planned out, saying that this is a shopping mall, that is a movie theater, etc. we can continue our daily life, eating, clothing, housing, and transportation, except for these occasional interludes of life.

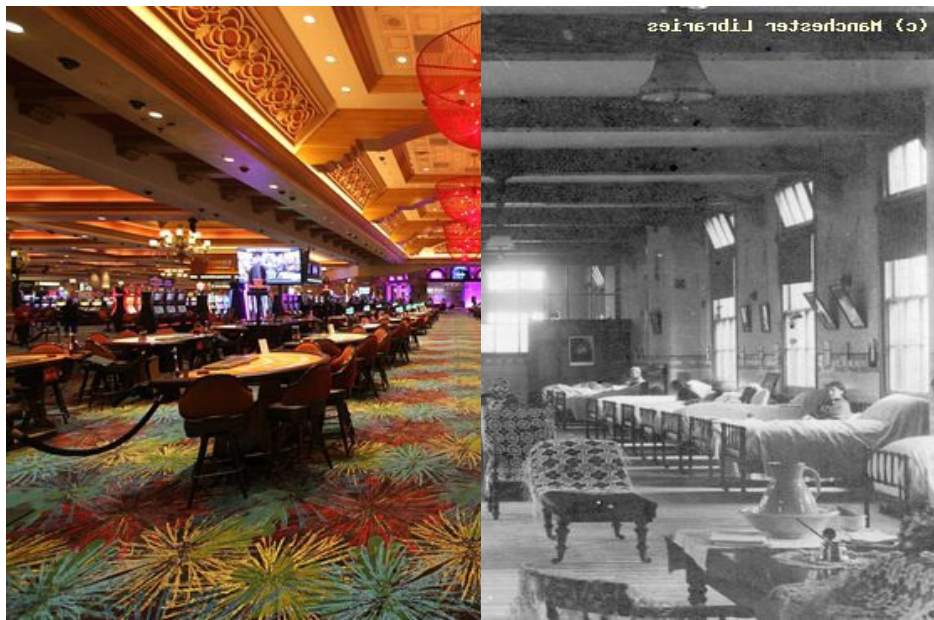


Figure12:Left: thunder valley casino Right: a board school's dormitory

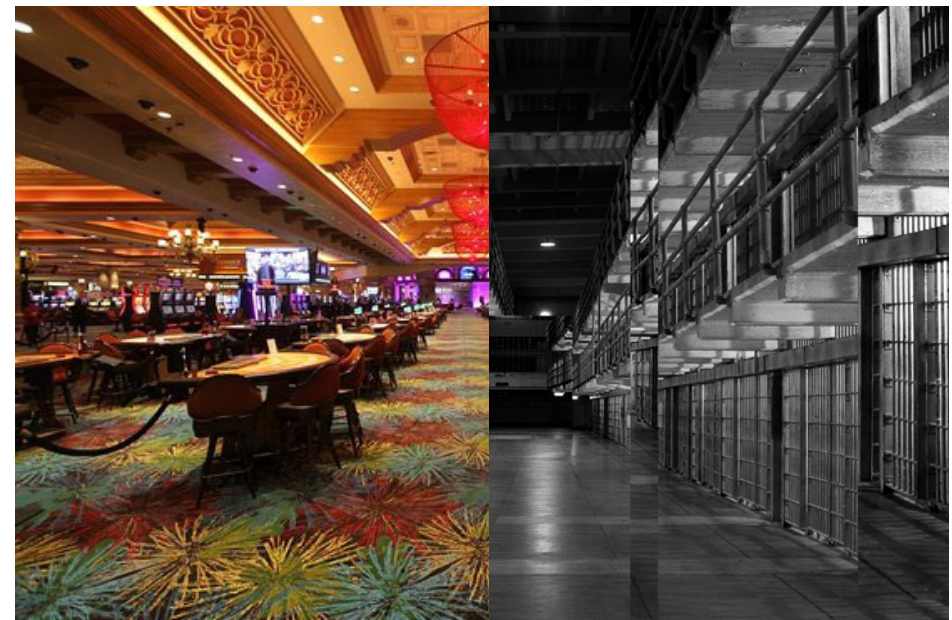


Figure13:Left: thunder valley casino Right bottom: a prison



Figure14: A 19C board school

*1. Its first principle is that there is probably not a single culture in the world that fails to constitute heterotopias.*

A place for those individuals whose behavior is deviant in relation to the required mean or norm are placed. Cases of this is a board school, it is the heterotopia of deviation since, after all, young age is a crisis, but is also a deviation since in our society where leisure is the rule, idleness is a sort of deviation.



Figure15: Mount Auburn Cemetery

*2. as the society's history unfolds, can make an existing heterotopia function in a very different fashion.*

This cemetery housed inside the sacred space of the church has taken on a quite different cast in modern civilizations, and curiously, it is in a time when civilization has become 'atheistic,' as one says very crudely, that western culture has established what is termed the cult of the dead. (Foucault, Of Other Spaces: Utopias and Heterotopias, pg5)



Figure16: Hiroshi Sugimoto "Theaters"

### 3. juxtaposing in a single real place several spaces several sites.

The theater brings onto the rectangle of the stage, one after the other, a whole series of places that are foreign to one another; thus it is that the cinema is a very odd rectangular room, at the end of which, on a two-dimensional screen, one sees the projection of a three-dimensional space. (Foucault, Of Other Spaces: Utopias and Heterotopias, pg6)



Figure17: A vacation village in Polynesian villages

### 4. most often linked to slices in time

Vacation villages is the new kind of temporal heterotopia has been invented, those Polynesian villages that offer a compact three weeks of primitive and eternal nudity to the inhabitants of the cities. That through the two forms of heterotopias that come together here, the heterotopia of the festival and that of the eternity of accumulating time, for the rediscovery of Polynesian life abolishes time. (Foucault, Of Other Spaces: Utopias and Heterotopias, pg7)





# *.heterotopia*

This space (INCU-BUS) is a heterotopia, as a sort of simultaneously mythic and real contestation of the space in which we live. (Foucault, *Of Other Spaces: Utopias and Heterotopias*, pg.4) An example is a casino, it is isolated from our normal world but also physically existing; it is like a replica of our normal world. However, all the objects can be seen in life adapted in a different kind of rule. The world hikikomori seeking is a heterotopia; they dedicate their time to a virtual world to escape from the real world. Another example is in what we generally think of as normal, everyday, regular spaces, there are actually many small spaces that we have consciously or unconsciously planned out, saying that this is a shopping mall, that is a movie theater, etc. We can continue our daily life, eating, clothing, housing, and transportation, except for these occasional interludes of life.



Figure20: "Potemkin Villages" a heterotopia: As a sort of simultaneously mythic and real contestation of the space in which we live, this description could be called heterotopology.

# "Hikikomori"

Hikikomori is defined as the adult withdraw from society and seek extreme degrees of isolation.

When we mention hikikomori, a sense that a person sit in front of a screen always come to mind, the screen almost as same important as the person (hikikumori).

Internet development provided a way that these people can easily live in a isolation. They rely on delivery food, streaming media and online gaming. But We even can not say they are isolating they are interacting with others in a different way.

We all are hikikomori in the middle of a pandemic. Even before the pandemic, we all are possible to be hikikomori since it is the easiest choice to have a break from intensive work.

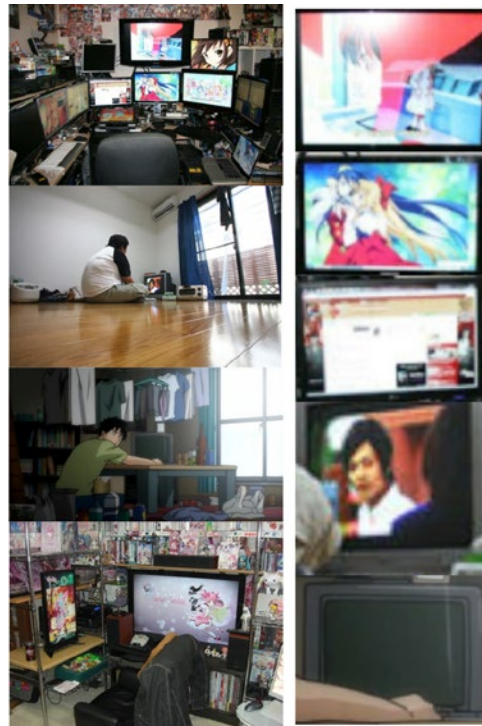


Figure21-24:A series images of "hikikomori"

Figure25-29:The screen is a place for their hibernate



Figure30: A installation work of "hikikomori" from Shenzhen University by Han Xianshang

# "Low desire society"

This term was first used in Kenichi Ohmae's book *Low desire society*. As a neoliberal economist, he refers to the social phenomena occurring in China and Japan under a series of social problems, such as overtime culture, high housing prices, high cost of living, aging population, and pension shortage, as a low-desire society.

The book lead to a discussion on this issue, Some Chinese scholars believe that in China, the factors triggering the phenomenon of a low-desire society are slightly different from those in Japan. A significant portion of the population in Japan is driven by escalating demand. The proportion of this group in China is much lower than in Japan, mainly because the gap between wealth and poor people is much larger in China than in Japan. It is well known that the income level of Japanese office workers is roughly distributed according to age. In China, income levels of office workers vary by industry, and there is a huge gap between industries. Therefore, much of the low aspirational social phenomenon in China is a reaction to an overly pessimistic view of the future. (Kenichi Ohmae, *Low desire society*, pg14)

In fact, China did not experience the Great Depression like Japan did, but the pessimism among the population is similar to that of the Japanese. This is an issue worth reflecting on. No matter how much the public opinion and media exaggerate it, the pessimism of the Chinese people is still strong. This can be seen through, the capital outflows, waves of emigration, and high household savings.

*This low desire society is describing the youth have low desire to be employed and low desire to participate in social events since the existing work patterns allow young people to see apparent exploitation and closes the upward path, leaving young people with no motivation to strive. Therefore, it is urgent to design a new work pattern.*

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<https://doi.org/10.12677/ml.2020.82019>

Hans 汉斯

## A Study of the Low Desire Society Phenomenon in China and Japan

—Using the Examples of the Chinese and the Japanese Phrase “Foxi (Buddhist-Style)” and “Bouttoikitennjanyiyo (Don’t Live without Purpose)”

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### Abstract

The Chinese buzzword “Foxi (Buddhist-style)” and the Japanese buzzword “Bouttoikitennjanyiyo (Don’t live without purpose)” are used to explore the low desire of “Buddhist youth” in the two countries. The popularity of the word “Foxi (Buddhist-style)” indicates the low desire in Chinese society while the Japanese buzz phrase “Don’t live without purpose” signals the Japanese’s reflection on their lost desire. At the same time, analyzed from the social development, cultural influence factors and the personal situation of the youth to point out the reasons why low desires occur in the two countries. China should be alarmed by the development of the low desire society in Japan and learn from Japan’s effort in counteracting the low desire trend to prevent the spread of low desire among young people. Japan can also learn from some of China’s development strategies.

### Keywords

Buzzwords, Buddhist-Style, Buddhist Youth, Don’t Live without Purpose, Low Desire, Comparison between China and Japan

## 论中日两国社会的低欲望现象

——基于热词“佛系”与“ぼーっと生きてんじゃねーよ”的考察

秦瑾, 卜朝晖, 杨幸薇, 廖行健, 王莹

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Figure31: A research paper "hikikomori" phenomenon in both China and Japan

# Tech-Incubator

*A business incubator is a company that helps new and startup companies to develop by providing services such as management training or office space.[1] The National Business Incubation Association (NBIA) defines business incubators as a catalyst tool for either regional or national economic development.*

## *The Batavia Industrial Center*

*The formal concept of business incubation began in the US in 1959 when Joseph L. Mancuso opened the Batavia Industrial Center in a Batavia, New York, warehouse.[8] Incubation expanded in the U.S. in the 1980s and spread to the UK and Europe through various related forms (e.g. innovation centres, technopoles/ science parks).*

### Building Floor Plans

Click to Enlarge

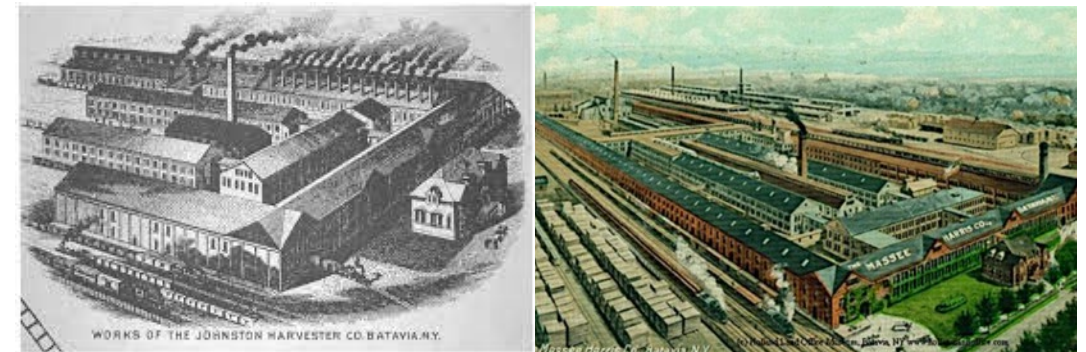
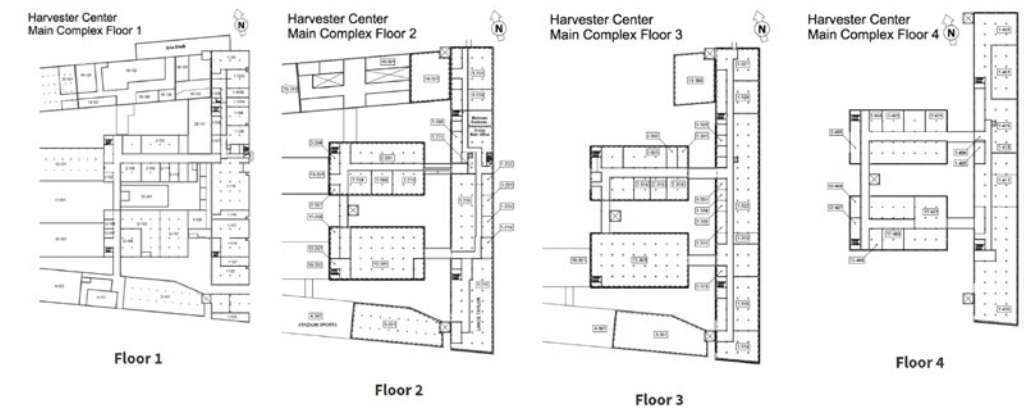


Figure32 (Top): Floor plans of the Batabvia industrial center. Figure 33 (Bottom): perspectives of Batavia

# Tech-Incubator

*The y combinator is a virtual incubator. A definition of a virtual incubator is provided by IdeaGist as: In a broader sense, virtual incubators can be defined as a catalyst for socio-economic development, providing a process for developing early stage ideas into viable ventures. They offer formal and informal learning opportunities and connect entrepreneurs to an ecosystem of related services. While virtual incubators are still getting defined in a fast-changing world, they have a potential of disrupting the traditional business incubation model.*

*On one of a famous tech- incubator-Y Combinator's website "WHAT WE DO Y Combinator provides seed funding for startups. Seed funding is the earliest stage of venture funding. It pays your expenses while you're getting started. Some companies may need no more than seed funding. Others will go through several rounds. There is no right answer; how much funding you need depends on the kind of company you start."*

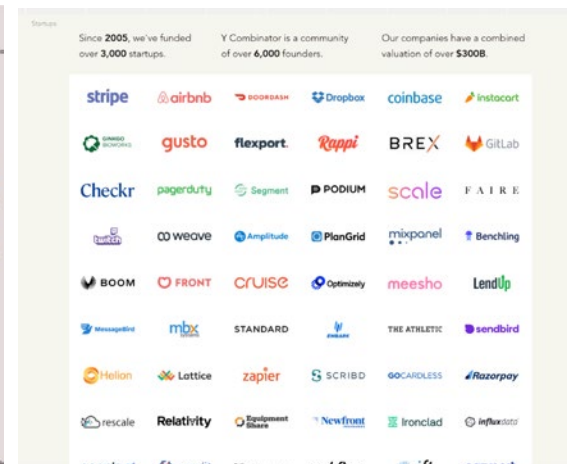
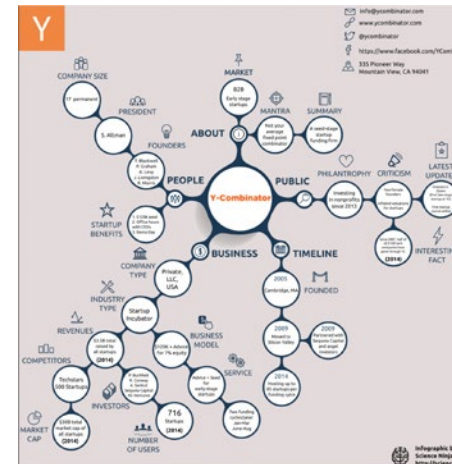
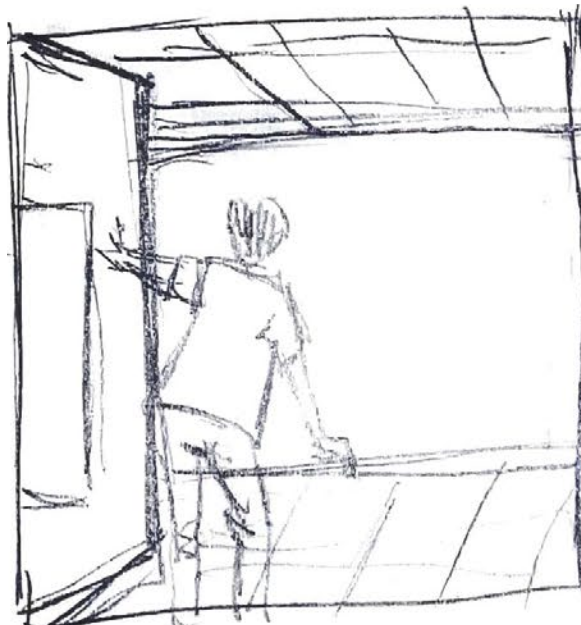


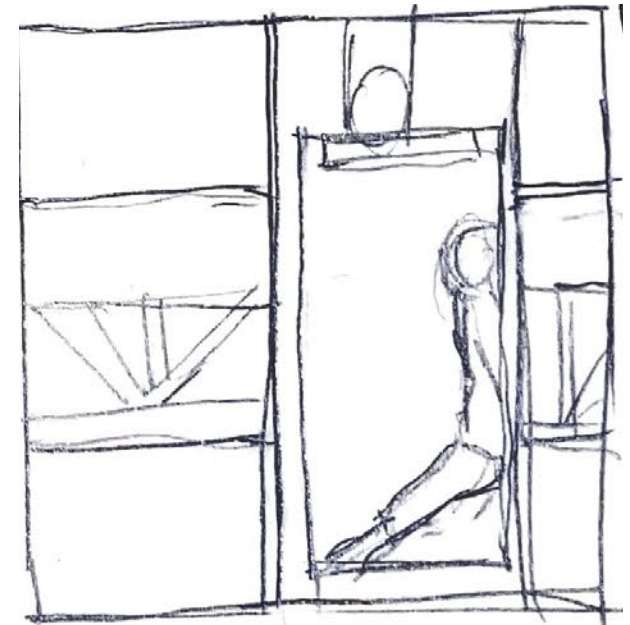
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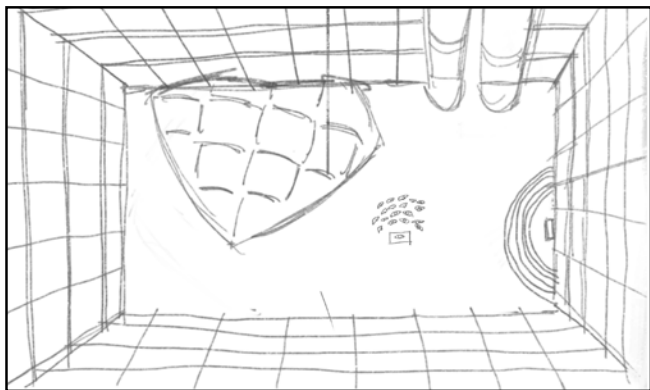
Jojo plays a video game in his room and realizes he is running out of credit since he can not buy new gear.



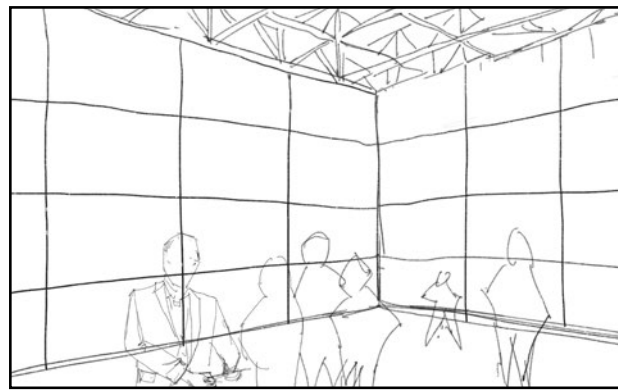
First time Jojo left his floor.



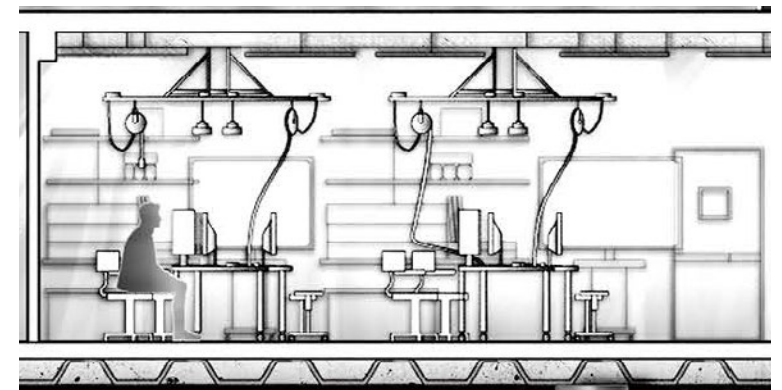
Jojo is nervous about seeing a lot of people and get a job.



Top view of open space with all screen coverd.



Jojo attending ZhangCheng's funeral



People's memory of ZhangCheng.

Figure37: Storyboard- Image by author

## 03 Appendix

***Sleep no more***  
The theater is an illusion.

***33 Thomas Street***  
A building made for machines

***Lincoln tunnel vent building***  
A building is part of a ventilation machine.

***Synecdoche, New York***  
a temporary site that holds those imaginary lives.

# Sleep no more

## HOTEL HISTORY

Completed in 1939, The McKittrick Hotel was intended to be New York City's finest and most decadent luxury hotel of its time. Six weeks before opening, and two days after the outbreak of World War II, the legendary hotel was condemned and left locked, permanently sealed from the public. Until now...

EMURSIVE has brought the Grande Dame back to life. Collaborating with London's award-winning PUNCHDRUNK, the legendary space is reinvented with SLEEP NO MORE, presenting Shakespeare's classic Scottish tragedy through the lens of suspenseful film noir. Audiences move freely through a transporting world at their own pace, choosing their own path through the story, immersed in the most unique theatrical experience in New York.

This theater is a typical heterotopia by Foucault's definition; it has the features of principle 1,2,4,5,6. It has a physical place to hold all events that happened, the existing building function in a different fashion-a immersive theater. Meanwhile, this place is also out of time since all the "residents" were and would live here forever; they are trapped forever in this recurring show. The audience easily gets in and out of this place, but even though the audience could see, touch, and interact with the "residents," they still in two completely separate worlds.

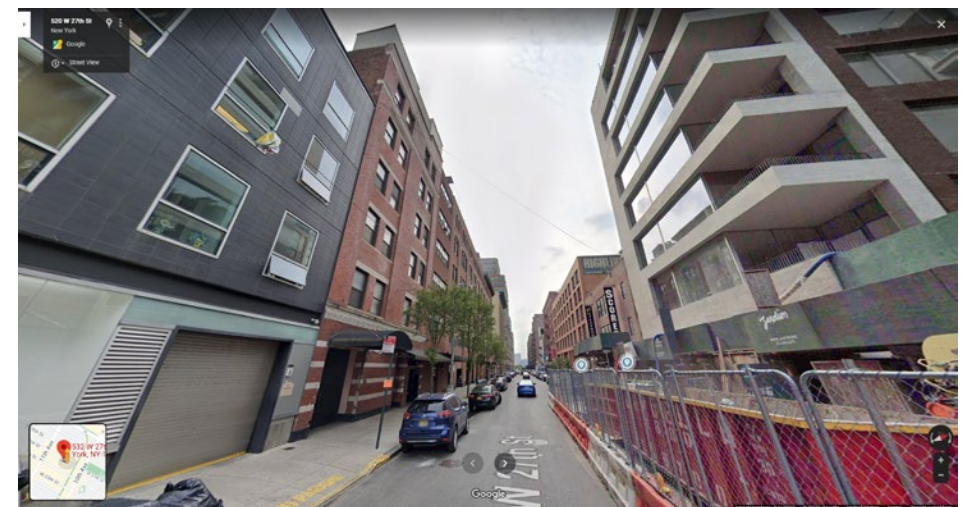
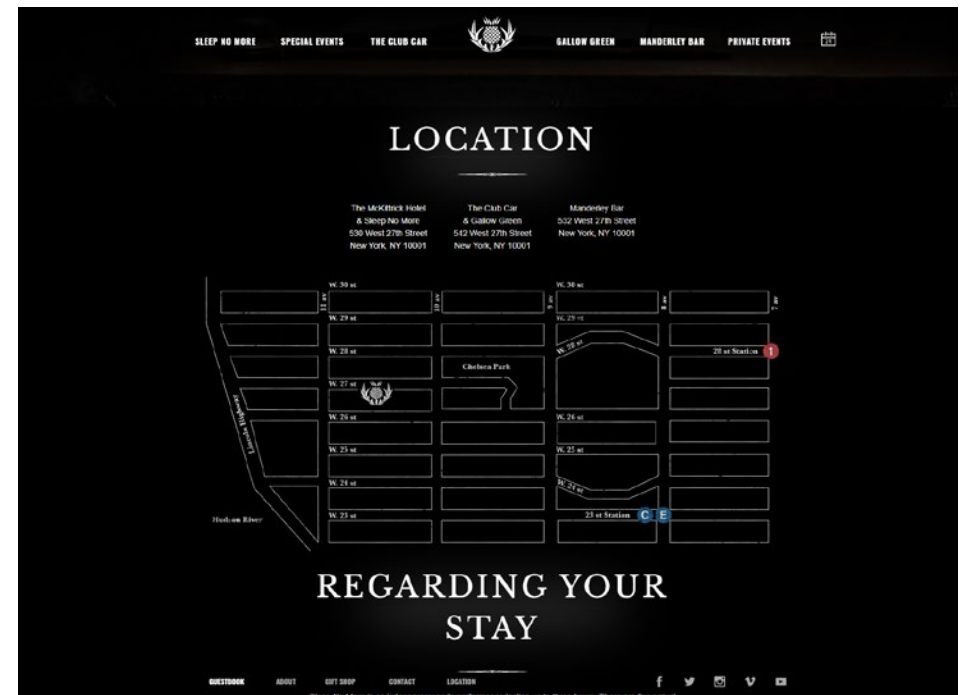


Figure38 (Top): Home page of sleep no more website-a fake hotel as movie theatre. Figure 39 (Bottom): A street view of Mckittrick hotel.



# 33 Thomas Street

*33 Thomas Street, also known as the AT&T Long Lines Building is one of Manhattan's most unusual skyscrapers - a building made for machines, not people. The building's stepped massing, extruded volumes, and uniform rugged materiality represent hallmarks of brutalism, but instead of expressing functionality in the service of communities, institutions, or individuals it articulates the needs of the machines inside. The windowless mass occupies the block bounded by Broadway, Church, Worth and Thomas Streets, with a privately owned public plaza on its east side. A common theme for brutalist buildings, 33 Thomas' design reflects its function – a strong, safe building with the ability to house electronic equipment while protecting it from natural and man-made threats. Machines don't need views of the outside world and would be negatively impacted by the resulting solar gain, resulting in the elimination of windows. Soaring engaged columns/pilasters house air ducts, intake valves, and fire stairs, leaving the building's gridded floor plates open for occupation by these machines.*

33 Thomas Street is another level of heterotopia, it has the distinctive features of a heterotopia, whereas the heterotopias mentioned by Foucault are centered on human activity, this building looks like every office building we see in our daily lives, but the interior is entirely designed for machines. Although the building looks like any other Manhattan office building from the outside, the huge air ducts on the facade and the windowless rooms suggest that the building is different from the inside. From the outside appearance, we might imagine a juxtaposed but also exotic illusion to the inside world.



Figure40 (Top): Bird's eye view of 33 Thomas street. Figure 41 (Bottom): The machine occupied whole building.

# *lincoln tunnel vent building*

*We've been asked a few times over the years what exactly those odd rampart-like towers in the middle of the Hudson River off lower Manhattan are. The answer? Oh, nothing much. Just a feat of engineering that no less than Thomas Edison once thought was impossible.*

*Ventilation shafts! Next time you are walking down the Hudson River Greenway, look closer. Not only are there two matching towers in the water, but there are also two more towers on land (one in Manhattan and one in New Jersey). Those four towers together keep car drivers in the Holland Tunnel from asphyxiating on carbon monoxide. In total the four buildings house 84 fans—42 blowing and 42 sucking—which are capable, at full speed, of completely changing the tunnel's air every 90 seconds.*

Like 33 Thomas Street, the two ventilation shafts look like ordinary Manhattan office buildings on the outside, but the building is not only designed for the machine, it is part of the machine itself, and in addition to giving the outside viewer the illusion that a parallel world is taking place in the building, it also hides the boundaries of the building.

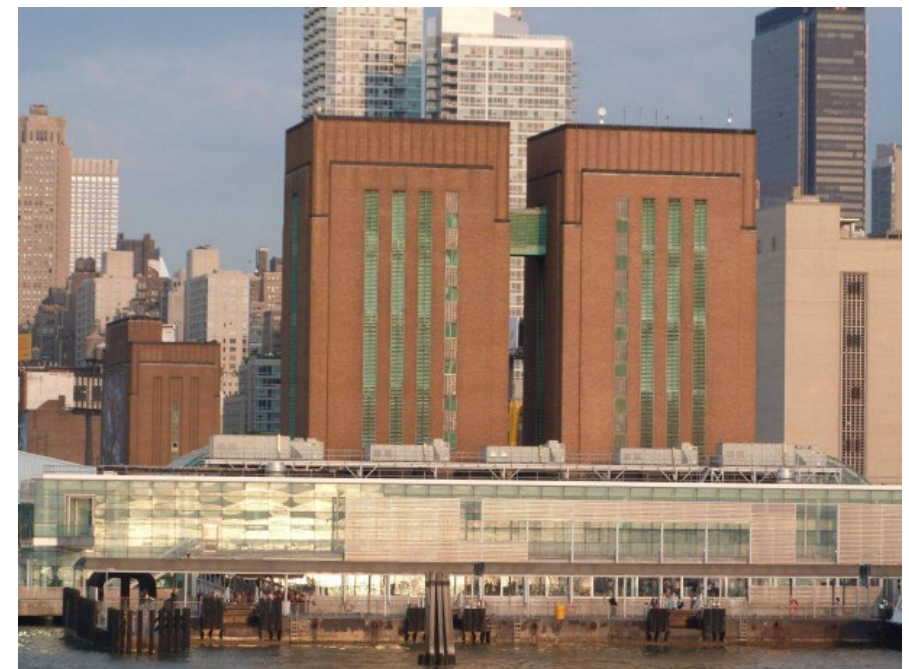


Figure42 (Top): Street view of the ventilation shafts. Figure 43 (Bottom): another view of ventilation shafts.

# Synecdoche, New York

*Theater director Caden Cotard receives a MacArthur Fellowship After the success of his production of Death of a Salesman unexpectedly. He is determined to use it to create an artistic piece of brutal realism and honesty, something into which he can pour his whole self. Gathering an ensemble cast into an enormous warehouse in Manhattan's Theater District, he directs them in a celebration of the mundane, instructing them to live out their constructed lives. (Somewhere, john doe). As the years rapidly pass, the continually expanding warehouse is isolated from the deterioration of the city outside.*

A replica of a city inside a movie site, actors and actresses perform ordinary people's lives. Everything that happened in it is somehow illusionary but simultaneously also real. The drawings for INCU-BUS function in the same way as this replica; it is a temporary site that holds those imaginary lives.

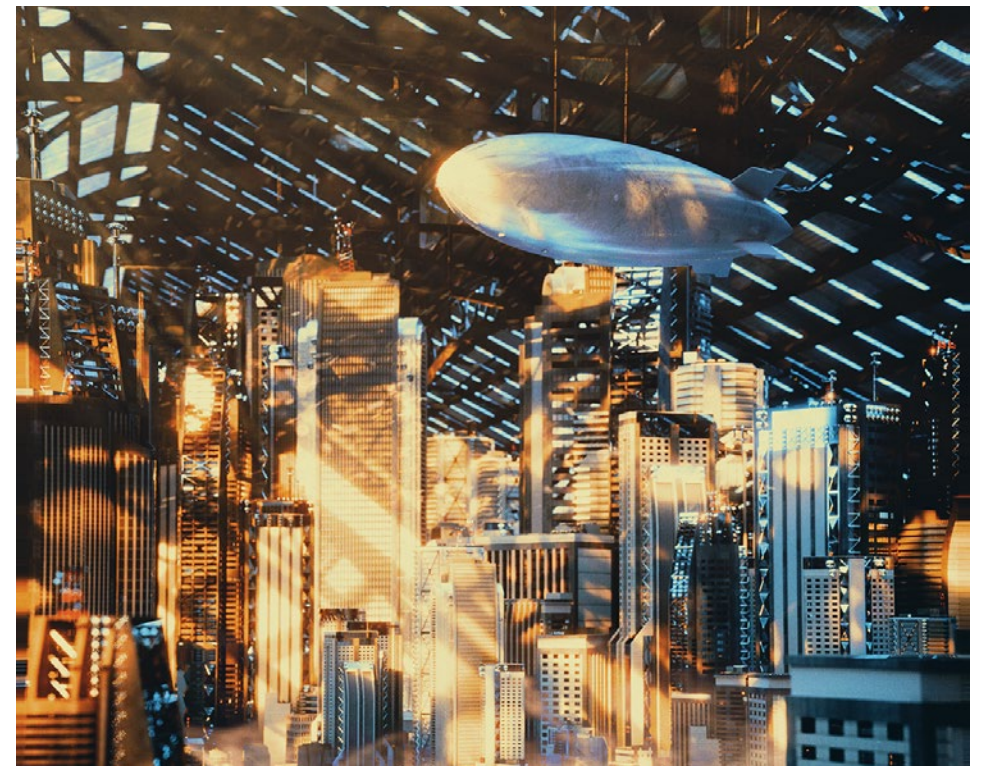


Figure44 (Top): replica of NYC inside Manhattan's Theater District. Figure 45 (Bottom): A fan made poster for Synecdoche, New York.

# ***04 Mediography***

Figure1: A view of Zhang Cheng's funeral with imulated rainfall- Image by author

Figure2: A view of Jojo's room and Jojo's daily routine - Image by author

Figure3: A view of Peter's living area- Image by author

Figure4: A flyer from INCU-BUS.- Image by author

Figure5: Diagram of the structure of INCU-BUS-Image by author

Figure6: Zhang Cheng's desk-Image by author

Figure7: Senior worker's daily space -Image by author

Figure8: Living and working space for junior worker -Image by author

Figure9: Open space for propaganda and events -Image by author

Figure10: A news of the death of Pinduoduo employee on washingtonpost.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\\_pacific/pinduoduo-employee-suicide-china/2021/01/11/7e56dd14-53c1-11eb-acc5-92d2819a1ccb\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/pinduoduo-employee-suicide-china/2021/01/11/7e56dd14-53c1-11eb-acc5-92d2819a1ccb_story.html)

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<https://chorltonhistory.blogspot.com/2020/05/cheadle-royal-war-memorial-another.html>

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<https://www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/native-american-boarding-schools/>

Figure15: Mount Auburn Cemetery

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/mount-auburn-cemetery-a-new-american-landscape-teaching-with-historic-places.htm>

Figure16: Hiroshi Sugimoto "Theaters"

<https://www.sugimotohiroshi.com/new-page-7>

Figure17: A vacation village in Polynesian villages

<https://www.agoda.com/hotel-maitai-lapita-village-huahine/hotel/luahine-island-pf.html?cid=1844104>

Figure18: panopticon; a prison

<https://mimisawhney.com/2019/03/25/panopticism/>

Figure19: A section of cruise ship

<https://www.ssusc.org/>

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<https://www.archdaily.com/882833/these-potemkin-villages-display-a-world-of-architectural-fakery>

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<https://scienceblog.com/517055/has-confinement-turned-us-all-into-hikikomori/>

<https://animemotivation.com/things-only-anime-fans-understand/>

[https://www.taringa.net/+manga\\_anime/envidiables-cuartos-otakus\\_hh2tm](https://www.taringa.net/+manga_anime/envidiables-cuartos-otakus_hh2tm)

Figure25-29: The screen is a place for their hibernate

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