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Where To? The Study of Navigational Accommodations for Mental Disabilities

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Inspiring Minds Showcase Calla Elia Ph.D. student of Art and Visual Culture May 29th

Title: Where to? The Study of Navigational Accommodations for Mental Disabilities

Many mental disabilities affect a person's navigational abilities, making even the simplest spaces within an urban landscape or the inner regions of a building to be complex. Currently, accommodations within architecture are more directed towards assisting physical disabilities, and those with mental and invisible disabilities are lost in their wake. Architecture and urban landscapes serve as a way to which I examine how the environment impacts persons with disabilities, especially those with invisible disabilities and/or mental disabilities, such as Attention-Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism, Dyslexia, etc.

Through the study and the development of navigational technology, I will develop ways of accommodating such individuals by providing them with the assistance they need to navigate through such spaces while allowing them to retain their sense of agency.