Digital Urban Park
Social Networks
are used by over 35% of Americans 18 and over.

Dating Sites
1 in 5 singles have dated someone from an online dating site.
Urban Parks are analog social condensers that have existed since the late 1800's. Urban Parks can be receptacles for new digital social interactions.
The Internet is the new social space.

Integrate the analog park with the new digital forms of socialization.
The Internet

“The social bonds built in the virtual world can spill over into the physical world--and with such seismic force that they can topple an autocrat.”

-Blair Kamin, after the resignation of Hosni Mubarak
The practice of publishing application programming interfaces (APIs) has allowed web communities to create an open architecture for sharing content and data between communities and applications. In this way, content that is created in one place can be dynamically posted and updated in multiple locations on the web.
Pritzker Park
is a small urban park on the southern edge of the Loop.
Pritzker Park
Site Advantages

- Harold Washington Library
- CTA Library Stop - Brown Line - Orange Line - Pink Line - Purple Line

Map with locations marked on Van Buren St., Jackson Blvd., State St., Wabash Ave., and Federal Center.
Pritzker Park
An under utilized park
Park Layout
Three different forms of digital interaction
Park Layout
Three different forms of digital interaction

The Line
Group interaction & play
Park Layout
Three different forms of digital interaction

The Line
Group interaction & play

The Plane
Personal interaction & information exchange
Park Layout
Three different forms of digital interaction

The Line
Group interaction & play

The Plane
Personal interaction & information exchange

The Point
Audience interaction & theatre
Park Layout
Three different forms of digital interaction

The Plane
Personal interaction & information exchange

The Line
Group interaction & play

The Point
Audience interaction & theatre
Park Circulation
The Line
Group interaction & play
The Line

Group interaction & play
The Line
Group interaction & play

All screens down
Exhibition Space
Gallery Space
The Line
Group interaction & play

Different types of interaction within the group will cause different forms to generate from the projector.

Individual forms can also be created by touching the screen itself.

Kiss  Hug  Touch  Move  Talk  Laugh
The Line
Group interaction & play

HVAC  Electricity  Network  Visual  Audio
The Plane
Personal interaction & information exchange
The Plane
Personal interaction & information exchange
The Plane
Personal interaction & information exchange

The plane will work in conjunction with the point. Whereas the point measures and shows the activity of Chicago, the plane will attempt to interpret the emotions of the area by acting like a mood ring. Each square will represent the emotion of one update with similar emotions grouped together.
The Plane
Personal interaction & information exchange

Information such as names and social networks are shown based on user preference. Aliases can also be chosen.

When two users approach one another and stand next to each other, the circles will activate and ask what information they would like to share.

Users can choose to activate different forms of interaction: games, videos, local attractions. This activation can occur through a smartphone or directly with the surface.

Users can also program their own games and upload them to the surface to play.
The plane can also tie into dating sites, when two people with compatible profiles are on the plane, their circles will activate and glow pink. The plane can then suggest an activity they would both enjoy and provide directions to that activity.

A special time could also be arranged for the entire plane to glow pink to allow for more spontaneous interactions to occur.
The Plane
Personal interaction & information exchange

Typical Usage
Expanded Usage

Heated Exhaust Air
The Point
Audience interaction & theatre
The Point
Audience interaction & theatre

Column heights range from 0-20 feet and are 4 foot square.
Columns are tied to a particular location. Activity within that area increases its height. This activity is then recorded on the side of the column.
Columns are touchscreens on all four sides and allow a user to scroll through the history of a column.
The Point
Audience interaction & theatre

Columns can also be arranged to create different outdoor spaces. This allows the grid to be both a venue for physical and virtual interaction.

The columns will be computer controlled. Users can create a configuration of their choosing on a website and schedule a day and time for when the columns will enter that configuration.
The Point
Audience interaction & theatre