

TOBY MARSHALL
ECHOING HERITAGE

MAJOR PROJECT 2 ASSIGNMENT

Through my photography and sculpture, this body of work seeks to create a cohesive narrative, exploring the fusion of ancient symbolism and contemporary sound experience, sparking reflection on societal shifts and fostering environmental consciousness through communal connection with the land.

This project examines the intricate interconnection of ancient symbolism with modern auditory encounters, drawing inspiration from the enigmatic presence of monoliths and the enduring traditions of pagan cultures. These timeless structures, which transcend generations and cultures, serve as a profound catalyst for exploring the intersectionality between visual aesthetics and the ethereal realm of sound.

The motivation behind the project is to inspire a renewed appreciation for nature and communal connection. By blending ancient and modern elements, the project seeks to provoke thought on how societal changes impact our relationship with the environment. The desire is to create a space for people to celebrate and connect with the land, fostering a sense of community and environmental consciousness.

Employing a world-building approach to create a cohesive and immersive narrative for the project. The reasons behind the shift from traditional monoliths to Sound systems. The project utilises photography and sculpture as the primary mediums. Photography is employed to document and showcase the activities and rituals surrounding the new monolithic structures. Sculpture is used to physically manifest these conceptual structures, providing tangible representations of the envisioned world. The choice of these mediums allows for a multi-dimensional exploration of the project's themes, engaging both visual and tactile senses.



Seana Gavin
Tomahawk Party, France [Spiralled] 1998



Alen Lodge
Stonehenge, 1980



The KLF
Chill Out, 1990
Album

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BODY OF WORK



Untitled #1
Toby Marshall, 2024
Silver Gelatin print



Untitled #2
Toby Marshall, 2024
Silver Gelatin print



Untitled #3
Toby Marshall, 2024
Silver Gelatin print



Untitled #4
Toby Marshall, 2024
Silver Gelatin print

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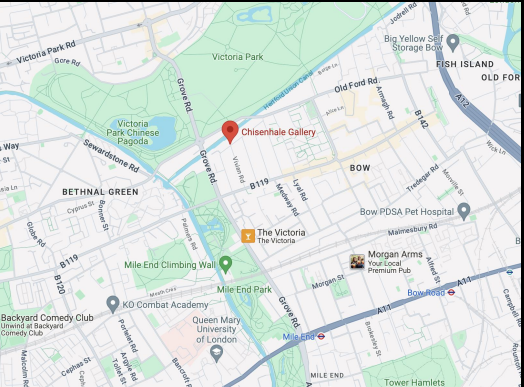
PROFESSIONAL CONTEXT
GALLERY EXHIBITION

ROOM ONE

To provide context for my project, arrangements have been made for a gallery exhibition showcasing the culmination of my year-long creative undertaking. The chosen venue for this presentation is the Chisenhale Gallery, selected not only for its physical capacity but also for its philosophy. The gallery’s mission statement, centered around fostering community engagement, resonates deeply with the essence of my project.



Entrance to Chisenhale Galley with poster of the exhibition
250cm x 150cm



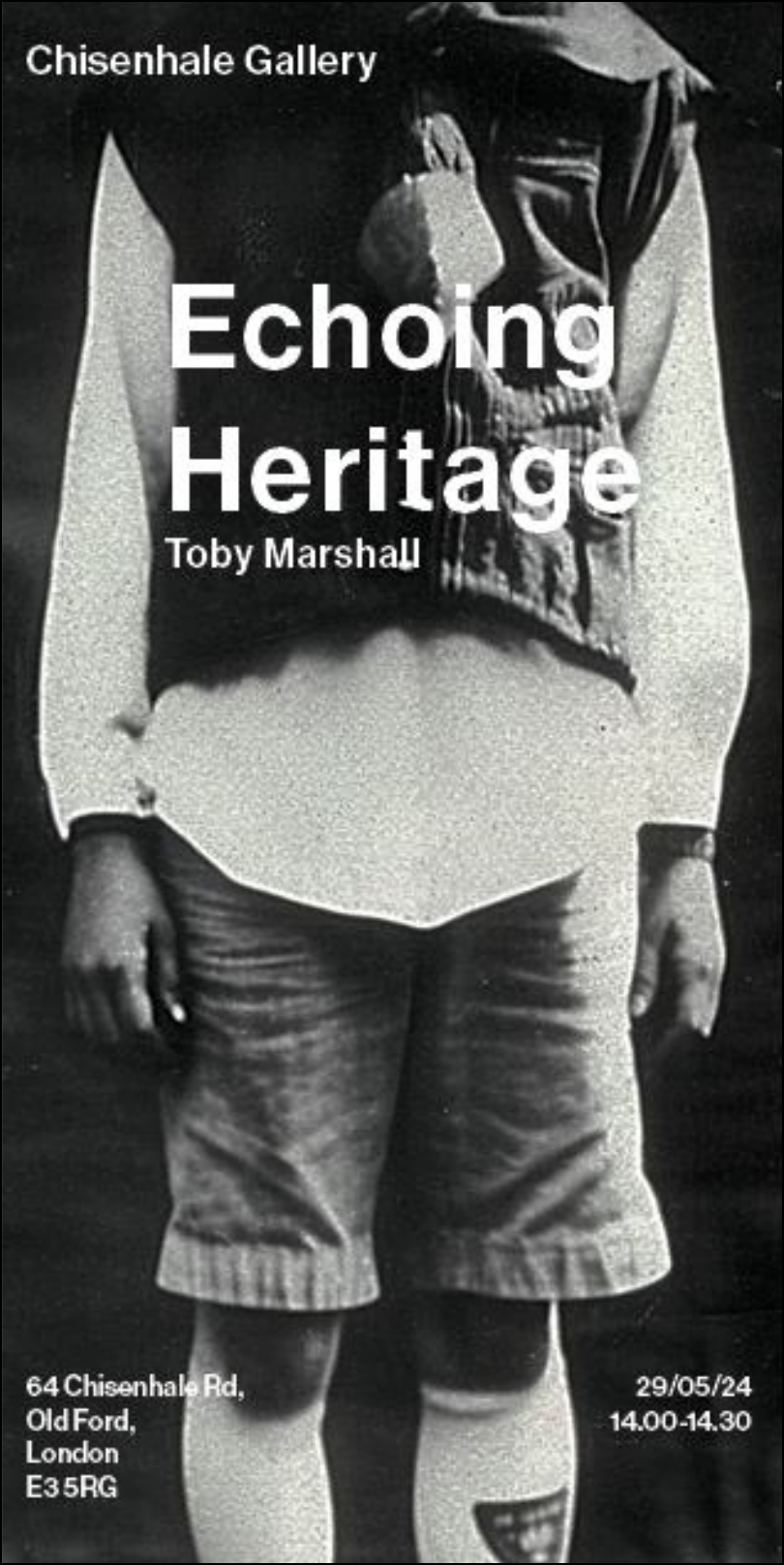
Chisenhale Gallery
Google Maps

In envisioning the layout of the gallery space, my primary objective was to transform it into a captivating performance. With this vision in mind, I have decided to implement a ticketed entry system, requiring attendees to reserve a spot in advance to partake in this experience. This deliberate approach was chosen to create a collective audience, uniting individuals in witnessing the unfolding moment as a cohesive whole. This decision stems from the belief that the essence of this performance necessitates a communal observance, akin to the tradition of gathering to witness the celestial phenomena of the summer and winter solstices.

By limiting access to specific performance times, each lasting thirty minutes, I aim to replicate the sense of anticipation and immediacy inherent in such natural spectacles. Throughout these designated periods, attendees will have the chance to immerse themselves in the exhibition, ensuring a comprehensive and cohesive viewing experience.



Ticket
Back



Ticket
Front

Room One

Upon entering the gallery space, attendees are immediately enveloped in a captivating atmosphere as they pass through a narrow corridor crafted from intricately arranged sound systems. This serves as the inaugural moment of the performance. The design and construction of these sound systems bear a striking resemblance to the ancient standing stones, evoking a sense of continuity and timelessness.



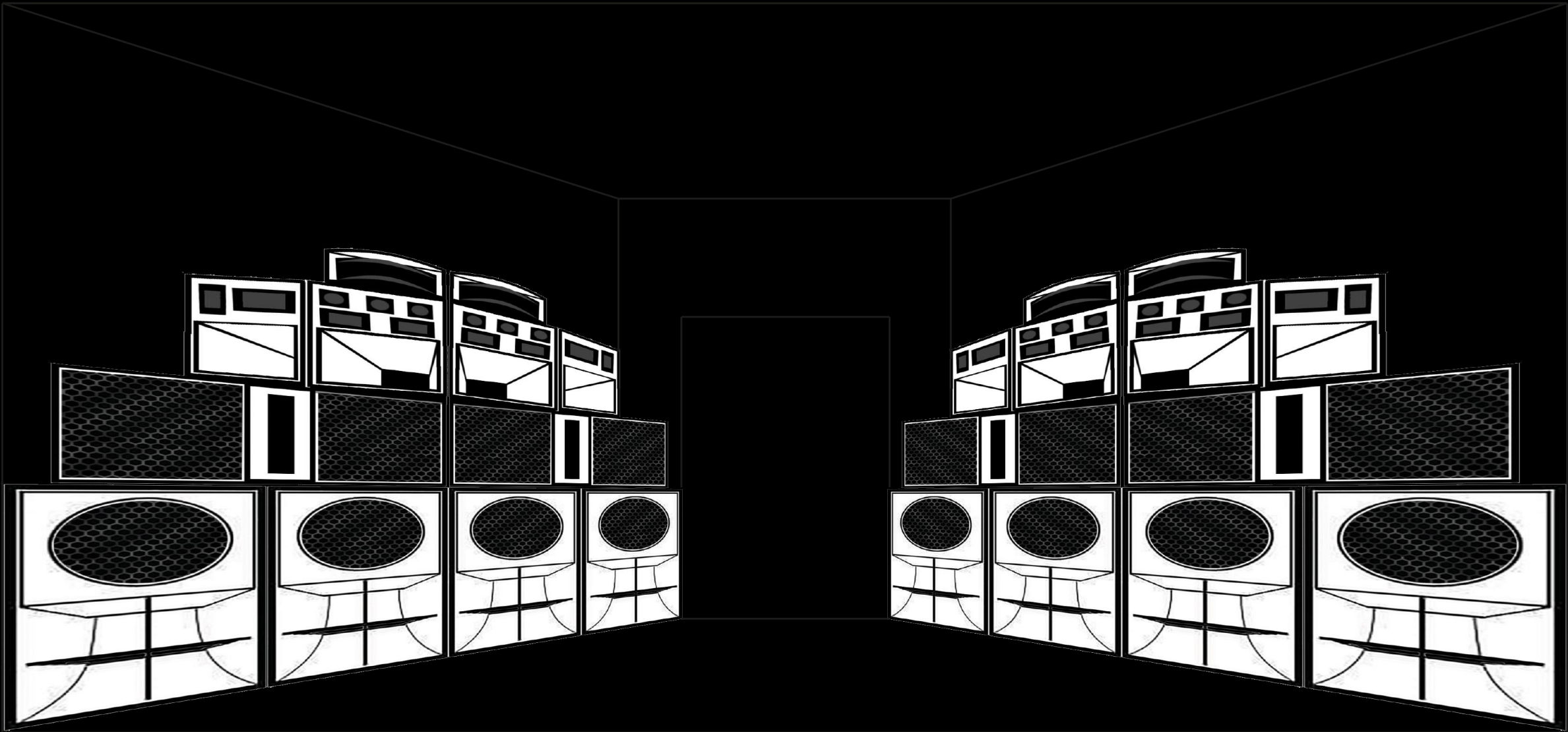
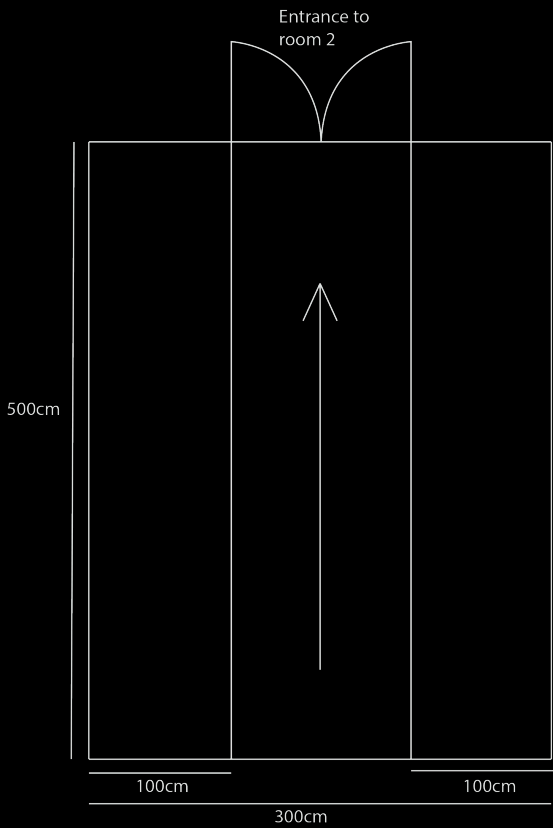
Maquette of galley Room One from eye level
Cardboard, paper and paint



Maquette of galley Room One from eye level
Cardboard, paper and paint

Room One

The towering presence of these sound systems prompts viewers to ponder the abiding legacy of such sculptural forms, which have persisted for nearly four and a half millennia. This deliberate juxtaposition of ancient symbolism with contemporary technology invites contemplation on the interplay between the past and the present, and the enduring significance of these cultural artifacts throughout human history.



Sound System lining walls of Room One

Room One

The speakers lining the corridor will transmit an eclectic blend of music carefully curated from a playlist I have crafted. This musical selection aims to seamlessly fuse recreations of ancient lost musical instruments with contemporary beats commonly heard at free-spirited gatherings today.

Diverse in its composition, the playlist transitions fluidly from the primal rhythms of rock gongs and drums, resonating with echoes of ancient rituals and ceremonies, to the pulsating energy of distorted Gabba, emblematic of modern-day music culture. This sonic journey traverses temporal boundaries, offering a sensory exploration that transcends conventional notions of time and genre.

Link to playlist

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PXzTwH4xkyw&list=PLmcijoAO4B2D_VZgxPtApM7rzmq31glei



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PROFESSIONAL CONTEXT
GALLERY EXHIBITION

ROOM TWO

Room Two

Upon leaving the immersive corridor of music, visitors step into the main exhibition space, where their gaze is drawn to the focal point – a collection of six towering stones positioned at the center of the gallery in a circular formation, reminiscent of ancient stone circles that endure to this day. Each stone is crafted from plaster and stands at an imposing height of over two and a half meters, where the inner surfaces of each stone serve as canvases for the projection of my images. Figures from my artworks will be meticulously cut out and mounted onto the facing surfaces of the stones, creating a dynamic interplay between the tangible solidity of the stones and the ethereal presence of the depicted figures.

Link to 3d scan
<https://poly.cam/capture/AC33B593-250C-4570-9B22-6508CD93A473>



Chisenhale Gallery Room Two
Digital Render



Maquette 3D scan Room1 and Room 2

Room Two

To further enhance the immersive experience, a patch of grass is planned to be nestled within the circle, introducing a textural contrast against the gallery floor. Viewers are invited to freely navigate the space, wandering between the stones and ultimately standing at the center of the circle. Here, enveloped by the towering stones and surrounded by imagery from distant realms, visitors are encouraged to immerse themselves fully, transcending the boundaries of time and space. It is within this transformative environment that viewers can intimately connect with the visceral sensations evoked by the ancient symbolism, eliciting a profound and introspective response.



Grass mock up room 2

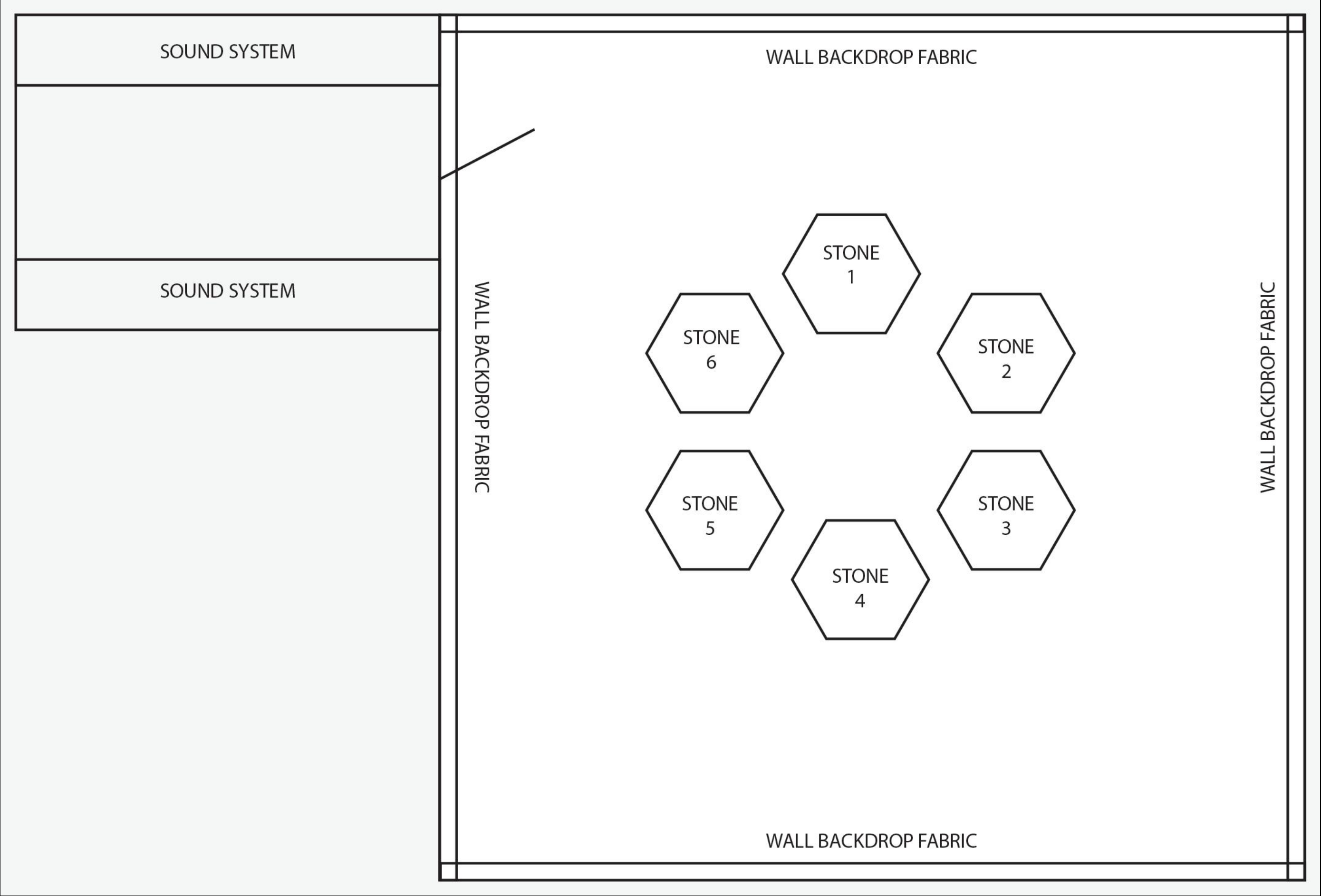


Maquette of Room One and Two
Cardboard, paper, paint & modelling materials

Monolithic Circle
Room Two

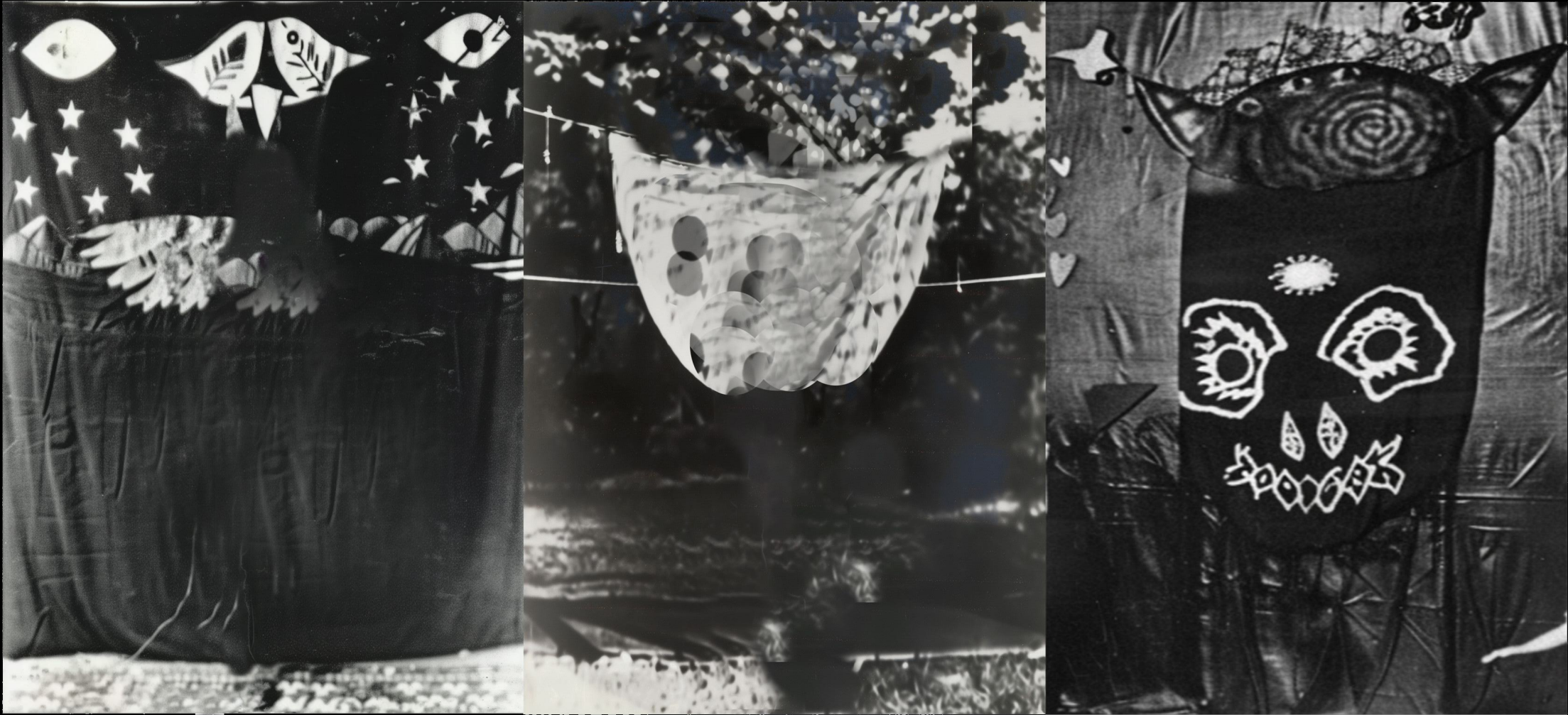
Made from plaster and wood
200cmx100cm





Room Two

Encircling the monumental stones, the gallery walls will be adorned with my crafted backdrops, curated to complement the essence of my project. These backdrops, suspended from the walls, engulf the viewer, creating an immersive environment that transports them into an alternate realm, devoid of familiar constraints or distractions. The choice of fabric for these backdrops is deliberate, symbolizing the primal essence of cave art and folk drawings, invoking a connection to humanity’s ancient artistic heritage. Through the utilization of these evocative materials, where viewers are encouraged to lose themselves in the timeless narratives woven into the whole experience.



Wall Tapestry #1

Room Two

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Wall Tapestry #2



Room 2 with wall frabic



Final mock up layout of Room 2

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THANK YOU