

## MEMORY WALL

The underground, like the subconscious, is the carrier of the repressed, the forgotten, and the invisible. Just as memories remain hidden in the depths of the mind, the surface of urban space also contains the repressed layers of collective memory. In this context, the underground is not just a physical void; it can be read as a potential space where the forgotten, the repressed, and the ignored can resurface. The “Memory Wall” project approaches the repressed collective memory of Kültürpark from this underground plane and aims to make memory visible again through a spatial excavation.

Located in the center of Izmir, Kültürpark has largely lost its impact on social memory due to the functional transformations it has undergone over the years. Once a venue for collective encounters and cultural interactions in the city, this area has gradually fallen silent; memories have been suppressed, and narratives pushed beneath the surface. This project invites the user on a metaphorical journey beneath the surface, where each step offers the opportunity to encounter the lost, connect with the past, and confront the forgotten.

This spatial construction structures the experience within a temporal flow. At the beginning of the process, the visitor encounters suppressed and forgotten narratives; the gaps in memory become visible for the first time here. As this encounter progresses, multi-layered relationships begin to form between individual experiences and collective memory. Thus, the space ceases to be merely an observed surface; it becomes an active component of participation, production, and transformation. In the later stages of the intervention, the space itself becomes a tool for reconstructing memory. The physical void revealed by the splitting of the wall represents both a spatial interruption and a discontinuity in collective memory. The structures suspended in this void point to the fragile yet resilient nature of memory, while preparing the ground for new connections between the past and the present.

The transparent masses suspended between the walls blur the boundary between the visible and the lost, transforming the space into a surface of testimony that serves both as a display and a questioning. Thanks to this permeability, memory is not only remembered but also transformed and reimagined. “Memory Wall” emerges as a surface that carries the traces of the past into the future, where the forgotten and the remembered intersect, and memory materializes and is reshaped.

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