The "Hub" was named in the 1880s due to the multiple rail lines passing through. South Van Ness and Mission is still one of the largest intersections in all San Francisco.
Frida is a world-renowned Mexican Architect, who is known for public space installations and interventions. Her work is highly conceptual and rigorous.

Frida studied architecture at the Universidad Iberoamericana and received a Master’s Degree in Art and Design and the Public Domain at the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

She was commissioned to design the Serpentine Pavilion 2018. This is the most prestigious public commission for Architects in the world. The last woman to receive this commission was Zaha Hadid, 18 years ago.

fridaescobedo.com
“No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main...”
- John Donne

An island can relate to its own currents and to the other islands as no man, and no woman, can accomplish anything alone and needs other people to be complete, and that individualism can only be viable up to a point.

By analysing the flows in the project area (pedestrian, motorists, cyclists), we can find a close relationship between movement of people and navigation currents.

The correlation between island and pocket activities, navigation currents and paths of travels also reminds us the celebration of blots, the movements of multiple inkjets of the artist Henri Michaux.

We propose two simple gestures to solve the topography of the site, the stairs that connected immediately the ballet school to the 12th street and a depression with two ramps representing a slower and more programmatic connection between Otis plaza and the street levels. To the topography we integrate art pieces to create human activity cores combining vegetation.

The project presents different configurations depending on the program of the plaza, determined by the use and regulation of the water element located in the center of the depression. The daily layout expected a 6” deep reflecting pool at the center of the topography integrated to the art pieces. Each metal seating element creates one or more different pocket activity in the plaza permitting the development of multiple use programme at the same time. In order to create a unique forum space in the reflecting pool area, the water would be drained for events and expanded usage. This configuration permits to embrace the maximum capacity of people protecting them from the urban context.

Lastly, the space will have a mist cloud, on some nights which will become a lighted and ephemeral sculpture, that celebrates the climate of San Francisco.
“An island can relate to its own currents and to the other islands as no man, and no woman, can accomplish anything alone and needs other people to be complete, and that individualism can only be viable up to a point.

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NO MAN IS AN ISLAND — ART INSPIRED BY NATURE

“The correlation between island and pocket activities, navigation currents and paths of travels also reminds us the celebration of blots, the movements of multiple inkjets of the artist Henri Michaux.”
CONCEPT

NO MAN IS AN ISLAND —
PEOPLE & ART
“We propose two simple gestures to solve the topography of the site, the stairs that connected immediately the ballet school to the 12th street and a depression with two ramps representing a slower and more programmatic connection between Otis plaza and the street levels. To the topography we integrate art pieces to create human activity cores combining vegetation.”
“The project presents different configurations depending on the program of the plaza, determined by the use and regulation of the water element located in the center of the depression.”
CONCEPTUAL ACTIVATION

NO MAN IS AN ISLAND —
PEOPLE & ART / EDDIES & FLOWS

“The daily layout expected a 6” deep reflecting pool at the center of the topography integrated to the art pieces. Each metal seating element creates one or more different pocket activity in the plaza permitting the development of multiple use programme at the same time.”
CONCEPTUAL SITE SECTIONS

Most of the time the water element will be drained. This configuration permits to embrace the maximum capacity of people protecting them from the urban context.

Lastly, the proposal for the third configuration is to create a mist cloud during the night to regulate and reduce the use of the bowl.
Material Concept

- Unit pavers: 6”x36” Stepstone Large Scale Paver in Almond
- Pour in place conc (street park). Integral color concrete with exposed aggregate & accent sawcut scorejoints Davis Color 5237 Sandstone
- Planting
- Poured in place concrete
- Concrete strip pavers, placed to allow for grass
- Blackened steel seating elements
SCHEMATIC SITE PLAN

KEY LEGEND

1. TREE PLANTING: GLEDITSIA TRACANTHOS 'HONEY LOCUST'
2. PLANTING AREA
3. CONCRETE PLANTER, 18" HIGH SEATING ELEMENTS
4. PUBLIC ART: REFLECTING POOL & CLOUD MISTER
5. PUBLIC ART: Poured CONCRETE BOWL
6. PUBLIC ART: BLACKENED STEEL, 36" HIGH SEATING ELEMENTS
7. PUBLIC ART: BLACKENED STEEL, 36" HIGH & INTEGRATED HANDRAILS
8. CAFE TABLES & CHAIRS
9. CITY STANDARD BIKE RACK
10. CITY STANDARD CURB-RAMP & TRUNCATED DOMES
11. 6" CONCRETE CURB
12. GARAGE ENTRY
13. SLOT DRAIN
14. SURFACE UTILITIES
15. UTILITY POLE - MUNI AND/OR LIGHTPOLE
16. BOLLARD
17. PROPERTY LINE
18. CITY STANDARD CONCRETE PAVING
19. LINEAR INTERLOCKING STONE PAVERS COLOR 'A', 12"X36"
20. LINEAR INTERLOCKING STONE PAVERS COLOR 'B', 12"X36"
21. LINEAR INTERLOCKING VEHICULAR PAVERS COLOR 'A', 12"X36"
22. ACCESSIBLE RAMP WITH HANDRAILS
23. STAIRS WITH HANDRAILS
24. BLACK BASALT FLAMED TOP PAVERS 12"X36" & 18"X66"
Schematic Materials & Planting Palette

Concrete Paving
Lomandra longifolia 'Breeze'

Unit Paving
Dietes Grandiflora

Basalt - Unit Paver Combination
Dianella Revoluta 'Little Rev'

Cut Stone Paving - Basalt
Gleditsia triacanthos inermis

Blackened Steel
Lophostemon confertus

Cut Stone Paving - Basalt
Acacia cognata 'cousin Itt'

Crushed Basalt Mulch
Gleditsia triacanthos inermis

Leprothamnus costatus
SCHEMATIC SECTIONS

SECTION 'A-A'
30 OTIS - LOBBY ENTRY PERSPECTIVE
30 OTIS - PUBLIC ART PERSPECTIVE
30 OTIS - STREET PRESENCE PERSPECTIVE