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Seung-Jin Ham / Bachelor of Arts in Architecture,
2007

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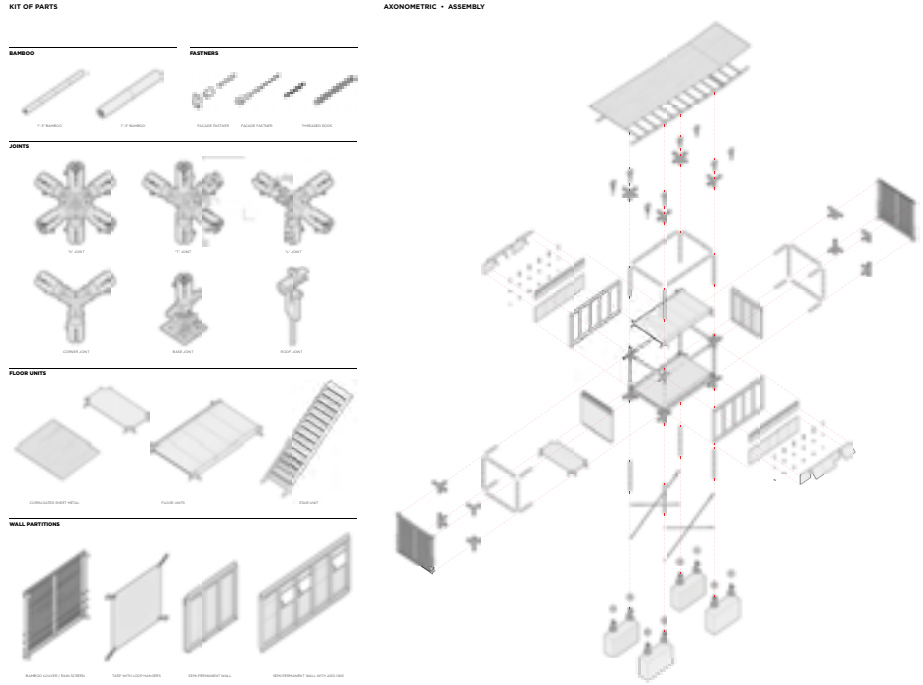
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TEMPORAL VERTICALITY |
DISASTER RELIEF TRANSITIONAL SHELTERS FOR HAITI
MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE THESIS PROJECT
SPRING 2012

Transitional shelters are rapid, post-disaster household shelters made from materials that can be upgraded or reused in more permanent structures, or that can be relocated from temporary sites to permanent locations. They are designed to facilitate the transition by affected populations to more durable shelters. A successful shelter must balance factors such as safety, lifespan, size, comfort, and privacy on one side and cost, timeliness, materials availability, maintenance and upgrade, cultural appropriateness, and construction skills on the other.

My project proposed an alternative solution to what is being used as disaster relief shelter today. By creating vertical multi-story units, my project was able to achieve high density while providing much needed open space. The simple and intuitive joints and assembly system allowed for rapid deployment and implementation. The units can be disassembled and reassembled in a new location and because of its kit-of-parts nature, it is easy to replace or upgrade components as needed, making it an overall more sustainable system. Most of all, my project aimed to provide a spiritually uplifting living environment that will help restore human dignity to people who need it the most.



Alumnae Biography

Seung-Jin graduated from Washington University in 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture and went on to receive her Master of Architecture from Harvard University Graduate School of Design in 2012. She has worked in leading architecture offices including Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Cannon Design, KILO Architectures, Architecture for Humanity, and is cur-

rently working at Leers Weinzapfel Associates located in Boston, MA. She has been a design review critic at Boston Architectural College and Wentworth Institute of Technology.

PUBLICATIONS

A View on Harvard GSD, 2009, 2010, 2011, Tank Form Ltd.
Harvard GSD Platform/Studio Works, FA 2008, SP 2009, FA 2010, SP 2012, Actar