

Gardens as Spaces of Freedom

FEEL FREE TO DISCUSS

We are drifting further away from each other

Stuck in our own ways of thinking

In a polarized world

Here we meet in the middle

In a garden where everyone is welcome

To come together under the same circumstances

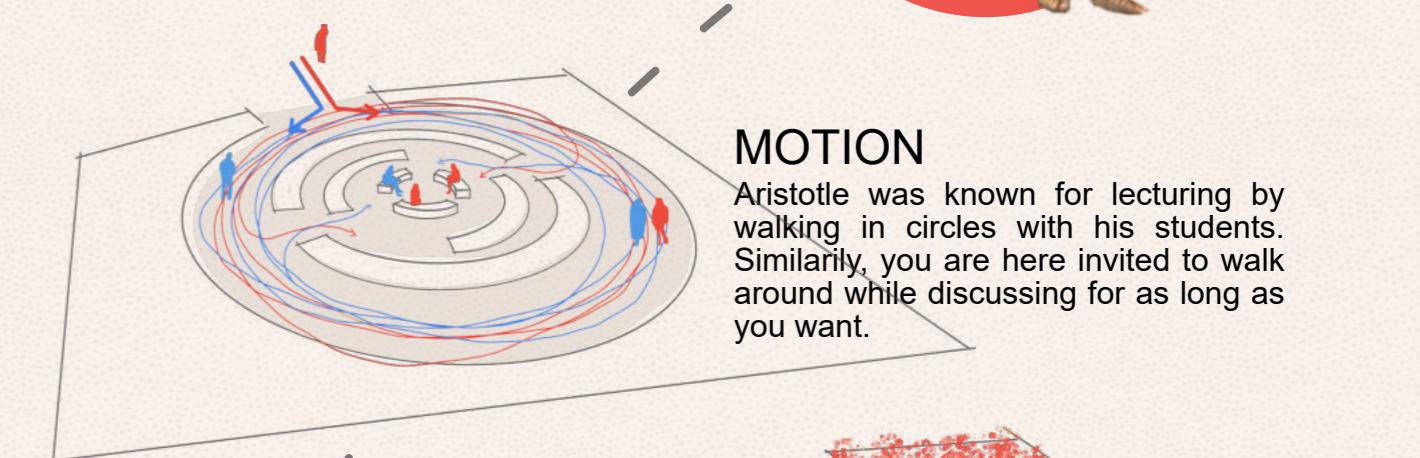
Joining a free and open discussion



...and think.

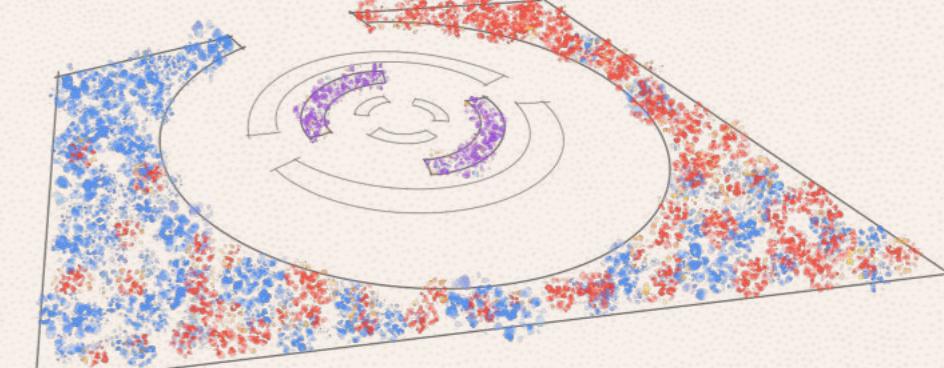


First walk....



COLOURS

The red and blue demonstrate the division in society. In the middle they are united in the colour purple.



SPATIALITY

The vegetation and topography creates a protected and safe space.

DISCUSSION FOR DEMOCRACY



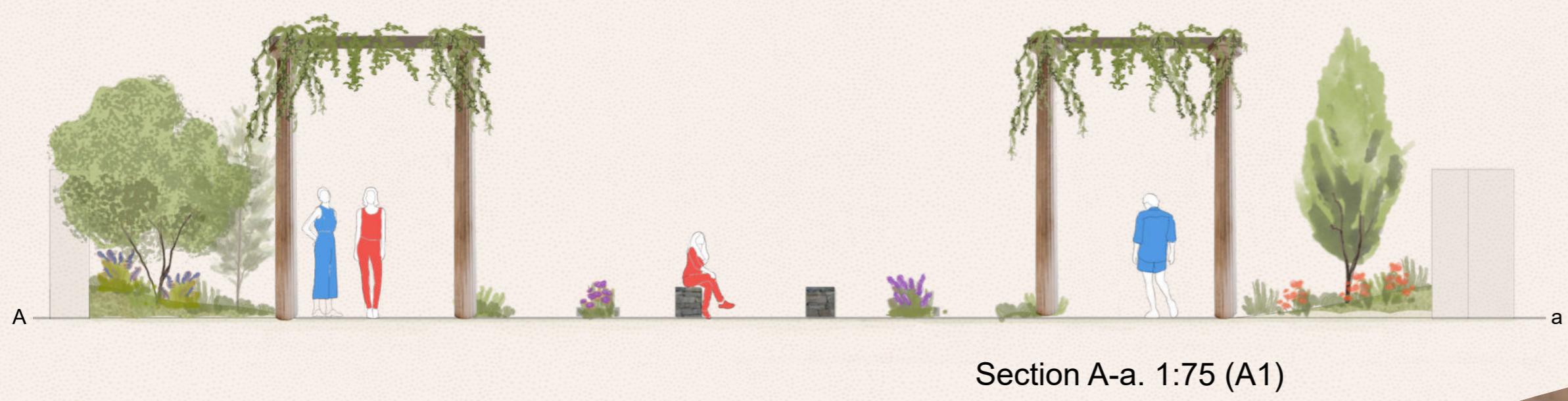
Then come together to talk.

Democracy is the cornerstone of free societies where everyone has the same rights to choose over their own life, express their opinions and freely assemble, exchanging ideas and thoughts. However, democracy is globally declining¹, political polarization is increasing² and we are less exposed to other people's opinions.

To address this issue, this garden offers a meeting point to build a bridge in a divided world. Drawing reference to ancient Greece, what many consider to be the first democracies, we wanted to create a room where you can come together under the same neutral circumstances and exchange thoughts and opinions. It is a refuge from today's hostile atmosphere, protected from the outside world by its surrounding green. So please sit down in this unpolarized garden to meet as equals rather than opponents. Welcome to this garden to help save democracy and free societies.

¹International IDEA. (2024). *The Global State of Democracy 2024: Strengthening the Legitimacy of Elections in a Time of Radical Uncertainty*. International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance.

²Carothers, T. & O'Donohue, A. (2019). *How to Understand the Global Spread of Political Polarization*. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.



Finally, sit down and relax.

