

Fragmented Continuities

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Cities are complicated creatures that are continuously molded by forces of growth, destruction, adaptation, and renewal. This drawing explores the fragmented yet interconnected nature of urban environments, where rigid structures meet fluid transitions. The composition, a juxtaposition between the solid and the empty, expresses the tension between the structured and the random, which is one of the characteristics of urban resilience.

The use of lines and nodes demonstrates the communication, connectivity of the infrastructure as well as relationships between people. The challenges of sustainability in the twenty-first century, when cities have to address traffic jams, transportation, congestion, and environmental concerns at the same time are shown through geometric distortions and superimposition. Each part suggests both separation and cohesion, and this is because a city's strength is in its ability to change, rearrange, and reconnect.

The dichotomy of the concept of permanence and change, which is characteristic of the urban environment, is shown through the use of structured black and white. Although the built environment appears to be static, it is actually a dynamic entity whose significance and role change over time. Cities are narratives written in space of historical processes, policy decisions, and social memory. The material and the intangible are what makes them resilient, the tangible and intangible.

In essence, this composition is an invitation to reflect on the fragility and strength of our urban environments. In an era of rapid transformation, sustainability is no longer a static goal but an ongoing process—one that requires both innovation and a deep understanding of the social fabric that binds a city together.

Drawing. by Armela Reka

