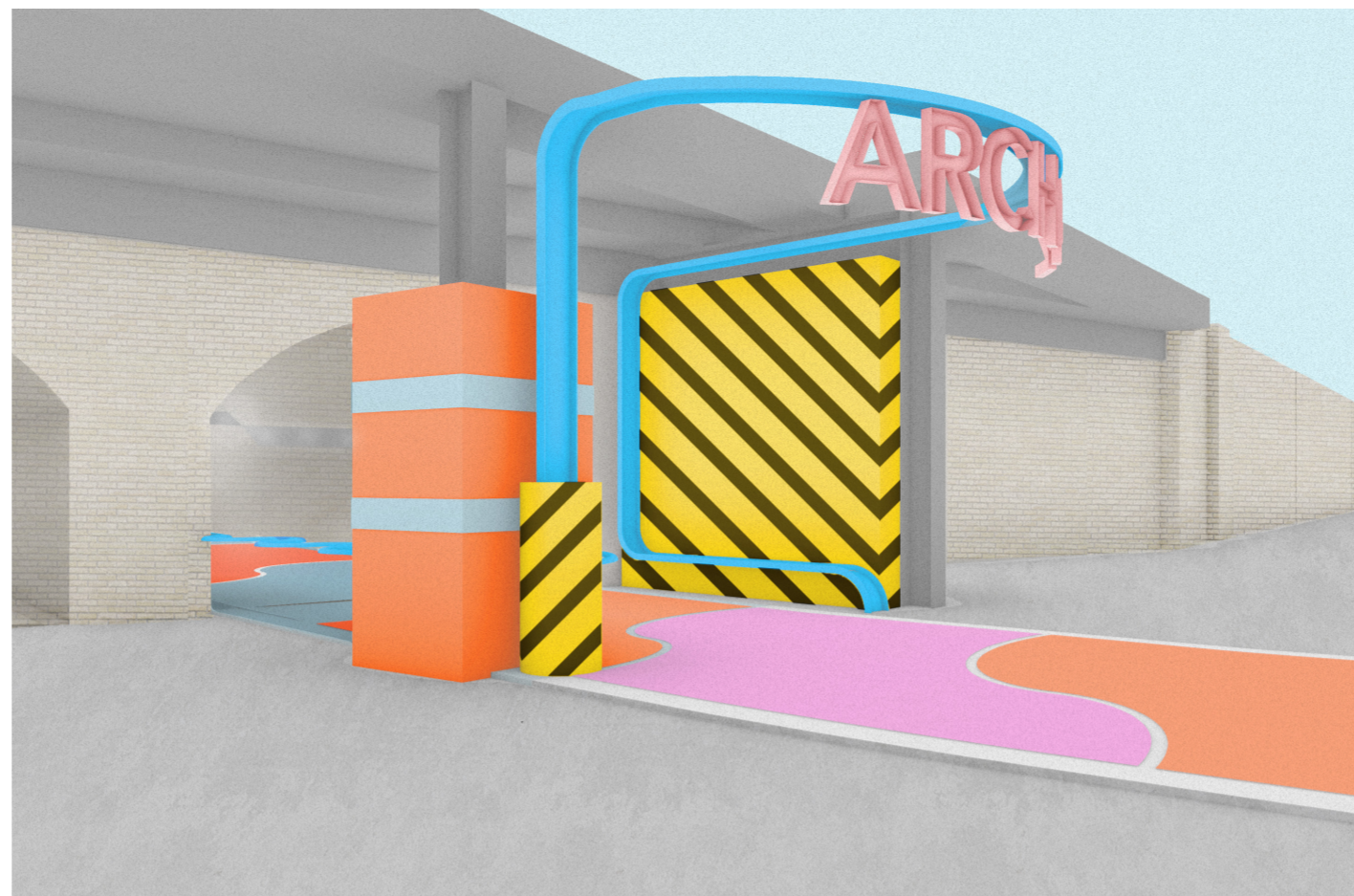




ARCH 42 - SOUTH SIDE



'THE SPECTACULARLY MARVELLOUS ARCH'  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS

## ARCH 42

The Spectacularly Marvellous Arch otherwise known as Arch 42 is a playful intervention acting as a connector between both sides of the Victorian railway viaduct. Beyond that, an opportunity to encourage new encounters, engagement and experiences is created.

**A curious thing for a curious place.**

Nine Elms is—and always has been—a curious place. For some, it's a place of childhood memories with a trip to the Sunday market. For others, a space full of chance meetings, exchanges and somewhere to get lost in. For many, it represents a refreshing yet necessary piece of livelihood, catering and supplying the local area and the city in a way that isn't always acknowledged or widely understood. With a range of different communities both old and new, the area is a site of constant change, rich and layered with multiple identities overlapping and adjacent to one another in the same space.

Rather than seek to ignore or 'resolve' this depth and richness, our proposal seeks to embrace and celebrate the nature of the area, through a design that

carefully and wonderfully wraps, weaves and works into the existing arch and overhang. By doing this our proposal creates its own adjacencies through its form, materiality and graphical language.

**Curved steel, road signs and a path.**

The design is driven by a continuous and playful looping structure that moves from one side of the viaduct the other. Inspired by the industrial nature of the railway, the structure is made from steel sections varying in size to create large gestures like seating, or smaller moments like handrails and a lamppost for wayfinding.

The site, particularly on the south side has a strong visual language with road markings, reflections and traffic signage. By incorporating this into the palette and graphics language of the Arch, playful moments are created to draw you through the arch and beyond.

**Arch 42 is a place.  
An ambition to keep feeding culture.**

We see the arch as an ideal situation to act as a visual and spatial connection between the new residents on the north side to the market and older community on the south. But going beyond that we're keen to consider whether Arch 42 could do more. With such a diverse community and offering of skills and trades in close proximity we're excited by the prospect of using the arch as an opportunity to celebrate local skills, disciplines and voices in a bid to build back into the developing arts & culture of nine elms and the larger Wandsworth framework. But how? Through our proposal we've carefully considered and created opportunities that other artists/communities/craftspeople could engage with and feed into—be it through framing on the North side, or extending the path beyond the boundaries as part of a cultural trail.

In an uncertain time where the opportunity to visit traditional spaces of art and culture is scarce or restricted, we think that moments of transition in the city—be it a bus stop, a bridge, or in this case an arch—can be a real moment of joy and delight that can position itself as a point of rich cultural engagement in equal measure.



ARCH 42 - NORTH SIDE