



Salt Granaries  
Honfleur

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800 grams

From grain of salt  
to strand of wool...

Work In Situ

KARVER  
L'ART DE LA SCULPTURE

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MATÉRIEL POUR BEAUX-ARTS

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# Salt granaries Honfleur

## 800 grams

The Salt Granaries of Honfleur are one of the most visited sites in Normandy. Classified as historical monuments, an exceptional setting which is likely to host cultural events and manifestations. They offer visitors the opportunity for a unique and sensitive architectural experience, combining aesthetic emotion with historical knowledge of the city.

Through an in situ work, we propose to reveal the strength and power emanating from these two imposing stone vessels, the beauty of a space rhythmically marked and crowned by the marine carpenters' vault and its remarkable structural elements: stringers, crossbeams, king posts, and stops.

The installation is crafted with wool, an extremely light, fluid, and moving material. It unfolds in an inverted manner, in contrast to the roof, and incorporates in its design the chestnut wood frame that evokes the overturned hull of ships.

Using only 800 grams of material is also an antithetical evocation of the 10,000 tons of salt that these granaries were able to contain for fishing campaigns, at a time when the exploitation of sea resources was not a critical issue yet. Today, choosing to use a minimal amount of material to create means defending an economy, an ecology of means.

A natural, fragile, and modest material, wool takes shape under its own weight, drawing a chain-like

From grain of salt  
to strand of wool...

vault, a delicate and ephemeral geometry that can be transformed by a simple draft. Only 800 grams. An almost immaterial surface ripples as visitors pass by, generating a subtle interaction between the artwork and the spectator. 1600 meters of thread. By moving within this immersive installation, by altering it through the movement of his body, the visitor can feel, perceive, think about the place and its history, feel his own presence, and experience the present day.

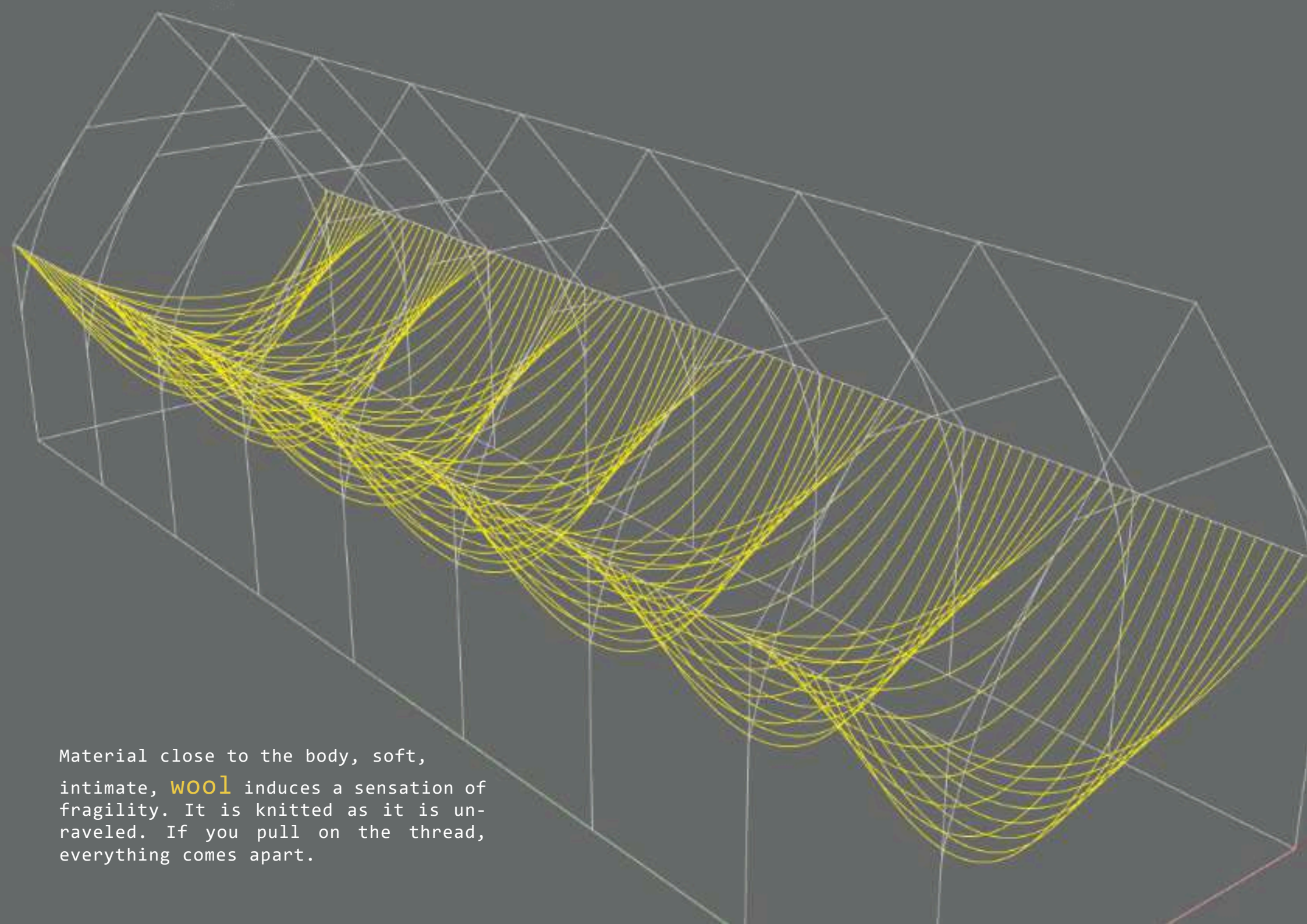
“For me, it’s not just about working with architecture and space, it’s also about working with time, working with the people who engage with the place. It’s also a matter of history.”

Daniel Buren

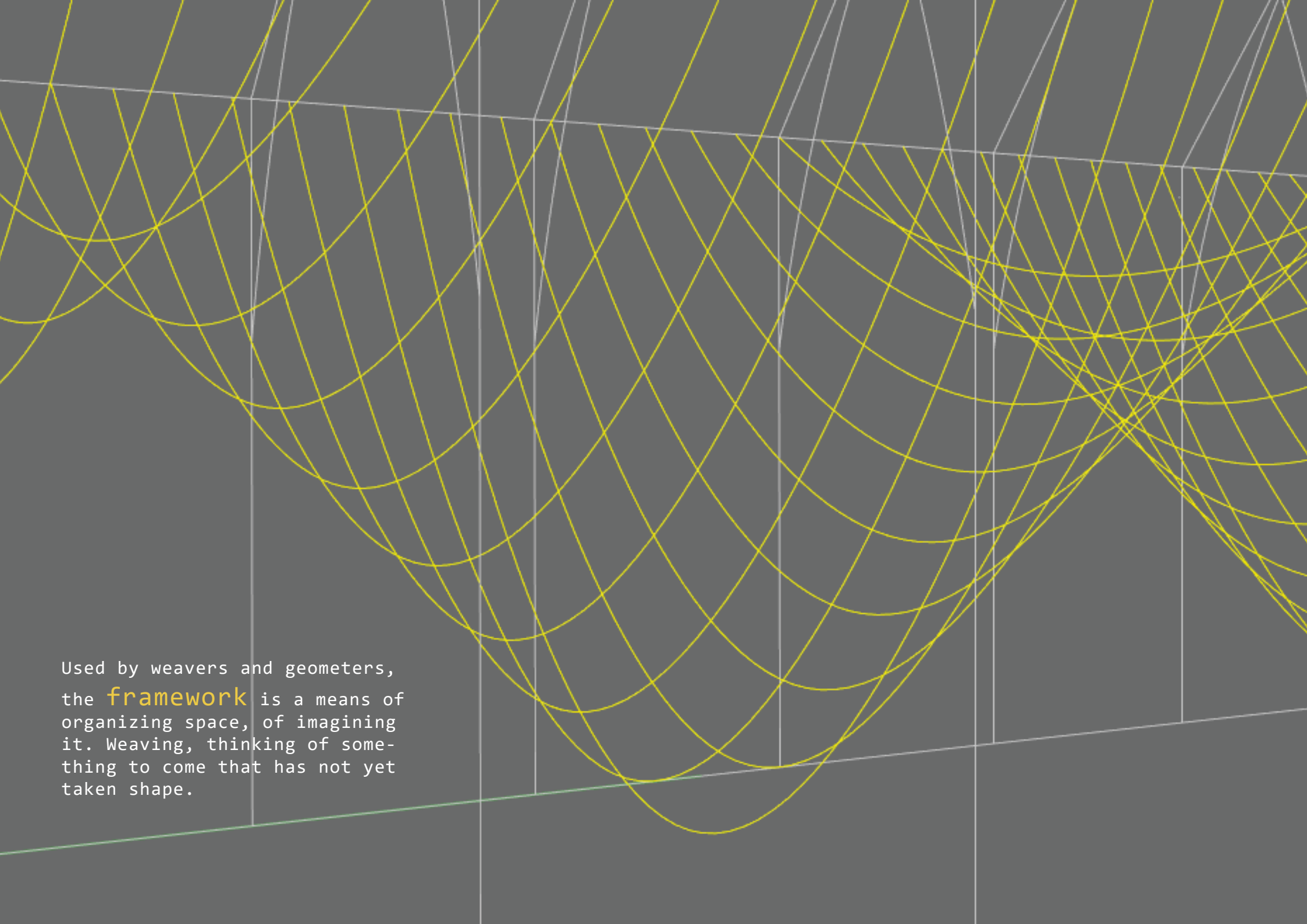


The two Salt Greniers date from the 17th century. Built by the Gabelles farm with Colbert's approval, most of the stones used for their construction come from the old fortifications of the city. Their oak frame is inspired by marine construction techniques. They are classified as historical monuments.

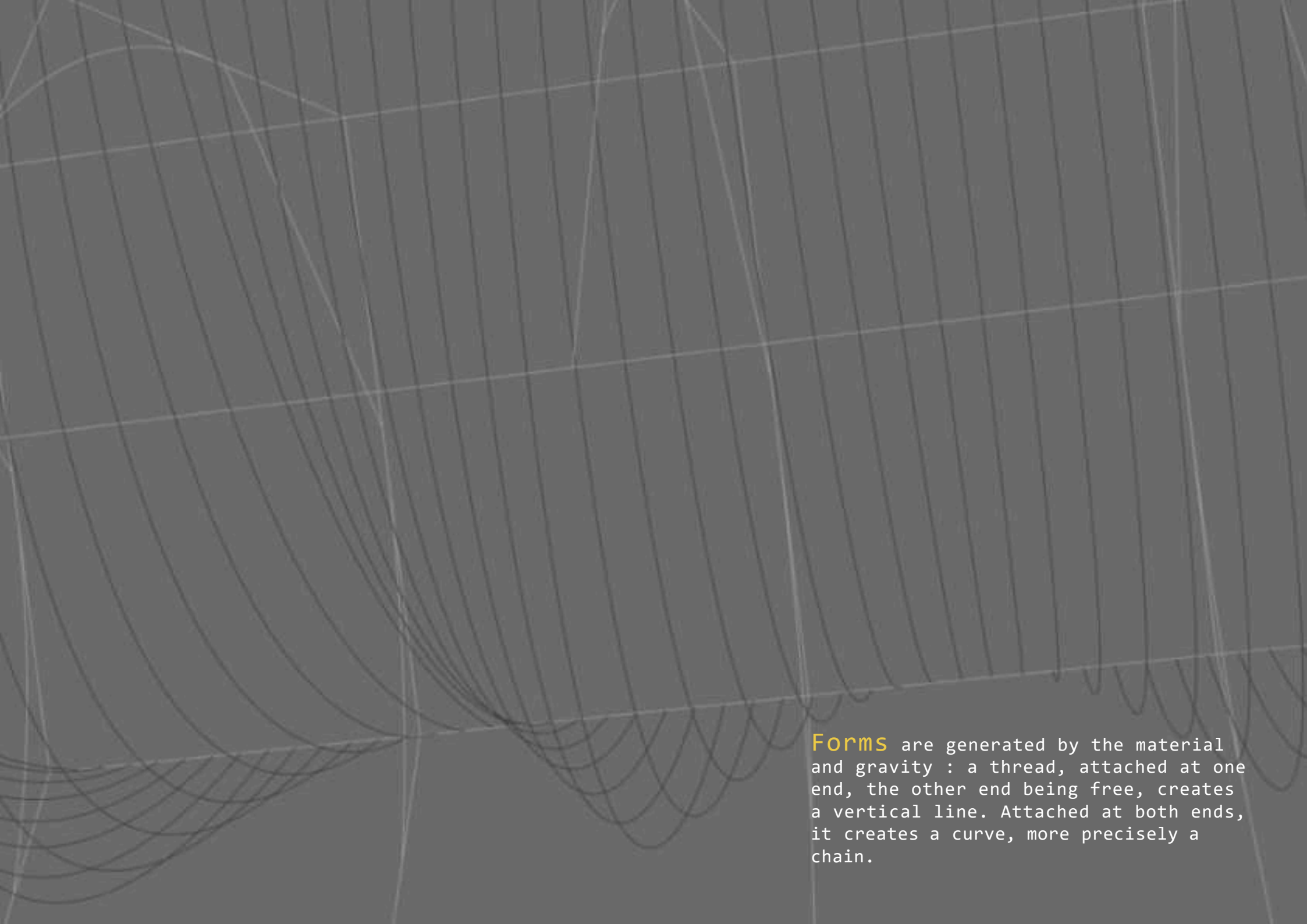
Dimensions : 138 feet long, 39 feet wide, 46 feet at ridge.



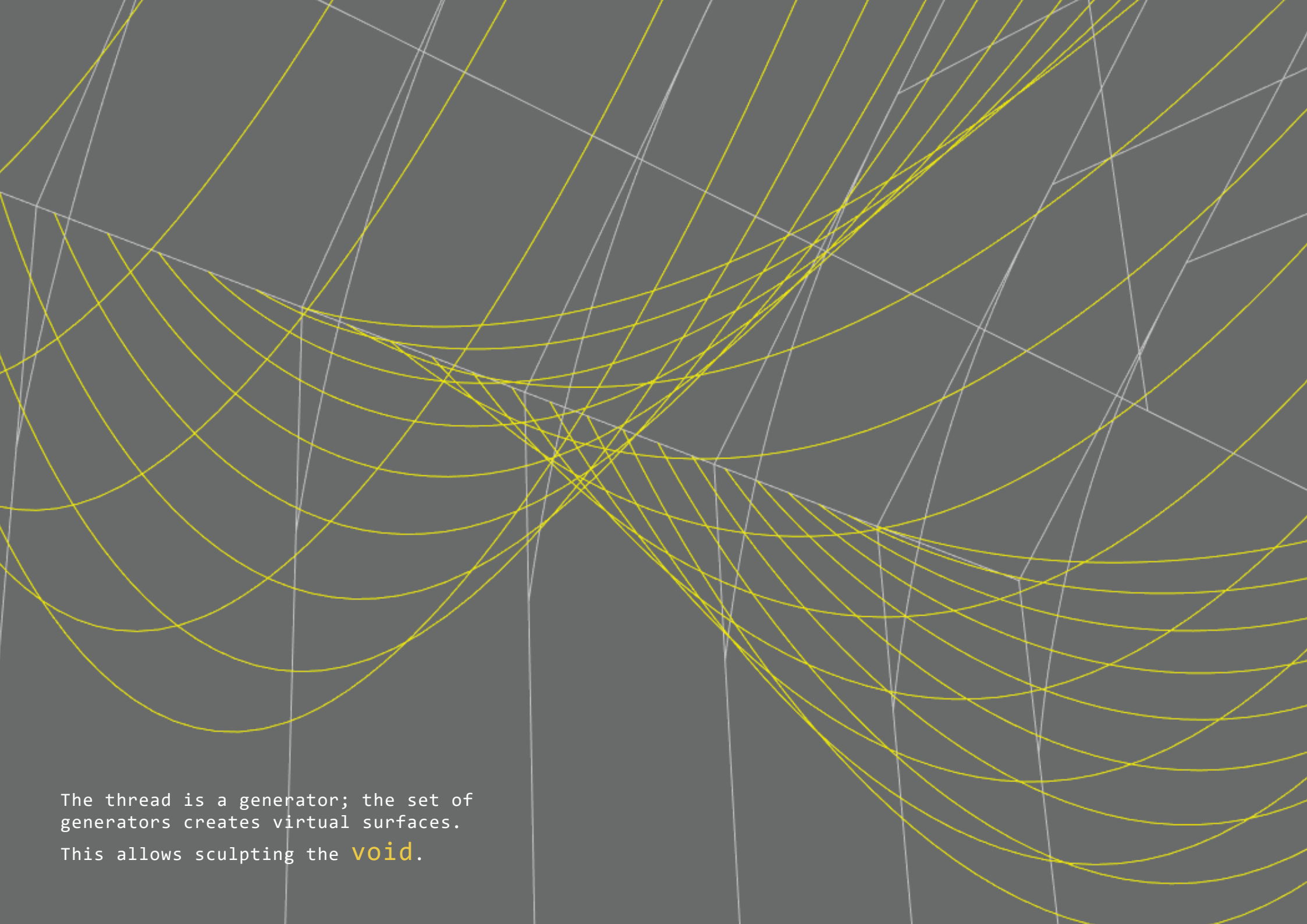
Material close to the body, soft,  
intimate, **wool** induces a sensation of  
fragility. It is knitted as it is un-  
raveled. If you pull on the thread,  
everything comes apart.



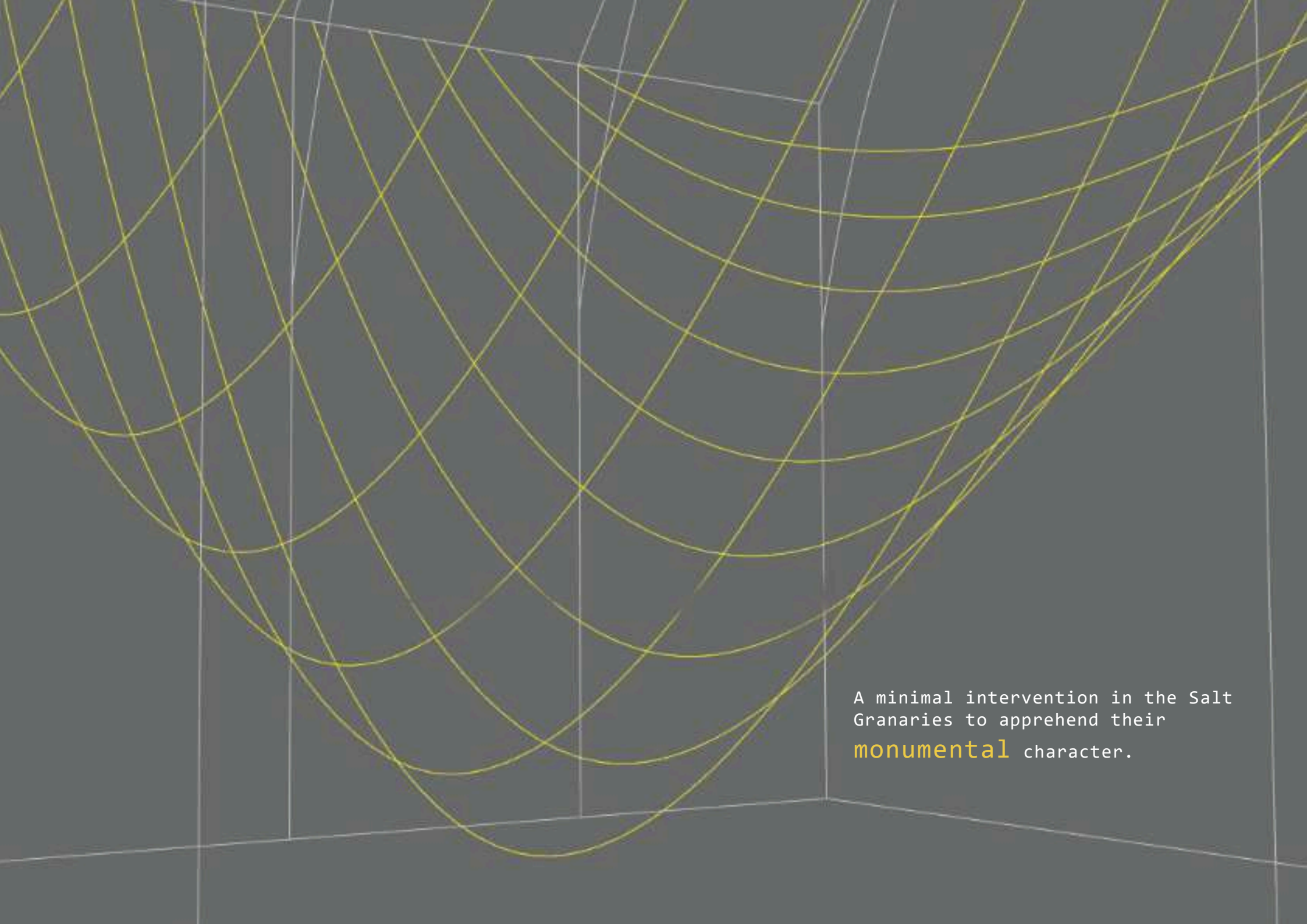
Used by weavers and geometers,  
the **framework** is a means of  
organizing space, of imagining  
it. Weaving, thinking of some-  
thing to come that has not yet  
taken shape.



**Forms** are generated by the material and gravity : a thread, attached at one end, the other end being free, creates a vertical line. Attached at both ends, it creates a curve, more precisely a chain.




The thread is a generator; the set of  
generators creates virtual surfaces.  
This allows sculpting the **void**.

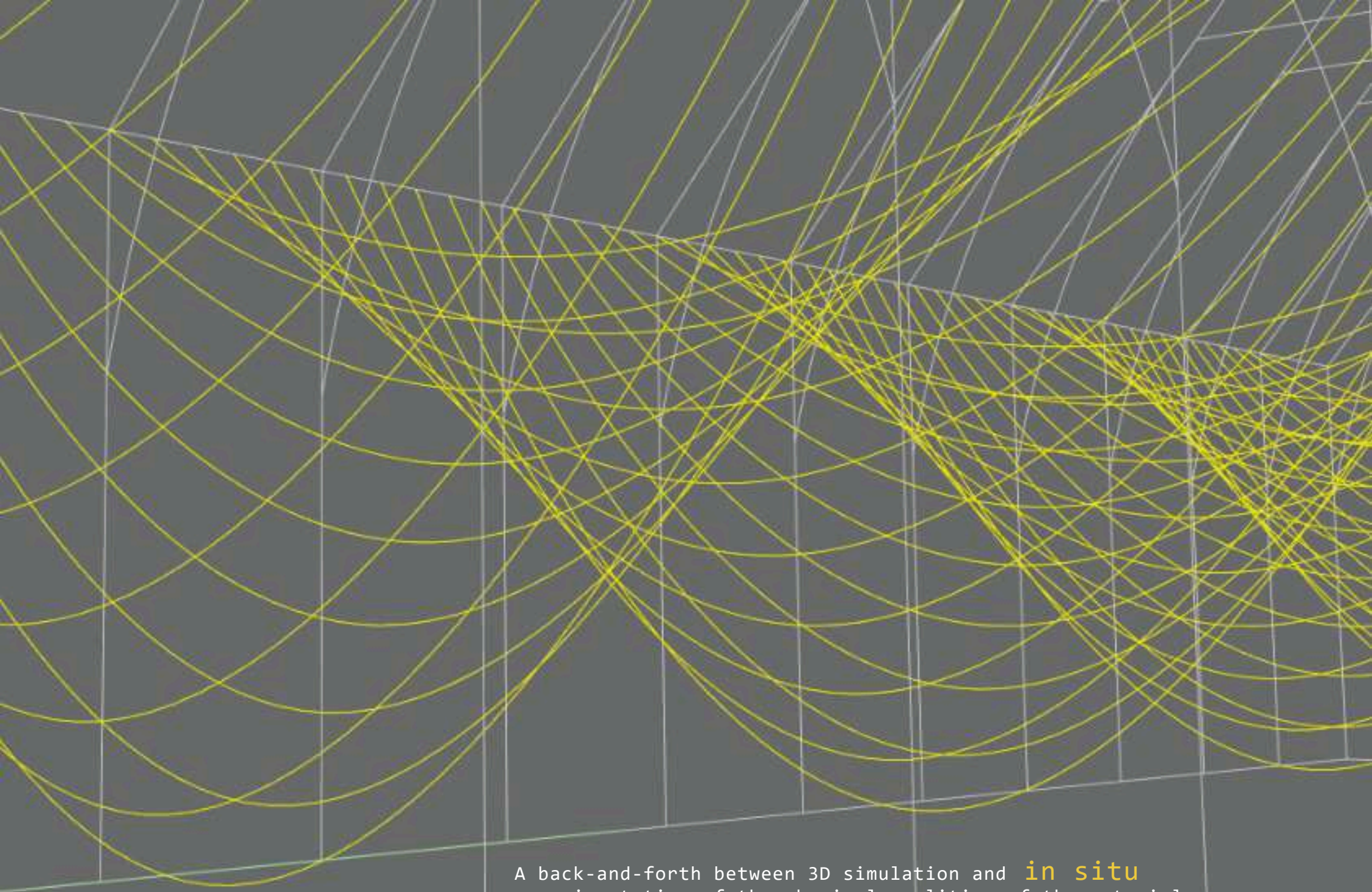
The image features a dark grey background with a complex pattern of thin, yellow, curved lines. These lines are arranged in a way that suggests a perspective of a curved surface, possibly a dome or a vaulted ceiling, with lines curving downwards and outwards. The lines are thin and delicate, creating a subtle, almost architectural feel. In the bottom right corner, there is a block of text in a light grey, monospaced font. The word 'monumental' is highlighted in yellow, matching the lines in the background.

A minimal intervention in the Salt  
Granaries to apprehend their  
**monumental** character.



The background features a dark grey field with several thin, white, slightly curved vertical lines. Overlaid on these are numerous yellow lines that form a series of overlapping, downward-curving arcs, creating a sense of depth and movement. The lines vary in opacity and thickness, giving the composition a layered, ethereal quality.

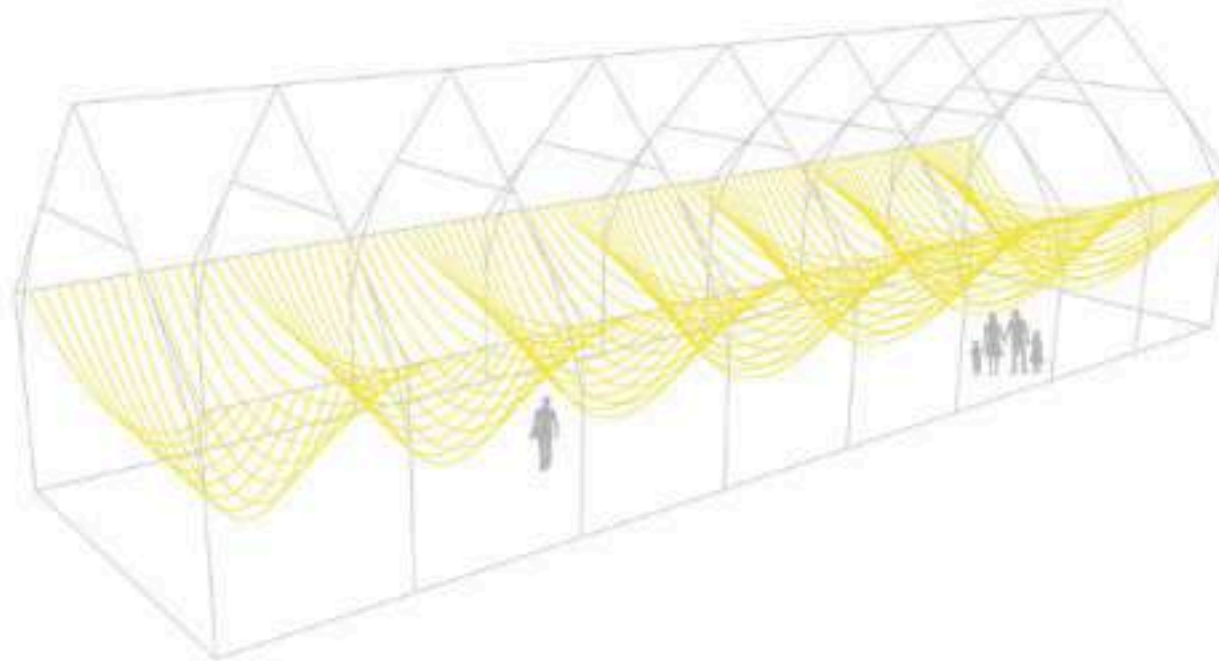
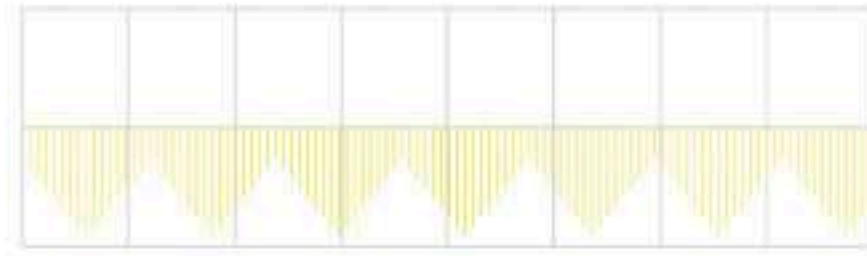
In the salt granaries, there is the  
**time** of history, and there is the  
time of the visitor. What happens in  
the interval matters.



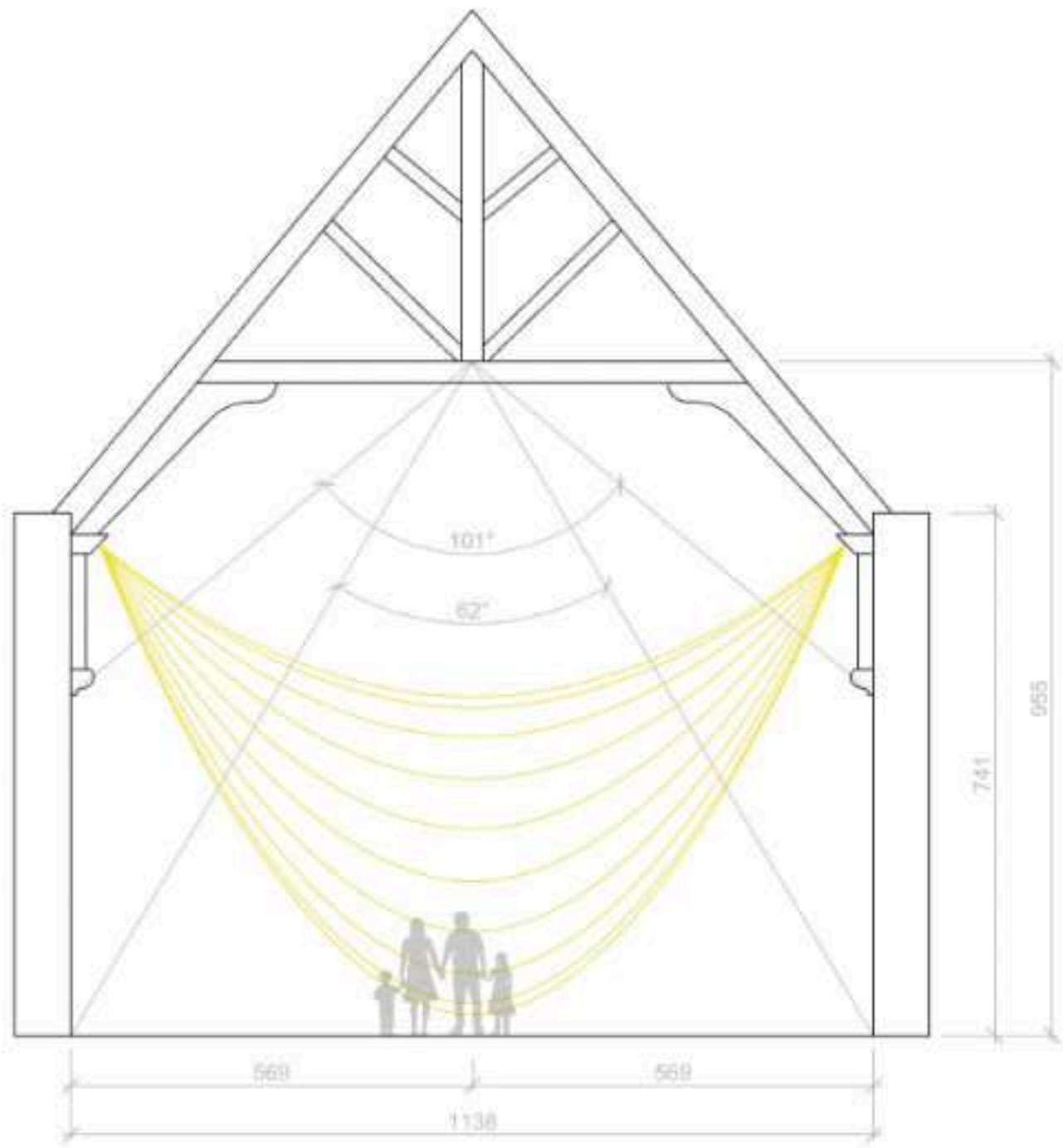
A back-and-forth between 3D simulation and **in situ** experimentation of the physical qualities of the material.

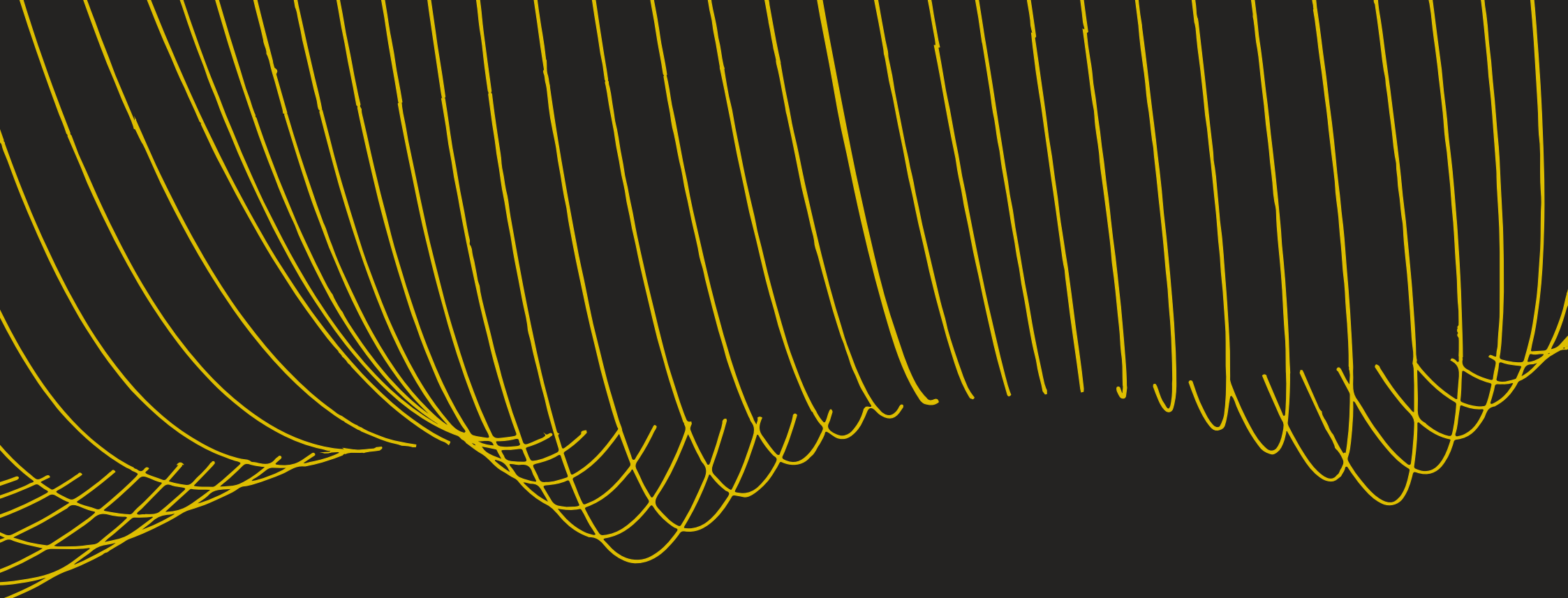
The image features a dark grey background with a complex network of thin, curved lines. The lines are primarily yellow and white, creating a sense of movement and tension. Some lines are straight and vertical, while others are curved and sweeping, intersecting to form a web-like structure. The overall effect is one of dynamic equilibrium.

800 grams for a sensory experience of the artwork and the place like a play of forces **in balance**.



Rhythm & immersion





**François Gaulier**  
Sculptor

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