PUBLIC ART PROPOSAL

ALUX

FromClayForm to Public Presence

Monumentalpublic sculpture proposal · Metepec,Mexico · 2025
Status: developed proposal · target height: 4.0 m



Study A - Lower Plaza · digital site study · Metepec, Mexico

PROJECT PROFILE

ALUX

Ahand-modeledform developed toward monumental public scale

TYPE	Public art proposal
STATUS	Developed proposal
PROPOSED SITE	Calvario Steps, Metepec
CONTEXT	La Quimera International Festival
YEAR	2025
TARGET HEIGHT	4.0 m
AUTHOR	Daniel Romero Nieto



Digital visualization of the proposed form.

ALUX begins with a hand-modeled ceramic figure and develops it through 3D digitization, scale studies, architectural placement, preliminary technical planning and site testing. The proposal asks what happens when an intimate studio form enters public space and must be read through distance, movement and architecture.

“How does a form shaped by the hand become a public presence?”

CURATORIAL FRAMEWORK

Form, scale, body and cultural context

01 Form

The figure remains open enough to move between body, folded matter, guardian, vestige and architectural fragment.

02 Scale

At monumental scale, the sculpture is encountered through approach, distance, movement and changing viewpoints.

03 Body and perception

The visitor's sightline, movement and distance continually alter the relation among silhouette, mass and site.

04 Cultural context

The alux reference comes from Maya oral tradition; Metepec contributes a contemporary civic setting shaped by a strong ceramic culture. Their relation is created by this specific proposal.

FORM IN ROTATION



Four views of the same digital model. Each rotation changes the relation among mass, fold and silhouette.

FORM

An abstract body in transformation



DESCRIPTION

ALUX takes its name from the alux of Maya oral traditions in the Yucatán Peninsula, where it is associated with guardianship of places such as milpas and cenotes. The project translates this reference through an abstract sculptural language.

The dense folded body can be read as rock, mask, garment, guardian or architectural fragment. At four meters, the work changes from an object handled at close range into a body encountered through distance and movement.

The matte black finish sharpens the silhouette; changing light registers across the folds. Ambiguity remains active as a spatial condition, sustaining several possible readings.

HAND · CLAY · DIGITAL MODEL · VOLUME · STRUCTURE · PUBLIC SPACE

SITE

Spatial placement and civic encounter

The study tests the sculpture against the Calvario's long approach, central axis and public circulation



Study A - Lower Plaza · digital site study.

01 Visual axis

The vertical form reinforces the line connecting plaza, steps and architecture.

02 Movement

Walking toward and around the sculpture reveals changing profiles, distances and folds.

03 Contrast

The dark folded mass sets a clear counterpoint to the geometry, color and symmetry of the surroundings.

04 Site integration

Finalplacement requires circulation, accessibility, safety, heritage and permitting studies for the selected site.

METHODOLOGY

Transformation process

Fromhand-modeledceramicfiguretoadevelopedproposalfor public-scale commissioning

01 **Hand modeling**
Original ceramic figure establishes the tactile and volumetric logic.

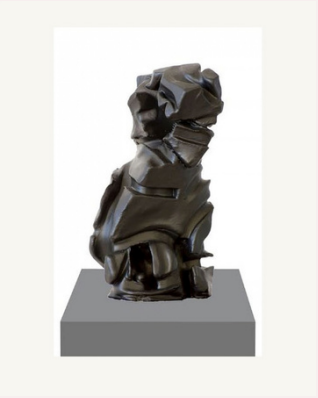
02 **3D digitization**
A 3D scan records folds, volume and proportion as editable geometry.

03 **Refinement and scaling**
The scan is cleaned in CAD and scaled to a 4.0 m target height.

04 **Site studies**
Visualizations test sightlines, approach, circulation and relation to architecture.

05 **Technical development**
Material, mounting and fabrication studies establish a preliminary production basis.

06 **Commission development**
Engineering, permits, final material, fabrication and installation are resolved site by site.



PRELIMINARY SPECIFICATION

TARGET HEIGHT

4.0 m

ENVELOPE

approx. 2.0 × 2.0 m

PROPOSED TECHNIQUE

high-density polystyrene core + polymer skin reinforced with fiberglass

FINISH

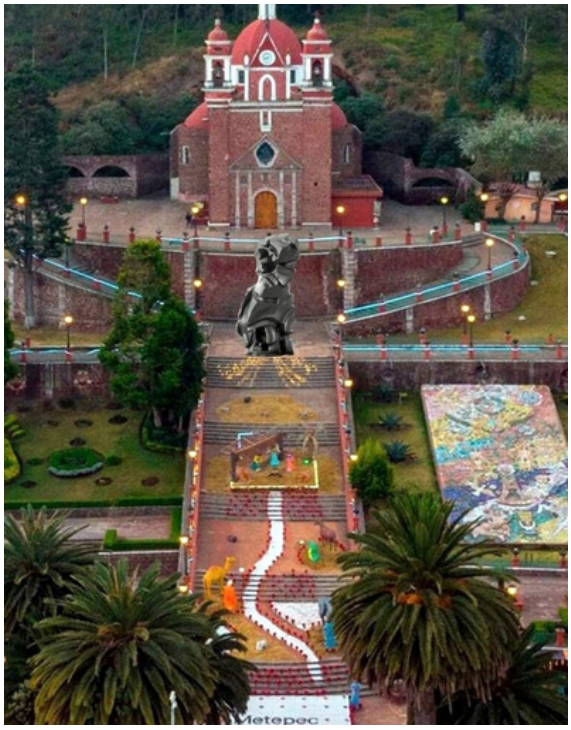
exterior matte black

A preliminary 2025 budget and fabrication framework were developed during the proposal phase. Any commission requires updated quotations, certified structural engineering, site preparation, permits, insurance, transport planning and a maintenance protocol.

SITE STUDIES

Visibility, alignment and scale

Threestudiestesthowthesculpturechangeswhenreadacrossthelargerarchitectural complex



Study B - Ascending axis · digital site study.



Study C - Panoramic view · digital visualization.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BODY AND MONUMENT



Dimensional study of the digital model and its approximate relationship with the human body.

CLOSING

From model to commission

ALUX develops a hand-modeled ceramic figure into a four-meter public sculpture proposal through 3D digitization, spatial study, architectural placement and preliminary technical planning. The completed development phase defines the form at monumental scale, tests its relation to the site and establishes initial production requirements for commissioning.

The hand-shaped ambiguity remains active at monumental scale, where the form enters architecture, circulation and public space.

PROJECT STATUS & CREDITS

PROJECT	ALUX - From Clay Form to Public Presence
TYPE	Monumental public art proposal
PROPOSED SITE	Calvario Steps, Metepec, Mexico
YEAR	2025
STATUS	Developed proposal available for site-specific commissioning
CONCEPT, ORIGINAL MODEL & ARTISTIC DIRECTION	Daniel Romero Nieto
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT	Daniel Romero Nieto
SITE VISUALIZATIONS	Digital compositing and generative tools
TECHNICAL FRAMEWORK	Preliminary specification and development, 2025

TRANSPARENCY NOTE

All site images are digital studies. A commissioned version would proceed through updated budgeting, certified engineering, permits and site-specific technical development. The cultural contexts remain explicit: the alux reference comes from Maya oral tradition; Metepec is the contemporary site of the 2025 proposal.

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