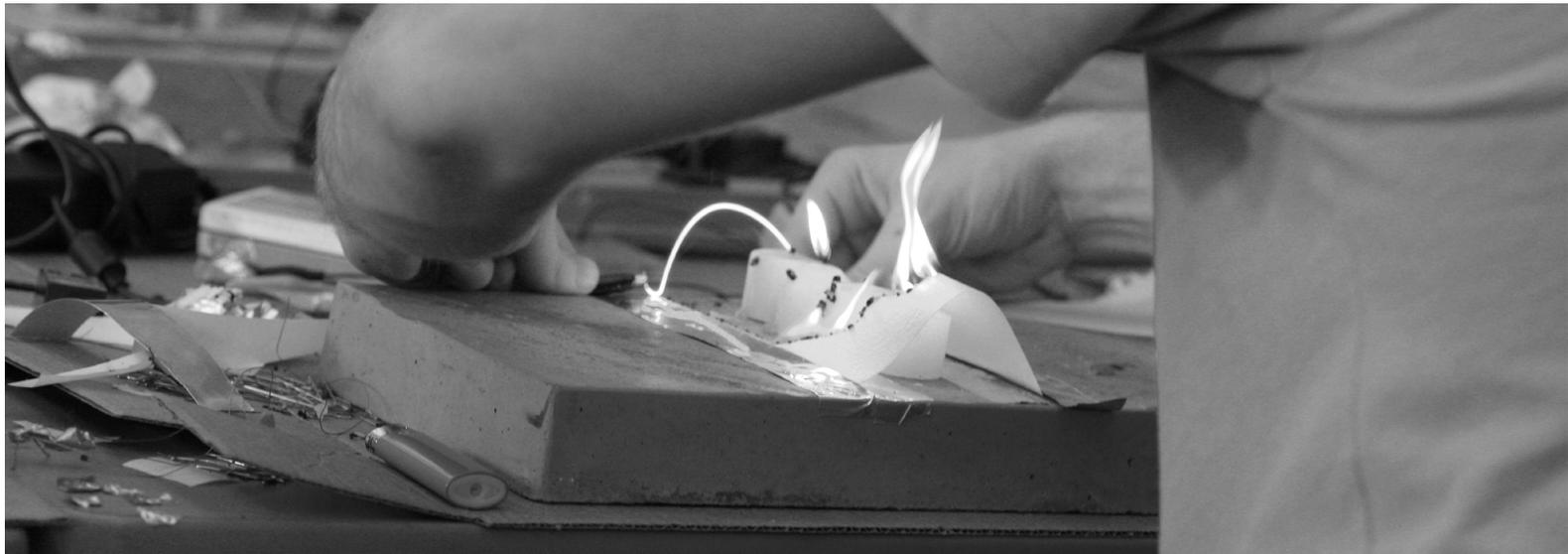


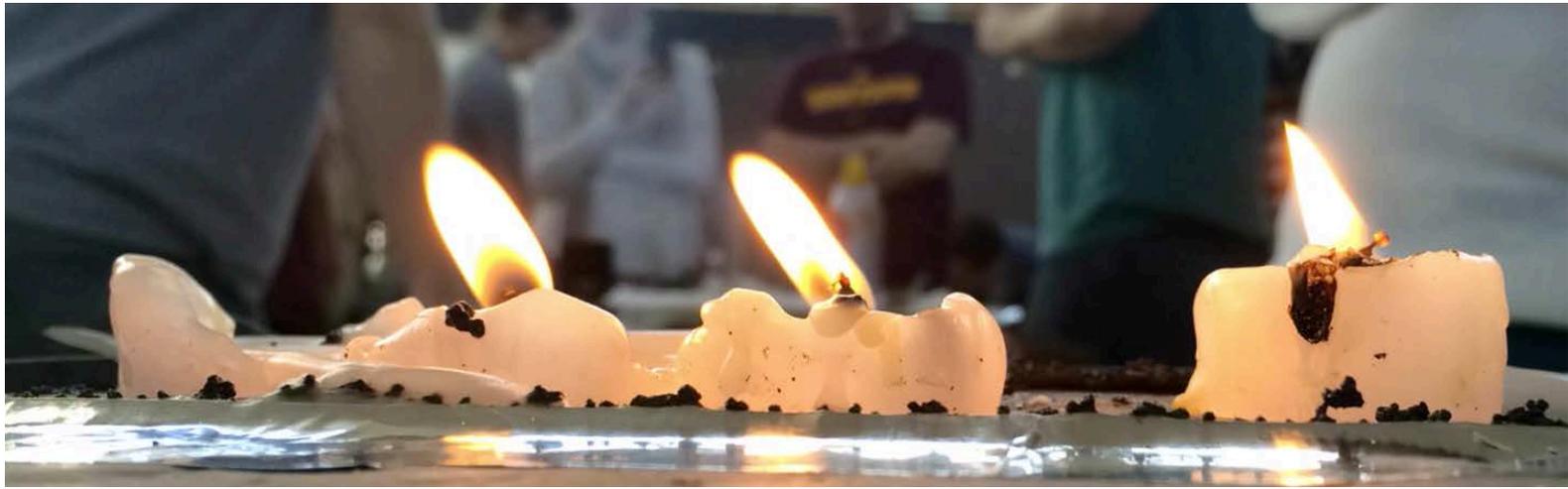
Ephemeral Façade  
Sam Clausen

The nature of the ephemeral is temporal; this impermanence creates an instance of experience. The ephemeral has become an event not an everyday typical object. This experience of change integrated into the everyday life breeds a new line of questioning within how it can be integrated within Architecture? Scale, place, effect, all must be addressed. Aspects of experience within the ephemeral jump out within the architecture. Architecture adds another element within its repertoire of engagement.

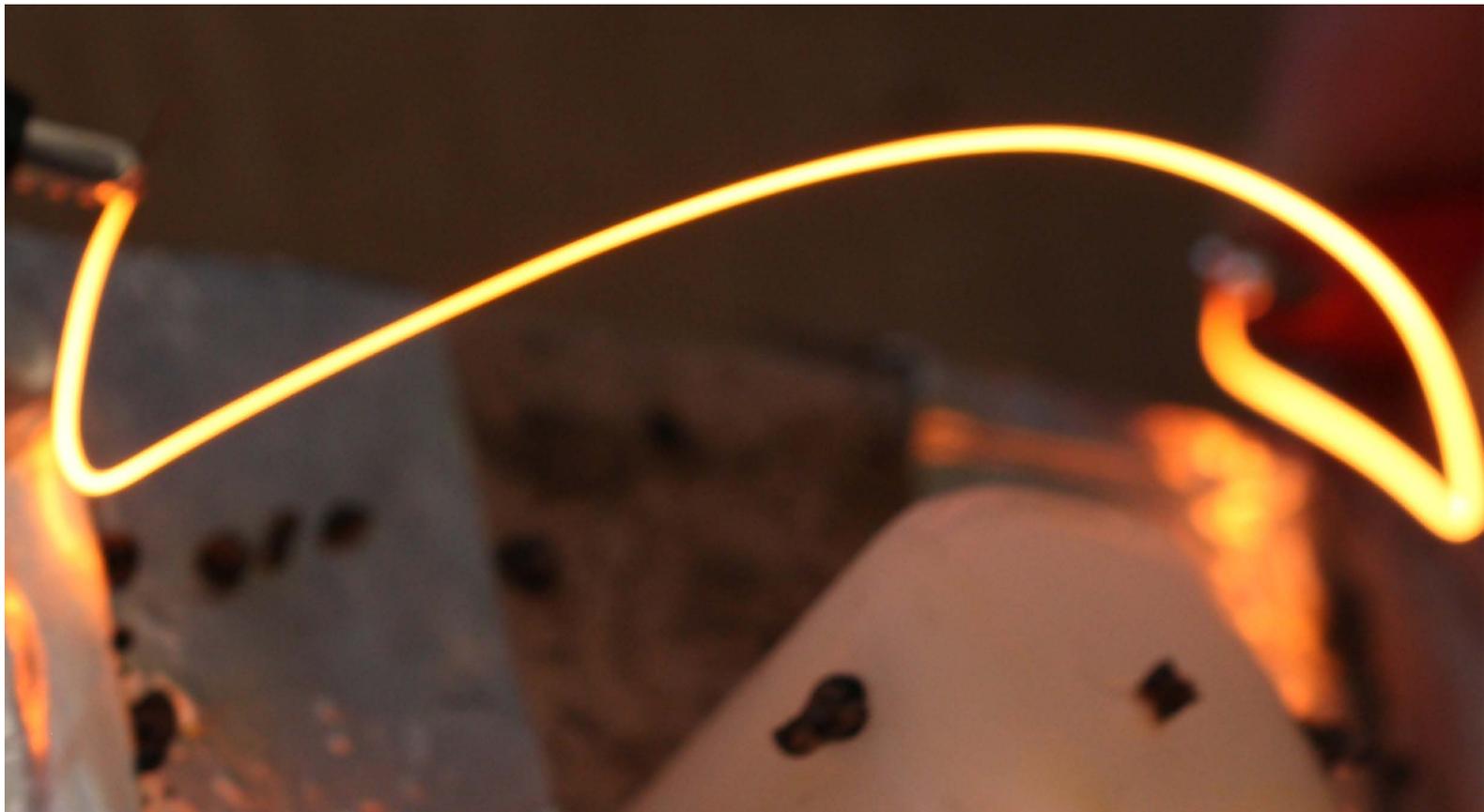


Within my own work I attempted to play with heat and how that could subtly or very extremely change a material. Experimentation began with combustible potato paper. Igniting this with the hot wire method. The potato paper would ignite and burn in the opposite direction of the ignition. As it burned it made a small wisp of white smoke, and a raspy putter as it consumed the paper. This experience was quite nice, but lacked an element. The final iteration of this medium incorporated candles that would be lit as the potato paper burned across a form. In this way the ephemeral experience would be extended until the wax had consumed the lit flames.

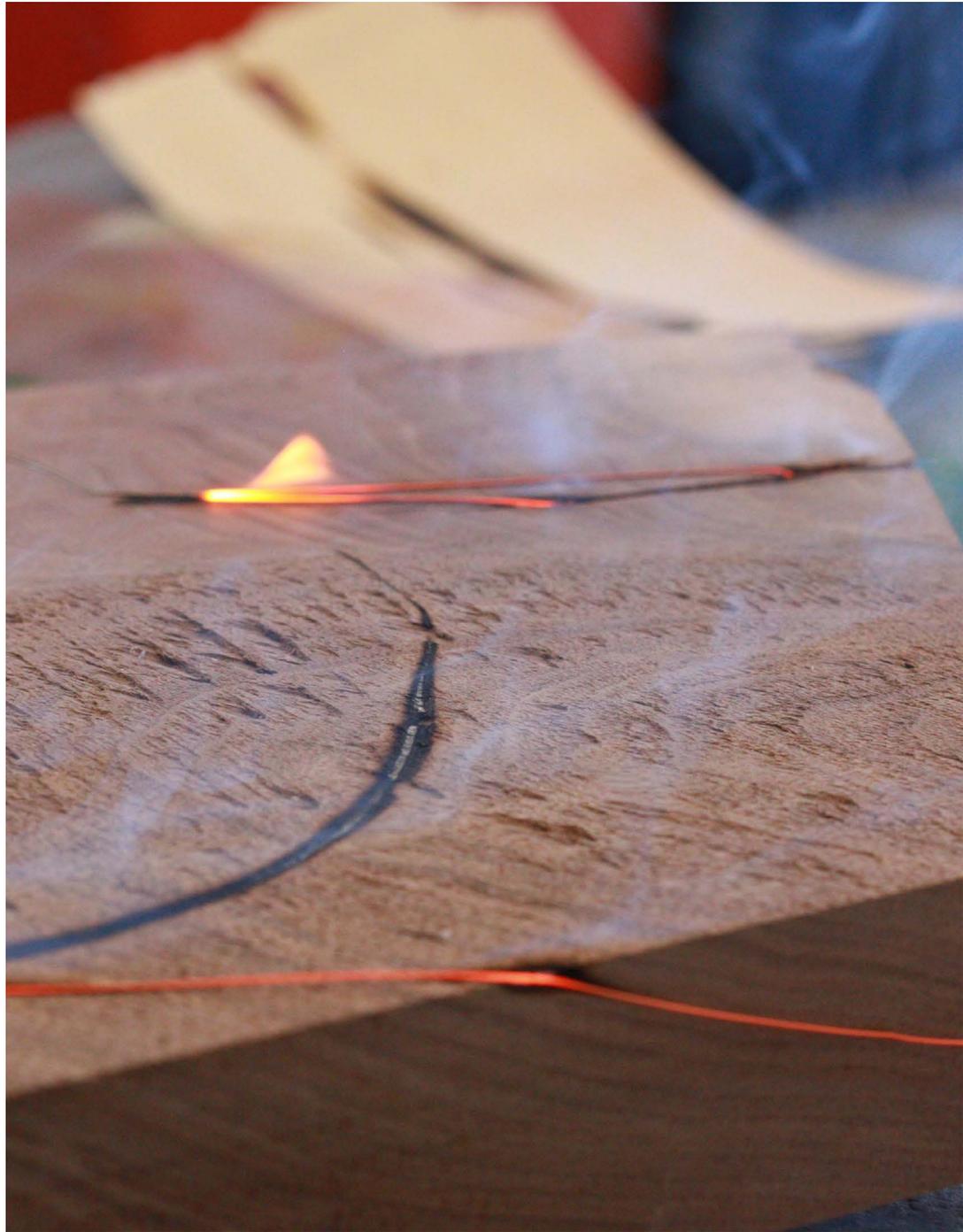




The next iteration of my work was derived from the hot wire. I became more interested in how this wire turned color when electrified and how this could leave an imprint on a material. This line of thinking led me away from the conventional method of electrifying the wire. I was able to attain a larger power supply that would dramatically impact the desired effect I was after. This scale shift also allowed me to work with multiple wires at once.



The medium that the wire would imprint came into examination. Wood was tested in the first iterations. Thickness and species were main drivers in questioning. Thick materials were more stable therefore having a slow burning charcoal effect, as the wood was exposed to the hot wire. Switching to the thinner more delicate veneer had a more visually and experiential results. The appearance of the maple veneer had a more delicate rich appearance. By wedging the wire in-between the layers of the veneer I was able to burn the veneer at a desired rate depending on the amount of amperage pushed through the wire. This method though when examined was thrown away because of the inability to be reversed, therefore being a single one off effect instead of the desired repeatability.





The conclusion of my work ended by addressing the material that would be affected by the hot wire. Concrete was the final medium selected. This material would be more practical in the application of the hot wire. The final effect was less about the effect the wire would have on the material and more about the effect the electricity had on the wire. The hot wire would move and glow orange when fully in effect. The concrete became a stable medium that would hold and support this kind of activity. The final outcome would be a panel composed of concrete with recesses built into support the wire. The effect would be visible in night and fade as the night turned to day.

