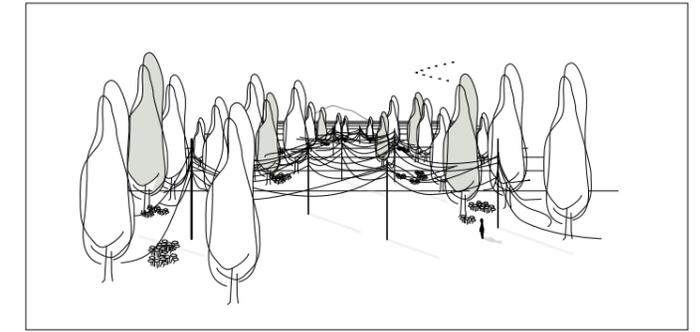
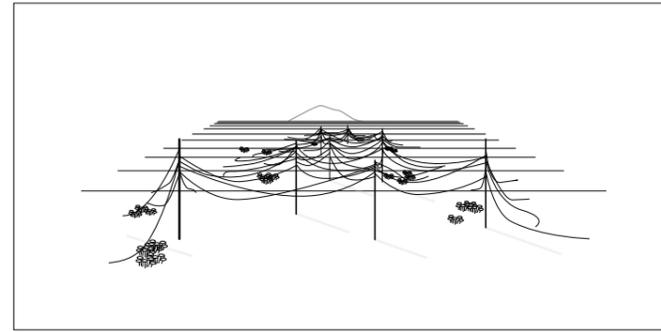
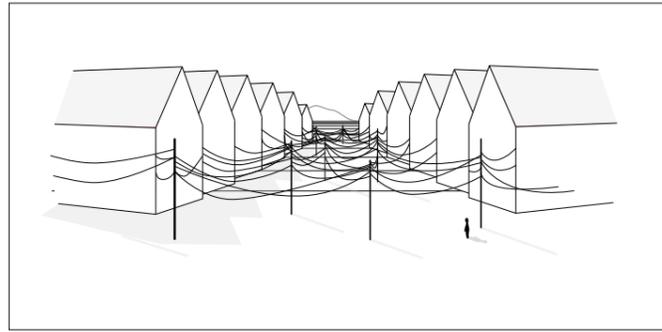
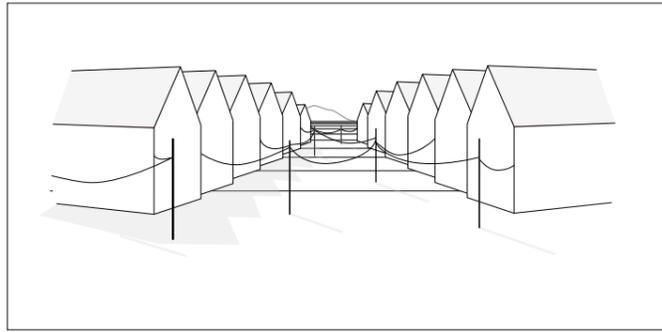


# TRACES OF ERSILIA



Garden Storyboard

## PREQUEL

"In Ersilia, to establish the relationship that sustain the city's life, the inhabitants stretch strings from the corners of the houses, white or black or gray or black-and-white according to whether they mark a relationship of blood, of trade, authority, agency. When the strings become so numerous that you can no longer pass among them, the inhabitants leave: the houses are dismantled; only the strings and their supports remain.

From a mountainside, camping with their household goods, Ersilia's refugees look at the labyrinth of taut strings and poles that rise in the plain. That is the city of Ersilia, and they are nothing.

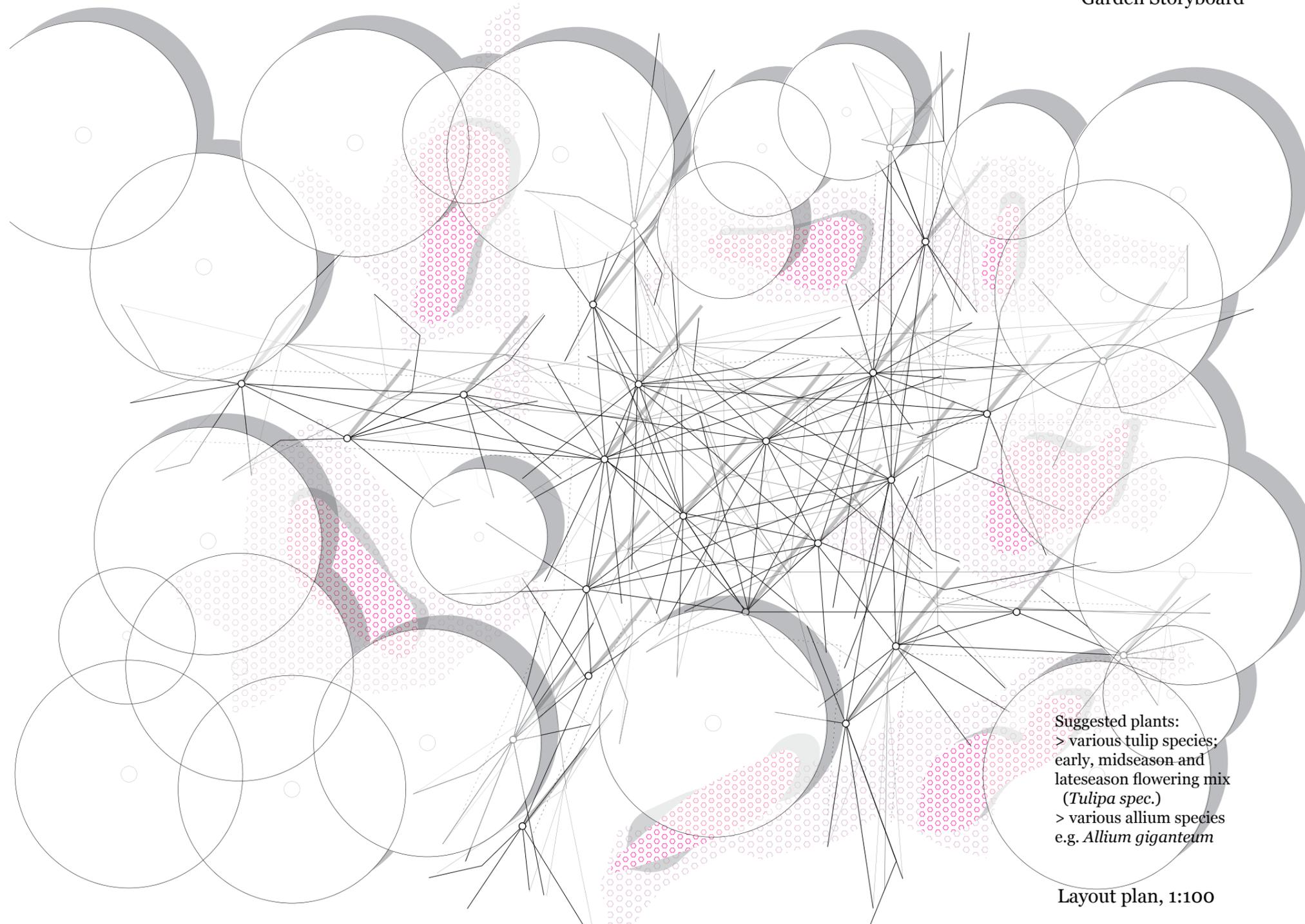
They rebuild Ersilia elsewhere. They weave a similar pattern of strings which they would like to be more complex and at the same time more regular than the other. Then they abandon it and take themselves and their houses still farther away.

Thus, when traveling in the territory of Ersilia, you come upon the ruins of the abandoned cities, without the walls which do not last, without the bones of the dead which the wind rolls away: spider-web of intricate relationships seeking a form."

From Italo Calvino's work in 1972, "Invisible Cities"

## CONCEPT

"Traces of Ersilia" is the epilogue to the story of the city Ersilia, written by Italo Calvino in his "Invisible Cities" (1972). The garden shows the imaginary land of Ersilia after the inhabitants moved on with their houses, but left their connecting ties in place. The weird structure of ropes and supporting poles, representing the connection of the inhabitants lives, is now abandoned and slowly overgrown but the approaching trees. The ropes are loosely hanging down from the poles and their open ends vanish in the woods. The visitor can try to read the rhythm of the poles and ropes and try to imagine the city and the people living there, and get pretty much melancholic by this scenario, if it wasn't for these colourful flowers blossoming all over the woods. The people left and discard their connections, but the bulb flowers that were cultivated in the gardens of Ersilia, they persisted in the ground and are now taking over. So even if the structure will be gone and merged with the ground these flowers will continue to tell a story, and actually a happy one.

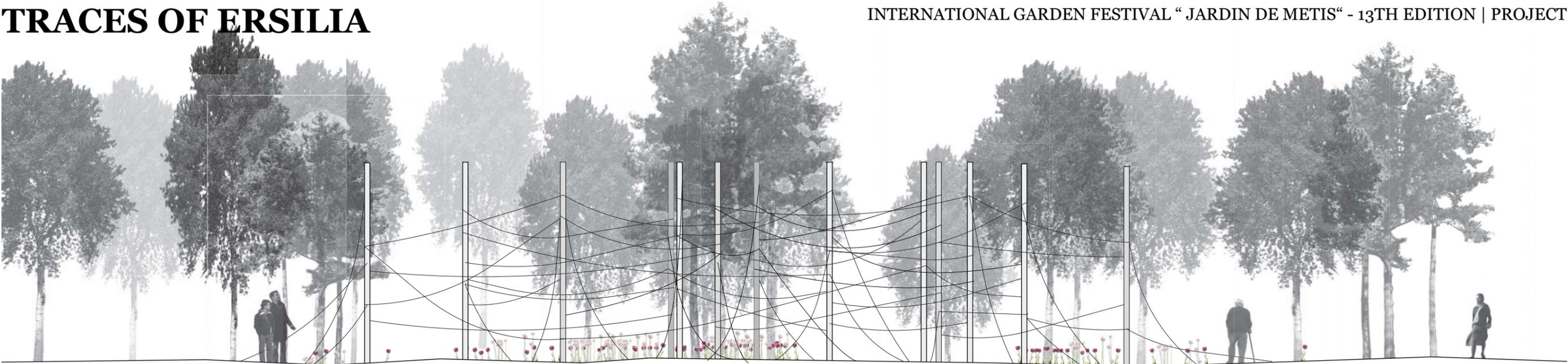


Suggested plants:  
> various tulip species;  
early, midseason and  
lateseason flowering mix  
(*Tulipa spec.*)  
> various allium species  
e.g. *Allium giganteum*

Layout plan, 1:100

# TRACES OF ERSILIA

INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL "JARDIN DE METIS" - 13TH EDITION | PROJECT



Elevation , 1:100



View inside the garden