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## **Para Las Mujeres de Tierra**

For the Women of the Land

In the Ecuadorian Amazon Basin, Indigenous Kichwa women face deep-rooted barriers to reproductive healthcare—geographic isolation, limited educational access, and the erasure of ancestral birthing traditions within modern medical systems.

By examining social stigmas and understanding the full spectrum of women's reproductive stages, this project explores how experiences of menstruation, pregnancy, abortion, and motherhood manifest as spatial relationships—between fetus and mother, individual and family, body and world.

Grounded in Indigenous construction and healing traditions, it seeks to honor and preserve cultural wisdom while envisioning environments that offer professional, dignified, and hygienic care.

Para Las Mujeres de Tierra reimagines architecture as a vessel for reproductive justice—one that celebrates the female body, uplifts Indigenous knowledge, and restores spatial dignity to women's lived experiences.

Website Bio:

Sofia Aquino '26 is an architecture major whose project Para Las Mujeres de Tierra envisions spaces of reproductive justice for Indigenous Kichwa women in the Ecuadorian Amazon. Through the lens of architecture, Sofia explores how cultural preservation, spatial dignity, and Indigenous healing traditions can inform equitable access to reproductive care. Originally from Stamford, CT, Sofia studies under the guidance of faculty mentor Christina Zhang.

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