

Abstract of “Implementing Classical Architecture in the Design of the City of Atlantis: Drawing
Atlantis as Plato Would’ve Imagined”

Quinlen Stevens

For my thesis, I created five digital illustrations of the city of Atlantis in the style of Classical architecture. I wanted the drawings to reflect what Plato would’ve pictured as he recounted the allegory of Atlantis in his writings and in doing so highlight the purpose of the allegory. By showing Atlantis in Classical architecture, I aimed to highlight the similarities between Atlantis and Athens similarly to what Plato does in his writing, and provide another way to communicate that the city of Atlantis is not some mythical city to be found. But rather, the significance of the city lies within Plato’s story and allegory to warn people about the hubris of nations, and specifically to Plato, the hubris of Athens. For my process, I researched a lot of Classical Architecture and ancient Greek city planning to understand what makes buildings Classical and what architecture Plato would’ve been familiar with. I also read multiple translations of the *Critias* to understand how Plato described the city and also referred back to the original Greek to clear up any confusion created by a translator’s specific choice in a translation. I chose to create these drawings digitally. Digital art allows for a level of detail that isn’t always as easy to achieve with physical painting or drawing and using digital software allowed me to really create all the smaller details and aspects of the city. I chose to create five different illustrations to portray the city of Atlantis. The main drawing that I created is an aerial city view of Atlantis to convey the layout of the city in a more three dimensional way than a map would provide. The four other drawings I created are of the hippodrome, docks and bridges, baths, and the temple. I chose to focus on these four things because Plato highlights them in his

writings by giving them long descriptions and I wanted my drawings to reflect what Plato deemed important to the description of Atlantis.