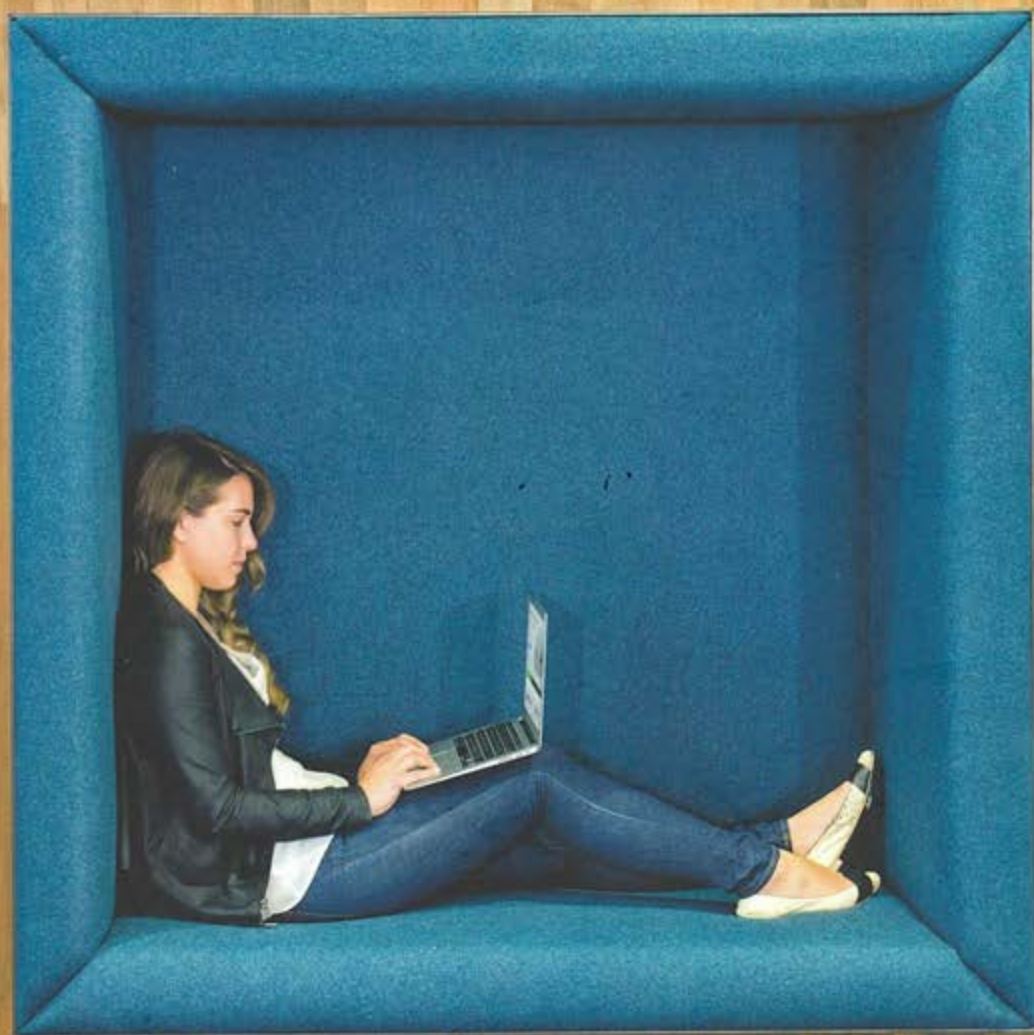Creative Workplace Design

THE OTHER OFFICE 2
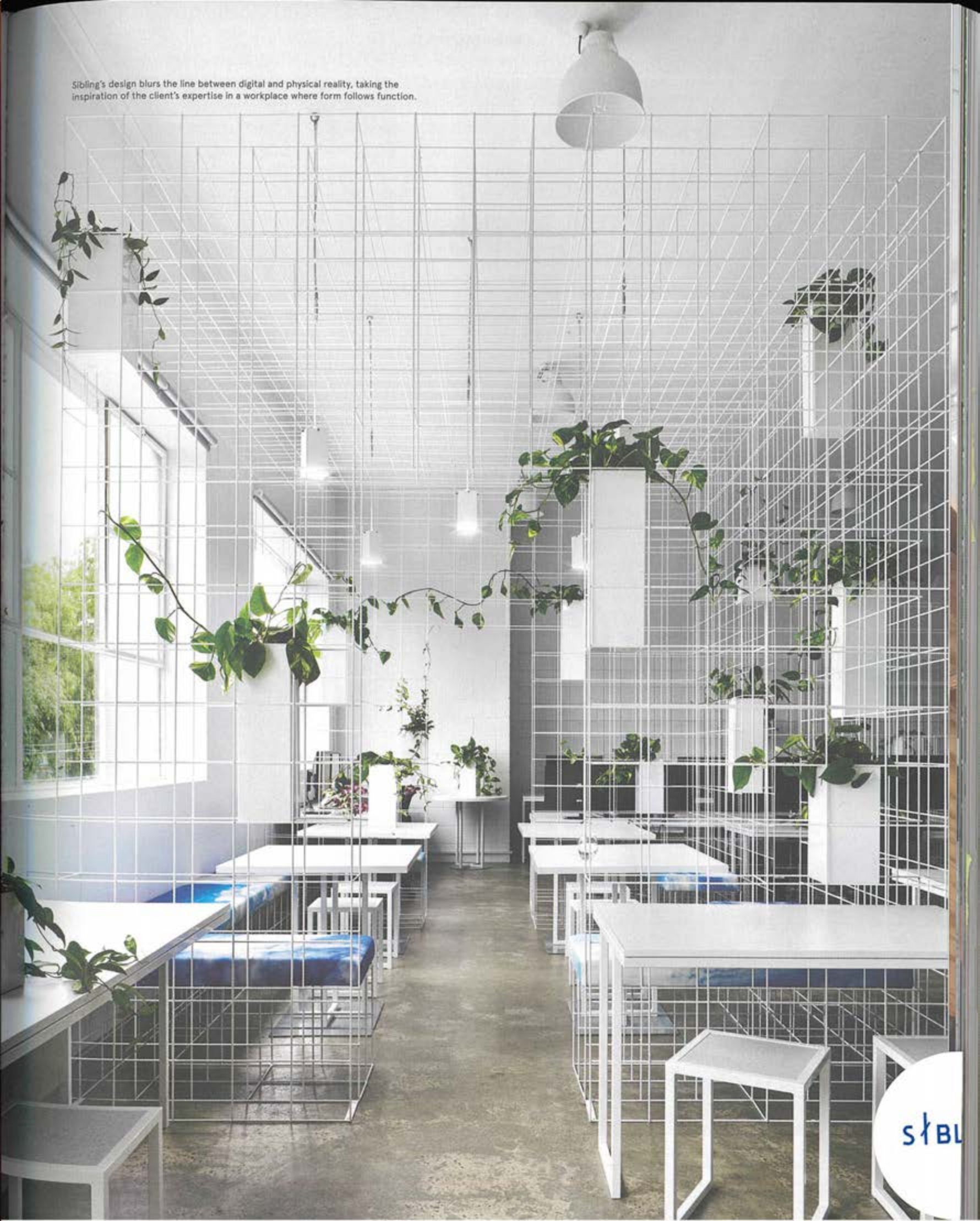
SQUINT/OPERA

Digital reality takes over **Sibling**'s office design for Squint/Opera in a grid-dominated environment for an animation and 3D modelling studio.

Sibling's design blurs the line between digital and physical reality, taking the inspiration of the client's expertise in a workplace where form follows function.

LOCATION **MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA**
TYPE **CREATIVE AGENCY** FLOOR AREA **200 M²**
ACCOMMODATES **22 EMPLOYEES** COMPLETION **2015**
CLIENT **SQUINT/OPERA** PHOTOS **CHRISTINE FRANCIS**
DESIGNER **SIBLING** (P.483)

Most creatives at the Australian HQ of film and animation studio Squint/Opera spend their time wrestling with 3D renderings in a grid. These travails were the inspiration for Sibling's design for the interior of this Melbourne office. In a *Tron*-like transformation, the wireframe space of modelling software has been translated into the physical world taking shape as a custom steel-mesh framework.

The grid serves as the infrastructure for the entire office, with workspaces nestling neatly into the matrix. Although desks are separated within the white lattice, they are all visually connected to ensure a healthy balance between private and communal work. Near the windows the grid sculpts an indoor veranda where staff can meet in a casual lounge whilst relaxing on suitably technology-inspired bitmapped bright-blue sky seating.

To give each employee the chance to add a personal touch to the otherwise uniform surroundings, each workstation can be customised with a range of specially-designed screens, hooks and containers for plants, stationary or personal belongings. Indeed, greenery forms an important element of the design: biophilia – bringing elements of the outside in – has been deliberately implemented to improve workplace satisfaction. As well as the plants inside individual working zones, larger planters containing creepers click into the grid, solidifying the space as they grow. In the main meeting room, an LED hydroponic system beams magenta light on plants – a colour chosen as it matches Squint/Opera's house style and, by sheer coincidence, it also turns out to be the ideal shade for promoting plant growth.

An LED hydroponic system emits an unexpected magenta light, the perfect hue for promoting plant growth.

A wire matrix creates corridors and sculpts seating areas to transform into a grid-like landscape.

LONG

The grid-like infrastructure has workspaces nestling neatly into the matrix