FISSURE BYWATER: AQUATIC CENTER

FALL 2015
FIFTH YEAR OPTION STUDIO

AQUATIC CENTER
BYWATER, NEW ORLEANS
LOUISIANA

Tasked with designing a multi-program site of an Aquatic Center with attached hotel + spa. Featuring public amenities such as a restaurant, retail, and daycare center. Developed a language of aggregated tubes and a fissure of skylights and respective voids that breaks the system apart.

*Partner project completed as individual
Along ‘Via Giulia’, a prominent renaissance street in Rome is a controversial void in the tight urban fabric. The site addresses three major layers of historic significance. Beneath the surface is an ancient Roman stable, above that used to be a cluster of Renaissance buildings with a small piazza before Mussolini had them demolished for a never completed road. A museum is buried within and above the site to allow for a continuous public space. The carved out lower level returns the urban void to its original geometry without simply rebuilding the fabric, while the suspended museum and residences above address the current site conditions.
MINIMIZED BUILDING GROUND PLANE FOOTPRINT TO ABOUT 5% SITE AREA
MAXIMIZED USABLE PUBLIC SPACE
VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE SITE IS PERMEABLE AND OCCUPIABLE
WAREHOUSE DISTRICT, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

For comprehensive studio, asked to design a dance academy to accommodate multiple theaters and dance studios in an infill lot. In addition to basic design requirements, all structural, mechanical, egress, fire safety was carefully thought out for the building. By utilizing the benefits of the structural system, the divided cube ‘parti’ suits the dance academy in many ways. Upper and lower level program concepts were created to maximize performance vs. school space. By having regular grids a courtyard space was subtracted from the volume above the theatre were the structural depth is already increased.
TANZAKADEMIE: New Orleans Dance Academy

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Cross SECTION C

WALL SECTION

COURTYARD
Located within a racially / socially divided community in Uptown, the New Orleans building arts institute establishes open park space for the Valence community. This space along with the institute itself will serve as a gathering place for community activities and civic engagement to promote future growth and integration of the split neighborhood. The lack of open green space in the Valence neighborhood was the driving design factor for the compact building footprint and maximum effective open space. Finally, a single programmatic band of circulation bridges the two volumes creating a dynamic visual connection throughout the building.

This strategy supports the building’s intended role within the neighborhood, located on a block dividing the nurtured region to the southwest and the neglected region to the northeast; it creates a gathering place for both regions to connect and grow. The building’s formal gesture bridges between two symbolic volumes for each side of the neighborhood.
NEIGHBORHOOD FUSION: New Orleans Building Arts Institute

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STRUCTURE AXON

LONGITUDINAL SECTION C