LOUIS ARMSTRONG MUSICIANS CENTER

The musicians center situated in near the French Quarter in downtown New Orleans is a symbol for both iconic jazz and blues musicians of the past and a means for inspiring new musicians to create their own music. The program combines temporary residences for jazz musicians traveling to New Orleans, ample practice rooms and a recording studio, and a performance lounge on the ground level to accommodate a variety of uses for its inhabitants. The Musicians Center was first and foremost inspired by the idea of rhythm in music that translated to a volumetric idea about shifting and sliding volumes. The shifted volumes encompassed various practice rooms that in turn left an outdoor courtyard in its place. The large central courtyard provides outdoor space for the residents to both perform in and spend leisurely time. Finally a dynamic shading system was created to shade and protect the building from sun.
The credit union/non-profit is situated in the CBD district of New Orleans, Louisiana. The theatrics of banking are expressed with spaces flow into one another, meeting spaces are grand and truly stimulate its inhabitants. The entire system of banking is seen as a working system. The credit union/non-profit is a expression of a new business age. This spatial expression begins with an auditorium-style cafe seating, opening up to the grand lobby space, the heart of the building shifting towards the main meeting area, and finally the non-profit area of the bank. The sequence can be described as nothing less than breathtaking.
THE RIBBON STAIR

A band of ribbon is capable of expressing grace, smoothness, and movement in complex curvilinear geometries. Here this idea of a ribbon was utilized to create theatrical and musical circulatory passage at the entrance of a dance studio. The ribbon folds, loops, and twists to create this grand entrance and upward flowing movement. The whimsical expression of the stair is further expressed through the hand rail at its ends, providing enclosure and a sense of movement through space. One feels as if they are amidst a choreographed orchestra of circulatory passage.