THE INTEGRATED STUDIO | THE BALLET STUDIO

It is the belief of this studio that building infrastructure not only informs the architectural process but actually inspires it and that a rich architectural strategy can be derived from ideas of structure and infrastructure. The tangible can inform the intangible. This is an integrated design studio that merges the conceptual rigors and the technical parameters of architecture. The exploration of the architectural idea and strategy will be approached in parallel with research into technical components such the structure and the systems that allow buildings to perform. The application of passive and natural systems will also be a critical component of the studio.

It is our hope that taking on a very specific typology of building in a city that is new to the studio will generate a very rigorous process into research and development. Add to that the complexities of structure and infrastructure and environmental systems and there is no shortage of inspiration. This studio aims to reach for that elegant fusion of where architecture thrives as both a conceptual idea (one that exists beyond the physical or even after the building is gone) and a living reality where spatial and phenomenological qualities are heightened for the human experience.

The end result will be an elegant synthesis of the various components of building (structure, assembly, environmental systems, building envelope, etc.) into a holistic project that considers the realities and influences of the site and the program. The project size and scope will be one that is moderate in scale and semi-urban. This allows the studio to tackle all the issues above in depth within a scale that is reasonable.

The Process the studio will undertake shall follow the guidelines below:

01 Precedent Studies that focus on the building Program that is similar to the proposed project.
02 Precedent Studies that focus on building Structures and Assemblies that are similar to the proposed project scale.
03 An extensive research into the Site and Context (physical, socioeconomic, cultural, historical, etc.) of the project location.
The composition of an Architectural Strategy that synthesizes the conceptual and technical nature of the project by way of the analysis and research conducted above.

Production of the drawings, models, renderings, and diagrams that articulate the architectural Project in its most conceptual form and its most technical form. The two are not exclusive in this case.

The studio will operate like a small practice where collaboration and some group work is part of the process.

The studio will be directed and lead by the partners of FAR+DANG with support from all members of the office. In total, the students will have interaction with a total of five instructors.

The Program for the project will be a ballet studio with the major rehearsal spaces and its various support spaces.

The Site will be at a very unique location that straddles the border of downtown Dallas and the Deep Ellum district at 2600 Main Street, Dallas, Texas. The site is surrounded by a rich variety of low-rise retail and commercial to the east and a busy highway to the west with downtown beyond. Deep Ellum is experiencing a revival of sorts so this is an exciting time to introduce a cultural intervention.

The Site

The FAR+DANG Team