Learning Places Fall 2016
Chin/Swift

**FINAL REPORT**



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**DESCRIPTION**

This assignment asks students to investigate, describe, analyze and theorize the relationships between the architecture of public places and performance. In this course, we define “performance” broadly: any act (movement, transaction, repetition, ritual) by a person, object, or technological phenomenon that attracts and engages an audience. How does the organization and design of the public space shape, restrict, influence, and/or inspire the choreography of a performance? Conversely, how do theatrical acts modify, inform, highlight and/or obscure designed spaces and architectures? Based on these relationships, what conclusions about the community and social relationships can be made? In other words, describe the relationships between public performance space and the urban fabric of our city.

Option 1: HISTORY. How does the cultural/ social/ political environment affect the nature of performance and design of a particular time and history in New York City neighborhood. In small groups, you will conceive of and develop a research project related to a historical time period and topic.

Option 2- Based on the information gathered throughout the semester the student is to choose a particular place, theater or public area where they witnessed a performance. The student is to research this place in further depth and discuss the relationship between the space and performance. Based on their research and site observation reports the student should analyze their findings and determine the how the space influenced the performance, how the performance affected the space and what the relationship of the space was to the rest of the city.

CONSIDERATIONS

The student should consider:

* The historical development of the space or performance should be researched. Did one inform the development of the other?
* Quantitative data collected in the site observation reports. Do any of these metrics affect what is being performed? How it is being performed?

**DELIVERABLES**

Each group will collectively determine the form that their project will take and will develop a list of deliverables that they will produce. Deliverables will be made in two forms: presentational and in writing. The presentation (using Prezi) must be 10 minutes in length and will include visual, aural, and object aids. The written report (4 pages, double spaced) will discuss the process of research (data collection) and analysis (interpretation of data), and will also make conclusions about the usefulness of the project.

In this project, each group will:

* consider the purpose and audience of their project
* develop project deliverables that reflect the audience and purpose of their project
* incorporate research from primary and secondary sources and appropriately cite sources
* demonstrate an understanding information design principles and compositional modes
* articulate research findings through writing and visual documentation