

THE  
NEW  
SCHOOL

PARSONS

OUTSIDE IN | INSIDE OUT

PARSONS: LIGHT SPACE ART

CONCEPT DERIVATION

INSTALLATION 1: FOCAL POINT

PROCESS

IMPLEMENTATION | ASSEMBLY

INSTALLATION 2: URBAN CONTINUUM

PROCESS

IMPLEMENTATION | ASSEMBLY



The Light Space Art elective includes students from multiple disciplines and schools across Parsons School of Design where phenomenal relationships between light, material, and space are explored along with the effects these dynamically shifting forces have on human perception. Empirical experiments are conducted through physical constructs so that the students experience first-hand human perceptual responses. Many of the spatial, theoretical and material experiments conducted early in the semester converged in the final installation. Response to the unique site attributes, light relationships and conceptual intent were considered in relation to the physicality of the work and construction details.

OUTSIDE IN | INSIDE OUT is a temporary art installation created by students in the Light Space Art elective at Parsons School of Design. Two material-based installations were created to compare how different approaches to reflection, angle of view and color saturation may perceptually displace or alter the viewer's ability to perceive reality between interior and exterior.

“I was interested in how we engage the world. How do we use our skin as our eyes? If you read a cityscape or a landscape with just your mind, and not your body, it becomes like a picture or representation, not something you really engage with.”

-Olafur Eliasson



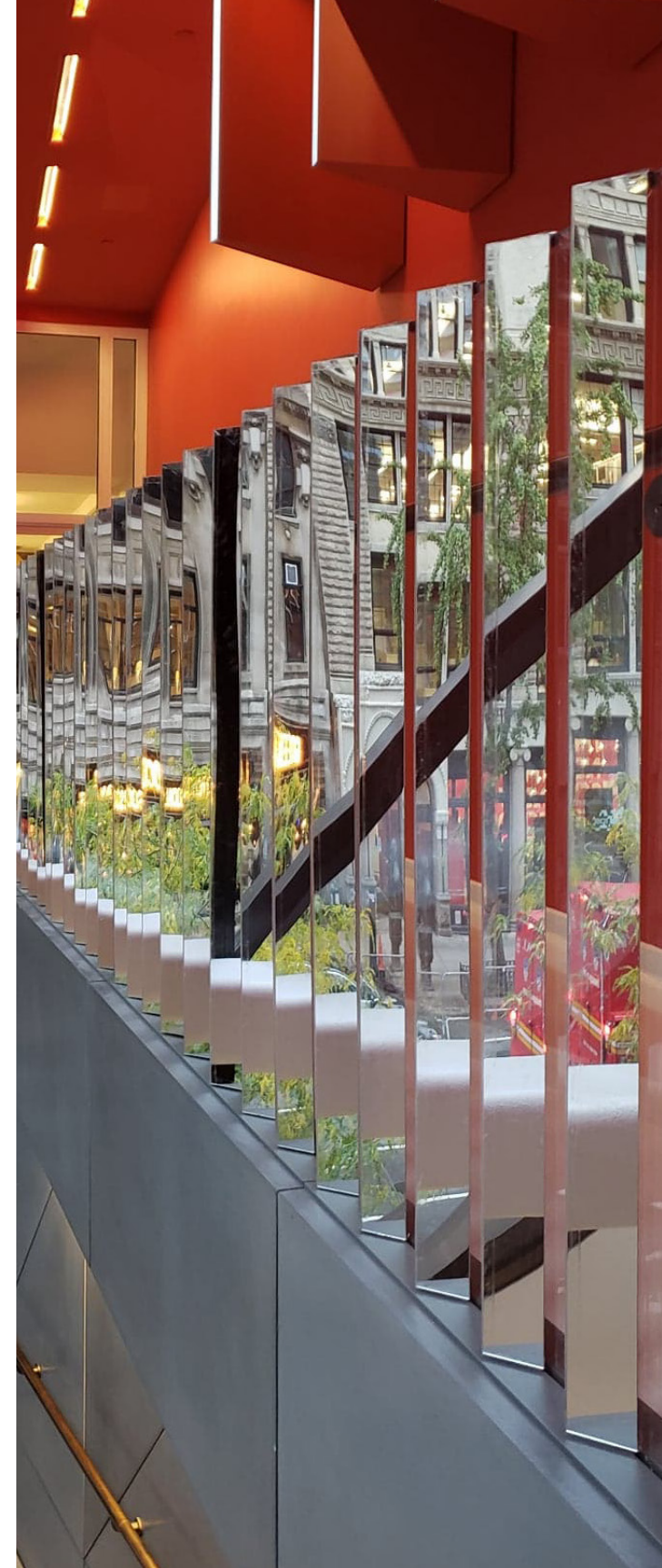


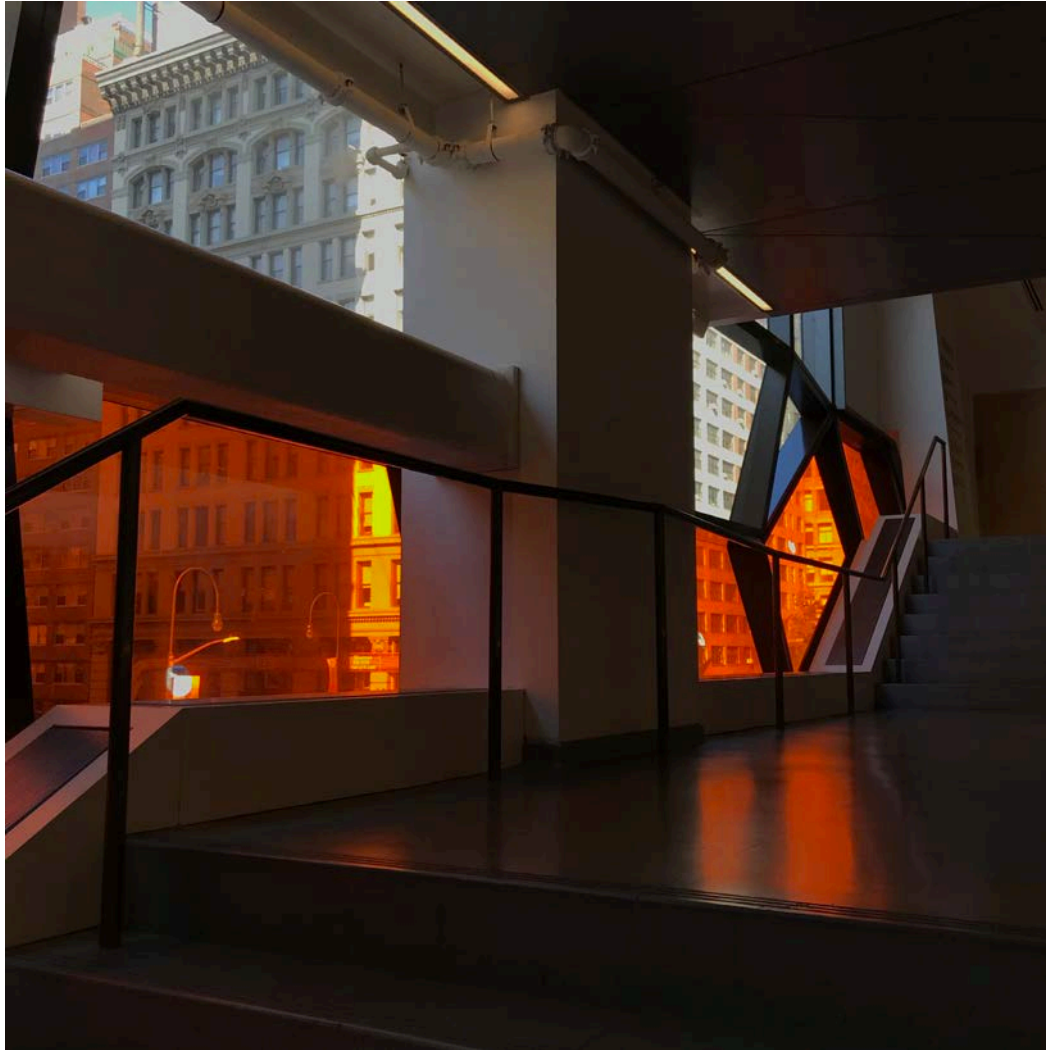
We landed on the experiential interest of obscuring the view between interior/exterior as a means to displace or recontextualize the perceived reality between the two. From a spatial standpoint, this involved the insertion of an intervention at the building facade, manipulating the views between interior and exterior at our stairway.



Two interventions were installed with interest to question, or perhaps, compare multiple approaches to a common theme. In both cases a single material is applied to a normalized condition.

The material presence intentionally teeters between drawing attention to itself as alien to the space while simultaneously blending into the local circumstances. This visual tension was a key consideration to our exploration as this subjective interpretation affects significantly the identity of the intervention and to what degree it is common to or foreign from the original site context.





The eye is drawn to the circular aperture where a clear view of the street scene beyond is obtained. The orange color saturation that occupies the broader field-view disrupts the eyes ability to see the complete scene in constant focus. As a result, the viewer is left with a clear view myopically through the focal point only.

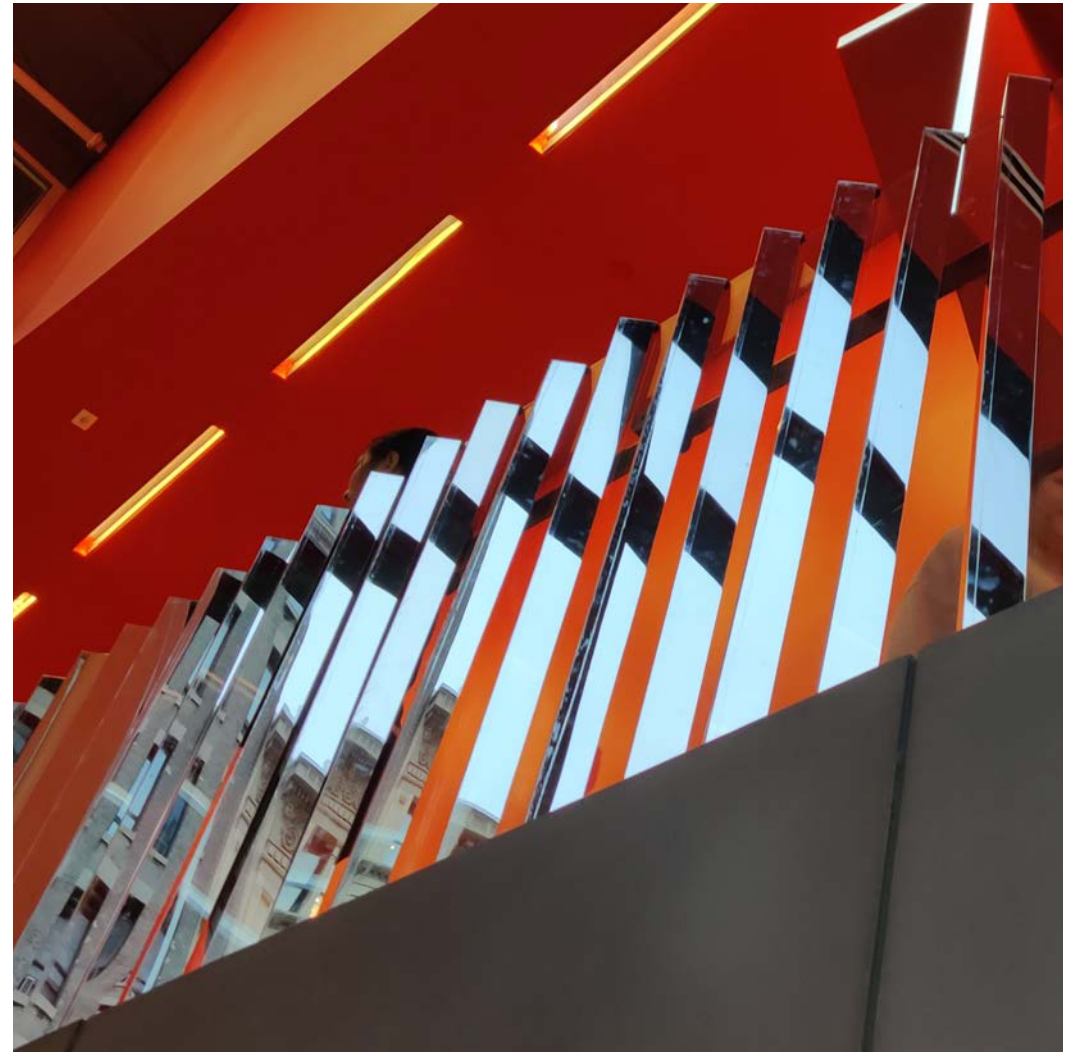
“With no object no image and no focus, what are you looking at? You are looking at you looking.”

-James Turrell

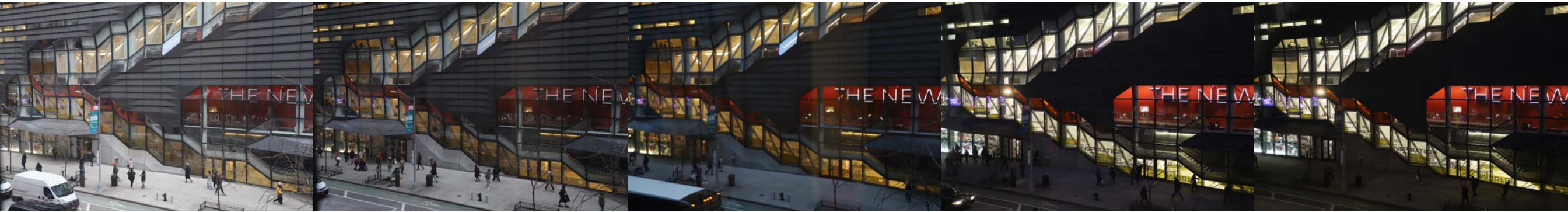


“To be an artist is not a matter of making paintings or objects at all. What we are really dealing with is our state of consciousness and the shape of our perceptions.”

-Robert Irwin



Mirror prisms are situated on a transparent, reflective glass partition, disrupting reflected distant view of exterior urban activity against the immediate proximity of stair circulation. The angle of the mirrored prisms cut the normal reflected view into linear pixels and heighten the clarity of the reflected street scene. The thin linear strips of interior and exterior reflected activity are flattened and blended into a continuum of textured movement.







Students were exposed to a variety of artists whose work utilizes light and spatial relationships as a means to activate or alter the viewer's perception. This research included a field trip to Dia Beacon which allowed us to experience selected works on a direct, personal, multi-sensorial level.

These personal body experiences proved to be essential to our education as they not only extended our understanding of the artist's intent but galvanized a heightened awareness of how works based in sensory perception directly affect the observer. We learned that personal experience is the only means through which one can fully comprehend the true value of such works.



We applied what we studied at Dia Beacon to our day-to-day lives, by observing subtle nuances of light in common spaces. Critically studying the relationship between light and space, exposed us to the mechanisms and techniques artists use to create sensory illusions to the eye. These techniques and illusions, were the foundation to how our class began to prototype OUTSIDE IN | INSIDE OUT.

Our early experiments began with individual moquettes of light and material assemblies. From here we ascertained common themes and converged these crude sketch studies into multiple group developed explorations until we landed on a single theme.



**FOCAL POINT**  
FACADE FENESTRATION





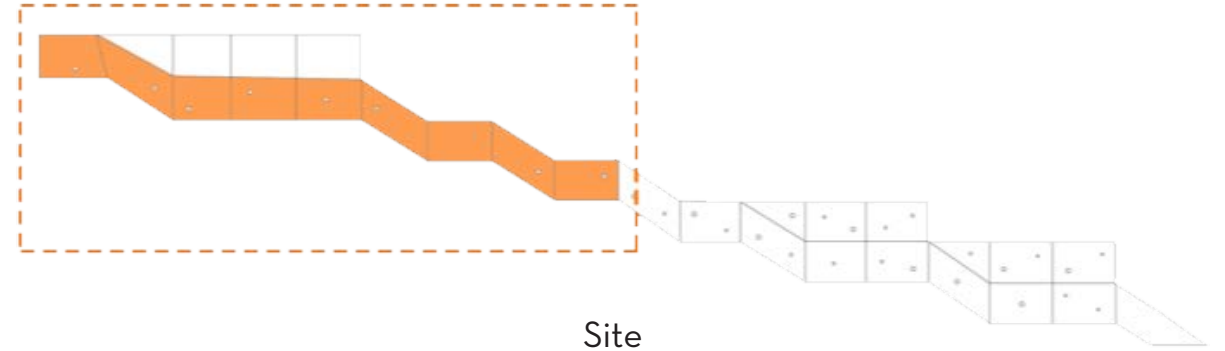


EENWICH SOCIAL





Concept



Site



Phenomena



Execution





PERFORMIX HOUSE

12,000 SF

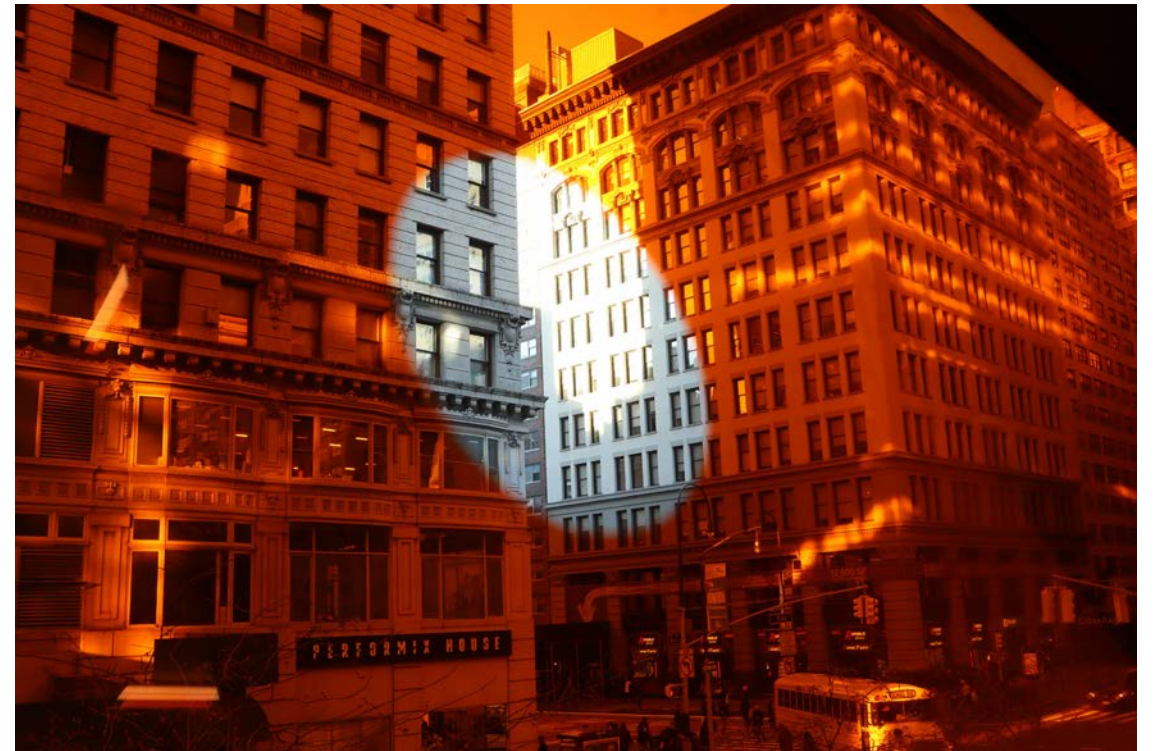
COMPASS





Installation Day











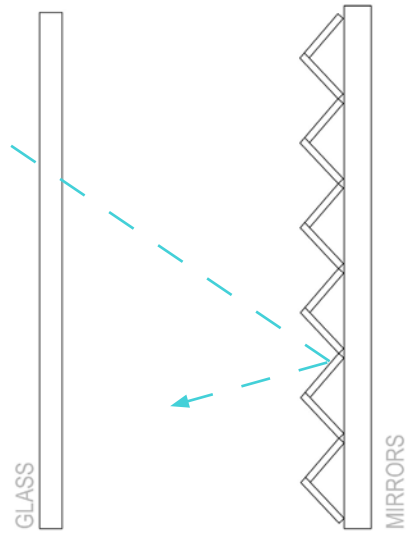
**URBAN CONTINUUM**  
FACADE STAIRWAY GUARDRAIL











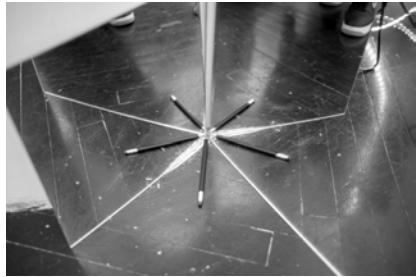
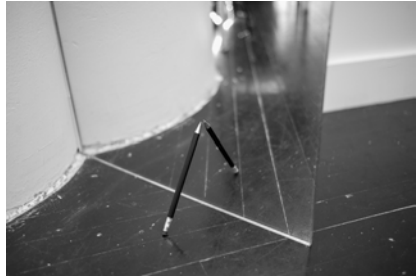
Concept



Phenomena







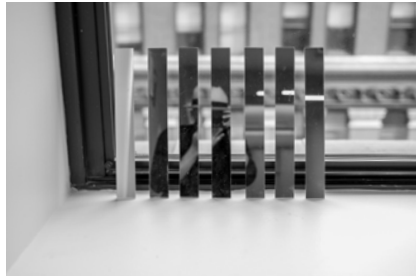
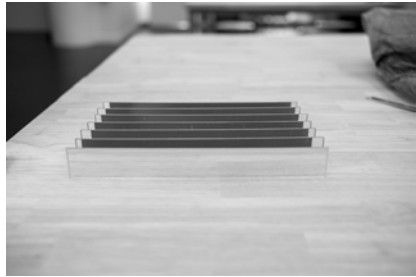
Conceptual Explorations

Contextualizing Phenomena





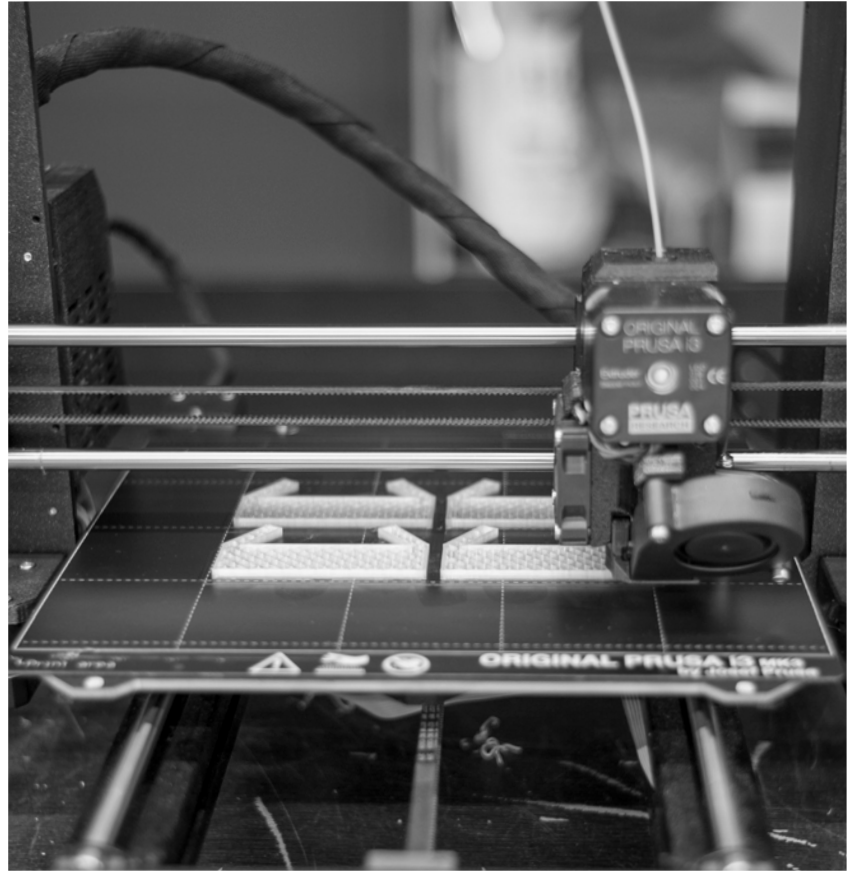




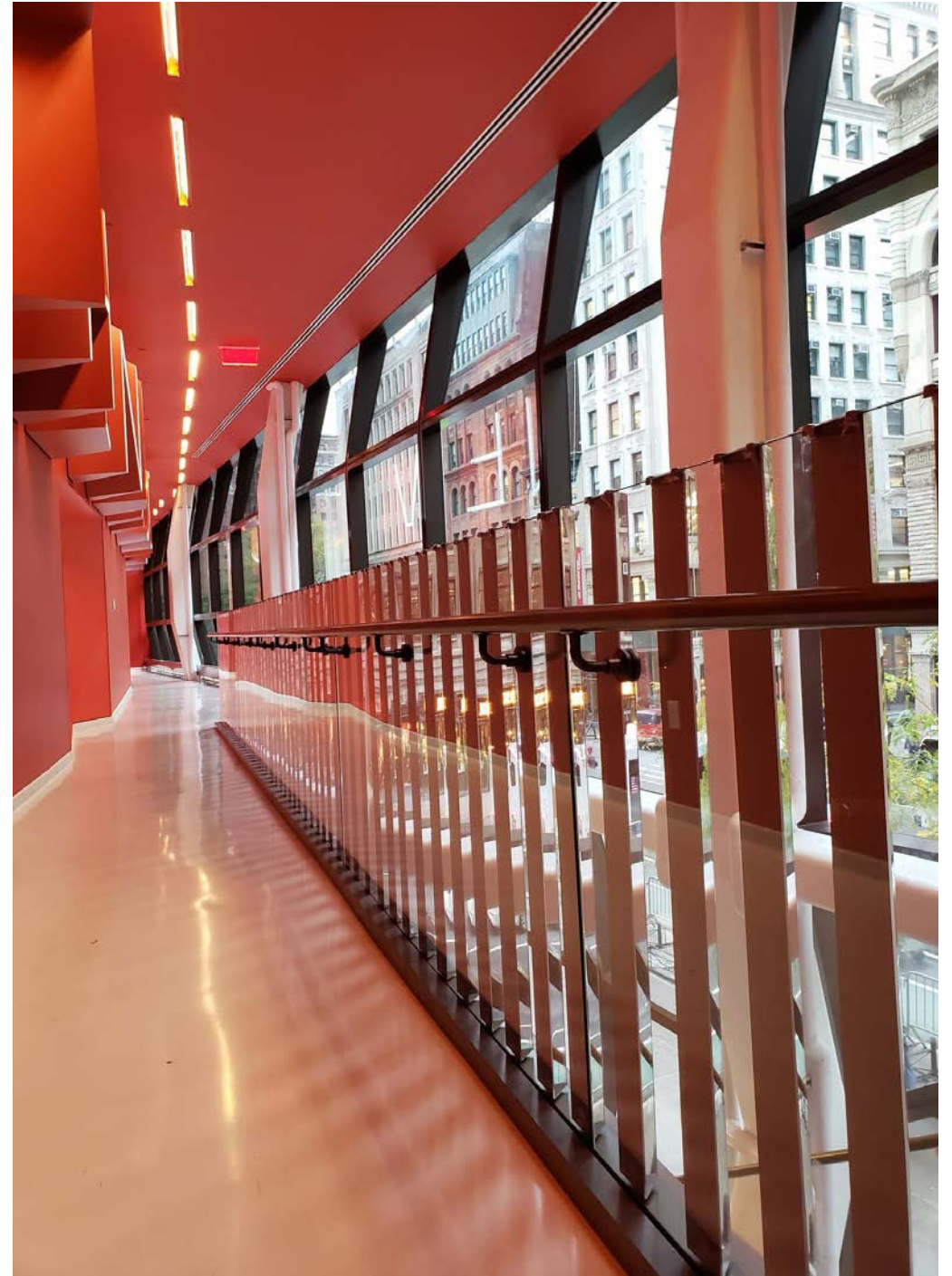
Defining Architectural Form



Designing Structure









Creating the Module

Installation Day









Our class worked diligently to create OUTSIDE IN | INSIDE OUT and in the end, the Light Space Art Class of 2019 grew as artists and designers by better understanding not only the conceptual and theoretical factors that affect spatial dynamics and human perception, but also how planning, detailing, budgeting, production and post-production are all involved in the process of creating a large-scale installation.





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Industry Partners:  
Designers Lighting Forum of New York  
New York Digital  
Osram  
Q-Tran  
Velux  
XAL

Design Partners:  
Atelier Ten  
Available Light  
Focus Lighting  
Horton Lees Brogden  
Illumination Arts  
One Lux Studio  
The Lighting Practice  
Tillotson Design Associates

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Trinetra Manickavasagam | MFA Lighting Design  
Jazsaly McNeil | MFA Design and Technology  
Zaib Momin | Masters in Architecture  
Eve Nova | BFA Integrated Design and BA Culture & Media  
Ayla Shalhoub | MFA Lighting Design  
Manisha Van Ecka | MFA Lighting Design  
Shi Yan (Rock) | MFA Interior Design and Lighting Design



