Architecture 484/584  
MWF 1-5  
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Students will choose between two different sites associated with two different genres of music. The sites and the nature of their aesthetic contents will differ; the program of spaces, the complexity of design and the technical issues will be the same. Both programs will be located on sites that contain existing large empty stone structures to be reused; both will require a new, adjacent freestanding building of associated services.

Option 1  
A Music School and Performance Space in the Church of San Lorenzo, Venice

There has been a church on the site of San Lorenzo in Venice since the sixth century, but the present church dates only from the 16th. It is an unoccupied shell today, its interior furnishings gone along with the floor, which has been removed for archeological explorations. The studio program is for a music school and performance space, but one specific to Venetian music. Given the eccentric layout and acoustic problems of the typical Venetian church, composers such as Monteverdi developed an appropriate style of music, using long reverberation times and an arrangement called Cora Spezzato-split choir. The design will need to literally float in the space to allow the archeological excavation to continue. The campo in front of the church although one of the largest in Venice, is one of the least used, and could be included in the design.

Option 2  
The Reconstruction of Pilgrim Baptist Church, Chicago

In south Chicago, several blocks from the Mies and Koolhaas buildings of IIT, are the ruins of the Kehilath Anshe Ma'ariv Synagogue, built in 1891 by Alder and Sullivan. While it was one of Louis Sullivan’s major non-skyscraper commissions, its real importance to American art was arguably during the residency of the building’s second occupant, the Pilgrim Baptist Church, who bought the synagogue in 1922. Under the leadership of the Reverend Tommy Dorsey, it became what some call “the birthplace of Black Gospel Music.” Aretha Franklin, James Cleveland, the Staple Singers and Mahalia Jackson are only some of the many artists who performed there often. The church burned in 2006, leaving only the stone exterior shell, and efforts are underway to restore the church and build a new school wing adjacent. The intent of the client is to recreate as accurately as possible the old Alder and Sullivan building. The intent of the studio is to explore an alternative I think Sullivan would have been more sympathetic to, putting a new, contemporary structure inside the old.