The site will be in one of four districts of London:

- is an architecturally complex building with public spaces, work spaces, and a main performance space with the need for technical solutions
- engages cultural and economic issues of artistic production in the city
- deals with the role of architecture in supporting urban production and social inclusion
- deals with local urban design issues of public spaces
- will emphasize the role of materials and construction in furthering project ideas

The site will be on one of four districts of London:

- between 40,000 and 60,000 square feet.
- This will allow for two community square.
- Underground station; or Dalston, adjacent to a new Whitechapel; Islington, near the Highbury-Islington Peckham, near the Will Alsop-designed Peckham Library;

Each program will be developed to include roughly between 40,000 and 60,000 square feet. This will allow for two desired characteristics of the terminal studio: architectural complexity and a wide variety of program spaces on the one hand, and the ability to thoroughly develop the project and its parts, on the other.

Students will develop individual theses and programs during the fall seminar, within this overall theme. The seminar will include programming, thesis development, precedent studies and investigations of performance and its architectural implications.

An important result of the seminar is the ability to "hit the ground running" with the studio itself, allowing for intensive design investigations of the building itself from the very beginning.

The design of the project will begin on the first day of winter term, moving through two complete design cycles toward schematic resolution of the project by March. Spring term will be devoted to the development of important spaces, the technical/ material/detail attributes of the project as a whole, and a detailed area/topic of the student's choice.

An optional trip to London during winter or spring break will allow for a detailed investigation of the chosen site(s), for visits to performances and contemporary and historic performance venues, and to experience the architecture and cultural diversity of this great city.

The development of the building will be conducted in a way that reinforces the intentions of the building and the designer. In this way, the ideal of the terminal studio being a comprehensive design will be done in the context of a strong and engaged theoretical investigation. The seminar and studio together combine the features of a thesis studio, in which students take responsibility for the definition of their own project, and a studio with a common program, allowing students to have a platform for the sharing of substantive issues with respect to the project.

A critical aspect of this project will be how the project is woven into the larger context. Even though the building will only occupy one site within the district, the intention is that the building be stitched into the larger fabric of the district and city—contribute to urban life and gaining life from the city in return.

The studio will be intense and cooperative, with regular pinups and the expectation of accountability to strongly articulated intentions as well as to the goal of furthering our understanding of the city of the twenty-first century and how art and production fits into it. Speculative, future-oriented solutions will be encouraged. But at the same time "traditional" ideas about urban buildings and urban life will not be discouraged—what we need is critical thinking, wherever it comes from and wherever it leads.