



Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

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Studio Statement, Gauthier

#### VALUE MATRIX

Architectural values are set by the overlapping heterarchies of different constituents that are regulatory, financially, communally, environmentally, and structurally determined. Like a network that becomes increasingly fluid and smooth as the number of components increase, a building's value evolves, and even becomes quantifiable, as its network and use are parsed into smaller units of measure

#### MINUTE BY MINUTE

In a post-digital world, technology is our world. This virtual life has created a standard of cheap accessibility – viewing an event, a newscast, a sports highlight, is ready and easy. While authenticity has always been prized, in our post-digital world, it takes on a new standard: that of the actual. Silicon Valley's *"20-minute rule"* illustrates that even digital culture is local and event based. The ease of face-to-face contact eliminates some degree of uncertainty.

#### CITY OF THE FUTURE

In the future, public space is vertical. The immediacy and democracy of the street, expressed through a fast-adapting, diverse population, fluid trend cycles and more intricate layers of economic access, will expand upward into both existing and new infrastructure.

#### PRESERVATION

Historically, New York's growth has been sustained and accelerated by density-supporting networks. Manhattan's centrality and concentration is what makes it unique among large cities; this characteristic is enhanced by new urban engineering, supporting new layers of livable density.

#### DENSITY

Expanding current infrastructures enables lateral sprawl. Alternatively, a network of vertical systems supporting movement and habitation will enable New York to evolve into, rather than be replaced by, a global metropolis.

#### NETWORK SCHEDULES

Networks, like streets, are understood and resolved at intersections, bumps and conflict points. The sophisticated algorithms that have resulted to measure these known and intuitive points and operations and that drive these schedules are both objects and in flux, thereby reducing the management and increasing the ease with which time is organized. Perhaps more significantly, these algorithms have established a value for segments of time, as an armature for living or as the understood structure of extended and collective effort.

#### CITY OF CO-MINGLING

Consider Liz Grosz's take on the Thing *"to liberate matter from the constraint and the practicality of the thing, to orient technology not so much to knowing and mediating as to experience the rich indeterminacy of duration."* Architecture is scheduled and structured, liquid and performative; it is choreographed and stochastic. It shares with network culture the street's resistance and the complex system of connections, pathways, nodes, and intersections.

#### NETWORKED CITIES AND TEMPORAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Ultimately, we will occupy cities by the minute creating a temporal value system of networked spaces. The mechanized, built, stable objects of a city in a networked culture simultaneously retain their architectural and spatial value but that value is now part of a networked market of time, location, availability, desire. While this may seem theoretically within grasp, the question remains: what is the space of a scheduled minute by minute city?

#### SITE

Our site is located at 131<sup>st</sup> Street. As we analyze the city as a radical phenomenon, is there a project of providing meaning via the aggregate phenomena proposed by the housing (units, circulation, program, subsidies, material, construction methods, and zoning questions) project? The organization of fragments, both present and proposed, are familiar phenomena in studio, where projects, precedent studies, programs or materials take on meaning made present by the relative structural relationships between the objects of the city. Our studio is an a-conceptual project; one that asks for the intuitive, responsive, and observed to be a design operation.