studio for dance

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### studio for dance

A dance studio is a common term for a space where dancing is exercised. Many types of dance have similar requirements and they often benefit from a common space. This diploma project, however, investigates the architectural relationship between the differences of three dance-specific studios:

A studio for choreography
A studio for partners
A studio for independent

[PERFORMANCE]

[PARTNER]

[VERNACULAR]

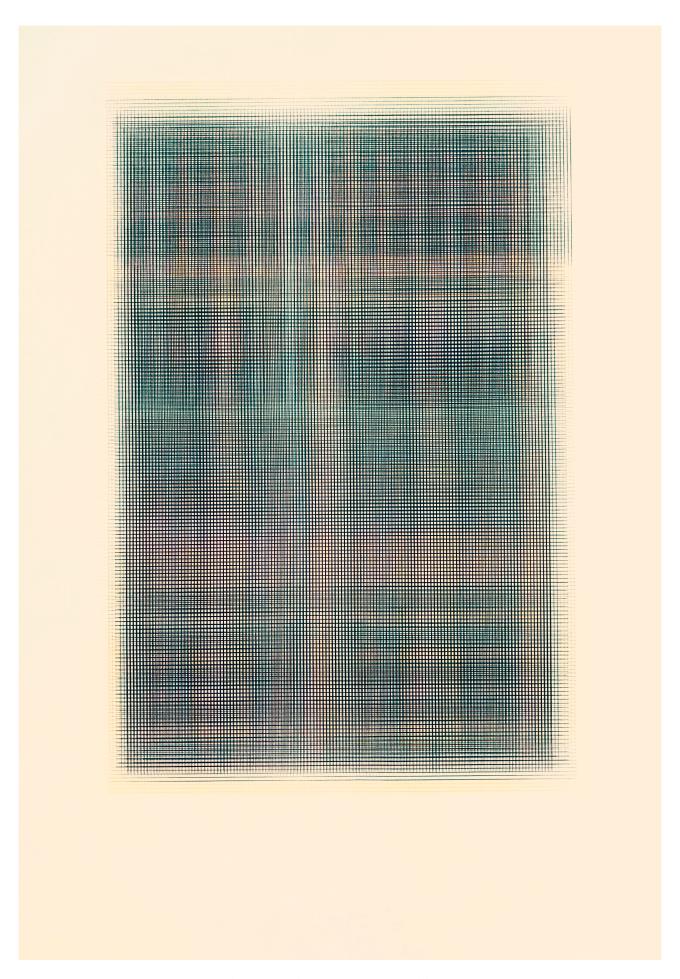
Through analyzing, interpreting and attempting to understand these categories of dance, this project aims to produce an autonomous architectural response in construction, material and space, informed by the distinct qualities of these different ways of dancing.



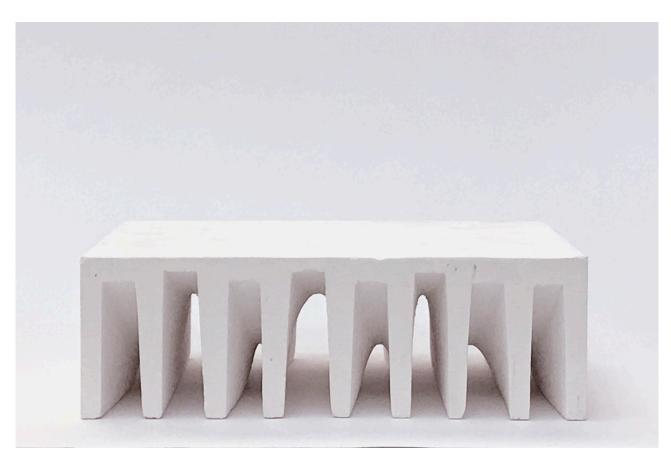


form studies of contemporary dance

A series of interpretations of dance as models and drawings.



interpretation of the trem "position"



model 1 : "movement"

THOUGH 2. MOVEMENT.

model 2 : "movement"



drawing 1 : "scale"



drawing 2 : "scale"

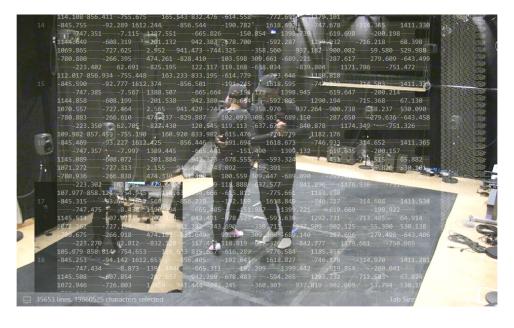
As a complementary approach to the interpretation exercise, I wished to also produce an objective analysis of dance. During my research on dance theory, I found interest in Rudolf Laban's movement studies and dance notation system. These studies led me to the idea of investigating dance movements.

The department of Musicology at the university of Oslo allowed me to borrow their motion capture laboratory for this purpose.

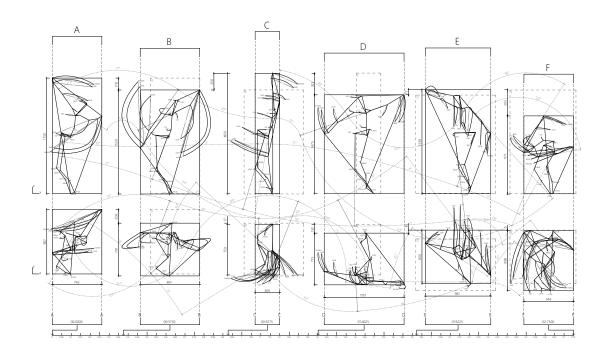
The data from these recordings were used to create two different sets of drawings and animations for each associated dance in my diploma program. This technology records data of points moving in space, and thus isolates a dance sequence to pure movement. The final outcome of this exercise is a study of dance movement in plan and elevation for the sake of comparing the different dances.

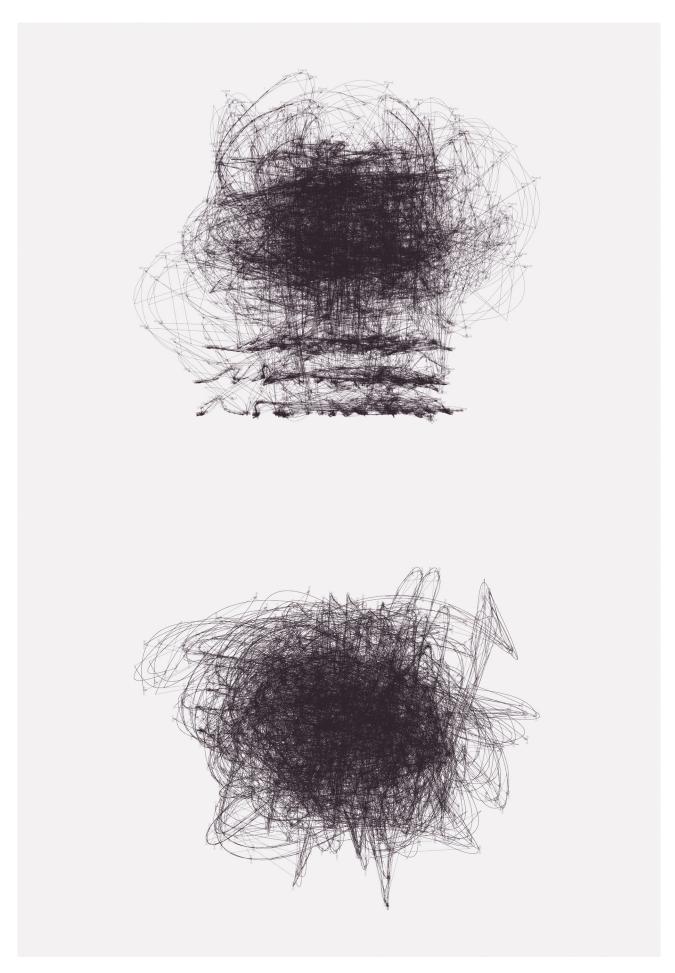




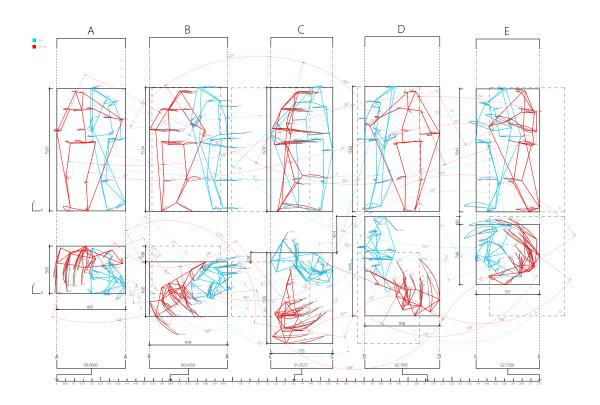


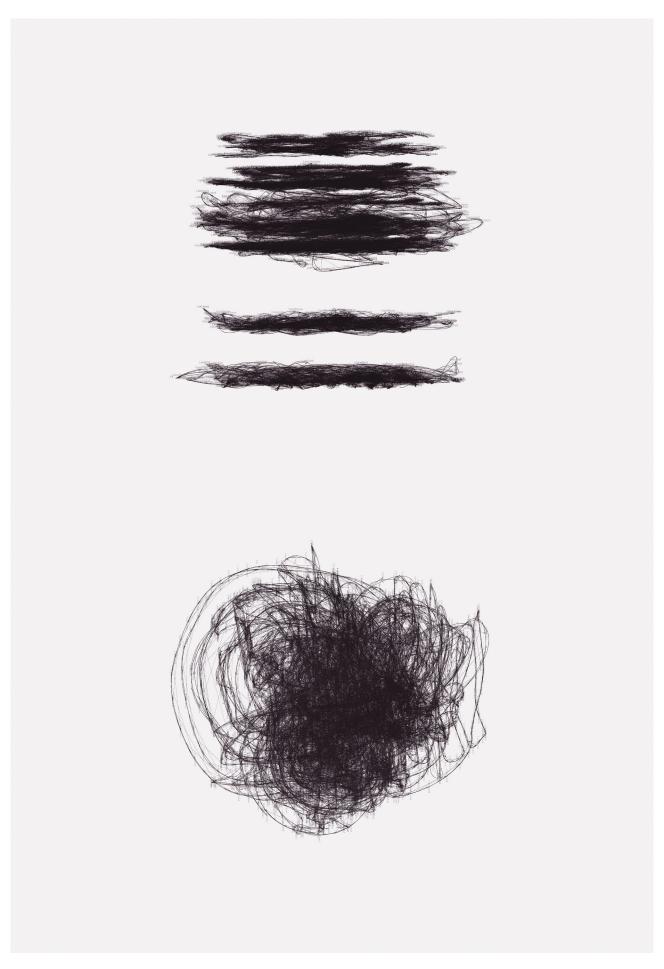
Recording dance movements in the motion capture labratory at Blindern





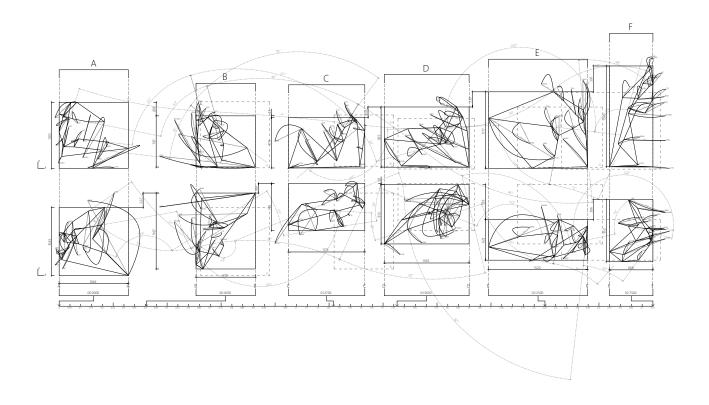
30 seconds of dance compressed into one frame. top: elevation bottom: plan

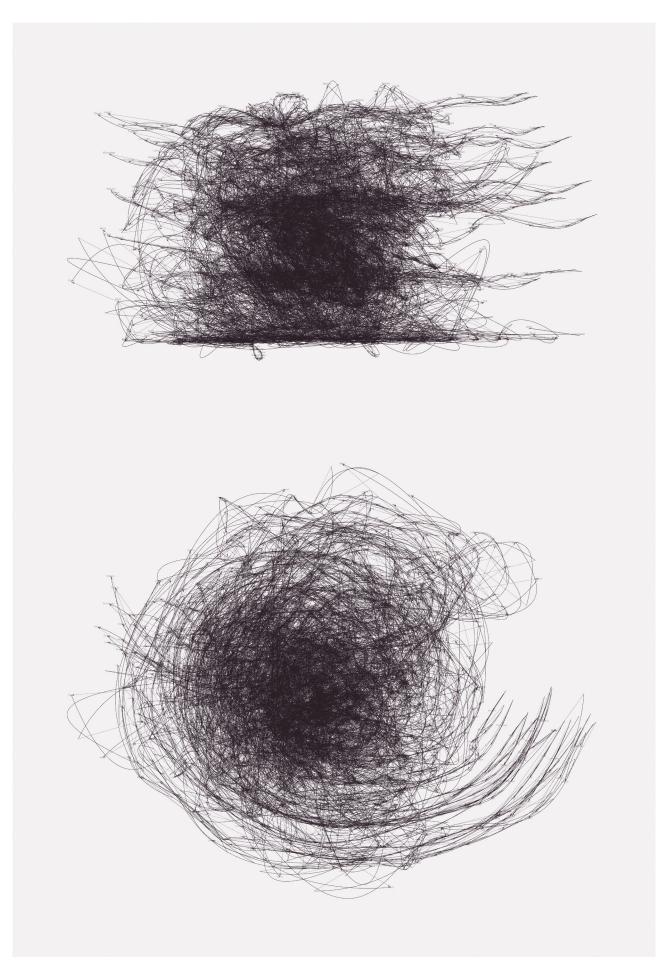




30 seconds of dance compressed into one frame. top: elevation bottom: plan

#### vernacular





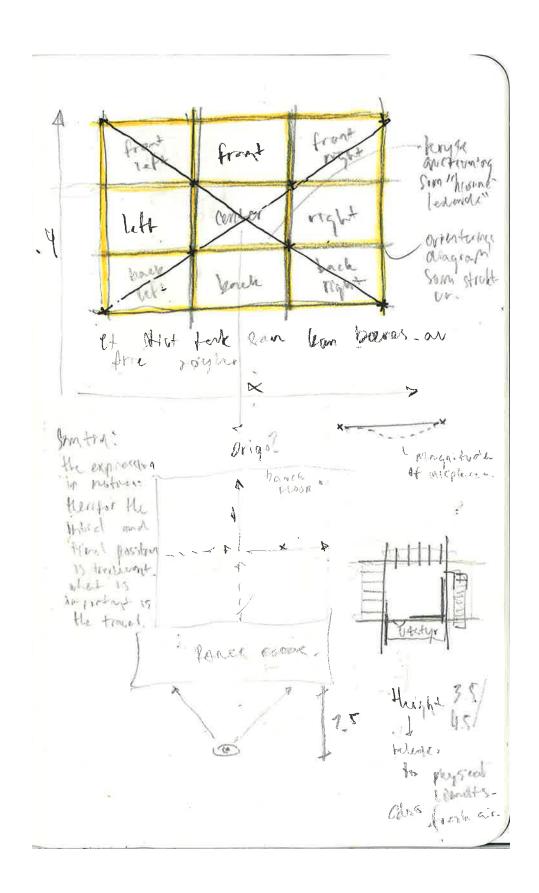
30 seconds of dance compressed into one frame. top: elevation bottom: plan

# studio performance

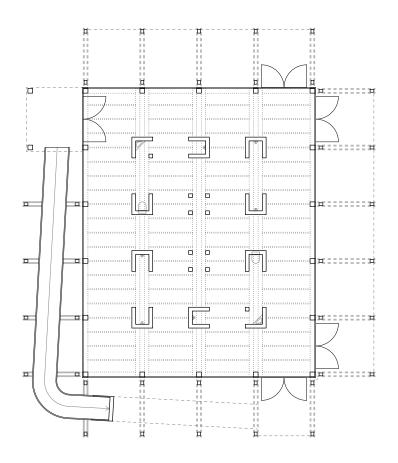
Performance represents a category of dance which is primarily practiced towards the purpose of preforming for an audience on a stage. A performance does neither require or limit a specific number of dancers and can therefore be practiced alone or as a group. The choreograph is a key figure in the act of creating all dance productions.

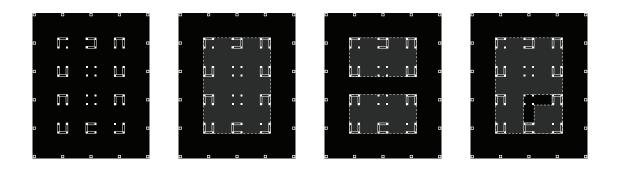
The most characteristic aspect of this category of dance is its relationship to composition and positioning. The dancers coordinate position relatively to the space and to each other. In order to orientate effectively in a space, I have considered the corners and structure as important functions in the space. The structural grid subdivides the room into 20 squares at 3 by 3 meters, one for each dancer, serving as a system for coordination for the dancers. The roof spans 15 by 12 meters creating a rectangular floor plan suggesting two main orientations for a dance choreography.

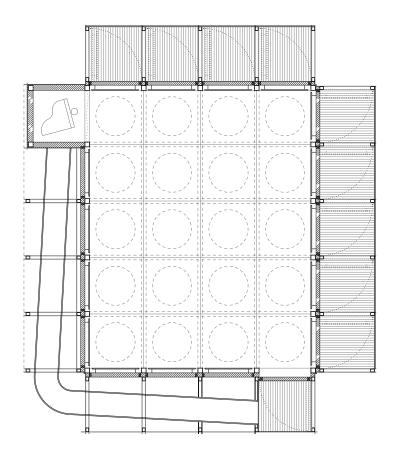
You can enter the building at the ground floor from multiple sides suggesting that the dancers come from different places and meet at practice. The entrances lead into an open space with walls that lift the dance floor above with an exposed sprung floor construction as the ceiling. The walls contain the necessary wardrobe functions. Curtains between the walls are used to customize the wardrobe distribution to provide a flexible plan based on the indefinite ratio of male or female dancers at practice.

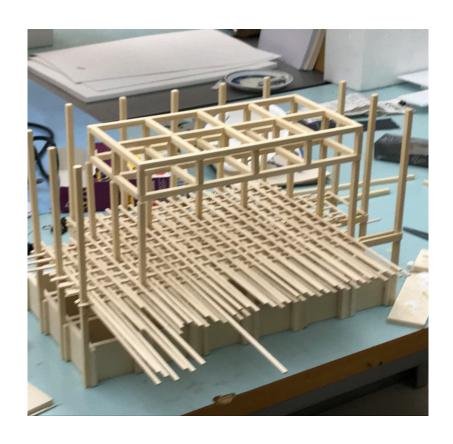


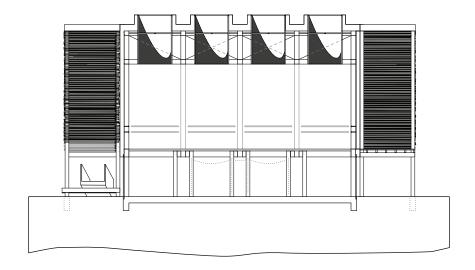
sketch

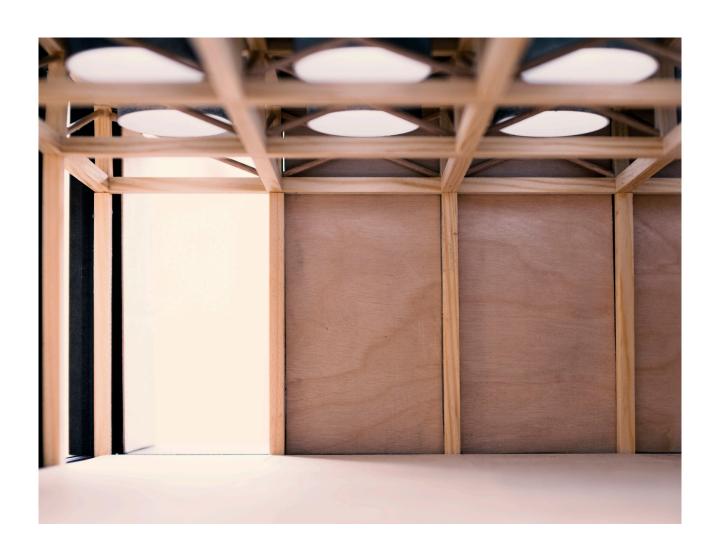


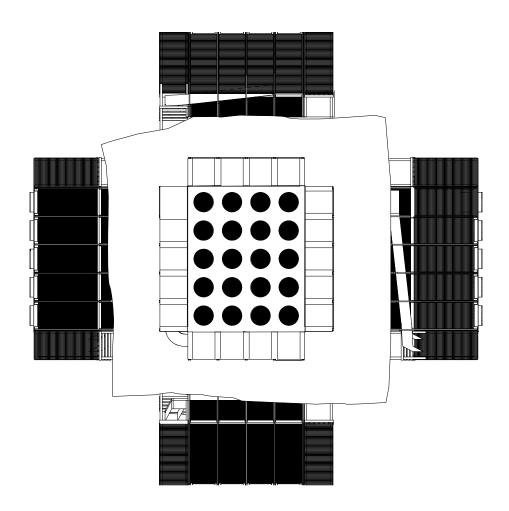


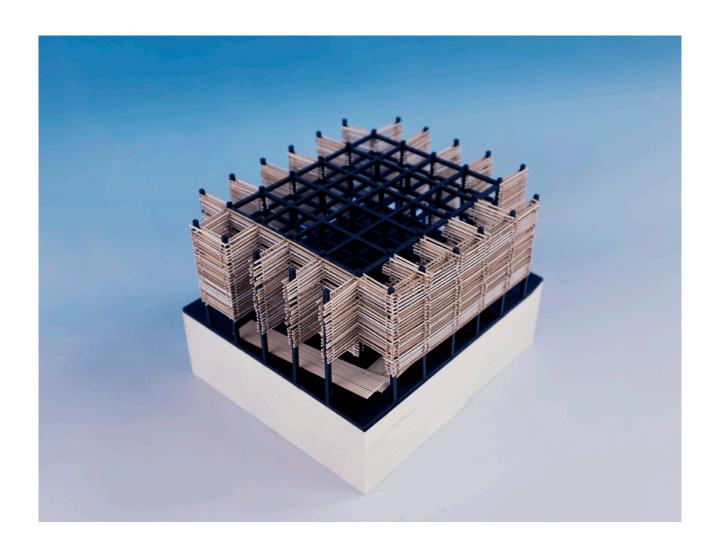


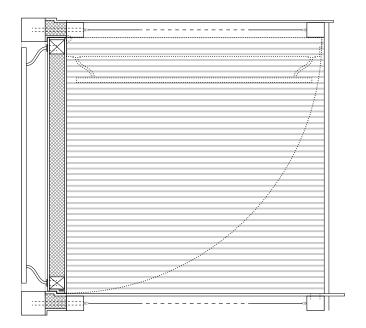












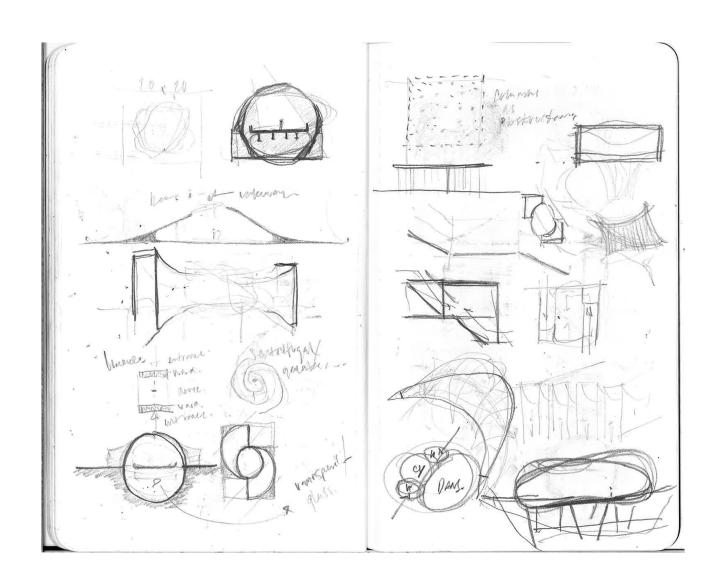


## studio partners

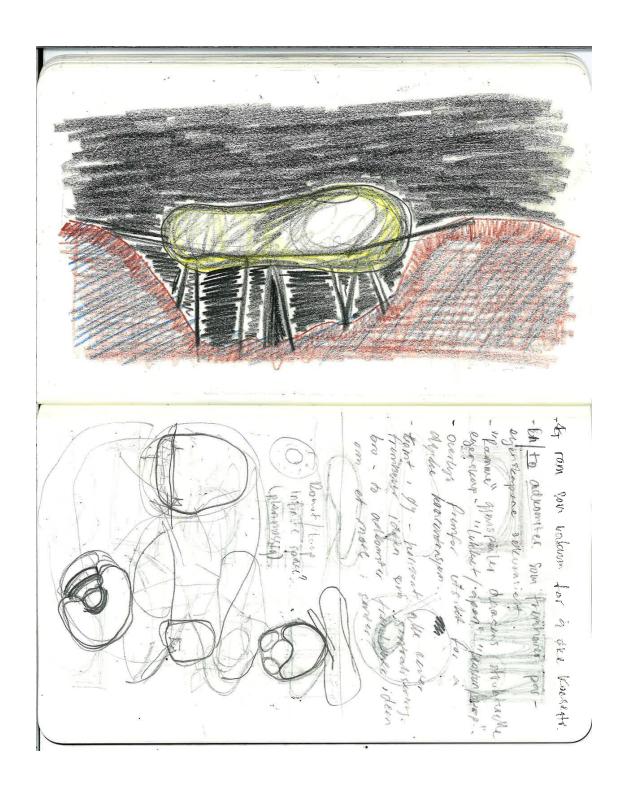
Partner dances are dances that concentrate on the connection and coordination between two individuals or partners, often in a combination of male (as leader) and female (as follower) in a certain choreography. The connection between the partners can vary from being loose and intimate, but as a rule they must maintain a connection with each other.

My proposal for a partner dancing studio consists of a translucent pneumatic construction producing the shape of a toroid. This space is circular in plan and section and removes spatial orientation and references, focusing attention between partners dancing to emphasize the qualities of partner dancing.

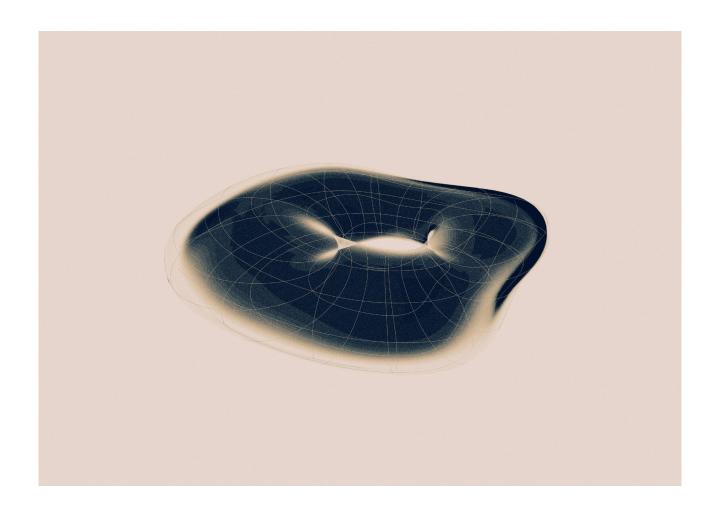
The toroid is lifted and protected from the ground by a steel structure on top of 20 steel columns partitioned in irregular positions producing a space of obstacles underneath, similar to a crowded dance floor. Partners can enter together by following the staircase leading into the wardrobe. At the entrance of the building each partner is led around the circular plan to change and prepair. The circular serves two functions. Mainly the plan allows changing without the addition of doors, allowing the dancers to maintain an awareness of each other to eventually synchronize in meeting again before entering the dancing room. Secondly the long wardrobe sequence works as a necessary airlock for the pneumatic construction.

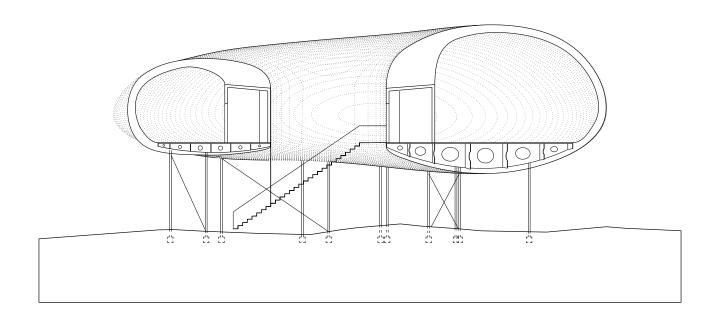


sketch

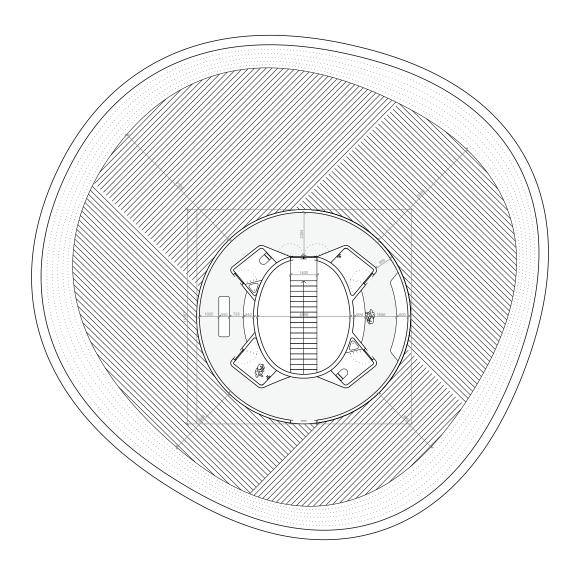


sketch





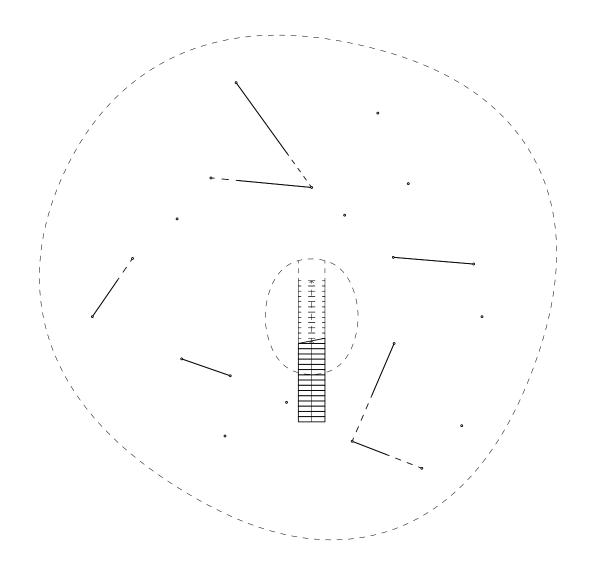




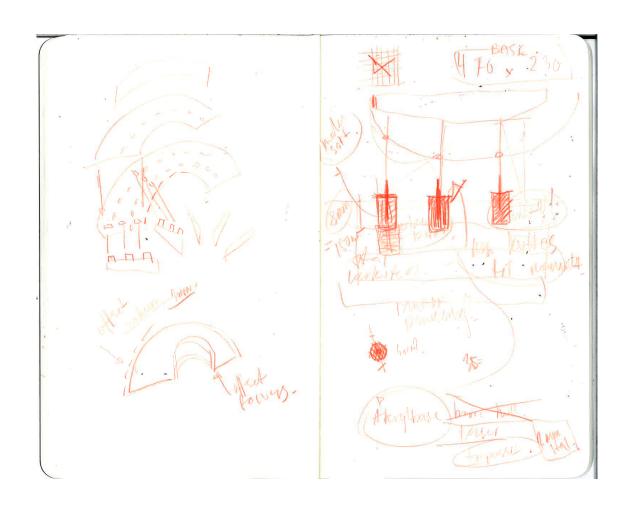
plan 2 1:200

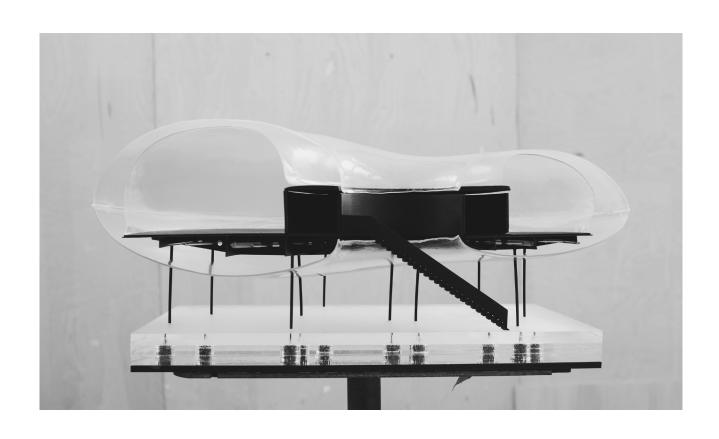


sketch model interior









## studio vernacular

Unlike a performance dance or partner dance, vernacular dances are usually learned without a choreograph or instructor. Vernacular dances are dances which have developed naturally as a part of everyday culture and are not generally designed for public performance. A feature of these dances is that they are informal and social. New dancers are typically taught by observing others or receiving help by others. Vernacular dances can be referred to as street dance in urban contexts, or as a replacement of the term folk dance.

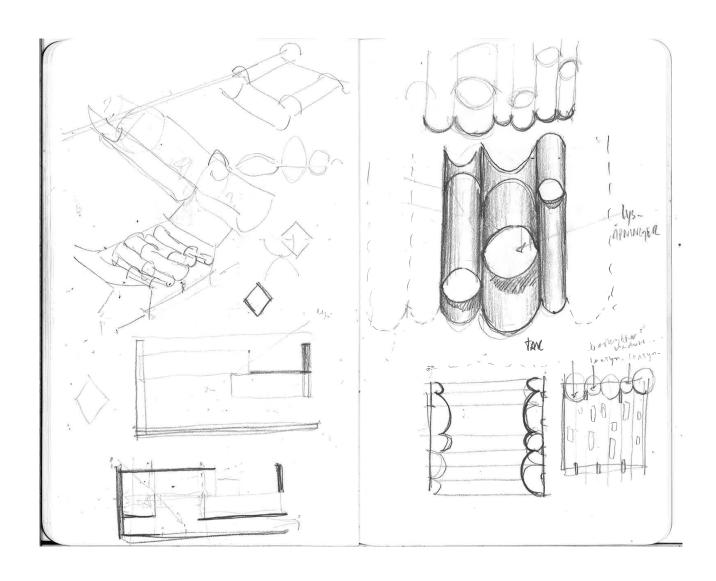
Due to the category's contextual dependency, I found it necessary to find a specific site in the beginning of this project. This site is in an urban context at Brenneriveien in Oslo between older industrial buildings. Nearby is a concert hall, a youth center and Oslo's national stage for dance.

This studio consists of three elements. A ground cover, a supporting structure, and a canopy. The absence of walls underlines its informal function, also allowing the space to be transparent and permeable in the city.

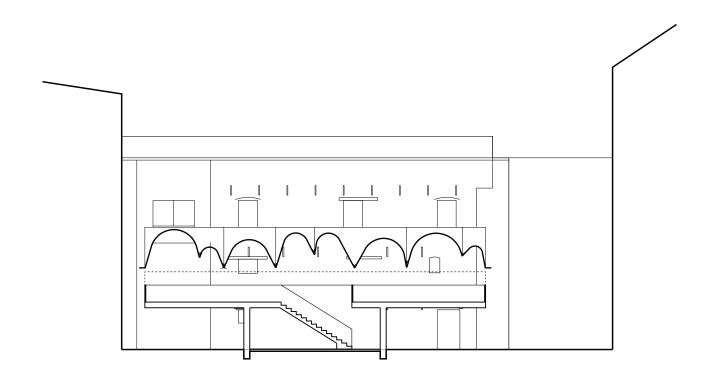
The ground cover is based on a grid relating to the sites surroundings, deforming as it shapes three separate dance floors as they would occur spontaneously, also providing the alternative to diagonally pass through the space.

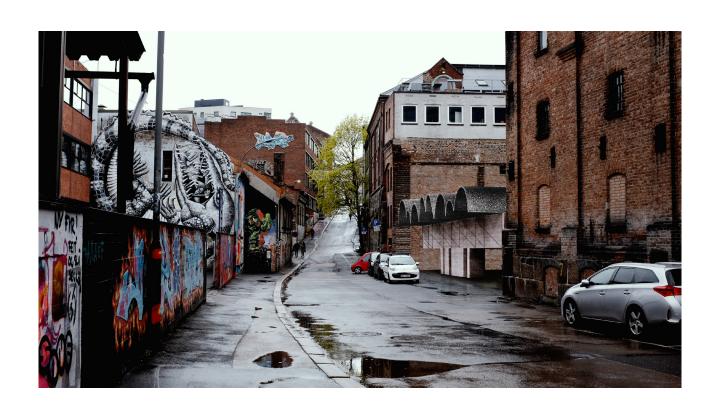
The concrete beam is the supporting structure for the roof but is also spatial and functions as a mezzanine for crowded events or rigging equipment. The mezzanine is accessed through the staircase in the column. Underneath the staircase is a storage and a small restroom.

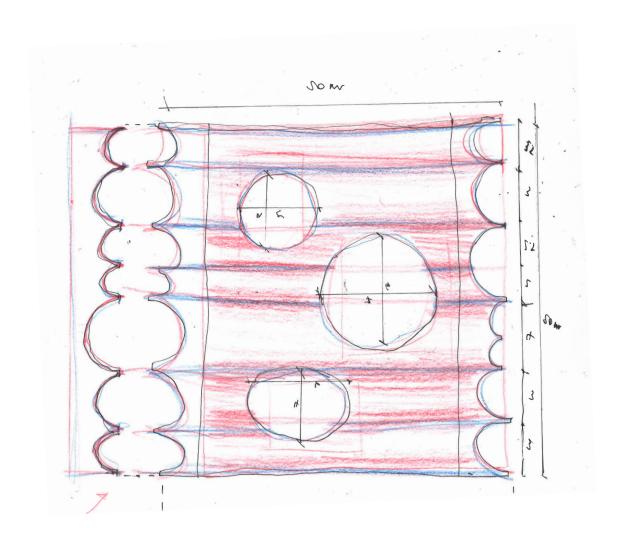
8 long sheets of rolled metal form a vaulted canopy over the main dancing area. The vaulted roof is cut circularly where it is welded together with 6 other rolled metal sheets that attach the roof to the adjacent façade. The form of the roof is reliant on the windows and openings of the existing façade and produce skylights for the dance arena and the existing building.

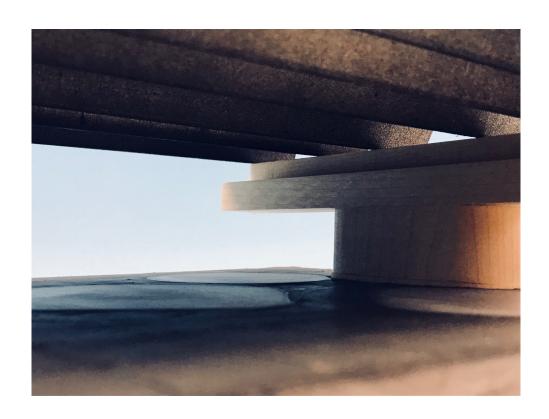


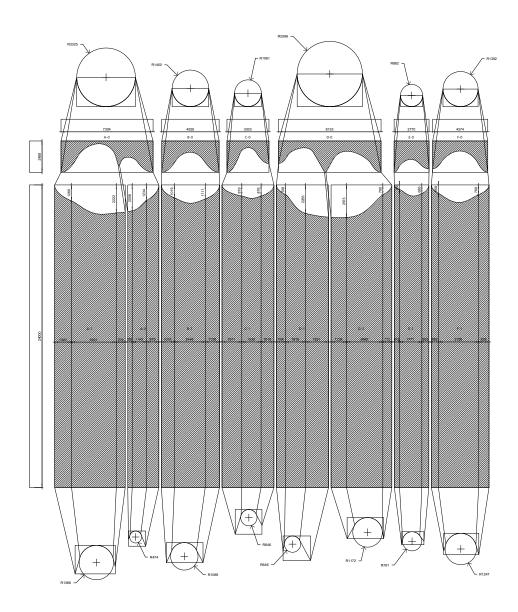
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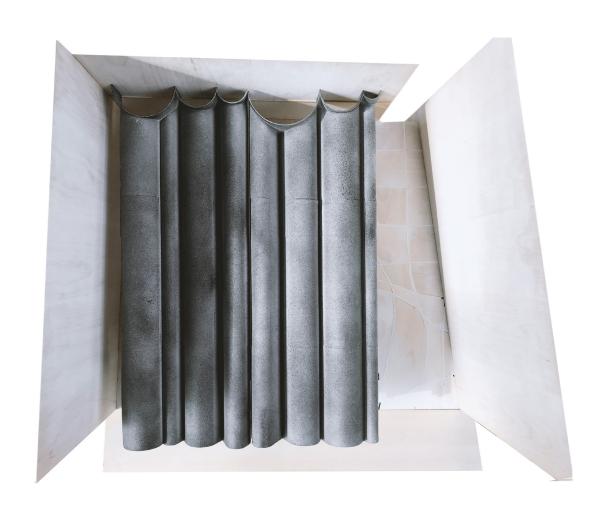




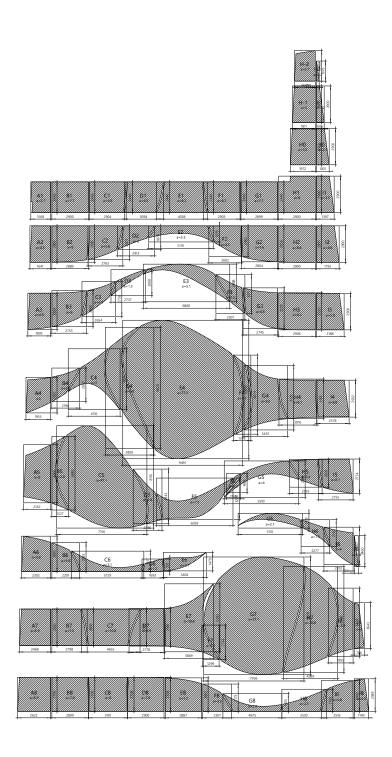


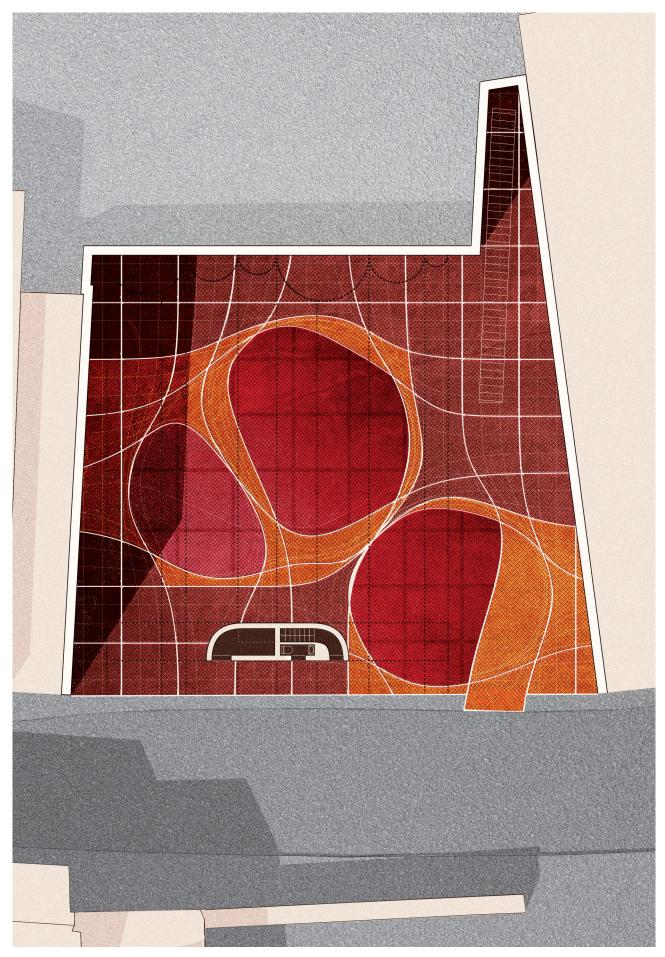






model photo





site plan 1:200 O

