

Benjamin Albertson

4th Year independent (undergrad)
 Advisor/Instructor: Tim B. Castillo

University of Colorado- Boulder
 Boulder, Colorado



College of Architecture

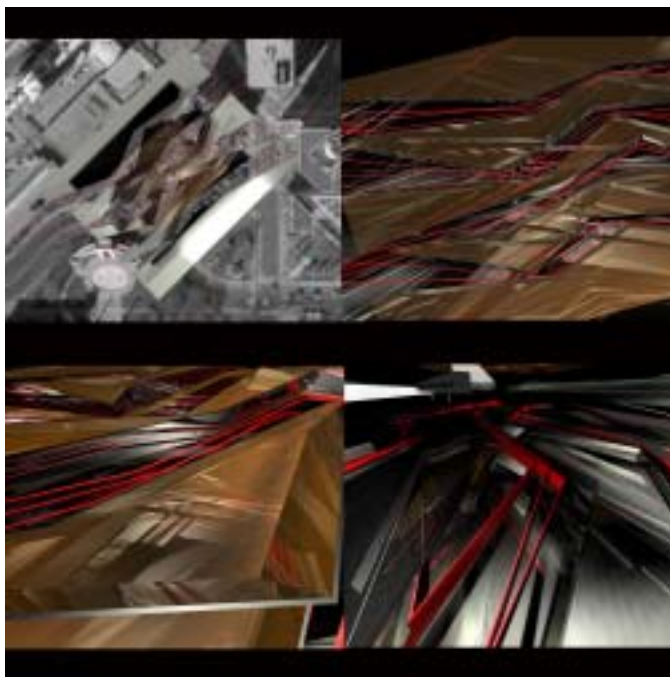
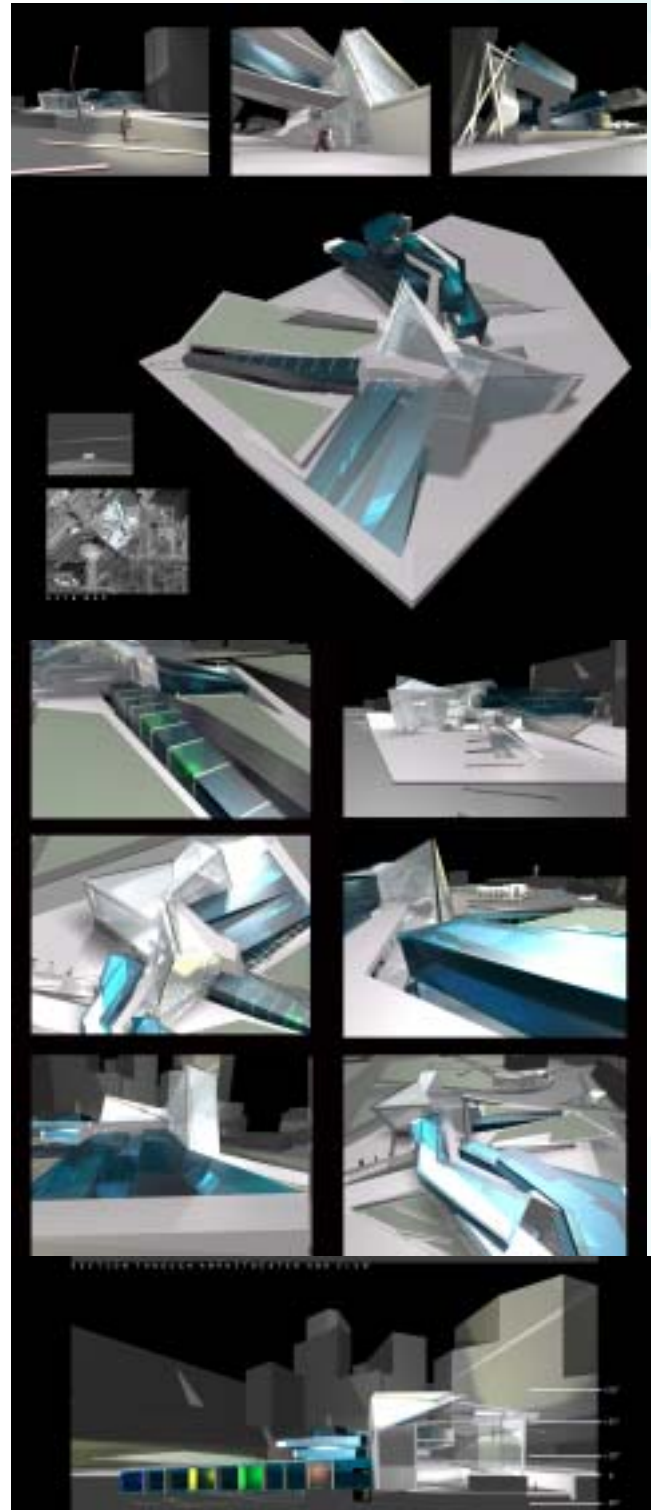
Urban Music Institute

This is a 30,000 sf musical institute to house the traditional music education spaces (teaching rooms, practice areas, library, etc.), private dorms for students, and public interaction spaces (performance halls, galleries, etc.). The site is in downtown Denver at the corner of Broadway and Colfax where a rare glimpse of the urban complexities can be seen. This building will complete the cultural circle of downtown as well as become a transitional gate from the city center mass to the sprawling suburbs of Denver.

SOLUTION: As the city center continues to shift towards a new urban playground, an overhaul needs to occur in the materials and methods used in the development of urban enclosure. No longer will the solid mass and reflective towers function in the city center where people from around the world culminate to appreciate the diversity and complexity of the urban culture. A new emphasis must be placed on architectural systems that breathe and flex to provide a more integrated environment. A physical example of this would be a morning news show in New York City where the exterior audience acts as part of the interior function.

Reasons for the nomination:

This project should receive merit for the ability of the student to utilize the software as a means of probing the city. The critical use of the computer as investigative tool produced a highly conceptualized project. Through various iterations, the design allows a macro and micro reading of the building and clear understanding of the programmatic intentions. The final representation of the building delivers a realistic reading of its contextual agenda and the new urban strategy for Denver, Colorado.



Honorable Mention