THE TOKYO STUDIO

A NEW TYPE OF ART GALLERY AND CULTURAL CENTER IN
A VERTICAL URBAN PARK

In the studio, you will work on a triangular corner site (between two bifurcating roads). Your design, like the current building, will 'close' the west end of Shibuya Station plaza, one of the busiest centers in the metropolis. In the first stage you will do site analysis, then in the second, in teams of two, develop an urban strategy addressing the challenges and potentials of the urban context. After this stage, documented on small diagrams and small study models, each team will continue with the architectural strategy then start designing the assigned architectural complex. In other words, the first stages of the work (before the use of computer), involves hand-drawn diagrams, 3D sketches, and written ideas about your envisioned complex in a sketchbook what each of you need to have.

While Shibuya is developing fast with all new high-rise buildings, it lacks adequate greenery. Considering this condition, you will propose an architectural complex combined with a system of (vertically) connected urban parks and generous green areas. These uniquely configured green public areas will provide much needed refuge from the busy urban life around. Scale: 1:200 (~1/16).

The program of the Urban Gallery and Cultural Center, beyond the Vertical Park, will include permanent and temporary exhibition spaces, both indoor and outdoor (as an Art Park), an auditorium for 150-200, activity rooms, a small library, gallery shop / bookstore. Supporting functions include, offices, a café / buffet, and storage, a prominent restaurant / night club with a terrace, etc. No car parking needed. The sloping site is connected to the subway station's public underground passage.