scene two

site

FADE IN:

Dupont Circle, Washington, DC An eclectic neighborhood in Northwest Washington, DC.

CLOSE IN: THE SITE

The site, located North of the circle, is on the southwest corner of Connecticut Ave. and R Street.

Commentary: The selection of the site proved relatively easy. The existing 8 story office building houses the KB Janus. A small theatre is located on the ground floor. In spite of the poor condition and seating of the theatre, the Janus ran successful showings of independent films not offered in the larger venues. My attraction to site was not the existing building but the challenges of angled corner site and character of the two streets.

ANGLE ON: CONNECTICUT AVENUE

Connecticut Avenue is one of main streets to intersect Dupont Circle. If the circle is the heart of the neighborhood, Connecticut Ave. is a major artery. It is home the significant number of commercial and retail spaces. It is both blessed and cursed with plenty of vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The Circle is easily accessed by public transportation Connecticut Ave. is a major bus route and Metro station. The scale of the buildings on Connecticut Ave. is distinct. The building height vary the majority of development has maximized the 110 foot allowable building height along street.

Commentary: The street and neighborhood is ideal for an independent film theatre. The spirit of the neighborhood welcomes innovative and artistic expressions.

ANGLE ON: R STREET

A one way West bound street.

Commentary: R Street stands in contrast to the energy and scale of the Connecticut Ave. This quiet tree lined street is composed mainly of elegant historic rowhouses. In the 1600 block of R Street, there are art galleries and coffee shops, an excellent setting for the Foundation’s program.

ANGLE ON: THE ANGLE

The angle of Connecticut Ave. presents a challenge of entry, symmetry and transition.

Commentary: Both street offer generous sidewalks. The Black Filmmakers Foundation and Micheaux Theatre is a marriage of public and private spaces that reaches into the urban environment. The building owes the public a show that begins at the street.