While a relatively unremarkable port, our setting is a spectacular one and the simple sectional relationships between sky, sea, and pier create a discernible set of possible relational permutations to test out. A sampling of relationships between simple parts is shown above in the family of diagrams produced by the architect Steven Holl. In addition to these generic relations, your site adds unique conditions such as ‘sides’ that are unequal, with one facing a cliff and the other looking across the bay; an unusual orientation so that the sun arcs around the pier in a particular way based on time of day, and a “ground plane” (the sea) that is not a benign line, but one of tidal flux and teeming with life. How do these specifics (and your memories) expand and add color and weight to the above diagrams?

In studio
Working rapidly in your sketchbook or on tracing paper, create your own set of sectional relationship diagrams based on your experience of the pier, and the desires and goals you and your teammates outlined over the weekend. Use poché to show mass that is cut in section, dashed lines to show movement or time, and line weights to indicate depth. Present your sections to your team. As a group discuss the similarities and find common threads. As a group, create 5 sectional diagrams drafted/sketched on vellum or trace. These five should be the result of combining your individual thoughts. Each abstract diagram should be 5” x 5” square.

Study models
You should now have the beginnings of a program to give you some direction in your design decisions, and you will generate a collection of sectional ideas that are the basis of a formal geometry for your design. Using these two elements as a starting point, and working as a team, build two study models at 1/4” = 1'-0" scale. These two new models should use your existing study model of the pier as a base. In order to re-use the base, the study models should be removable. Each model should have a cohesive idea based on the section studies and program. You may alter existing structures with the approval of your instructor. In general, we would like to keep the overall structure of the pier and the existing buildings intact. You must leave the road at 12’ wide (6’ on each side of the centerline), and a 12’ high area directly above the road clear of obstructions (a truck should still be able to drive down the pier).
Due Wednesday.