School of American Ballet at Lincoln Center

Linear ribbons of light are used to illuminate these stacking dance studios. The upper studio floats above the lower, while containing within the same double height volume.

The lighting scheme manipulates light and view through a milky translucent glass wall with a 4 foot band of electrified glass that changes to clear. Due to the demanding nature of the task, privacy, visibility and uniformity of light were carefully balanced and ultimately achieved through judicious choices of diffusion and light source.

**Lighting Designers:** Tillotson Design Associates, Suzan Tillotson, Shiri Cnaani

**Architects:** Elizabeth Diller, Michael Hundsnurscher

**Owner:** School of American Ballet

**Photography:** Iwan Baan Portsmuiden

"Wow! Simple and striking."
—Daniel Rogers

"This is a wonderful integration of architecture and light for a very specific site and usage."
—Mark Loeffler

Elizabeth Diller’s idea to stack two dance studios where previously there had been one, posed an enormous lighting challenge — how to assure both studios are desirable and that the dancers on the lower level feel that they’re part of the larger volume.