TKTS Booth
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PKSB Architects
New York
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LOCATION: Duffy Square of New York
The brief requested designs to replace the existing ticket booth. We reframed it as an urban design project, broadening our thinking to encompass the greater context of the square and city beyond.
The dominant urban experience on Manhattan is that of the street grid. When the grid relents, it is typically a park. Time Square is a rare condition where the grid opens to form an urban space.
Times Square was a place experienced from the periphery. There was nowhere for people to sit and enjoy the spectacle, no iconic arrival marker, no place for a Kodak moment.
The design inverts this order giving Times Square a centre and a destination. A series of tiered red translucent steps form an inclined public space with the booth housed underneath.
This gesture simultaneously forms both a stage and seats to the 'theatre' of Times Square.
Set design at an urban scale.