Transforming a dark and dismal barrier between two neighborhoods into a welcoming portal—at the largest bus terminal in the country—was the owner and community mandate for this urban project. A close collaboration between lighting designer and architect produced a luminous room—a colorful architectural design solution for pedestrians and commuters transiting below a complex system of bus ramps spanning Ninth Avenue in Manhattan. The design is composed of standard lighting fixtures, which were the most energy-efficient possible when designed in 2001. The project duration was eight years entailing unique project and client management methods.

“What excites me is that we helped transform this “negative” part of the Brooklyn Bridge infrastructure—a default space with no integrity of its own—into a lively nexus of human interaction. In this small way, we helped facilitate the art of the public encounter, that dance of interchange between strangers so necessary for a vibrant city.”

Leni Schwendinger

Lighting Designer
Leni Schwendinger
Light Projects LTD
Leni Schwendinger, Eric Chenault, Charles Cameron, and Jodi Geroux

Lighting Designer
David Lander

Architect
PKSB Architects
Henry Stolzman and Kentaro Tsubaki

Photography
Archphoto

Triple Bridge Gateway, New York, NY