

INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL FOR THE
CITY

OCT 2018

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ANNUAL OVERVIEW

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR THE CITY

"The Independent School for the City explores the complexity and contradictions of the global city from the local and specific point of view of being based in the European Port City Rotterdam. Social Sciences, Economy, Planning, Design and History are brought together in a transdisciplinary community of learning. The School has deep roots and a strong presence in the city of Rotterdam and is part of a wide and diverse international network of practices and institutions." (Informatiebrochure The Independent School for the City, april 2019)

De Independent School for the City is een internationale opleiding voor 'urbanisten' en een ontmoetingsplek die de hedendaagse stad op een interdisciplinaire, conceptuele en pragmatische wijze benadert. De School is midden in het ontwikkelingsgebied Rotterdam Central District (Delftsestraat) gevestigd, en zoekt daarmee direct aansluiting bij de actuele vraagstukken van de stad. De School wil ook een ontmoetingsplek zijn van de architectuur en stedenbouw scene van Rotterdam en omstreken.

De Independent School for the City organiseert verschillende onderwijsactiviteiten op post-graduate niveau, met telkens ca. 20 tot 25 (internationale) deelnemers (multidisciplinair: ontwerpers, sociologen, historici etc.). De School is bewust niet academisch geaccrediteerd, zodat de School onbelemmerd kan fungeren als vrijplaats om direct in te kunnen spelen op de actualiteit. De aanleiding voor het programma wordt gevormd door de dagelijkse praktijk van Crimson en ZUS die gezamenlijk het initiatief hebben genomen voor de oprichting van de School, waarbij op een activistische en kritische manier een incrementale ontwikkeling van de stad wordt bepleit en gebezigt, met historie, participatie en (permanente) tijdelijkheid als instrumenten. De School heeft een flexibele en lichte organisatie, met een helder onderwijsprogramma verdeeld in trimesters. De in Rotterdam ontwikkelde kennis over stad-maken, tijdelijkheid, het gebruik van onderzoek en geschiedenis, activisme, pragmatiek en participatie wordt overgebracht aan de studenten en hun onderzoek, verhalen en strategieën komen dan weer ten goede aan de stad. Er wordt gebruikgemaakt niet alleen van het internationale netwerk van ZUS en Crimson, maar ook van in Rotterdam gevestigde ontwerpstudio's.



Crimson Historians and Urbanists (Photo: Maarten Laupman)



ZUS [Zones Urbaines Sensibles]

Aansluitend op het onderwijsprogramma is de School een ontmoetingsplek waar onderwijs samenvalt met de praktijk, die open staat voor professionals en andere geïnteresseerden in de stad. Binnen het publieke programma wordt in de School gewerkt, geleerd, gedebatteerd, uitgewisseld en in een informele setting projecten of onderzoeken tentoongesteld. De Independent School for the City wordt gevoed door de verschillende disciplines die zich bezighouden met de stad (op het gebied van sociologie, fotografie, serious gaming, historie, grafische vormgeving, planning, architectuur, etc.). Met deze functie wordt ingespeeld op de leemte die in Rotterdam is ontstaan in het afgelopen decennium.

Op 19 oktober 2018 ging het Testjaar van de Independent School for the City van start met een openingsevent. Met het uitspreken van de 'mission statement' van de School werd het startsein van de School en de avond gegeven, waarop een rijk programma volgde met als hoofdspreker journalist Oliver Wainwright (the Guardian) over de relatie tussen geld en de stad. Met lezingen van landschapsarchitect Peter Veenstra (lola) en architect/filmmaker Jord den Hollander, een aansluitende filmvoorstelling, workshops met o.a. grafisch ontwerpers Team Thursday en de opening van een drietal tentoonstellingen gaf de avond een aanzet voor het programma van de Independent School. De opkomst met meer dan 200 mensen was overweldigend en het enthousiasme van de bezoekers groot. Dit sterkte de School in haar overtuiging dat er behoefte is aan nieuwe publieke plek van ontmoeting, debat en uitwisseling over stedenbouw, architectuur en stadscultuur. Een ruimte waar het debat over de kwaliteit van de stad weer kan plaatsvinden.

De evenementen die volgden op de opening zijn steeds goed bezocht. Zo waren de School's Out events op de laatste vrijdag van elke maand, met sprekers als Maria Lisogorskaya uit Londen over participatie, Dirk Sijmons over klimaat en Lesley Lokko uit Johannesburg over onderwijs, veelal uitverkocht. Tevens is de School bezocht door vele groepen van universiteiten uit het binnen- en buitenland en is de ruimte School gebruikt als locatie voor het organiseren van een diverse bijeenkomsten. Natuurlijk werd elk moment benut om het doel en de boodschap van de Independent School for the City te vertellen. Ook wisten niet alleen Rotterdamse maar ook landelijke organisaties en gemeenten de School steeds vaker te vinden voor publieke en meer besloten bijeenkomsten.

Het Testjaar is georganiseerd om de visie, het programma, het publiek en de organisatie van de School te testen, zodat het programma in september 2019 officieel van start kan gaan. Door de publieke evenementen, conferenties, workshops, lezingen, gesprekken, film, ontvangsten van internationale (studenten)groepen en een Spring School, die het ruimtelijk en programmatisch bij elkaar brengen van Oud & Nieuw Mathenesse als onderwerp had, zijn veel nieuwe ervaringen en inzichten opgedaan die de inhoud hebben aangescherpt en veel organisatorische en financiële aspecten hebben verduidelijkt. Het Testjaar is nog niet voorbij, maar de lessen die tot nu zijn geleerd worden in de organisatie en het programma van de School toegepast.

Deze rapportage geeft een overzicht van de activiteiten die tot nog toe ondernomen zijn binnen het Testjaar. We hebben daarbij een onderverdeling gemaakt tussen Onderwijs en Publiek Programma. Tot slot is een activiteitenkalender toegevoegd met aan de Independent School for the City gerelateerde activiteiten die zowel binnen de school als daarbuiten hebben plaatsgevonden.



All photo's by Maarten Laupman unless mentioned otherwise.

PUBLIC EVENTS

OPENING EVENT



DATE	Friday 19/11/2018
CONTRIBUTIONS BY	Michelle Provoost, Oliver Wainwright, Peter Veenstra, (LOLA), Jord den Hollander, de Dependance, Team Thursday, CANactions
VISITORS	200

On 19 October 2018, the independent School for the City was launched with a festive grand public opening, providing the public insight into the School's activities. The evening started with an opening speech and mission statement by Michelle Provoost, followed by a festival-like programme of different activities all around the School. Our special guest of the evening was the Guardian's journalist Oliver Wainwright, who gave a lecture about the complex relation between architecture and finance. In addition, there was a talk by landscape architect Peter Veenstra (LOLA) in which he gave context to his exhibition of collected Dog Poo bags that can be seen as a representation of a culture's attitude to civic responsibilities in public space, and a talk architect / filmmaker Jord den Hollander, followed by a film screening. All around the evening there were workshops with, among others, graphic designers Team Thursday and the opening of three exhibitions. The attendance with more than 200 people was overwhelming and the enthusiasm of the visitors was great. This strengthened the School in its conviction that there is a need for a new public place of meeting, debate and exchange about urbanism, architecture and urban culture. A space where the debate about the quality of the city can take place again.

INTI DAY 2018: NEW TOWN BOOM TOWN



Presentation of the publication 'To Build a City in Africa' by Rachel Keeton (INTI/TU Delft).

DATE	Monday 15/10/2018
LECTURERS	Michelle Provoost, Simone Rots, Rachel Keeton, Marc Hanou, Marleen Hermans and Sabine Coady Schäbitz
PANALISTS	Arnold Reijndorp, Desiree Uitzetter, Jeroen Scholten, Floor Hartog, Jaap Meindersma, Jeroen de Bok, Anita Blom, Tim Beighton, Gareth Edwards, Femke van Noorloos, Anteneh Tesfaye Tola, Bert Smolders and Javier Torner, Markus Appenzeller, Christine de Baan, JaapJan Berg
MODERATOR	Paul Gerretsen
VISITORS	130

After two successful International New Town Days in Almere, NL (2016) and Milton Keynes, UK (2017) we brought the International New Town Day to Rotterdam. This year's day of coming together and sharing experiences was themed New Town Boom Town.

The International New Town Day 2018: New Town Boom Town is a day in which an international group of designers, planners, activists, developers, policy makers, students and historians present and exchange knowledge and ideas, engage in dialogue about shared interests and start new collaborations.

PUBLIC EVENTS

SCHOOL'S OUT! #1 MARIA LISOGORSKAYA



NAME EVENT	School's Out! #1 Maria Lisogorskaya
DATE	Friday 25/01/2019
TITLE	Make. Not make do.
MODERATOR	Sereh Mandias (De Dependance)
OTHER SPEAKERS	Piet Vollaard Jord den Hollander
VISITORS	120

SCHOOL'S OUT! #2 DIRK SIJMANS



NAME EVENT	School's Out! #2 Dirk Sijmons
DATE	Friday 22/02/2019
TITLE	Mobilis in Mobile: Navigating the Anthropocene.
MODERATOR	Sereh Mandias (De Dependance)
OTHER SPEAKERS	Elma van Boxel (ZUS) Jord den Hollander
VISITORS	120

SCHOOL'S OUT! #3 LESLEY LOKKO



NAME EVENT	School's Out! #3 Lesley Lokko
DATE	Friday 29/03/2019
TITLE	Look back in anger.
MODERATOR	Christine de Baan
OTHER SPEAKERS	Michelle Provoost, Jord den Hollander
VISITORS	60

SCHOOL'S OUT! #4 DORE VAN DUIVENBODE



NAME EVENT	School's Out! #4
DATE	Friday 26/04/2019
TITLE	Moja Polska!
INTERVIEWER	Inge Janse
OTHER SPEAKERS	Jord den Hollander, Michelle Provoost
VISITORS	40

PUBLIC EVENTS

SCHOOL'S OUT! #5 PETER BARBER



SCHOOL'S OUT! #6 GEORGEEN THEODORE



NAME EVENT	School's Out! #5 Peter Barber
DATE	Friday 31/05/2019
TITLE	Housing and the 100-mile city
MODERATOR	Sereh Mandias (De Dependance)
VISITORS	120

NAME EVENT	School's Out! #6 Georgeren Theodore
DATE	Friday 28/06/2019
TITLE	Dispatch from Detroit.
MODERATOR	Sereh Mandias (De Dependance)
OTHER SPEAKERS	Jord den Hollander
VISITORS	50

SCHOOL'S OUT! #7 LIZA FIOR



SCHOOL'S OUT! #8 ALFREDO BRILLEMBOURG



NAME EVENT	School's Out! #7 LIZA FIOR
DATE	Friday 25/09/2019
LECTURER	Liza Fior
MODERATOR	Wouter Vanstiphout
VISITORS	60

NAME EVENT	School's Out! #8 ALFREDO BRILLEMBOURG + WLDRF
DATE	Friday 25/10/2019
TITLE	Cities Are the Answer... What Was the Question?
MODERATOR	Michelle Provoost
VISITORS	120

PUBLIC EVENTS

SCHOOL'S OUT! #9 PETRA BLAISSE



NAME EVENT	School's Out! #9 Petra Blaisse
DATE	Friday 29/11/2019
TITLE	Inside Outside
MODERATOR	Wouter Vanstiphout
VISITORS	120

OPENING EVENT 2020 SCHOOL PARTY!



NAME EVENT	School Party! 2020
DATE	Friday 24/01/2020
CONTRIBUTIONS BY:	Sam Jacob, The Smudged Toads, Operator Radio, Studio Kling
VISITORS	200

SCHOOL'S OUT! #10 MOMOYO KAIJIMA



NAME EVENT	School's Out! #10 Momoyo Kaijima
DATE	Friday 29/02/2020
MODERATOR	Michelle Provoost
VISITORS	120

We kicked off 2020 with an awesome School Party! Together with almost 200 people we celebrated a new decade and raised a glass on the one-year anniversary of the Independent School for the City! For the occasion, we had invited the London based architect and designer Sam Jacob for a talk about his work followed by the screening of a short film, selected by Jordan Hollander. Afterwards we took away the chairs and turned our lecture room into a dance floor which was opened with a spectacular show by the Smudged Toads, followed by the beats of Operator Radio's Steve Blearics and Squattermarium and a surprise performance by Studio Kling.



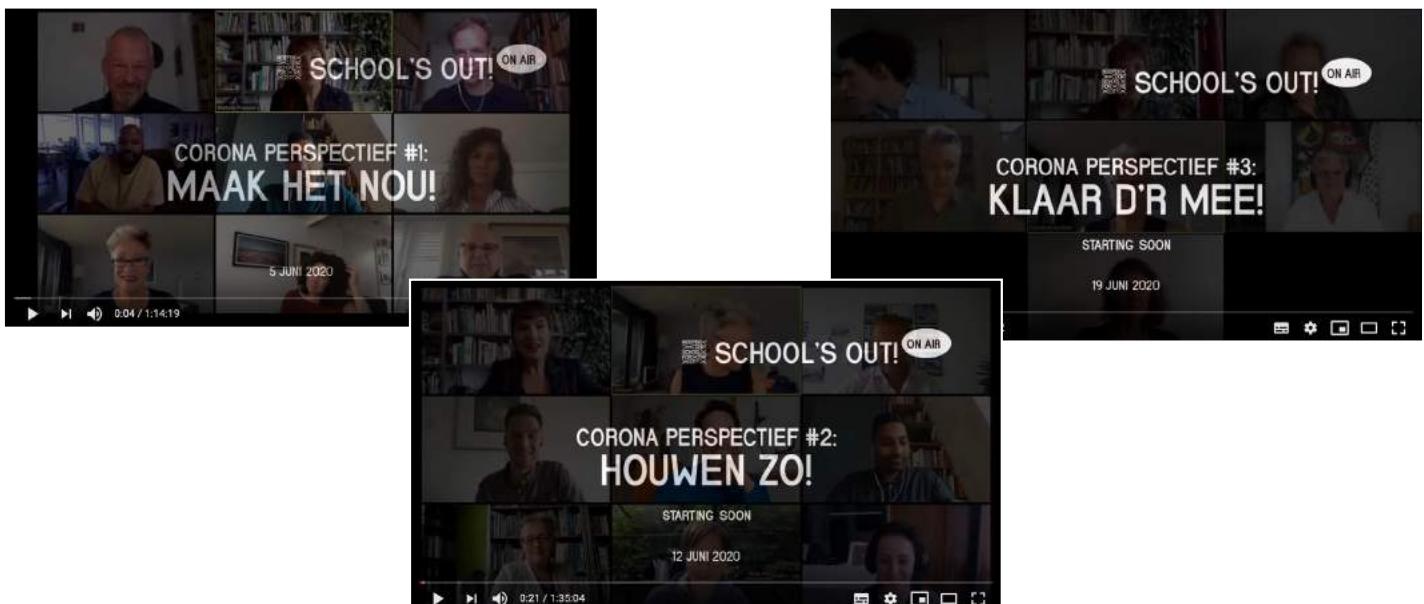
PUBLIC EVENT

SCHOOL'S OUT! – ON AIR CORONA PERSPECTIEVEN

NAME EVENT	School's Out! ON AIR Corona Perspectieven	
DATE	05, 12, 19/06/2020	
SPEAKERS	Michelle Provoorst, Felix Rottenberg, Aziz Yagoub, Michelle Mandos Olphaert den Otter, Lonneke van Straalen, Matijs Jansen, Thalia Verkade, Harm Timmermans, Elma van Boxel, Teun van den Ende, Mike Emmerik, Riek Bakker, Dirk Sijmons, Wouter Vanstiphout, Astrid Kockelkoren en Fenna Haakma Wagenaar	Rotterdam), Olphaert den Otter (kunstenaar), Lonneke van Straalen (violist en coach) en Matijs Jansen (Wunderbaum) over de kansen en obstakels van de oprichting van een bank ter ondersteuning van Rotterdamse makers, zelfstandige producenten, ontwerpers en kunstenaars.
MODERATOR	Wouter Vanstiphout	Het tweede gesprek met Thalia Verkade (De Correspondent), Harm Timmermans (Shift architecture urbanism), Elma van Boxel (ZUS), Teun van den Ende (Vers Beton), Mike Emmerik (Crimson Historians and Urbanists), Annemieke Fontein (gemeente Rotterdam) en Jorn Wemmenhove (Humankind) ging over het effect van corona op onze stedelijke inrichting en hoe deze crisis kansen biedt om aspecten van de stad te veranderen die toch al lang op ons verlanglijstje stonden.
VIEWS	ca. 200 per editie	En tijdens het derde gesprek spraken we met Riek Bakker, Dirk Sijmons, Wouter Vanstiphout, Astrid Kockelkoren en Fenna Haakma Wagenaar over de kansen en noodzaak om de door Corona vrijgekomen geldstromen, bestuurlijke flexibiliteit en daadkracht, aan te wenden om structurele veranderingen te bewerkstelligen.

Op vrijdag 05, 12 en 19 juni 2020 organiseerden we drie School's Out! live-stream gesprekken over de gevolgen van COVID-19 voor Rotterdam. We spraken onder leiding van Christine De Baan over de problemen die het met zich meebrengt, maar ook over de nieuwe perspectieven die het openst.

Tijdens het eerste gesprek op Vrijdag 5 juni spraken we met Felix Rottenberg, Aziz Yagoub (Annabel), Michelle Mandos (Gemeente



PUBLIC EVENTS

WORKSHOP BY MARIA LISOGORSKAYA & THOMAS DIRRIX

WORKSHOP Saturday 26/1/2019

TUTORED BY Maria Lisogorskaya (Assemble) & Thomas Dirrix (Atelier Thomas Dirrix)

PARTICIPANTS 15

The day after School's Out! #1, the Do It Yourself mentality of Maria Lisogorskaya was carried on by a hands-on workshop, organized together with Tomas Dirrix (Atelier Tomas Dirrix). During this workshop a team of fifteen participants designed and made concrete planters, both gaining understanding of concrete pouring and colour dying, as well as to develop decorative objects for the school.



MASTERCLASS BY BEN JUDAH



WORKSHOP Wednesday 10/04/2019

MASTERCLASS BY Ben Judah

PARTICIPANTS 15

The British-French journalist and author Ben Judah, visited Rotterdam in April 2019 on invitation by de Dependance - Platform for City Culture and Public Debate, for a public evening to talk about his book This is London and the ways in which transnational migration is reshaping our cities. The day afterwards, Judah was invited to the Independent School to give a masterclass about cities and migration in relation to Crimson's research project A City of Comings and Goings, about the same topic. Together with a group of around 15 participants from different institutes in Rotterdam, we discussed the implications of transnational migration on cities in general and we talked about parallels between Rotterdam and London. The expert meeting lead to various articles by Ben Judah in- and outside the Netherlands as well as an article by Margriet Oostveen in de Volkskrant.

Ben Judah has written for a wide range of media, including the New York Times, the Evening Standard and the Financial Times. He has covered the Russo-Georgian War, the Kyrgyz Revolution and the Tunisian Revolution and was a policy fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations. His first book *Fragile Empire* – a probing study of Vladimir Putin's Russia – was published by Yale University Press in 2013. His second book *This is London* came out in 2016, from Picador. Ben Judah was chosen as one of Forbes magazine's 30 under 30 in European media.

PUBLIC EVENTS

WORKSHOP BY SAM JACOB



NAME	EVENT	Reconstructive Pottery
DATE		Thu 23/01/2020 and Fri 24/01/2020
TUTORED BY		Sam Jacob
VISITORS		15

Prior to the School Party, we hosted a two-day workshop with Sam Jacob on “Reconstructive Pottery”. Sam, who has been showing his work in this field in art galleries over the past few years, was willing to share his secrets with a select group of participants. Using fragments of artefacts of an unknown origin, clay, plaster and paint were used to reconstruct them to their original form, original in the sense that you make it up yourself. Participants worked with their hands and eyes, made them dirty in equal amount, to create narratives about the city they live in, its past and its secrets.

WORKSHOP BY MOMOYO KAIJIMA

NAME	EVENT	Collective Drawing
DATE		Sat 29/02/2020
TUTORED BY		Momoyo Kaijima
VISITORS		12

The Saturday after Momoyo's talk, we organized a collective drawing workshop tutored by Momoyo herself. Drawing plays an important role in Momoyo's work with Atelier BOW-WOW. In 2001 the practice published 'Made in Tokyo', a guidebook to the modernity of Tokyo's urban space that revealed, in simple line drawings, a typological analysis of the messy reality of the built environment as it responded to the spontaneous desires and activities of the city's inhabitants. Depicting urban golf ranges, spaghetti snack bars, spaces underneath and around expressways – sometimes of unimaginably small but still useful proportions, buildings as billboards ... their experiment was an influential starting point for many other projects seeking to transcend preconceptions of what constitutes architecture through a refined process of observation and reflection.



EDUCATION PROGRAMME



SPRING SCHOOL 'BORDERS ARE FOR CROSSING'

DATE	Sunday 17/03/2019 – Monday 25/03/2019
LECTURERS	Mike Emmerik, Michelle Provoost, Mirjam Niemeyer, Vladyslav Tyminskyi, Arnold Reijndorp, Crimson Historians and Urbanists, De Dépendance, Edith Gruson, Gerard Hadders, Herman Kossman, Jord Den Hollander, Miodrag Kuč, Theo Hauben, Grisha Zotov, Valentyna Zotova and ZUS (Kristian Koreman & Elma van Boxtel).
PARTICIPANTS	30

In this Spring School, we looked at the visible and invisible borders in an urban area that straddles the cities of Rotterdam and Schiedam: Oud/Nieuw Mathenesse. A divided area of early and mid-century housing neighbourhood that has for decades been the destination of migrant workers and other immigrants to find homes, start businesses and families and gradually integrate into the Dutch economy and society. The past decade it has seen a strong influx and rooting down of migrants from Eastern Europe. The task of the participants was effectively to connect both areas to each other and to achieve a more complete and more integrated migration-driven urbanism, to make a city that does not divide the different globalised economies and communities on the basis of class or political opportunity, but that keeps them together, maximising their mutual benefits and the benefits to the local communities and economy.

SUMMER SCHOOL 'CLIMATE UTOPIA'

DATE	Monday 1/07/2019 – Friday 5/07/2019
LECTURERS	Elma van Boxel, Kristian Koreman, Michelle Provoost, Wouter Vanstiphout, Dirk Dijmons, Henk Ovink, Micheal Speaks, Sandra Piesik, Joep Storms
PARTICIPANTS	19

From June 24 until July 5 the spring school 'Climate Utopia' took place in the Independent School for the City. After three weeks of research in the Fisher Centre NY, students from Syracuse School of Architecture came to Rotterdam in order to gain a broad understanding of climate change in the US and Europe. Their research was aimed to get a sense of how climate change radically changes the living conditions – the habitat- on the planet and in particular in landscapes affected by fire, floods, erosion, earthquakes and heat. Ultimately these insights lead to design proposals for new habitats, and housing in particular, that can handle these extreme conditions in various contexts. Learning from both the US and Europe gives an insight in how people have tried to adapt to their changing local conditions and how climate change, migration and the need for housing form the critical triptych for the 21st century. In this studio we went from regional landscapes to ventilation shafts, roofs and windows, and back again to find out the interdependencies. The Summer School Climate Utopia was organized by the Independent School for the City and Syracuse School of Architecture.

EDUCATION PROGRAMME



FILM & ARCHITECTURE STUDIO 2019

DATE	Friday 05/10/2019 – Tuesday 08/10/2019
LECTURERS	Jord den Hollander, Lotte Schreiber and Gys Zevenbergen.
PARTICIPANTS	27

The first Film & Architecture Studio, took place from 5 until 9 October 2019, and offered a comprehensive way to use cinematic language in architecture and urban design. From research, scriptwriting and storyboarding, to filming and post production. The course focuses on learning and understanding the narrative of filmmaking and its application in the design process, a hands-on studio in which participants learned to structure stories and went through all stages of filmmaking.

The studio was a condensed course that offers new ways of researching the built environment and turning this research into well-structured and gripping stories. It is a class where participants with various background were introduced to essential elements of filmmaking and learn how to relate these to architecture and the city.



FOLLOW THE MONEY STUDIO

DATE	Monday 21/10/2019 – Thursday 31/10/2019
LECTURERS	Nanne de Ru, Michelle Provoost, Mike Emmerik, Kevin Laurence Snel and Chiara Dorbolò, Kristian Koreman, Koen Smulders, Guus Tennekes, Piet Vollaard, Joep van Lieshout, Kees van Oorschot, Tobias Tonch, Rene Boer and Maurice Geluk.
PARTICIPANTS	9

In this two-week studio, organized in collaboration with Powerhouse Company, we critically explored and uncovered the role of capital in the way our cities and buildings are being shaped. We looked at the city through the lens of global capital in order to understand how we could use that view in order to shape our vision of a better city. We did this by using the classical economic analyses of the city by researching the roles of Property (land and real estate), Labour (in this case, architecture and design) and Capital (finance). During this studio we focused on Rotterdam, which, due to its partial destruction during World War II, has become a rich testing ground for real estate development experiments over the last 70 years.

EDUCATION PROGRAMME

FOSSIL ROTTERDAM

DATE	Monday 25/11/2019 – Friday 29/11/2019
LECTURERS	Ruben Dario Kleimeer, Michelle Provoost, Mike Emmerik, Wouter Vanstiphout, Ewout Dorman, Gerjan Streng.
PARTICIPANTS	7

Can a city ever escape its past? That is the question asked in this one-week studio which took place from 25 – 29 November 2019.

In the city of Rotterdam, as in many cities in the west, the transition to a green economy fuelled by renewable energy sources, is advertised everywhere. At the same time Rotterdam is still the main hub for the import of coal, oil and natural gas of northern Europe. Its economy is mostly dependent on the import, export and refinement of fossil fuel. An industrial port city like Rotterdam has invested so much in the infrastructure of fossil fuel and its economy is so dependent on it, that a swift transition would make the city collapse, and also bring down large parts of the Dutch and even European economy with it.

With this studio, we wanted to make something that is invisible from the official imagery of the city visible again. We wanted to confront the city with its own reality, perhaps with its own impending demise, in order to force a debate. Under supervision of photographer Ruben Dario Kleimeer and Crimson Historians and Urbanists, the participants have documented and visualized the landscape of fossil energy and economy in the Rotterdam area. The main results are presented on 7 panels, each showing the work of one of the participants. Seen together, they present a honest portrait of a side of our western European economy that, even if it is being obscured from view, still dominates the way we live and breathe.



EDUCATION PROGRAMME

CITIZENS OF THE ANTHROPOCENE

Together with exhibition designer Herman Kossmann and landscape architect Dirk Sijmons, the Independent school for the city mapped out an expedition to discover the ultimate consequences of our attitude towards the Anthropocene – the geological era marking the dominant human impact on the Earth systems.

After first exploring man's impact on processes such as climate change, biodiversity loss, land use change, and ocean acidification, we took the participants on a journey along four philosophical viewpoints that one can have of this age of mankind. We went from 'Denialism' (those who don't believe mankind has an impact) to eco-modernism (the believe that technology will solve everything) to post-humanism (the believe conviction that man should take a step back and live more equally together with other species) and Anthropocentrism 2.0. (the idea that we should not just take a step back, but also have the responsibility to fix nature). While talking about the more abstract levels of dealing with the Anthropocene in terms of policy, economy or science, we specifically tried to dive right down to the level of everyday life and think through what it practically means for our way of living and the way we organise our surroundings.

While initially developed as a two-week programme, the course was strongly influenced by the Covid-19 Corona virus. During the first week, the participants from Austria, the United Kingdom, Germany, Singapore and the Netherlands, still gathered in the School, for a programme that included a series of lectures, discussions, collective exercises and an excursion. Apart from the Corona virus being an interesting extra dimension to conversations about the Anthropocene, most activities could continue as planned. By the end of the first week, the Dutch government announced radical measures to stop the spread of the virus. Large gatherings were prohibited, people were encouraged to work at home, schools closed and international traffic came to a standstill. After all participants had managed to get home safely, we decided



to continue the course digitally while at the same time stretching it over a longer period of time with two digital meetings each week. This did not only make it possible for the participants to combine the course with their jobs and changes in their personal lives, it also gave room for more in depth discussions and insights concerning the different positions towards the Anthropocene. Eventually all the work that has been produced within the course, will be collected and brought together in a interactive digital format.



EXHIBITIONS

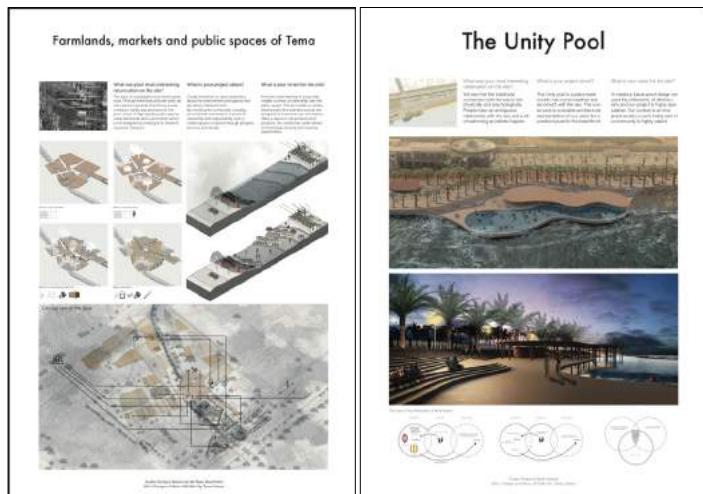
DOG POO BAGS BY PETER VEENSTRA

This collection of Dog Poo Bags comes from cities all over Europe, collected by landscape architect Peter Veenstra (Lola Landscape, Rotterdam). They are distributed free of charge in parks and on streets for citizens to use to keep the streets and parks clean. This relatively recent addition to the accessories of modern urban living evoke many associations. For example, the loneliness of urban citizens taking solace in their pets. Or the delegation of keeping the city clean to the citizens themselves. The way they are imprinted with graphics and the way the modern citizen is spoken to in a bureaucratic or a playfully humorous manner. There are also examples in which a manual format is used. Interestingly, the Dog Poo Bag is distributed in a limited number of countries, and then mainly in the densely inhabited, touristic inner cities.



'NORTH KOREA' OLIVER WAINWRIGHT

These pictures are of interiors in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, "probably the only city in the world where the political ideology that produced the original urban plan is still intact", according to the photographer and architectural critic for The Guardian, Oliver Wainwright. They were taken during an architectural field trip to North Korea in 2015 in which Wainwright set out to document the result of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il's obsession with architecture as a means to create the image of a perfect society. – The photographs are a selection from a series of 200 published in Inside North Korea, Taschen 2018.

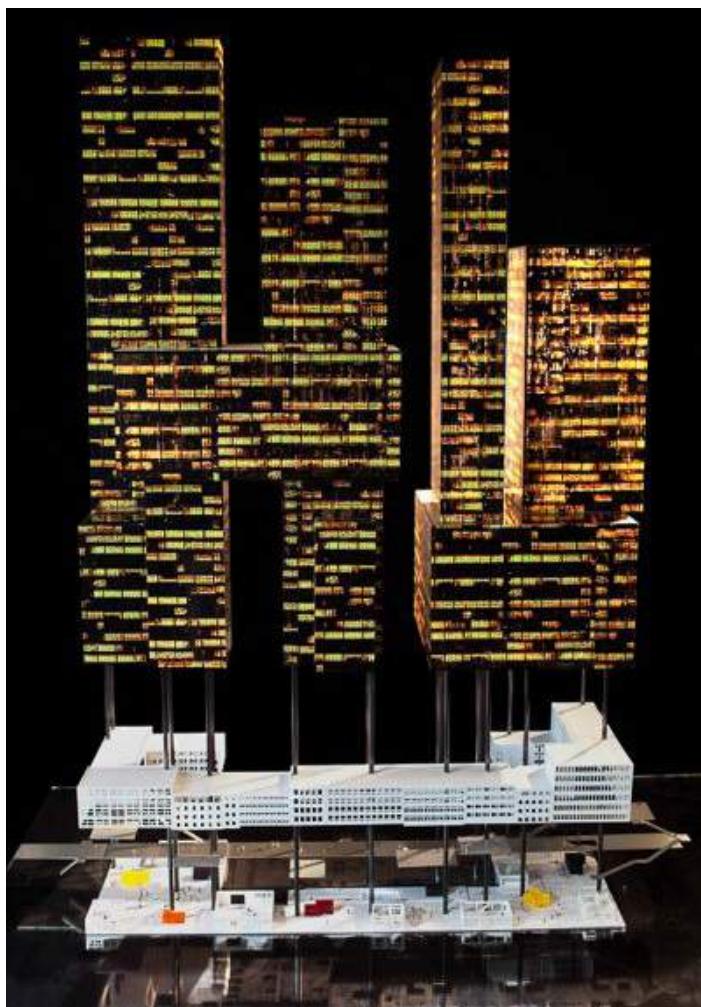


'500 MILE CITY' GLOBAL HOUSING STUDIO OF TU DELFT

In the 2018 spring semester, two design studios at Delft University of Technology: the Global Housing Studio and Design as Politics simultaneously ran a research and design studio dealing with urbanization in the southern urban coastal area of the greater Accra region, in and around the New Town of Tema. A final event and exhibition around their work was organized within the Independent School for the City.

EXHIBITIONS

'NEO-LOCALISM' ZUS [ZONES URBAINES SENSIBLES] 2008



When the municipality presented its urban development plans for Rotterdam Central District in 2008, it was clear that municipal bureaucracy was being put completely in the service of real estate development: the spatial plan was mainly an extrusion of the properties' economic potential. In response to this purely neoliberal-inspired plan, ZUS formulated the 'Neo-Localism' manifesto.

Neo-Localism does not start from the speculative financial value of an area but from the real value of the place – made up of the existing buildings, its current uses, and the human dimension. The manifesto consists of a short text, a real estate-inspired rendering, and a large maquette that shows the same mass as the proposed plan for Central District, but then as a composition of existing buildings with new build on top. The resulting combination of local and global results in a Glocal City District.

'A CITY OF COMINGS AND GOINGS' – CRIMSON HISTORIANS & URBANISTS



The exhibition "A City of Comings and Goings", originally part of the Venice Architecture Biennale 2018, has returned to Rotterdam and is on show in the Independent School for the City. The exhibition focuses on how the dynamics of migration affect European cities. The confrontation with the recent surge of asylum seekers (but also expats, EU-workers etc.) shows the basic lack of spatial flexibility in European cities to absorb new groups. From the spaces and buildings that have been designed or appropriated for migration, Crimson has distilled a panoramic view of The City Of Comings and Goings. The City of Comings and Goings is not a Utopia, nor is it a Masterplan. It is all of our Western European cities at once, together adapting to migration.

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

2018–2019 – VISITS AND MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 2018

- 10 Job Dura Price – Jury meeting
- 14 Opening De Dependance
- 26 Municipality Rotterdam: Council committee meeting

OCTOBER 2018

- 19 Opening event – Kick off the Independent School for the City. Start exhibitions:
 - Dog Poo Bags – Peter Veenstra (Lola Landscape Architecture)
 - 'North Korea' – Oliver Wainwright
 - '500 Mile City' – Global Housing Studio of TU Delft
 - 'A City of Comings and Goings' – Crimson Architectural Historians

NOVEMBER 2018

- 14 Pre-diner International New Town Day 2018
- 15 International New Town Day 2018, 'New Town Boom Town' international conference of International New Town Institute
- 16 TU Delft (Minor 'House for the future') presentation of results minor
- 24 Architecture Biennale in Venezia, presentation of Independent School at the final conference in Venice

JANUARY 2019

- 17 Focus group Schiekadeblok – meeting organised by Municipality of Rotterdam
- 21 School Advisory Board – meeting with the Masters
- 22 University of Central Lancashire (UK), presentation of Independent School
- 24 Coventry University (UK), presentation of Independent School
- 25 School's Out! #1 Maria Lisogorskaya (Assemble)
- 26 Workshop 'Pouring Concrete Planters' Maria Lisogorskaya (Assemble) & Tomas Dirrix

FEBRUARY 2019

- 5 UrbanGuides – meeting
- 8 School Advisory Board – meeting with the Masters
- 14 Groeikernenkring, International New Town Institute– meeting
- 22 School's Out! #2 Dirk Sijmons

MARCH 2019

- 6 Visit of students from Hong Kong University
- 7 Archiprix – Meeting and presentation on M4H, Nieuw Mathenesse
- 13 University of Tampa (USA), presentation of Independent School
- 17–25 Spring School 'Borders are for Crossing' in cooperation with CANactions School (Ukraine)
- 18 Taktal visit (Glasgow), meeting and presentation of Independent School
- 21 University of Baltimore, meeting and presentation of Independent School
- 25 Final presentations of results of Springschool, public meeting with guests and visitors
- 29 School's Out! #3 Lesley Lokko

APRIL 2019

- 9 Platform Wederopbouw, first meeting of focus group on the reconstruction of the Rotterdam Central District area.
- 9 Ben Judah, lecture, organised by De Dependance (in cooperation with the Independent School)
- 10 Expert-meeting with Ben Judah at Independent School
- 10 Lecture 'Architecture Now 13 Toekomstontwerpers', on Independent School in Pakhuis de Zwijger in Amsterdam
- 11 'Ontwerpen aan Nederland Fietsland', Presentation of results organised by College van Rijksadviseurs
- 26 School's Out #4 Dore van Duivenbode
- 29 Lecture Michelle Provoost about architect Maaskant for students from the University of Amsterdam.



Students of Hong Kong University at the School. Photo: Mike Emmerik

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

2018–2019 – VISITS AND MEETINGS

MAY 2019

- 17/18 CANactions Festival Kiev, presentation of Independent School at the CANactions Festival in Kiev, Oekraïne
31 Workshop Rotterdamse Dakendagen
31 School's Out! #5 Peter Barber

JUNE 2019

- 6 Expert Meeting 'Wie betaald de stad' met Vers Beton
24 - 28 Summer School Climate Utopia
28 School's Out! #6 Georgeen Theodore

JULY 2019

- 1-5 Summer School Climate Utopia
11 Boekpresentatie City of Comings and Goings
15 Bezoek Delegatie King Abdullah University of Science and Technology met VNG International

AUGUSTUS 2019

-

SEPTEMBER 2019

- 3 Bijeenkomst Urbanistas Rotterdam
26 Bezoek Hanzehogeschool Groningen , presentatie over de Independent School
26 Bijeenkomst Post 65 Post 65: Verkenning naar erfgoed uit 1965–1990
27 School's Out! #7 Liza Fior

OCTOBER 2019

- 3 New Territorial Narratives – about photography as a research tool. With Urban Reports, Theo Baart and the Nederlands Fotomuseum.
5-8 Film & Architecture Studio, with AFFR
21-29 Follow the Money Studio, with Powerhouse Company
25 School's Out! #8 Alfredo Brillembourg

NOVEMBER 2019

- 22 American planning association Benelux Meetup
25-29 Fossil Rotterdam Studio
29 School's Out! #9 Petra Blaisse

DECEMBER 2019

- 18 RCD Eindjaarsbijeenkomst en algemene ledenvergadering

JANUARY 2020

- 14 Bijeenkomst Brink groep
17 Bezoek Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art met Alia Farid
21 Bijeenkomst Platform Wederopbouw Rotterdam over het Schiekadeblok
23/24 Workshop Reconstructive Pottery with Sam Jacob
24 School Party! 2020 + Talk by Sam Jacob

FEBRUARY 2020

- 28 School's Out! #10 Momoyo Kaijima

MARCH 2020

- 05 Symposium: Worldmaking – Cities and Architecture on the Cold War Frontier
09-12 Citizens of the Anthropocene WK 1, vervolg online

APRIL 2020

- 30 Call and Digital Exhibition: Ideal city of our postviral future

MEI 2020

-

JUNI 2020

- 05 School's Out! ON AIR – Corona perspectives #1
12 School's Out! ON AIR – Corona perspectives #2
19 School's Out! ON AIR – Corona perspectives #3



IN THE MEDIA

THE ARCHITECTS NEWSPAPER

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SCHOOL FOR THE CITY

Dutch activists launch new school for urbanism and migration

By DANIEL HOROWITZ • November 12, 2018

International News Professional Practice

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR THE CITY

The Independent School for the City will give students the chance to study urbanism and migration in Rotterdam (Courtesy Independent School for the City)

A new school in Rotterdam will teach students to think critically about between urbanism and migration. Announced last month, the [Independent School for the City](#) will offer post-graduate students the chance to "feel complexity and contradiction in cities, and defend it against the forces making everything the same," according to Michelle Provoost, co-founder of [Crimson Architectural Historians](#) which is spearheading the new educational outlet.

Dutch activists launch new school for urbanism and migration in Architects Newspaper, 12 November 2018

Trending Most Popular Most Recent

- Architects, engineers, academics urge Macron not to rush Notre Dame reconstruction
- Junya Ishigami cancels MIT lecture over unpaid internship pushback
- KieranTimberlake's vision for Washington University to open this fall
- Foster + Partners pitches new Notre Dame spire as competition heats up
- Jakarta is striking, so Indonesia is relocating its capital

de Architect

PROJECTEN ARCHITECTUUR STEDENBOUW INTERIEU

gebiedsontwikkeling infrastructuur transformatie

Nieuws

1 Eine neue, alternative „Schule der Stadt“ für Rotterdam



Eine neue, alternative „Schule der Stadt“ für Rotterdam – Interview mit Michelle Provoost in Stadtbauwelt 221.6.2019
‘Teaching the City’

Independent School for the City. De Architect, maart 2019



De Independent School for the City is een nieuw interdisciplinair onderwijsprogramma van een jaar, voor post-graduate studenten

oals design, planning en architectuur in het Centraal Station, Historians & I

vers beton

Alle artikelen Dossiers Vacaturebank Nieuwsbrief Over

STEDELIJKE ONTWIKKELING EN ARCHITECTUUR

Crimson lanceert nieuwe onafhankelijke school in Rotterdam want het is hier ‘contradictory and complex’

De Rotterdamse architectuurwereld is een nieuwe opleiding rijk. De multidisciplinaire Independent School for the City moet studenten van over de hele wereld aantrekken die zich met stedelijke vraagstukken bezighouden. We spraken de oprichters van Crimson over hun ambities met *the school*.

Eva Liukku, Teun van den Ende, Fleur Beertnus, 25 januari 2019, leestijd 8 minuten



11 april 2019

Nauwelijks meer voorstellbaar, maar 25 jaar geleden kraakten jongeren volop huizen voor vluchtelingen en oude autochtone Amsterdammers vonden dat prima. Die vluchtelingen kwamen uit voormalig Joegoslavië. Kraakgroepen in de stad regelden met Nederlandse efficiëntie 140 woningen voor Kroaten, Bosniërs en Serviërs. *Ik was er zelf*

Migranten blijven dus misschien moeten we betere steden bedenken. Artikel van Margriet Oostveen in de Volkskrant van 11 april 2019 n.a.v. de masterclass met Ben Judah



Mike Emmerik, Simone Rots en Michelle Provoost

beeld: Fleur Beertnus

Crimson lanceert nieuwe onafhankelijke school in Rotterdam want het is hier ‘contradictory and complex’ in Vers Beton, 25 januari 2019

ABOUT

CRIMSON HISTORIANS & URBANISTS

CRIMSON Historians & Urbanists is Ewout Dorman, Mike Emmerik, Michelle Provoost, Annuska Pronkhorst, Simone Rots, Wouter Vanstiphout en Cassandra Wilkins. Sinds de oprichting in 1994, toen Crimson onderdeel werd van het planningsteam van 'Leidse Rijn', heeft het bureau zich ontwikkeld tot een hybride praktijk met de hedendaagse stad als onderwerp. CRIMSON ontwerpt voor de stad, onderzoekt het, geeft lezingen, schrijft teksten en maakt er boeken over, laat het zien in tentoonstellingen en kunstwerken, studeert, geeft advies en formuleert beleid. CRIMSON is expert op het gebied van naoorlogse architectuur- en stadsontwikkeling en is betrokken bij een groot aantal herontwikkeling- en transformatieprojecten van gemeentelijke- en rijksmonumenten en andere beeldbepalende gebouwen of gebieden. Het werk van CRIMSON heeft haar wortels in academisch onderzoek en de vertaling daarvan naar de praktijk. Daarnaast is CRIMSON een van de drijvende krachten achter het International New Town Institute, een platform voor onderzoek, onderwijs en kennisuitwisseling rondom nieuwe steden. Meer informatie: www.crimsonweb.org

ZUS [ZONES URBAINES SENSIBLES]

Founded in 2001 by Elma van Boxel and Kristian Koreman, ZUS is an interdisciplinary design bureau for city and landscape, with offices in Rotterdam and New York. ZUS is currently working with an international team on a metropolitan vision for Marseille (France), a plan for the New Meadowlands in New Jersey (US), and the design for a music venue and a cinema in Rotterdam (NL). Their unsolicited advice and activist attitude saw them win the Maaskant Prize for Young Architects and receive a nomination for Architect of the Year in 2012. They are Visiting Professors at Syracuse University School of Architecture, lead the 'Gentrification Lab NYC' and recently published a new book, "City of Permanent Temporality – Incomplete & Unfinished". More info: zus.cc