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SCHOOL X  
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ANNUAL  
OVERVIEW  
2020

# \_INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR THE CITY

This annual report gives an overview of the activities by the Independent School for the City in the year 2020. After its launch in October 2018, a vibrant testing year started during which the School managed to build up a track record, while simultaneously further developed its programme, expanded its audience and finetuned its organisational structure. This allowed us to launch the School's first full one-year programme that started in September 2019 and which was accompanied with an extensive campaign on social media and advertisements on websites and in magazines. Promoting a complete programme at once, helped us to generate more outreach which substantially increased the interest in our activities and led to more registrations for the School's courses and public events.

The educational activities between September and December 2019 were well attended and included the Film & Architecture Studio which was organised in collaboration with the Architecture Film Festival Rotterdam (AFFR), the Follow the Money Studio together with Powerhouse Company and Red Company, and the research by photography studio with photographer Ruben Dario Kleimeer on 'Fossil Rotterdam'. Also, the School's Out! evenings on every last Friday of the month were each time sold-out and starred internationally known guests such as Liza Fior (MUF architecture/art, UK), Alfredo Brillembourg (Urban Think Tank Design Partners, USA) and Petra Blaisse (Inside-Outside, NL).

Building upon this growing interest in the activities of the Independent School for the City we kick-started the year 2020 full of enthusiasm with a School Party to celebrate the 1+ anniversary of the School and to showcase our upcoming activities to the almost 200 guests that attended the party. For the occasion, we had invited the London based architect and designer Sam Jacob for a talk about his work and a public workshop. There was a performance by Studio Kling, a concert by the Smudged Toads, and beats by Operator Radio's Steve Blearics and Squattermarium. In February 2020 we hosted our last School's Out! event in its original form, for which we invited the Japanese architect Momoyo Kaijima for a presentation and workshop in the School, before the COVID-19 virus outbreak put a hold on many of our planned activities.



Photo by Maarten Laupman. School's Out! with Reinier de Graaf



Photo by Maarten Laupman. School Party, January 2020

We were in the middle of the two-week Citizens of the Anthropocene studio with Dirk Sijmons and Herman Kossmann, when the Dutch government announced radical measures to stop the spread of the virus and all public gatherings were restricted. Once 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. With the growing realization that this situation might take longer than initially expected we send out a call to our network to take a picture of things that has changed since Covid-19 hit, and that has proven itself to be nice or good or interesting or beautiful to such an extent that they would like to keep it even after the lockdown has lifted. Out of the pictures and texts that came in, we sewed an online quilt on our website that depicts the Ideal City of our Postviral Future. Simultaneously, we started compiling a weekly poster giving an overview on

how the pandemic developed and the effects it has on different aspects of the economy, culture, politics and other elements of the environment we live in. Also, we organised a series of three digital School's Out! - ON AIR events, titled 'Corona Perspectives' during which we talked with various experts about the problems that COVID-19 created, but also about the new perspectives it opens up.

While many of the educational activities were postponed or cancelled during the second quarter of 2020, we managed to organize the one-week summer school 'Against the Smooth City' with Failed Architecture, during a period in which the Covid-19 measures were slightly eased. A new increase in infections however forced us to move online again. From September onwards we therefore started to livestream our monthly School's Out! events from the School, hosting presentations and conversations with Reinier de Graaf in September, Jord en Hollander in October and Carlijn Kingma November. In October 2020 we even organized the fully online international symposium 'Taking Back Housing' in collaboration with the International New Town Institute with over 200 attendees, and in November we started a fully online education studio: the second edition of our Film and Architecture Studio with AFFR in which 20 people from all around the world participated.

In 2021 the Architectural Biennale in Venice with the theme 'How will we live together?' will take place. Het Nieuwe Instituut organises the national program 'Who are we? for the Biennale and both Rotterdam and Amsterdam were asked to develop a parallel program. The municipality of Rotterdam asked us to research the possibilities of a program and this resulted in 'the Polder of Babel, a Superdiverse city in the Antropocene', a course that we will organise in 2021 for the employees of municipality.

Although our activities in 2020 did not all happen as planned and some were even cancelled, we can look back at a successful year in which the School managed to remain visible and relevant in an uncertain and turbulent time. The online activities allowed us to reach different audiences and to experiment with hybrid programmes which will most likely remain a part of our activities and will enrich the School's offer.



Photo by Maarten Laupman, Summer School 2020



Photo by Maarten Laupman, Summer School 2020



# ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR THE CITY

The Independent School for the City was established in 2018 to create international platform and meeting place for knowledge exchange that approaches the contemporary city in an interdisciplinary, conceptual and pragmatic way. It aims to be a sanctuary, a learning community, open to everyone who is involved with the city. The Independent School 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 divers international network of practices and institutions. The Independent School for The City wants to be just as complex, useful and stubborn as the city in which it originated. The School does not defend professional, commercial or political interests and does not do city marketing. Ultimately, the Independent School provides a platform to face the challenges of the city with an open mind, without window dressing.

The Independent School for the City organizes various educational activities at the post-graduate level, each with approximately 20 to 25 (international) participants from various multidisciplinary backgrounds. The School is deliberately independent and autonomous and from that position can be more critical, experiment more, and reach a different audience than the established institutions and accredited schools. The School does not have a fixed curriculum that one has to follow from A to Z,

but offers a flexible framework of activities, which is adapted and tuned to current events every year. The program is motivated by the daily practice of its founding organizations: Crimson Historians and Urbanists and ZUS [Zones Urbaines Sensibles]. Both offices are deeply rooted within the city of Rotterdam, while simultaneously operating globally. Together they took the initiative for the founding of the School, advocating and using an incremental development of the city in an activist and critical way, with history, participation. and (permanent) temporality as instruments. The activities are developed using the international network of Crimson and ZUS, as well as the broad variety of Rotterdam-based design offices and 'urban' organizations.

In addition to the educational program, the School is also a public architecture centre; A place where architecture and urban research are celebrated, showcased and discussed. Where professionals and other interested parties can talk, learn and debate about the city with other 'urbanists' in an informal setting. A place to gather and celebrate the eternal modernity of Rotterdam in the raw industrial atmosphere of our building designed by Maaskant.

The School, with its conferences, debates, workshops and educational programme, has become an indispensable meeting place in the heart of Rotterdam, a place where there is always something to learn and discover. Since its establishment in October 2018, the School has acquired a valuable place within the ecosystem of architecture institutions in Rotterdam, as can be seen in the annual report as well as on the website: [www.schoolforthecity.nl](http://www.schoolforthecity.nl)



Photo by Maarten Laupman, February 2020

# \_PUBLIC EVENTS

## 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

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 Jord den 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.



## SCHOOL'S OUT! #10 MOMOYO KAIJIMA



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

Momoyo Kaijima, co-founder of the Tokyo-based design firm Atelier Bow-wow, was the speaker at School's Out! #10 on 28 February 2020. Kaijima gave an overview of their teaching and commercial work at Atelier bow-wow which includes building, research and art projects – always trying to get as close as possible to the community they work for in both the architectural aesthetics as well as in the materialisation and construction techniques.

Starting in 1993 by documenting the unique urban reality of Tokyo, Atelier bow-wow produced a number of publications in the form of guidebooks, introducing the reader to the accidental, ad-hoc nature of the urban landscape. Atelier Bow-wow's approach to architecture is informed by this research and what they have termed 'micro public space', in which they attempt to recreate some of the behaviours and meetings that occur in the city in gallery installations and in their buildings. They do this through the deployment of customised urban furniture that encourages active user participation, such as their 'Furnicycle' designed for the 2002 Shanghai Biennale or the design of public kitchens and vegetable kiosks. In both their exhibition design and the design of buildings, Atelier Bow-wow construct situations rather than objects, design processes that can result in chance meetings and leaving room for users to adapt and appropriate space.

# \_PUBLIC EVENTS

## SCHOOL'S OUT! – ON AIR CORONA PERSPECTIVES

NAME EVENT	School's Out! ON AIR – Corona Perspectives
DATE	05, 12, 19/06/2020
SPEAKERS	Michelle Provoost, 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
MODERATOR	Christine de Baan
IEWS	ca. 200 per edition

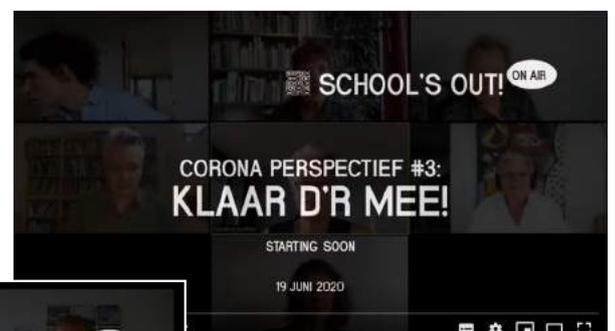
On Friday 05, 12 and 19 June 2020 we organized three Schools Out! live-stream conversations about the consequences of COVID-19 for Rotterdam. Moderated by Christine De Baan, we spoke about the problems it creates, but also about the new perspectives it opens up.

During the first meeting on Friday, June 5, we spoke with Felix Rottenberg, Aziz Yagoub (Annabel), Michelle Mandos (Municipality

of Rotterdam), Olphaert den Otter (artist), Lonneke van Straalen (violinist and coach) and Matijs Jansen (Wunderbaum) about the opportunities and obstacles of establishing a bank to support Rotterdam makers, independent producers, designers and artists.

The second conversation with 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 (Municipality of Rotterdam) and Jorn Wemmenhove (Humankind) was centered around the effect of corona on the design of our urban surroundings and how this crisis offers opportunities to change aspects of the city that have long been on our wish list.

And during the third meeting, we spoke with Riek Bakker, Dirk Sijmons, Wouter Vanstiphout, Astrid Kockelkoren and Fenna Haakma Wagenaar about the opportunities and necessity of using the Corona-related money flows, administrative flexibility and decisiveness to bring about structural changes.



# \_PUBLIC EVENTS

## SCHOOL'S OUT! #11 REINIER DE GRAAF



NAME EVENT School's Out! #11 Reinier de Graaf (online)  
DATE Friday 25/09/2020  
MODERATOR Michelle Provoost and Wouter Vanstiphout  
VIEWS 2300+

The first School's Out! after the summer holiday was a special one! Architect and author Reinier de Graaf was our guest at the online version of School's Out! #11 to reveal the manuscript of his forthcoming novel 'The Masterplan'. Like his highly acclaimed collection of essays 'Four Walls and a Roof', his latest book is a merciless meditation on the paradoxes and dilemmas of the architectural profession. As a novel it is also a very personal account of the profession's psychology. The presentation took the form of a conversation with Michelle Provoost and Wouter Vanstiphout, during which Reinier de Graaf read some fragments of the text.

## SCHOOL'S OUT! #12 JORD DEN HOLLANDER



NAME EVENT School's Out! #12 Jord den Hollander (online)  
DATE Friday 20/11/2020  
MODERATOR Michelle Provoost  
VIEWS Unknown (video offline)

Architect, curator and filmmaker Jord den Hollander took us on a spectacular online journey along the reciprocal relation between film and architecture. From the first 19th century phantom rides to the latest computer generated images that changed our vision of the built environment.

## SCHOOL'S OUT! #13 CARLIJN KINGMA



NAME EVENT School's Out! #13 Carlijn Kingma  
DATE Friday 27/11/2021  
MODERATOR Piet Vollaard and Michelle Provoost  
VIEWS 280

Carlijn Kingma took us on a tour through her incredibly detailed utopian maps of worlds of thought, through which she investigates the often-invisible structures, mechanisms, and organizations that determine how we got here, and show us where we can go.

# \_PUBLIC EVENTS

## INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM: TAKING BACK HOUSING

NAME EVENT	Taking Back Housing
DATE	16 October 2020
SPEAKERS	Michelle Provoost, Peter Kuenzli, Maarten van Poelgeest, Gerard Roemers, Arie Lengkeek, Piet Vollaard, Han van de Wetering, Lina Hurlin, Darinka Czischke, Marije Raap, Marc Koehler, Jacqueline Tellinga, Annet Akkerma, Ninke Happel and Laura Weeber.
VIEWS	900+

On the 19th of October, we co-hosted the international symposium Taking Back Housing! together with the International New Town Institute. During this online symposium, speakers from the Netherlands and abroad talked about the challenges of alternative housing projects such as housing cooperatives, DIY builders, former squatters and developing architects. These projects radically challenge the conventional planning methods. There are many obstacles to overcome, mostly in the institutional unwillingness or inability to deal with non-professionals or with a not-for-profit approach. Who and what is holding back these projects? What can be done about it? During the symposium Taking Back Housing! we brought together examples to clearly state the problem and to formulate ways forward.

The symposium was organised in four blocks: During the first block, Michelle Provoost pointed out the urgencies of the topic, Peter Kuenzli introduced us to the history and the background of housing cooperatives in the Netherlands followed by Maarten van Poelgeest on the necessity to democratize housing.

During the second block, multiple examples from the Netherlands were shown: Gerard Roemers presented housing cooperative de Warren in Amsterdam, Arie Lengkeek talked about Het Rotterdams Woongenootschap) and Piet Vollaard presented Stad in de Maak (City in the Making, Rotterdam).

In the third block, successful examples from abroad were presented. Han van de Wetering talked about the Genossenschaften in Zürich and Lina Hurlin told us about the Mietshäuser Syndikat in Germany. Darinka Czischke (TU Delft) gives a critical reflection afterwards.

During the final, fourth block, the ambitions and plans of Amsterdam and Rotterdam were discussed. Marije Raap presented Amsterdam's Action Plan followed by reactions from architect Marc Koehler and urban planner Jacqueline Tellinga. Annet Akkerma presented the policy of Rotterdam followed by reactions from architect Ninke Happel and architect Laura Weeber. Michelle Provoost ends the symposium by stating her final remarks.



# \_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

## CITIZENS OF THE ANTHROPOCENE

DATE Monday 09/ – Friday 13/03/2020 in the school, afterwards online.

TUTORS Dirk Sijmons, Herman Kossmann, Ewout Dorman, Mike Emmerik, Michelle Provoost, and Wouter Vanstiphout.

CONTRIBUTORS Miquel Ballester, Jord den Hollander, Willemijn de longh, Kees Moeliker, Pim Neefjes, Matthijs Schouten and Robbert de Vrieze

PARTICIPANTS 8

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,



Photo by Mike Emmerik

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, was brought together in an interactive digital document.



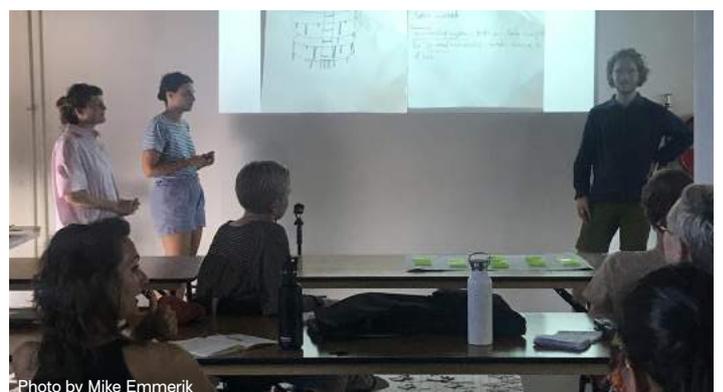
# \_EDUCATION PROGRAMME

## SUMMER SCHOOL AGAINST THE SMOOTH CITY

DATE 03 - 07 August 2021  
TUTORS Rene Boer, Mark Minkjan, Mike Emmerik,  
Michelle Provoost and Wouter Vanstiphout  
CONTRIBUTORS Anastasia Kubrak, Colin Keays and  
Pablo Sendra  
PARTICIPANTS 15

Cities are increasingly becoming smooth, scripted and completed urban landscapes, apparently freed from any kind of imperfection, abnormality or friction. The rise of the 'smooth city' is a major shift in the development of the city, and is closely related to similar processes of 'smoothening' in other domains, such as fashion or consumer technologies. The demand for safe, clean and well-functioning urban environments is understandable, but what does the consolidation of the 'smooth city' mean for the conflictive, non-normative and subversive side of the 21st century polis? Does the 'smooth city' threaten the vitality of the public domain, and even the democratic character of our cities? This was explored during the summer school Against the Smooth City, which took place from 3 to 7 August 2020.

For this one-week studio we teamed up with René Boer and Mark Minkjan of Failed Architecture, who guided the participants in a critical engagement with contemporary urban smoothness. After collectively developing a nuanced understanding of the smooth dimensions of central Rotterdam, participants started working in small groups on strategies and design interventions which focused on developing a critical response to the 'smoothness' of a certain place, and the potential qualities of 'unsmooth' spaces.



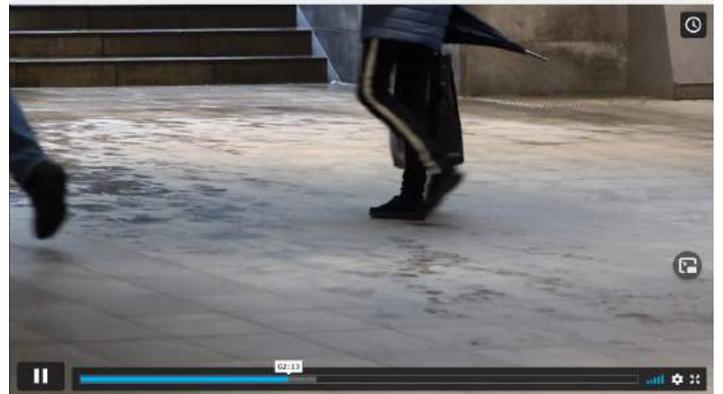
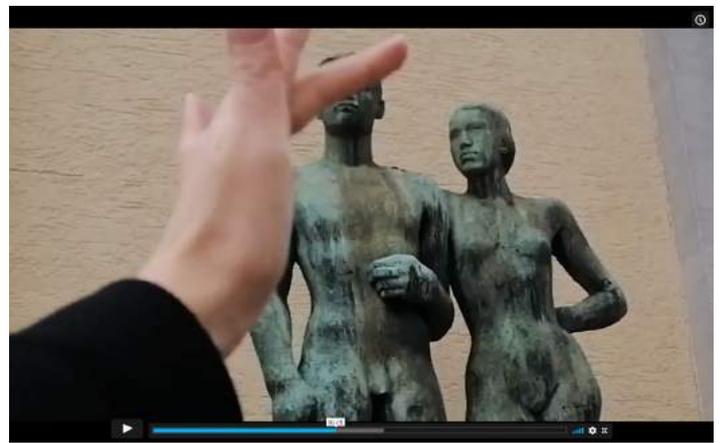
# \_EDUCATION PROGRAMME

## FILM AND ARCHITECTURE STUDIO 2021 – DAILY LIFE IN TIMES OF CORONA (ONLINE)

DATE November 2020 – January 2021  
TUTORS Jord den Hollander, Joep Mol, Michelle Provoost,  
Mike Emmerik and Ewout Dorman  
CONTRIBUTORS Hans Christan Post and Erik van Empel  
PARTICIPANTS 14

After a successful first edition in 2019, the Independent School for the City and the Architecture Film Festival Rotterdam (AFFR) have joined forces again in 2020 to organize another course on film and architecture that offers a comprehensive method to use cinematic language in architecture and urban design.

It was an hands-on online studio that focuses on learning and understanding the narrative of filmmaking as a way to explore the built environment. Participants in this course were introduced to the essential elements of filmmaking and learned how to relate these to architecture and the city. The focus of the studio was not so much on the technical aspects of filmmaking and post-production, but rather on film as a way to structure thoughts and to turn observations and findings into a gripping story.



The studio was organized around a series of zoom meetings that took place between November 2020 and January 2021. Through bi-weekly meetings and conversations with various cinematic professionals, we explored framing as a way of looking at the city, talked about the main principles of storytelling, and dived into the use of scenarios as a means to structure and relate different elements to develop a certain narrative. Taking the current situation of the coronavirus as a starting point, participants were asked to produce a short film of around 3 minutes that explored their personal experiences concerning the space we live in: isolation, distance, closed off in our houses, separated in the streets. The course included online lectures by architect and curator Jord den Hollander, filmmaker Hans Christan Post and Director of Photography Erik van Empel.

# \_EDUCATION PROGRAMME

## THE POLDER OF BABEL COMMUNITY OF LEARNING

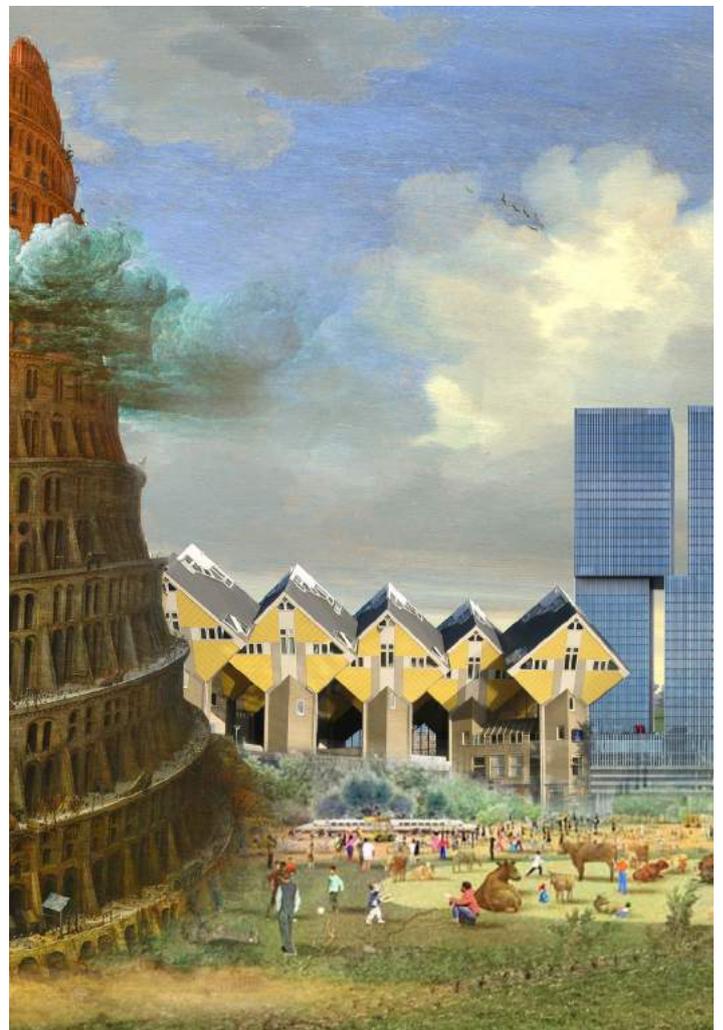
DATE April 2020 – Ongoing

The Independent School for the City was asked by the municipality of Rotterdam and Het Nieuwe Instituut to develop a parallel programme to the Dutch contribution to the 17th Venice Biennale of Architecture. In this programme, The central question of the Biennale “How will we live together?” as posed by its curator Hashim Sarkis and the counter-question “Who is we?” which is central to the Dutch contribution, will be connected to urban development of Rotterdam. The Independent School for the City has decided to link these questions to the topics of the Anthropocene and Superdiversity, which are already part of our educational programme.

From April onwards the Independent School has started a preliminary study in which the topics of the Anthropocene and Superdiversity are being further explored and concretised through desk research, interviews, the analysis of illustrative projects and (online) conversations. In the next phase, the School will work together with a group of 20 employees of the municipality of Rotterdam from various departments as well as a selection of other spatial professionals who are active in the area. Together we will explore different cases in Rotterdam through the lens of the Anthropocene and Superdiversity in order to ground these comprehensive and sometimes unclear topics in the reality of Rotterdam.

### The Polder of Babel

The Netherlands and in particular the port city of Rotterdam has an international reputation for the invention and development of new landscapes and urban areas. This development has always relied on a sense of collective urgency and pragmatism in the



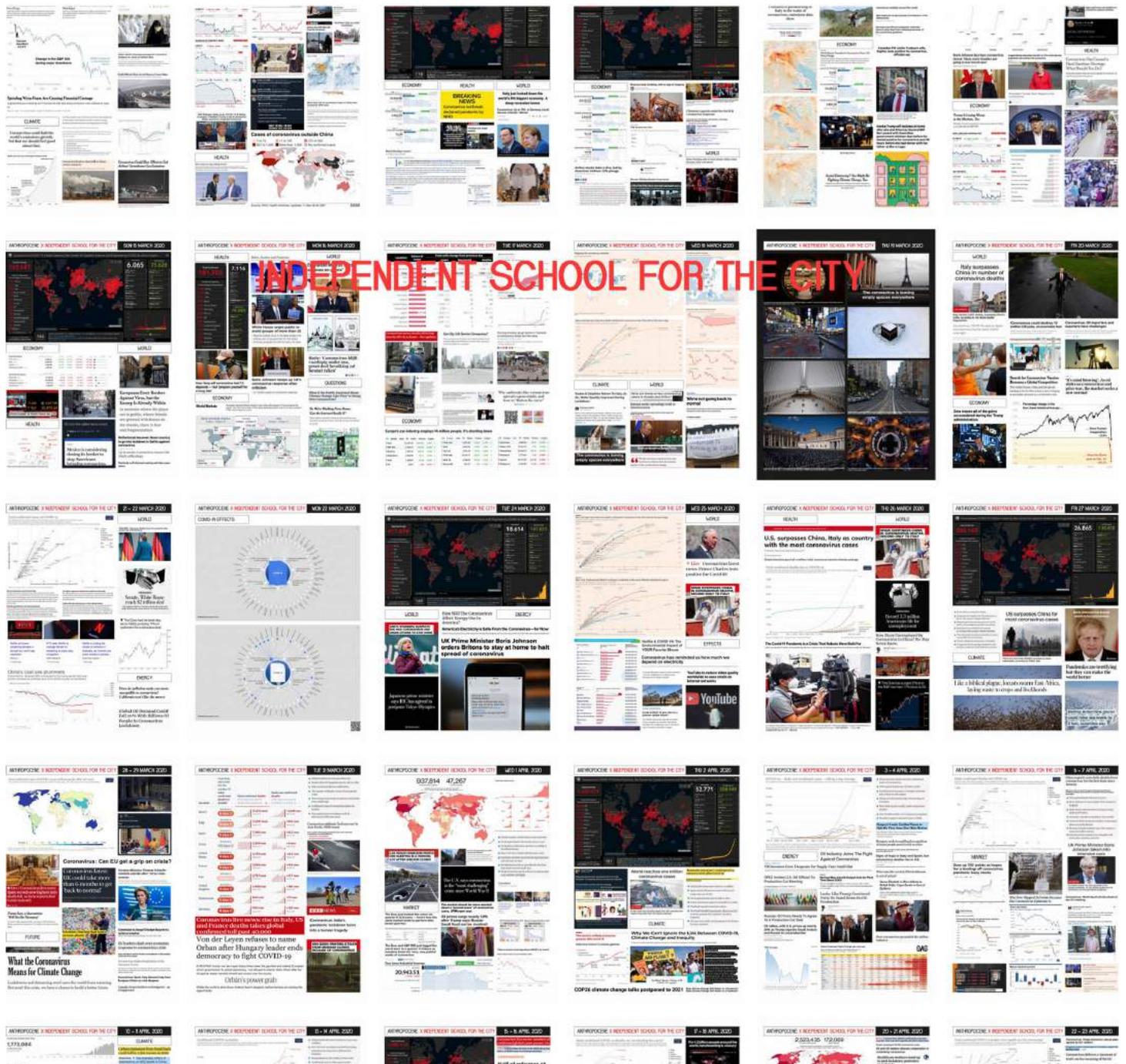
face of the direst of circumstances. Today Rotterdam – like many cities around the world – is struggling to find a new balance in ‘living together’ between people and with nature. While on the one hand Rotterdam has proudly become the most diverse city of the Netherlands with a fantastic bazaar of languages, cultures and identities, it also has to cope with large differences in income, housing situation and development opportunities between the various groups in the city. Simultaneously it wants to be a green and resilient city while it still very much depends on its fossil-based industry and economy. In this learning community we will explore how a city that is as diverse and confusing as the biblical Babel, can create the collective sense of urgency needed to build a new, green future for all?

Following the approach of the Independent School for the City as an interdisciplinary meeting place and knowledge exchange center for (future) urban professionals, the community of learning will on the one hand scrutinise the city through the lens of the Anthropocene, the era in which the Earth’s climate and atmosphere are strongly influenced by human activity. On the other hand, Rotterdam will be examined as a Superdiverse city, which means a city of which more than half of its population consists of a diverse mix of ethnicities.

# \_EXHIBITIONS

## COVID-19 REPORTS

Since the COVID-19 outbreak in the Netherlands and the following lock-down in March 2020, our researchers have been compiling a weekly poster giving an overview on how the pandemic developed and the effects it has on different aspects of the economy, culture, politics and other elements of the environment we live in. An overview of all our reports can be found on our website



# \_EXHIBITIONS

## IDEAL CITY OF OUR POSTVIRAL FUTURE

Like many institutions all around the world, the school had to temporarily close its doors in the beginning of March 2020. With all our friends and family being in lockdown at home, we sent out a request to everyone who has attended our events or participated in one of our courses, studio's, workshops, spring- or summer schools and everyone else who feels some connection to the school. We asked them to send us a photographic image of an urban corona effect, with a little caption telling us where and what it is and why they would like to keep it around for the time being.

Out of the pictures and texts that came in, we sewed an online quilt that depicts the Ideal City of our Postviral Future. The result can be seen on our website



IN THE HAGUE THE BEACH IS DIVIDED BETWEEN SOUTH OF THE SCHEVENINGEN HARBOUR ENTRANCE, HET STILLE STRAND, AND NORTH OF THE HARBOUR, DE BOULEVARD. THIS PICTURE, MADE DURING A MORNING RUN, ON A BEAUTIFUL SUNNY DAY WHERE YOU 'NORMALLY' ZIG-ZAG BETWEEN THE SUN-TAN-BODIES AND CONSUMING CROWDS. THE BUSY BEACH IS IN THESE TIMES EVEN MORE QUIET THAN THE OTHER SIDE. AMAZING! - MAARTEN VAN BREMEN



BEACH - COMMERCELESS STRAND ZUID ON A CHILLY DAY WITH THE USUAL HANG OUT SPOTS LOCKED DOWN, PEOPLE SEEK THE OUTDOORS MORE OFTEN TO COME TOGETHER - OANA RADES



DUCKS - REDISCOVERING THE SURROUNDING BEAUTY THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS - YOUNG PEOPLE FEEDING AND PHOTOGRAPHING DUCKLINGS ON HEEMRAADSSINGEL DURING WORKING HOURS - OANA RADES



EVERY CORNER, EVERY CITY (...) NOTHING BUT PEACE, LOVE AND STREET PASSION - OANA RADES



THE ROTTERDAM CONCERT HALL 'DE DOELEN' HELPS MUSICIANS BY LETTING THEM PERFORM IN THE TOTALLY EMPTY THEATRE. A VERY DIVERS PROGRAM WHERE THE 1.5 METER DISTANCE RULE APPLIES. PICTURED HERE A LOCAL BAND'S DRUMMER PRACTICES JUST BEFORE THEIR PERFORMANCE. EACH WEEKDAY DURING LUNCH HOUR, A CONCERT IS AIRED ON THE HALL'S WEBSITE AND LATER ON YOUTUBE -



TIME TO BOND WITH NATURE IN YOUR OWN GARDEN! - SIMONE ROTTS



A NICE THING ABOUT CORONA IS THAT MORE AND MORE KIDS ARE PLAYING ON THE STREETS AGAIN. MAINLY BECAUSE THIS IS A SAFER PLACE FOR CHILDREN TO MEET THAN INDOORS. THERE ARE A LOT OF CHALKDRAWINGS ON THE STREETS MADE BY THESE KIDS. #CITYISMYPLAYGROUND #DESTADISMIJNSPEELTUIN - RON BLOM



KRALINGEN-WEST, ROTTERDAM - THE SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN PEOPLE (WITH OR WITHOUT FACE MASKS) WHO COMBINE MOVEMENT AND ENCOUNTER IN PUBLIC SPACE IS STRIKING - STEF BOGAERDS



# ACTIVITY CALENDAR 2020

## VISITS AND MEETINGS

### 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 (afterwards the course continued online)

### APRIL 2020

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

### MAY 2020

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### JUNE 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
- 30 Pop Down/Melt Up workshop by CBK Zeeland

### AUGUST 2020

- 3-7 Summer School Against the Smooth City

### SEPTEMBER 2020

- 21-24 New Town Lab Rotterdam East
- 25 TU Delft Interiors Buildings Cities MSC2 Kickoff meeting
- 25 School's Out! #11 with Reinier de Graaf

### OCTOBER 2020

- 16 Taking Back Housing! - Online international symposium with International New Town Institute
- 30 School's Out! #12 with Jord den Hollander

### NOVEMBER 2020

- 10, 17, 19, 26 Film and Architecture Studio 2021: Daily Life in Times of Corona (Online)
- 27 School's Out! #13 with Carlijn Kingma

### DECEMBER 2020

- 01, 10, 15, 22 Film and Architecture Studio 2021: Daily Life in Times of Corona (Online)
- 15 Contribution by Wouter Vanstiphout to the Research conference: Almost History at ArkDes (online)



# \_IN THE MEDIA

**Trouw**

OPINIE RELIGIE&FILOSOFIE DUURZAAMHEID&NATUUR CU

Grote steden

## Les uit de coronacrisis: Onze steden zijn veel kwetsbaarder dan we dachten



Het Oudekerksplein in Amsterdam, normaal druk met toeristen, ligt er nu rustig bij. Beeld AP

Wat legt de coronacrisis bloot over de staat van steden? Ze zien er vooral broos en kwetsbaar uit, zegt hoogleraar ontwerp en politiek Wouter Vanstiphout. Er ontstaan zelfs zombiewijken.

Les uit de coronacrisis: Onze steden zijn veel kwetsbaarder dan we dachten in Trouw, 22 Mei 2020

Stedenbouw en de zoektocht naar 'common ground' voor het Nederland van 2050

# Tegen de versplintering

Tekst Michelle Provoost, Wouter Vanstiphout en Mike Emmerik

In de discussie rondom publieke waarden en kwaliteit, zou de beroepsgroep van stedenbouwkundigen zich meer moeten doen gelden. In het versplinterde institutionele landschap van de ruimtelijke inrichting kunnen stedenbouwers met hun verbeeldingskracht het voortouw nemen door alvast na te denken over hoe het Nederland van de toekomst eruit kan zien.

Nederlandse stedenbouwkundigen staan niet alleen bekend als kundige ontwerpers, maar vooral ook als vakmensen die maatschappelijke opgaven weten te vertalen naar ontwerp en tegenstrijdige belangen te verbinden met overkoepelende vergezichten. Die zogenaamde *Dutch approach* bestaat al een hele tijd. De grote ruimtelijke-ordenings- en stedenbouwkundige projecten van de afgelopen eeuw waren altijd sterk verbonden met de opgaven en doelen van die tijd. Honderd jaar geleden was dat bijvoorbeeld het beroemde plan van Berlage voor Amsterdam-Zuid; een ruimtelijk ontwerp dat alleen te begrijpen is als de vorming van een burgerlijke klasse en de emancipatie van de arbeidersklasse, gesymboliseerd door de Amsterdamse School-architectuur.

47 / EERHERSTEL VOOR DE COMMONS

Tegen de versplintering. Article by Michelle Provoost, Wouter Vanstiphout and Mike Emmerik in magazine De Blauwe Kamer #2 / 2020

Hoe corona ons laat zien wat we eigenlijk al wisten in Architectuur Lokaal Magazine, summer 2020



Advertisement Dirty Old Town in Monu Magazine Pandemic Urbanism, October 2020



## Hoe corona ons laat zien wat we eigenlijk al wisten

Tijdens een internationale bijeenkomst van The Independent School for the City, een multidisciplinaire opleiding voor ruimtelijke en stedelijke professionals, sloop het coronavirus binnen. Mike Emmerik, onder meer adviseur verstedelijking en mobiliteit van het College van Rijksadviseurs, hoort na de lock down op bezinning op ruimtelijke ontwerpogaven. HOE ONDER

# \_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](http://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](http://zus.cc)