

Henrik Valeur

Portfolio

1995-2013

Das Letzte Haus

Competition: Selected

Team: Henrik Valeur



Austria

architecture

Concept: A multitude of spaces for a split personality (inspired by Elias Canetti's *Der Ohrenzeuge*).



Henrik Valeur © 1995

Garden of Justice

urban landscape

Competition

Team: Henrik Valeur

Concept: The Garden of Justice is located behind the Criminal Courts Building in Downtown Los Angeles. The subterranean parking space, which includes a water basin for sharks and a jogging lane in a suspended glass tube, receives daylight from scattered openings. During night, these openings transmit artificial light to the park above ground.



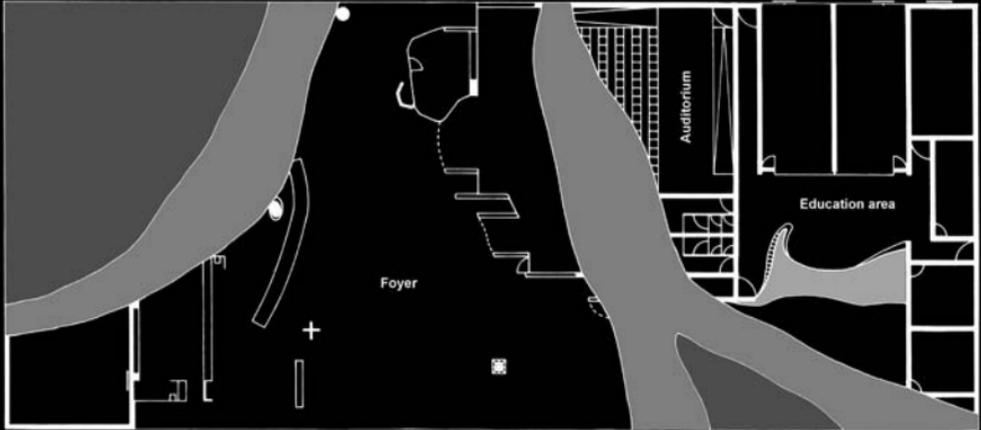
Zoo

Competition: Honorable mention

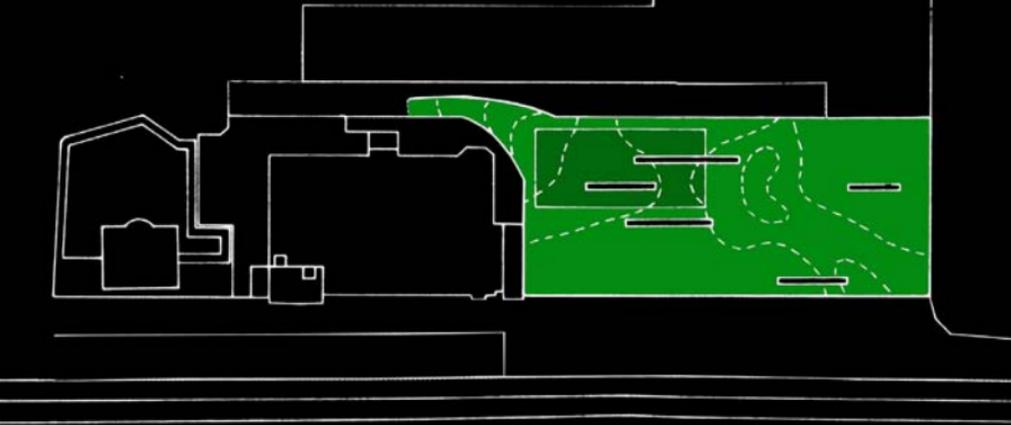
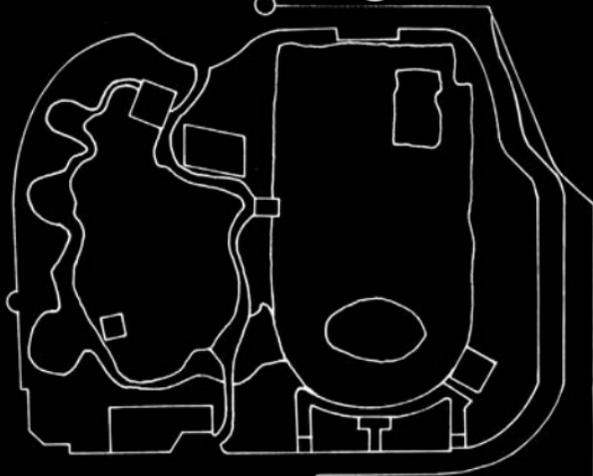
Team: Henrik Valeur

Jury's comments: *The small - and rather inaccessible - project resembles an elevated landscape, through which a vigorously formed passage is cut out. The proposal is praised for its artistic nerve.*

building landscape



Copenhagen



Henrik Valeur © 1996

1U97 (University: 1st phase)



Copenhagen

building design



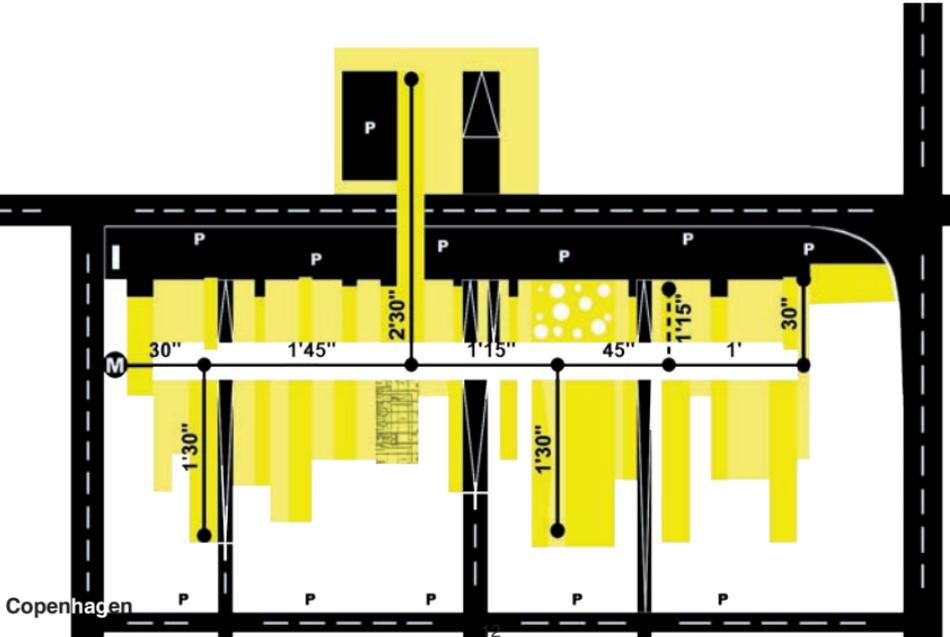
Competition: Prize

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzon, Bjarke Ingels, Bent Poulsen and Uwe Wütherich in collaboration with landscape architect Camilla Hjerl and consulting engineers Ole Vanggaard and Buro Happold.

Concept: To the outside the first phase of the new university displays huge billboards, illuminated signs and projections on the facade of the Slab and basketball players and ballet dancers in the Black Box.

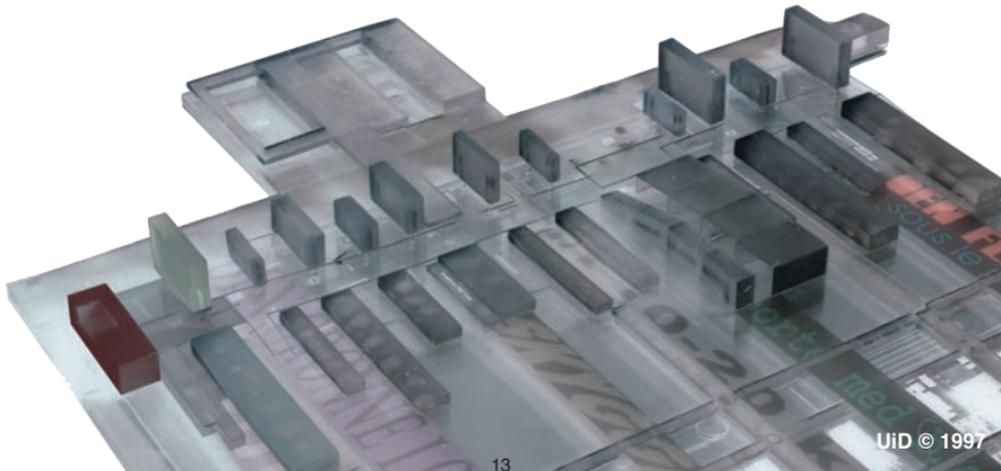
2U97 (University: complete)

Concept: The Faculty of Humanities consists of various units which are linked to an open transit area. Each unit is assigned a zone in the transit area, in which it can display and market individual products, in competition with the other units. The transit area ensures minimum distances measured in time and maximum exposure of offers. As a system of communication it is both hyper efficient in terms of localising specific information, in provoking explorations into new informational territories and in providing opportunities for crashing into unexpected informations.



building planning

Excerpt from the jury's report: *The project [...] seeks to create a new reality for the university [...] With its numerous layers of identity and use the overall structure can be seen as a place where dialogue and concentration meet.*



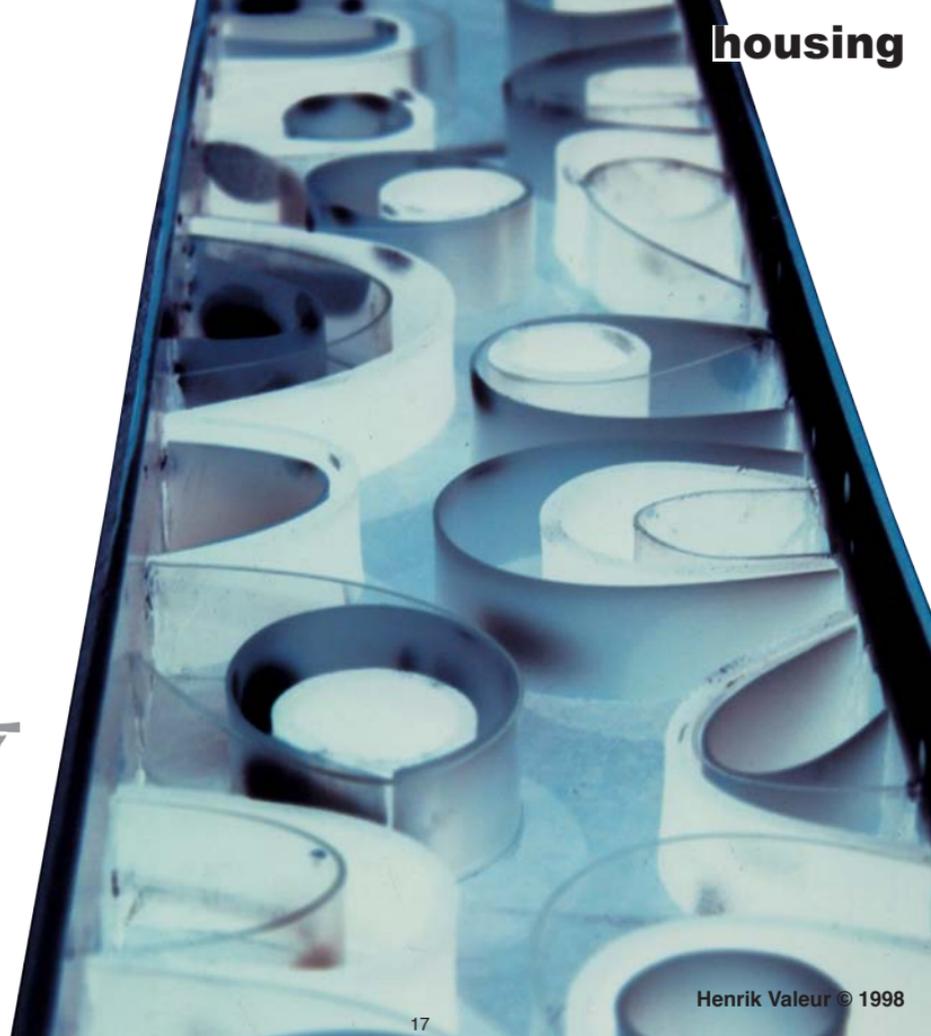
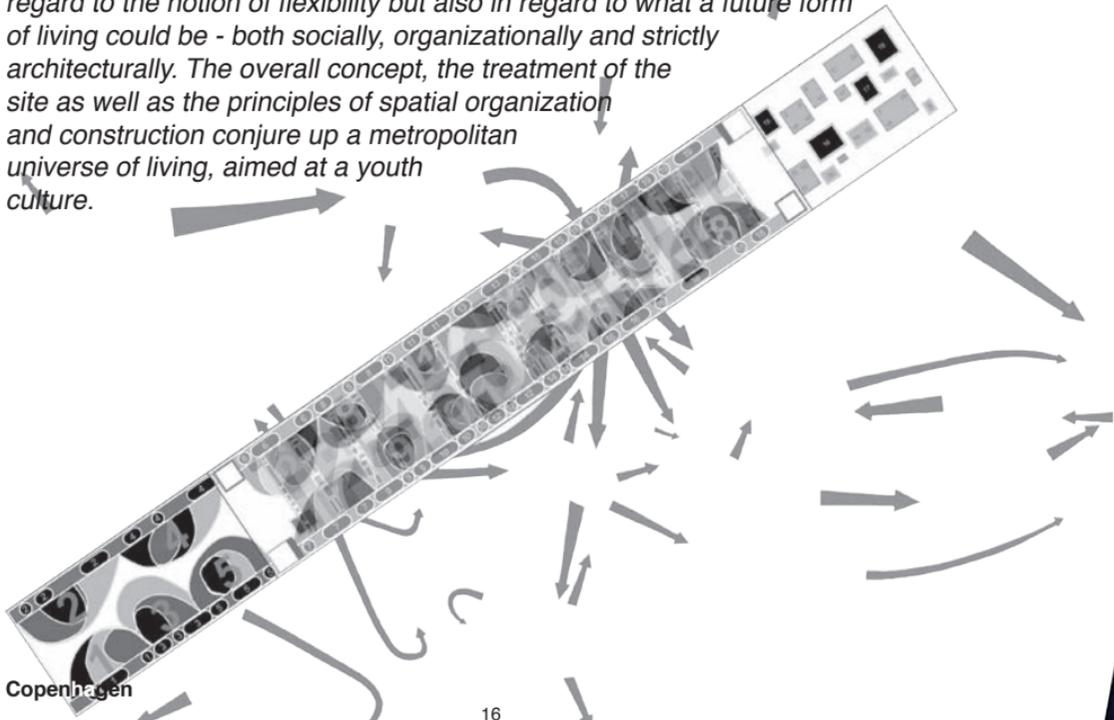
Flex-bo

housing

Competition: Honourable mention

Team: Henrik Valeur

Excerpt from the jury's report: *The jury wishes to commend this proposal, because it has decisively challenged the jury's comprehension not only in regard to the notion of flexibility but also in regard to what a future form of living could be - both socially, organizationally and strictly architecturally. The overall concept, the treatment of the site as well as the principles of spatial organization and construction conjure up a metropolitan universe of living, aimed at a youth culture.*



K98 Blender

building design

Competition

Team: Henrik Valeur, Uwe Wütherich, Ivan Ikhlef and Victor Tenez Ybern

Concept: The Blender is a detached mega hybrid composed of a folded Programme Surface between an Advertising Block and a Public Service Screen.

The 405" Screen can be used for open air projections of breaking news, film, sport events, satellite conferences and weather reports. The Block is a 2.5 metres deep grid structure providing a vertical parking system financed by the advertisements on the exterior facade, and operated by a machine loading and unloading cars on every level of the building, thus making it possible to leave a car at one location and to pick it up at another.

Light installations on the folded surface for easy replaceable programmes focus on body care, education, socialisation, shopping and entertainment, attracting would be consumers and random bypassers. Interior ramps, escalators, elevators, sidewalks and streets makes the Blender accessible to all kinds of traffic. And the multitude of offers they are exposed to on their way stimulate an interrelated commercial and social dynamic.

K98 Schizoscape

urban landscape

Competition

Team: Henrik Valeur, Uwe Wütherich, Ivan Ikhlef and Victor Tenez Ybern

Concept: By mixing the already existing splotches of grass, seaweed, rush, sand and wetland with splotches of asphalt, and by allowing nature and the individual enterprise of the users to decide which splotches should expand and which should contract where and when, it would be possible to imagine a moving landscape where different surfaces overlap and are displaced.

Since no one can claim the property of a moving terrain and since we are all in a way, though at different times, the same character: the automobile driver and the pedestrian, the buyer and the seller ... there would be no need for fences or other types of divides on the ground. Disparate volumes, trafficants and activities could freely co-exist within such a territory.

The realisation of this 'schizoscape', in combination with new technologies and lifestyles, could lead to new everyday experiences: such as feeling snowflakes melting on your body inside a perfectly controlled environment; shopping on a rainy day on the beach; doing your office work accompanied by the mating songs of birds.

Exhibition: at Arkitekturgalleriet, Gammel Dok

Team: Henrik Valeur (curator) with participating architects Alex Wall, Christophe Cornubert, MIKAN, njiric+njiric, WEST8 and UiD

Review: *The UID group on the ground floor of Gammel Dok, with the architect, Henrik Valeur, as the front man, marks an unexpected turn in the short history of Arkitekturgalleriet [...] These are radical attempts at a new architectural practice, but almost de-illuminated [...] at first sight the quotations out of context or the mischievous clippings on the walls critically turn their back on the subject of architecture, away from any architectural core. But it is there ! Floating somewhere in between text fragments, photos [...]* (Information)



Reality is infinite and obscure, never the same and never just one. There is no reason to pretend otherwise.



Virkeligheden er uoverskuelig og uigennemskuelig, aldrig den samme og aldrig kun en. Der er ingen grund til at lade som noget andet.

"There is a desert. Again, it wouldn't make any sense to say I am in the desert. It's a panoramic vision of the desert, and it's not a tragic or uninhabited desert [...] There is a teeming crowd in it [...] I am on the edge of the crowd, at the periphery; but I belong to it, I am attached to it by one of my extremities [...] This is not an easy position to stay in, it is even very difficult to hold, for these beings are in constant motion and their movements are unpredictable and follow no rhythm [...] So I too am in perpetual motion; all this demands a high level of tension, but it gives me a feeling of violent, almost vertiginous, happiness [...] To be fully a part of the crowd and at the same time completely outside it, removed from it:

A Thousand Plateaus Deleuze and Guattari

De kræfter der skaber bølgerne er udenfor vores rækkevidde. Vi kan kun vælge en, være modige nok til at hoppe i og tage den. Turen er det der bliver vores.

Educatorium Christophe Cornubert

Jeg var i midten af en tresporet motorvej mellem overhalingsbanen og slæbebanen. Min motor var behagelig lydløs. Jeg sang højt og tvang mig selv til at lytte til min egen stemme: monoton og håbefuld uspecifik, for jeg har altid prøvet at tale med en stemme som ikke har nogen regional egenart - en stemme fra ingen steder.

Livet efter Gud Douglas Coupland

What would the world be like if it the architect had the task of materializing it - the way it really is?

istedet for at udforme "pause" arealet som et enkelt rum, blev det foreslået at opdele det i en række mindre foyerer. Ved at slå dem sammen med arealerne til cirkulation skabes større, åbne territorier som del af en strategi der eliminerer grænser til fordel for mere subtile separations- eller bedre inklusionsteknikker.

Ved at distribuere dem udover hele bygningen kunne foyererne hver især udnytte foreningen fra deres "kontekst" til at opnå varierede stemninger. Som BZ'ere i ellers midlertidig tomme dele af bygningen bliver disse foyerer en række attraktorer, der provokerer udveksling af befolkninger fra en del af bygningen til en anden.

Educatorium Christophe Cornubert

Today – once again – the human body receives the full blown attention of the world, but it does so, not as a fixed point of reference, but as a "thing" to be altered, renewed and exploited.

Irma+

Client: The Municipality of Rødovre

Team: Henrik Valeur, set designer Thomas Kolding, sculptor Jens Jørgen Poulsen and visual artist Mette Vangsgaard



Irma

Review: [...] a very ambitious proposal, for the conversion of the Coffee Tower into an art building with film and theatre facilities, studios for lithographic artists, set designers, visual artists and architects, a framework for seminars and workshops and a number of apartments for visiting foreign artists. (Politiken)

building renovation

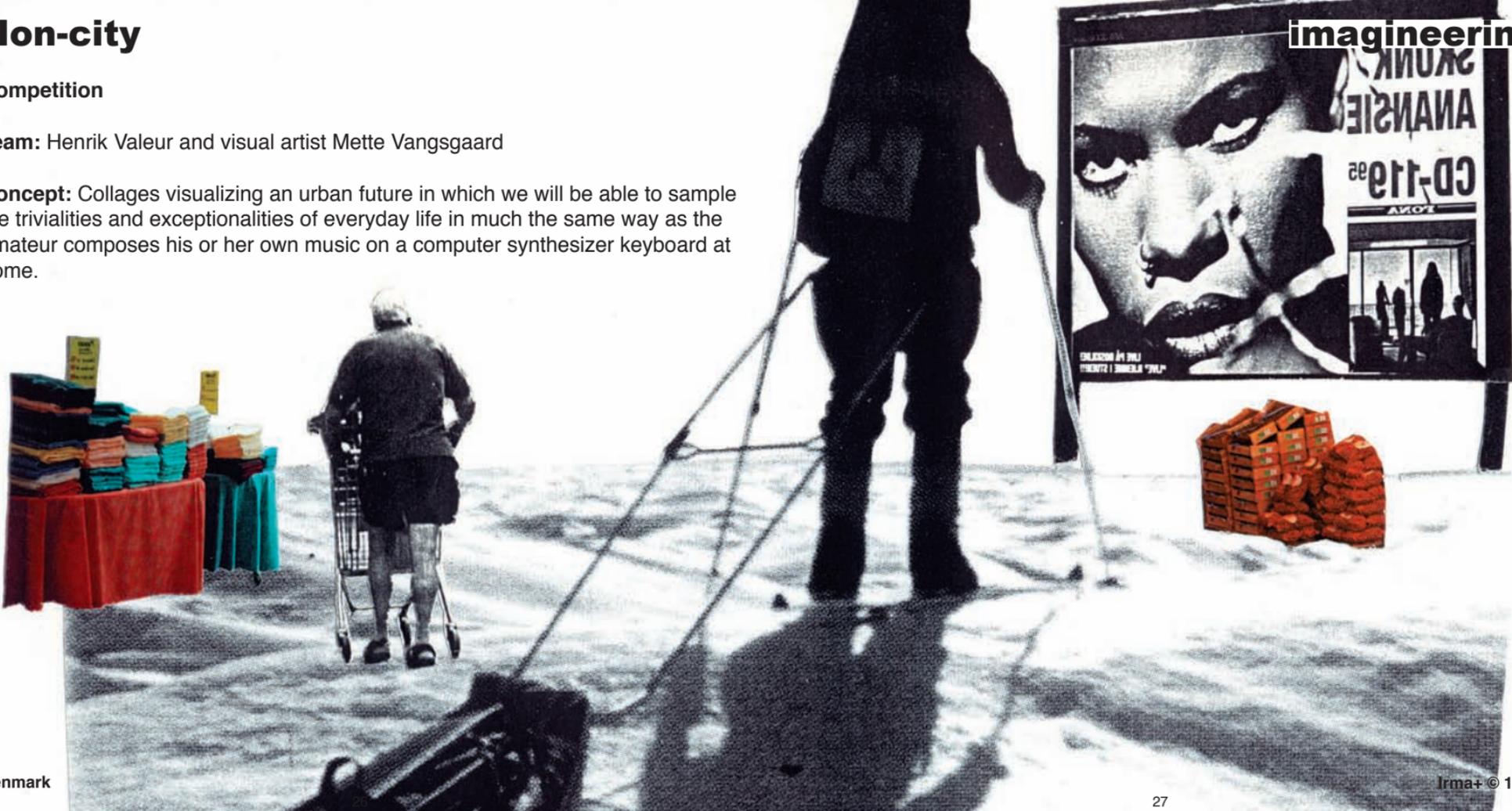


Non-city

Competition

Team: Henrik Valeur and visual artist Mette Vangsgaard

Concept: Collages visualizing an urban future in which we will be able to sample the trivialities and exceptionalities of everyday life in much the same way as the amateur composes his or her own music on a computer synthesizer keyboard at home.



imagineering

Borderline



Competition

Team: Henrik Valeur, Søren Chr. Madsen and Anne Katrine Hornemann

urban planning

Concept: A reorganization of the infrastructural network, to meet the need for evermore rapid and effective means of communication. Along with a set of individual strategies of territorialization, accelerating the already ongoing process of urban fragmentation, to satisfy the growing demand for individuality.

Hotel Pro Forma

aerobic

TEKNIK & SERVICE

Prize competition

Team: Henrik Valeur and Bent Poulsen

Concept: Diagrammatic proposal for an open environment capable of instant reorganizations. An environment in which the traditional role of the creator, actor and spectator may be confused, and in which facts and fantasies may dissolve into one another.



TEKNIK & SERVICE

projektrum

performance



DEPOT

workshop



TEKNIK & SERVICE



Jeg plejer at sige, at ingen organisation kan konkurrere med kaos. Kunsten er faktisk at holde sig ved dem.

seminar

UiD © 2000

Copenhagen

building design

Invited competition

Team: Christophe Cornubert, Henrik Valeur (urban worlds) and Michael Heim (virtual worlds) in collaboration with engineering consultants Ove Arup & Partners and theatre consultant Bill Balou, Los Angeles.

Excerpt from the jury's report: *The Jury appreciated the project's bold, descriptive and visionary tone, revealing many innovative approaches and stunning imagery.*



Copenhagen

PUSH, Henrik Valeur and Michael Heim © 2000

SIM.CoMa

regional urbanization

Client: The Evening School and Gallery Signal

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzson and Bernhard Snizek

Concept: Grouped around the video projected screen image, which displays the game (SimCity 3000 World Edition), the participants play a prepared scenario for the Oresund Region starting in the year 2000.



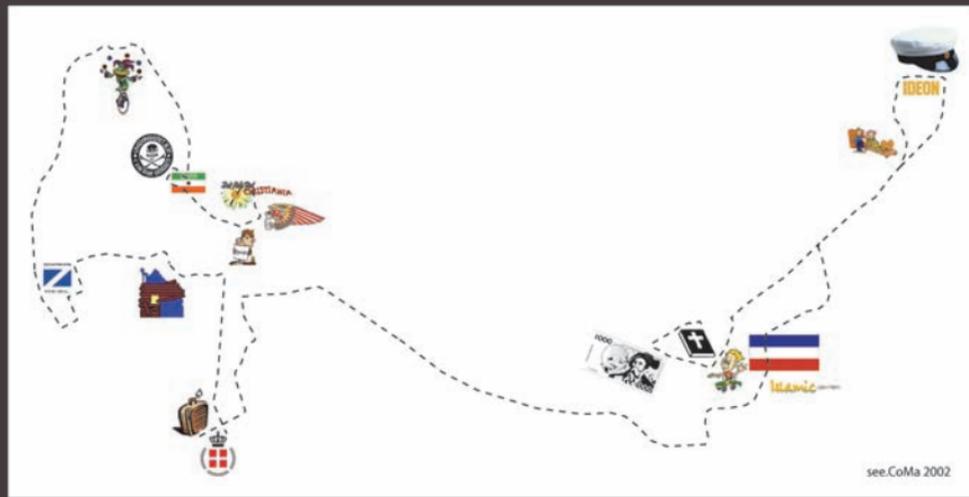
see.CoMa

regional urbanization

Client: The House of Architecture, Malmö

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzson

Concept: Guided bus tour to tribes and ghettos throughout the Øresund Region. The tour provided its passengers with the opportunity to experience “exotic” places in the Øresund region, which they were able to write home about on postcards depicting the route and the sights. The sights included - amongst many others - a mosque in Malmö and a Hells Angels’ clubhouse in Copenhagen.

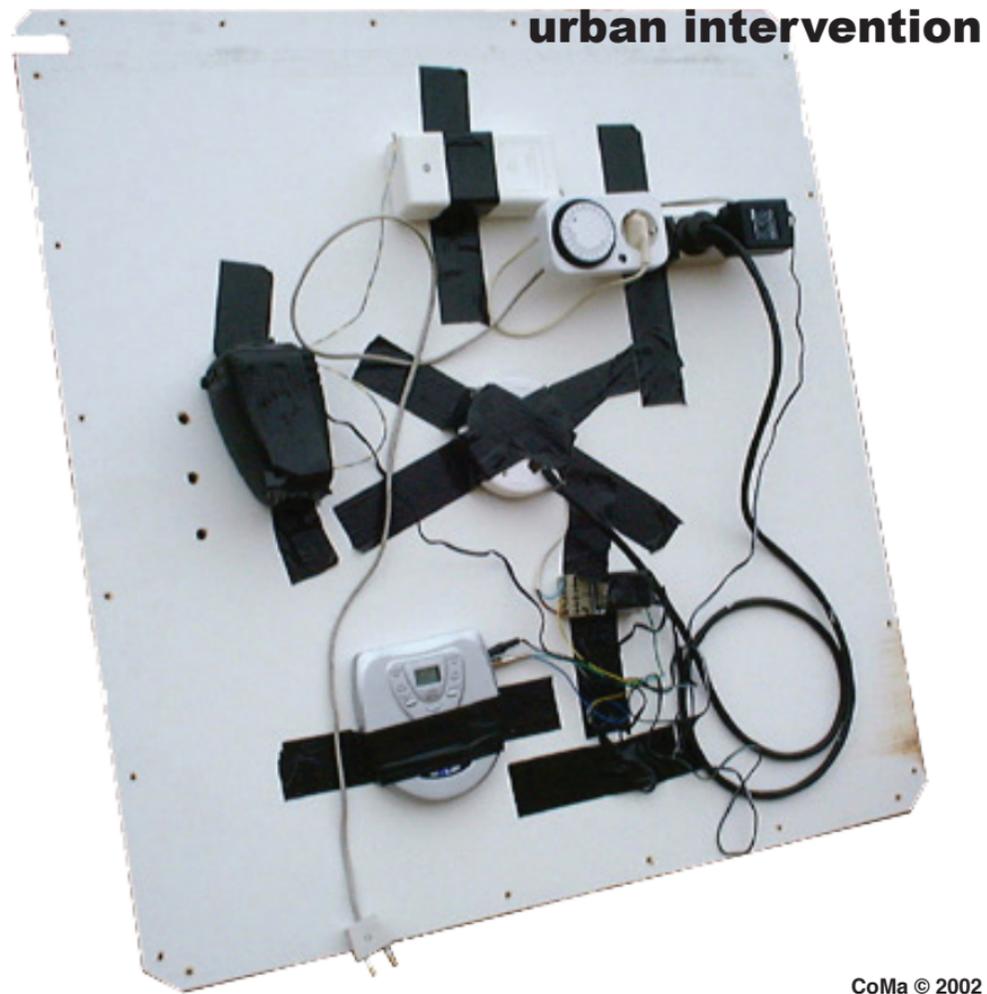


Voices

Client: The Museum of Contemporary Art in Roskilde

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzson in collaboration with Björn Gröhn

Concept: Behind fake ceilings in two adjacent phone booths, 2 soundtracks with fragments of fictitious phone conversations in various languages, are played in displaced loops, continuously making new sound images of voices talking to themselves, talking together or talking all at once.



3KRe (Trekroner Øst)

Client: The Municipality of Roskilde

Team: Henrik Valeur and Dan Stubbergaard (process consultants) with participating architects Copenhagenoffice, Kollision, Nord, Plot and UiD

Project: The planning process of Trekroner Øst differs from normal practice in the way that the exterior spaces are being planned prior to the design of the buildings, with the intention that these spaces are to inspire and influence the subsequent building design. The initial project ideas were generated during a five-days workshop, by groups of people representing a broad variety of interests.



Roskilde



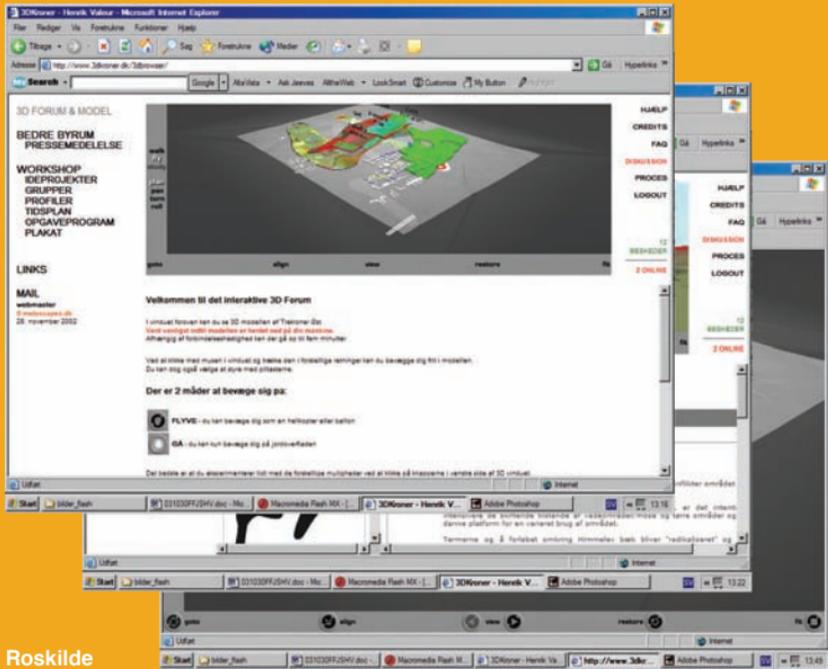
4D+ MODEL

planning tool design

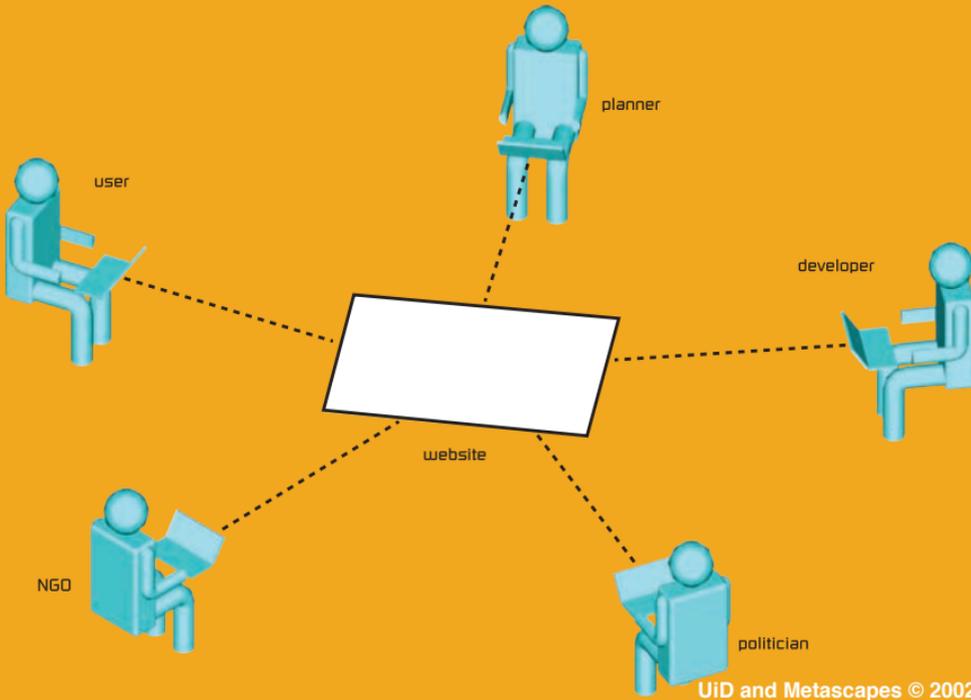
Client: The Municipality of Roskilde

Team: Henrik Valeur and Metascapes/Bernhard Snizek

Concept: The 4D+ model is a web-based planning tool for urban development projects. In addition to relevant information concerning the project, the site includes a 3D model, which is updated (4D) on a continual basis with new proposals. This gives everyone the opportunity to follow the planning process live. The model also includes a discussion forum (+), which allows for a direct dialog between planners, users and other interested parties.



Roskilde



UiD and Metascapes © 2002

1:1 SKETCH MODEL

Client: The Municipality of Roskilde

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzson

Concept: Instead of constructing a new road in stages, of fully paved and elaborated segments, the entire road can be laid out as a simple dirt road structuring the landscape of the future urban development area. Various solutions in terms of lighting, paving and security can be tested concurrently and the road can be gradually upgraded to the required standard, step by step as new residents move in. Plants and hedges can in the same way be used to delineate future building sites prior to their construction. In this way a model is created that everyone can step into.

planning tool design

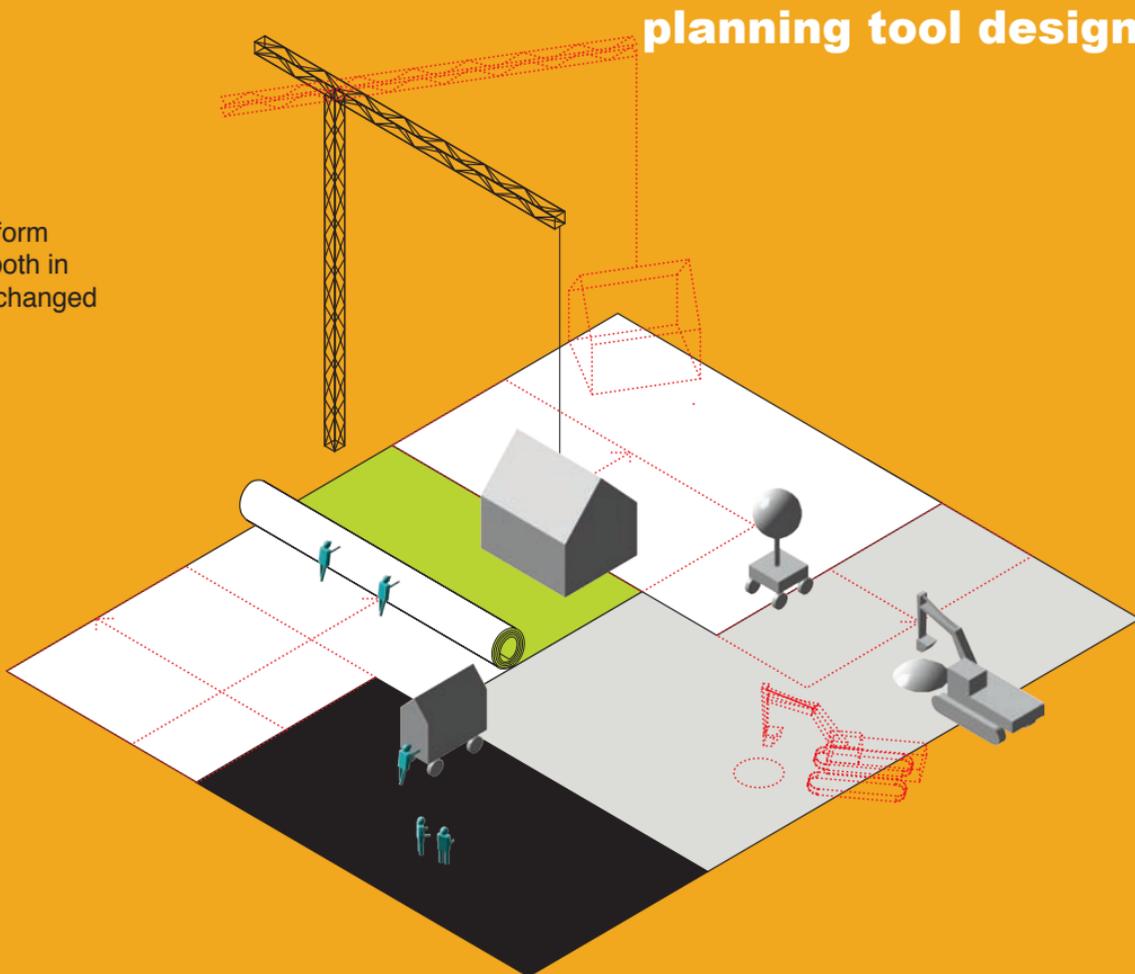


CDM [Change Design Model]

Development project

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzon

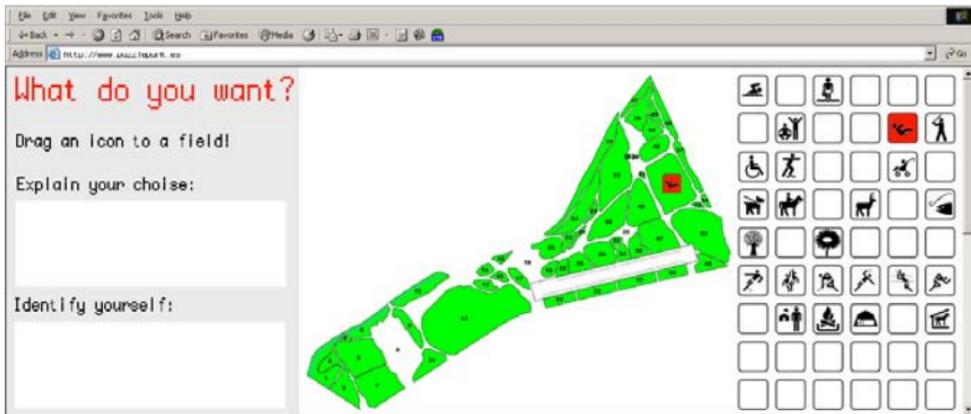
Concept: The Change Design model is a physical structure where the form and the spatial configuration not only enable, but also trigger changes both in program and use. Where the spatial delimitations and expanse can be changed and where elements can be added, removed or replaced.



Puzzle Park

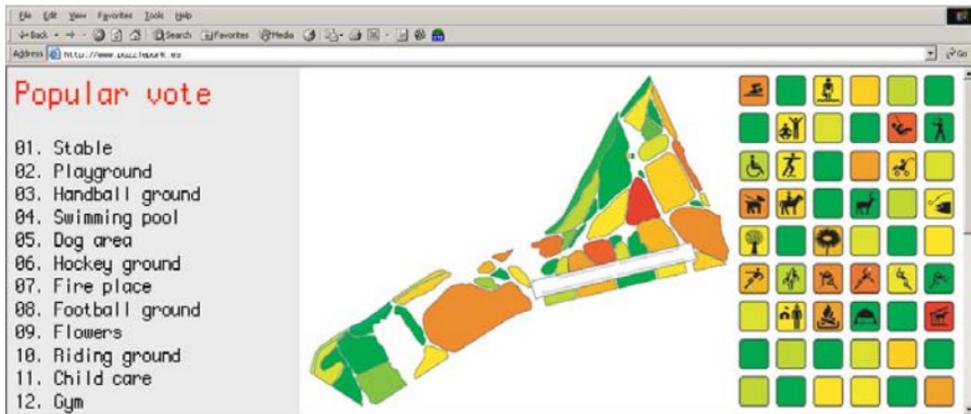
Competition: Shortlisted

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzon and Søren Chr. Madsen



landscape planning

Concept: The outline of the park is drawn on the traces of existing paths creating a puzzle of uniquely shaped pieces. Users are invited to participate in the planning, realisation and maintenance of the individual pieces. The puzzle is not intended to be ever finished.



LA Story

Essay: 13 pages (in Danish)

Author: Henrik Valeur

Excerpt: While hundreds of homeless people live in cardboard homes on the sidewalks of Skid Row, others pay hundreds of dollars for a new shirt from one of the exclusive fashion shops along Rodeo Drive. With its composition of 3rd world slum areas and the most extravagant luxury of the western world, Jewish business districts and Muslim mosques, black ghettos and Hispanic barrios, hippie cultures and fanatical sects, LA is not only one of the world's most heterogeneous regions, it is as such one of the most radical democratic experiments yet to be seen.

Traditionelt er arkitekturen blevet betragtet som en kollektiv udtryks-form, der formidler byernes individuelle identitet og som, i form af stilarter der kan tidsbestemmes kronologisk, bibringer dem deres historiske kontinuitet. Men i LA er de fleste nye bygninger enten brandede produkter, eller standardprodukter med papmaché-agtige facader der kan tilpasses kundernes skiftende og modebestemte smag for bestemte historiske epoker. LA's arkitektur udtrykker derfor ikke nutiden som en bestemt historisk tid, men derimod nutidens opfattelse af historien som noget man kan handle med og forhandle om.



Los Angeles - An Architectural Guide



Beverly Hills 1927

Mens nogle byers identitet defineres gennem film, som Beverly Hills hvor Brandon, Brenda, Donna, Dylan, Kelly og Steve bor, omdefinieres andre byers identitet af filmstjernernes ageren i den virkelige verden, som Newport Beach der ændrede image fra et fiskersamfund til en celebrity enklave efter John Wayne flyttede dertil.

Tilsvarende opfinder og fabrikere nye byer nye identiteter. Selvom Sovjetunionen og andre kommunistiske regimer boycottede OL 1984 i LA var det dog et overvældende stort antal af verdens nationer som deltog. Alligevel var et af de mest vindende hold ikke en nation, men derimod deltagere fra Mission Viejo som, undtaget 6 - 7 nationer, vandt flere medaljer end alle andre. Hvis man vælger at købe hus i Mission Viejo eller i f.eks. West Hollywood, også kendt som gaytown, hvor flertallet af byrådets medlemmer er erklærede homoseksuelle, er det derfor ikke så meget en ejendomsinvestering som det er en investering i en bestemt livsstil.



Gay Parade in West Hollywood



NIMBY demonstration

Plejen af denne form for investeringer handler mindre om bygningens stand end om lokalområdets image. Resultatet er flere og flere NIMBY (not in my back yard) bevægelser, lokale beboersammenslutninger som med politiske midler aggressivt bekæmper afvigende tilflyttere og udstykning af deres territorier.

urbanism



Los Angeles Freeway

Modviljen mod nye byggetilladelser i ens egne lokalområder og mod socialt eller, som det kaldes, socialistisk boligbyggeri generelt, medvirker til at presse ejendomspriserne op, hvilket skaber både flere hjemløse og flere overfyldte beboelser i de billigere boligkvarterer. Sammen med jobmulighedernes spredning til rigere bydele, bringer det den såkaldte job-bolig balance stadig mere ud af balance og som konsekvens heraf bruger den gennemsnitlige indbygger i LA betydelig mere tid i bilen på de overfyldte freeways end på ferie.

Hver dag forsvinder der anslået 1.800.000 arbejdstimer i trafikken og selvom mange virksomheder indfører mere fleksible arbejdstider og arbejdsskift for at undgå den værste myldretidstrafik, er de tidsmæssige afstande stadig en konkret og væsentlig årsag til at skifte bolig.



Mobile home



Home, 2000

I modsætning til det populære billede af ekspressive og blandede stilarter og bortset fra diverse alternative boformer, som campere i Watts og lejlighedskomplekser i West Hollywood, er langt den største del af boligmassen i LA ekstremt konform. Den afspejler et marked tilpasset en befolkning der i gennemsnit skifter bolig hvert sjette år og som, for at føle sig hjemme, efterspørger identiske omgivelser de forskellige steder de kommer til at bo.

Newhall Ranch, der er designet med udbredt brug af fokusgrupper, som den hvide middelklassens nye tilflugtssted, men som endnu ikke er realiseret fordi udviklerne ikke har kunnet sandsynliggøre, at de kan skaffe vand til de 70.000 nye indbyggere; det nye Chinatown omkring Monterey Park, det første større forstads-kvarter i USA med en overvejende asiatisk befolkning; og Ladera Heights med veluddannede og velhavende sorte indbyggere er, på trods af store indbyrdes sociale og kulturelle forskelle, stort set identiske bebyggelser, der sælges på forestillingen om en sikker og tryk tilværelse og det er tilsyneladende den eneste forestilling der er i omløb. Som iscenesættelse af denne forestilling gør udviklerne hvad de kan for man ikke skal føle sig fremmedgjort. Til gengæld bliver det hver gang, man bevæger sig udenfor sin egen verden, desto mere klart, at vi netop alle er fremmede.



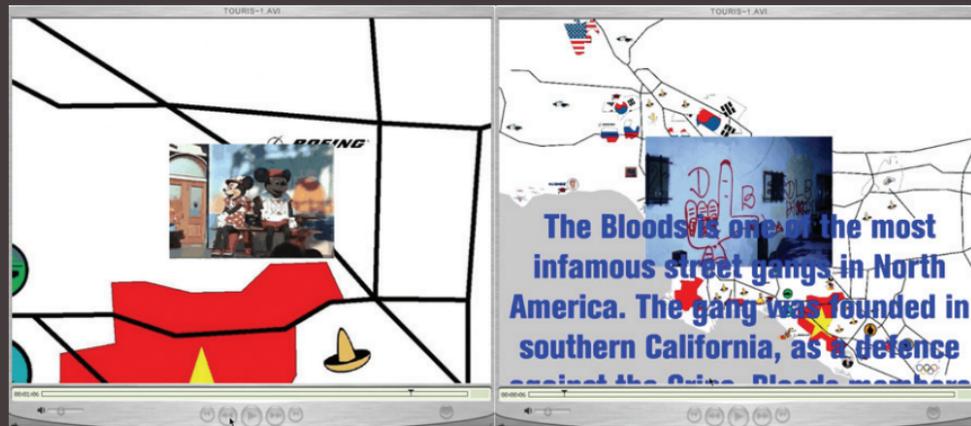
Ladera Heights

LA regional urbanization

Research: Exhibited at Form/Design Center and Danish Architecture Centre

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzon

Description: While hundreds of homeless people live in cardboard homes on the sidewalks of Skid Row, others pay hundreds of dollars for a new shirt from one of the exclusive fashion shops along Rodeo Drive. With its composition of 3rd world slum areas and the most extravagant luxury of the western world, Jewish business districts and Muslim mosques, black ghettos and Hispanic barrios, hippie cultures and fanatical sects, LA is not only one of the world's most heterogeneous regions, it is as such one of the most radical democratic experiments yet to be seen.

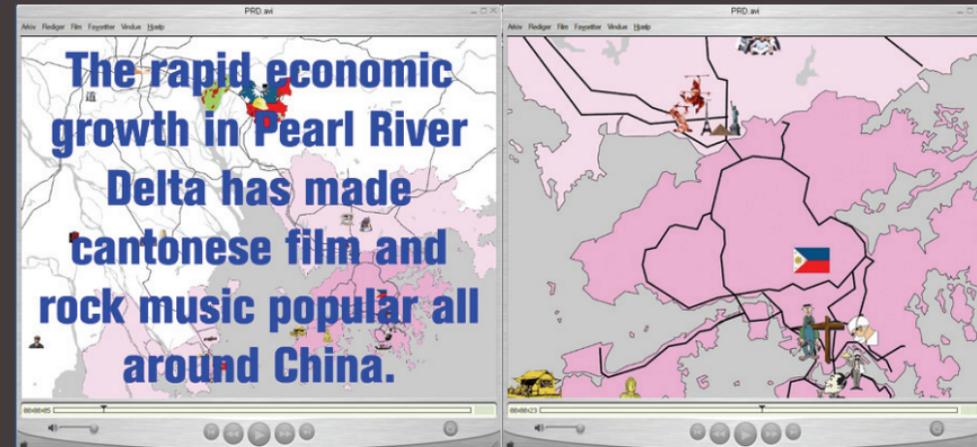


PRD/HK regional urbanization

Research: Exhibited at Danish Architecture Centre

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzon

Description: Following the Chinese take-over, large numbers of Hong Kong businesses have established themselves in the Pearl River Delta area, due to cheap labor. And many businessmen have assumed a double life with one wife in Hong Kong and another in the Pearl River Delta. The conflict between a free market economy and a communist regime, between a sophisticated cosmopolitan population and a mainly rural population, has proven to be a formidable incentive for the development of the entire region, now one of the most dynamic and fastest growing regions in the world.



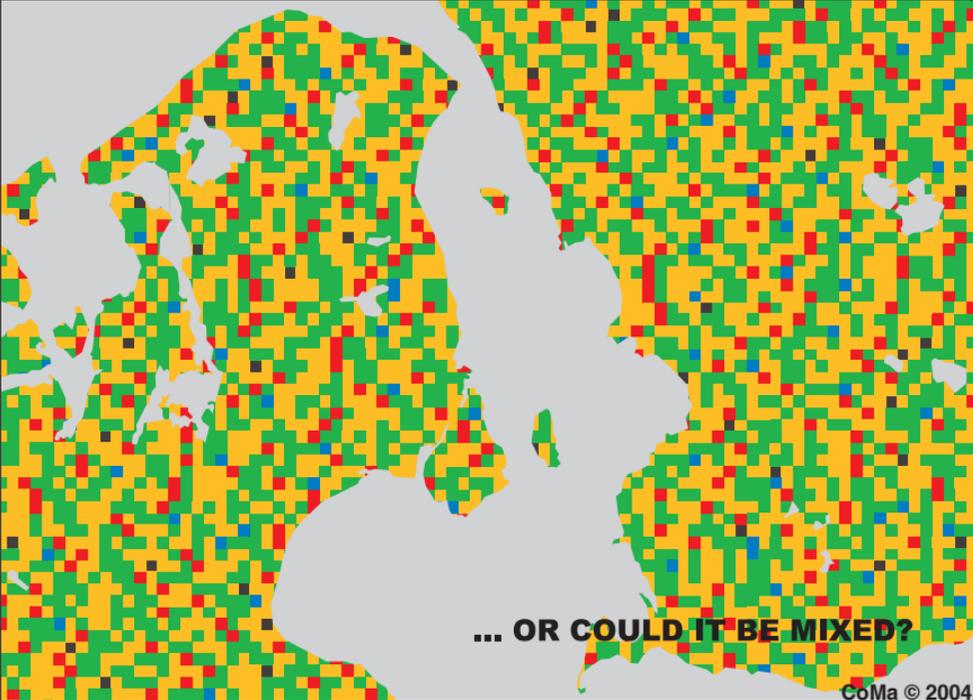
CHECK-IN Øresund

Exhibition: at Danish Architecture Centre

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzson

urban vision

Description: For decades, urban planners have been using regulations and restrictions in an effort to separate nature from urbanity, public from private, living from working ... good from bad. But can nature and urbanity be separated? ... or could it be mixed?



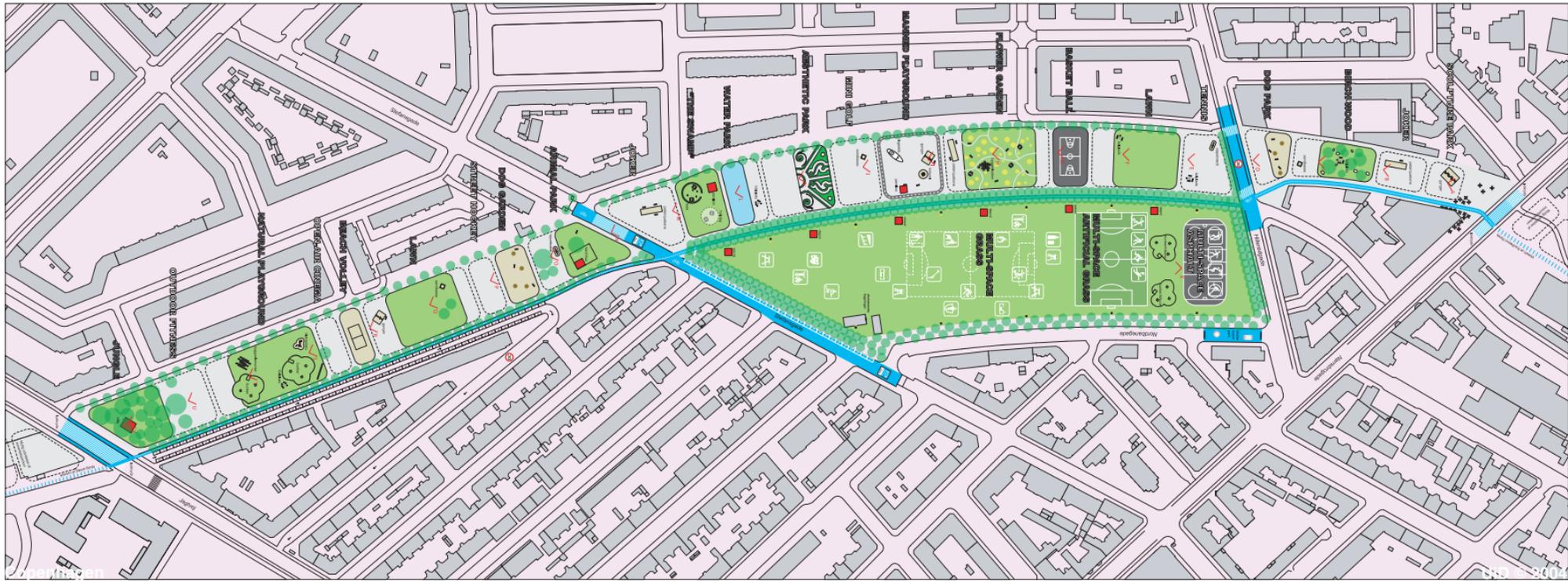
Minority Park

landscape design

Competition

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzson

Concept: The 21st century park must be adaptable to diverse and changing demands from different groups of users. Thus, the Minority Park is divided into individual pieces with sizes and content that can continuously be altered.



Garden Flats

building design

Development project

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzson and Søren Chr Madsen in collaboration with consulting engineers Ole Vanggaard, Henrik Almegaard and Bo Andersen

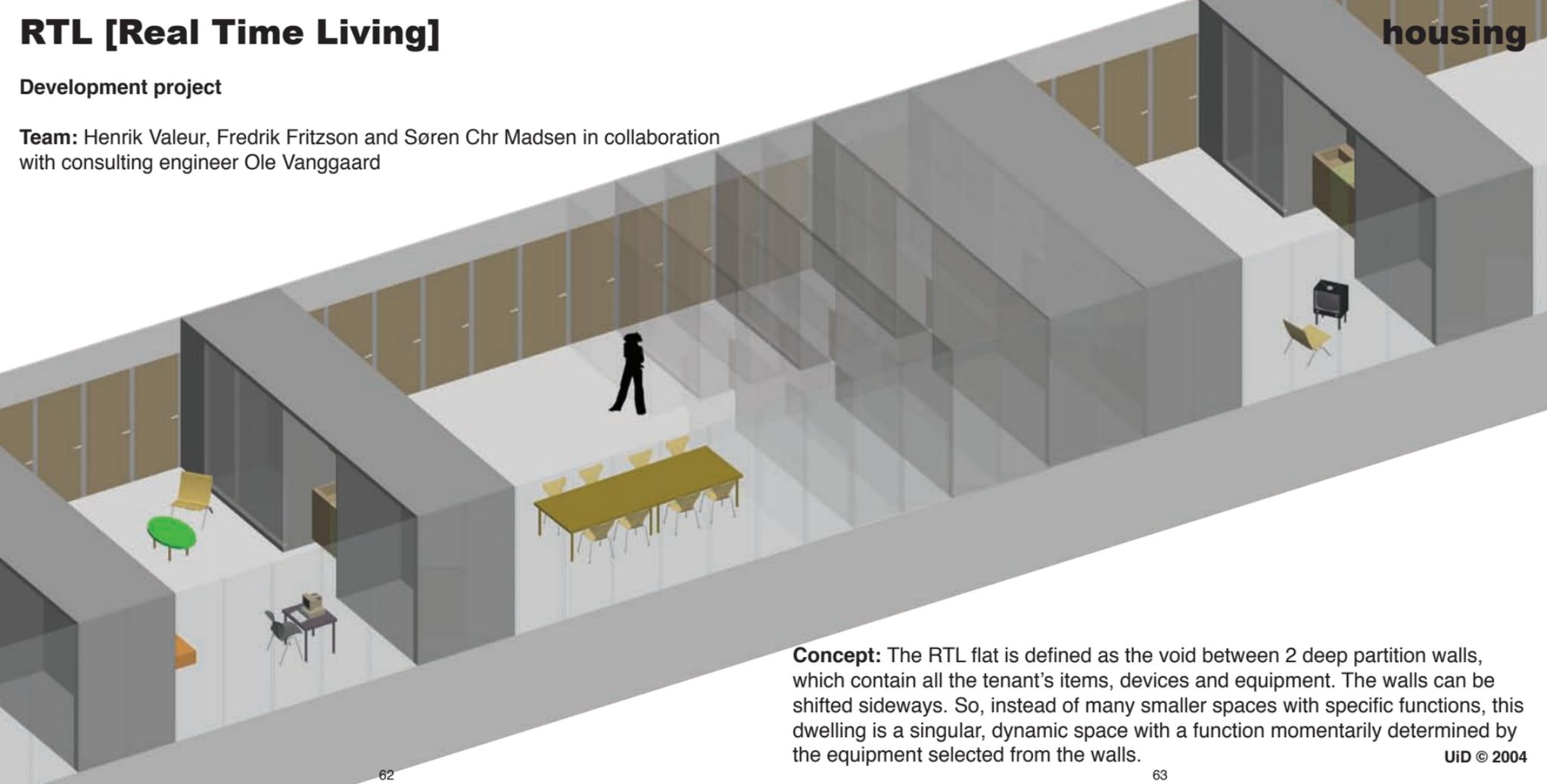
Concept: Garden flats combine the individuality and privacy of the detached house with the efficient use of resources in multistory housing. Each flat has a private garden, private parking space and private access, as well as individual facades and individual interior decoration. The construction is based on standard pre-fab elements, yet each garden flat is unique.



RTL [Real Time Living]

Development project

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzon and Søren Chr Madsen in collaboration with consulting engineer Ole Vanggaard



Concept: The RTL flat is defined as the void between 2 deep partition walls, which contain all the tenant's items, devices and equipment. The walls can be shifted sideways. So, instead of many smaller spaces with specific functions, this dwelling is a singular, dynamic space with a function momentarily determined by the equipment selected from the walls.

UiD © 2004

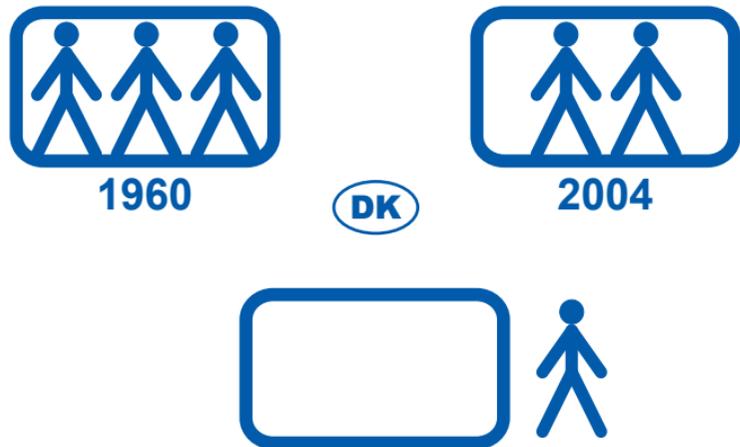
Future Housing Now!

Research: Exhibited at Form/Design Center Malmö

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzsøn and Søren Chr Madsen

We use more living area per person

Average number of inhabitants per household

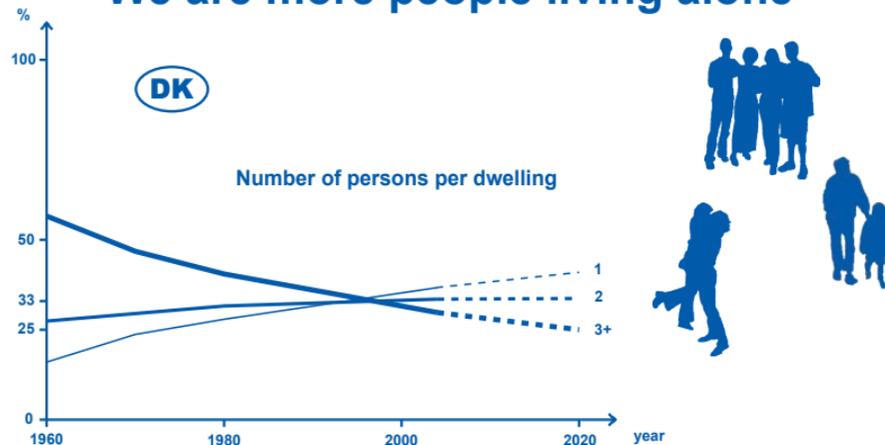


housing

Challenge: The design of the future dwelling depends to a great extent on how we deal with the paradoxes of today's housing situation:

- We use more living area per person...but most of the time we don't use it!
- We are more people living alone...but we share our dwelling with more people!
- We use the dwelling less...but it must perform more!

We are more people living alone



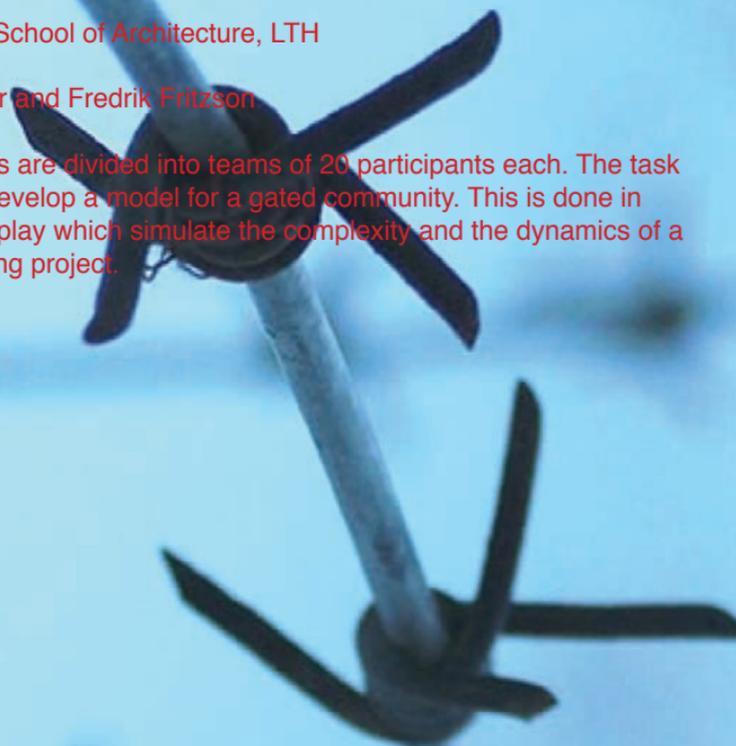
The Gated Community

urbanization

Workshop: at The School of Architecture, LTH

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzon

Format: Participants are divided into teams of 20 participants each. The task of each team is to develop a model for a gated community. This is done in the format of a role-play which simulate the complexity and the dynamics of a controversial planning project.



The Open Community

urbanization

Workshop: at The School of Architecture, LTH

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzon

Format: Participants are divided into teams. The task of each team is to transform Lindängen into an open community by increasing the total programs and activities of Lindängen by 100%. The teams represent groups of citizens and each participant play a dual role as both an architect and a citizen with a specific background and set of desires. Real life investors and municipality planners participate in the closing critique.



UIA05
Research: Presented at the UIA World Congress
Presenters: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzon
URBAN REGIONS
Presenters: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzon
ACCORDING TO THE UN 3/4 OF THE POPULATION OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD LIVE IN CITIES BUT THESE ARE NOT NECESSARILY CITIES IN THE TRADITIONAL SENSE. PEOPLE MAY CHOOSE TO LIVE IN RURAL SETTINGS WHILE STILL HAVING DIRECT ACCESS TO MOST URBAN FACILITIES. THE URBAN REGION INCLUDES NOT ONLY THE CITY AND ITS SUBURB BUT ALSO THE PROVINCIAL TOWNS, THE RURAL DISTRICTS AND THE NATURE RESERVES. IN FACT IT HAS NO CLEAR EXTERNAL BORDERS. INSTEAD IT HAS PLENTY OF INTERNAL ONES. WHILE GLOBAL MIGRATIONS, NETWORKING AND EXCHANGE MAKE US GLOBALLY MORE INTERDEPENDENT, LOCALLY IT MAKES US MORE AUTONOMOUS. INCREASED MOBILITY AND NEW MEANS OF COMMUNICATION ARE CONNECTING PEOPLE AROUND THE GLOBE. THUS LIBERATING THEM FROM NEIGHBORS WHOM THEY OTHERWISE HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON WITH. THOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE TO EXPERIENCE MOST OF THE WORLD WITHIN

A GIVEN REGION. **regional urbanization**
LIVE WITH LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE WITHOUT INTERFACING WITH OTHERS. THE MOST RADICAL EXAMPLE OF THIS TREND IS THE GATED COMMUNITY, PROMISING ITS RESIDENTS SECURITY IN A WORLD WHICH IS PERCEIVED AS BEING INCREASINGLY HOSTILE. IRONICALLY, HOWEVER, IT ALSO REINFORCES THIS VERY HOSTILITY. THE GATED COMMUNITY, THE GANG TERRITORY AND THE SO-CALLED COP-CITY ARE MODERN DAY VERSIONS OF THE GHETTO, NOT JUST INHABITED BY THE OUTCASTS, BUT BY PEOPLE WHO FEEL THEY SHARE A COMMON SOCIAL OR CULTURAL IDENTITY DIFFERENTIATING OR SETTING THEM APART FROM OTHERS. THUS IT IS NO LONGER THE GHETTO THAT IS SEGREGATED FROM THE CITY, BUT THE CITY THAT IS BEING SEGREGATED INTO GHETTOS. THE URBAN REGION ENCOMPASSES MANY DIFFERENT CULTURES, CO-EXISTING WITHOUT NECESSARILY INTERCONNECTING. THUS IT IS NOT LIKE THE MELTING POT OF THE INDUSTRIAL METROPOLIS, BUT MORE LIKE A SALAD BOWL IN WHICH VARIOUS INGREDIENTS ARE TOSSED TOGETHER WITHOUT LOSING THEIR PARTICULAR FLAVOR.

uid © 2005

Parallel Processing

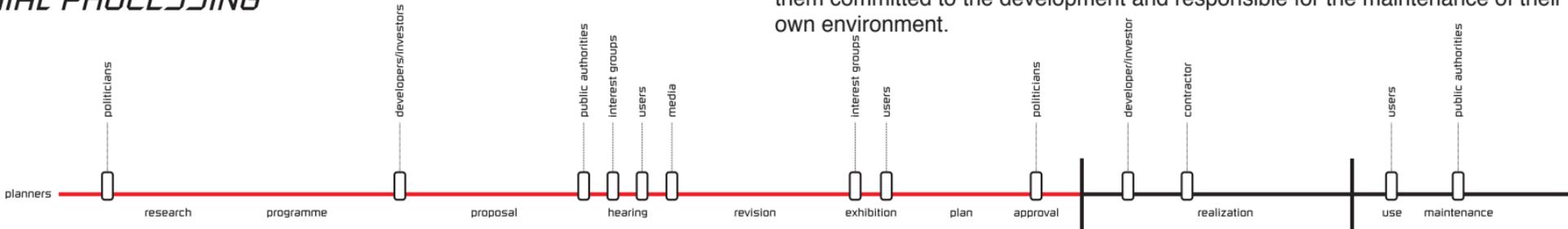
urban planning

Development project

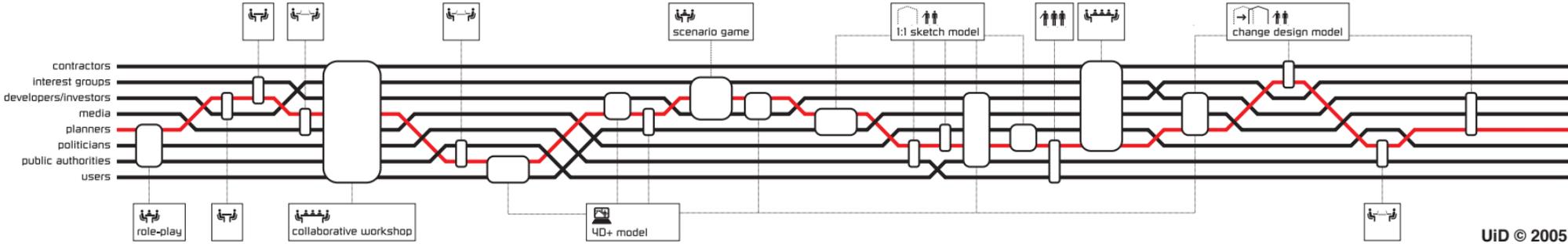
Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzson

Concept: Planning is usually carried out by planners in a serial process in which other parties are only sporadically involved. The objective of parallel processing is to involve all interested and affected parties from the very beginning of the planning process through to the stages of realization and use. Thereby making them committed to the development and responsible for the maintenance of their own environment.

SERIAL PROCESSING



PARALLEL PROCESSING



A New Future for Planning

urban planning



Exhibition and workshops: The 6th European Biennial of Towns and Town Planners.

Team: Henrik Valeur and Fredrik Fritzson (curators) with participating architects Blankspace, Copenhagenoffice, Effekt, Force4, Mutoxia, Nord, Testbedstudio and UiD

Concept: Interactive exhibition with 8 groups of young architects who share a common understanding of the challenges and potentials of contemporary planning, but use this understanding to create different niches, which are reflected in the methods and tools they present.

A New Future for Planning

urban planning

Essay: Published in A New Future for Planning ISBN 87-990146-5-3

Authors: Henrik Valeur and Claus Peder Pedersen

Short version:

THE PERFECT PLAN?

Imagine a perfectly planned, organized and controlled environment. A world of order, beauty and harmony. Welcome to the Öresund region!

A region in which planning has been used as an instrumental tool for the egalitarian ideals of the welfare state, which have evolved through the latter half of the 20th century. An approach which has been tremendously successful in managing and regulating nearly every physical aspect of the environment, creating a thoroughly planned society.

Now, imagine that this society no longer exists, and that all we are left with is its omnipresent (physical) mould.

This region, with no “real” problems, is suddenly confronted with the immense challenge of letting go of old ideals in the face of a new reality.

A reality based on the destabilizing factors of globalization, migration and communication in the broadest sense. The exchange of people, knowledge, goods, lifestyles, etc. poses a challenge to societies everywhere, but not in least to the quite homogeneous Scandinavian countries.

In light of these developments it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain a unifying

Öresund

planning concept.

THE PARADOX

Critique of this unifying planning concept is far from new. In 1966 Johan Fjord Jensen wrote the following about Albertslund, one of the most carefully planned suburbs of Copenhagen, in the Book Homo Manipulatus: “An urban harmony has arisen as the result, spanning from the reasonable placement of social institutions, to the equally well considered traffic measures, down to the smallest design. Even the door signs are kept within the same purist cubistic style as the houses, even the playgrounds are constructed according to architectonic considerations whereby the swings correspond with each other like the lines in a Mondrian painting... Is nothing then at all wrong? Well, yes, the paradox is that nothing is wrong in all of this functional artfulness.”

A NEW REALITY

For decades, urban planning has been using regulations and restrictions in an effort to separate nature from urbanity, public from private, living from working - good from bad.

Since 1948 the famous “Finger Plan” has been the overall guiding principle for urban development of the metropolitan area of Copenhagen. Basically, the “Finger Plan” prescribes urban growth along the main infrastructures around Copenhagen. These infrastructures emanate radially from the historic center of Copenhagen creating urban “fingers” separated by cohesive green areas. The image of the hand imposed on the map is probably nothing more than an easily recognizable description of this plan. But it is also tempting to see it as an image of the planner keeping a firm grip on the city.

Today, the grip has loosened. Nature flourishes in the city and communication (an

A New Future for Planning

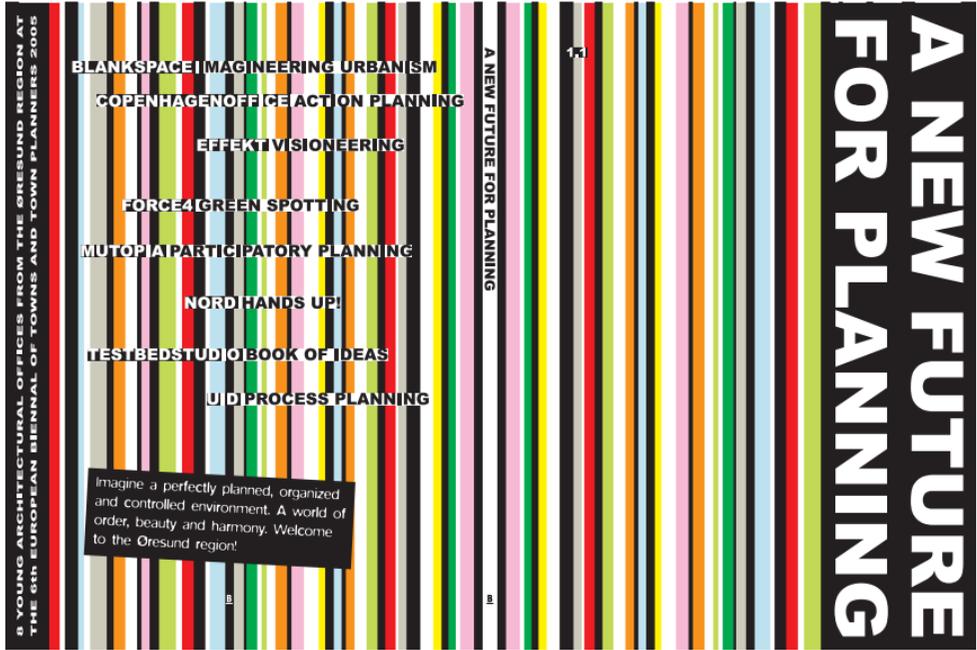
essential feature of the city) is now possible almost everywhere throughout nature. Meanwhile, public spaces are being invaded and transformed by cell phones, surveillance kits and private bodyguards, the town square is a 28" screen at home and Big Brother captures the most intimate details of your private life. And everywhere utter ugliness and sublime beauty are mixed in intricate new combinations.

In addition to this hybridization of our physical environments, the notion of common interest and long-term perspectives - the backbone of planning - are now rapidly vanishing in a gulf of individual interests. Neighboring towns are competing with each other for the same lucrative taxpayers; politicians are allowing random opinion polls dictate hard decisions and commitments; people settle (voluntarily or involuntarily) in ghettos or gated communities of like-minded people, avoiding direct contact with other people; and local citizens team up to protest against any new municipal intervention that might affect the value of their private real estate.

This, combined with the economic uncertainties of globalization and increased mobility powered by expanded infrastructures, creates a completely new set of challenges for the profession of planning. But maybe it also creates a completely new set of opportunities. Maybe the planning of the 21st century does not (only) have to be about regulations and restrictions. Maybe the loss of power of the traditional planner isn't such a bad thing after all.

Maybe it is the beginning of a new future for planning.

urban planning



200% Tensta

Competition: Honourable mention

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzson, Jonas Ruthblad and Søren Chr Madsen in collaboration with consulting engineer Ole Vanggaard

Concept: The Collective House consists of a number of dwellings. Each dwelling is divided into a number of independent and separately located spaces. Thus one dwelling may consist of a living room in one part of the complex and a bedroom in another part, part of a shared workspace and part of a common kitchen.

housing



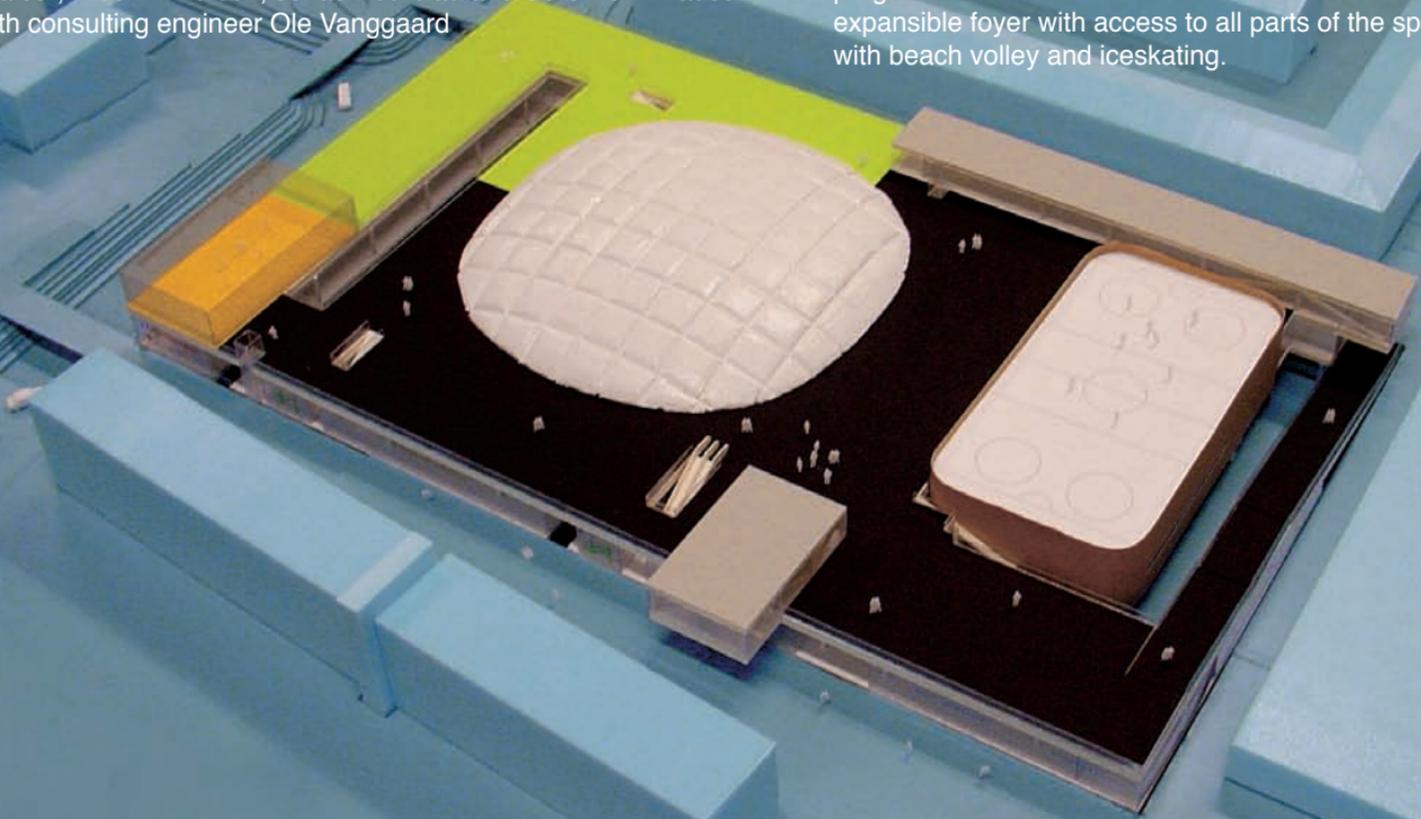
200% TENSTA

building design

Competition

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzson, Jonas Ruthblad and Søren Chr Madsen in collaboration with consulting engineer Ole Vanggaard

Concept: To enhance the central band of public activities in Tensta, we propose a sport center with public circulation on 3 levels, penetrated by new recreational programmes and facilities. A structure which also includes a subtractable/expandable foyer with access to all parts of the sports center and a roof terrace with beach volley and iceskating.



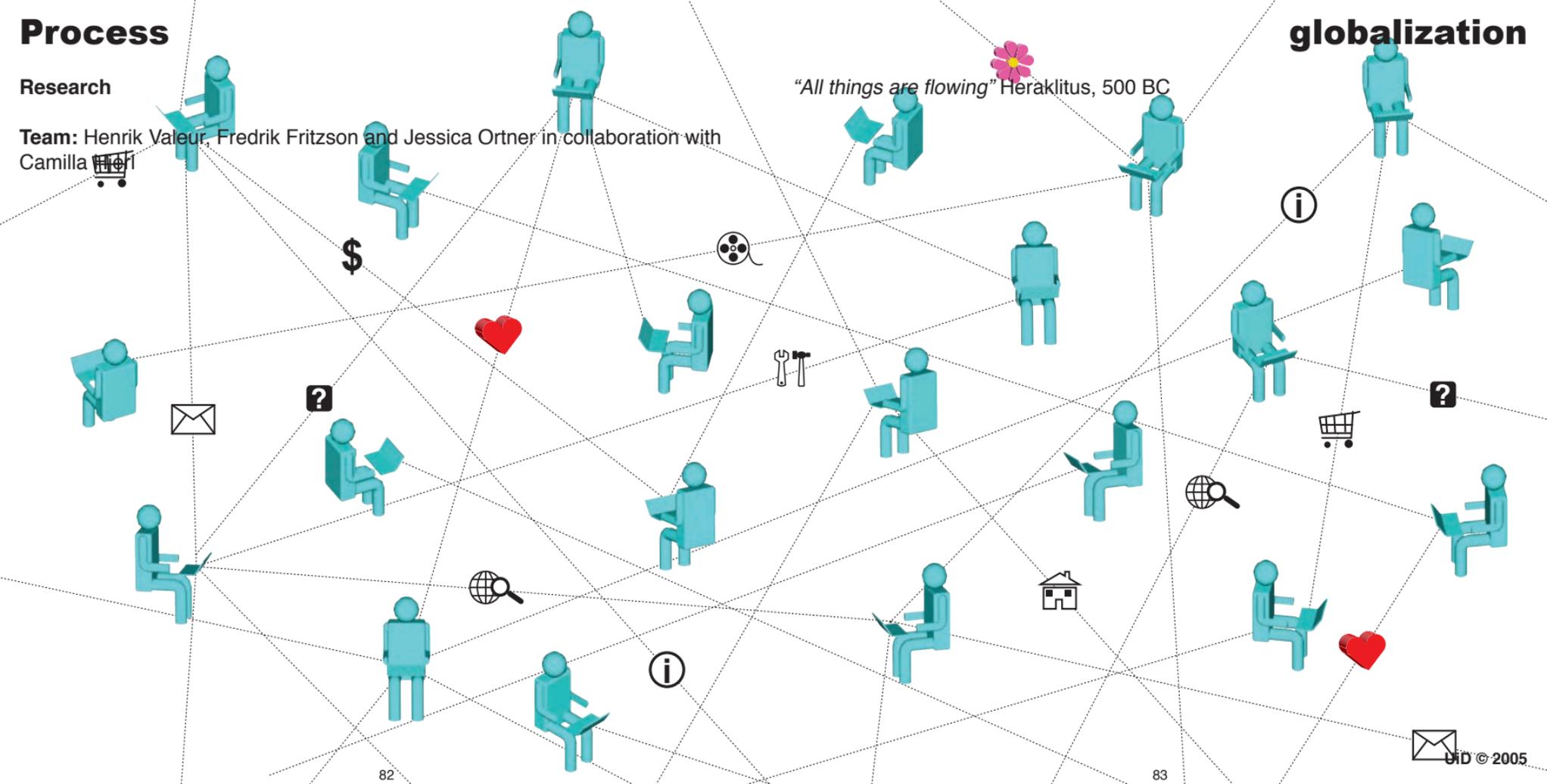
Process

Research

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzon and Jessica Ortner in collaboration with Camilla Hei

globalization

"All things are flowing" Heraklitus, 500 BC



CO-EVOLUTION

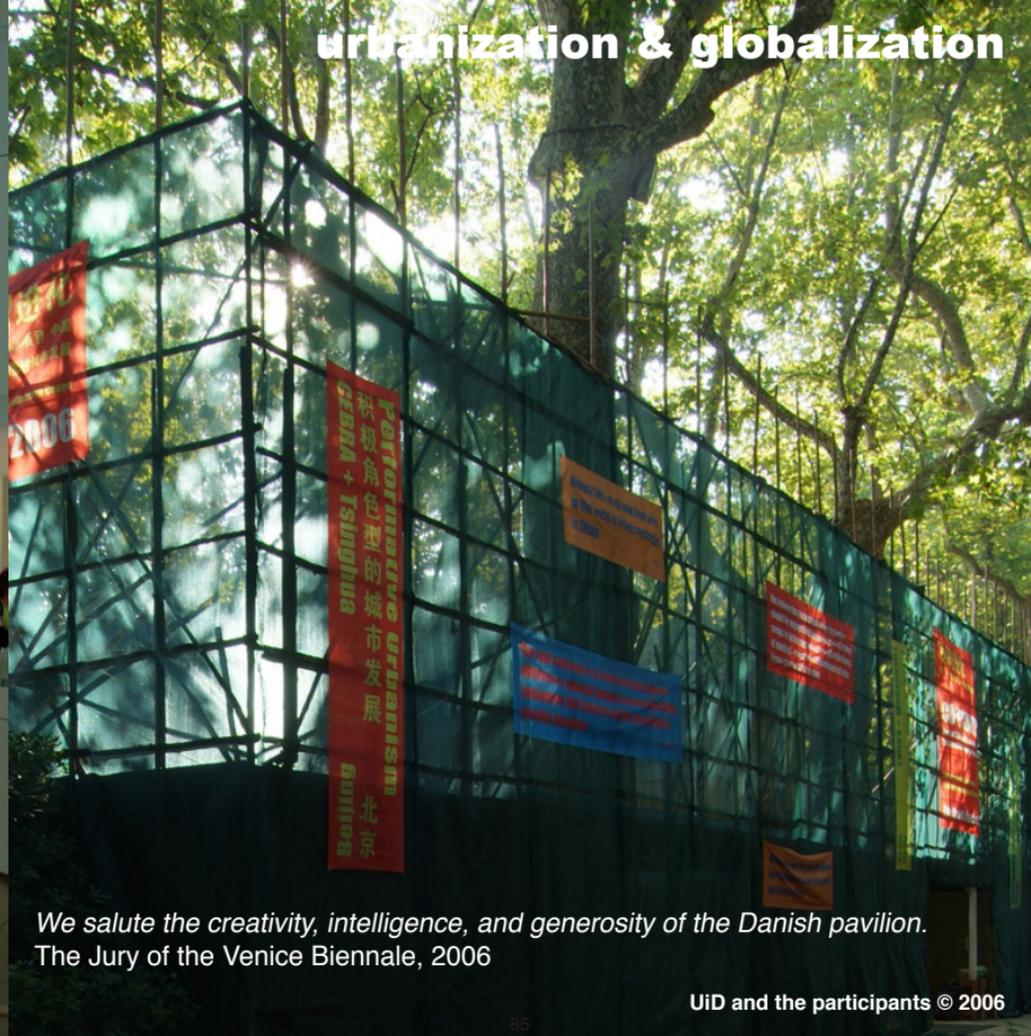
Exhibition: The Architecture Biennale in Venice 2006 (Golden Lion for best national pavilion), the 2nd Architectural Biennial Beijing 2006, Xi'an International Conference of Architecture and Technology 2006, Danish Architecture Centre 2006, Tongji University 2006, the 7th Sao Paulo International Biennial of Architecture 2007, AROS 2007, North Jytland Art Museum 2007, Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Center 2007, Centre for the Urban Built Environment in Manchester 2008, AIA in New York 2008, London Festival of Architecture 2008.



Team: Henrik Valeur (curator), Uwe Wütherich, Zhang Meng, Annelie Håkansson, Christoffer Pilgaard, Haydar Al-Khatib, Karin Lindgren, Lea Bolvig and Ma Liang with participating teams: CEBRA + Tsinghua, COBE + CQU, EFFEKT + Tongji and TRANSFORM + XAUAT

China

urbanization & globalization



*We salute the creativity, intelligence, and generosity of the Danish pavilion.
The Jury of the Venice Biennale, 2006*

UiD and the participants © 2006

CO-EVOLUTION

Research: Published in CO-EVOLUTION ISBN 87-90668-61-8

Team: Henrik Valeur, Annelie Håkansson, Karin Lindgren and Lea Bolvig in collaboration with Prof. Pan Haixiao

TRAFFIC 交通

The Chinese government's response to the congested roads is to build 85,000 kilometers of highways by 2020, according to The "National Highway Network Plan". A more comprehensive view on the future of transportation is reflected in various public transport projects. One example is the Bus Rapid Transit, a high-speed bus system that "combines the single-corridor quality of rail transit with the flexibility of buses". It is cheaper than rail, and faster to construct.

Apart from the Bus Rapid Transit project the extensive plans for public transport in Chinese cities also include the construction of light-rail, subways and expanded heavy rail systems. In Shanghai, for instance, four subway lines will be added to the three existing today and a total of 480 km of railway lines are planned to be operational by 2010.

"In the decade leading up to 2001, the overall length of road constructed in China only increased by 30 per cent while total road passenger volume and road cargo volume went up by 120 per cent and 46 per cent respectively. The number of cars on the roads over the same period more than quadrupled from 15 million to 68 million."

Growth in number of cars in China 1980-2005

Year	Number of Cars
2000	4,253,300
2005	17,000,000

urbanization

Concept: Over the past 20 years some 400 million Chinese people have been lifted out of extreme poverty – mainly as the result of rapid and extensive urbanization. But China is also home to 16 of the 20 most polluted cities in the world.

HEALTH 健康

China's socio-economic development has contributed to the general improvement in health in the overall population, but there are increasing gaps and inequality among the people. The main difference is between city and countryside, where the health indicators in all aspects are much better for the city dwellers. Economic restructuring and commercialization of state hospitals now obliges the individual to pay the main portion of the medical treatment fees. In contrast to the former system with barefaced doctors centralization of the hospitals also burdens patients with increased travel expenses. This places economic pressure on patients in a situation where only one quarter of the urban population and one tenth of the rural population has medical insurance coverage.

Child and maternal mortality rates, 2001

Location	Rate
City	33
Countryside	18

CO-EVOLUTION

Documentary

Director: Ulrika Ekberg

CO-EVOLUTION
the collaboration

Producer: UID (Henrik Valeur and Uwe Wütherich)



Now actually, the Chinese people are living in a comparatively low standard.

urbanization & globalization

Concept: Four groups of young Danish architects worked together with students and professors from four Chinese universities on proposals for sustainable urban development in four of the biggest Chinese cities.



to let this... become slightly bigger.



Slightly bigger for what?



-All can contribute to the new life.
-That's beautiful.



-In China... the top of the mountain.
It's not built to the apartment or office buildings.



I think, the cooperation between our two partners have a good prospective.



-We need go pass it and around it...
We need to mark this.



China

-Our site is kind of an...
Inside the green belt.



-They are kind of polluted...
-So there has been big factories here in the past.



Just think about the great opportunity that China provided to the architects.



director · photo · edit
Ulrika Ekberg

music
Rune Thorsteinnsson

Ulrika Ekberg and UID © 2006

CO-EVOLUTION

Curator's Statement: CO-EVOLUTION ISBN 87-90668-61-8

Author: Henrik Valeur

Short version:

How to improve people's living conditions without exhausting the very resources needed to sustain a better life?

THE URBAN CHALLENGE

Urbanization can be seen as a means to improve people's living conditions. In this respect, the achievements during the past decades in China are unparalleled in the history of human civilization. Due to radical economic reforms and massive urban development, about 400 million Chinese people were lifted out of extreme poverty during the period between 1980 and 2001, which account for roughly three quarters of the total number worldwide. However, while living conditions are greatly improved at one level they are seriously challenged at another. The current processes of rapid and extensive urbanization (and modernization) in China vastly increase the consumption of natural resources like land, water, forestry and minerals, thus putting tremendous pressure on the local environments.

Increased energy and resource consumption in China can be felt around the globe in the form of shortages of construction materials, rising oil prices and unstable power supply. In China it can be further experienced as deteriorated environments plagued by smog and poor air quality, lack of green space,

urbanization & globalization

disrupted eco-systems and polluted water systems.

The long term consequences of this development may obviously be even more detrimental. Thus, to improve living conditions, both in the short and the long term, there is an urgent need for new and more sustainable models of urban development.

CHINESE AND WESTERN MODELS OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

There is, without a doubt, much that can be learned about sustainable urban development from the traditional Chinese city model, but it remains unclear whether this model, which was developed for a relative static society, can be adapted to a global market economy, individualized lifestyles and massive urban migration. The modernist Western model may be better suited for this, but it is far from a perfect solution. Urban development based on mono-functional zoning necessitates vast areas of land and extensive transportation systems. Because the individual zones are only active during specific time frames, this results in an excess of energy production and underutilized infrastructure.

If the modernist Western model is employed to accommodate massive urban migration in China - within the next 20 years, some 400 million Chinese people are expected to move to the cities - it may have enormous and unpredictable environmental consequences not only for China, but for the world at large.

Today, the World's total ecological footprint is already 1.2 times bigger than its biocapacity, but with continuous economic growth combined with shortsighted urban planning we may quickly reach a point where we would actually need two planets to support the population of one.

CO-EVOLUTION

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

With 16 out of the 20 most polluted cities in the World and projections of unparalleled resource consumption, the need for sustainable urban development is probably more acute in China than anywhere else. And with almost 50% of all new floor areas in the world being constructed in China it is also the obvious testing ground for such development.

But sustainability is not only about corrupted environments, pollution and resource exhaustion. The model of uneven economic development in China has dramatically increased social disparities, especially between rural and urban populations, also within the cities themselves in the form of new urban poverty exemplified by the so-called floating population of migrant workers accounting for up to 25% of the total population in some of the major cities.

Furthermore, the extreme speed and the enormous scale of urban development in China is putting much of the nation's invaluable cultural heritage in jeopardy.

Ultimately, the economic miracle of China is itself being put at risk. The Central Chinese Government is very well aware of this. Thus, the newly released 11th five-year plan is remarkable in the way that it for the first time advocates to "earnestly shift socio-economic development onto the track of all-round coordinated and sustainable development".

HOLISTIC SOLUTIONS

It is often argued, that sustainable economic, environmental and social solutions contradict each other. But is that really true? An example to the contrary. could

urbanization & globalization

be the windmill industry in Denmark. This industry was basically created by a few individual pioneers who used their skills as steelsmiths etc. to refine existing technologies and put them into new use. Later the development of this industry was supported by stricter environmental policies favouring renewable energy over other forms of energy. Today, more than half of all new windmills in the world are produced by a Danish company and this industry is not only making significant contributions to a cleaner environment, it is also providing job opportunities, innovation and economic growth for the entire country.

The creation of sustainable urban development not only requires new technologies, but also new policies which integrate economic, environmental, social and cultural concerns, and which take into consideration individual and local conditions. Without such a holistic approach to planning, real sustainable solutions are not likely to occur. But we are not only in need of new solutions. More than anything else, there is a need for creativity and imagination to set the spark for new visions for sustainable urban development.

THE COLLABORATION

Sustainable urban development is a global issue. Not only in the geographical sense, whereby we all depend on the same resources and are affected by the same pollution, but also in the professional sense in that no single discipline can solve these problems alone. Thus, sustainable urban development must be thought out in collaboration between various peoples and disciplines.

To meet global challenges we need international and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Musicon

urban planning

Client: The Municipality of Roskilde

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzson, Esbjörn Kjell and Ma Liang

Concept: The former industrial site is envisioned to become a highly mixed new city district, which will be marked by continuous change and development. The visions were developed in a scenario game in which various stakeholders played the roles of future users.



The Harmonious City

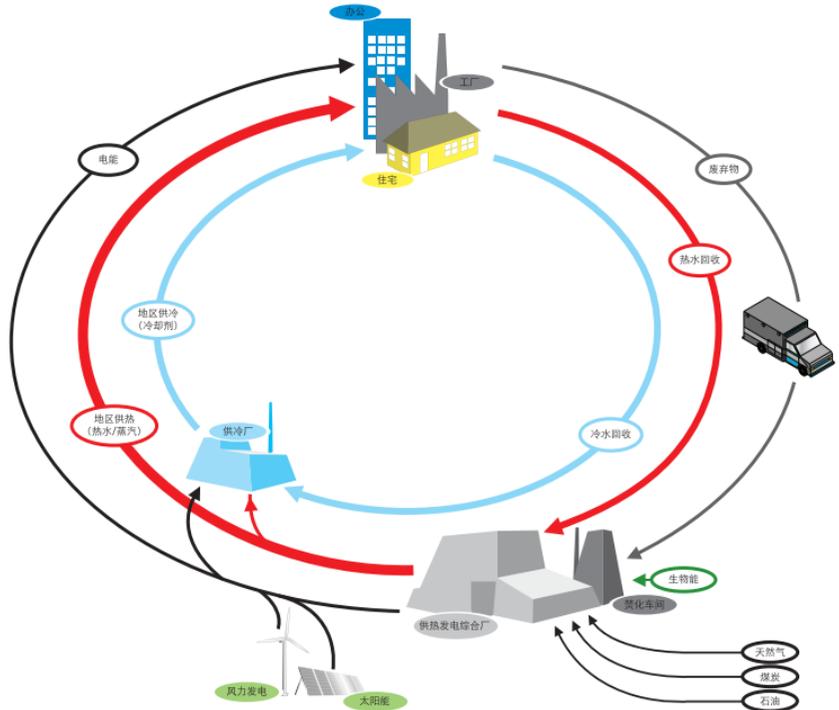
Exhibition: Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Center and The Harmonious City ISBN 87-90668-64-2

Team: Henrik Valeur and Pan Haixiao (curators), Uwe Wütherich, Kristoffer Weiss, Ma Liang, Zhang Meng, Xia Zhen and Chen Ying with participants: The Danish Ministry for the Environment, The Danish Transport Research Institute, The Municipality of Copenhagen, The Municipality of Odense, APV, BioKube, Building Heritage of Denmark, CIOS, Danfoss, DHI, Grontmij | Carl Bro, Kontrapunkt, Roxul/Rockwool, Velux, Vestas and students from Tongji University.



urban development

Concept: Leading up to the 2009 UN Climate Summit in Denmark and the 2010 EXPO in Shanghai, an even greater emphasis on finding new answers to environmental questions is called for. In conformity with the theme of the 2010 EXPO - "Better city – better life" - The Harmonious City suggests ways in which better cities and better lives can become a reality.

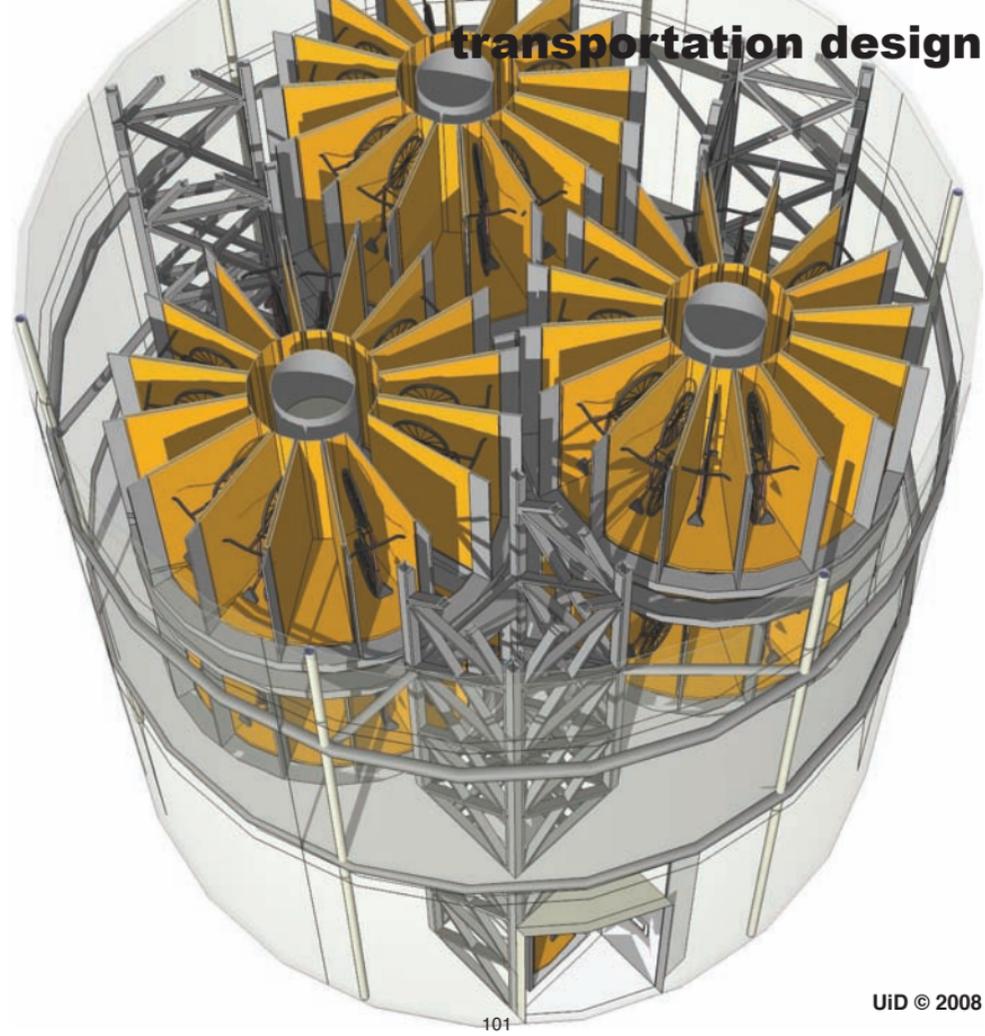


Bicycle Tower

Client: The City of Malmö (exhibited at World Expo 2010 in Shanghai)

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzson, Rebecca Zelwak, Sarvdeep Singh Sangwan, Ma Liang, Zhang Meng and Xia Zhen

Concept: How do you make it more attractive for people to take their bike to the metro station – and thereby making the metro more popular? You make it as easy and safe as possible to park your bike at the station!



Green Streets of Shanghai

Clients: The Institute de Ville en Movement, Urban China and Tongji University

Team: Henrik Valeur, Rebecca Zelwak, Sarvdeep Singh Sangwan, Qian Jieyan, Zhang Meng and Xia Zhen in collaboration with Prof. Pan Haixiao



mobility planning
Concept: The elevated highway is a unique feature of Shanghai. If the grid of elevated highways is expanded and parking buildings are constructed at frequent intervals, to ensure short walking distances to anywhere in the neighborhood, all car traffic could be removed from the streets on ground level and the existing green areas could be vastly increased!

everywhere in the city!

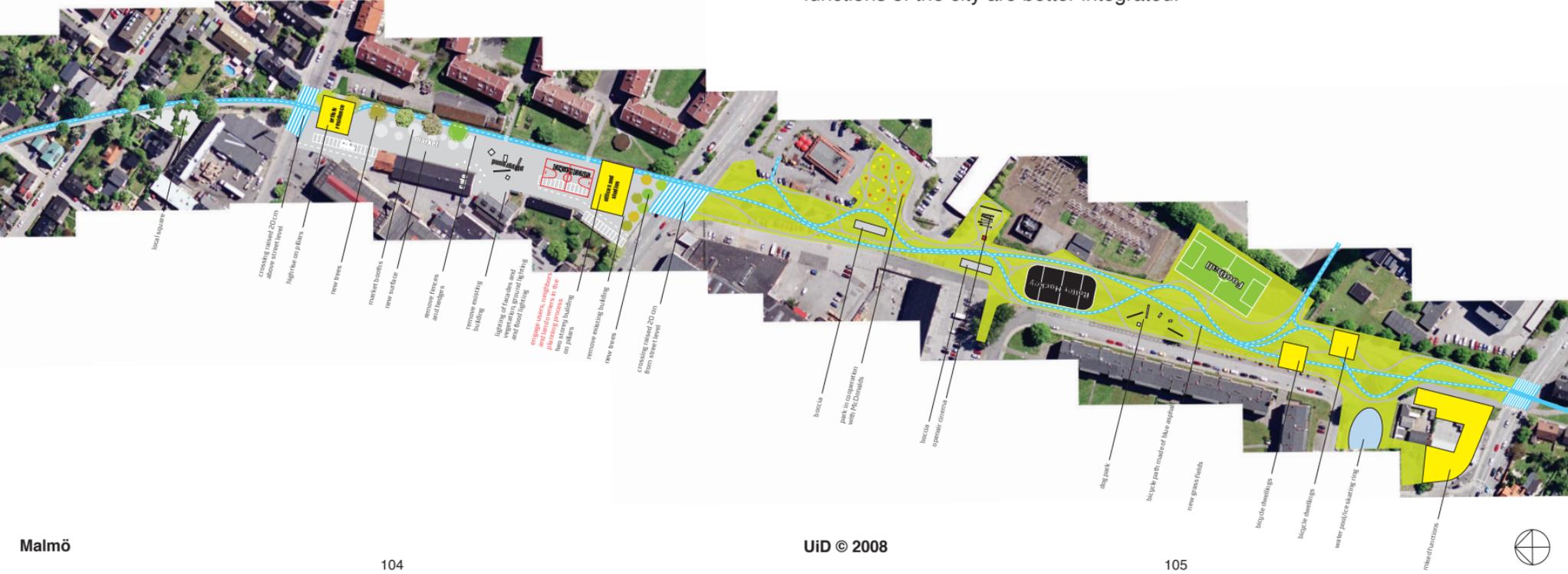
Green Streets of Malmö

mobility planning

Client: The City of Malmö

Team: Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzon and Martin Vozzi

Concept: To improve safety and accessibility for bicycles, and to provide them with new experiences and possibilities, we propose to gradually remove all motor traffic from selected streets of Malmö, and to fill these streets with various activities and functions, greenery and even new buildings. In this way we intend to create a more coherent urban fabric where soft traffic and the activities and functions of the city are better integrated.



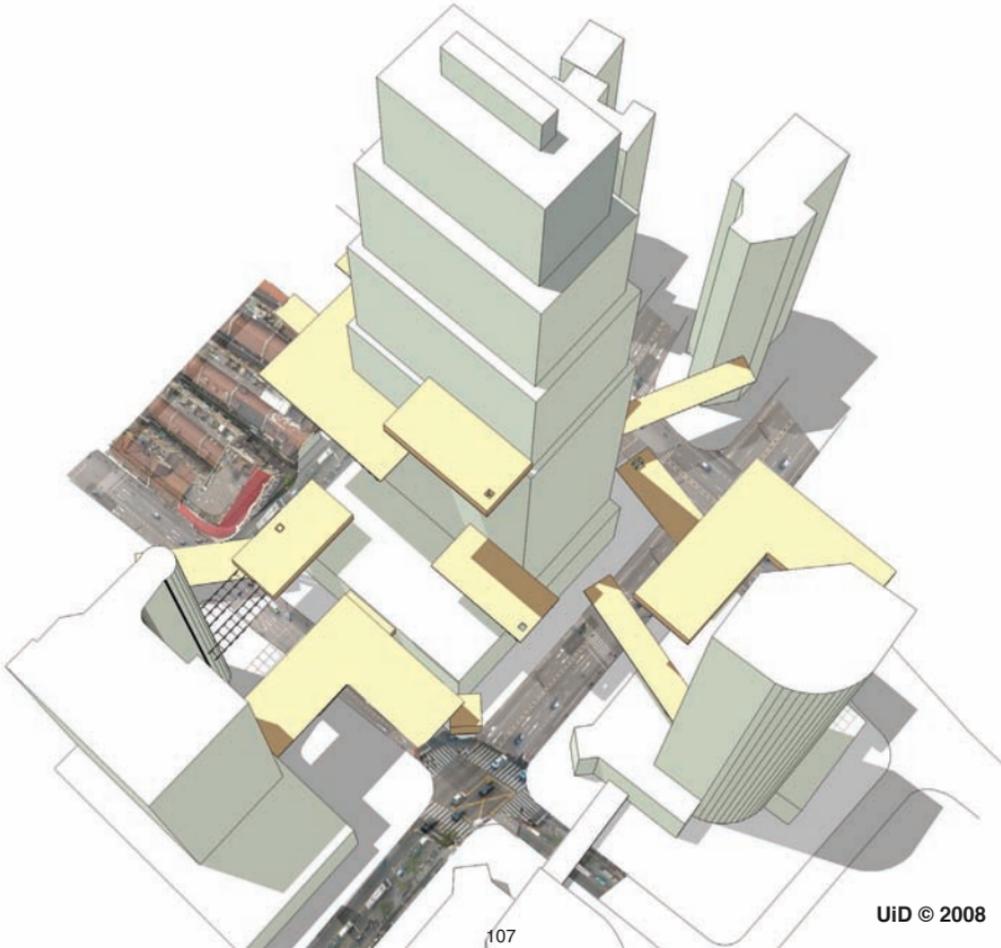
Streetscape in the New World

urban design

Competition

Teram: Henrik Valeur, Rebecca Zelwak, Sarvdeep Sangwan and Zhang Meng

Concept: The Streetscape in the New World consists of both the existing streets for consumption and distribution and new platforms for recreation and creativity. These platforms will provide places for communication and social interaction, but they will also provide people with new and surprising perspectives of the surroundings. They are light steel structures that can easily be adapted to different contexts, modified and replaced.



Climate Change, Cities and Urban Life

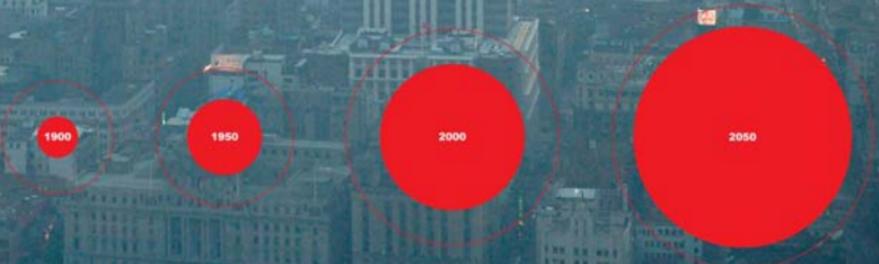
Research: the Danish Ministry of Education

Project by: Henrik Valeur in collaboration with Jens Kvorning, Dominic Balmforth, Søren Leth and Tanja Jordan

If cities can change the climate can the climate change cities?

50% urban

World Population: Rural/Urban



World

urbanization

1.7 tons

9.9 tons

32.5 tons



Booklet: 44 pages (in Danish)

Author: Henrik Valeur

DET NYE SHANGHAI

Shanghai har i dag ca. 19 millioner indbyggere, med en befolkningstæthed i nogle af de centrale distrikter på ca. 50.000 personer per km². Dette gør det ikke bare til en af verdens største men også en af verdens tættest beboede byer.

Shanghai er Kinas finansielle centrum (sammen med Hong Kong).



Puxi

Fodbinding

Fodbinding blev praktiseret i Kina helt op til begyndelsen af det 20. årh. Det var fortrinsvis piger fra overklassen som, fra de var omkring fem år gamle, fik bundet deres fødder op. Man mener dog, at op imod halvdelen af alle kinesiske kvinder i det 19. årh. havde fødder som, i en eller anden form, var bundet op.

Tæerne og vristen blev brækket, der gik betændelse i tæerne og kødet begyndte at rådne fordi der ikke kom blod nok til. Målet var fødder på voksne kvinder, som ikke var mere end 7-8 cm lange.

Disse forkrøblede kvinder havde langt bedre chancer for at gifte sig opad i samfundet. Det siges, at misundelige kvinder fra Manchuriet, hvor fodbinding var forbudt, opfandt deres egen metode til at gå på samme svajende måde som de kinesiske kvinder med opbundne fødder, nemlig vha af stiletter!

Det var indignerede vestlige og veluddannede kinesiske kvinder, som startede den første anti-fodbindingsbevægelse i Shanghai i 1895. Og allerede 20 år senere var denne tusind år gamle tradition stort set forsvundet.

Under Ming-dynastiet fandtes næsten 5000 hutonger i Beijing. Gaderne var mellem 1/2 og 4 1/2 m brede og løb i en øst-vest gående retning, så døråbningerne vendte imod nord og syd.

Ifølge Feng Shui kommer den positive energi ind gennem de sydvendte døråbninger, mens nordvendte døråbninger altid skal holdes lukkede.



Hutong-gade

Siheyuan

Et *Siheyuan*-hus er en traditionel kinesisk boligtype, som findes i mange former overalt i Kina, men det er mest kendt og udbredt i Beijing. Huset består af et centralt gårdrum omgivet af bygninger på alle fire sider. Forældrene bor i den nordlige hovedbygning, som vender mod syd, mens børnene (og deres familier) bor i de øst- og vestvendte fløjbygninger. Eventuelle tjenestefolk bor i den nordvendte bygning, hvor indgangen til boligen også er placeret. Det er ofte den eneste åbning til gaden og lige indenfor porten er en skærm, som skal holde onde ånder ude.



Siheyuan'et

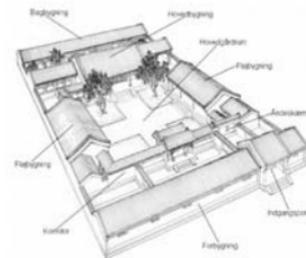
Gårdrummet bruges også som have og i rigere familiers huse kan der være to eller flere gårdrum. Murene mod nord og vest er ofte højere end de andre for at beskytte mod de kolde vinde fra denne retning.

DET GAMLE BEIJING



Siheyuan interior

En stor del af huset er bygget i træ, uden brug af hverken lim eller søm, så det er nemt at bygge om. De indvendige vægge er lette, ikke-bærende elementer, så rumopdelingen nemt kan ændres, og de ydre vægge mellem de bærende søjler kan fjernes om sommeren.



Siheyuan hus

Does the Global Meet the Local in Chandigarh?

Workshop: at Chandigarh College of Architecture

Team: Henrik Valeur in collaboration with faculty

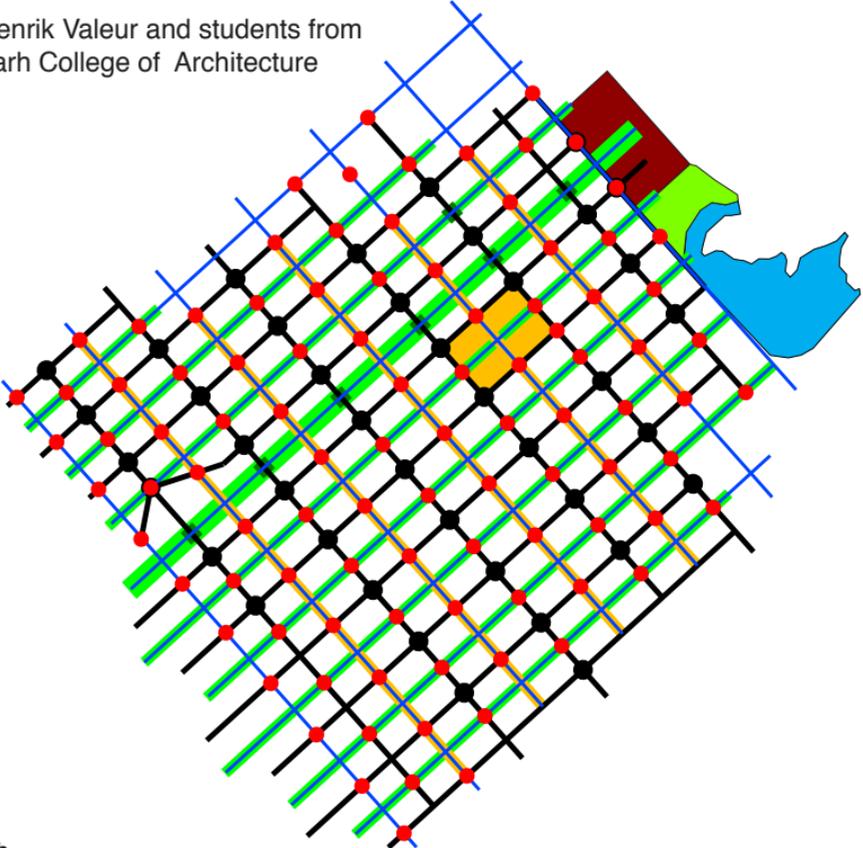
Excerpt (from the program): We have to pay attention to the urban developments taking place on the fringes of existing cities. Outside the planned city of Chandigarh a new kind of city is rapidly developing. The Rajiv Gandhi Technology Park is located next to existing villages and informal settlements. This juxtaposition of two separate “worlds”, a local and a global, can be observed all over the world today. And it is, in many ways, here, in the interface between the local and the global, our common future is being decided. If we don't know and understand each other how can we be expected to take care of and feel responsible for each other?



Green Streets of Chandigarh

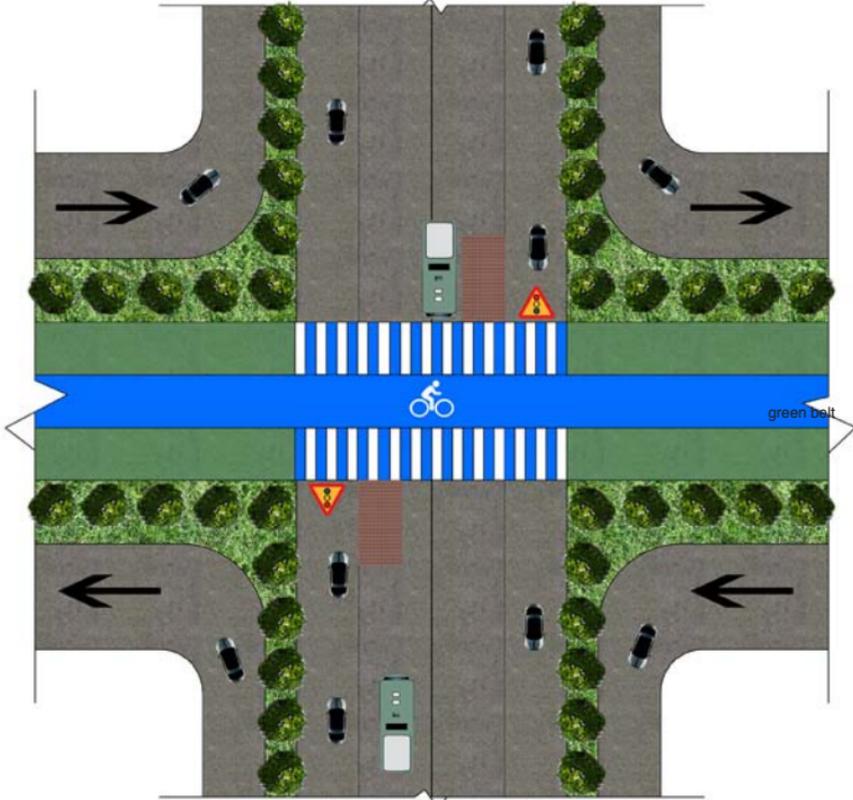
Client: Administration of the Union Territory of Chandigarh

Team: Henrik Valeur and students from Chandigarh College of Architecture



urban planning

Project: Proposal for a coherent system of bicycle paths through the 'market streets' in one direction and the 'green belts' in the other direction.



Chandigarh's Future: Real Problems and Potential Opportunities

urban development

Public debate

Panelists: Prof. John Bass, Pawan Bansal (Indian Minister of Science and Technology), Jyoti Kamal (moderator) and Henrik Valeur.

Excerpt (of presentation by Henrik Valeur): The question here is not only how to make Chandigarh a better place to live for its citizens, though that is certainly one question. There is a bigger question, which is how Chandigarh as a city - and a wealthy city that is - can contribute more to the development of the whole country.

I have heard that Chandigarh is actually being subsidized by the national government. I don't know if that is true? But obviously, it should be the other way around. Cities are supposed to be the drivers of development, not only economic development, but also cultural and social, scientific and technological development. It has been like that since the ancient Indus civilization.

What is seen as a problem, i.e. the massive influx of people to the city, should therefore rather be seen as an opportunity; an opportunity to stimulate development from which the whole country may benefit.



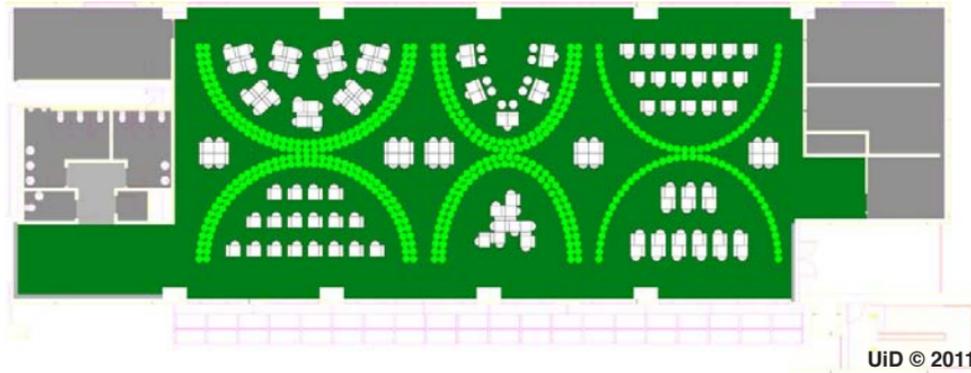
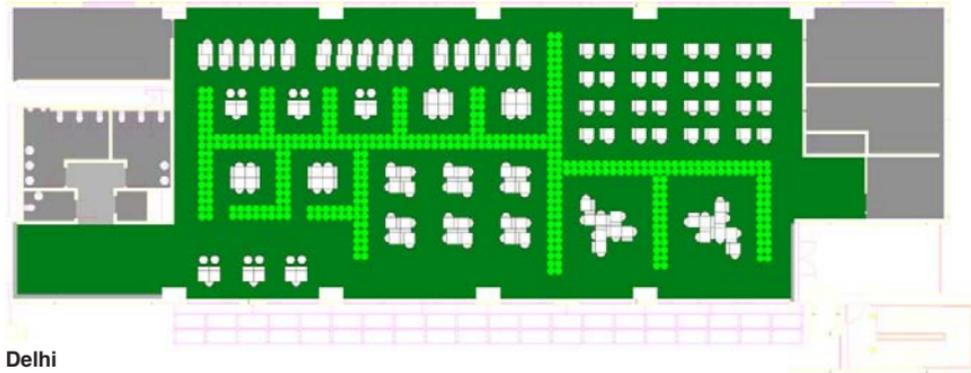
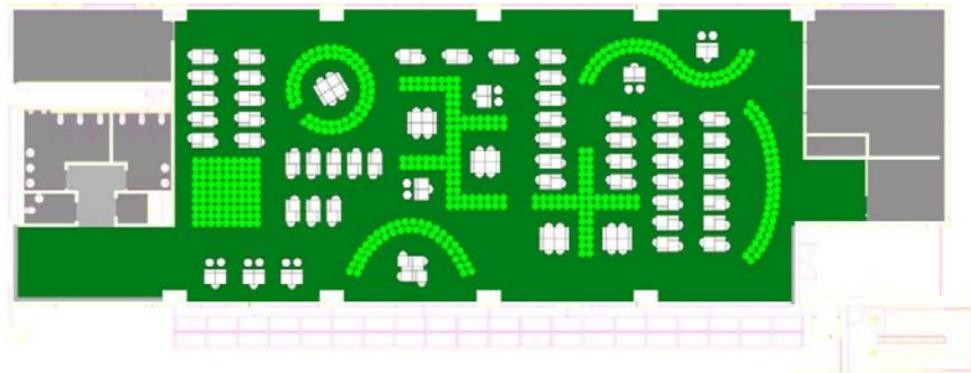
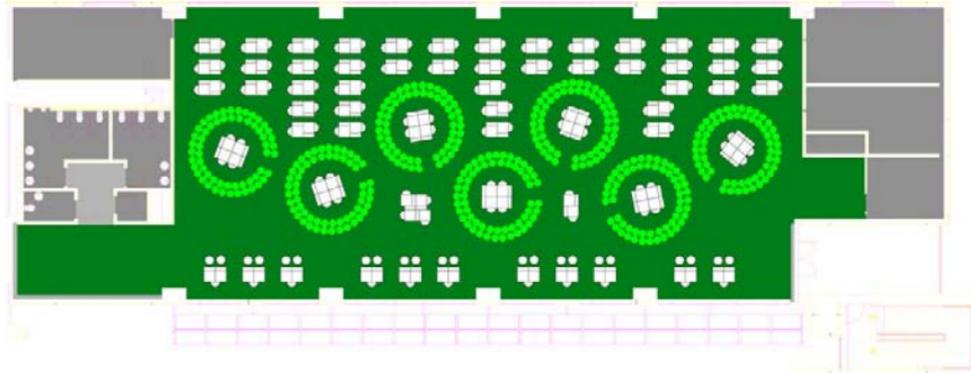
Self-organizing Green Office Spaces

interior design

Client: Paharpur Business Centre

Concept: Self-organizing Green Office Spaces are made of “green walls”, consisting of air-purifying plants placed in recycled buckets on wheels. These spaces can be configured - and reconfigured - in endless variations by moving around plants and desks.

Team: Henrik Valeur and Sarvdeep Singh Sangwan



Vertical Kitchen Gardens

Client: Eco- and Agro Resource Management

Team: Henrik Valeur, Harman Preet and Sameera Sneha in collaboration with Rico Zook (initial concept by Henrik Valeur and Arshinder Kaur)

Concept: Community kitchen gardens are being proposed here, in a rehabilitation colony, with an eye toward making the inhabitants less vulnerable to fluctuating food prices and insecure food supply and with an eye toward reducing the need for government subsidies. In addition, community kitchen gardens may help recreate the social tissue, which was disrupted when people were relocated to the rehabilitation colony. Taking the limited availability of land into account, community kitchen gardens are envisioned as vertical structures. The triple-layered scaffolding like structure is made of Balliyaan (eucalyptus poles) and is anchored to the existing building. The structure measures 2.4 meters (in width) x 21.0 meters (in length) x 12.0 meters (in height).

food production design



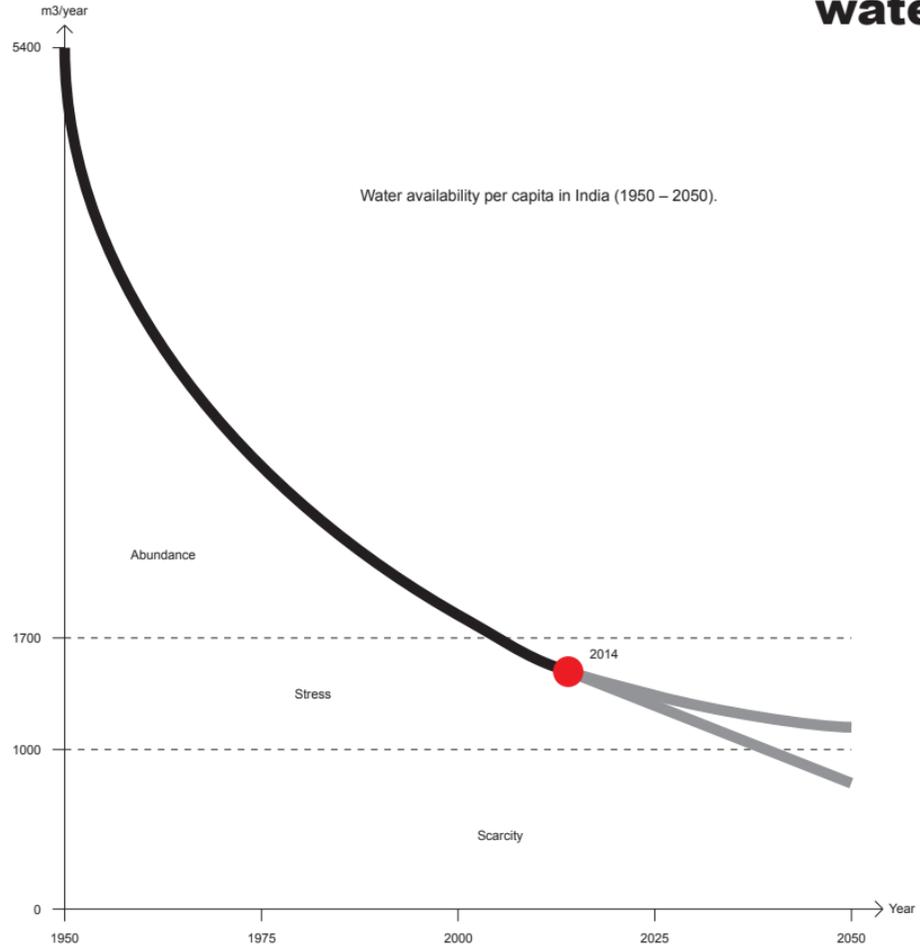
Running out of water - in India

Research paper

Author: Henrik Valeur

Abstract: While “the green revolution” certainly helped prevent famine, the introduction – in India during the late 1960s – of chemical pesticides and fertilizers, water-intensive crops and groundwater irrigation has contributed significantly to the pollution and depletion of water and also to population growth, which, in combination, have reduced the amount of available water per person by more than 2/3, causing water stress today and possible scarcity within the next few decades. So far, most of the population growth has taken place in rural areas. But from now on, almost all of the growth is expected to take place in urban areas. The future water situation in India, therefore, will increasingly be determined by the capability of its cities to conserve and recycle water.

India

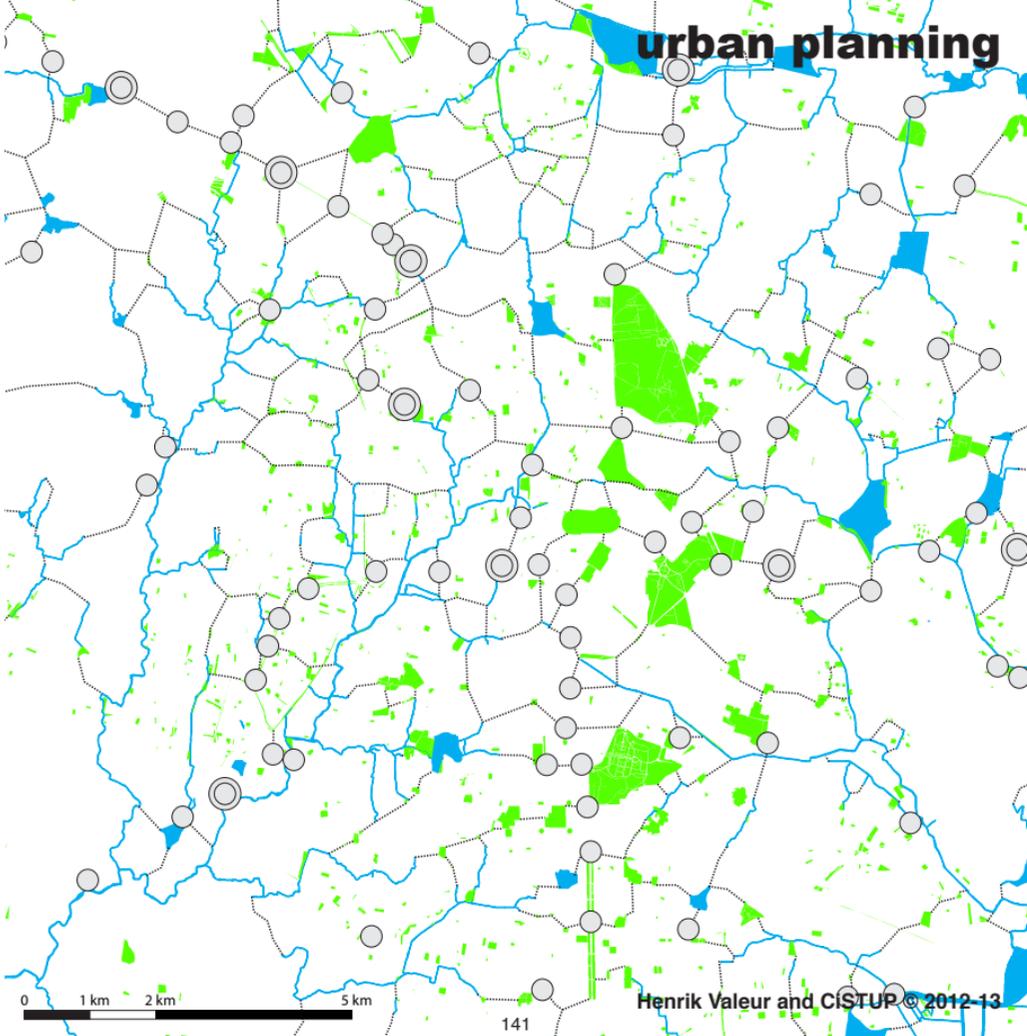


The Great Potential of Bangalore's Waterways

Research and project proposal

Team: Henrik Valeur, Harman Preet and Sameera Sneha (initiated with Radha Chanchani, Jaya Dhindaw and Kadambari Badami, Center for Infrastructure, Sustainable Transportation and Urban Planning, Indian Institute of Science)

Concept: Bangalore's interlinked system of waterways and water-bodies constitutes a unique feature of – and a huge potential asset for – the city and its citizens. Cleaning up and maintaining the waterways clean is a precondition for having clean water-bodies, and doing so could also serve to provide livelihood opportunities for poor people living there while making these areas attractive to other segments of society, also. Clean waterways could be used to promote “healthy mobility” by providing connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists between home and work, as well as connectivity to mass transit hubs and other important points in the city; and they could be used to promote “healthy lifestyles” by providing recreational facilities and spaces for social interaction. Apart from being important storm water drains that help prevent flooding, the waterways could also be used to enhance biodiversity in the city and to create wildlife corridors.

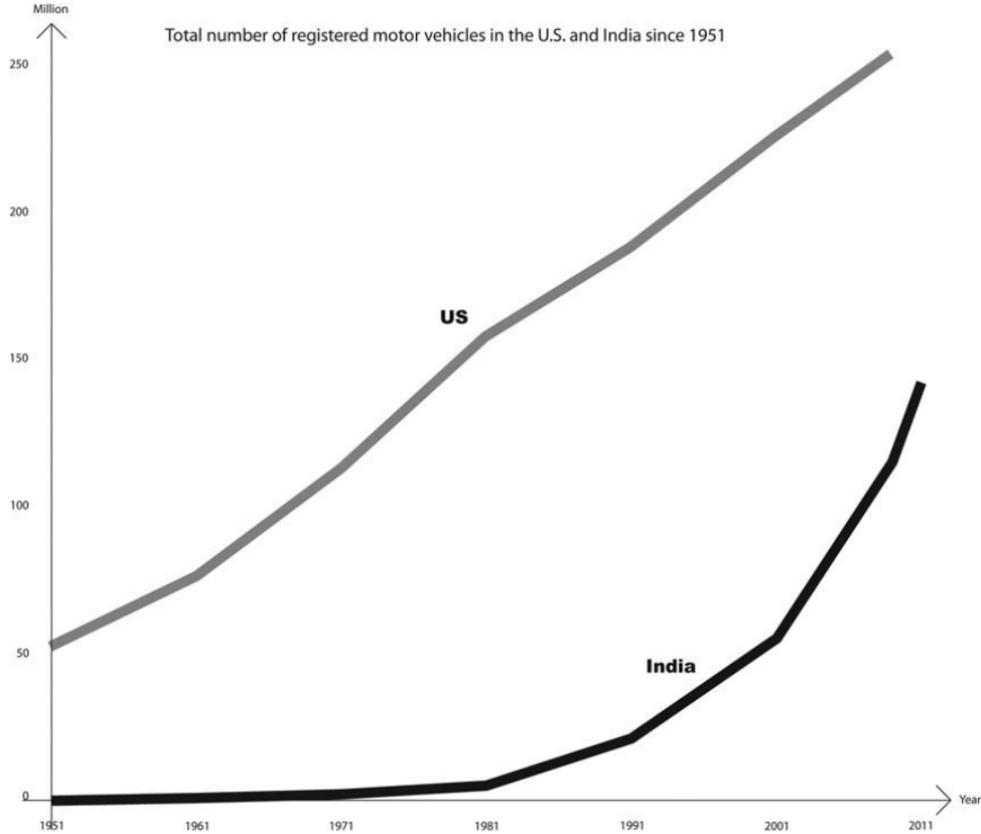


The horrendous costs of motorised transportation in (Indian) cities

Research paper: Published in the Global Urbanist and World Streets

Author: Henrik Valeur

Abstract: With rural-to-urban migration and urban-to-rural remittance, the number of people affected by traditional “rural” ills, such as undernourishment and infectious diseases, may decline. However, if cities and urban cultures are not properly developed and maintained, “rural” ills may simply be replaced by “urban” ills, such as stress, physical inactivity and social isolation, which may bring about even more suffering. In countries like India, many of the “urban” ills can be attributed to the uncontrolled proliferation of motorized transportation in cities, which, in combination with inadequate planning and management, weak regulations/weak enforcement of regulations and lack of urban mobility culture, may also have detrimental effects on the environment while severely hampering development.



Car-free Sector 19

urban design

Client: The Administration of the Union Territory of Chandigarh

Team: Henrik Valeur, Harman Preet and Sameera Sneha (initial concept by Henrik Valeur and students from Chandigarh College of Architecture)

Concept: We have to use existing space more efficiently. Today, a lot of space is used by cars. But cars are neither good for the environment nor good for our health or safety.



Chandigarh



Making India slum-free

Research paper

Author: Henrik Valeur

Abstract: This paper examines the uncertainty of the numbers related to slums in India, the promises that are being made and the programs that are being initiated to eradicate slums. And it examines the failure of these promises and programs: a failure that is not only depriving poor rural migrants of the chance to improve their lives by moving to cities but is also depriving society of these people's productivity.

India

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Low-cost Garden Flats

housing design

Development project

Team: Henrik Valeur, Harman Preet and Sameera Sneha in discussion with Shrsti Space™

Concept: Low-cost garden flats are to be delivered in varying shapes and sizes. The "random" arrangement will give rise to different individual and communal outdoor spaces. The individual outdoor spaces can be used for private kitchen gardens, small-scale business activities or the expansion of the dwelling according to the family's particular needs and capabilities. Each dwelling unit is delivered as an open concrete frame structure, including concrete floor plates and staircases. The residents fill out the frames themselves. Thus, to begin with, many units may be open or only rudimentarily enclosed with blankets or tarpaulins. Gradually, the frames are to be filled out with different solid materials according to individual preferences and possibilities. Eventually, each dwelling will have its own individual appearance, like many of the traditional and self-built houses in this region.

Henrik Valeur is an architect-urbanist, born in Denmark (1966). He graduated in 1994 from the School of Architecture in Copenhagen having previously studied with Enric Miralles at the School of Architecture in Barcelona (ETSAB). He subsequently worked for Rem Koolhaas' Office for Metropolitan Architecture in Rotterdam. In 1997 he founded UiD (un-identified) - a networking urban consultancy and a pioneer in the field of participatory and collaborative planning and design. In 2007 he founded UiD Shanghai Co., Ltd in China. He has conducted research on urban regions and multicultural societies; housing and contemporary lifestyles; policies, methods and technologies related to sustainable urban development; rapid urbanization in developing and emerging regions; climate change and cities. As the curator of the Danish contribution to the Architecture Biennale in Venice 2006, he conceived and orchestrated the project CO-EVOLUTION: Danish/Chinese Collaboration on Sustainable Urban Development in China, which was awarded the Golden Lion for Best National Pavilion. He has furthermore served as an organizer, moderator and speaker at numerous international seminars and conferences, as a juror on several international architecture competitions and has taught architecture and urbanism at various international universities. He frequently gives interviews and participates in public debates. His work is inspired by the situationists (art), chaos theories (science) and daoism (philosophy). He has lived and worked in Copenhagen, Barcelona, Rotterdam, Los Angeles, Shanghai, Chandigarh and Bangalore.