“The Magayin creates the state of Magaya, which is a state of peace, freedom from hostilities and true justice for all.”

The Identity 1.0 project involves designing a new way of housing for the Yolngu Aborigines in Arnhem Land, Northern Territory, Australia. This design is in line with their traditions, culture and environment to strengthen their identity.

The project is the outcome of 2.5-years architectural research & development alongside the Yolngu Aboriginals of Ramingining, Arnhem Land, the Technical University Delft in The Netherlands and the University of Technology Sydney.

The next phase, starting after the ceremony, is to get consent from the Yolngu traditional owners to set up a Yolngu foundation, named Magaya. The Magaya Foundation will consist a local contractor, a local elder, a regional Yolngu and (inter)national representatives.

The board has two primary tasks. First to generate funding through all sorts of partners and second of all to protect the balance between collaborations. All of this has to be set up within the upcoming four months. The entire process will be documented by Oliver Thompson, film maker and photographer.

By building Identity 1.0 the Yolngu have a medium, a tool for themselves, to tell their story of the past, present and future. To express their identity and at the same time to show their demands and needs of their current western housing and living. Questions like: “who they are, but especially how they can become more like themselves?”, can be answered. For the first time they will show through the Prototype what they are missing, can be improved and at the same time what is strong about their current living situation. How can the dreamtime be integrated into today’s architecture, to give an inside in how beautiful the Yolngu are?

Public Lecture & Diploma Ceremony

Identity 1.0

René-Paul van Leeuwen

12 April 2012, 5 - 6pm (If possible, come a bit earlier)
Technical University, Delft, The Netherlands Julianalaan 134, Room B