

# Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



## Graduation Plan: All tracks

The graduation plan consists of at least the following data/segments:

Personal information	
Name	Jiaqi Zhang
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Studio	
Name / Theme	Public Building / Graduation Studio Public Condenser: The Hague-Copenhagen
Teachers / tutors	Main mentor: Paul Kuitenbrouwer, Architecture Second mentor: Gilbert Koskamp, Building Technology
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Architecture is more about human than building itself. Built environment has its unique power that it is influencing people in every moment. I believe that good architectures are the ones that combine the architect's reflection of society and his introspection of some social problems, such as lack of residential housing. The Public Building studio focus on the public realm in the city, which is a functional part of the city that have long tradition in European culture. I am interested in it very much. The idea of "Public spaces" in China is rather new. So, I want to learn deeper about how it became the Public Space as we know today and what it will be in the future.

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Popartifact
Goal	
Location:	Morgenstond, The Hague
The posed problem,	The Hague is a culturally diverse city, where there are many different cultures co-existing. However, most of the public building are only designed to embraced to certain type of cultures, which led to the cultural cut-off between different social groups. This phenomenon also causes the cultural blank in Morgenstond.
research questions and	Cultural diversity is an important phenomenon in today's society, and how architecture deals with issues

	<p>caused by cultural diversity is full of challenges.</p> <p>How can architects accommodate cultures from different social classes and different historical backgrounds in one public building, i.e. the Public Condenser?</p> <p>What kind of impact does such a building have on multicultural communities?</p> <p>What other cultural interaction identities do ordinary residents have besides cultural audiences?</p>
design assignment in which these results.	<p>The Public Condenser will include both high culture and low culture. To be more specific: cultures that are quieter when presenting to the people and cultures that are more alive when presenting to the people are both to be accommodated in the public building. To achieve this goal, a "Pulse" area where a skating park and art gallery will be required. Also, the daily function needs to be considered, which involves the workshop, multifunction rooms, gaming for children, health and a "Zen" area for visitors. The interaction and overlooking through each part of the building is very welcomed and encouraged, by which means, they become background to each other and influence each other.</p>
<b>Process</b>	
<b>Method description</b>	
<p><i>Design method of first approaching:</i></p> <p>Site analysis, including the themes of city, connection, people and power.</p> <p>Circulation study, through which the location of the public condenser will be decided.</p> <p>Programmatic design study, which studies the programmatic the condenser needs.</p> <p><i>Research method of organizing the programmes:</i></p> <p>Praxeology, which is a study of human action</p> <p>Assemblage, mostly research about social process and cultural meaning on the ephemeral, the emergent, the evanescent, the decentered and the heterogeneous.</p>	

Collage, a methodology that is about creating a new meaning for the whole, while keeping the meaning of each element in the combined object.

Affordances, a study which believes our perception depends on both our biological sense and the provided elements of the "ecological environment".

*Design method:*

Volumetric studies, which will lead to a decision about the exact location of the Public Condenser and its appearance.

Sectional study, which shows the basic programmatic organization and narrative of the Public Condenser.

Planimetric study to make the building actually work.

Building Technology along with the whole design process.

### **Literature and general practical preference**

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Gibson, James J. (1979). *The Ecological Approach to Visual Perception*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

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## **Reflection**

### **Relevance**

The exploration in this graduation studio tries to provide a basis for architects to understand people's needs and creativity in daily life. How to make different cultures scattered in the metropolis communicate with each other is an important issue. Space barriers make it difficult for people to understand different cultures. In the shaping of urban public space, architects seem to be unavoidable to rudely classify these areas and construct architectural projects based on functional classification. This is similar to the division of labor in the production process of the factory, hoping to improve efficiency through specialization. However, this way of classifying and designing limits people's creativity. Many projects in this study show us additional possibilities. They cannot be explicitly classified as specific building types. However, this complex background brings unique charm to these projects, they bring more possibilities to the cultural life of the city, so that their users can discover unexpected gains beyond their own goals. This is a characteristic that architectural projects with clear functionality do not have. As users of a building, people have complex needs. Therefore, architecture should not be a passive carrier of cultural activities, but should break through the limitations of typology and become a medium for intercultural communication.

## **Time planning**

P1

Group research book

P2

Individual research book

Design journal

Graduation plan

Design manifesto

Design brief

Concept design

P3

Week 3.1 Research about the interaction about the programmes

Week 3.2 Building Technology

Week 3.3 Building Technology

Week 3.4 Concept design of the structure

Week 3.5 Preparation for P3

Week 3.6 P3

P4

design development of the above in more detail [from 1: 100/50 to 1:20/5]

visualization studies of important elements

translation of the Design Manifesto of MSc3 into a Project [1: 20/10/5]

description text with storyline and concept clarification diagrams

preparation of the final presentation (concept, pre-editing)

P5

Public presentation