

Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl), Mentors and Delegate of the Board of Examiners one week before P2 at the latest.

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

Personal information	
Name	Denzel Manuel
Student number	4737210

Studio		
Name / Theme	Interiors buildings & Cities / Architecture for Art.	
Main mentor	Susanne Pietsch	Architecture
Second mentor	Mauro Parravicini	Architectural Engineering
Third mentor	Amy Thomas	Architectural Research
Argumentation of choice of the studio	To understand how interior components relate to better architectural approach and practice. Hereby defining and developing my capabilities as a student architect whereby this studio formulates itself as one that applies architectural design within the digital and physical format.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Uncovering the untold, VMHK
Goal	
Location:	Antwerp South
The posed problem,	<p>Designing a full program for a new national museum of contemporary art in Antwerp, proposed on the site where the Court of Appeal building now stands.</p> <p>The existing museum MHKA (Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp) has insufficient space to run its institution at full capacity. Therefore, the program will be moved to a new location, where it will make use of an existing building on the site.</p>
research questions and	<p>How can MHKA's expansion focus on different types of programs and flows of people while settling in an existing building that in its design was not intended for a museum program.</p> <p>How can the design for MHKA contribute to the enhancement/strengthening of its surrounding neighbourhood - 't Zuid</p>

<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p>critical questioning of the brief while analyzing the proposed cubic versus usable cubic meters</p> <p>To formulate more wide-ranging institution that not only fulfills its mission in collecting and preserving curated art or objects. But to design an institution that takes its responsibility in curating interior aspects and means of display. In my design I will focus on transformation of existing spaces and new built spaces that could function as exhibition and public rooms</p> <p>My design will focus particularly on developing means for greater public access to the building. To form an institution that provides public access to education, research, art and leisure.</p>
<p>Process</p>	
<p>Method description</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Precedent Study: a collective analysis of eight contemporary art museums that can serve as the main source of knowledge for making my own design for the M HKA. Taking inspiration from curatorial strategies, museum scale, drawings, texts and models. - Model-making: Using models in different scales during my design and research. Making existing museum models as a study of the interior of the museum and generating a specific exhibition space for an artist from MHKA's collection to understand the way of exhibiting. This is further developed into my own design to understand masses on location and shadow play until finally testing interiors to show how the program works. - Site visit: Visiting the site both physically and digitally to better reference local context. After my P2, I will schedule another physical visit to see if this will complement current knowledge in combination with new findings of the neighborhood. - Collective Research: A collective research in which we as a studio investigated different aspects around the theme of display, collecting, preserving, museum families, anti-museum, urban history and site and the history of contemporary art in Flanders. All research is archived in a collective software called Notion. This software is publicly accessible 	

Literature and general practical preference

Literature and readings of Research Seminars:

- Mark Pimlott, Visibility spectacle theatricality (2022)
- Grayson Perry, 'Beating the Bounds', BBC Reith Lectures
- Charlotte Klonk, 'The Dilemma of the Modern Art Museum' in Spaces of Experience: Art Gallery Interiors from 1800 to 2000 (New Haven; Yale)
- Podcast, The Bilbao Effect #1: Bilbao, Spain Guggenheim Bilbao's director general discusses the city's world-renowned transformation
- Darby English and Charlotte Barat, 'Blackness at MoMA: A Legacy of Deficity', in Among Others: Blackness at MoMA (New York: MoMA, 2019)
- 'Culture and Privilege' Episode of Thinking Allowed, BBC

8 Precedents Study:

- Museu de arte São Paulo. Lina Bo Bardi
- Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris. Rogers + Piano
- Museum Abteiburg, Mönchengladbach. Hans Hollein
- Kunsthaus, Bregenz. Peter Zumthor
- Tate Modern, London. Herzog + De Meuron
- New Museum, New York. SANAA
- Kunsthaus, Zürich. David Chipperfield
- FRAC, Dunkerque. Lacaton + Vassal

Reflection

What is the relation between your graduation (project) topic, the studio topic (if applicable), your master track (A,U,BT,LA,MBE), and your master programme (MSc AUBS)?

This studio describes its assignment as 'An Architecture for Art', in which it directly resonates with the architecture practise (museum building) and the research and subject matter (art and display). The ambition of my project is to investigate how existing building can be given a new purpose through public use and museum program. Hereby it not only articulates in a rather technical elaboration of fusing new built on existing building texture, but also asks me to research the design and urban context in which the building becomes situated, in this it also directly relates to Urbanism aspects of architecture.

1. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework.

In my findings, contemporary art museums play a critical role in social and cultural dynamics of our environment and society. It helps encompass the social issues of our time but separately it also provides insight into both contemporary components of our existence and our history as human beings.

In doing so, it seems to be a collective interest that the museum of contemporary art as an institution is committed to archiving and collecting a multitude of objects but also positioning itself primarily in making these works publicly known and accessible.

The graduation project plays out like an actual design competition. It uses an existing brief issued by the Flemish government, employing individual research and design as well as group methodology, in order to articulate the project as an actual practice.

The graduation project resonates both within individual and group work to which extend there is frequent use of research combined with lectures, seminars and on hand design approaches.

Combined with a conclusive reflection of the research plan, the project provides a scientific foundation to build upon during the graduation period.