

# Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences

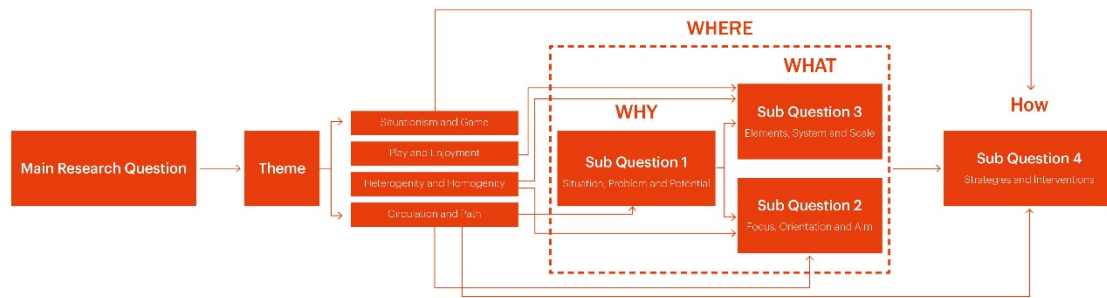


<b>Personal information</b>	
Name	Kefei Yan
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<b>Studio</b>	
Name / Theme	Design of the Urban Fabric
Main mentor	Ir. Leo van den Burg Urban Design
Second mentor	Dr. Caroline Newton Spatial Planning & Strategy
Argumentation of choice of the studio	<p>I am really interested in and also good at the scale of this studio, I also have had an clear framework about the research in red-light areas in Amsterdam.</p> <p>What I hope is to investigate deeply into the social-cultural aspects with qualitative and descriptive and analytical methods to develop a new kind of urban fabric for this kind of heterogeneous places. The scale will be in neighborhood scale.</p> <p>I want to develop the story both from the combination of urgent problems which De Wallen are facing and the historic development of prostitution to envision what the neighbourhood can be in the future. Then combined with fieldwork and interviews, I tend to go deep into that community and try to build up a clear relationship among different stakeholders and different forms of space. Supplemented by different analytical methods to discover the potential of urban space, make use of the current space or develop new type of space to reconcile the conflicts. The project will act as a urban design experiment to focus on public space, social relationship, urban morphology and typology. It will create a model which can allow prostitution, the residential life and the unstoppable tourism to co-exist together. Thus it will go through neighbourhood scale to object scale! Finally, I hope to create a poetic narrative for the 'dark' side of society according to the current moral codes.</p>

<b>Graduation project</b>	
Title of the graduation project	Toward City of Enjoyment
<b>Goal</b>	
Location:	De Wallen, Amsterdam
The posed problem,	After 2007, with 150 windows closed outside the area, the over-concentrated prostitution windows attract more and more tourists and curious outsiders by the wave of globalization and marketization into De Wallen, the

	<p>famous Red Light District but also a local neighbourhood with some residents. The spatial overlap of the pursuits from different groups has resulted in overflow, which has crowded out already inadequate public space and caused many social conflicts. The removal of the Red Light District and the closure of the prostitution window received a lot of opposition, and De Wallen is seen by many social groups as an inclusive and heterogeneous place with a high value.</p> <p>Thus, the contradictory relationship between overflow, prostitution and the life of the residents became a urgent problem that needed to be solved.</p>
<p>research questions and</p>	<p>Main Research Question: How to reconcile prostitution, overtourism and residential life in De Wallen, Amsterdam through the design of the physical space, in order to realize the pursuits of enjoyment from different groups while relieving the environmental and social pressure?</p> <p>Sub Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the environmental and social pressure in De Wallen and how is this visible in the perspective of space?</li> <li>2. What are the pursuits of enjoyment of different groups in De Wallen?</li> <li>3. What are the spatial representations of different space of enjoyment?</li> <li>4. What are possible physical space that can help realize to reconcile the relationship?</li> </ol>
<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A study about the history of space, enjoyment and body.</li> <li>2. An intense city model reconcile different pursuits of enjoyment from different groups to play as a basic model for solving different urban problems.</li> <li>3. A people-oriented design for countering the capitalized and choreographed society to celebrate encountering, gathering and contacting.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Process</b></p>	
<p><b>Method description</b></p>	



Main Research Question	Sub Research Question	Method	Expected Outcome
<p>How to reconcile production, over-tourism and residential life in De Wallen, Amsterdam, through the design of the physical space in order to realize the pursuits of enjoyment from different groups while relieving the environmental and social pressure?</p> <p><b>Organize Circulation</b></p> <p><b>Enjoyment</b></p>	<p>What is the environmental and social pressure in De Wallen and how is this visible in the perspective of space?</p>	<p>Interview / Fieldwork / Literature Review / Mapping / Case Study</p>	<p>Basic Mapping / Maps of transformation in De Wallen / Maps of environmental and social pressure</p>
	<p>What are the pursuits of enjoyment of different groups in De Wallen?</p>	<p>Interview / Literature Review / Fieldwork / Mapping</p>	<p>List of analysis about different groups ( needs, pursuits, patterns, activities) / Maps of activities / Scenes of activities</p>
	<p>What are the spatial representations of different space of enjoyment?</p>	<p>Mapping / Case Study / Literature Review / Urban Morphology and Typology</p>	<p>Maps of the spatial relationship between space of enjoyment / Catalogue of Urban and Architectural Element / List of variables to verify spatial mechanism</p>
	<p>What are possible physical space that can help realize to reconcile the relationship?</p>	<p>Scenario / Case Study / Urban Morphology and Typology / Psychogeography</p>	<p>Scenarios for different reconciliation / Catalogue of Patterns and situations / Mechanism and Rules for integrated design/ Animation of various scenes</p>

The project will combine qualitative (fieldwork, interview and Psychogeography), conceptual (literature review) and analytical (case study, mapping and scenario) methods in different phases to answer the research questions step by step. Due to the specificity of the context of the project, the project will not be based on a large amount of analysis as in traditional rational urban design, but more on concepts derived from historical, philosophical and documentary research and mapped onto the spatial practice. These methods will be applied into five sections: 1.Problem Field, 2.Manifesto, 3.Theoretical Research, 4.Concept and 5.Design Toward City of Enjoyment.

## Literature and general practical preference

### Literature

1. Lefebvre. H. (1973). *Toward an Architecture of Enjoyment*. London. University of Minnesota Press
2. Walz. S. P. (2010). *Toward a Ludic Architecture: The Space of Play and Games*. Pittsburgh, PA: ETC Press. <http://repository.cmu.edu/etcpres/5>
3. Dehaene. M.& de Cauter. L. (2008). *Heterotopia and the City: Public Space in a Postcivil Society*. New York. Routledge
4. Symanski. R. (1981). *The Immoral Landscape: Female Prostitution in Western Societies*. Toronto. Butterworth
5. Aalbers. M. B. & Sabat. M. (2012). *Re-making a Landscape of Prostitution: the Amsterdam Red Light District*. City: analysis of urban trends, culture, theory, policy, action. 16:1-2, 112-128
6. Cheng. T. (2016). *Red Light City*. Amsterdam. The Architecture Observer.
7. Bizzoni. J. (2017). *XXXZone*. Weserburg. The Centre for Artist Publications.
8. Williams. R. J. (2013). *Sex and Buildings*. London. Reaktion Books Ltd.
9. Preciado. P. (2014). *Pornotopia: An Essay on Playboy's Architecture & Biopolitics*. New York. Zone Books.
10. Evans. R. (1978). *Figures, Doors and Passages*. Translation from Drawing to Building and Other Essays. P33-P91
11. Von Vorries. F., Walz. S. P. & Bottger. M. (2007). *Space Time Play: Computer Games, Architecture and Urbanism*. Basel. Birkhauser.
12. Koolhaas. R. (2014). *Elements of Architecture*. New York. Taschen GmbH.
13. Lees. L. (2004). *The Emancipatory City? Paradoxes and Possibilities*. London. Sage
14. Tschumi. B. (2001). *Architecture and Disjunction*. Boston. MIT Press.
15. Gravris. A. E. & Banciu Viorica. (2010) Typologies of Persons practicing Prostitution.
16. Bell. D. & Valentine. G.(1995). *Mapping Desire: Geographies of Sexualities*. London. Routledge.

### Data:

1. Gemeente Amsterdam. Retrived September 12, 2021 from <https://data.amsterdam.nl/>
2. OpenStreetMap. Retrived September 12, 2021 from <https://www.openstreetmap.org/#map=14/37.7996/-122.2699&layers=DG>
3. AlleCijfers. Retrived January 13, 2022 from <https://allecijfers.nl/ buurt/burgwallen-oost-amsterdam/>

## Reflection

1. The topic of Urban Fabrics Studio this year is At Home, and is questioning how the future city will look like. De Wallen is a typical case which has been influenced by globalization and social diversity so that it suits the theme of the studio to explore the social cohesion. And the spatial aspect of prostitution is the least study in the area but now it has become an urgent problem. Combined with the scenario approach of the studio, we can envision the future of this neighbourhood to reconcile the relationship between residents, prostitution and overtourism through the design in local and even micro scale. Additionally, City of Enjoyment

can propose a question and a possible model about the nomadland in such a kind of enclave in the cities.

Secondly, City of Enjoyment will help me understand more about the mechanism among elements, space and urbanism, the project will also present what I have learned during the master program: reading the city, analyze the city and design the space in cities. Moreover, I hope it can develop a new concept for myself at the end of graduation to help me continue the career as urban designer.

2. I think City of Enjoyment can be taken as a manifesto for my later professional career. I hope it can propose some new focuses in the context of current urbanism. Space for the mid-class people and capitalism is enough and we need to develop some more perspectives on these 'dark' side under the moral codes. Besides, the project can develop and put some abstract concepts from Situationist International and Henri Lefebvre into spatial representation in city scale.

From the perspective of scientific relevance, prostitution is often studied in terms of human rights, public health and culture, although sex work is seemed as dishonourable, it has long been a persistent feature of urban life and has manifested itself in different forms and spaces and prostitution in its cultural and social context shapes the architecture and the urban life of cities by different typologies and levels (Bizzoni. J., 2017). However, the impact on the city as built form is one of the least studied aspects of the sex industry (Ibelings. H., 2016). Few studies have been done to develop a new model of these enclaves. City of Enjoyment will bridge the gap here and develop the new relationship to create the dialogue between the new built form of prostitution and environment of the city. This project will also finally develop a system of rules, mechanism and games as a new urban design approach.

Under the social framework, prostitution has been a persistent theme in the study of sociology since the nineteenth century ( Kempadoo. K., 2017). However, too often in this area, the canons of scientific inquiry are suspended and research deliberately skewed to serve a particular political agenda. Much of this work has been done by writers who regard the sex industry as a despicable institution and who are active in campaigns to abolish it (Weitzer. R., 2005). Thus, most of the current spatial practices influenced by these researches are inevitably geared towards extreme alienation, marginalisation and gentrification. City of Enjoyment will try to jump out of the existing moral codes and to avoid stigmatization. Additionally, this project can help develop the previous work of Henri Lefebvre (1973) and Robin Evans (1978) to try to create a practice of spatial representation from social relationships in the other spaces.