

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	Mateo White
Student number	4773632

Studio	
Name / Theme	Urban Architecture / Last Green in Town
Main mentor	Sam Stalker
Second mentor	Eireen Scheurs
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Contemporary issues around democracy, sustainability, and inequality require a wider scope of approach to architectural design. This year's focus on the role of green spaces in cities is vitally relevant to the future of the practice.

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Vagabonds Disparus

Goal	
Location:	Av. Gustave Latinis 152, 1030 Schaerbeek, Belgium
The posed problem,	The Josaphat Friche finds itself threatened by developers, with much of its space for biodiversity being slated for dense construction. On the current site, a small theatre company has found a space to organize cultural events and plays for the whole region of Wallonia, using the friche as their permanent base of operations. The two threatened entities – nomadic theatre and migrating wildlife – struggle to find their place in the city
research questions and	How can theatre and culture be used to preserve a threatened site? What role can nature play in the practice of theatre?

	How can the delicate nature of traveling theatre integrate into 21 st century cities?
design assignment in which these result.	<p>The design of multifunctional building that bridges the urban traffic of Brussels with the informality of nomadic theatre, housing offices for the administration, rehearsal rooms, a small event space, and apartments. The building should also feature a covered entrance to a courtyard behind it, where the current infrastructure of the theatre can be placed, facing the open friche.</p> <p>In this courtyard, an open structure can be used as a theatre or immersive performance space, with the option of supporting the existing tent and seating through mounting points. The structure should have openings onto the friche and four facades that enclose a space inside. When empty, the structure should also be welcoming to biodiversity and specifically the insects on the Friche and the birds that visit it to feed.</p> <p>The building and structure should for a complete ensemble, along with the distinctive infrastructure of the Nouveaux Disparus.</p>
<p>[This should be formulated in such a way that the graduation project can answer these questions. The definition of the problem has to be significant to a clearly defined area of research and design.]</p>	
Process	
Method description	
<p>The site of the friche as well as the theatre group in the current form will be analyzed from a journalistic point of view using a short documentary format. By the use of careful video shooting, in-person interviews, and story editing, the stakeholders and their values in the existing situation will be understood so as to carefully craft a design that meets their needs. The goal is to produce a documentary of 25 minutes, featuring interviews with Djamal Youssif, the head of the theatre group, Benoit de Broeck, the head of the ecological activists of the site, Steven van Garsse, a journalist and ecologist in Brussels, as well as potential experts in the field of nomadic theatre- a threatened artform.</p>	

Literature and general practical references

The theory around which the design will be based is 'The Emancipated Spectator' by Jacques Ranciere who argues that modern day relationships between artists and viewers is a product of forces of late capitalism, and that to truly be free and able to transform the relationship between artist and viewer, a new dynamic needs to be formed.

Other literature includes books around the history of theatre forms, their designs, and their relationship with the spectator.

1. Theatricality a study of convention in the Theatre and in Social Life (Burns, Elizabeth)
2. People's Palaces – Architecture, Culture and Democracy in Post-War western Europe (Grafe Christian)
3. New Theatre Forms (Joseph, Steven)
4. The Shapes of our theatre (Mielziner, Jo)

Reflection

1. The project examines the relationship between informal human settlement and informal biodiversity on a scale larger than a simple building unit, aiming to tackle and very difficult and sensitive subject typical of those examined by the studio of Urban Architecture. It is also a theme and subject that tests the skills that have been taught throughout the masters track, using novel forms of site analysis, rational and systematic approaches to complex programs, and human-centre scale designs.
2. The subject of nomadic theatre is important in the field as it is a threatened art form that may still be relevant in the age of entertainment monopolies and the inaccessibility of theatre to many groups of populations in cities. It invites a novel approach to design, and forces the designer to think more carefully about the program and the relationship between built and unbuilt