Reflection: P4, Studio Public Realm
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Aspect 1: The relationship between research and design
The research we have done touches upon the public realm in relation with the current developments of the city center of Rotterdam. It also relates in a broader context to the current developments in the economy. In our research we investigated the urban blocks of Rotterdam. How are they build up and how do they work? Besides this we also did research of the knowledge based economy. Nowadays there is a shifting from an economy with larger companies to an economy more based on small companies and the creative class. This research showed us that the center area is not yet ready for this shifting. There are not enough conditions to stimulate the knowledge based economy. We have tried to design a building that is ready for this future economy. In this building we stacked different functions upon each other. Functions which will stimulate the knowledge based economy. The target group will benefit by contact with other people. People with whom they can collaborate with or people who can stimulate them. The design will stimulate this interaction between different people and groups. Therefore the design houses different functions which enhances this interaction. The building offers a complex programme of different functions in one building. Functions like retail, offices, cultural and dwelling. My main task in this design is to bring all the different functions and flows together in such a way that there is a lot of interaction, but also a certain distance between the public and the private.

Aspect 2: The relationship between the theme of the studio and the subject case study chosen by the student within this framework (location/object)
The MSC3 studio Public Realm will touch upon the issue of the public realm in relation with the current urban redevelopments in the city center of Rotterdam. The subject of the studio is to provide the center with a new building which will densify the city by building a hybrid building. Together with this issue the studio is also about the transition of the public to the private. It is about the public life that comes together in buildings and that will find their way to the private functions. Especially this transition is the main topic of my research and design. How to deal and organize these flows and functions in and around the building.

Aspect 3: The relationship between the methodical line of approach of the studio and the method chosen by the student in this framework.
The methodical line of approach of the studio is firstly doing a profound research about the public realm. From this research, conclusions have to be taken which will be important by designing the building. I have clearly followed this methodical line of approach. The conclusions of the research are the starting points of my design. Through the bombings of the second world war the city center of Rotterdam is destroyed. Due the fast reconstruction with large urban blocks the urban fabric, where Jos Gadet is talking about in his book "Terug naar de stad", disappeared. The lijnbaan shows itself as a monotonous shopping area. The lack of diversity in functions as well as in organization and form creates an unilateral area. By designing a new building with a diversity in functions, form and organization we tried to stimulate the urban fabric again. The urban fabric is an important stimulant of the knowledge based economy.

Aspect 4: The relationship between the project and the wider social context.
The building has a great influence on the character of the city of Rotterdam. It will change this character as well. Also the social life in the center will change by making such a building with this amount of functions. In this building the social life will take place throughout the entire day. Different kind of people, races, cultures, ethnicities and social layers of the population will move in and trough the building.