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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Henrik Molander</th>
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<tbody>
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**Studio**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name / Theme</th>
<th>Interiors Buildings Cities - Independent group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers / tutors</td>
<td>Leontine de Wit, Daniel Rosbottom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Argumentation of choice of the studio</td>
<td>The theme and working methods of the Interiors Buildings Cities studio are attractive in several ways. One reason of my interest it that the studio deals with the topic of the public interior and its role towards the city and its citizens. The public interior place an important role in the urban fabric, not least in a country such as the Netherlands, where the weather often is cold and inhospitable. A second reason is that I found the idea of discussing and reshaping the idea of the institution and its role in the public realm appealing. A third reason for my choice of studio is the approach towards the methods of designing architecture. By relying heavily on physical models and by going into detail the tactility of the architecture can be researched in an interesting way. By mainly working with images and highly conceptual models the tactility is in danger of getting lost on the way.</td>
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**Graduation project**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the graduation project</th>
<th>New Music Institute, Den Haag</th>
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**Goal**

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<th>Location:</th>
<th>Den Haag Centrum</th>
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<td>The posed problem,</td>
<td>Between 2010 and 2012, state secretary for culture Halbe Zijlstra decided to lower the support for culture by 25%. Many culture institutions in Den Haag have been affected by these dramatic cuts with organizational changes and downsizing. Entrepreneurship and profit</td>
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will play a bigger role for culture institutions in the future.

Culture, and the spaces hosting it has traditionally played an important part in the public urban interior. When the prerequisites for culture changes, so will the culture buildings and with them the public space.

Den Haag is also facing a growing population and a changing demography with new inhabitants arriving from all over the world. The interior public space within the city must adopt to meet the demands of a new more culture policy and a growing and changing population.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>research questions and</th>
<th>How can a new culture institution with a public space best meet the demands of a changing culture policy and a changing and growing population?</th>
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<td>design assignment in which these result.</td>
<td>The goal of this project is to create a public space where different types of music practices can be combined by a public space. In Den Haag there are many vacant office buildings which the municipality wishes to be reused in different ways. By transforming one of these centrally located office spaces into a public culture center, new life can be added to the city, both in terms of music practice but also by creating a space where people can, and maybe more important, want to meet and socialize. The lower floors of such an office space can be used as public space while the floors higher up in the building can be used as rehearsal rooms, administration and studios. One aspect of the project will be how the public space meets the more private workspace and what can happen in this meeting.</td>
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**Process**

**Method description**
My research has been divided into two parts. The first part is concerned with the context in Den Haag in terms of demographics and a changing political environment for culture. As for the culture, I have concentrated on music institutions and the understanding of today's policies in the Netherlands and Den Haag regarding music. I have made site visits and also conducted interviews with people with knowledge on how the environment for music and music institutions in Den Haag is working today. I have also visited the city archive to find drawings of different music related buildings to understand the current layout of the spaces.

The second part of my research is concerned with public space and the traditional role of culture centers in western Europe. To be able to define public space I have studied previous research on the topic by Richard Sennett and Marc Augé. I have also studied material by Mark Pimlott and Christoph Grafe to understand which role culture centers played historically and why some are still successful in their role as a public interior. By understanding what aspects makes these buildings last, I can later use these aspects in a new culture center for Den Haag.

**Literature and general practical preference**

**Literature on public space and culture centres:**

Grafe, C (2010). People`s Palaces: Architecture, culture and democracy in two European post-war cultural centres PhD dissertation, TU Delft,


**Litterature and web sites concerning the Context**


Cities in the Netherlands Facts and figures on cities and urban areas (2016)

Compendium, Cultural policies and trends in Europe, country profile The Netherlands, (2015)


[https://denhaag.buurtmonitor.nl/](https://denhaag.buurtmonitor.nl/) (28-12-2016)

Reflection

Relevance

After the finance crisis in 2008, the Dutch government made major cutbacks in its funding towards culture. This affected many institutions, orchestras and groups involved in different kinds of music. The music industry, as well as other cultural fields is facing an environment where the need for profit and entrepreneurship is increasing. Organizations which have not been able to adapt to the sudden change of the political climate have had to stop their operations.

Culture centers have traditionally played an important part in the urban public interior as an alternative to commercialized space. When the political preconditions are changing for such institutions so will the public interior. An increasing amount of public space will be privatized and ruled by commercialized interests while the uncommercialized interior spaces in the city will be scarcer.

In my project, I want to investigate what a new public culture center could do for the inhabitants in Den Haag and for the practicing musicians and music institutions which have lost their financing due to budget cuts. I want to create a building which will be a consolidating space for music organization while at the same time connecting them to the inhabitants of Den Haag by being a successful public space inspired by the great culture centers of the 20th century. By locating the new public building in a vacant office building, new life can be brought to the city center of Den Haag.

Time planning

Autumn Semester week 36-5

Week 36-37
Working on research and elaborating the project proposal handed in during the spring. Research made during the summer presented on the 16th of September.

Week 38-40
Working on a movie, describing the context of the project. Filming music buildings and institutions in Den Haag. I also conducted interviews with the staff of different
music buildings and institutions. Working on the edit of the movie. The movie was presented the 7th of October.

Week 41-42
Working on the literature research on topics regarding the project. At October 21st there was a meeting with the independent group where all students presented their findings in terms of relevant literature. I went on a study trip to Berlin and Stockholm to visit and documenting 20th century culture centers which still works as public spaces. Researching possible sites for the project involving the city center and redeveloping areas.

Week 43-45
Continuing to elaborate the project by visiting and reading about music institutions in Den Haag and analyzing culture centers which have continued to be successful as public spaces. Researching possible sites for the project such as vacant office spaces in the city center. The literature research was focused on an intellectual underpinning on definitions of public space. P1 presentation at the 11th of November. Presenting the analysis of culture centers and the context in Den Haag regarding music related buildings and vacant office spaces.

Week 46-47
Working on the research of possible stakeholders and interested parties. Studio trip to London between the 16-19th of November. Excursions to several interesting buildings relating to the individual group member’s projects.

Week 48-49
Continuing the research on music related organizations and institutions in Den Haag and the analysis on different culture centers. Narrowing down the possible sites to a few interesting office buildings. Working on the literature research. Last meeting regarding literature research and the reports beforehand in at 9th of December.

Week 50-5
Study trip to Gent to visit public spaces. Investigating the spatial need (m²) for different music institutions in Den Haag. Working on the P2 presentation by starting to make preliminary designs. Working on the literature research. January 9th Hand in of the three research reports.

Spring Semester week 6-27

Issues that will be addressed for the P3 presentation

- Develop the design proposal derived from the research by using models of different scales (1:50) (1:200) to understand spatial qualities and boundaries between public and private space.
- Talk to outside expertise to gain further knowledge regarding the spatial need for different music organizations and institutions.
• Developing plans, sections and elevations as a research tool to understand the spatial qualities of the public space and the space for different music organizations and institutions.
• Develop the relationship between the public and private space within the building through drawings and models.
• Introducing building technology. Begin the research on how structural systems, façade systems and climate systems can be integrated into the overall architectural concept.
• Making illustrations to show how the spaces in the building can be used in different ways throughout the day.

Issues that will be addressed for the P4 presentation (week 19-21)

• Further develop the design proposal through models of different scales. Make more detailed models concerning materiality and the tactile aspects of the building.
• Models of façade details and structural details.
• Creating detailed drawings (1:20, 1:5) of construction details.
• Developing the narrative of the project through drawings.

Issues that will be addressed for the P5 presentation

• Make final adjustments in the design proposal to further strengthen the architectural ideas.
• Make a clearer and more visually strong presentation telling the narrative of my project in a clear and understandable way through drawings.
• Make models which can be photographed for interior perspectives.