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CULTURE AND SOCIETY
In the second half of the 20th century the notion of high culture came under attack. A new egalitarian impulse in society searched for the essence of equality. Culture should be easily accessible to the public and thresholds at cultural institutions should disappear.
In the Netherlands this democratization of culture resulted in a new ‘public’ architecture that was characterized by highly functional and non hierarchical spaces. However the creation of this informal meeting place did not eventually become the new agora of the city.
Culture became part of the street. This also introduced the anonymity of the street, the expression of consumerism. Cultural centers and museums alike became eager to 'brand' their collections, the café and museum shop became the hideout for the new and self declared cultural elite.

Van Gogh 6
The same threshold that was eagerly dismantled during the Cultural Revolution in the second half of the 20th century gets a new meaning. The threshold does not embody exclusion; it rather rejects the concept of adaptability to ever changing demands.
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