Graduation Plan P2

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<th>Personal information</th>
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<th>Studio</th>
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<tr>
<td>Theme</td>
<td>Hybrid Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>Olindo Caso, Paul Vermeulen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title of the graduation project</td>
<td>Filling Gaps</td>
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**Product**

**Problem Statement**

The Indische Buurt is gentrifying: streets are refurbished; apartments are renovated, enlarged and newly built; trendy restaurants are opened; and young high-educated people settle. Although the Indische Buurt is a residential area, there is some small-scale economic activity, which mainly manifests itself at home or at the traditional shopping street. I think a durable and successful neighbourhood should have mixed functions where people work and life with a physical connection to the city. Another outcome of my research shows that labour contract become more flexible. Hence, freelancers take a more prominent position in the work force, especially in Amsterdam. The new residents of the Indische Buurt, the so-called yuppies, are likely to be freelancers: they just have started a family, are western from origin, are high educated and live an urban lifestyle. This growing group of self-employees has no actual place to work in the Indische Buurt other than at home or in another part of the city.

**Goal**

A stimulation of the local economy in the Indische Buurt can strengthen social ties within the community, can make the urban space more lively, can generate more jobs, and can reduce commuting. To keep micro economy inside the neighbourhood, and to make the urban space vital, my strategy is to find a way to facilitate a suitable scale of economic activity: micro economy. Two kinds of facilities should be added: workspaces for the new self-employees; and supporting facilities that self-employees need to function independently.

**Process**

**Method description**

A demographical section through Amsterdam East highlighted the Indische Buurt as most interesting area considering social, economic and spatial structures. Observations of people using the urban space in the neighbourhood gave me an understanding of these structures. This combined with a typological research I came to the conclusion that there is an economic potential in the Indische Buurt. The strategy implied the target group and program that I was going to develop. To fit the program in the social-economic and spatial context a layered analysis was made that indicated areas where interventions were possible.
### Theoretical and practical references

**Books:**
- Atelier Bow-Wow - Behaviorology
- Beck - De Wereld als Risicomaatschappij
- Bijlsma – De tussenmaat; intermediate size
- Florida - The rise of the creative class
- Hakim - Arabic-Islamic cities
- Kostof – The city assembled
- Kostof – The city shaped
- Petruccioli – After Amnesia
- Rykwert – The seduction of place
- Steel - Food and the city
- Van Herck and De Meulder - Wonen in meervoud

**Videos:**
- Altijd wat - Het einde van de Nederlandse winkelstraat
- Gehl - Life between buildings
- Gemeente Amsterdam - Bureau broedplaats
- Jacobs - The economy of regions
- Stoney and Ruskin - How to Live in a City

**Articles:**
- Gemeente Amsterdam - Factsheet ZZP
- Gemeente Amsterdam - Vraag en aanbod van kleinschalige werkwijze in Amsterdam
- Millikowski - Een kilo drop en een flesje handzeep
- Pekelsma - De lokale economie van steden is vaak niet weerbaar genoeg
- O+S Amsterdam - Staat van de Indische Buurt
- Oudenampsen - Herstructurering en gentrificatie in de Indische buurt

### Reflection

**Relevance and output**

To intervene in the existing streetscape is difficult, the blocks already have nice facades, are in reasonable state, and they form a strongly shaped and dense street pattern. In order to add program I chose to densify within the blocks. After an analysis I selected three blocks that meet the following requirements: they have a central position in the urban fabric; the courtyard has a useful shape and size; and the program fits in terms of existing program and atmosphere. A series of five small-scale buildings are proposed. They all facilitate micro business in a way and blend with the local community and the surrounding buildings. The urban space is redesigned with the series of interventions in terms of public, collective and private spheres.

**Time planning Scheme of the division of the workload of the graduation project in the 42-week timeframe (P1-S).**

Compulsory in this scheme are the examinations at the middle and end of the semester, if required, the minors you intend taking and possible exams that have to be retaken. The submitted graduation contract might be rejected if the planning is unrealistic.

For P4 the series of interventions should be worked out in detail.