MIGRATED SPACE CONTRASTS
spaces for possible social interaction in Matonge, Bruxelles

Andrea Aragone
P4 Presentation, 28th Sept 2015
TU Delft
“petite métropole, métropole mondiale”
“Two kinds of immigration are present in Brussels, and both are important. The first is the influx of the European bureaucrats with all the secondary economic activities that revolves around the European institutions. The second family of immigrants constitutes a poorer population that comes from outside the EU, who have moved permanently to Europe.”

The influx of these new high-income groups surely sustains the dynamics of the housing market.

Working class households are therefore highly vulnerable vis-à-vis escalating rent levels.

In Brussels, new pockets of prestige differ markedly from their immediate surroundings.

how can spatial design, aimed at integrating two poles apart migrant groups of people, preserve the poorer and the richer community to live together in Matonge district of Brussels without exclusion of one of them?
Important issues must be resolved by discussion and decision, with determination, patience and dedication.

Inaugurated on the 6th December 2001 by Nicole Fontaine, Chairwoman of the European Parliament and Freddy Thielemans, Mayor of Brussels.
group dynamics

“ The influential actions, processes, and changes that occur within and between groups over time ”

“ The tendency to join with others in groups is perhaps the single most important characteristic of humans, and the processes that unfold within these groups leave an indelible imprint on their members and on society. Group dynamics are the influential processes ”

Forsyth D., “Group Dynamics”, 2010
affordance

“refers to the actionable properties between the world and an actor (a person or animal). Affordances are relationships. They exist naturally: they do not have to be visible, known, or desirable.”

“An affordance indicates the potential for a behavior, but not the actual occurrence of that behavior”

Norman D., “Affordance, Conventions and Design”, 1999
environment

- nonverbal behaviours

- languages

- interpretation of meanings

- furniture, advertising signs

- walls, ceilings, floors

- body position, facial expressions

- nonverbal communication based model

- fixed-feature elements

- semifixed-feature elements

- nonfixed-feature elements

semiotic model

symbolic model

nonverbal communication based model
Graphic research & Story telling

Main research question

Analysis
- Mapping
  - data
  - time-lapse analysis
  - Hägerstrand map
  - publicness map
  - program map
  - urban composition
  - accessibility
- Transcripts
  - homogeneous places
  - heterogeneous spaces
  - heterogeneous places

Reading
- Social stone
  - community identities
  - social units
- Diversity
  - social permeability
  - interaction enhanced
- Potentials
  - space potentials
  - social attractors

Design
- Patterns in Actors
- Patterns in Action

Bridge
- Pattern language
  - urban systems
  - system structures
  - objects
ANALYSIS
which are the social and spatial aspects that characterized the area?
Central-African people

EU institution related workers

Caucasian people

Caucasian people 20/35 years old

children

all others
Transcripts

"Transcripts propose to transcribe an architectural interpretation of reality. They use a particular structure indicated by photographs that either direct or "witness" events."

Giddens’s co-presence

- co-presence condition
  - gathering
  - social occasion
  - focused interaction
  - unfocused interaction

Encounter types

- influential boundary
- familiar
- planned
- accidental
- unfamiliar
Personalization of space, Rapoport

homogeneous area
  clear
  meaning

heterogeneous area
  no clear
  meaning

Tzonis place definition

“A place is a space with use and meaning.”
Homogeneous place
Chaussée de Wavre/Galerie

SIMBOLOGY
- walking path
- personalized area
- homogeneous shop
- open group
- closed group

SOCIAL GROUPS
- Central-African people
- all others
- children
- Caucasian people
- Caucasian people 20/35
- EU institution related workers
Heterogenous place
Place de Londres

Social groups:
- Caucasian people 20/35
- Central-African people
- Personalized area
- Walking path

Simbology:
- Walking path
- Personalized area
- Homogeneous shop
- Open group
- Closed group

EU institution related workers

Children

All others
which are the social qualities and potentials of the different social groups in relation with space?
Main research question

Analysis
- Mapping data
- Time-lapse analysis
- Hägerstrand map
- Publicness map
- Program map
- Urban composition
- Accessibility

Reading
- Social stone
  - Community identities
  - Social units
- Diversity
  - Social permeability
  - Interaction enhanced
- Potentials
  - Space potentials
  - Social attractors

Reading

Design
- Patterns in Actors
- Patterns in Action

Graphic research & Story telling

Bridge
- Pattern language
  - Urban systems
  - System structures
  - Objects
Social Stones

Community Identities

Social Units

- Central-African people
- children
- Caucasian people
- Caucasian people 20/35
- EU institution related workers

- social housing
- community passage
- open air mall
- mid-class families
- wealthy area
- expanding gentrification
- office block in the grid
Diversity

Social Permeability

Interaction Enhanced
Space Potentials

- underused open space
- institutional building with standard public green
- vacancy
- heavy traffic line
- car collector

Social Attractors

- existing shopping backbone
- existing leisure stone
- potential attractors backbone
- potential attractors stone
- the chain store and the profitable vacancy
- attractors corner
- social attractors
- enclosed green
can social diversity in Matonge let different social groups live together and enhance their potentials through space?
diversity

“There is a point at which a polis, by advancing in unity, will cease to be a polis; but will none the less come near to losing its essence, and will thus be a worse polis. It is as if you were to turn harmony into mere unison, or to reduce a theme to a single beat. The truth is that the polis is an aggregate of many members.”

Space that connects different “Common identity” and/or different social attractors. It can be a pedestrian path in which people of different social groups enter in contact to each other. The encounter can be either direct or indirect. The space is characterised by a high social diversity and by pedestrian flows. A “Crossing Identities” can also cross a “Common Identity”.

2. Crossing Identities

social value
Enhance the spatial qualities of the lines of intersection between social groups in order to use social diversity as potential. It must be a project for the social groups that use this space, flexible for socio-economical changes and that enhance pedestrian flows.
DESIGN

how can a spatial design integrate different groups of people without excluding one of them and maintaining their lifestyles?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>community identity</th>
<th>crossing identities</th>
<th>asymmetric boundary axis</th>
<th>car collector</th>
<th>existing commercial backbone</th>
<th>open air mall</th>
<th>potential attractors extension</th>
<th>office block in the grid</th>
<th>expanding gentrification</th>
<th>same space different places</th>
<th>stop'n go hub</th>
<th>heavy traffic line</th>
<th>the chain store and the profitable vacancy</th>
<th>one entrance for more buildings</th>
<th>community passage</th>
<th>attractors corner</th>
<th>multiple stories in a house entrance</th>
<th>underused space</th>
<th>institutional building with standard green</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>public funding in accord with unhabitants</td>
<td>co-design and/or participation</td>
<td>private ownership in partnership with municipality</td>
<td>idiorythmic projects</td>
<td>top down</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Identity</td>
<td>Crossing Identities</td>
<td>Asymmetric Boundary Axis</td>
<td>Car Collector</td>
<td>Existing Commercial Backbone</td>
<td>Open Air Mall</td>
<td>Office Block in the Grid</td>
<td>Potential Attractions Extension</td>
<td>Expanding Gentrification</td>
<td>Same Space Different Places</td>
<td>Stop'n Go Hub</td>
<td>Heavy Traffic Line</td>
<td>Chain Store and Profitable Vacancy</td>
<td>One Entrance for More Buildings</td>
<td>Community Passage</td>
<td>Attractors Corner</td>
<td>Multiple Stories</td>
<td>Underused Space</td>
<td>Enclosed Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Funding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Design and/or</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Ownership</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Partnership with</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idiorrhythmic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SOCIAL GROUP
- Central-African people
- all others
- children
- Caucasian people

SIMBOLOGY
- Caucasian people 20/35
- EU institution related workers
- walking path
- open group
- closed group
THANK YOU