The green canyon
building towards a healthy life and style

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Studio

- Public Realm Rotterdam
- Goal of the studio
Assignment

• The city Rotterdam
• Redevelopment
• Densification
• St. Jacobsplaats

“Nowadays the area is a weak green space waiting for a new role, surrounded by some urban block dated back to the 80’s, comparable with the important transformation occurred in the nearby Blaak area.”
The green canyon - building towards a healthy lifestyle.
location - ST. Jacobsplaats Rotterdam
location - weaknesses
location - Hofbogen
location - market area
analysis - **visual perception**
analysis - objective analysis district level
site within strip

open morphology of the strip

green atmosphere on the strip
analysis - activity

- activity on a market day
- activity on a non market day
- how people move
- how people guide
analysis - 4 different atmospheres
site characteristics
- two areas, a transport border, a trainline and the highline park above the mini-mall
- creating an explicit answer to the collage city by creating a new fragment
- the longitudinal character of the space reflects the historical entrance of the Rotte river
- hybrid innercity - monofunctional periphery

routing
- the main focus of the design is to connect on the north and south axe and cross the historical node (for slow traffic pedestrians and cyclists).
- the main route is a continuous route, connecting north and south, crossing the node;
- 70% of the route is in open air (uncovered).
- easily accessible.
- a tram/bus stop will be directly connected to the main route;
- user will have to put no effort to cross.
- feeding the main route.
- access to public transport.
- a ‘green wave’ will be applied in order to make sure motorized traffic will not suffer from the intervention

accessibility
- the secundary route is the smallest intervention, the play where the node will be crossed, organized by traffic lights.

building mass
- the structure is easily accessible from the Hofbogen and the market.
- A connection will be made with the 'luchtsingel'.
- Since a tram stop will be included in the design, the relation of the design and the existing urban fabric will be enhanced;
- the structure will be accessible from different points in the existing city.
- the morphology of the structure continues...the intervention has to transform the vash complex space into smaller identifiable areas...the node

relation through sight
- preserve the visual east-west connection along the Pompenburg
- the perception of the market starting from crossing the Goudse Singel and visa versa to the mini mall
- continues urban landscape through the structure, clear visual perception of the structure (entrance + movement)
- the new structure should soften the extreme transition from high rise to low rise

building heights

relation public - semi collective

relation through sight
- green

building heights

relation public - semi collective
- The main focus of the design is to connect on the north and south axes and cross the historical node (for slow traffic, pedestrians, and cyclists).
- The main route is a continuous route, connecting north and south, crossing the node.
- 70% of the route is in open air (uncovered).
- Easily accessible.
- A tram/bus stop will be directly connected to the main route.
- User will have to put no effort to cross.
- Feeding the main route.
- Access to public transport.
- A 'green wave' will be applied in order to make sure motorized traffic will not suffer from the intervention.

The secondary route is the smallest intervention, the play where the node will be crossed, organized by traffic lights.

Analysis - Parameters

Routing

Green

Public/Private
urban scenario - situation
urban scenario - North-South

routing

green

public/private
urban scenario - programme

- spa
- fitness
- dwellings
- restaurant
- retail
- bicycle shop/mender
- short stay dwellings
- educational health centre
- supermarket
- juice bar

routing  green  public/private
urban scenario - crossing the border
urban scenario - infrastructural node

routing  green  public/private
urban scenario - site
a green canyon
meandering through public space
architectural design - typologies

canyon

courtyard

routing
green
public/private
architectural design - public vs private
architectural design - sections