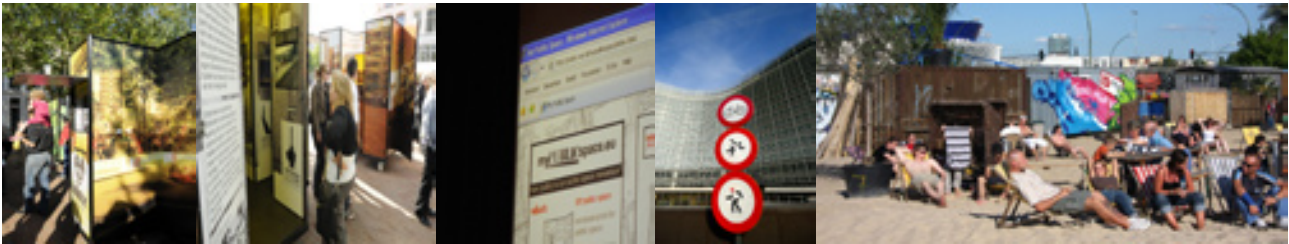


NOW AVAILABLE:
URBAN NATURE, WEST 8
HORROR VACUÏ, URBAN IMPLOSIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS
TANGIBLE TRACES, DUTCH ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN IN THE MAKING
MY PUBLIC SPACE, HOW PUBLIC IS OUR PUBLIC SPACE?



MyPublicSpace

How public is our public space these days?



Public space is, in principle, open and accessible to everyone. The My Public Space exhibition reveals how the public character of European public space is under threat because of economic and political shifts. Public space is being privatized in ever greater swathes as a result of governments increasingly adopting free-market policies; it is being thematized in order to boost tourism, and regulated in the interests of public safety. At the same time the ubiquitous influence of market forces is demanding that public space turns a profit. Devoting spaces to specific interest groups necessarily reduces their publicness.

The My Public Space exhibition presents an outline of the history and development of European public space. Eight correspondents conducted research into urban developments in Dublin, Copenhagen, Naples, Barcelona, Rotterdam, Tirana, Brussels and Berlin to determine what has been driving the transformation of public spaces. These studies show that Dublin is the most extensively privatized, free-market extremity of Europe, while on Europe's eastern rim Tirana has gradually been recovering from post-communist chaos and is rediscovering the concept of public space. The findings of this research are being presented in eight mobile kiosks, themselves an increasingly rare feature in European cities, which from June 28th will be parked at several outdoor locations throughout Rotterdam as well as within the NAI's own grounds.

From Agora to Shopping Mall The history of public space in a timeline from 500 BC to AD 2000

In a historic overview we show more than 2,000 years in the development and use of public space through the eyes of diverse photographers, both amateur and professional. The survey makes it plain that public spaces are shrinking and are more frequently being set aside for specific target groups. The concept of public space is inextricably linked with the flourishing of democratic government in Greece in the fifth century BC. The Agora in Athens served as a market place, but was also the hub of political, economic and cultural life. The range of public spaces has expanded considerably since then to include the public square, the courtyard, the street, semi-public gardens, public parks, shopping arcades, boulevards, pedestrian precincts, residential enclaves, shopping centres, libraries, stadiums and museums.

European Prize for Urban Public Space A selection from 2000 to 2008

The biennial European Prize for Urban Public Space has swiftly become established as the most prestigious European prize of its kind. The competition aims to underscore the importance of high-quality public space as a prerequisite for improving the quality of urban life. The prize was first presented in 2000 and the competition is organized by the Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (Barcelona), Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine (Paris), Architektzentrum Wien (Vienna), The Architecture Foundation (London), the Museum of Finnish Architecture (Helsinki) and the Netherlands Architecture Institute (Rotterdam). This overview includes a selection of winners, honourable mentions and other entries.

For more information on the exhibition contact
The Netherlands Architecture Institute (NAI)

Fanny Smelik, Coordinator International Projects
Postbus 237
3000 AE Rotterdam
The Netherlands
Phone +31 10 44 01 290
Fax: +31 10 43 67 281
f.smelik@nai.nl

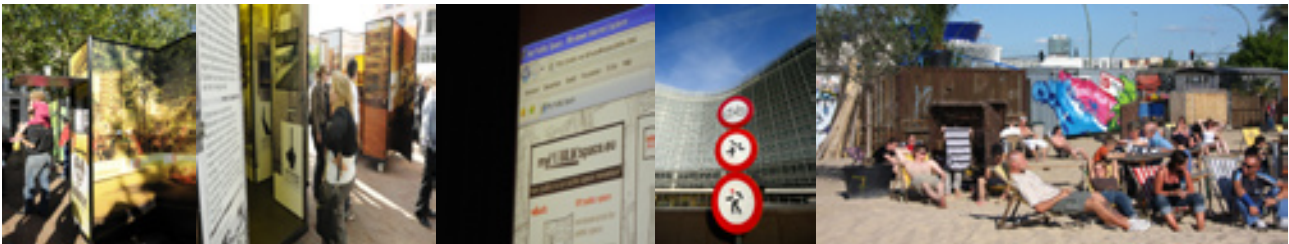
Or visit our website:
http://en.nai.nl/exhibitions/all_exhibitions/exhibitions_onlocation

NOW AVAILABLE:
URBAN NATURE, WEST 8
HORROR VACUÏ, URBAN IMPLOSIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS
TANGIBLE TRACES, DUTCH ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN IN THE MAKING
MY PUBLIC SPACE, HOW PUBLIC IS OUR PUBLIC SPACE?



MyPublicSpace

How public is our public space these days?



My Public Space Informal use

Even though the living environment is being designed with ever greater specific intent there remain myriad places where people manage to evade the ground-swell of regulations and controls governing their use of public space. People appropriate public space and introduce new ways of using it, thus unceasingly enlivening the cities of Europe. These photographs capturing informal uses of public space were submitted by a diversity of people.

Correspondents for kiosks

Barcelona: Francesc Muñoz, director of the Observatory of Urbanisation. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Berlin: Friedrich von Borries, Matthias Böttger, Moritz Ahlert, Benjamin Kasten / Raumtaktik

Brussels: Kersten Geers, David van Severen

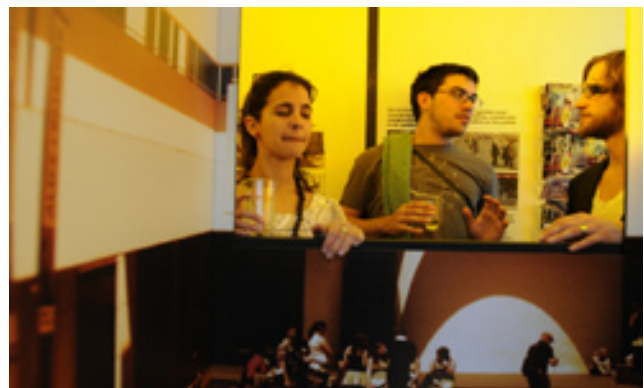
Dublin: Alan Mee / Alan Mee Architects

Naples: Danilo Capasso, Diana Marrone / N.EST Napoliest Project

Copenhagen: Charles Bessard / Powerhouse Company

Rotterdam: Elma van Boxel, Kristian Koreman / ZUS

Tirana: Paolo Carpi, Lorenzo Laura, Silvia Lupi, Vittorio Pizzigoni, Giacomo Summa, Pier Paolo Tamburelli, Francesca Torzo and Andrea Zanderigo / Baukuh



Floor Area:

Kiosks 225 square meters (this is flexible). The kiosks can be outside or inside the venue. Images inside the exhibition room 100 running meters. It is also possible to show a selection. Please contact us for all possibilities.

For more information on the exhibition contact
The Netherlands Architecture Institute (NAI)

Or visit our website:
http://en.nai.nl/exhibitions/all_exhibitions/exhibitions_onlocation

Fanny Smelik, Coordinator International Projects
Postbus 237
3000 AE Rotterdam
The Netherlands
Phone +31 10 44 01 290
Fax: +31 10 43 67 281
f.smelik@nai.nl