

DE UITHOF; FROM NO-GO AREA TO CAMPUS.

The University of Utrecht was a typical European inner-city university until the early sixties. Growing rapidly, the University of Utrecht became the largest university in Holland. The historic city-centre of Utrecht couldn't facilitate this growth anymore and so the park-meadow area, east of Utrecht was selected to house the extension of the university. The program for this new development consisted of academical faculties only, no other functions, no other institutes, no housing, and so; no Campus. Suggestions by the City of Utrecht to incorporate some housing in the Uithof-plans were dismissed by the university, considering housing a threat to future growth of the university.

Planning and architecture of De Uithof developed along the typical orthogonal lines of sixties modernism, resulting in one of the most disliked areas of Holland; no program, no coherence, nobody around, no atmosphere; a no-go area.

Working on the development of the Uithof-area from 1988 on, we witnessed a series of radical changes in the thinking about the new university. This started with the politically forced cooperation between university- and other third level education, which brought 200.000 m² of non-academical building to De Uithof. Then the availability of sufficient student-housing became an important area of competition between the different Dutch Universities, forcing the University of Utrecht to change their policy on housing. And finally, as people started to live on De Uithof, the idea was accepted that De Uithof should become a fully grown Campus, including sports, culture, housing, retail and the University Library in the middle of it all.

The urban plan for De Uithof facilitated this evolution. And indeed, a small miracle did happen; the University Library moved from the historic city-centre to former no-go area De Uithof.

Art Zaaijer.

CURRICULUM VITAE IR. ART ZAAIJER, ROTTERDAM, 8 OCTOBER 1958

ARCHITECTURE

- Amsterdam Westerdok, 62 dwellings and offices within the MVRDV-masterplan. Client: Wodan c.v. 2006.
- Senior housing Aagtekerke. Client Marsaki. 2006.
- Student housing University College Campus, Utrecht. 207 units in 3 buildings. Client: Bouwvereniging Volksbelang. 2005.
- Apeldoorn Central Station area, 76 dwellings with parking garage. Client: HBG woningbouw. 2003.
- Floating Houses IJ-burg, 6 proto-type waterhouses, Client : Housing Union Het Oosten. 2001.
- Vinex area Leidschenveen, 248 dwellings. Clients: WoonInvest, Bouwfonds woningbouw, ABB Bouw. 2001.
- Residential building 'De Aker 207', Amsterdam Osdorp; 32 social dwellings in 8 types, for rent. Client: Woningbouwvereniging Het Oosten. 1999.
- Java-Island, Amsterdam, 4 canal houses. Client; SFB-Bpf. 1999. Encouragement Prize Architecture 2000, from the City of Amsterdam.
- Family house Schuitemaker, Wommels, Friesland 1997.
- Restaurant Pastrami, Amsterdam, Buitenveldert. Client: Mr. M. Chanoeka, 1996.
- Residential building "Kavel 25", Housing Festival The Hague. 44 social dwellings in 12 types, for rent. Client: Algemene Woningbouw Vereniging. 1992. (In cooperation with Kees Christiaanse). Berlage Prize 1992.

URBANISM

- Urban plan University College Utrecht. Client: Universiteit Utrecht. (in cooperation with Michael van Leeuwen.) 1998 – 2001.
- Urban plan Vinex-area Leidschenveen. Clients: WoonInvest, Bouwfonds woningbouw, ABB Bouw. 2001.
- Urban plan university-area "De Uithof", Utrecht. Client: University of Utrecht. (with O.M.A./ Rem Koolhaas). Since 1988.
- Urban plan Housing Festival The Hague. Client: Municipality of The Hague. (in cooperation with Kees Christiaanse.) 1989.

ARTICLES

- " Beheersing van het onvoorspelbare." (The History of De Uithof). Archis, January 1999.
- " De toekomst van de stedenbouw." (The future of Urbanism.) De Architect, september 1998.
- " HSL / Groene Hart / Vinex, een reconstructie ". (High-speed rail links and planning). Archis, December 1997.
- " Het vrije bouwen is allang begonnen " (Private building in practice) NRC Handelsblad, April 1997
- " L'Europe a grande Vitesse.", N.A.I. Uitgevers '96.

GENERAL

- Berlage Prize 1992 for the residential building "Kavel 25", Housing Festival The Hague.
- Encouragement Prize Architecture 2000 from the city of Amsterdam for 4 canalhouses, Amsterdam Java-Island.
- Member of the 'Amsterdam Municipal Committee for Building Aesthetics'. 1999 - 2004.
- Member of the 'Quality Team', advising the University and the City of Amsterdam on their plans for a new University Library. 2002 – 2004.
- Urban planner and Supervisor for the Uithof-area. Client: Universiteit Utrecht, (with O.M.A. / Rem Koolhaas), since 1988.
- Guest-professor for various projects at the T.U.Delft, Academie van Bouwkunst Amsterdam, Academie van Bouwkunst Arnhem and Academie van Bouwkunst Groningen.
- 1986 - 1989 Projectarchitect at the Office for Metropolitan Architecture / Rem Koolhaas office.
- Graduation at the Technical University Delft. 1988.